

THE JOURNEY

“Truth suffers, but never dies.”- St Teresa of Avila

Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2023



Pastor

Reverend Frank John Latzko

Address

1037 W. Armitage Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60614

773-528-6650

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 6 PM French Mass

Sunday 10 AM, 12 PM, 6 PM

Daily Mass Schedule

Wednesday - 8:00AM

Friday Communion Service

Friday- 8:00AM

Baptism, Reconciliation, Anointing

Please call the office to arrange or email
cgioia@stteraparish.org

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays- 6 PM to 7:30 PM

Office Hours

Weekdays: 9 AM - 7:30 PM

“St. Teresa of Avila Parish is an engaged community rooted in the beauty of the Eucharist and our Catholic faith. We want to make a difference in the lives of the people, especially those who are searching to discover how much God loves them and is calling them to join in the Mission of Christ to live His Gospel. We do so by welcoming people of all backgrounds and cultures in our parish, respecting their desires and questions, crossing borders and learning from those we encounter. You are welcomed to join in the Mission of building bridges and sharing the Good News of Christ.”

Community Ministries

If you want to serve the St. Teresa’s community in our liturgies or our planning, there are many opportunities for you!

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

teresa.church/rcia

If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church, or helping those through that process as a companion.

Lectors

teresa.church/lectors

Email eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com for more information.

Eucharistic Ministers

teresa.church/eucharistic-ministers

Email eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com for more information.

Pastoral Council

teresa.church/pastoral-council

Represent the parish and help advise the pastor in our mission and vision for our community.

Finance Council

teresa.church/finance-council

Reviews financial documents and position of the parish and advise pastor and business manager on financial decisions.

Interested in Joining Our Parish?

Are you interested in making St. Teresa’s your spiritual home? Or just want to learn more about our community?

Fill out the below form and drop it in the collection basket or join online at teresa.church/join.

Name

Email

Phone

Address

Ministries of Interest

In fulfilling our mission to be “Faith & Spirit. Alive.” we invite you to get involved with your family here at St. Teresa of Avila parish.

Outreach Ministries

We have a variety of opportunities you can join to get involved and help serve our community, the Lincoln Park area, and the city of Chicago.

Welcome the Stranger

Join with parishioners from St. Teresa of Avila, St. Josaphat and others in the Lincoln Park Community to support a refugee family's journey in Chicago. Please fill out this link and we will add you to our updates and emails! <https://bit.ly/welcomethestrangerLP>. Additionally, if you would like to work directly with a refugee family, you can sign up at any time for a 3 hour Engaging with

Refugees: Cross-Cultural Training <https://exodusworldservice.org/register/>.

Night Ministry

Support our partnership with The Night Ministry by providing sack suppers to the homeless. Participation is easy and safe! For more information and to sign up, please contact Susan Matejka at smatejka@hpschicago.com.

Loaves and Fishes Dinner

teresa.church/loaves-and-fishes

Weekly soup kitchen feeding and sitting with people in need of a meal.

La Posada Border Ministry

teresa.church/border-ministry

Travel to the border to help and understand those seeking asylum.

Food Pantry

teresa.church/food-pantry

Our parish food pantry is a welcoming, dependable source of nutritious food, respect and social contact to the needy of our community.

Care for Creation Ministry

teresa.church/care-for-creation

Our mission, an authentic social and moral commitment, is to educate and inspire our parish to accept the health of the planet and all creation as a personal and communal responsibility, thereby instilling a desire to make choices that result in actions for the stewardship of God's creation.

Spiritual Ministries

There are many ministries at St. Teresa's that celebrate our faith via small christian communities, serving in our liturgies, and learning more.

Women's Spirituality

teresa.church/womens-spirituality

Meets the Last Tuesday of the month to provide a supportive space for prayer and reflection.

Men's Spirituality

teresa.church/mens-spirituality

Meets virtually every Tuesdays at 7am to come together and discuss what it means to be a disciple. Email cdeanhockey@gmail.com to get the link and join.

Bible Studies/Discussion Groups

Throughout the year there are bible studies you can join or maybe a book study with Fr. Frank. Schedules change throughout the year, so stay tuned!

Religious Education

teresa.church/religious-education

Whether it's our Montessori based Catechesis of the Good Shephard for children, EDGE Middle School ministry, QUEST High School Ministry, or SPRED Ministry for those with special needs, St. Teresa's has a wide array of programs to meet the needs of our children.

Communauté Catholique Francophone de Chicago

teresa.church/french-community

St. Teresa's is home to a wonderful and vibrant French community.

This Sunday's Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11

The Lord's salvation will be made known to the poor and the oppressed.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to rejoice and pray always.

Gospel Reading: John 1:6-8,19-28

John gives testimony that he is preaching and baptizing in order to prepare for the coming of another.

Reflections for Today:

What does "pray without ceasing" mean to you in practical terms? How can you incorporate continuous prayer into your daily routine, especially during the Advent season?

How can you cultivate a habit of gratitude, even in less-than-ideal circumstances?

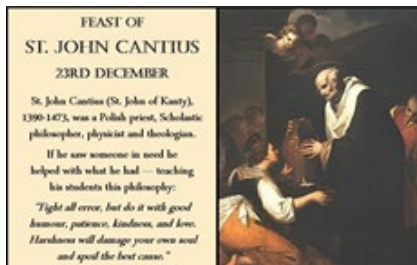
Discuss ways in which gratitude can change your perspective on life's challenges.



Feasts and Saints:

12/21- St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

12/23- St. John of Kanty, Priest



Daily Prayer for Today:

Lord our God, we thank you that you have given us the light of life, that we can now learn how to live, and that through your great grace we may understand life in direct relationship with the Lord Jesus, who was crucified and who rose from the dead. Grant that the power of Christ may be made visible in us. Grant that his life may become our life, that we may leave behind all doubts and anxiety, even though we are often surrounded by darkness and night. Keep us in your Word. Let your will hold sway over all the world, for your will must be done in heaven, on earth, and down to the lowest depths. Let your will be done on earth as in all the heavens. Amen.

Financials: October 2023

	FY24	FY23
Basket/Mail In:	8,917	21,536
Give Central:	38,753	34,775
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$47,670	\$56,311
		\$(8,641)

Stewardship:

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." – 1 thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

From Fr. Frank:

Began This sabbatical in London to immerse myself in everything Dickens, which I did through tours, reading, walking nearly 10 miles a day and praying.

The gospel is all about paradox, the putting together of two seemingly opposite realities and discovering a connection.

Last Saturday, I found myself walking in the midst two very different throngs of people. The first was made of tens of thousands of protesters, trying to be a voice of justice calling for an end to violence. It was almost difficult to move within this mass of angry humanity; I just did not want to be a part of the march given some disturbing messages I read on countless signs and heard through megaphones. When I asked a police officer how I could make it to my hotel on a different route, he said, "Good luck. There isn't any." So I trudged along feeling quite uncomfortable but I made it back.

Later in the evening, I walked to pray at Mass for the second Sunday of Advent and ended up in another crowd of tens of thousands of Christmas revelers. TikTok, or whatever it is called, summoned these thousands of people to the Christmas market to sing Christmas carols. This was even more frightful than the first crowd of people because there came a point when I couldn't even move an inch, seriously. I became uncomfortable and even frightened.

Two very different throngs of humanity. I ended up in a very quiet neighborhood in London at a Saturday Evening Mass that was short, peaceful and calming. The paradox: being a calming, peaceful presence in the midst of strident voices calling for change and overly enthusiastic crowds of overly indulged, overly hyped consumers.

Advent: make a pathway for Christ; create a high-way through mountains and valleys that becomes a smooth path of pilgrimage. Instead of trying to flee the throngs, perhaps Christ was calling me to simply BE a peaceful presence in the middle of the crowds. Praying at the Mass gave me the insight I have just shared. The Eucharist, indeed, is powerful, if we surrender to its mystery.

In a paradoxical way, God is calling us to make strait the way of the Lord, not in a desert, but in a city packed with energy that begs for direction to create beauty.

Peace. Joy.

St. Peter Canisius

Feast Day December 21st

Patron Saint of Germany

Peter Canisius was a Jesuit priest, and an important figure in the Counter Reformation which tried to stem the tide of Protestantism sweeping over Germany, Austria, Bohemia, and Switzerland. The restoration of Catholicism in Germany after the Reformation is largely attributed to his work.

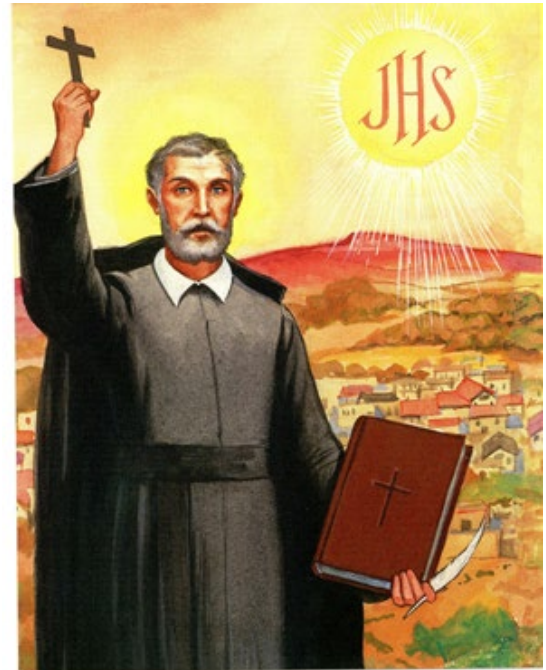
He was born Peter Kanis on 8 May, 1521, in the Duchy of Guelders (until 1549, part of the Holy Roman Empire and now in The Netherlands). While at the University of Cologne, he met Peter Faber, a companion of St Ignatius Loyola and with him one of the founders of the Society of Jesus.

In 1543, Canisius became the first Dutchman to join the Jesuit order, just three years after the Society got papal approval. Through his missionary work, Peter became one of the most influential Catholics of his day. He supervised the founding and maintenance of the early German Jesuit colleges, often with the backing of meagre resources. Because of his frequent travels between the colleges, a tedious and dangerous undertaking at the time, he became known as the Second Apostle of Germany.

Canisius was an influential teacher and preacher, especially through his famous Catechism, a book that defined the basic teachings of Catholicism in the German language, and was widely read in German-speaking countries.

Canisius spent the last 20 years of his life in Fribourg, Switzerland, where he founded the Jesuit College that became the core of today's University of Fribourg. He died in Fribourg on 21 December, 1597. He was canonized and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1925 by Pope Pius XI.

Peter is remembered for his courtesy in debate, his powerful preaching, and his use of the written word to promote the Catholic revival after the Council of Trent.



Save the Date:

Cuisine du coeur 2024

Sunday March 10th



Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration:

Thank you to Maria Montes and everyone who helped make the celebration so wonderful!

The church was filled with great music from the mariachi band as well as beautiful spirit with family, fellow parishioners and delicious food.



December Giving to the Refugee's:

As the Holiday and Giving Season is here, it is important to remember those who have nothing. St. Teresa of Avila partners with Exodus World Services to help support refugees that are coming to the US. St. Teresa's has committed to sponsoring Two Welcome Packs for two newly arriving families. A welcome pack is a one time service that assist in turning an empty apartment into a home for newly arriving refugees. We have created an Amazon Wish List in order to gather the necessary items for the family, which includes household items for the kitchen, bath, and bedroom. We will be conducting this drive during the month of December. Our goal is to have all of the necessary items by Christmas so we can be ready to meet a new family sometime in early 2024. May God Bless you for your generosity.

Below is a QR code that you can scan. All items will be shipped to the rectory. Any questions please reach out to kristen@rlcanning.com

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2HPSMMCIQVCZC>



Bible Education: Returns January 7th, 2024

“A Biblical Walk Through The Mass” Join us, on Sunday at 8:50 – 9:50 am OR 4:40 – 5:40 pm, as we explore the rich biblical roots of the Liturgy and learn what our words, gestures, and rituals mean and why it all matters. Sign Up or Questions? Email Debbie at dbichimer@gmail.com

Join Us For Hospitality

After the 10am and 6pm Mass

This is a wonderful way to catch up and visit with fellow parishioners as well as meeting new ones and getting to know each other! If you would be interested in hosting a Sunday after the 10am Mass here is the link to sign up-

<https://signup.com/go/uwfqUZN>

Food Pantry

In an attempt to reduce the use of plastic bags, the Food Pantry is always in great need of DOUBLED PAPER GROCERY BAGS WITH HANDLES. Please drop off at the parish office or at the pantry. Help our Food Pantry by donating cans of HEARTY SOUP or BOXES OF CEREAL. Please bring to Mass each week to be Presented during The Presentation of the Gifts. Note: We only ask for soup and cereal as most items needed come from the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Thank You!



Loaves and Fishes:

Hello St Teresa Parishioners,

As the weather turns colder our Loaves and Fishes Ministry is looking for any new and gently worn coats for our guests. Men's large and x large are in the highest demand and the warmer the better!

Call the Parish Office to arrange drop off- 773-528-6650

Calling All Those Who Enjoy Cooking!

Hearing the call to serve those less fortunate? Always wanted to (learn to) cook for a crowd? Our Loaves and Fishes Ministry is seeking cooks (and their helpers) to prepare a warm dinner for the elderly and homeless in our area, served each Friday afternoon. For a 3-6 hour commitment one Friday a month, you'll meet a wonderful group of people to work with, share kitchen tips and feel good about helping those in need. For more info, please contact Charisse Gioia cgioia@stteresaparish.org Thank you!

Mass Intentions

10AM - Joyce Jaszczor (D)

12 PM - Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Living and Deceased

6 PM - Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Living and Deceased

Let Us Pray For: The Sick, The Deceased and Peace in Our World:

We pray for everyone who suffers from illness of mind or body.

We pray for those who have passed away.

We pray for peace in our city and around the world.

We pray for the intentions on our prayer cards.

We pray for survivors and perpetrators of sexual abuse.



Upcoming Mass Schedule

Sunday 12/24 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 12/24 12pm- Fr. Udovic

A Prayer for the Third Week in Advent – a Prayer for Joy

Holy Father, Lord of all creation, you have power and might over heaven and earth. You speak and mountains move. You whisper and the sea obeys. You turn darkness into light, and transform broken things into beauty. Lord, help me to see the wonder in your creation, to find the joy amidst the trials. For in you I can rejoice and be glad. No matter what the world brings, I can find joy in you. Help me to celebrate with joy and gladness this Christmas, for in you all things are made new. You are working to restore and remake all the broken pieces of my life and of this world. In you I will be glad and rejoice forever, delighting in you with joy. All this I pray through Jesus Christ, your only son, your greatest gift to this world. Amen.



Sunday Funday: December 17th

Today is- National Maple Syrup Day and Wright Brothers Day

1843- A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens was published.

1903-The Wright brothers make the first controlled powered, heavier-than-air flight in the Wright Flyer at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

1933-The Chicago Bears beat the New York Giants 23-21 in the first NFL Championship game.

“This is Christmas. The season of perpetual hope.” – Kate McCallister, “Home Alone”



PLEASE JOIN US THIS EVENING

Dec.
17

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A MUSICAL.

*Yuletide
Celebration*

Featuring the
Leyden High School Chamber Singers

DECEMBER 17, 2023
FOLLOWING THE 6:00PM MASS

St. Teresa of Avila
1950 North Kenmore Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60614

ST. TERESA OF AVILA

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE 2023

Christmas Eve Sunday December 24th

10am Sunday Mass

3pm and 7pm Christmas Eve Mass

Christmas Day Monday December 25th

10am Christmas Day Mass

New Year's Eve Sunday December 31st

10am and 12pm Sunday Mass

6pm The Solemnity of Mary



Third Sunday of Advent:

This third week focuses our intention on joy. Joy is a very real and deep happiness that is rooted in faith and trust. In this third week of Advent, we pause and reflect on the first half of the season, as well as look ahead to the last weeks.

It is called the “Shepard’s Candle,” and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

The third Sunday in Advent shifts from a tone of expectation of Christ’s coming to one of rejoicing at the arrival of God’s kingdom with the coming of Jesus.

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Parish Contacts

Staff

Fr. Frank Latzko

Pastor

frfrankjohn56@gmail.com

Charisse Gioia

Office Manager/Technology Coordinator/
Bulletin

cgioia@stteresaparish.org

Charisse is responsible for managing the parish office as well producing our weekly bulletin and emails.

Charisse has been with the parish since 2019.

Mark Neuhengen

Director of Evangelization and
Parish Mission

mneuhengen@stteresaparish.org

Mark is responsible for our Parish Evangelization and Ministry. Mark is a graduate from Loyola University Chicago, holds a masters in theology and has been with the parish since 2019.

Barbara McHugh

Religious Education

bmchugh@stteresaparish.org

Barb is responsible for our Children's Faith formation programs. She and her husband Ed have been parishioners at St. Teresa's for over 30 years.

Carol Spalla-Malone

Part-Time Business Manager

cspalla@archicago.org

Jason Krumwiede

Director of Music

musicalnut1@mac.com

Staff

Housekeeping

Irma Saavedra

Sergio Mora

Building & Facilities Manager

smora@stteresaparish.org

Parish Council

Anna Althoff- President

annamarialthoff@hotmail.com

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body to the pastor and represents a cross section of the parish. Together with the Pastor, the PPC helps to craft and carry out the Mission of the Parish.

Finance Council

Don Eldred- Chair

The St. Teresa Finance Council reviews the financial documents and position of the parish and advises the pastor and business manager on financial matters, including the preparation of the annual parish budget.

Stewardship Committee

Dan Summins- Chair

dsummins@hotmail.com

The Stewardship Committee's goal is to foster a sense of gratefulness and response of increased sharing of gifts in the parish and communities we seek to support. We do this by creating, encouraging and communicating ideas and programs that help parishioners recognize and share their gifts.

Contributing to the Bulletin

Past bulletins and guidelines for submitting to the bulletin are available on our website at: www.teresa.church/bulletins

How to Report Sexual Abuse

To report an allegation of sexual abuse and/or neglect of minors, contact the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Hotline at 800.25.ABUSE (800.252.2873) and/or contact your local police department.

You can also contact the Office of Protection of Children and Youth (OPCY) at 312.534.5254.