

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

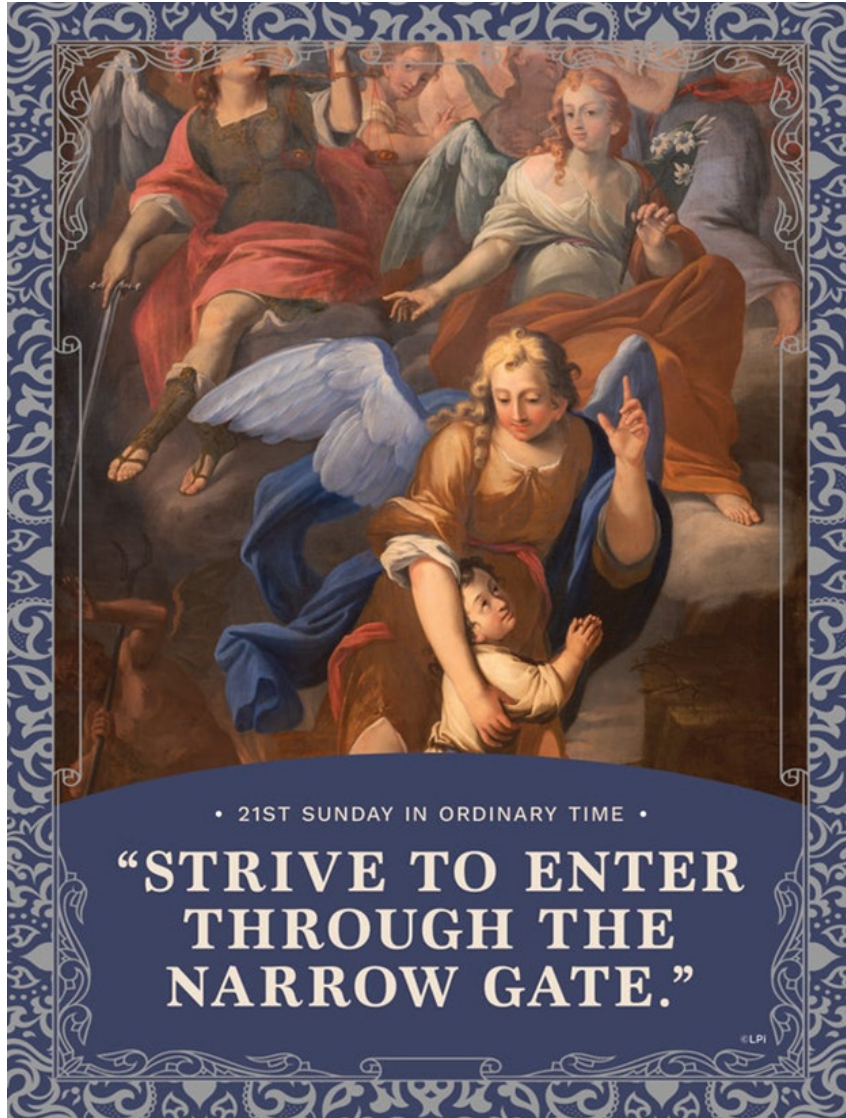
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

August 24th, 2025

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

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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

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 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: I know their works and their thoughts, and I come to gather nations of every language; they shall come and see my glory. (Is 66:18)

Psalm: Go out to all the world and tell the Good News. (Ps 117)

Second Reading: So strengthen your drooping hands and your weak knees. Make straight paths for your feet, that what is lame may not be disjointed but healed. (Heb 12:12-13)

Gospel: For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.” (Lk 13:30)

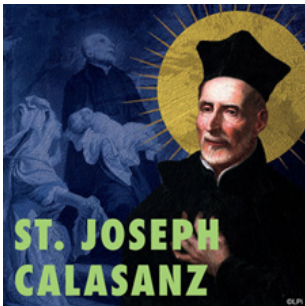
Feasts and Saints:

8/25-St. Louis St. Joseph Calasanz Priest

8/27- St. Monica

8/28- St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8/29- The Passion of St. John the Baptist



Gospel Meditation: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

I’ve been hiking Camelback Mountain in Phoenix, Arizona most of my life. It is a vigorous forty-five minutes to the top. Near the peak, the end suddenly appears much further away, and steeper. At that moment, a descending hiker often offers encouragement: “Keep going! The peak is right there. It’s not as far as it looks. You can do it!” It usually works. After another five minute push, you summit and enjoy a glorious panorama of the Sonoran Desert in the Valley of the Sun.

When Jesus is asked about how many people are saved, he says: “Strive to enter through the narrow gate” (Luke 13:24). How many? Strive! Focus on your journey. What does heavenly census taking have to do with you or me? How would it help a hiker on a mountain to ask the others coming down, “How many people are going to make it to the top?” A normal response would be something like: “How is that a relevant question? Carry on!”

Jesus links one virtue directly to salvation: perseverance (cf. Matt 24:13; hypomone in Greek). Strive! Endure! Keep going! The one absolutely necessary virtue is perseverance, to not give up on our journey. The mountain we struggle to climb is often our own weakness, failures, and sins. Persevere in prayer. Keep celebrating the sacraments. Embrace daily duties. With God’s grace, you are strong enough to keep going. Perhaps the peak is not as far away as you might fear. Keep going!

— 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)



BIBLE

STUDY

**BIBLE EDUCATION 2025/26:
BIBLE TIMELINE & CATECHISM CLASS BEGINS ON
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 AT 9:00 AM**

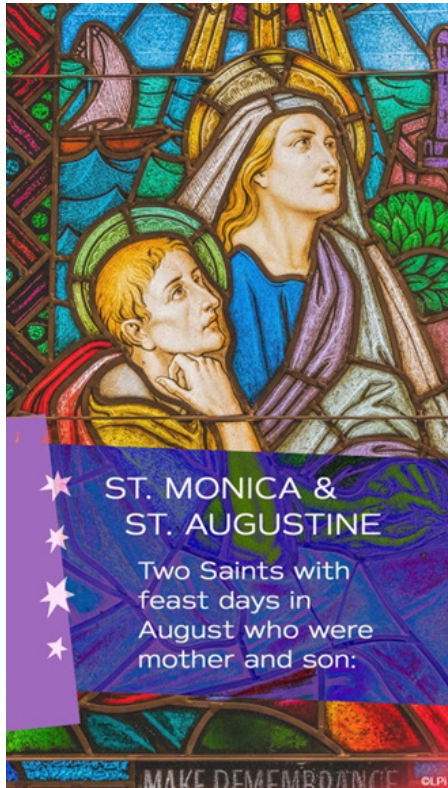
**JOIN US AS WE ENCOUNTER GOD IN SILENT PRAYER,
CATECHISM PARAGRAPHS, GROUP SHARING &
NARRATIVE VIDEO. ALL ARE WELCOME!
EMAIL DEBBIE TO JOIN: DBICHIMER@GMAIL.COM**

**"BEGINNING BIBLE TIMELINE CLASS" BEGINS ON SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 21 AT 8:45 AM -OR-
4:30 PM! JOIN US, AS WE ENCOUNTER GOD IN SILENT
PRAYER, BIBLE PASSAGES, AND TIMELINE CHARTS.
ALL ARE WELCOME!
EMAIL DEBBIE TO JOIN: DBICHIMER@GMAIL.COM**

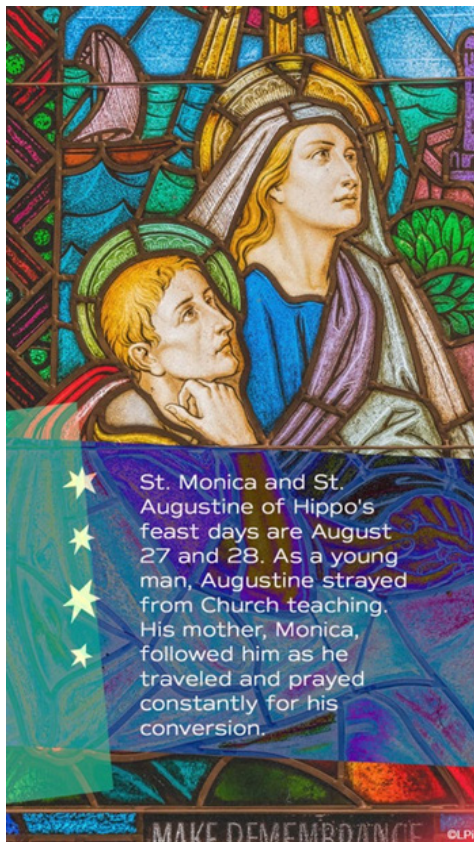
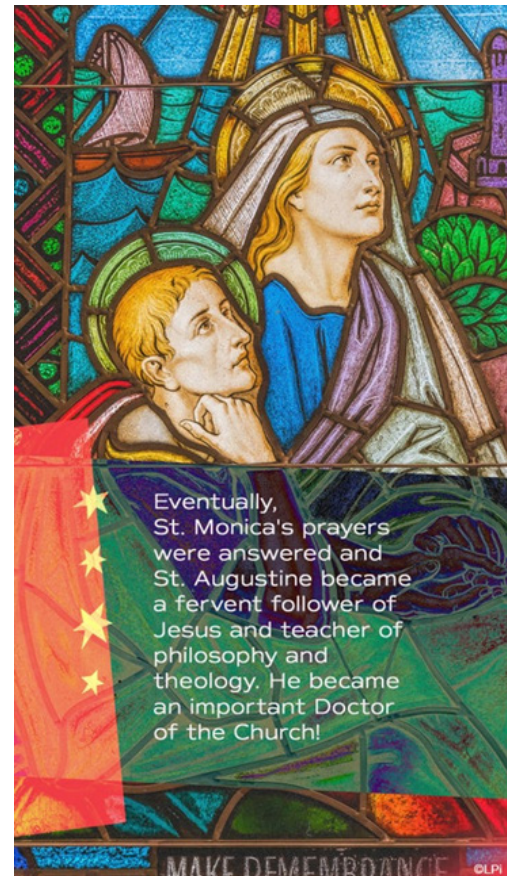
**"A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS" BEGINS ON
SEPTEMBER 21! JOIN US, ON SUNDAYS AT
8:45 AM – OR – 11:00 AM AS WE EXPLORE THE RICH BIBLICAL
ROOTS OF THE LITURGY AND LEARN WHAT
OUR WORDS, GESTURES, AND RITUALS MEAN AND WHY IT
ALL MATTERS. ALL ARE WELCOME! EMAIL
DEBBIE TO JOIN: DBICHIMER@GMAIL.COM
THESE COURSES ARE PRESENTED IN AN EASY TO
UNDERSTAND AND NON-INTIMIDATING MANNER. SIGN UP
OR
QUESTIONS? EMAIL DEBBIE AT DBICHIMER@GMAIL.COM**



St. Monica | August 27



St. Augustine | August 28



Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Heaven and Regina George

There are certain phrases that serve as a kind of shibboleth for millennials, a dog whistle that only ears formed between 1981 and 1996 can discern. “You can’t sit with us!” is one of those phrases.

It’s from the movie Mean Girls, (which, I hear from my younger family members, has now become cool with the kids again, so maybe my point about it being niche is incorrect). The character Regina George, merciless ruler of the cool kids, is rejected from the ultra-exclusive lunch table she herself formed when her minions, tired of her cruelty, serve her the most devastating words a teenager can hear in public: “You can’t sit with us.”

So passes earthly glory, as they say.

At first blush, this Gospel gives “Mean Girls” vibes. We have an image of the unlucky masses clamoring for entry into the kingdom of heaven as God locks the door against them, saying, “I do not know where you are from.”

Very “you-can’t-sit-with-us.”

But we need to remember that the people pounding on the door of heaven in today’s Gospel aren’t people who wanted a seat at God’s lunch table — at least, not until it was the only lunch table left, because they had Regina George’d their way out of all the other ones.

Jesus’ whole thing was that you can sit with us, whoever you are, wherever you’re from and whatever you’ve done. But there are a lot of lunch tables in the world, and not everyone wants to be at one with rules like “repent” and “be good to that person you really don’t like.” It’s not always an easy table to sit at, especially when there are so many other options.

We have to choose heaven before heaven becomes our only choice.

Stewardship Reflections:

Get to Know Jesus

When I speak and write, I mention my family quite often. Those of you who have been reading these reflections for the past 5+ years — or who have read my books — may think you know them. When I travel, I do get asked about my family by those who have entered my life through the words on a page. My hope is that by sharing stories about my family and life the reader gets a chance to see himself or herself in the story as well. Then the point being made in the article or reflection can take on stronger meaning because it hits home. However, no matter how much I write about my family and how much you read about them, you will only have a glimpse as to the real people. It will take an actual relationship with one of them to get you to the point where you can say you know them.

That is the same way with Jesus. First, more Catholics need to read more and learn more about Jesus. Bible studies should be the norm and not the exception in our lives. Second, too many of us in the Church can explain who Jesus is from our past formation classes and reading, but we do not actually know him. Jesus is not a topic, a theological term, or simply a historical figure. He is a real being who is alive! He is not dead, but alive! He calls us to do more than read about him. He calls us into an intimate relationship with him. We grow in relationship with Jesus by worshipping at the Mass, spending time with him in adoration, resting in him in the quiet, and by having the Jesus in us meet the Jesus in others. If you do not know him personally, get to know him. I would love for you all to meet my family in person someday, but I would much rather you get to know Jesus instead.



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



St. T's Men's Annual Retreat
September 5-7, 2025

Bellarmino 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.

Mass Intentions

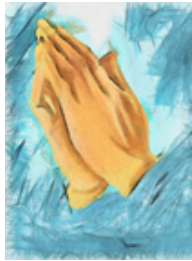
10AM - Rose Ellen Larish (D) and Frank Baker (D)

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

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

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

We pray for 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 8/31 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 8/31 12pm- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 8/31 6pm- Fr. Udovic

Prayer for Holiness

Good Shepherd,

Guide me through the narrow gate. Remove from me anything that distracts me from You, Your love, Your invitation, Your mission. Keep me close to You, familiar at every step.

Amen.



Sunday Funday August 24th:

Today is Peach Pie Day and Waffle Day

1456- The printing of the Gutenberg Bible was completed.

1875- Navy Captain Matthew Webb began his swim as the first person to swim the English Channel without a life preserver

1932-Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly across the United States non-stop, from Los Angeles to Newark, New Jersey.

1979- The Facts of Life premiered on NBC.

The first movie ever given the title 'Blockbuster' was 'Jaws.'

A group of Wombats is called a Wisdom.



IT'S A SCHOOL BUS, MOM. STOP REFERRING TO IT AS "THE ANSWER TO MY PRAYERS"

Devotions, Explained!

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises, Explained!

The Ignatian Spiritual Exercises are prayers and meditations developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (commonly referred to as the Jesuits).

St. Ignatius of Loyola (1492-1556) was born to a noble Basque family. In his youth, he spent time at the Royal Court of Castile and fought in the Spanish army. He experienced a profound religious conversion during a long period of convalescence following a battle injury. Living in a cave outside of Manresa, he began to keep the journal that became the basis of the famous Spiritual Exercises.

The Spiritual Exercises are meant to accompany souls on a journey toward deeper contemplation of God's love and a more meaningful understanding of his call to discipleship in the life of each person. Divided into four stages, or "weeks," the exercises focus on the interior movements of the heart to unveil the will of God.



Catholic Trivia- Just for Fun:

Question: According to the Gospel stories, who was the first person to encounter the risen Jesus?

Answer: Mary Magdalene.

Catholic Q&A:

Question:

What is the difference between a basilica and a cathedral?

Answer:

Basilicas are churches that are so titled because of their antiquity, dignity, historical importance, or significance as centers of worship. A cathedral is the principal church of a diocese, which contains the chair of the bishop, or "cathedra" in Latin. The chair is the symbol of the bishop's teaching authority.

The Passion of St. John the Baptist | August 29

Patron Saint of baptism, bird dealers, converts, monastic life, motorways, printers, tailors, lambs, and prisoners

Invoked against epilepsy, convulsions, hailstorms, and spasms

John, the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, was likely born in Ein Karem in the hill country five miles west of Jerusalem roughly six months before Jesus was born. Present at his birth were the Son and the Mother of God. Saint Thomas Aquinas and other Catholic theologians believe that John was sanctified in the womb immediately after the Blessed Virgin Mary greeted his mother (Luke 1:41). What we know of John's childhood is in Luke 1:80: "The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel." Raised as a devout Jew, John eventually entered the desert to pray, practice penance, and prepare for his mission.

First, John is the precursor of the Lord. As the last Old Testament prophet and the first New Testament prophet, he bridges the gap to Christ. Sometime between 27 and 29, John gathered disciples from all walks of life whom he taught, called to repentance, and baptized with water.

John's life reached its earthly climax when Jesus approached while he was baptizing. John exclaimed, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel...Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God" (John 1:29–31; 34). After John reluctantly baptized Jesus, the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove and the Father's voice thundered, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). With that, John's life receded into the background, "He must increase; I must decrease" (John 3:30).

The Memorial of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist prefigures Jesus giving His life sacrificially on the Cross. John's death resulted from his bold proclamation of the truth. He had condemned Herod Antipas, the tetrarch and ruler of Galilee and Perea, for his unlawful marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife. Herod extended his power to have John arrested and imprisoned.

Two Gospels narrate the story of John's death: Matthew 14:1–12 and Mark 6:14–29. Though Herod seemed to fear John's popularity and his powerful words, he appeased Herodias' hatred of John. On Herod's birthday, Herodias' daughter, traditionally named Salome, performed a dance for Herod and his guests that so pleased him that he promised her anything she asked, up to half his kingdom. Seeing her chance for revenge, Herodias convinced Salome to ask for the Baptist's head on a platter.

After the weak Herod complied and had John beheaded, the Bible says that "His disciples came and took away the corpse and buried him; and they went and told Jesus" (Matthew 14:12). Jesus then withdrew to a deserted place to pray. Grieving the death of his cousin, Jesus came face-to-face with His own fate. In prayer, He renewed His fidelity to His Mission to give His life for the salvation of souls. John might have been buried in Sebaste, fifty miles north of Jerusalem. Tradition says that his head is preserved in the Church of San Silvestro in Capite, Rome, but this is impossible to confirm.



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.