

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

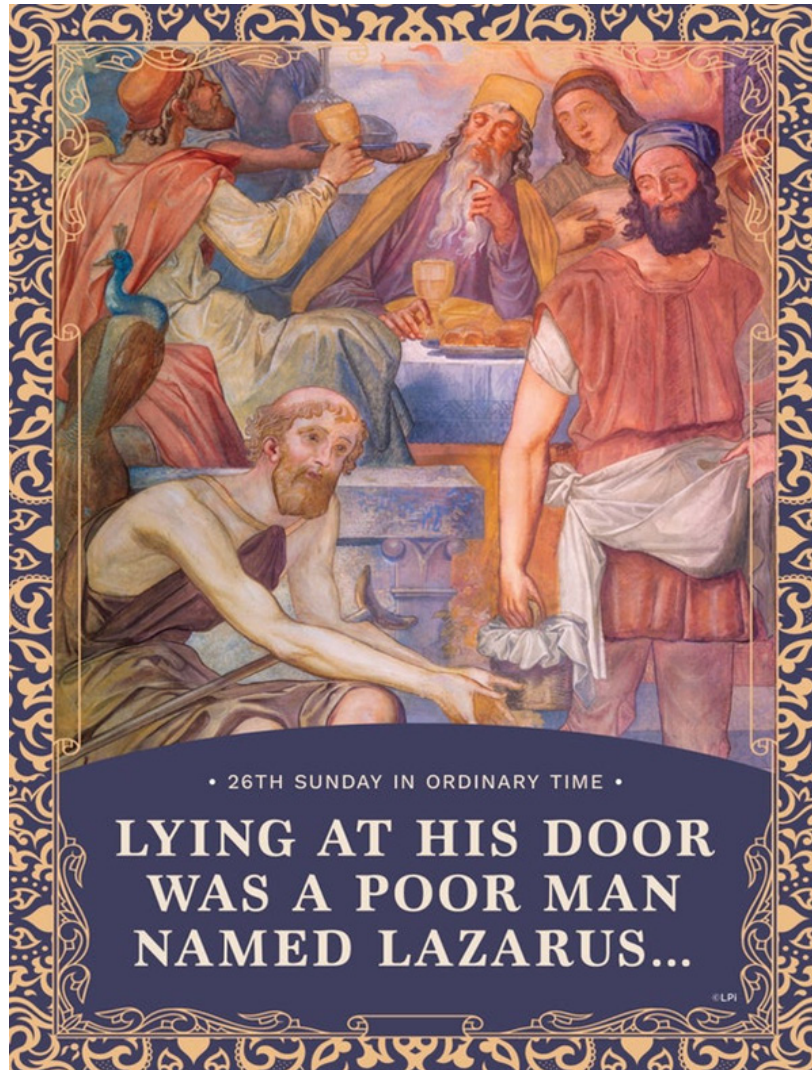
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

September 28, 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: Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with. (Am 6:7)

Psalm: Praise the Lord, my soul! (Ps 146) Or: Alleluia.

Second Reading: But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. (1 Tm 6:11)

Gospel: Then Abraham said, ‘If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.’ (Lk 16:31)

Feasts and Saints:

9/29- Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael Archangels

9/30- St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

10/1- St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

10/2- The Holy Guardian Angels

10/4- St. Francis of Assisi



Gospel Meditation: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I am embarrassed to admit that I frequently find myself dining and socializing with people who have millions and sometimes billions of dollars. I’ve eaten more caviar, lobster and wagyu steak than most people on the planet. I justify it by saying it’s part of my job. But I have seven pairs of nice jeans and expensive shoes.

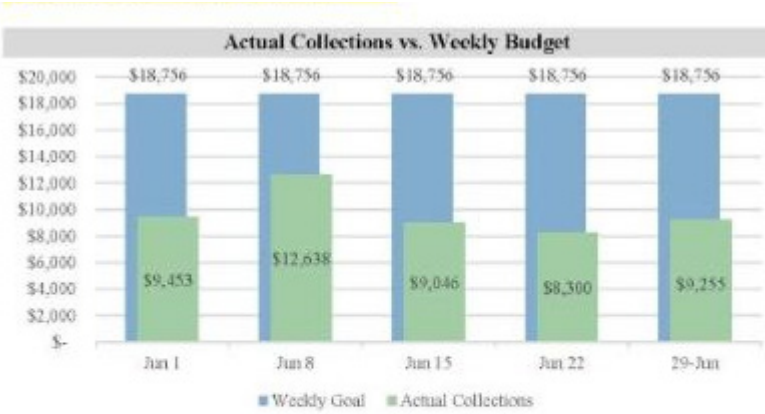
So it is rather uncomfortable to hear Our Lord say: “My child, remember that you received what was good in your lifetime, while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented” (Luke 16:25). Fellow rich people (and if you’re American, you’re rich), do we not vehemently though quietly object to this parable’s karma-esque reward system? Why bless the rich man just to curse him later? And curse Lazarus just to bless him later? So Americans go to hell, while Burundians and Afghans go to heaven? What is going on?

One clue is that the condemned rich man doesn’t complain of injustice. Rather, he simply begs to help his brothers to repent. Of what? We don’t know exactly. Perhaps another clue is that the rich man now seems more like the downtrodden Lazarus. He knows what it is to be hungry and thirsty, to be wounded in the gutter; that he deserved that, not fancy meals and clothes. Maybe the rich man finally understands how to receive true blessings, but it is too late for him. But not for me. Not for 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:

The fall is always an exciting time for parishes. This is especially true when it comes to St. Teresa of Avila. We just had our Catechesis of the Good Shepard Montessori based catechesis program have started back up. I always love seeing the kids from 3 to 8th graders coming back to have those first encounters with the God that loved them into existence. I am especially thankful for all of our catechists who take a great deal of time and effort to create a hospitable environment for our children to take their first steps with God. I know Barb McHugh, who runs our program, always needs people to help with all levels of our catechesis.

Reach out to her at bdmchugh@mac.com if you would like to lend a hand.

I am personally excited for our variety of small groups that will be starting up on September 29th. Last week, I held a wonderful training session with our nine wonderful leaders who will be facilitating small groups. We have tons of opportunities for all people. We have our Koinonia groups which focus on gaining tools to reflect on your life and share the joys and challenges. This group is rooted in Ignatian spirituality and St. Teresa is the only church in the diocese.

We also have Alpha which is an introduction to the basics of the Christian life.

We are also hosting a book discussion of Elizabeth Johnson's book *She Who Is: The Mystery of God in Feminist Theological Discourse*.

This book is the foundational text for modern feminist theological thought. This discussion is definitely an interesting opportunity for anyone who wants to explore thinking about their faith in a different way.

Finally, I am very proud of our new social justice group at St. Teresa. We are partnering with the Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership to build a group here that will work towards building the Kingdom of God in our corner of Chicago. Over the last month, a few members have been having "one on ones" with people around the parish to hear what social issues they care most about.

We are hoping that we can host a large listening session in the late Winter to discern the social issue most pressing for people at St. Teresa of Avila. Our group is already having an effect. Two of our team members joined the Coalition for a Mass outside the Great Lakes Naval Station where ICE is headquartered for their operations this week. The event made the local news.

On top of all of these activities at St. Teresa, there are all of our regular opportunities such as helping at liturgies, our Loaves and Fishes Dinner and our Saturday food pantry.

I bring up all the opportunities at St. Teresa because we all need to be shaken out of our complacency; the main danger that is warned about in our Sunday readings.

In our first reading, we hear again from the Prophet Amos. In the context of the scripture reading, Amos is sent to Jerusalem to prophesize to the wealthy and powerful. In last week's reading, Amos rails against the wealthy who actively work against the poor. He shares his frustrations with those who "fix our scales for cheating." I think most honest people would generally agree with Amos in that those who are actively defrauding the poor are not necessarily walking the path of love and community the Lord invites us all to.

In this week's reading, Amos expands his condemnation not just of those who are actively working against the poor but to those who are too engrossed in their comfortable lifestyles to care about the burning world around them. The image Amos paints is pretty vivid. One can imagine the wealthy laying around, eating the best foods and listening to their music. Amos specifically says that these people lying about are "not made ill by the collapse of Joseph." At least one commentary I looked at, pointed out that "Joseph" refers to the Jewish people. The powerful are staying in their nice homes not getting their hands dirty while the society and people around them are collapsing.

From Mark Continued:

When I read Amos, I see myself in the people he is condemning. I live in the wealthiest country in the wealthiest city in the wealthiest neighborhood. Like many other people, I enjoy laying on my couch watching the newest Netflix series and having a drink with friends. In many ways, our own world is like that of the people in Amos' time. I more often than not am not "made ill by the collapse of Joseph" of 2025 Chicago.

Reading the words of Amos, is an invitation to me and all people to open our eyes to the challenges of our nation and do our small part to make it better.

The danger of this invitation is that we can fall into a sort of generic humanitarian feeling towards the world that does not actively build God's Kingdom. We post on our social media and feel like we made the world better when at the end of the day we only made ourselves feel better. We may take these feelings and desires of good will and instead of channeling them to build up our community, we direct them towards our family or partner. Do not get me wrong we should always treat our partners as a great gift, but the danger is that we may substitute our call to improve the common good with the people who are closest to us.

The Gospel shakes us out of these habits by giving us exactly who we need to orient our humanitarian feelings towards; the concrete poor. This Gospel is one that any Catholic has heard thousands of times. There is a rich man who lives the high life and there is a poor man named Lazarus at his door that he does not even notice.

When both men pass on to the next life, it is Lazarus who is in heaven and the rich man in punishment.

In a 2022 homily, Pope Francis pointed out that only the poor character in the story is given a specific name. The wealthy man is referred to only as "rich." Francis points out that for many their wealth can become so encompassing that it becomes their whole identity to the point that it is more important than their name.

It is the poor man who is given a formal name.

Together with the Amos reading, I believe that God calls us to encounter the concrete poor. The founder of modern liberation theology Gustavo Gutierrez used to say "You say you love the poor, name them." God invites us out of our complacency of our comfort to have "nice feelings" towards the world, or just love our friends, or just give to charities once in a while.

We are invited to have a concrete relationship with those who are suffering and poor. I think about the homeless I have sat with on Friday nights as they tell their story. I think of the people with names who are detained by ICE that our social justice group prayed for at that mass. I think about the elderly that I have prayed with in their homes. While not financially poor, I think of the people who come to our Koinonia groups and share their story and the honor my team has to witness to the Spirit moving through their lives.

Our commitment to leaving our comfortable lives to have a relationship with the concrete poor is not just a one time event but something we have to continually recommit ourselves to.

In this Sunday's selection from the letter to Timothy, Paul is reminding his reader, and us, that we have to remember the commitments that we have made. Timothy had made promises to God and God's people that he would serve them with all of his heart and soul. Paul wants Timothy to continually remember these commitments and to repromise them as often as he can.

In a similar way, we need to make our commitment to the concrete poor a regular thing. Similar to how some religious recommit to their vows of chastity, poverty and obedience every day, we can say to ourselves "Lord, I commit myself to you and the poor today." I think it is important that we make a daily commitment to these promises because otherwise we can become lazy and undisciplined. Love, especially love of those who think and live differently from us, is not an easy thing. It is a radical commitment to love others as God loves us.

How are you committed to, as the Lord says, the least of these? This Sunday's readings call us out of our complacency and into the discipline of love. This love can not just stay hypothetical or contained to those like us. This love needs to be focused on the people that the Gospel calls us to love; the concrete poor. Like Timothy, let us make this commitment a regular part of our spiritual lives and through those spiritual lives build the Kingdom of God on our little corner of Armitage and in our own little lives.



Join us for the Together in Joy 2025 Gala!

Saturday, November 8, 2025 at Venue West

Our annual fundraising gala, Together in Joy, celebrates and supports our ministries serving the Lincoln Park community. The evening will consist of entertainment, dinner, and a live and silent auction. This year's Roaring Twenties-themed evening will feature dinner, entertainment, and both live and silent auctions.

Event Details:

Saturday, November 8, 2025

6:00 PM

Venue West, 221 North Paulina St, Chicago, IL 60612

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*



St. Francis of Assisi | Feast Day October 4

St. Francis of Assisi (1181 – 1226) left a life of luxury for a life devoted to Christianity after reportedly hearing the voice of God, who commanded him to rebuild the Christian church and live in poverty. He founded the men's Order of Friars Minor, the women's Order of St. Clare, the Third Order of St. Francis and the Custody of the Holy Land.

Born in 1181 in Italy, St. Francis of Assisi was renowned for drinking and partying as a youth. During a military expedition/battle between Assisi and Perugia, he was captured and imprisoned for ransom. He spent nearly a year in prison and began receiving visions from God. After his release from prison, St. Francis of Assisi claimed to have heard the voice of Christ, who told him to restore the Christian Church and live a life of poverty. As a result, St. Francis of Assisi abandoned his life of luxury and became a devotee of the Catholic faith.

Today, St. Francis of Assisi, known for his deep love of nature and animals, is the patron saint of the environment and animals. Each October, many animals are blessed on his feast day.

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

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!

Mass Intentions

10AM - Healing Prayers for Lou Ann Rooks (L)
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 10/5 10am- Fr. Frank
Sunday 10/5 12pm- Fr. Udovic
Sunday 10/5 6pm- Fr. Frank

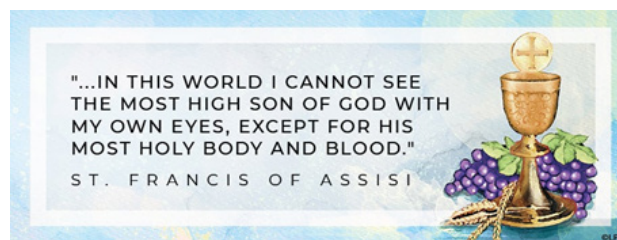
Prayer for the Sick

For those in pain and in sorrow, God be their comfort.

For caretakers and medical staff, God give them grace.

Surround those afflicted with Your love, care, and mercy, You who are our healing and hope.

Amen.



Sunday Funday September 28th:

Today is Good Neighbor Day and Strawberry Cream Pie Day

1920- Eight Chicago White Sox players were indicted for fixing the 1919 World Series in the "Black Sox scandal."

1951- The science-fiction classic film, The Day the Earth Stood Still, was released.

1984- Miami Vice premiered on NBC

During the filming of The Passion of the Christ, both Jim Caviezel (who played Christ) and assistant director Jan Michelini got hit by lightning. Michelini got hit twice.

"A man is great not because he hasn't failed; a man is great because failure hasn't stopped him."

– Confucius



"What kind of pasta did the chef add to the menu for September?"




"Angel Hair!"



On September 29, we remember the archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael — heavenly messengers who share God's insight with us.

Around the Parish


Priesthood Sunday | September 28, 2025



**Did you know
that there are 2
types of Catholic
Priests?**

**DIOCESAN
PRIESTS &
RELIGIOUS
PRIESTS**


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RELIGIOUS PRIEST FACTS:

- These priests choose a religious community or an order, based on charism, lifestyle, and mission.
- They take a vow of poverty alongside their vows of chastity and obedience and only "own" things communally.
- Some examples of the many religious orders are Dominican, Jesuit, and Carmelite.

©LPI



DIOCESAN PRIEST FACTS:

- Diocesan priests serve in parishes/schools assigned to them in a specific diocese by their local bishop.
- They take a vow of chastity and obedience but not a vow of poverty.
- They are allowed to own property and a vehicle and live independently.



**JOIN US
IN PRAYING
FOR OUR
PASTOR THIS
PRIESTHOOD
SUNDAY**

©LPI

Devotions, Explained!

Morning Offering, Explained!

There are many variations of the Morning Offering, but all share the same purpose: to begin each day by offering oneself to God, along with all the experiences, struggles and blessings that the day will bring.

The ancient Israelites practiced the bikkurim (“first fruits”) as described in Deuteronomy, chapter 26. This was a ritual by which the first fruits of the harvest were offered back to God in a sacrificial act of gratitude and obedience. The theology behind the Morning Offering is similar: giving to God the first moments of each day.

The most traditional form of the Morning Offering, attributed to Fr. François-Xavier Gautrelet, begins “O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart...” A full version of this text can be found at uscgb.org/prayers/morning-offering.

Catholic Trivia:

Question: Apart from the Resurrection, what is the only miracle mentioned by all four Gospels?

Answer: The miracle of the loaves and fishes.



DONATE BLOOD

**St. Teresa of Avila Church
Blood Drive**

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

**Sunday
October
26
7:30AM – 2:00PM**

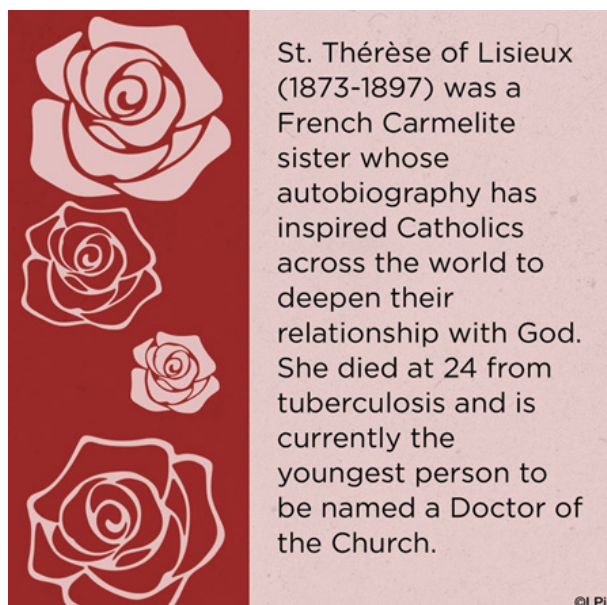
To make an appointment, call (800) 7TO-GIVE, scan the QR code below or go to the following link:
<https://tinyurl.com/mewmh7c>

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.
1-800-7TO-GIVE

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



versiti
Blood Center of Illinois



St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897) was a French Carmelite sister whose autobiography has inspired Catholics across the world to deepen their relationship with God. She died at 24 from tuberculosis and is currently the youngest person to be named a Doctor of the Church.

©LPI



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.