

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

August 31, 2025

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

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22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." - Lk 14:13-14

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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.
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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: Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God. (Sir 3:18)

Psalm: God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor. (Ps 68)

Second Reading: You have not approached that which could be touched and a blazing fire and gloomy darkness. (Heb 12:18)

Gospel: “For every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” (Lk 14:11)

Feasts and Saints:

- 9/1- Labor Day
- 9/3- St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
- 9/5- St. Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin



Gospel Meditation: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Once I was invited to a group meeting with Pope Francis. Entering the room, I paused, eyeing the seats next to the Pope’s fancy chair. Someone saw my paralysis and invited me to sit in the seat farthest from what I wanted. Hiding my disappointment, I sat. We waited. To our surprise, an aid pointed out that those seats were still empty and invited me and another to have them. We calmly but gleefully strode across the room and sat. Pope Francis entered, and we enjoyed two hours of amazingly uplifting conversation.

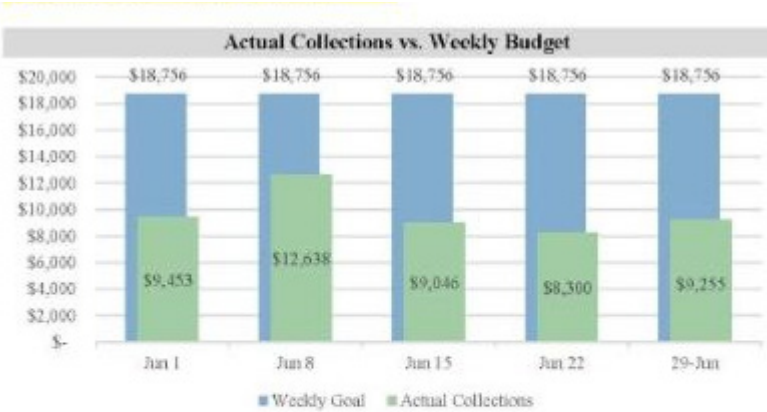
Jesus says this week to us: “When you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, ‘My friend, move up to a higher position.’ Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table” (Luke 14:10). This is not about how to score free seat upgrades. Rather, it is a wise pattern for the whole of life. It is how to live free from the anxiety of constantly grasping for status and recognition.

Jesus perfectly embodies his seat-taking advice. He eschews his glorious throne for the lowest: death on a cross, that lonely chair we all deserve. In his resurrection, he calls us up higher to his marvelous banquet seats. This week, perhaps we should look for opportunities to choose the lowest seat. We’ll be pleasantly surprised when we do.

— Father John Muir

Financials: June 2025

	FY25	FY24
Basket/Mail In:	8,500	11,225
Give Central:	37,053	36,560
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$45,553	\$ 47,785
.		\$(2,232)



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Daily, we hear heartbreaking stories of suffering from Gaza. So many innocent victims, including those who belong to Christian communities, face violence, dire living conditions, and hunger. Our Holy Father Pope Leo has said "Gaza is starving," as he called for a cease fire. In a particular way, the faces of Gaza's hungry children make an indelible impression on our hearts.

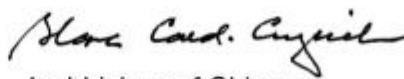
Perhaps we feel helpless to address this complex story that involves international players. There is, however, a pathway for us to respond. Two very reliable agencies of the Catholic Church are already there providing vital emergency humanitarian relief and medical and psychological care for the sick, malnourished, and wounded. They are the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

On the weekend of September 6-7, the parishes of the Archdiocese of Chicago will take up a special collection that will be promptly forwarded to CNEWA and CRS.

Whatever you can give will go far to alleviate the suffering of our brothers and sisters in the Middle East. I know the compassion and generosity of the people of the Archdiocese of Chicago. In the name of all those who will benefit from your support, I thank you.

Finally, let us pray urgently for the gift of peace in our wounded world, a peace which only the Lord can give.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Archbishop of Chicago

Geja's Together in Joy 2024 Sign Up Party:

On Sunday August 24th a great afternoon was had by all who attended enjoying great food, great drinks and great company! THANK YOU Geja's and St Teresa of Avila parishioners, family and friends.



Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

What Did You Expect?

Moms have a lot of jobs, and it's usually the case that none of them pay very well.

My work as a chef? Zero compensation, and my clientele are very rarely pleased with my efforts. My role as a teacher, a maid, a chauffeur, a therapist — same deal. Ironically, these jobs consume so much of my time that I am constricted in my work as a writer — the only sphere where I do actually garner any earnings.

It is so easy to grumble about all of this, and I do it all the time. Because despite the fact that I know better, I expect repayment for my good deeds. Deep in my soul, I expect it.

That's a huge problem.

In my defense, I don't think this is a very uncommon thing. I think, if we're being really honest, we all expect "payment" for being a good person. We want God to give us what we ask. We want people to treat us a certain way. We want our day to go smoothly. We expect these things as a matter of course; we feel entitled to them, and we become grumpy when we are denied them. I worked so hard. I gave so much. What was it all even for?

But what if we expected absolutely nothing?

When you hold a banquet, Jesus said, invite those who cannot return the favor. Give not just without the expectation of repayment, but without the possibility of it.

Think about that for a minute. What does that even look like — no possibility of payment?

I know what that looks like in my own life. It's giving more to the literal poor, yes, but it's also giving more — and more happily, more lovingly — when I cook and clean and drive and write and console. It's not lamenting that no one appreciates me — it's actually hoping no one does.

It's learning to love the lowest place at the table. Because in the lowest place, we are closest to God.

Stewardship Reflections:

Humility and Stewardship

Some people have "the rich relation" in their family tree. Aunt Cindy, who is always traveling somewhere new and exciting. Cousin Richard and his lake house. Your sister and brother-in-law who buy a new car every year.

Oftentimes these relatives take great happiness in sharing their wealth. You can usually count on an exotic gift from Aunt Cindy's latest adventure or an invitation to go out on Richard's pontoon boat at the end of the summer.

Yet sometimes, that person wants something in return. Not money, of course, but something else. Attention. Flattery. Gratitude. Cindy wants you to ask her where she got the priceless artifact in Istanbul, so she can talk about the many antiquities dealers she visited. Richard wants you to ask about his new boat, so he can talk about how well business has been this year. Maybe the person just wants to know you like the gift or that the experience offered is pleasing to you.

This is a natural inclination that we all possess. There is nothing wrong with wanting to be the person people count on. There is nothing wrong with wanting to offer worthy gifts. There is nothing wrong with hoping that maybe, just a little, we might be appreciated.

What matters is the spirit we carry within our hearts when we do it. What matters is our destination as we approach that proverbial table. Are we headed for the place of honor, expecting it to be waiting for us? Or are we making our way to the lowest place, simply thankful to be invited to the meal?



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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
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.

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.

Sunday Funday August 31st:

Today is Eat Outside Day and Matchmaker Day

1888- Mary Ann Nichols was murdered, the first of Jack the Ripper's confirmed victims.

1993- Barney's Favorites Volume 1, featured 27 songs by the purple dinosaur.

1997- Diana, Princess of Wales, her companion Dodi Fayed (with driver Henri Paul) died in a car crash in Paris.

What's the difference between a nook and a cranny?

A nook is a corner and cranny is a crack.

You weigh less at the top of a mountain than sea level.

The first lighthouse to use electricity was the Statue of Liberty in 1886.



Mass Schedule

Sunday 9/7 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 9/7 12pm- Fr. Frank

Sunday 9/7 6pm- Fr. Frank

Prayer for Humility

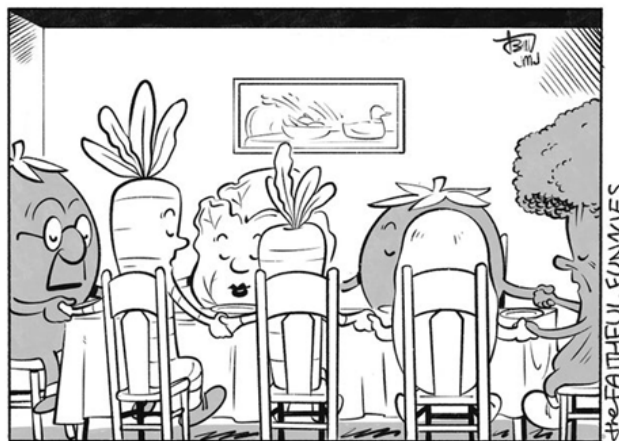
Dear God,

Mold my heart after Yours. Help me to see myself as You see me: surrounded by Your love. Help me to see others as You see them as well. Give me knowledge of your ways, today and always.

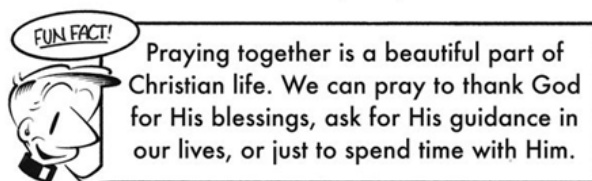
Amen.



"What did the vegetables say before they started praying?"



"Lettuce pray."



Devotions, Explained!

Imago Divina, Explained!

Imago divina (Latin for “divine image”) is an extension of the ancient practice of lectio divina (“divine reading”). Imago divina is, in a sense, praying with one’s eyes, or using the medium of artwork to assist in lifting the mind to God.

Believers have always connected with the divine through visual representations of faith. This can be seen in the frescoes that adorn the walls of the catacombs, in the glory of Rococo architecture, and in the stained glass windows of a simple country church. “Art is capable of making visible our need to go beyond what we see and it reveals our thirst for infinite beauty, for God,” said Pope Benedict in 2011.

In practicing imago divina, just like with lectio divina, the faithful “read” (or view), reflect, respond and rest with the image, inviting the Holy Spirit to move them accordingly.



Catholic Trivia- Just for Fun:

Question: Which grotto located in France is visited by millions of pilgrims every year?

Answer: Lourdes.

Catholic Q&A:

Question: Does chewing gum break the fast before Communion?

Answer:

If you look in Canon Law or in the Catechism, there is no mention of chewing gum. I guess it does not rate the attention of the universal church! The Church requires us to fast for one hour before we receive the Eucharist. Basically, we are to refrain from food and drink, not including water or medicine. There are also exceptions for people who are ill. Overall, the fast is intended for us to prepare ourselves to receive the Eucharist and in some small way to literally as well as spiritually hunger for what we are about to receive. Chewing gum, while not really food, does at least break the spirit of the fast. Besides that, it is a distraction and rude. What do you do with the gum when it is time to receive Communion? People have actually come to the altar chewing away, oblivious to what they were doing or Who they were receiving. At best, it is distracting and irreverent. At worst, it adds a barrier to giving our best to receiving God’s best.



Tickets are now available for our annual gala to celebrate and support our ministries serving the Lincoln Park community. This year's Roaring Twenties-themed evening will feature dinner, entertainment, and both live and silent auctions.

The Together in Joy Gala is integral to our continued support of our many outreach programs, including the weekly food pantry, Loaves and Fishes meal, and our refugee ministries.

Event Details:

Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Venue West, 221 N Paulina St, Chicago
Vintage-inspired attire encouraged

Tickets:

Early Bird Ticket* (Limited Quantity) | \$150
Regular Ticket | \$200
Volunteer Ticket | Free!

*Limited to 50 tickets or before Sept. 1, whichever comes sooner
Learn more & buy tickets at togetherinjoy.com

Are you called to give? We're seeking sponsors, auction treasures, and unique experiences to make this night unforgettable.

For questions, please contact outreach@teresa.church

BIBLE

STUDY

BIBLE EDUCATION 2025/26:

BIBLE TIMELINE & AMP; CATECHISM CLASS BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 AT 9:00 AM

JOIN US AS WE ENCOUNTER GOD IN SILENT PRAYER, CATECHISM PARAGRAPHS, GROUP SHARING & AMP; 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



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.