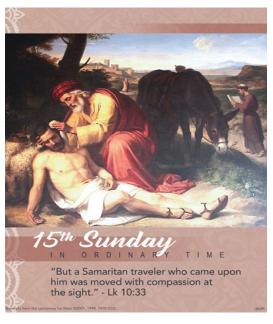
# THE JOURNEY

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

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 13, 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 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)

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 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 Page 4

#### This Sunday's Readings:

First Reading: No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." (Dt 30:14)

Psalm: Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life. (Ps 19)

Second Reading: Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. (Col 1:15)

Gospel: You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself. (Lk 10:25)

#### Feasts and Saints:

7/14- St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

7/15- St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7/16- Our Lady of Mount Carmel

7/18- St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

#### Gospel Meditation: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I used to be a bad neighbor. I'd get wrapped up in my life and ignore those around me. Then I found sage advice from Benjamin Franklin to this effect: to be a better neighbor, ask someone to do a favor for you. It's counterintuitive, isn't it? Tell strangers that I need their help? Yuck. I'll risk looking needy. Worse, I'll be indebted to them. But I tried it, and it works like a charm. Recently I asked my neighbor Alan for a hacksaw, and Inga for an egg. They kindly obliged, and our friendship is growing.

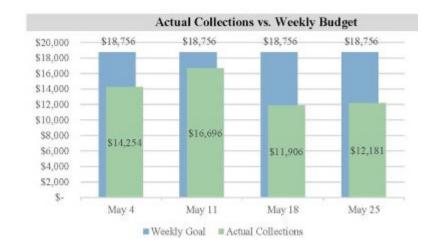
This week we hear a scribe of the law cynically ask Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:29). Like him, we prefer to keep the list of our "neighbors" as short as possible. It requires less interruption and inconvenience. But when Jesus tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, he exposes the lonely, cold-heartedness tendency of the scribe's (and our) heart. My "neighbor" is anyone I encounter who manifests a concrete need. There isn't time to require any other credential because human need opens us to the happy reciprocity which is love.

Jesus' words challenge us this week to ask a neighbor for help in some small way. How marvelous that God himself shows us how. He moves into our world and asks us to love Him with small deeds of love. Maybe that's where Ben Franklin got the idea.

- Father John Muir

#### Financials: May 2025

	FY25	FY24
Basket/Mail In:	20,290	17,563
Give Central:	34,942	40,154
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$55,232	\$ 57,717
	\$(2,485)	



#### From Mark:

Something that is often missed when we read the Gospels in modern times is how shocking they would be to the folks of Jesus' time. There is no story that would be as shocking as the story of the good Samaritan.

There were no two groups of people who despised each other more than the Jews and the Samaritans. The Jews of that time saw the Samaritans as impure.

Centuries prior when the Jews were exiled in Assyria, the Samaritans were Jews who married into the local people. This intermixing created somewhat different religious practices from the Jews in Jerusalem.

The most unforgivable to religious authorities in Jerusalem is that Samaritans began to worship in a different temple on Mount Gerizim many miles away from the main temple in Jerusalem.

It was within this context of cultural, religious, and geographic hatred and division that Jesus shares a story of boundary crossing.

It can not be understated how shocking a Samaritan helping the beaten man would have been. One professor I had in my divinity program, citing Jewish scripture scholar Amy Jill-Levine, compares it to a member of Hamas helping a beaten Israeli on the side of the road.

How can this parable "shock" us today?

I think when we read this parable, it pushes us to look beyond any divide that we have made in our lives.

Can we imagine a Chicago Democratic Socialist helping a MAGA guy from Idaho? Can we imagine a suburbanite who only knows Chicago through negative news stories picking up a Chicago Alderperson from the road?

Think about the two groups of two people or people in your life and imagine them in this situation.

If you think your imagination is not radical enough, pick two more groups that are even farther from each other.

#### From Mark Continued:

This parable challenges us as a church.

Are we, both the global Catholic Church and St. Teresa in particular, a space where folks of the farthest cultural, religious, geographic, political, and identity differences are able to reconcile.

Are we a space where these people of such difference are able to "pick each other up?"

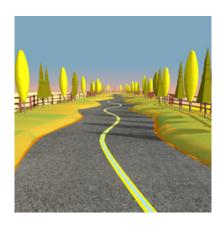
As a minister here, I am constantly trying to ask and solve this question.

In our small group ministry, we find folks of all different backgrounds coming together to ask big questions about their lives and where they are journeying.

An invitation for the week is to ask yourself where the biggest divide is in your life?

Who is the Samaritan in my life? How can I pick them up from the side of the road?

How can I let myself be picked up?



## St. Kateri Tekakwitha | July 14

On July 14th, we celebrate the feast of the "Lily of the Mohawks."

St. Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American woman to be canonized. Orphaned by a smallpox outbreak, Kateri survived with severe scarring and impaired eyesight. Despite tragedy, she was a devout girl at a young age, often building crosses from sticks in the woods.

When she was 18, she began secret instruction in the Catholic faith with French missionaries. Her commitment to Christianity and vow of virginity was misunderstood and ridiculed by her fellow villagers. She escaped to a nearby mission, where she attended daily Mass, taught the children, and cared for the sick and the elderly.

Sometimes the greatest misunderstandings can come from those closest to us.

Like St. Kateri, God invites us to be faithful to our commitments of faith and to always respond in love.



#### St. Bonaventure | July 15

Do you ever get stuck with the tough jobs?

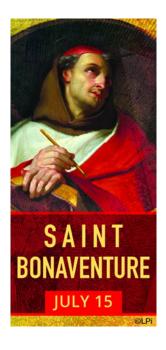
It's well known that the Franciscan Order was incredibly influential throughout history. But one of the most challenging times for a new movement is surviving the death of the founder.

Bonaventure joined the Franciscan Order almost two decades after the passing of St. Francis.

Initially, the young man's theological insights earned him a prime faculty position at the University of Paris. More than his academic skill, however, he was known for his deep devotion to Christ. He was elected the General Minister of the Franciscan Order, right in the thick of controversies.

Some friars had conflicting views of how to interpret St. Francis' poverty as the order grew. Others started a new heresy, saying that the Franciscan Order began a new era of the Holy Spirit, replacing the era of Jesus and the authority of the Church.

St. Bonaventure weathered these crises with grace, restructuring the order when necessary and offering a more organized perspective on the insights of St. Francis.



#### Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Crossing the Street** 

It takes a cold, hard, godless heart to step over a wounded man on the street.

But in the parable of the Good Samaritan, the priest and the Levite didn't step over the half-dead traveler. I think we picture them doing so, in our collective imagining of this well-known story, but the words of the Gospel are quite clear. "When he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side," Jesus says of both.

So they saw him. They saw his need. It made them uncomfortable; it confused them — many scholars have said that Judaic law concerning the touching of dead bodies might have made them reluctant to approach — and so they decided the simplest way to file this situation in the Not My Problem category was to cross the street.

But that still leaves a half-dead guy on the road. And we all, 2,000 years later, still think of the priest and the Levite as cold and hard and godless — even if they didn't want to be, even if they didn't think of themselves that way — because the bottom line is, they didn't see the half-dead guy as their problem.

As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading.

Well, I don't know about you, but I find myself crossing the street a lot more than I should.

There is so much pain and suffering in the world. We certainly can't begin to alleviate it all. But we have to start with the pain and the suffering that we see, that's right in front of us — even if it's something we really, really want to ignore. Even if we find it inconvenient or confusing or scary or weird.

The heroism of the Good Samaritan wasn't in his selfless actions, although those were certainly commendable. It was in his courage. "He approached the victim," Jesus said.

Can we approach the victims we see? Do we have that courage?

#### Stewardship Reflections:

What Jesus Doesn't Say

"If Jesus wanted us to (fill in the blank), he would have said so."

We hear this argument applied to every controversial topic under the sun — and even some not-so-controversial topics, too. Whenever someone is trying to make a case for a decision they have already made, they call in Jesus' scriptural silence on the matter as their expert, unimpeachable witness.

And sure, there's much Jesus doesn't talk about in the Gospels. But by this logic, we would have to assume that Jesus doesn't care, for instance, if we drive well over the speed limit (he doesn't discuss cars and highways in the Bible) or what we do online (he never mentions the Internet or websites at all!), when we know that certainly is just not the case.

Like the scholar of the Jewish law who challenges Jesus to define who exactly his "neighbor" is, we can argue semantics all we want. But if we rest in prayer and look deep into our hearts, we know what path we need to take, and it's usually not the easy one.

I find that I do this plenty in ways that are far more subtle. I lament that the situation facing me is not sufficiently "black and white." I become frustrated by the shades of moral grey and toss up my hands, claiming I don't know what the right answer is, insisting that I can't be blamed for the ramifications of whatever decision I make.

What I need to be doing in these situations is asking God for His guidance, even if it makes me nervous. I need to be like the scholar. He was brave enough to ask, even though I think he knew he wouldn't particularly like the answer. Let's strive for that same courage.



# Parish Life

#### 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



St. T's Men's Annual Retreat
September 5–7, 2025
Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House, Barrington, IL

All men ages 18 and older are warmly invited to join the St. T's Men's Group for our annual retreat, taking place the weekend of September 5–7 at the peaceful Bellarmine Jesuit Retreat House in Barrington.

God continually calls us to go deeper, to draw nearer. This retreat offers a rare opportunity to step away from the noise and demands of everyday life and spend intentional time with God. In this Jubilee Year of Hope, immerse yourself in the grace of the Spiritual Exercises and rekindle the hope that strengthens our faith. Through silence, prayer, and reflection, encounter Christ anew—His mercy, His call, and His constant presence.

This cherished tradition is not only spiritually enriching, but also a great way to connect with other men from St. Teresa's. We attend as a group and meet at the beginning and end of the retreat. Carpooling from the city will be available.

Register directly at: jesuitretreat.org/retreats/september-5-7-2025

Questions? Contact Craig Dean at cdean@aegpartners. com.

# Prayer

#### **Mass Intentions**

10AM - Dennis Neenan (D); Frank Baker (D)

12 PM - John Fredericks (D); Joseph Jaszczor (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.

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.



#### Mass Schedule

Sunday 7/20 10am- Fr. Frank Sunday 7/20 12pm- Fr. Frank Sunday 7/20 6pm- Fr. Udovic

#### **Prayer for Charity**

Give me the grace, Lord, to truly see those around me: the overlooked, the uncomfortable, the odd and disliked.

Your kingdom is one of belonging, help us to be the types of neighbors who see and respond with Godly generosity.

Amen.



## Sunday Funday July 13th:

Today is National French Fry Day and Embrace Your Geekness Day

1923- The Hollywood Sign is officially dedicated in the hills above Hollywood, Los Angeles, California. It originally read "Hollywoodland" but the four last letters are dropped after a renovation in 1949.

1977- New York City Blackout of 1977

Vincent Van Gogh sold only one work of art during his lifetime.

There are a total of 3,863,484 unique Lego bricks in The Lego Movie.

## "How does St. Kateri Tekakwitha greet her turtle friends?"



# "Shell-o!"

St. Kateri Tekakwitha was a Native American woman whose holiness led to her canonization. Her father was a Mohawk Chief, belonging to the Turtle Clan, so she is sometimes depicted with a turtle in art.

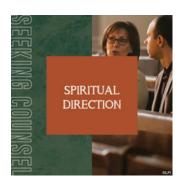
#### Devotions, Explained!

**Spiritual Direction, Explained!** 

Spiritual direction is the practice of seeking counsel from someone who is trustworthy and learned in the faith for the purpose of discerning the will of God in one's life and for more effectively living out one's baptismal calling.

All Christians are commanded, in a way, to provide spiritual aid to one another ("Go, make disciples of all nations... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" — Matthew 28:19), but a spiritual director is usually an individual who has received some form of training or formation for this specific purpose. The Catholic Church, however, does not have explicit requirements, professional standards or a formal certification process for spiritual directors. Spiritual directors can be lay, religious or ordained persons.

Spiritual direction is not to be confused with the sacrament of Penance, though the latter does usually include some spiritual counsel.



#### Catholic Trivia- Just for Fun:

Question: Which Old Testament prophet foretold the Virgin Mary and her conception of Jesus?

Answer: The Prophet Isaiah.

#### Catholic O&A:

What Is Mammon?

#### Question:

When Jesus says, "You cannot serve both God and mammon," what does he mean? What is mammon?

#### Answer:

When you hear Scripture proclaimed each Sunday, remember it wasn't originally written in English. Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek — these ancient tongues were the original language of our Old and New Testaments. Most of the time, all of the words are translated into our native language. Sometimes, a word or two is left in the original language. Such is the case in this Scripture passage.

Mammon is an ancient Aramaic word referring to money, wealth, or profit. Earthly wealth isn't bad in itself, nor does it automatically exclude us from being a disciple of Jesus. But what dominates our life? To serve money — that is, to seek accumulation of wealth for its own sake and to structure our lives around it — is morally problematic. What good is our wealth if it isn't at the service of others? What good is our wealth if its pursuit leads us to selfishness, obsession, greed, envy, and comparison? There are many things that can be opposed to our service of God — power, prestige, popularity. Ultimately, something in our lives will be our master. But there is only one God worth serving.

Around the Parish Page 11

#### Our Lady of Mount Carmel | July 16

#### **OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**

The origins of this feast reach all the way back to the Old Testament. In the book of Kings, we read the story of the prophet Elijah. Much of his prayer, fasting, and public ministry occurred from Carmel, a mountain in Israel. Christian hermits -- seeking solitude -- made their homes on the mountain during the first millennium. Over time, the hermits assembled into a community and were given a Rule of Life. They named their church after Mary -- Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Political upheaval forced the Carmelite order out of the Holy Land and into Europe, where they established monasteries for both men and women across the continent. Many great saints and doctors of the Church have come from the Carmelite order, including St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Edith Stein.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Pray for us!



#### The Dog Days of Summer are Here!

The Dog Days of Summer are upon us! So, what does this quirky phrase mean?

It's more than just a hot spell. The ancient origins of "Dog Days" might surprise you.

What Are the Dog Days of Summer?

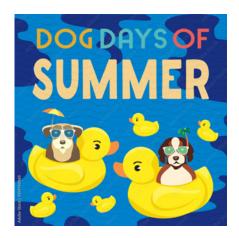
The term "Dog Days" traditionally refers to a period of particularly hot and humid weather occurring during the summer months of July and August in the Northern Hemisphere.

In ancient Greece and Rome, the Dog Days were believed to be a time of drought, bad luck, and unrest, when dogs and men alike would be driven mad by the extreme heat! Today, the phrase doesn't conjure up such bad imagery. Instead, the Dog Days are associated purely with the time of summer's peak temperatures and humidity.

Why Are They Called the "Dog Days" of Summer?

This period of sweltering weather coincides with the year's heliacal (meaning "at sunrise") rising of Sirius, the Dog Star. Sirius is part of the constellation Canis Majoris—the "Greater Dog"—which is where Sirius gets its canine nickname, as well as its official name, Alpha Canis Majoris. Sirius is the brightest star in the sky, not including our own Sun.

The Dog Days are considered to be the 40 days beginning July 3 and ending August 11. These days occur soon after the summer solstice in late June, which also tends to be the beginning of the worst of summer's heat.



Parish Contacts Page 12

#### 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.