

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

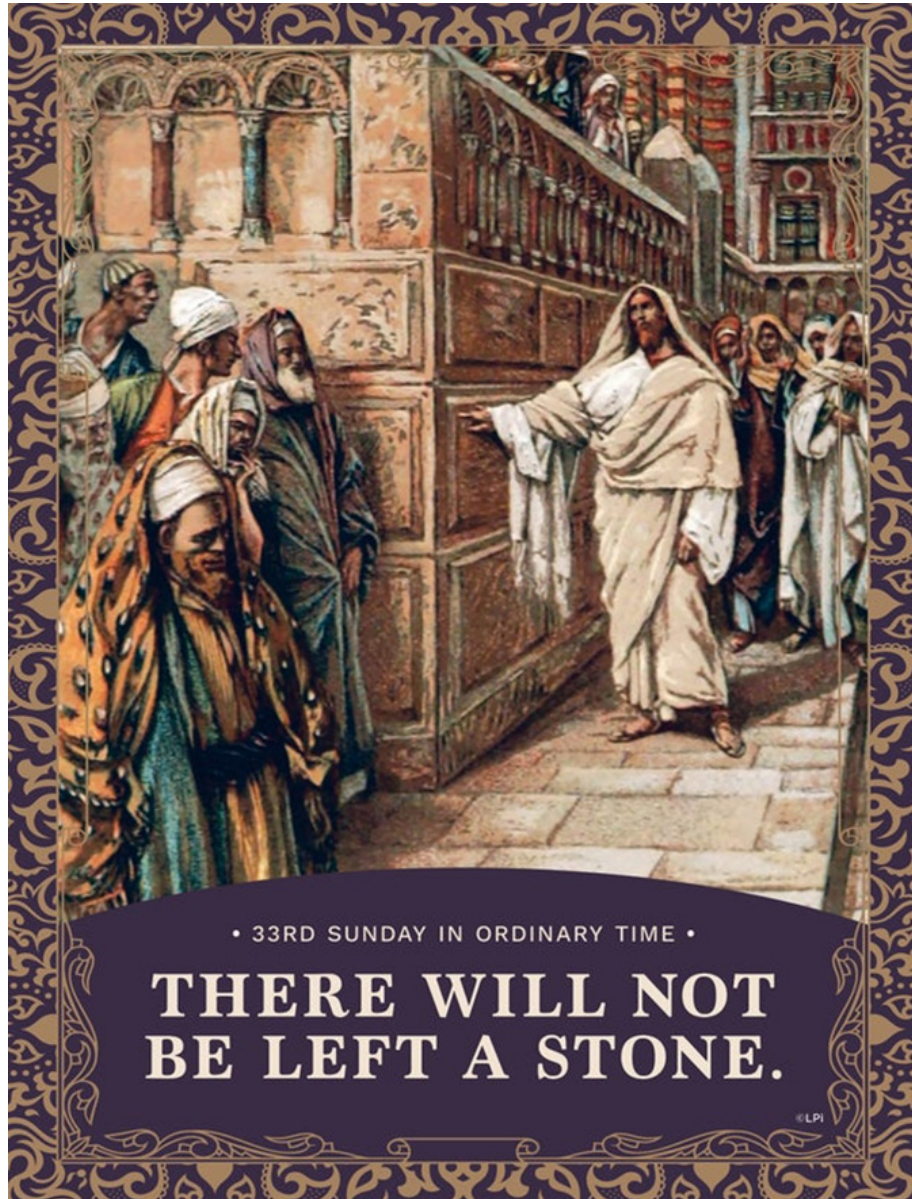
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

November 16, 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.



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: But for you who fear my name, there will arise the sun of justice with its healing rays. (Mal 3:20)

Psalm: The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice. (Ps 98)

Second Reading: Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you, so that you might imitate us. (2 Thes 3:9)

Gospel: “You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives.” (Lk 21:17-19)

Feasts and Saints:

- 11/17- St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
- 11/18- The Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul Apostles
- 11/21- The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 11/22- St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

Gospel Meditation: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

When I was a kid growing up in New England, I’d occasionally go on a whale watch. Once we went out with calm waters and clear skies. But on the way back in, the sea got rough. I was just a kid, and I remember thinking we should turn left or right toward the shoreline I could see. But the pilot of the boat kept going straight — right into the waves — focused on a small, discouragingly distant lighthouse. Even when it flickered in and out of sight, he stayed the course. He knew where he was going.

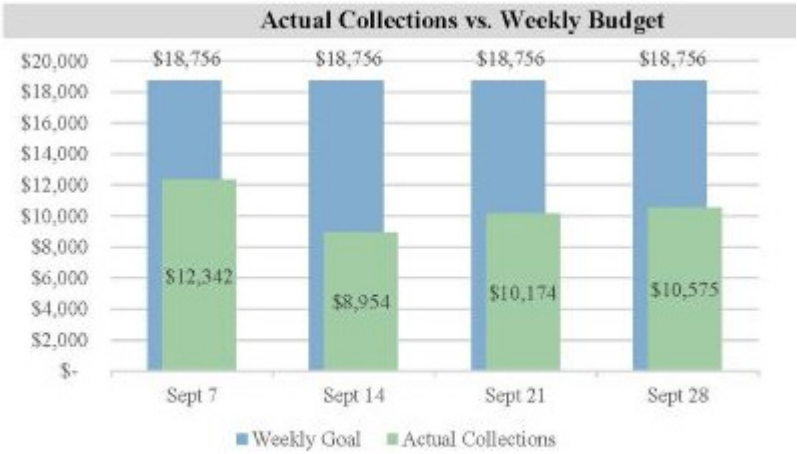
That image comes to mind when I hear Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel regarding false messiahs: “Do not follow them” (Luke 21:8). In times of chaos or uncertainty, there are always voices offering easier routes, promising false safety, claiming to speak for God. But Jesus isn’t found in the loudest voice or the nearest shoreline. He is steady, like a lighthouse in the storm.

The tribulation of which Jesus speaks — it’s real. It happened to the Temple, it happened to him, it happens in the Church, and it will come to each of us. But the command is not to panic. It’s to endure. To keep steering toward him. Faith isn’t about having all the answers or dodging every wave. It’s about knowing where the lighthouse is — and trusting it enough to keep going, especially when false safety beckons us to stop.

— Father John Muir

Financials: September 2025

	FY25	FY24
Basket/Mail In:	6,683	10,521
Give Central:	54,874	36,699
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$61,557	\$47,220
.	\$14,337	



Refugee Sunday, November 16th:

St. Teresa of Avila is having representatives from Exodus World Services come and speak at all of the masses on Sunday, November 16th.

Since 1988 Exodus World Service has mobilized the Christian Community to welcome and befriend refugees. You will learn a bit more about the mission, and how St. Teresa of Avila can assist those in most need.

Learn how you can best support our refugee community this holiday season, whether a gift of your time, or a donation of food, supplies, gift cards, or holiday wishes.

Christmas Angel Tree:



Sacrament of Reconciliation |Advent Confession:

Tuesday November 25,2025

Tuesday December 2, 2025

Wednesday December 17, 2025

Tuesday December 23, 2025

6:00-7:30pm

Stewardship Reflections:

We Are Called to Be Saints

Catholics often are drawn to saints due to their profession, hobbies, or ethnic background. One's patron saint serves as an example of how to live a life of holiness and service to God. We hold up the saints of the Church in high regard. However, we can sometimes make the mistake of seeing them as the subject of stories in print and not real living people. We can assume that their level of devotion and holiness is unattainable. In fact, we are all called to be saints.

Our world needs more living saints living out their stewardship in a radical manner. Stories are valuable, but when others get to see disciples of Jesus Christ answering their call in person, consider the impact. There is a reason why lay witnessing is so important in cultivating a stewardship culture in a parish community. The people we can see and hear are alive right in front of us. Some will say that to truly be humble means to act anonymously, but we are not speaking here of actions that call out, "Look at me!" We are talking about acting in a way that people see not you and me, but Jesus instead.

We are to be models and examples to one another. We are to build up one another and make the Body of Christ strong. Don't sit back wishing you had the strength to be a saint. You have already been given the gifts needed to be the saint you are called to be. Maybe people will read about you later, but the Church needs you now!

St TERESA's FALL BLOOD DRIVE A HUGE RECORD BREAKING SUCCESS!!!! THANKS TO YOU!!!!

Our annual FALL BLOOD DRIVE took place on Sunday,
October 26th in our parish center.

Thanks to our wonderful donors, we met and surpassed our
goal of 40 units by collecting a NEW St. TESERA RECORD of
51 units of life which will save over 150 lives.

Our donors are true hero's especially those donating Double
Red units.

We are so thankful to all of them for sharing God's gift of life
with others most in need.

We would like to thank our hospitality volunteers: Marie,
Ella, and Mike for their warm and welcoming smiles.

We give thanks to our supporters of the blood drive for their
donations:

* LUSH COSMETICS..... Bath and beauty products
on Armitage Ave

* HOME SLICE PIZZA..... on Webster for their
delicious pizzas

* TRADER'S JOES.....East Lakeview on Diversey for
the beautiful flowers and the organic bananas

* STARBUCKS (Corner of Armitage and Sheffield) for
their fresh hot coffee

* ALDERMAN TIMMY KNUDSEN, 43rd WARD

* MARGARET CROKE, Illinois State Representative



Fall Blood Drive Continued:

The mood of our blood drive was so peaceful as we were graced by 3 lovely violinists

Please save the date of Sunday, May 31, 2026 for our annual Spring Blood Drive

Remember to have at least 56 days between donations for whole blood donations and 112 days for Double Reds

May God bless all of you for being a light of hope when the world needs you the most.

Thank you,

Mark Buciak

Volunteer Blood Drive Director

Fall Blood Drive Continued:



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/uwffqUZN>

Food Pantry:

Food Pantry Needs

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has partnered with The Greater Chicago Food Depository to increase the choices food pantries are able to receive each month. As a result, a variety of canned goods, nuts and dried/frozen fruit have been added to our deliveries. However, we continue to be in need of

INDIVIDUAL ROLLS OF WRAPPED TOILET PAPER.

It can be donated at Mass each week during the Presentation of the Gifts. Thank You for your generosity!

Welcome Committee:

The Parish Council is excited to announce the formation of a new Welcoming Committee here at St Teresa of Avila. We are looking for 2-3 people to help lead this initiative, and help us build a team of welcome volunteers for each mass. The task is simple, we need amazing volunteers that will greet all parishioners before mass with a friendly smile, a nice "hello", and possibly help them find a seat! You may think we already do this, but it's not consistent. Imagine walking into someone's house and not being welcomed when you walk in the door, a place of business, or a restaurant. First impressions can be lasting impressions.

Please consider joining this committee because it'll be fun and rewarding! If interested, please reach out to Jessica Marx @chicago2381@hotmail.com.

Loaves and Fishes:

The Loaves & Fishes ministry has been inviting guests indoors to enjoy their meal on Friday evenings.

We need volunteers to greet our guests, serve them, and clean tables. Volunteers are needed on Friday evenings from 3:30 to 6:00. If you cannot arrive by 3:30, just let us know when you sign up. You can sign up here - <https://signup.com/go/rBJiFSK>.

Calling All Those Who Enjoy Cooking!

Calling All Those Who Enjoy Cooking! Hearing the call to serve those less fortunate? Always wanted to (learn to) cook for a crowd? Our Loaves and Fishes Ministry is seeking cooks (and helpers) to prepare a warm dinner for the elderly and homeless in our area, served each Friday afternoon. For a 3-6 hour commitment, you'll meet a wonderful group of people to work with, share kitchen tips and feel good about helping those in need. For more info, please contact Charisse Gioia

cgioia@stteresaparish.org

Thank you



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St. Teresa's 10th Annual Turkey Trot

Calling all Walkers, Joggers, Runners, Canines and Turkeys!

Please join us for our 10th, free, non-competitive, 1 to 6 mile, Turkey Trot.

Runners, joggers, and walkers of all abilities are welcome, including children and canines!

No racing, No timing, No awards, No entry fee*, No t-shirts, and No \$60 bananas! Just lots of fun and smiles!

Come dressed to trot!

Thursday, November 27th Thanksgiving Day
7:00am: Check-in at the Parish Center

1950 N. Kenmore Ave.
7:30am: Trot
Back in plenty of time to attend the 9:00am Mass!
Light Pre & Post Trot breakfast provided.

*** In lieu of an entry fee, please donate a non-perishable food item for the St. Teresa Food Pantry.**

Questions & RSVP by November 20, 2025
Coach Mark
markbuciak.qcc@rcn.com

Mass Intentions

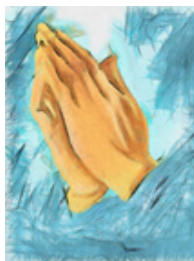
10AM - Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Living and Deceased

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 11/23 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 11/23 12pm- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 11/23 6pm- Fr. Udovic

Prayer in Seasons of Trust

O Lord,

Be with me now, I feel so alone. Bring Your blessings to me, like the light of a candle in darkness.

Wrap me in Your mercy, give me strength to face every hardship. Amen.



Sunday Funday November 16th:

Today is National Button Day and National Fast Food Day

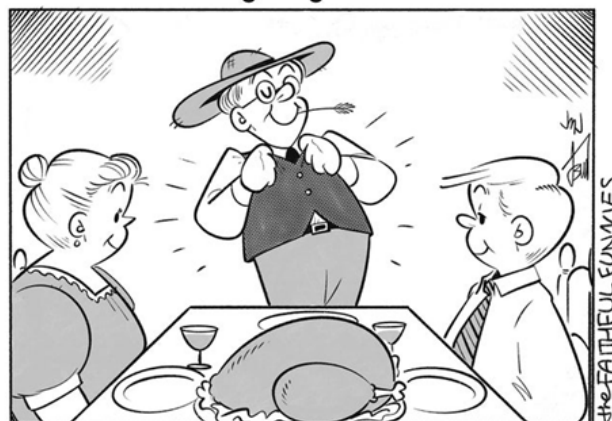
1907- Oklahoma became the United States' 46th state.

1914- The Federal Reserve Bank of the United States officially opened.

1965- Walt Disney launched Epcot Center: Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow.

1981- Luke and Laura's wedding for ABC soap opera General Hospital was one of the most-watched weddings in American television history.

"What did the farmer wear to Thanksgiving dinner?"



"A har-vest."



Thanksgiving is a great day to praise God for His generosity towards each and every one of us. Happy Thanksgiving!

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Around the Parish

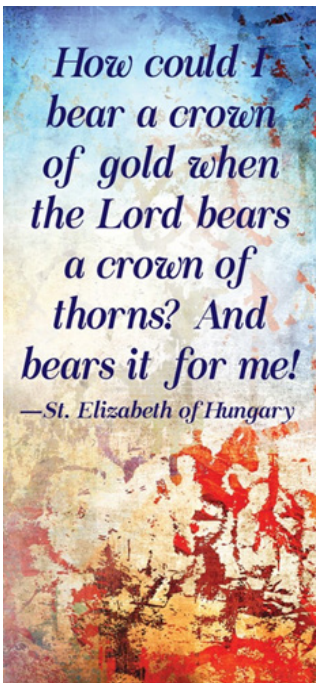
St. Elizabeth of Hungary | Feast Day November 17

Although her life was short, St. Elizabeth of Hungary (1207 – 1231) is recognized for her love of the poor and suffering, and as patroness of Catholic charities and the Secular Franciscan Order. The daughter of the King of Hungary, she chose a life of penance instead of leisure, which made an impact on the “commoners” she served.

St. Elizabeth married Louis of Thuringia when she was 14. Deeply in love, they had three children. Despite their wealth, she led a life of prayer, sacrifice, and service to the poor and sick under the spiritual direction of a Franciscan friar.

After six years of marriage, her husband died in the Crusades, and St. Elizabeth was grief-stricken. Her husband’s family did not look kindly upon her and mistreated her before finally throwing her out of the palace. However, the return of her husband’s allies from the Crusades resulted in her being reinstated, since her son was legal heir to the throne.

St. Elizabeth joined the Secular Franciscan Order in 1228 where she cared for the poor in a hospital she founded in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. She died in 1231, but her great popularity resulted in her being named a saint only four years later.



Saint Cecilia | November 22

Saint Cecilia’s story, like many of the earliest saints’, is largely apocryphal and legendary in nature. According to tradition, Cecilia was born to a wealthy and prominent Roman family. Though she had consecrated her virginity to the Lord, she was married to a man named Valerian. It is said that she was “singing in her heart to the Lord” at her wedding. She confessed her promise of virginity to her new husband revealing that an angel protected her. Valerian would honor her vow only if he too could see the angel. Cecilia told him he would see the angel if he was baptized, which he went to do immediately. When he returned to her, he saw the angel beside her. Cecilia also converted Valerian’s brother, Tiburtius.

Unfortunately, it was a turbulent time in Rome for Christians. Valerian and Tiburtius were martyred for burying the bodies of Christians, which was illegal. Cecilia was also targeted for her faith. First authorities attempted to suffocate by locking her in the bath in her home and overheating the room. Some accounts say that she didn’t break a sweat and even began to sing. They then sent in an executioner to behead her, but he faltered and was unable to complete his task, only succeeding in mortally wounding her. She remained alive for three days before she died.

The saint’s body was exhumed twice, first by Pope Paschal I in 821, then by Cardinal Sfondrato in 1599. Both times her body was found incorrupt, the first saint to exhibit this extremity. St. Cecilia is the patron saint of music and musicians.



Catholic Q & A :

Question: Why do Catholics call priests Father?

Answer: One of the common objections evangelical Christians have to Catholics is our practice of calling priests by the title Father. They will often cite a passage in Matthew's Gospel in which Jesus tells his followers: "Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven" (23:19). It seems pretty straightforward, but when we put this verse in context, we see that Jesus is speaking out against religious leaders who had forgotten what their proper role was and who were bad examples through their own hypocrisy and elitist attitudes.

In other Gospels, we find Jesus himself using the title father for different characters, such as in the Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man (Luke 16:19-31) and the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). If we put the verse from Matthew into the full scope of Jesus' teachings, he isn't saying that we can't use words like "father," "rabbi," or "master." Rather, he is telling us that we should be mindful of the full meaning of those titles and not to misuse them.

To call a priest "Father" is more than a sign of respect for the office of the priesthood. It goes all the way back to the way St. Paul understood his own work as a missionary and evangelizer. Paul wrote, "I am writing you in this way not to shame you but to admonish you as my beloved children ... It was I who begot you in Christ Jesus through my preaching of the Gospel. I beg you, then, be imitators of me. This is why I have sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful son in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 4:14-17).

Yes, we have God alone as our heavenly Father, but there are also those here with us who nurture and nourish our faith through their teaching and care. This is why the title of Father has been applied to the church's pastors in different ways since the earliest days of the Church, including monks and nuns using the title "abbot" and "abbess" (from abba) for their spiritual leaders and Christians around the world recognizing the "Holy Father" or "pope" (from papa) as the head of the family that is the Church. The title Father is a reminder that priests have a special responsibility to care for, protect, feed, listen to, and nourish those who have been entrusted to them, all after the example of our Father in heaven who never ceases to give us what we truly need.

Devotions, Explained!

Advent Wreath, Explained!

The Advent Wreath as we know it today is a modern spin on an ancient practice — or rather, several of them.

Christians have always utilized candles to illustrate the metaphor of Christ as the "great light" shining on a people waiting in darkness (Isaiah 9:2). Historians tell us that pre-Christian societies in Europe also viewed candles as symbolic of the coming light of spring, and may have used wreaths of natural material along with these candles. Traditions and rituals surrounding an "Advent Wreath" are often thought to have originated in the Lutheran tradition in 16th-century Germany. Today, Advent Wreaths are a practice embraced by most Christians in the Western world.

An Advent Wreath consists of a circle of evergreen and four candles, one for each week of Advent. Three of the candles are purple; one is rose, representing Gaudete Sunday, a time of rejoicing at the closeness of Christmas. In Catholicism, Advent Wreaths are blessed on the First Sunday of Advent. For Advent Wreaths in private homes, it is appropriate for a family member to



Catholic Trivia:

Question: According to tradition, upon which mountain did the Transfiguration of Jesus take place?

Answer: Mount Tabor.

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.