

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

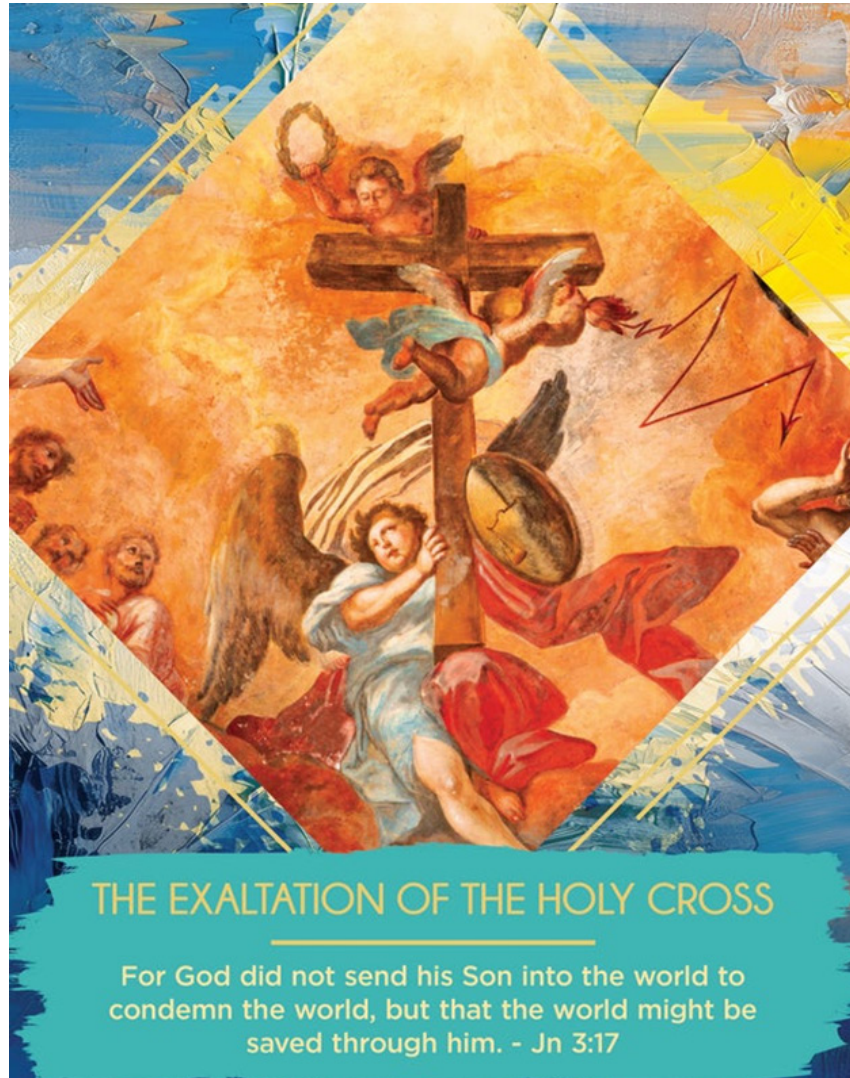
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

September 14, 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.
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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: “We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you. Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us.” (Nm 21:7)

Psalm: Do not forget the works of the Lord! (Ps 78)

Second Reading: He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. (Phil 2:8)

Gospel: For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)

Feasts and Saints:

- 9/14- Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 9/15- Our Lady of Sorrows
- 9/16- St. Cornelius, Pope
- 9/17- St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- 9/18- St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
- 9/20- St. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon Priest



Isla Scott Salaymeh

Gospel Meditation: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

One of my favorite movies is the 1991 comedy What About Bob? Bill Murray plays a troubled, paranoid hypochondriac named Bob Wiley who innocently but annoyingly hounds Dr. Leo Marvin, played by Richard Dreyfuss. Bob is paralyzed by his fear of, well, everything, and is convinced the psychologist can heal him. But Dr. Marvin’s failed attempts to heal Bob end up driving the doctor to attempt to murder Bob. He fails. The surprise is that, having faced death head on, Bob is suddenly healed. He attributes his healing to Dr Marvin for break-through “death therapy.” In facing the cause of his deepest illness and dysfunction, Bob is healed.

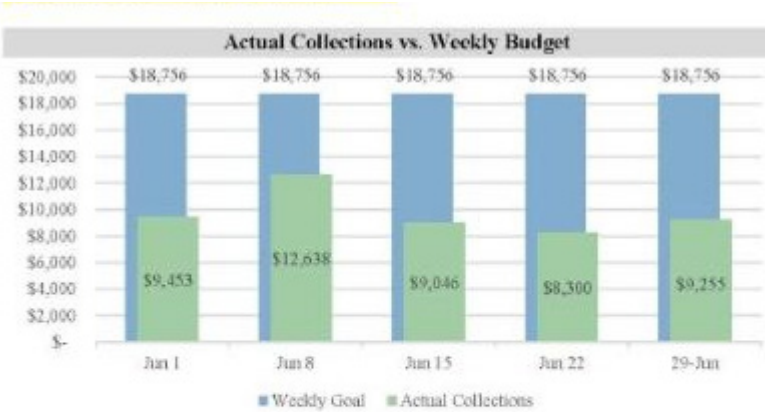
Underneath this light-hearted comedy is a dead-serious resonance with this week’s feast: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Christ is lifted up on the cross to force us to face the truth of sin and death. In that reckoning we find healing. Like Moses’ snake on a pole, the cross says: this is what is causing your sickness – rebellion, disobedience, sin. Look at it! Don’t run from it. Now seeing it exposed, we see life. We see our physician mercifully healing us. In this sense, we are all like Bob Wiley. The “death therapy” of the cross is our only hope for healing.

This week I invite you to “exalt the cross.” If you don’t have one in your house, get one. Use it for prayer. Gaze on it frequently. It teaches us to not be afraid. It heals us.

— 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)



From Mark:

What do you hold up to others?

In this Sunday's readings we hear of different stories of folks healing coming through the lifting up of something.

In the first reading, we hear the story from Numbers in which Moses holds up pole in which people who had been bitten by snakes were healed.

This story is cited in John when Jesus says that the Son of Man must be lifted up so that all may have eternal life.

In our everyday life, these readings give us an invitation to think about what do we "hold up" in our own lives.

Are we like Moses and Jesus and "holding up" things that bring healing to the world?

Are we holding up things that heal the "snake bites" of the world?

There are different needs around us that can be brought to healing when we hold up a positive attitude, love, understanding, connection, invitation to community.

In a world that seems to be falling apart by the seams and where people are captured by an unhealthy individualism, we need people to go out into the world and hold these virtues up higher!

Hold your love and understanding higher than others hold their anger, suspicion, and hatred.

Take some time this week to reflect on the values you hold up in your life and put the most positive ones high above your head like you are Moses healing snake bites.



Liturgical Ministers:

Have you ever considered becoming more involved in liturgy by serving as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister at Mass?

We have opportunities available for both ministries and we would welcome your getting involved in these unique roles in the liturgical life of St. Teresa of Avila.

Service in these ministries will deepen your faith and help you grow in your love of the Lord. To serve as a Lector, all that is required is a deep love of the Word of God and a desire to serve God's people. Likewise, to serve as a Eucharistic Minister, all you need is a deep love of the Eucharist and a desire to serve.

We will train you and teach you all you need to know.

Please prayerfully consider serving your parish in these very important ministries.

If you are interested in serving, please email Eric Fredericks at eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com.

Eric will be organizing training sessions in October and he will coordinate with you on scheduling.

Thank you for considering participating in our liturgies in these very important ministries!

Fiscal 2025 Finance Report:

BUDGET & FINANCE

As outlined in the accompanying table, St Teresa's net surplus for fiscal 2025 (the year ending June 30, 2025) equaled \$211k. Excluding investment results, the net surplus equaled \$42k, a continuation of our more than decade long string of full year net surpluses.

The net surplus excluding investment results was \$20k higher than last year and \$77k better than budget. Per Archdiocese reporting guidelines, results are segregated between Net Ordinary (recurring activities) and Net Other (non-recurring activities). The favorable variances versus last year and budget resulted entirely from non-recurring activities included within Net Other.

Other Revenue included the first tranche of the parish's share of contributions to the Generation to Generation Capital Campaign (\$28k), a major gift to Loaves & Fishes (\$25k), prior year contributions for capital improvements recognized as income in the current year (\$19k), and support of Fr Frank's Camino de Santiago (\$11k), among others. Another \$25k gift to Loaves & Fishes was received this year but will be recognized as revenue next year.

Other Expenses were lower due to lower Capital Improvements. This year's capital improvements included expenditures for HVAC, kitchen equipment, and the roof, among others.

Net ordinary income, excluding investment results, equaled a loss of \$35k. This amount was \$48k below last year and \$31k below budget. A successful Together in Joy, included within Fundraising, accounted for the favorable revenue variances. However, higher Ordinary revenues were more than offset by higher expenses.

The unfavorable expense variances are largely the result of higher Salaries and Benefits. Staffing accounts for approximately 60 percent of recurring expenses, and the number of staff was at planned levels for the entire year. The variance versus last year largely reflects planned salary increases. The unfavorable variance versus budget reflects higher than forecast visiting priest costs and staff bonuses. These items will be better reflected in future budgets.

Looking ahead, the budget for next year anticipates a modest net loss. However, we will continue working diligently towards a full year net surplus. Thank you again for your attendance at Mass, your contributions of time to our ministries, and your financial support of the weekly collection and Together in Joy. They are essential to the parish's success.

8/8/2025

St Teresa of Avila Parish
Semi-annual Report to the Parish

	ACTUAL			BUDGET	
	Full Year			Full Year	
	FY25	FY24	Variance	FY25	Variance
Collections	701,891	698,188	3,703	722,450	(20,559)
Fundraising	231,016	207,557	23,459	176,500	54,516
Other	53,671	69,150	(15,479)	61,476	(7,805)
Total Revenue	986,578	974,895	11,683	960,426	26,152
Expenses	(1,021,873)	(962,627)	(59,246)	(965,158)	(56,715)
Net Ordinary	(35,295)	12,268	(47,563)	(4,732)	(30,563)
Other Revenue	122,711	101,148	21,563	31,000	91,711
Other Expense	(45,540)	(91,749)	46,209	(61,000)	15,460
Net Other	77,171	9,399	67,772	(30,000)	107,171
Subtotal	41,876	21,667	20,209	(34,732)	76,608
Investment Earnings	168,683	218,382	(49,699)	-	168,683
Total Net	210,559	240,049	(29,490)	(34,732)	245,291

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/uwfaqUZN>

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

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



Mass Intentions

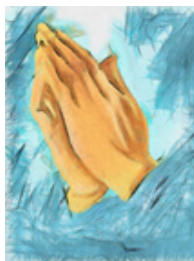
10AM - Angel Cruz (D) ; Julian and Eunice Lis (D)

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 September 14th:

Today is Crab Fest Day and Hug Your Hound Day

1814- Francis Scott Key wrote The Star-Spangled Banner which later became the United State's national anthem.

1868- Tom Morris, at Prestwick's 8th hole, was credited with Golf's 1st recorded hole-in-one.

1975- Mother Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton (1774-1821) was canonized by Pope Paul VI. The first American saint, she founded the U.S. branch of the Sisters of Charity in 1809.

1985- The Golden Girls premiered on NBC



Mass Schedule

Sunday 9/21 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 9/21 12pm- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 9/21 6pm- Fr. Udovic

Prayer of Love

Dear God,

Expand my heart in new ways today, to understand the love You have for me, to take that love deeply into myself, and to act from that love.

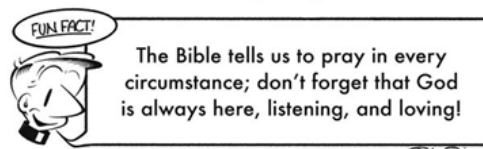
Amen.



"What does the tiger say to his friends before they go hunting for food?"



"Let us prey."





FRIENDS AND CATECHISTS WANTED

This Fall, our Lincoln Park deanery is looking for Friends and Catechists for our SPRED programs. SPRED stands for **S**pecial **R**eligious **D**evelopment which is an archdiocesan program that ministers religious growth and development to our Friends with special needs. We have SPRED programs in the following age groups:

- St. Vincent De Paul – ages 6 to 10
- St. Teresa of Avila – ages 11 to 16
- St. Josaphat – ages 17 to 23
- Immaculate Conception/St. Joseph – over 23 years old

Each parish is looking for both Friends and Catechists to join this important ministry that brings our parish communities closer with our Friends with special needs. If you know of anyone who would be interested in participating in SPRED as a Friend or Catechist we would love to talk to them about it. For Catechists, no prior experience or training is needed and we assist in the training as we go and with the help of our SPRED center. Please contact Carrie Mondschean at 312-320-1160 or at cmondschean@hinshawlaw.com for more information.

Please consider joining. We would love to have you!



HOW SWEET IT IS.....

SPRED ANNUAL TOOTSIE ROLL FUNDRAISER

**AFTER ALL THE MASSES
SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 21st, 2025**

**All proceeds benefit special needs charities
and SPRED at St. Teresa of Avila**

Thank you for your generosity!





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

St. Teresa of Avila Church Blood Drive

1950 N. KENMORE AVE CHICAGO, IL 60614
@ PARISH CENTER

To make an appointment, call (800) 710-GIVE, scan the QR code below or go to the following link:
<https://tinyurl.com/mexmh7c>

Donate blood and be someone's hero. One pint of blood can save up to 3 lives.

versiti
Blood Center of Illinois



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.