

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

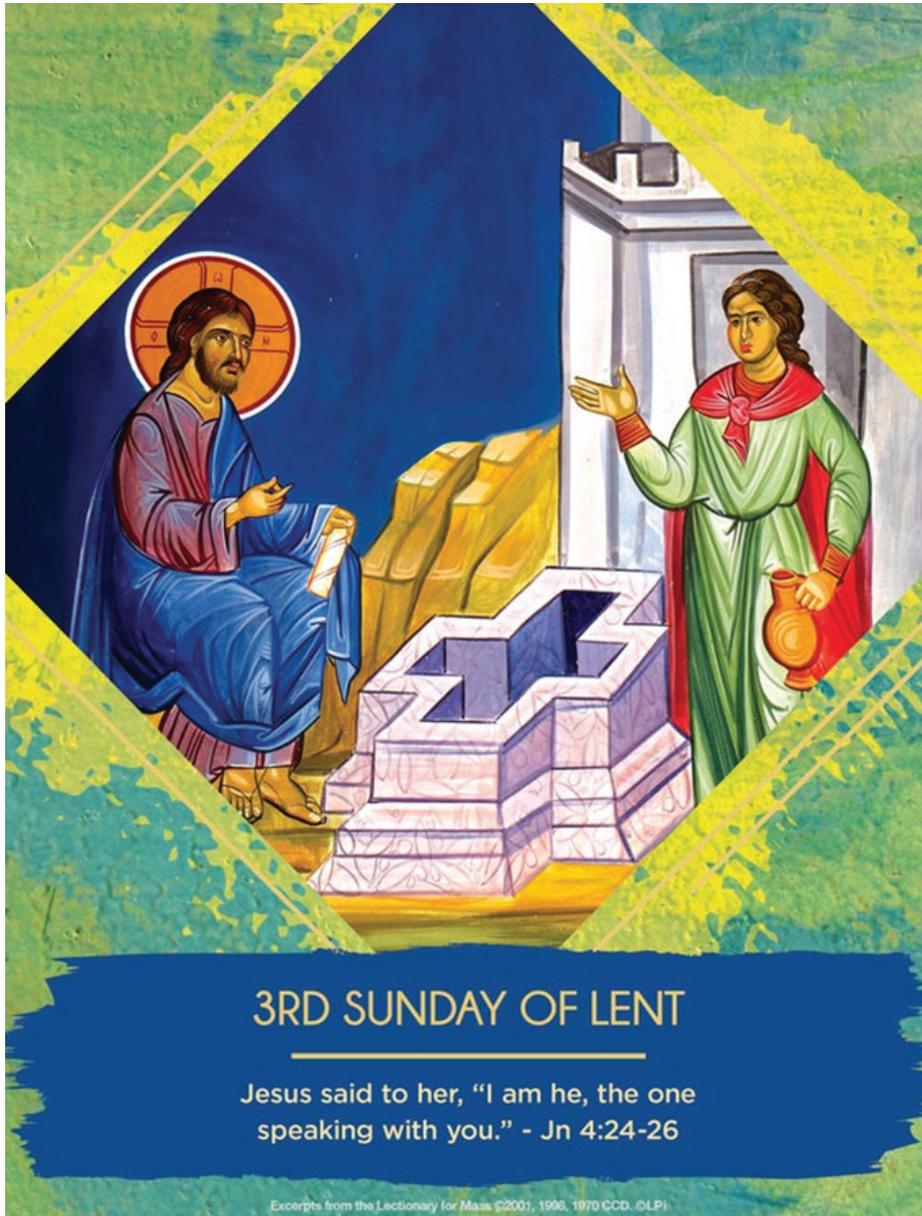
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

March 8, 2026

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

T
H
E

J
O
U
R
N
E
Y



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one speaking with you.” - Jn 4:24-26

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

Pastor

Reverend Frank John Latzko

Address

1037 W. Armitage Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60614

773-528-6650

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 5 PM, 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	
<hr/>	
Email	Phone
<hr/>	<hr/>
Address	
<hr/>	
Ministries of Interest	
<hr/>	

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/>.

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: "Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." (Ex 17:6)

Second Reading: And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. (Rom 5:5)

Gospel: "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (Jn 4:13-14)

Feasts and Saints:

3/9- St. Frances of Rome, Religious



Gospel Meditation: 3rd Sunday of Lent:

Recently I received a note from a teenager I met years ago. He wrote, "Dear Father Muir, you probably do not remember me, but I wanted to thank you for your inspiring and humorous homilies at the parish. They helped me appreciate the beauty of Catholicism, which I have now embraced in a personal way." That small note moved me more than he probably imagined. I had no idea my words had taken root in him. I was simply sowing seeds – week by week, Mass by Mass. Someone else – his parents, a youth minister, or God Himself – was doing the deeper work. Now this young man is joyfully reaping a harvest of faith. In today's Gospel, Jesus offers living water to a Samaritan woman whose life had been full of searching and disappointment. By the end of their encounter, she becomes a bold and joyful evangelist. Then Jesus turns to his disciples and says something easily overlooked: "One sows and another reaps" (John 4:37). He is helping them – and us – understand how evangelization works. Often, the one who sows the seeds of faith is not the one who sees the fruit. This Lent, ask yourself: Are you in a sowing phase or a reaping phase? If you are sowing – raising children, praying for someone, mentoring – be patient. Your work matters. If you are reaping – seeing someone come alive in faith – be grateful. You are standing on sacred ground, tilled and watered by others. Lenten challenge: Thank someone who once sowed faith into your life. And keep sowing, even when the harvest is unseen.

– Father John Muir

Financials: December 2025

	FY25	FY24
Basket/Mail In:	32,170	46,835
Give Central:	39,446	39,177
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$71,616	\$86,012
		(\$14,396)



Saint Frances of Rome | March 9th

Born into an aristocratic family in Rome, Frances was drawn to God's service from an early age. At age eleven, Frances told her father that she wanted to become a nun, but her father replied that he was giving her hand in marriage to Lorenzo Ponziani, an aristocrat and commander in the papal army. Bowing to God's will, Frances was married at the age of twelve.

For the next forty years, Frances wholeheartedly embraced her marriage. The couple loved one another with humble affection and devotion. Though drawn to a life of prayer, Frances often said, "A married woman must, when called upon, leave her devotions to God at the altar to find Him in her household affairs." One day, called away to tend to family affairs four times while praying the psalms, Frances returned to find the psalm's words written in gold as a sign that God was pleased with her fidelity to the duties of her vocation.

Though Frances was of the noble class, she embraced a life of simplicity, including bodily penance, fasting, and prayer. She abstained from meat, exchanged her delectable food for the dry and moldy bread of poor beggars, and dressed in coarse garments.

When plague took two of her children at a young age, Frances joined her sister-in-law to begin an outreach to the sick and poor. The women visited hospitals, nursed the sick, and distributed food to the hungry. After exhausting her own money and possessions, Frances begged other wealthy families for more resources. Soon, more noblewomen joined Frances and her sister-in-law in their work.

In 1413, invaders exiled Lorenzo from Rome, seized his property, destroyed the couple's home, and detained their only living son as a hostage. Through it all, Frances prayed with the suffering Job, "The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD!"

Within a few years, Lorenzo was able to move back to Rome and regain his possessions. Frances turned the ruined family home into a hospital to care for the sick, devotedly helping Lorenzo recover in mind and body. During this time, Frances began having visions of her guardian angel, who gave her advice. These visions continued until Frances' death.

In 1425, Frances organized a lay association of Benedictine Oblates for single and widowed women to expand their work for the poor and infirm. The women lived together, embraced Benedictine spirituality, and served the poor and ill.

Widowed at the age of fifty-two, Francis walked barefoot through the city to the monastery of oblates, prostrated herself, and successfully begged for admission. Soon after, she was named superior, finally realizing her childhood desire for religious life. For the next three years, she devoted herself to her community's work until joyfully surrendering to death. In 1925, Pope Pius XI declared Frances the patron saint of automobile drivers because her angel always went before her, lighting the way, as headlights illuminate the way for a car.

Saint Frances of Rome, you loved and served God at every stage of your life. Please pray that I may serve God within my vocation, seeking only His holy and perfect will. Saint Frances, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.





**FAREWELL
CELEBRATION
FOR MARK**

**SUNDAY
MARCH 15TH
ALL ARE WELCOME TO
STOP IN THE PARISH
CENTER AFTER EACH
MASS TO THANK MARK
AND WISH HIM WELL!**



CRS Rice Bowl:

THIRD WEEK OF LENT

A Story of Hope from Guatemala

In the town of Janlay, Guatemala, the streets are filled with people wearing bright, colorful clothes that stand out against the bold green of the surrounding mountains. Many in the community are talented weavers—like Maribel, who creates traditional güipiles, the embroidered blouses worn by Indigenous women in Central America.

Maribel is also mom to a cheerful little girl named Juana, who—like many toddlers— keeps Maribel on her toes. “She’s a very healthy little girl. She loves running around the house. She’s the one who brings happiness to our home,” Maribel says.

But they face challenges too. When Juana was just 4 months old, Maribel’s husband had to travel far to find work. Maribel stayed home with Juana, doing her best to take care of her. She needed help. Then she joined a CRS program that offered nutrition classes, where she learned how to make healthy food choices for her family. Her family was used to eating chips and drinking soda, which made them feel tired and unwell. But after making changes to their diet, their health is improving.

Now, Maribel feeds Juana fruits, vegetables, eggs and hot cereal full of vitamins and protein. She also makes her own drinks instead of buying soda.

“The moment we stopped drinking soda, my mom started to feel better,” Maribel says. Now, her mom’s hands don’t hurt when she knits and she can stand up to wash clothes.

Maribel also learned that it’s important for her to take vitamins, like iron, because Juana receives them through her breast milk. “We learned that we need to stay healthy for our children, and not just as mothers. It’s important for all girls to take their vitamins so that we are well,” she says.

The program also taught families—and the whole community—how to save money and build better habits for everyday life.

Today, Maribel is thankful for the program. She says, “For all the support they’ve given us, we feel very grateful. Through healthy eating and the practice of saving, we have been able to improve our family’s health, nutrition and financial well-being.”



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 NEEDS

THE ST. TERESA FOOD PANTRY CONTINUES TO BE GRATEFUL FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY FOOD CHOICES PROVIDED WEEKLY BY THE GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY. HOWEVER, WE CONTINUE TO BE IN NEED OF HEARTY SOUPS AND WRAPPED TOILET PAPER. 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.

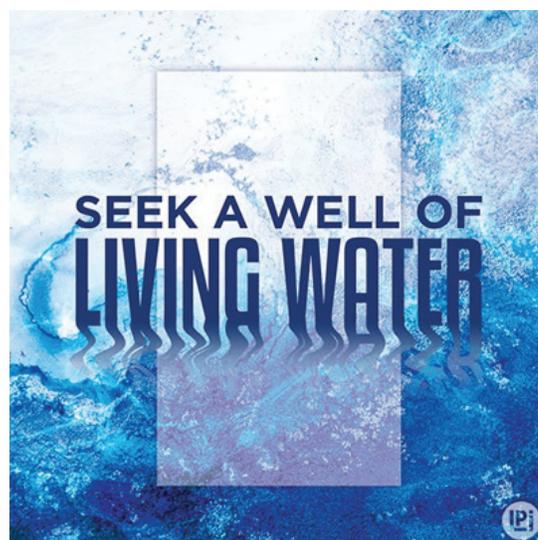
We need volunteers to greet our guests, serve them, and clean tables. Volunteers are needed on Friday evenings from 3:30 to 6:00. If you cannot arrive by 3:30, just let us know when you sign up. Please email Steve Sibon - sjsibon@aol.com

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



Mass Intentions

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

- Saturday 3/14 5pm- Fr. Udovic
- Sunday 3/15 10am- Fr. Frank
- Sunday 3/15 12pm- Fr. Udovic
- Sunday 3/15 6pm- Fr. Frank

Blessing of Living Water

Lord, where there has been dryness in my life, bless me with Your living water!

Where I fear to dream of new hope and growth, bless me with Your living water!

Where I'm thirsty for new and abundant life, bless me with Your living water!

Drench the parched earth with Your promise, bless me with Your living water!

Amen.

Sunday Funday March 8th:

- Today is Peanut Cluster Day and International Women's Day
- 1669- Mount Etna, on the island of Sicily, began erupting and over the next several weeks killed over 20,000 people.
- 1817- The New York Stock Exchange was founded.
- Muhammad Ali lost to Heavyweight Champion Joe Frazier in the "Fight of the Century" at Madison Square Garden in New York City.
- 1993- Beavis and Butt-Head premiered on MTV.
- The largest cast of living creatures in a Hollywood film was the 22 million bees, in 1978's "The Swarm".

"If I had to give up either acting or dancing, I'd choose to keep dancing." – Cyd Charisse

"How many apostles does it take to change a light bulb?"



"None! Jesus is the light."

FUN FACT!

Jesus is referred to as the Light of the World. This means that Jesus illuminates the path to salvation and truth.

OLPI

Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

When God asks for Water

One of my earliest memories is of my mother weeping.

The last few months of her pregnancy with my little brother were tremendously painful for her, and more than once the pain brought her to tears. I have a hazy image of her in my mind, belly swollen with a 12-pound baby lying transverse in the womb, sitting on the edge of her bed, dabbing at her face with toilet paper.

I had brought her the toilet paper. I would do that when I saw her crying, to wipe away her tears. I have a hazy memory of that, too – of the way my heart was wrenched by the sight of her suffering, of my desperation to do something to help, and of my immense satisfaction when she would take the toilet paper, smile and say, “Oh, thank you, sweetheart!” as if I had just airlifted her out of a war zone.

What a powerful gift to give to a child still learning the meaning of compassion and selflessness – the gift of being able to feel that she has, even in some small way, “rescued” a person she worships. Her smile of gratitude lives, immortal, in my mind, along with the swell of satisfaction it produced in the deepest corner of my heart. This was when I learned that it feels good to help people, and this memory is a perpetually replenished well of living water for me. I draw from it daily, three decades later.

This is a gift that Christ gives, over and over again, in the Gospels. He allows us to encounter him tired, afraid, sad and hungry. Omnipotent power subjected to the utter vulnerability of human form.

Before the Incarnation, God looked down from Heaven and said, “You are thirsty. Here is something to drink.”

After the Incarnation, God sits down beside us and says, “I’m thirsty. Give me something to drink.”

Stewardship Reflections:

3rd Sunday of Lent

Paul reminded the Corinthians, “We proclaim Christ crucified.” Christ’s weakness is stronger than any human strength. The power of the cross is greater than anything the world or evil has to combat it.

The Lenten season is one of repentance, self-denial, almsgiving, and prayer. Many in our modern world do not see any wisdom in denying themselves anything. Those swept away in a consumer culture want more and they want it faster, bigger, and better. They also are looking for easy and quick satisfaction, unwilling to wait long.

Paul speaks of the “foolishness of God” and how it is wiser than any human wisdom. Lent is a time to put aside that which we feel and think as humans and put on the attitude of Christ. The cross of Christ is neither easy nor fleeting, and it will ask us to deny our very selves for him. To the human mind it makes no sense. However, by putting on Christ and seeing with his eyes, we see reality with clarity. Our sacrifice can lead to riches that only a “foolish” man would covet. But it is exactly there that we are satisfied and fulfilled.



Holy Week & Easter Triduum Mass Times



Saturday, March 28, 2026

- 5:00 pm Mass with Blessing of the Palms
- 6:00pm French Mass with Blessing of the Palms

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026

- 10:00 am, 12:00pm & 6:00 pm Mass with Blessing of the Palms

Holy Thursday, April 2, 2026

- 7:00pm
- Mass of The Last Supper

Good Friday, April 3, 2026

- 3:00 pm
- Mass of Our Lord's Passion
- 7:00pm
- Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday, April 4, 2026

- 7:00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

- 10:00am and 12:00pm Easter Mass

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.