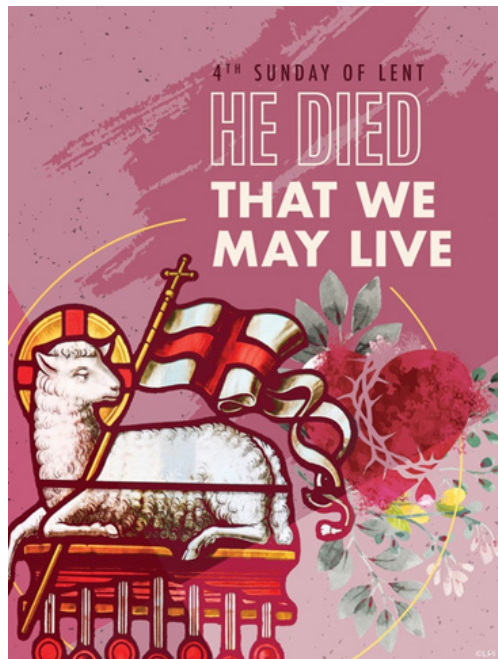


THE JOURNEY

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 30, 2025



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

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

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 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.



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

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 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 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.

This Sunday’s Readings:

First Reading: While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover. (Jos 5:10)

Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34)

Second Reading: And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation. (2 Cor 5:18)

Gospel: ““But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.”” (Lk 15:32)



Feasts and Saints:

- 4/2- St. Francis of Paola, Hermit
- 4/4- St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- 4/5- St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest

Financials: February 2025

	FY25	FY24
Basket/Mail In:	8,324	20,205
Give Central:	34,686	36,328
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$43,010	\$ 56,533
.	\$(13,523)	

Gospel Meditation: 4th Sunday of Lent

A man looking a bit downtrodden approached me as I filled my car’s gas tank. He asked, “May I share with you my testimony about how good God is?” “OK,” I skeptically answered. He went on to tell me that he had been an alcoholic and drug addict, and that God had healed him; now he was four years sober. He said, “I didn’t deserve it, but now I’m a different person. God is so good! Have a terrific Tuesday!” A few minutes later, as I drove away, I saw him smiling and handing a homeless person some money. I was confronted with a choice: either he was a total fraud or God had changed him. Something had happened to him, and it didn’t seem fake. Maybe it was God. When Jesus heals the man born blind, the man becomes a challenge to everyone who meets him. They must decide. Is he the same blind person who they knew before? Who healed him and how? And what is the status of the one who can heal such infirmities? We shouldn’t be surprised at the storm of doubt, hatred and animosity that swirls around the healed man — so it often goes when Jesus heals someone even to this day. Like we often do, the religious leaders confronting the healed man declare that God is not at work. They ask with mocking superiority and dismissive disdain, “You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?” (John 9:34). And they cast him out. When Jesus clearly works in our lives, in us or around us, we should accept it, and give praise and thanks for this wonderful manifestation of his goodness. Lenten challenge: Think of one way the Lord has healed you. Perhaps he healed a form of selfishness, a physical ailment, or something else. This week, find a person to whom you can share that testimony, and share it. Don’t worry if they don’t accept it was God who did it.





Hello Saint Teresa Family,

Just a brief note to update everyone on our Loaves and Fishes Ministry.

We have the wonderful gift of being able to provide a nutritious meal and some fellowship to our less fortunate neighbors every Friday. This last week, March 21, we broke our all time record by serving 122 meals to our guests!! This included over 50 guests who chose to enjoy their tasty stuffed pepper casserole in our St Teresa dining area. This meal was prepared by one of our amazing cooking teams, Maryann, Cindy, Beth, Cathy, Diane and Nancy.

We continue to be on the lookout for new volunteers to join either one of our Friday cooking teams (10-2 and/or 2-6 shifts available) or our meal server team (3:30-6). As more and more guests choose to eat their meal indoors, our need for more servers grows. Our servers package up our meals, snacks, water, etc. while also providing coffee, water, and conversation with our guests. If you have been giving some thought to getting engaged with a ministry, look to us at Loaves and Fishes.

When folks ask us about our inspiration for our Loaves and Fishes ministry, we usually start with John 21:17... The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep.

We have a truly rewarding experience every Friday and look forward to sharing that experience with others. Reach out to me if you would like to find out more about how you can join us on for a Friday of cooking, serving and goodwill.

Peace,

Steve Sibon
630.881.3348
sjsibon@aol.com



Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Apology

I like to imagine the Prodigal Son practicing his apology in the mirror.

He wouldn't have, of course. Mirrors weren't exactly a dime a dozen back then. But I imagine him anyway, rehearsing the words as he contemplates his own gaunt reflection: "Father, I have sinned against God and against you. Treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."

In other words, I have done wrong. I deserve nothing from you. But please, don't let me starve. Save me.

The apology wasn't necessary to move the heart of the father. We know that because before they meet, before anything is said, the father is overcome with compassion — not because he got his satisfaction, that long-awaited "I'm sorry, I was wrong." No, he's simply overjoyed to see his son alive. Even without apology, we know the father will beg his son to stay.

So why does the son apologize?

The father doesn't need the "I'm sorry." He isn't starving and lost. He knew all along it was a bad idea. He doesn't need to learn any lessons.

But what a tragedy it would have been, if the son had never said he was sorry. Undoubtedly, his father would have let him stay as a hired worker, and he would have had food to eat. He would have survived. But he wouldn't have been what he was born to be.

I often think of the son's apology as I am kneeling in the confessional, awkwardly reciting sins God already knows and is eager to forgive. Why are you doing this? some people would ask. God doesn't need this.

It's the apology, you see. The apology means everything. The Prodigal Son was dead. The apology brought him back to life.

God doesn't need our repentance. We need our repentance.

Stewardship Reflections:

The Face on God's Brochure

When a church is raising funds for a new building or a diocese is launching a stewardship appeal, there is usually someone — or several someones — who serves as the face of the campaign. Maybe it's a married couple, or a family, or a group of folks who have been particularly active in the community and can speak to the worthiness of whatever endeavor is being undertaken.

Oftentimes, for better or worse, we fill that role for God. We are the face on the front of His promotional brochure. If we call ourselves Christians, that means that people will meet Christ through us. That's what being an Everyday Steward is — a steward, everyday; someone who conducts his Master's business when the Master is not seen.

It can be intimidating because we have so much baggage and no capabilities of our own. But then we remember that we are offered reconciliation through Christ — that "the old things have passed away, (and) new things have come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). We remember that we are the prodigal sons, and the fattened calf has been slaughtered on our behalf.

But it's a role that requires commitment. The story of the prodigal son is only compelling and only means something because the son, presumably, embraced his reconciliation to his father. He didn't go on to abandon him again.

So let us think to ourselves each day, "Whoever I encounter will meet Christ's ambassador. I was dead and have come to life again. How can I speak to the worthiness of that reconciliation? How can I make others desire it?"



St. Vincent Ferrer| April 5th:

Patron Saint of builders, plumbers, fishermen, and prisoners.

Vincent was the fourth child of noble parents born in Valencia, Spain and was named after the Third Century Valencian saint, Vincent the Deacon, Protomartyr of Spain. After completing studies in philosophy, he joined the Dominican friars when he was about eighteen. He spent the next several years teaching, writing, preaching, praying, fasting, and doing penance, and was devoted to the poor. For three years, he read nothing but Scripture, memorizing the entire Bible. The first of the miracles that would become commonplace in his ministry took place during a severe famine. Moved with compassion for the hungry people, Vincent prophesied that two boats would arrive that evening at port, loaded with food. To the surprise of everyone, it happened as he said. After earning a Doctorate in theology, Father Vincent was ordained at age twenty-eight during the Western Schism, when two men claimed to be pope. In 1398, Father Vincent had an experience that would open the door for the second and most remarkable period of his priestly ministry. He had become quite ill and seemed to be on his deathbed. Father Vincent had a vision of Christ, accompanied by Saints Dominic and Francis, who exhorted him to go forth to preach penance, heal the sick, and prepare the faithful for the coming Judgment. Soon after, Father Vincent recovered, then sought and received a special commission for this new mission from the Avignon pope. He set out on an extraordinary journey that lasted about twenty years, traveling on foot to England, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, France, Switzerland, and Italy. He preached often on the Final Judgment of Christ, earning him the nickname “Angel of the Apocalypse” and instilling a holy fear of God and a desire for repentance among his listeners. As Father Vincent traveled, hordes of people traveled with him, doing penance along the way. His “pulpit” was often a large field or public square, so that everyone who wanted to listen could do so. He raised the dead, healed the lame, and cured illnesses. As a result of his powerful sermons, backed up by miraculous signs, an estimated 25,000 Jews, 1000s of Muslims, and many pagans converted, while Catholics deepened and renewed their faith.

Saint Vincent, you put prayer first in your life and became an exceptionally effective minister of the Gospel. God used you to convert countless thousands as you submitted yourself to His divine will with generosity and zeal. Please pray that I may always seek God in prayer and allow prayer to fuel for the ministry to which I am called. Saint Vincent Ferrer, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.



ANSWER THE CALL TO SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS

The archdiocese is committed to providing excellent educational offerings and to supporting priests from the beginning of their formation through their retirement. Our support for priests includes the following investments:

- Seminarian Education
- Priest Pastoral and Professional Development
- Caring for the Health and Well-Being of Our Priests
- St. Teresa of Avila Progress to Goal: \$691,500 or 78% towards \$890,000!



GENERATION
TO GENERATION:
ANSWER THE CALL

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](mailto: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.

Mass Intentions

10AM - Petronella Zeunert

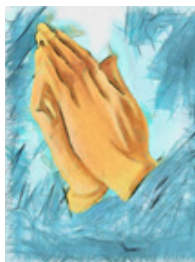
12 PM - Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Living and Deceased

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.

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.

Sunday Funday March 30th:

Today is Doctors' Day and Take a Walk in the Park Day

1842- Ether anesthesia was used for the first time, in an operation by the American surgeon, Dr. Crawford Long.

1964- Jeopardy!, hosted by Art Fleming, debuted.

Every night it's a race between falling asleep and thinking of that one really awkward moment from ten years ago.

After a certain depth underwater, your lungs are compressed to a point where you are no longer buoyant and will sink to the bottom unless you have something to hold on to.



Upcoming Mass Schedule

Sunday 4/6 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 4/6 12pm- Fr. Frank

Sunday 4/6 6pm- Fr. Frank

Prayer of a Father's Blessing

God who wills good things for your children, Help me to trust that You will be faithful. God who will not leave me,

Help me to seek You, too. God who is ever-waiting for me,

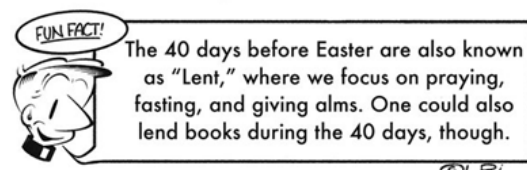
Help me to run straight towards You.

Amen.

"Why couldn't the grandma find her prayer book?"



"She forgot it was **Lent.**"



Devotions, Explained!

Novena, Explained

The word novena comes from the Latin word, novem, for nine. A novena is a nine-day period of private or public prayer. There are four basic categories of novenas — novenas of preparation, of mourning, of prayer, and of indulgence.

The nine days of prayer format comes directly from scripture where we read in the book of Acts that it was nine days after the Ascension that the Holy Spirit descended onto the Apostles. During that time, the faithful men and women “devoted themselves to constant prayer,” (Acts 1:12-14) waiting for the Lord.

Today, Catholics can find hundreds of novenas to pray about a plethora of topics. Many Catholics pray novenas in times of need or in devotion to a specific saint. Although a saint’s novena may traditionally begin or end on the saint’s feast day, while others, like the “Novena for Adopted Children” or the “Novena for Vocations,” can be prayed any time of the year, there is flexibility here for those wanting to pray. The faithful may choose to pray a private novena on any topic at any time! Want to pray a novena to St. Francis but it’s not his feast day? Go ahead!

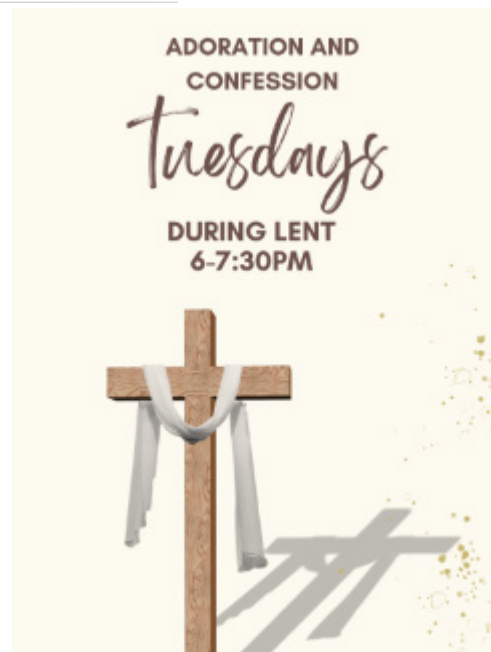
Lenten Tuesday Evening Soup April 1st:

Stop by the Parish Center this Tuesday 6:00-7:30pm

and enjoy delicious bowl of soup!

This week will be Italian Wedding/Meatball

There are sign up sheets in the back of the church if you would to volunteer to make soup or donate bread and cookies.



Catholic Trivia Just for Fun

Question: What is the generic name for the hymn sung at the end of Mass?

Answer: Recessional hymn.

Catholic Q&A

Lent

Question:

Lent always seems to help me renew my relationship with God and strengthen my religious practice. Do you have any suggestions as to what I could do to achieve that the rest of the year?

Answer:

The obvious answer may seem to be to do whatever you do during Lent all year round. But part of the power of Lent is that we focus as a community on renewing our faith and preparing for Easter. Our Lenten practices have a purpose and a goal. Therein lies the secret. When we focus our efforts on one virtue, or try to change one bad habit, or seek to deepen our understanding of one aspect of faith, we focus our efforts and give our full attention to what we are trying to accomplish. We tend to be more successful achieving our goals. More importantly, it has a ripple effect in our lives: one thing changes or is added to the spiritual mix of our lives and many aspects are changed.

All too often we leave our spiritual growth to chance and the practice of faith to habit, and then wonder why we have no sense of growth or progress. Think of it in terms of exercise. We walk, lift weights, bend and stretch to attain the maximum benefit from what we do. In addition, to keep those benefits, we eat healthful food and get enough vitamins and rest. Spirituality requires the same kind of attention: we pray, fast, read the Bible, receive sacraments, and do charitable work to maximize the benefits of practicing faith. Keeping Lent year round keeps us in spiritual shape!



CRS Rice Bowl

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

PROTECTING CROPS FROM NATURAL DISASTERS IN BANGLADESH

Shahadat's village, and much of Bangladesh, is located on flat lowlands. The intense rainy season causes flooding that often destroys farms and crops. Find out how Shahadat learned new farming skills from a Catholic Relief Services program that enabled him to increase the yield of his vegetable crops despite the challenges of climate change.

Visit csrricebowl.org/week-4 to read this week's Story of Hope.



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.