

THE JOURNEY

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

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
December 31, 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: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

God fulfills his promise to Abraham, and Sarah gives birth to a son.

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19

Paul examines Abraham's example of faith.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40

Mary and Joseph present Jesus at the Temple in accordance with the Law of Moses.

Feasts and Saints:

1/1- Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

1/2- St. Basil the Great

1/3- The Most Holy Name of Jesus

1/4- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

1/5- St. John Neumann, Bishop

1/6- St. Andre Bessette, Religious

Financials: November 2023

	FY24	FY23
Basket/Mail In:	7,420	9,212
Give Central:	39,588	37,583
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$47,008	\$46,795
	\$213	

Reflections for Today:

How can we transform our homes into sanctuaries that reflect God's love and faithfulness, as shown by the Holy Family?

How do the virtues of faith, hope, and love manifest in my daily family interactions? Are there specific areas where we could improve?

Reflection

Daily Prayer for Today:

Lord our God, thank you for letting your light shine every day of every year. Thank you that we may always lift our eyes to you, whose right hand will bring true order to everything, even in difficult times. Give our hearts the strength to be faithful in this age, the strength to glorify you. For you remain, no matter what happens on earth. You are our God. You have sent us the Savior and we can draw close to you. Your promise to us stands firm, the promise that your day with its truth and justice shall come, to the honor of your name. May many people turn their hearts to you; may they worship you and call to you for help, to the glory of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Stewardship:

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive."
- colossians 3:13

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God:

The Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God is a liturgical celebration observed on January 1st which falls exactly one week after Christmas, the end of the octave of Christmas.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is honored as the Mother of God because she conceived and gave birth to Christ, who is the incarnation of God the Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. It is fitting to honor Mary as Mother of Jesus, following the birth of Christ. When Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, we are not only honoring Mary, who was chosen among all women throughout history to bear God incarnate, but we are also honoring our Lord, who is fully God and fully human.

Since the first centuries of Christianity, the Church customarily has regarded the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the Mother of God for a simple, logical reason;

By the power of the Holy Spirit, she conceived Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Since the divine Person, God the Son, assumed, or took on, human nature, she is the Mother of God in the fullest since: "What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ" (CCC 487). The Church solemnly defined this belief at the Ecumenical Council of Ephesus AD 431.

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, invites us to marvel at the God who comes to us in loving vulnerability and dependence. Following Mary, we are called to do nothing less than repeat her words: "May it be done in me according to your will."



"O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton:

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first American to be canonized as a saint. She was raised Episcopalian, but later converted to Catholicism. Through the struggles and tragedies she faced in life, she remained devout. She is the founder of the first Catholic schools in the United States and is the patron saint of Catholic schools, widows, and seafarers.

Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton was born into a wealthy Episcopalian family in New York City on August 28, 1774. Her father, Dr. Richard Bayley, was a doctor and one of the first health officials in New York City. Her mother, Catherine Charlton Bayley, died when Elizabeth was only three years old.

At age nineteen, Elizabeth married William Magee Seton on January 25, 1794. Together they had five children, Anna Maria, William, Richard, Catherine, and Rebecca. In the late 1700s, a double tragedy visited Seton. The Seton family's life took a turn when her husband William became ill. He suffered from tuberculosis and continued to grow worse. Hoping to improve his health, the couple and their eldest daughter Anna Maria decided to go to Italy. On November 19th, they arrived in Leghorn and were placed in quarantine. They were released from quarantine on December 19th. William died 8 days later. She returned to New York in June 1804. After her return, she continued to feel conflicted between the Episcopal and Catholic faiths. After almost a year, she officially converted to Roman Catholicism on March 14, 1805. She was confirmed in 1806 and chose Mary as her confirmation name. Seton admired the Virgin Mary and chose her as a saint to continue to guide her spiritually.

Seton and her family were invited by several priests to move to Baltimore, Maryland. They moved in June 1808 to open a school for girls. Catholic women from around the country came to join her work and, over time, they created a convent.

The women soon moved to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where they formally began their religious life as Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's on July 31, 1809. This was the first sisterhood in the United States. Elizabeth Seton was named first superior and given the title of "Mother." She served in that role for the next twelve years.

As the community took shape, Elizabeth directed its vision. On July 19, 1813, Seton and eighteen other sisters made vows of poverty, chastity, obedience, and service to the poor. They would renew these vows annually. In 1814 the community accepted its first mission outside Emmitsburg, an orphanage in Philadelphia. By 1817 sisters had been sent to staff a similar work in New York.

While in Emmitsburg, two of Seton's daughters died from tuberculosis, Anna Maria in 1812 and Rebecca in 1816. By that time, she herself was weak and increasingly subject to poor health. She spent the last years of her life directing St. Joseph's Academy and her growing community. She died January 4, 1821, at 46 years old.

Although she passed away at a young age, Seton's legacy lived on. She life was declared holy (otherwise known as beatified) by Pope John XXIII on December 18, 1959. She was canonized, or officially made a saint, September 14, 1975, by Pope Paul VI. She was the first native-born saint of the United States.

In order to be canonized, a person must either be a martyr, or perform at least two miracles. For Seton, her miracles occurred through intercession, or prayers asking for help.

During her lifetime and after, Elizabeth Ann Seton was known for her devoutness, her compassion, and her desire to help others. She converted to Catholicism, where she worked to establish and grow the Sisters of Charity, who pray to her to cure others. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the remarkable first American saint.

Save the Date:

Cuisine du coeur 2024

Sunday March 10th



2024 Calendars:

The 2024 St. Teresa of Avila calendars are out around the church, please help yourself to one.

Thank You-Refugee Amazon Wish List :

We would like to thank everyone who bought items and/or gift cards and contributed to the Amazon Wish List for Refugees. This is the season of giving and St. Teresa's parishioner definitely showed their generosity. The items that were purchased will be used to help set up the apartments for two new families that we will be expecting first quarter in 2024. Any extra items or gift cards will be used to help existing families that we are assisting acclimate to the US.

If you are interested in assisting to set up the apartment, or want to work with an incoming family and spending once a week with them (aprox 2 hours a week), reach out to kristen@rlcanning.com for more information.

We will plan to run another drive in the Spring. Thank you again for your generosity.



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 - Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Living and Deceased

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

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

Upcoming Mass Schedule

Sunday 1/7 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 1/7 12pm- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 1/7 6pm- Fr. Udovic

Prayers for the New Year

Guidance Prayer: Lord, as we enter into the unknown of the coming year, we ask for your guidance and wisdom. Illuminate our path with your light so that we may walk in your ways and make choices that align with your will. Help us to seek first your kingdom and trust that all other things will be added unto us.

Renewal Prayer: Gracious God, we come before you seeking renewal in the new year. Renew our minds, our hearts, and our spirits. May we be transformed by the power of your Holy Spirit, leaving behind the old and embracing the new that you have in store for us.

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.



Sunday Funday: December 31:

Today is- New Years Eve and National Champagne Day

1831- Gramercy Park was presented to New York, New York.

1907- The first New Year's Eve celebration is held in Longacre Square (now known as Times Square) in New York, New York.

1923- The chimes of Big Ben were broadcast on radio for the first time by the BBC.



All year long , but especially around the holiday's we receive so much generosity from our parishioners and neighbors.

Many times throughout the year the door bells rings and there is someone standing there with a bag of groceries or tolietries.

We also receive monetary donations as well as donations of peoples time.

Together all of this and all of us are then able to help those around us in need.

Just last week we received a very large donation of hand knitted scarves and blankets from a friend of one of our parishioners.

These beautiful handmade items will help keep warm those we serve at Loaves and Fishes , Food Pantry as well as some of our refugee families.

Below is a photo of one of the families the scarves were to delivered to.



THANK YOU!

HAPPY NEW YEAR:

From Fr. Frank and all of us at St. Teresa of Avila

We wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year!



Famous Quotes for the New Year:

Albert Einstein

“Life is like riding a bicycle.

To keep your balance, you must keep moving.”

Mark Twain

“Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection.”

Vidal Sassoon

“The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary.”

Frank Sinatra

“The best is yet to come.”

Thomas Jefferson

“I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past.”

Edith Lovejoy Pierce

“We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves.

The book is called opportunity and its first chapter is New Year’s Day.”

Anne Frank

“What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives haven’t even happened yet.”

Steven Spielberg

“Every single year, we’re a different person. I don’t think we’re the same person all of our lives.”

Oprah Winfrey

“Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.”

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

annamariealthoff@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.