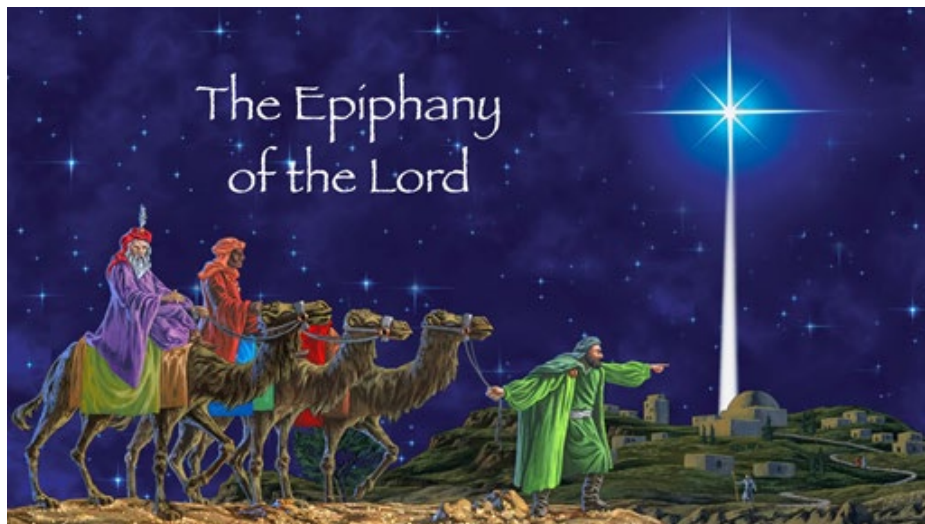


THE JOURNEY

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

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 2024



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

www.teresa.church

“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 60:1-6

Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a,5-6

Gentiles are coheirs in the promise of Christ.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

Reflections for Today:

Reflect on the contrasting images of King Herod and the infant Jesus. What does this tell you about the nature of true power and authority in the Kingdom of God? How might this influence your actions and decisions?

Imagine yourself as one of the Magi on the journey to see Jesus. What emotions and thoughts might you have experienced? How does their journey inspire your own spiritual journey?



Feasts and Saints:

1/8- The Baptism of the Lord

1/13- St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church



Daily Prayer for Today:

Dear Father in heaven, accept us as your children, whose lives are under your protection and who turn to you for strength. In the midst of all the struggles and temptations in this world keep us certain of your love and goodness. Grant that we may help your name to be honored on earth and your salvation to spread over all the world. May we help that the hope you have given us brings light and strength for our own lives and for all whom you love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

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	

Stewardship:

They fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." - Matthew 2:11

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

From Father Frank December 24th:

Christmas Reflection

There I was, sitting in Union Station, waiting for my train to journey to a monastery in the heart of Massachusetts, immersed in a sea of humanity. Hundreds and hundreds of travelers going visit loved ones for Christmas surrounded me as I quietly sipped my coffee sitting at a kiosk...observing.

A young man, who appeared to be in his mid 20's, approached me and just said "Hi." And he then proceeded to tell me he really had nowhere to go and just needed to connect with someone... to "hang out." I awkwardly told him I had a train to catch but I would pray for him. I asked him his name and he said "Christian." I was taken aback as I told him what a great name he had.

The irony of ironies: just four days before Christmas I had a brief encounter with a lonely, young man who saw in my humanity a way to connect. I could have spent some time talking with him, but I chose not to; his face lives on in my memory as a gift given to me at Christmas, one that I didn't accept wholeheartedly. I will gently unwrap this beautiful gift with time and prayer.

Christmas celebrates the mystery of God becoming a helpless infant, born to a Woman who had the courage to say "Yes" to an angel. Mary became the first disciple to follow Jesus even before he was conceived. Only then did she become His Mother, surrendering to the Spirit, conceiving the Savior of humanity and all of creation. No human father was involved in the most intimate moment in all of history: God becoming flesh. Only Mary gave this child His human DNA. Only Mary....

Christmas is a celebration of Christ's birth and our response: to give him birth through OUR humanity. Our world and our times are becoming more and more lonely, people are longing for human connection, to be loved and to love, desperately searching to fill the inner void. Only a transcendent God who had the audacity to unite His divinity with our humanity in Christ, can dissolve our inner emptiness with the fullness of mercy and love.

Christmas is not a sentimental holiday that demands constant busyness and unhealthy expectations. Christmas celebrates God becoming human, dwelling among us and within us in our loneliness, our aging, our illnesses, our fears, but also in new life, new relationships, accepting all the changes that come with life, being able to embrace getting older as a blessing.

As God became flesh and blood in Christ, we have the power to b give birth to Christ today, now, right here by facing a dark world that seems to thrive on violence and strife with the Light of peace, of mercy, of compassion, and of love, the greatest of all the commandments.

For me, a young man, a stranger named Christian, gave birth to Christ.

A Merry Christmas to all of you. I will pray for you at Mass on Christmas Eve at 2:00 AM.... Yes 2:00 in the morning!!!! And on Christmas Day, thankfully at 11:00 am.

The Epiphany of the Lord Solemnity:

At the time of Jesus' birth, it was commonly believed that a new star would appear whenever a new ruler was born. The Father in Heaven used this belief to honor His Son, the new King. When three astrologers from the East, the Magi, saw this "new star," they chose to follow it to discover the new King. Pointing the way, in the form of a star, was creation itself.

The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation," inviting us to look at how Christ is manifest in our own hearts.

First, when the Magi saw a sign from the heavens that pointed to a new King, they stopped everything and departed in haste to find Him. When God speaks to you and manifests Himself to you in some way, nothing could be more important than to be attentive to His voice and follow Him with the same haste.

The Magi brought the Christ Child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold symbolized kingship. When we ponder the gift of gold given to the Christ Child, we are inspired to give Him our own symbolic gold by prayerfully acknowledging Him as our King to whom we pledge complete submission.

Used in worship to symbolize prayers rising to heaven, frankincense symbolizes the Christ Child's divinity. We offer frankincense to Christ when we acknowledge His divine nature. Often used in burial, myrrh honors the Christ Child Who came to give His life as a sacrifice for many. We offer myrrh to profess our belief in the saving power of Christ's death on the Cross and our need for that gift of salvation.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany, see it as a historical event in which you are invited to share. God wants to manifest Himself to you today. When this happens, respond with faith and worship, giving God the greatest glory by giving Him your very life and offering Him your spiritual gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Most glorious Christ Child, please manifest Yourself within my soul where You wish to be born. May I follow the example of the Magi, offering You my own gifts in adoration and trust. Jesus, I trust in You.



WHAT IS ORDINARY TIME?:

January 9th, 2024 First week in Ordinary Time

Christmas Time and Easter Time highlight the central mysteries of the Paschal Mystery, namely, the incarnation, death on the cross, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time, on the other hand, take us through the life of Christ. This is the time of conversion. This is living the life of Christ.

Ordinary Time is a time for growth and maturation, a time in which the mystery of Christ is called to penetrate ever more deeply into history until all things are finally caught up in Christ. The goal, toward which all of history is directed, is represented by the final Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.

Why the word Ordinary?

The term 'ordinary' in our common use typically refers to something being plain, unimpressive, or unexciting. A kind of 'it is what it is' mentality. For that reason, many people hear 'Ordinary Time' and they immediately think of the season as such. But that understanding doesn't reflect the true meaning of the season.

Ordinary, in this context, comes from the Latin term *ordinalis*, meaning 'numbered' or 'ruled'. This title simply refers to the ongoing and rhythmical nature of the season. Just like everyday life, there is a rhythm to the days and the weeks. Sure, we have holidays and special occasions that we look forward to that change the pace, just like we have holy days and feasts in the Church year. But those special occasions aren't the whole picture, just like there is more to the life of Christ than what we celebrate in other liturgical seasons.

When is the season?

Technically, Ordinary Time has two parts, but it remains one season. The first part begins right after the feast of the Epiphany and runs until Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday (when Lent begins).

The second part begins the Monday after Pentecost and runs until the First Sunday of Advent. This part is typically about twice the length of the first.

Ordinary Time typically contains about 33 or 34 weeks, depending on how other Catholic Church feast days fall. Each of these weeks is denoted by the passing of time.

Why do we use green Ordinary Time?

Green symbolizes life, hope, and anticipation.



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!

Save the Date:

Cuisine du coeur 2024

Sunday March 10th



Mass Intentions

10AM - Mae Anderson (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 1/14 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 1/14 12pm- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 1/14 6pm- Fr. Udovic

PRAYER FOR JANUARY

Dear Lord, we thank you for this new month.

We ask that you go before us and lead and guide us.

We pray that each day will find us drawing closer to You and becoming more like Jesus.

Please be with our friends and family and meet their needs.

Keep them safe from harm.

We thank you for our blessings, Lord.

We thank you for all that you do for us.

May we live each day with an attitude of gratitude and a confident trust in You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Talispin Turns Life In Grace
www.talispinparish.com

Sunday Funday: January 7th:

Today is- Harlem Globetrotter's Day and National Bobblehead Day

1927- The Harlem Globetrotters played their first game in Hinkley, Ill.

1948- Thomas Mantell reported seeing a UFO over Kentucky.

2002- The Apple iBook was released.

"A boat is always safe in the harbor, but that's not what boats are built for."

- Katie Couric



WEEK OF PRAYER – JANUARY 7-13, 2024

AWAKENING

“LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, LORD. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.” (Habakkuk 3:2)

SUNDAY – CONSISTENCY

Ask God to help us be faithful and steadfast in prayer.

MONDAY – REPENTANCE

Pray to repent of our sins and seek God’s favor for ourselves, our families, and our nation.

TUESDAY – INTERCESSION

Pray for the Holy Spirit’s strength to persist in prayer.

WEDNESDAY – EVANGELISM

Pray for boldness to share the gospel with those who need Christ.

THURSDAY – UNITY

Pray that believers will be unified in love as we seek God together.

FRIDAY – SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Pray for the gifts of the Spirit to operate in our lives and in our churches.

SATURDAY – RENEWAL

Pray for a deeper desire to know Christ and experience the power of His Spirit in our lives.

The History of New Year's Resolutions:

The ancient Babylonians are said to have been the first people to make New Year's resolutions, some 4,000 years ago.

A similar practice occurred in ancient Rome, after the reform-minded emperor Julius Caesar tinkered with the calendar and established January 1 as the beginning of the new year circa 46 B.C. Named for Janus, the two-faced god whose spirit inhabited doorways and arches, January had special significance for the Romans. Believing that Janus symbolically looked backwards into the previous year and ahead into the future, the Romans offered sacrifices to the deity and made promises of good conduct for the coming year.

For early Christians, the first day of the new year became the traditional occasion for thinking about one's past mistakes and resolving to do and be better in the future.

Despite the tradition's religious roots, New Year's resolutions today are a mostly secular practice. Instead of making promises to the gods, most people make resolutions only to themselves, and focus purely on self-improvement, which may explain why such resolutions seem so hard to follow through on.

An average of 44% of Americans make a New Year's resolution before the night is over. Only 31% of people stick with the promises they made to themselves the prior year. A whopping 81% fail by February. The four most popular types of goals people set are to exercise, eat well, lose weight, and save money.

You've set a New Year's resolution and haven't stuck to it.

It's Quitters Day, the second Friday in January, which is dedicated to restarting those resolutions.



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.