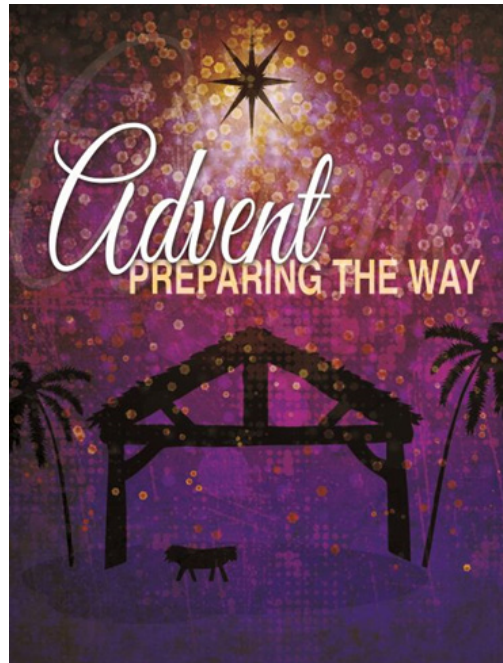


THE JOURNEY

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

First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 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 - 8:00AM Communion Service

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: 8:30 AM to 3:30 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.

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.

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.

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: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Lord will fulfill his promises to Israel and Judah.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12–4:2

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be holy and to please God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Jesus teaches his disciples to be vigilant so that they will be ready when the Son of Man comes in glory.

Feasts and Saints:

12/3- St. Francis Xavier, Priest

12/4- St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

12/6- St. Nicholas, Bishop

12/7- St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church



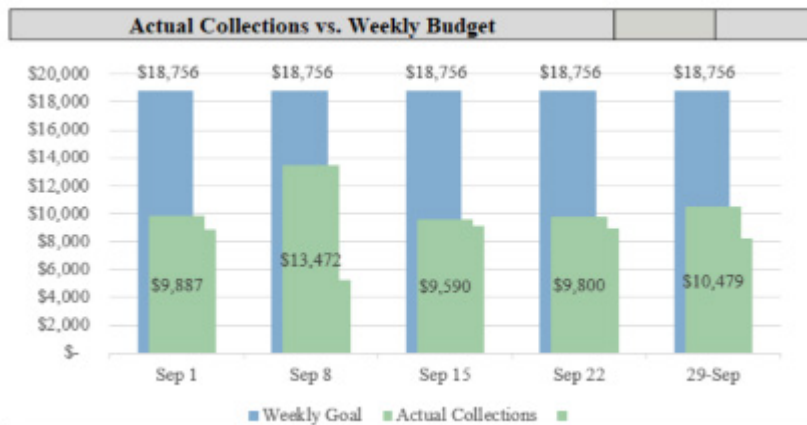
Gospel Meditation: 1st Sunday of Advent

When I was a young priest, about one year after ordination, I was called to the hospital to anoint a dying mother of three young children. She had a painful, terminal cancer. After celebrating Last Rites with her, I said, “Don’t be afraid.” She looked me square in the eye from her hospital bed and said, “Oh Father, I am in a lot of pain, but I am not afraid. Something wonderful is about to happen.” A few days later she died. Christians face the ending of our personal various “worlds” in a totally unique way. This first Sunday of Advent, Jesus says that when people see their world falling apart, they find themselves “fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world” (Luke 21:26). In our fear, our natural response is to check out, to hide our heads in drunkenness, distraction, and false securities. But Jesus commands us to “look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” He then compares what’s coming to a lovely summer in full bloom. That’s what the cross and resurrection empower us to do, as strange as it may seem. Advent challenge: What world in your life is collapsing? A relationship, a dream, a work opportunity? Maybe you’re troubled by a crumbling world in the political or economic sphere. Or maybe someone you love is seriously ill or dying. Name that world or worlds. Then pray: “Lord, help me to not faint with fear. Help me to raise my head and see your redemption coming.”

— Father John Muir

Financials: September 2024

	FY25	FY24
Basket/Mail In:	10,521	9,763
Give Central:	36,699	37,837
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$47,220	\$47,600
		(\$380)



From Fr. Frank:

The Solemnity of Christ the King

Yesterday, as I was walking, a young man started walking with me and began immediately started to talk and ask questions. He shared that he was from South Korea on the Camino after quitting his job. I asked him some general questions about what kind of work he did, other jobs he had and what brought him to the Camino.

And at some point, describing his work experiences, he mentioned the word “monastery,” which of course struck a chord in me. I responded without any hesitation by asking by him the background of the monastery, to which he replied, “The Society of St. Paul.” I happen to know quite a bit about this religious community, which startled my new walking companion, whose name was “Nabukim,” a Korean name that I’m certain is spelled incorrectly. I also told him my name and how much I loved this religious order he was a part of. “And so you are Catholic?” he asked.

Once I said that I was indeed Catholic, he asked, “And what do you do?” He was nearly shocked when I told him that I was a priest. He mentioned in the six weeks on the Camino, I was the first priest he met, and, he found the lack of any interest in religion or spirituality very sad. Our conversation was so animated and even joyful, two men from two different countries, he nearly 35 years my junior, were connecting much beyond the surface.

Nabukim shared with me his experience with the community, getting a leave of absence to try other work related to his talents. His desire was to be married and be a father but never could find the right person, as he tried in the years before he entered the monastery. I just asked him what he thought God wanted from him, how God was leading him to answer the question.

And his answer, expressed with deep insight and depth, “I don’t know because I keep putting other realities at the center of my heart. I’ve pushed Christ away because I don’t know what He wants or why he just won’t let me find my true partner.” What a response that came from the depth of his heart. I felt so privileged that he would trust me in such a manner.

Nabukim’s response gets at the very heart of the Feast of Christ the King: Christ wants to be the center of OUR hearts so that His Heart can “reign” within us. He wants us to help in bringing about His Kingdom, which is NOT of this world, but a world in which Christ is King. He “rules” on the Cross, His Dominion is open to all people who make up humanity. His true “subjects,” who are at the heart of this Kingdom, are the ones who suffered, were excluded, abused, neglected, powerless, the controlled and all who suffered injustice.

Christ as King IS Justice, His Kingdom is slowly remaking and reforming the world in which we live to make things right and beautiful: to transform the various worlds and empires and political machines to come under “rule” empowered by serving, loving, forgiving. Christ makes it crystal clear through all the gospels, that His Kingdom can never, ever be forced nor can violence ever bring it about.

An unlikely conversation on a pilgrimage of faith, turned my world upside down and inside out. And all I could say to this young pilgrim, wise beyond his years, that his prayer was simply to let Jesus in on his searching, in his frustration, in his letting his ego dominate his purpose in life. We are ALL sinners, we “miss the mark,” as I shared my own struggles with ego and sin.

Christ wants YOU, all of you. Christ wants to be the very center of your life and heart. Christ wants you right now in your wounds and in your sins. Christ wants to turn YOUR world upside down AND inside out. And the kingdom within you, Christ’s Kingdom, will become your very world.

I walk into Santiago on November 21st and will receive my Compostela on November 22nd, the actual end of the pilgrimage as I will concelebrate the Pilgrim’s Mass in the Cathedral where I will venerate the bones of St. James, Santiago.

Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Remembering Advent

It always makes me laugh a little, these apocalyptic Gospel readings that come at the beginning of Advent.

What a funny juxtaposition — all of us stringing twinkle lights and wrapping presents, with Jesus thundering on about the end of the world. It's Christmas! Don't be a downer. Pour me some more eggnog and turn up the Nat King Cole.

Well, except it's not Christmas. It's Advent.

There's nothing wrong with the cultural accessories that have developed alongside this religious holiday. There's nothing wrong with the twinkle lights and the eggnog. But here's the thing: when Satan knows we're watching the front gate, he slips in the back door. And something I've found is that one back door he likes to use in my life is Cultural Christmas.

I love Cultural Christmas. I tend to overdo Cultural Christmas. I overschedule, I overdecorate, I overgift. All this "over" leads to — you guessed it! — overwhelm. "The anxieties of daily life," as Jesus describes in today's Gospel, make my heart drowsy. My spiritual Christmas joy, time and time again, is diminished — all because I embrace Cultural Christmas and ignore Advent. Satan sneaks in with the twinkle lights and the Christmas carols and he snatches The Present like the nasty little Grinch he is. He photobombs my experience of the religious holidays with the anxieties I so willingly embrace because of the production that is Cultural Christmas.

So, remember to rest this Advent, folks. Rest your heart. Rest your hands. Watch the back door and the front. Remember that this is the perfect time to be thinking about the state of your soul and not just the state of your house.

(Even though, yes, I know, the guests are coming any minute.)

Stewardship Reflections:

Preparing the Manger

Where do you fall in the "Christmas-songs-in-November" debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There's no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it's not everyone's cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It's hard to miss that point — Lent doesn't even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It's harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — "advent" — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, "so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap."

So let us not forget — our master's advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger?

CHRISTMAS

ANGEL TREE

TAKE AN ANGEL ORNAMENT FROM OUR TREE IN THE CHURCH BEGINNING SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24TH

WE WILL BE FULFILLING GIFT REQUESTS OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR AS WELL AS NEEDED ITEMS TO WELCOME A NEW REFUGEE FAMILY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

WE ASK ALL WRAPPED AND TAGGED GIFTS ARE RETURNED NO LATER THAN SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH

PLEASE CONTACT CHARISSE GIOIA WITH ANY QUESTIONS
773-528-6650



Greenery Sale

December 7th & 8th

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE ST. TERESA WILL OFFER IT'S ANNUAL GREENERY SALE FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

THERE WILL BE FRESH WREATHS, SWAPS, AND HOLIDAY GREENS BASKET TO PURCHASE. THE SALE WILL BE HELD IN THE GATHERING SPACE AFTER ALL MASSES THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 7TH AND 8TH. QUANTITIES ARE LIMITED, AND WILL BE SOLD ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.

CASH, CHECK, AND CHARGE WILL BE ACCEPTED.

IF YOU ALREADY PRE-ORDERED YOUR GREENERY, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AS WELL.

ALL PROCEEDS HELP TO COVER THE GREENERY AT ST. TERESA'S USED TO DECORATE FOR THE HOLIDAYS, AS WELL AS OTHER CHURCH OPERATING EXPENSES.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Advent Book Discussion

How do we speak about a God of Life in a world with so much suffering?

Wednesdays at 6 PM for 4 weeks

First Session Wednesday, November 27th

Register by November 20th

Dinner included!

[Register Here](#)



Gustavo Gutiérrez



THE GOD OF LIFE



ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA
CATHOLIC PARISH • EST. 1887

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:

Food Pantry Needs

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has partnered with The Greater Chicago Food Depository to increase the choices food pantries are able to receive each month. As a result, a variety of canned goods, nuts and dried/frozen fruit have been added to our deliveries. However, we continue to be in need of

INDIVIDUAL ROLLS OF WRAPPED TOILET PAPER.

It can be donated at Mass each week during the Presentation of the Gifts. Thank You for your generosity!

Welcome Committee:

The Parish Council is excited to announce the formation of a new Welcoming Committee here at St Teresa of Avila. We are looking for 2-3 people to help lead this initiative, and help us build a team of welcome volunteers for each mass. The task is simple, we need amazing volunteers that will greet all parishioners before mass with a friendly smile, a nice "hello", and possibly help them find a seat! You may think we already do this, but it's not consistent. Imagine walking into someone's house and not being welcomed when you walk in the door, a place of business, or a restaurant. First impressions can be lasting impressions.

Please consider joining this committee because it'll be fun and rewarding! If interested, please reach out to Jessica Marx @ chicago2381@hotmail.com.

Loaves and Fishes:

The Loaves & Fishes ministry has been inviting guests indoors to enjoy their meal on Friday evenings.

We need volunteers to greet our guests, serve them, and clean tables. Volunteers are needed on Friday evenings from 3:30 to 6:00. If you cannot arrive by 3:30, just let us know when you sign up. You can sign up here - <https://signup.com/go/rBJiFSK>.

Calling All Those Who Enjoy Cooking!

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 helpers) to prepare a warm dinner for the elderly and homeless in our area, served each Friday afternoon. For a 3-6 hour commitment, 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

Home Communion:

Please contact the parish office to request a home visit with a minister of care to bring the Eucharist to you.

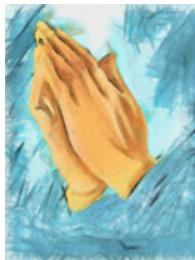
Prayer

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

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

We pray for those 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 12/8 10am- Fr. Frank
 Sunday 12/8 12pm- Fr. Frank
 Sunday 12/8 6pm- Fr. Alphonse

Prayer for the first week of Advent

Prayer of Expectation

Dear God,

As we prepare for Your arrival, align our hearts and homes to Your will.

Pour into us Your grace, as we wait in joyful expectation.

Amen.



Sunday Funday: December 1st:

Today is Eat A Red Apple Day and National Christmas Lights Day

1885- Invented by Charles Alderton, Dr. Pepper was first served at the W.B. Morrison & Co. Old Corner Drug Store in Waco, Texas.

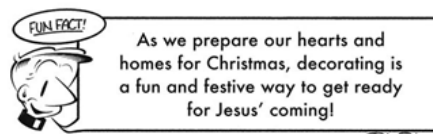
1913- The first U.S. drive-in automobile service 'filling station' opened at the traffic intersection of Baum Boulevard and St. Clair Street in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

1958- A fire at Our Lady of Angels School elementary school in Chicago killed 90 children.

"Why did the Christmas tree go to the barber?"



"It needed to be **trimmed**."



Advent Wreath

Question:

What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

Answer:

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.



Remembering Our Lady of the Angels

On Monday, December 1, 1958, a fire broke out at Our Lady of the Angels School in Chicago, Illinois, shortly before classes were to be dismissed for the day.

The fire originated in the basement near the foot of a stairway. The elementary school had an enrollment of approximately 1600 students.

A total of 92 pupils and three nuns ultimately died when smoke, heat, fire, and toxic gases cut off their normal means of egress through corridors and stairways. Many more were injured when they jumped from second-floor windows which, because the building had a raised basement, were nearly as high above ground as a third floor would be on level ground.

Fire department units arrived within four minutes of being called, but by then the fire had been burning unchecked for possibly as long as 40 minutes and was fully out of control.

The cause of the fire was never officially determined.

St. Francis Xavier | Feast Day December 3

This week is the feast of St. Francis Xavier. As a young man, Xavier met Ignatius of Loyola at the University of Paris. Xavier was inspired by his

friend's zeal and devotion. When Xavier was 31, he became one of the first members of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). The order presented themselves to the Pope for service as missionaries. Xavier would spend the rest of his life traveling the world and spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. He served side by side with the poor in India, modern-day Malaysia, Pacific Islands, and ultimately Japan.

Rather than imposing on the people, Xavier wore local dress and arranged translations of religious texts into the local language.

It's estimated that he baptized 30,000 people. His charismatic joy is an inspiration for all who want to bring people to Christ.

St. Nicholas | Feast Day December 6

St. Nicholas of Bari (March 15, 270 – December 6, 343), the bishop of Myra in the fourth century, is the saint that Santa Claus is modeled after. Known for his kindness and generosity to the poor, the story has it that St. Nicholas once tossed bags of gold through the open window of a poor man's house to help his daughters avoid a life of prostitution.

According to legend, the gold landed in stockings dangling on the corners of the beds, which is why many of us celebrate St. Nicholas Day by hanging stockings and filling them with candy, fruit, and small toys.

Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues today.



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.