

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

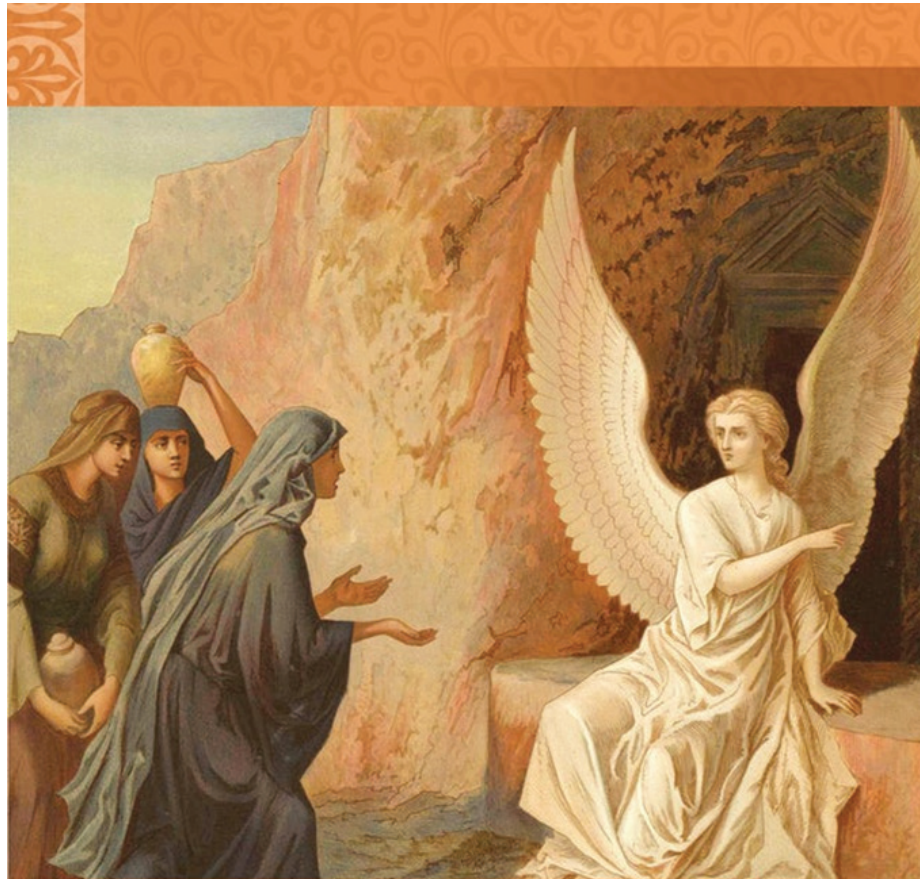
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

April 5, 2026

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

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EASTER SUNDAY

"The angel said to the women in reply, 'Do not be afraid!'" Matthew 28:5

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	
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Email	Phone
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Address	
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Ministries of Interest	
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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: To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name. (Acts 10:43)

Second Reading: If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. (Col 3:1)

Gospel: Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. (Jn 10:1)

Feasts and Saints:



Wedding Banns:



Bann II

William Curtis Pensyl

Angelica Marie Porras

Gospel Meditation: Easter Sunday

Zander Price was the fastest kid at my grade school. He won every race on Field Day. To me, his swiftness meant he was the greatest. Zander was the best.

It's the same with the speediest Apostle on Easter morning. John tells us he "ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first." (John 20:4) But only after Peter entered did John go in, see the burial cloths, and believe. Here is a symbol of two dimensions of the Church. John, the beloved disciple, represents the contemplative, mystical life: affection, prayer, intimacy. Peter, the rock, represents the Church's institutional life: steady, authoritative, structured...but slower.

Of course, John runs faster! Love is the heartbeat of Christian faith, so love will always arrive first. Peter's role is, in a sense, secondary. He arrives later, but is still very much needed. John waits for him. The Church must be built, balanced, protected, and led. Love without structure can vanish; structure without love becomes lifeless.

This dynamic is not just historical – it is personal. In you, there is a John who longs to run to the tomb in love. Let him run! Pray, sing, love Jesus. There is also a Peter, who eventually gets to the tomb and takes charge. The Risen Christ wants both. Remember: if you want to get to the mystery of Jesus' resurrection fast...love him, for love is best.

– Father John Muir

Financials: January 2026

	FY26	FY25
Basket/Mail In:	26,593	26,323
Give Central:	35,018	37,783
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$61,611	\$64,106
		(\$2,495)



From Fr. Frank:

The Resurrection of Christ is the bedrock foundation of our faith, our Church, our very lives. The Risen Christ lives and breathes deep within the center of our beings, transforming the many deaths we experience into pathways of new life. All of our experiences of grieving, sadness, failures, fear, and self doubt become encounters with the Risen Lord who breathes His Spirit of new life in these painful realities. Yes, we rise in spirit, becoming free from that which diminishes us and binds us.

Easter is truly at the heart of our faith, which we celebrate at each and every Eucharist. But since the early Church, Easter Sunday was established as the Feast during the annual Passover celebration that the Resurrection is the focus and the heart of this particular Sunday and the seven weeks that follow. Christmas wasn't even celebrated in any way until centuries later. We are an Easter church and an Easter people.

I wish all of you a Blessed Easter Sunday and Season, ending with the celebration of Pentecost.

As you all know by now, St. Teresa of Avila has a new pastor: Fr. Peter Wojcik, who will continue to pastor St. Clement Parish and begin to pastor St. Teresa's. Due to the shortage of priests, pastors will be leading two or more parishes, which will certainly demand changes in how the leadership of parishes must adapt to this reality. The sharing of resources, scheduling changes and the development of lay leadership ministry will have to take place.

I see this as a challenge that will compel the church in creating new ways of being a parish community. Lay people are not only being called to volunteer in the various ministries, they are being called to share in the leadership of parish and the larger church with the clergy. Ordained priests and the laity ALL share in the one Priesthood of Christ. We are all priests in virtue of our Baptism in the one priesthood of Christ, but we carry out the manner in which we are priest in different ways.

From Fr. Frank:

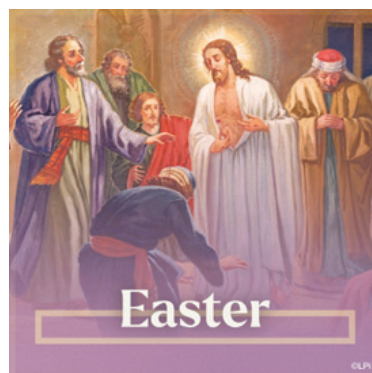
I will be retiring in June and hope to live nearby. I'm looking for places that I like and are affordable. We priests are all responsible for how we live out our retirement. I will continue to say Mass and help out when and where needed. I have no intention of not ministering on a regular basis; I'm just letting go of the administration responsibilities that remain a part of being a pastor. 25 years of being a pastor is enough. I will let you know where I will be living as soon as this becomes definitive.

Please join with me as I celebrate my retirement on April 25 at a 5:00 PM Mass. It will be my way of thanking you and the various parishes I have served in these past 42 years.

Lastly, I decided to add the Saturday evening Mass when I was told we were getting a full time pastor. I didn't add the Saturday evening Mass after Covid since I was planning for the parish to share the pastor with one of the neighboring parishes.

Since we are NOT receiving a full time pastor, Fr. Peter will be the pastor of both St. Clement and St. Teresa. After nearly two months, the number that come to the Saturday evening Mass average between 20-25, extremely low for a weekend Mass. Consequently, I have decided to end the Saturday evening Mass after April 25th. There are only two full time priests at St. Clement's, which is a very large parish comprised of well over 3,000 registered families, with a school that has a large number of children attending. St. Teresa's has approximately 850 registered families.

The schedule of services needs to take this reality into account.



Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

While It Is Still Dark

If you are a person who is religious in any way, chances are that at some point, someone has asked you to give a reason why.

I meet lots of people who identify as spiritual but not religious, lots of people who are more comfortable splashing in the shallow end of belief but hesitating to wade into the more uncertain depths of doctrine. So when they ask the question “Why do you believe what you believe?” it usually comes out as “Why do you go to church?”

They want to know why I come to this specific place at this specific time. What am I expecting to happen?

We read that Mary Magdalene went to the tomb “while it was still dark.” I imagine she could not sleep. She was traumatized. Grieving. Confused. Angry, perhaps. Doubting? Maybe. It’s possible. We cannot know what was in her heart.

We only know what she did. We only know where she went. And we know that it was dark, that the light of Easter’s dawn had not yet pierced the sky.

Often, I am grieving when I go to church, or angry, or confused, or all three. I have gone many times with a doubting and resentful heart.

Because, you see, it is still dark. The dawn of eternity, which will illuminate all understanding, has not yet even begun to creep across my horizon.

My answer to the question, when I am asked, is that I go to church – to Catholic Mass, specifically – for the same reason Mary Magdalene went to the tomb. I go because it is the last place I saw Christ, and I am desperate to see him again.

Stewardship Reflections:

At Easter, we celebrate that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, conquered death, rose from the dead, and remains very much alive. To the world of non-believers: what!? It is quite a big reality to swallow. But for the believer, it is a reality that inspires us to the point where we find ourselves constantly sharing the Gospel with everyone we meet! Right?

So what does Easter mean to you? The question is not what do you believe. The question is what impact does Easter have on you? How do your actions demonstrate the power of Easter? What does it mean we you hear that we, the Church, are an Easter people?

You may be saying right now that you have no intention of becoming an evangelist, passing out Bibles to all you meet. But I would like to suggest that you actually have a more powerful way of evangelizing others: everyday stewardship. Actions speak louder than words and the way you live your life can be a great testimony to all those you encounter. By acknowledging the gifts you have been given, cultivating those so they grow to an increase, and then sharing them fully with God and with others in God’s name will give testimony to your belief that Jesus is alive and seeking a relationship with each of his people.

If more of us won’t live our lives in this manner, then non-believers and non-intentional disciples will ask the question, “What difference does Easter make anyway?” Jesus died and rose for you and me. To be sure, it DOES make a difference.



Come Join Us to Celebrate our 21st Anniversary!!

A SPRED Mass at St. Teresa of Avila-
Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 10 a.m.



Bring the Whole Family and Friends

Everyone is Welcome

SPRED will host the Hospitality time in the Parish Center immediately following Mass.

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.

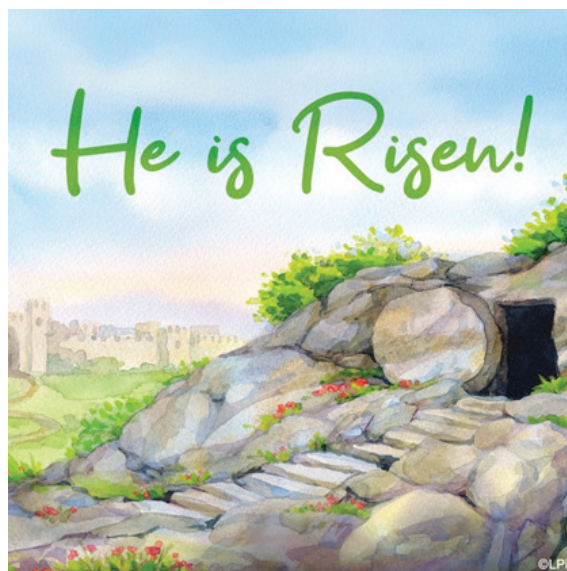
We need volunteers to greet our guests, serve them, and clean tables. Volunteers are needed on Friday evenings from 3:30 to 6:00. If you cannot arrive by 3:30, just let us know when you sign up. Please email Steve Sibon - sjsibon@aol.com

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

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

12 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 4/11 5pm- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 4/12 10am- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 4/12 12pm- Fr. Udovic

Sunday 4/12 6pm- Fr. Udovic

Easter Blessing

Dear Lord,

Where there has been death, bring new life! Renew and redeem the sorrow in our stories with Your goodness and grace. Bless our hearts and homes this Easter and always. Amen.



Sunday Funday April 5th:

Today is Easter Sunday

Instead of a bunny, an Easter fox delivers goods in Germany.

PAAS is the most popular Easter egg dyeing kit.

The red jelly bean is the most popular flavor.

It's typical to eat the ears of a chocolate bunny first.

The first White House Easter Egg Roll was held in 1878.

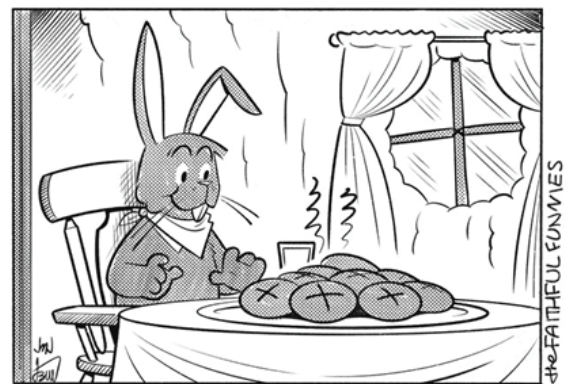
Egg decorating started in Ukraine.

2 billion Peeps are made a year.

Easter lilies signify the true meaning of the holiday.



"What does the Easter Bunny eat for breakfast?"



"Hot Cross Buns."



An English priest, Father Thomas Rockcliffe, popularized the distribution of Hot Cross Buns at Easter in the 14th century, inspiring the famous rhyme.

OLP!



your kindness save a life

Donate Blood

**Sunday
May
31**

7:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Helpful tip:

Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating. Please bring your id

For eligibility questions please call 1- 800-786-4483

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

1950 N. Kenmore Ave, Chicago, IL 60614
@ The Parish Center

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED

- Call (800) 7TO-GIVE,
- Visit <https://tinyurl.com/mt8k68t5>
- Or scan the QR code below

*Walk-ins welcome, as schedule allows!

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



ST. TERESA OF AVILA
CATHOLIC PARISH ♦ EST. 1889



Easter:




EASTER



Easter Traditions Around the World





POLAND



On Easter Monday, some Polish people celebrate Śmigus-Dyngus or Wet Monday. People will sneak up on and drench each other with water using glasses of water or even squirt guns!



Easter:





SICILY



In the city of San Biagio Platani, people build Archi di Pasqua or Easter Arches. These are large, building-like structures people can walk under made entirely of bread and other foods.





ETHIOPIA



People fast from all meat products for Fasika, the 55 days leading up to Easter Sunday in Ethiopia. They break their fast at Easter Supper, a feast even more popular than Christmas dinner there!



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

annamarialthoff@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.