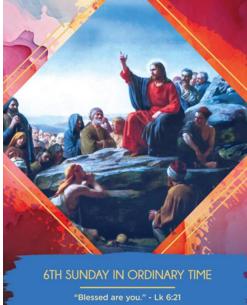


THE SUBJECT ST TERESA OF AVIA

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 16, 2025



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

Pastor

Reverend Frank John Latzko

Address 1037 W. Armitage Ave.

Chicago, Illinois 60614

773-528-6650

www.teresa.church

Welcome

"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 learing 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.

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

Page 2

Welcome

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 opportunites 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 for 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.

Parish Life

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8

Put trust and hope in the Lord, not in human beings.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

Our hope for resurrection is sure because Christ has been raised from the dead.

Gospel Reading: Luke 6:17,20-26

Jesus teaches the crowd the way to happiness.

Feasts and Saints:

2/17- The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order2/21- St. Peter Damian Bishop and Doctor of the Church2/22- The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS

Gospel Meditation: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I craved four things as a teenager: success in sports, food, fun and the attention of popular people. However, I noticed that as I acquired them, I was more unsatisfied than before. So, I'd strive even more energetically, achieve more, and the sense of emptiness was greater still. These four things started to feel like burdens or even curses. Soon after, I encountered Christ in my high school youth group. Experiencing his love was totally different than anything those four things previously produced. It produced a lasting happiness. Jesus utters a kind of four-fold curse in this week's Gospel of Saint Luke's "woes": "Woe to you who are rich ... who are filled now...who laugh now...who are well-spoken of" (cf. Luke 6:24-26). How marvelous that these correspond perfectly to the four things that obsessed my teenage soul: riches, food, laughter and good reputation. The "woes" the Lord speaks are warnings: when those things are the purpose of your life, you'll be miserable. He is saying, "You'll be happy, or blessed, in the measure that these things do not determine the shape of our lives, and the kingdom of God does." To some degree, we're all spiritual teenagers, addicted to one or more of those four "woes." How splendid that the Lord wants his to bless us - that is, to satisfy us, make us laugh with joy, and in the kingdom of God, offer us what will truly satisfy us. But first let's admit what is causing our "woes." - Father John Muir



Financials: December 2024

	FY25	FY24
Basket/Mail In:	46,835	19,539
Give Central:	39,177	37,281
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$86,012	\$ 56,820

From Father Frank:

I recently watched the episode from the tv series "The Chosen" depicting today's gospel scene of the great catch of fish. The disciples had been working hard all night trying fill their nets with fish and Jesus was now telling them to go back into "deep water" and cast their nets. The visual depiction of this scene was absolutely wonderful, in which you can see how exhausted these guys were and how incredulous they looked, especially Simon Peter, when Jesus told them to go back to work.

Something deep within their gut told them to just do what Jesus told them to do. It probably took extra persuasion to get Peter "on board" with this ludicrous request. In the end, it's a call to TRUST that God loves us and wants only what will turn us into saints. Love does just that: thrusts us, sometimes, into deeper waters of risk rooted in TRUST.

The huge catch of fish compelled these simple, uneducated fishermen to "drop the nets" once emptied and embrace new nets, new ways of catching, new realities to be caught: human beings.

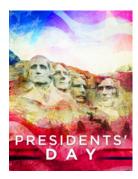
And Peter was able to turn his eyes away from the massive catch of fish, only to GAZE at the One who made it happen. Falling at the feet of Jesus, Peter responded from the depth of his being and heart, "Depart from me Lord for I am a sinful man." This is the response that we all can make.

Often in life, sometimes it seems never ending, our nets keep ending up empty. We want to fill our lives with what we think will fulfill us, make us happy or successful , only to come up empty and frustrated. Jesus anthem is always, go into deeper waters of trust, pray that God will lead you into and through these deep waters. Trust in God's call, follow Him, it will certainly be a challenge since God is calling you to holiness and integrity of living. If you follow the ways and beliefs of much of our culture, as it is lived through social media, technology and AI, you will never leave the shore. And your life will be like a "house of cards." who are at wits end. God will let you stay on the shore in safety and comfort for the rest of your lives. God gives you and me the freedom to keep living our lives, day after day, repeating the same old inner attitudes of caution and refusing to let go. Much like the movie, "Groundhog Day."

Or...follow God's lead on an adventure of inner transformation.

Presidents Day Holiday:

The Parish Office will be closed in observance on Monday February 17th, 2025



Finance Update:

St Teresa's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. As shown in the table, the net surplus for the six months ended December 31, 2024 equaled \$279k.

Excluding Investment Earnings, the net surplus for the first half of the fiscal year equaled \$148k. This amount is \$71k higher than the same period last year and \$87k better than budget. The favorable variances result from higher Fundraising (largely Together in Joy) and Other Revenue (including a \$25k contribution to Loaves & Fishes).

Offertory Collections were higher than the first half of 2024 and nearly at budget. This December Collections included an individual donation of \$30k which closed previously unfavorable variances.

Partially offsetting the favorable revenue variances are higher Ordinary expenses.

These expenses were \$15k higher than the prior year and \$28k higher than budget and reflect a variety of factors. Salaries and benefits account for more than half of our expenses. Staffing headcount has remain unchanged and at the budgeted level.

Consistent with the parish's typical cash flow pattern, the budget for the second half of the fiscal year anticipates a net loss. However, our full year forecast, excluding Investment Earnings, estimates a net surplus, which would continue our more than decade long string of full year net surpluses.

Thank you for your continued attendance at Mass, support of our ministries, and generous financial contributions.

Please ask your family, friends, and neighbors to join us.

1/10/2025	St Teresa of Avila Parish Semi-annual Report to the Parish					
	Half Year			Half Year		
	FY25	FY24	Variance	FY25	Variance	
	Collections	354,384	331,134	23,250	357,502	(3,118)
Fundraising	220,159	189,299	30,860	170,500	49,659	
Other	43,200	42,237	963	36,957	6,243	
Total Revenue	617,743	562,670	55,073	564,959	52,784	
Expenses	(511,693)	(497,008)	(14,685)	(483,558)	(28,135)	
— Net Ordinary	106,050	65,662	40,388	81,401	24,649	
Other Revenue	58,874	29,985	28,889	19,998	38,876	
Other Expense	(17,213)	(19,227)	2,014	(40,498)	23,285	
Net Other	41,661	10,758	30,903	(20,500)	62,161	
Subtotal	147,711	76,420	71,291	60,901	86,810	
Investment Earnings	131,148	46,571	84,577		131,148	
Total Net	278,859	122,991	155,868	60,901	217,958	

Parish Life

Page 7

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Together we bring hope

2025 Annual Catholic Appeal

The Annual Catholic Appeal theme for 2025 is *Together we bring hope*. It echoes the theme that Pope Francis has given to the Holy Year *Pilgrims of hope*. It also resonates with our efforts of renewal in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Contributions to the Appeal enable us to bring real hope into our world, especially to those in need. We come together as the Lord's Church, and we demonstrate our love of God and our neighbor through our support of the Appeal. We foster the Church's mission to teach, to serve, and to sanctify in the name of Jesus Christ. Our support is a blessing for many. Please consider supporting this year's Appeal. Your generous contribution will be a source of blessing for many people, for yourself, and for your loved ones.

To make a gift by phone: 312,534,7959

To mail: 835 North Rush Street Chicago, IL 60611



annualcatholicappeal.com

Stewardship Reflection:

Planted Near Water

We all know that there are times when life can feel, as Jeremiah writes, empty and wasted. There are moments when we think we resemble a barren bush, thirsting in the desert sun. That's why it is imperative for us to know the location of our water source. I promise you, it's closer than you think. God never planted a seed in barren ground.

For me, it's the Mass. Going to Mass is where I find total peace and renewal. I don't have any great theological explanation for this — Mass is simply where I can truly rest in God for a time, where nothing and no one in the world can touch me. And wouldn't you know it, it's in the toughest times that I need Mass the most — that my roots stretch harder for that water.

Woe to the rich, says Jesus — woe to the popular, to the content, to the happy. It's not because He hates to see us smile. It's because He knows our humanity. He knows our limitations. He knows that when things are going really well, we often stop looking for God.

What replenishes you as a disciple, as a steward, as a Christian? If it feels far away or hard to reach, why is that? How can you bring it closer?

We are all trees planted near water, to yield our fruit in due season. Let's pray for the strength to know where our water source is, and to seek it both in good times and in bad.

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!

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

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.

Home Communion:

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

Friday Morning Communion Service:

There will be no Friday Communion Service starting Friday January 17th, 2025.

It will resume the first Friday of Lent March 7th, 2025.

Prayer

Mass Intentions

10AM - Joyce Jaszczor (D); Zac Grawe (D)

12 PM - John Fredericks (D)

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.

Frank O'Toole Cynthia Rojas

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 2/23 10am- Fr. Frank Sunday 2/23 12pm- Fr. Frank Sunday 2/23 6pm- Fr. Frank

Prayer of God's Blessing

Bless me, Lord, mold my heart in imitation of Yours.

Bless me, Lord, help me to see people as You do, and to hear their needs.

Bless me, Lord, replace my understanding with Yours.

Amen.

Sunday Funday February 16th :

Today is National Almond Day and National Innovation Day

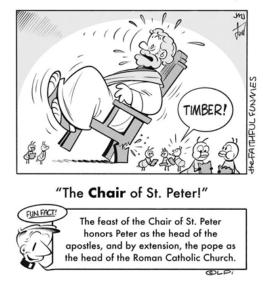
1883- Ladies Home Journal magazine began publication.

1964- The Beatles appeared in the Ed Sullivan Show for the second time.

1968- Haleyville, Alabama was the first town to use the 911 emergency number.

1983- The Ash Wednesday brushfires in Southern Austalia took the lives of 71 people, becoming Australia's worst fire ever.

"What is a termite's favorite feast day?

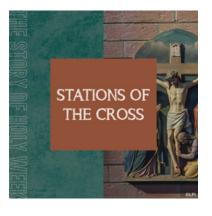


Devotions, Explained!

Stations of the Cross

In the earliest years of Christianity, the locations central to the story of Holy Week — the Garden of Gethsemane, Calvary, the Holy Sepulcher, and more were destinations for pilgrims who wanted to experience Christ's sacrificial love for us in a physical way. In the years after the Crusades, pilgrimage to the Holy Land became impossible for most Christians, and the Stations of the Cross was popularized as a devotional means to pray through the passion and death of Christ.

Throughout history the number of stations has varied, with different traditions focusing on different events. In the 18th century, the number was officially fixed at 14 by Pope Clement XII. These stations are taken from the Gospel accounts of Christ's passion and death, though there are several which are derived from tradition and apocryphal sources, such as the meeting of Mother and Son and St. Veronica wiping the face of Christ.



Gospel Reflection:

IN THE END, DOES IT MATTER?

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

When I was a teenager, the priest I would go to for confession used to tell me, over and over: "In the end, we all get the same dirty hole in the ground."

What he meant was, it doesn't matter how rich or smart or well-liked we are. We're all heading to the same place. This life comes to an end for every man. All the money he earns, all the stuff, all the worldly esteem, will at some point be of no further use. We all get the same dirty hole in the ground.

It was an important message for me to hear, because at the time, it all seemed so important: my after-school job and my FAFSA application and my grades. The admiration of my friends and teachers. I was so consumed with what I was going to become that I wasn't spending a lot of time thinking about who I was going to become. But the who is the only thing that lasts until the next life.

And to be honest, it's all still too important to me. Avoiding sadness and disappointment. Saving money and being liked. Focusing on "the five-year plan" when it comes to career, house plans, and a whole bunch of other things I can't take to my dirty hole in the ground.

Jesus was radical in his teaching that the "stuff" in life wasn't all that important. It was radical for him to say that the worldly signs of success — wealth, popularity, pleasure — did not amount to a whole lot in the grand scheme of things and that suffering could sanctify us. It was radical in the ancient world, and it's radical today.

Are we ready to be radical, too?



Around the Parish

Catholic Trivia Just for Fun

Question: What is the term for sharing of the faith through witness of life and word?

Answer: Evangelization.

Catholic Q&A

Question:

Carnivale and Mardi Gras celebrations are linked to Ash Wednesday, Lent, fast and abstinence. Can you tell us more about the connections between these events?

Answer:

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the forty days known as Lent. Every year, Christians highlight this penitential season as a time of self-examination, reformation of one's life, and continued development of a deeper spiritual life. The recommended practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving become the focus of Lenten activity and ritual. Each of these spiritual practices is aimed at personal discipline as well as continued concern for the other, especially the poor or alienated.

Forty days is a symbolic biblical period of time, during which personal transformation occurs and out of which people surface as more spiritual, ready to carry out God's mission. Relying on God's providence and care, no matter how difficult life becomes, is crucial to Lenten spirituality. Fasting was initially stricter, permitting only one simple meal a day without meat, fish, or other delicacies. Such things were not even allowed in the house.

In order to prepare for this in an age of no refrigeration, people gathered to consume whatever was not allowed during Lent. This led to parties or celebrations originally referred to as Carnivale, literally meaning "goodbye to meat," or Mardi Gras, literally meaning "Fat Tuesday." The eating and celebrating ended on the Tuesday just before Ash Wednesday. Today we focus more on moderation in all things, as well as a strong concern the poor. What are you doing for the poor this Lent?



The Relevance of the Church

Join the Archdiocese Women's Committee (AWC) for one of three Zoom discussions on the relevance of the Church.

- Our goal is to hear the voices of 200 or more women. Discussion will address the following:
- . How relevant is the Church in the lives of women today?
- What are three essential things a parish must have in order to be relevant (or more relevant) in women's lives?
- How has the practice of your faith changed since the pandemic? In what ways has your parish continued to or failed to nurture you in your new practices?

Advance registration is necessary in order to receive the Zoom link for participation. To register, please scan the QR code or click on your desired session below.

Wednesday, February 19 | 7 - 8:30 p.m. | bit.ly/AWCVOW0219 Tunsday, February 25 | 7 - 8:30 p.m. | bit.ly/AWCVOW0225 Monday, March 3 | 7- 8:30 p.m. | bit.ly/AWCVOW0303



The Archdiocese Women's Committee is an adjunct committee of the Archdiocesan Relational Council, it serves as an advecory committee that works directly with Cardinal Cupich



Parish Contacts

Staff

Fr. Frank Latzko Pastor frfrankjohn56@gmail.com

Charisse Gioia Office Manager/Technology Coordinator/ Bulletin cgioia@stteresaparish.org

Charisse is repsonsible 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.