

# ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

April 26, 2026

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

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## 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." John 10:10

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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://teresa.church/lectors)

Email [eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com](mailto:eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com) for more information.

### Eucharistic Ministers

[teresa.church/eucharistic-ministers](http://teresa.church/eucharistic-ministers)

Email [eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com](mailto:eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com) for more information.

### Pastoral Council

[teresa.church/pastoral-council](http://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](http://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](http://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](https://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](https://teresa.church/border-ministry)

Travel to the border to help and understand those seeking asylum.

### Food Pantry

[teresa.church/food-pantry](https://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](https://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](https://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](mailto: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](https://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](https://teresa.church/french-community)

St. Teresa's is home to a wonderful and vibrant French community.

This Sunday's Readings:

**First Reading:** Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38)

**Second Reading:** By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. (1 Pt 2:24-25)

**Gospel:** "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." (Jn 10:10)

Feasts and Saints:

4/28- St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr

4/29- St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

4/30- St. Pius V, Pope

5/1- St. Joseph the Worker

5/2- St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Gospel Meditation: 4th Sunday of Easter:

"I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11

My most boring job was working at an insurance company as a college student. My main task? Filing. Now imagine if I had told my supervisor, "I just want you to know, I'm willing to die for these files." She would have called a psychiatrist – or at least security. There is something absurd in Jesus' words in today's Gospel: "I am the good shepherd... I lay down my life for the sheep." (John 10:11) It sounds noble, until you think about it. No one dies for sheep. Not a hired hand. Not even a good shepherd. Sheep are important, sure, but not worth a human life. And yet, Jesus insists: I will die for them. The crowd understandably responds: "He is out of his mind." C.S. Lewis once said that Jesus does not leave us the option of calling him merely a good teacher. If someone speaks like him, he is either lying, crazy, or telling the truth. John's Gospel won't let us stay sentimental. Jesus means it. He reveals a love that surpasses logic – a love that measures worth not by strength or success, but by the willingness to suffer unto death. The Good Shepherd's madness is mercy. His cross makes no earthly sense and yet it makes divine sense. He lays down his life not for kings or saints but for sheep – for the ordinary, the unworthy, for you and me. Think of someone who may feel unworthy of love. Do something simple and generous for them, not because they deserve it, but because Jesus did the same for you.

– Father John Muir

Financials: February 2026

	FY26	FY25
Basket/Mail In:	6,884	8,324
Give Central:	32,776	34,686
<b>Total:</b>	<b>THIS YEAR</b>	<b>PREVIOUS YEAR</b>
	\$39,660	\$43,010
		(\$3,350)



## St. Catherine of Sienna | April 29

Caterina di Jacopo di Benincasa (Catherine) was the twenty-third or twenty-fourth child born to loving parents in Siena, Italy. As a child, she stood out for her joyful disposition and deep devotion to God. Six-year-old Catherine's vision of Jesus, sitting on a throne, crowned as King, surrounded by Saints Peter, Paul, and John, led her to vow to give her whole life to God. Catherine's parents set aside a basement bedroom that she could use as a place of prayer. Her prayer life increased her virtues. She treated her father as Jesus, her mother as Mary, and her siblings as the Apostles.

As a teenager, Catherine firmly opposed her parents' desire that she marry. She fasted, prayed, and cut her hair short to make herself less attractive. Eventually, her parents accepted her vocation. At age sixteen, Catherine joined the Third Order of Saint Dominic, made up of lay people who wore a religious habit but lived at home, serving the poor and sick and performing charitable works. For several years, Catherine lived in seclusion and prayer. Around age twenty-one, she entered into a "mystical marriage" with our Lord. While Catherine prayed, Jesus appeared to her, along with the Virgin Mary and King David as a harpist. Jesus placed a ring on her finger and departed. The ring remained for the rest of her life, although Catherine was the only one who could see it.

After receiving the gift of spiritual marriage, Catherine began a more active ministry to Siena's poor, sick, and imprisoned. When the bubonic plague struck, Catherine and her companions cared for its victims.

The last years of Catherine's life were spent writing letters, visiting towns that were warring against the papacy, and counseling two popes. She rallied the people, addressed abuses, and gave witness to Christ crucified through her penitential life.

Her last, and greatest, gift to the Church was her book, *The Dialogue of Divine Providence*. Dictated by Catherine while she was in ecstasy, it is a conversation between a soul and the Father in Heaven. In addition, 382 of her letters and twenty-six of her prayers have survived.

## St. Joseph the Worker | May 1

On May 1, 1955, in an address to the Catholic Association of Italian Workers, Pope Pius XII took devotion to Saint Joseph one step further by instituting the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker. May 1 (May Day) was chosen for the feast because socialist countries celebrated "International Workers' Day" on that date. A Catholic feast, honoring the laborer in the person of Saint Joseph, was a fitting way of combating socialist ideology and restoring the dignity of labor to its proper place.

Saint Joseph, God gave you great responsibility in life, which you embraced with loving devotion and hard work. You found dignity in your labors as you sought to fulfill the will of God by caring for your family. Please pray that I will always keep the right priorities in life, never wavering from my duty to labor, and never laboring in vain for selfish profit. I choose you as my model and intercessor this day and always. Saint Joseph, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.



## Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## The Devil's Long Con

The algorithm on my streaming service has been suggesting a lot of romantic scam documentaries lately. If you're not familiar, romantic scams are a particularly cruel form of "the long con."

Some man presents himself to some woman as Prince Charming. He wines her. He dines her. He charms her mom and makes her friends jealous. Little red flags pop up here and there, but she shrugs them all off. She accepts convenient explanations.

She just wants to be happy.

And then one day, Prince Charming vanishes, along with the contents of the woman's savings account. Every victim says the same thing: "I should have known better, but I wanted it to be real."

I think the reason I'm so drawn to these shows is that I identify with these women. No, I've never been the victim of a romantic scam (if my husband married me thinking he would gain access to some kind of fortune, he's the one who got scammed). But we have all told ourselves that something is right because it feels right. We have shrugged off doubts about a choice, a relationship, a habit.

We have accepted easy answers that don't pass the sniff test — because we really, really wanted an answer, and we really, really wanted it to be easy.

The devil is a romantic scammer. A third-party retailer hawking knock-off joy and fulfillment. A wolf in sheep's clothing. A false prophet. A thief, a robber who has climbed the fence, knowing the gate will not admit him.

These are all different ways of saying the same thing: we can recognize what is real by where it comes from. What it sounds like. This ability to discern truth is written into our souls. We can ignore it, if we want. Suppress it. We can follow the stranger.

But where will he lead?

## Stewardship Reflections:

## Recognizing the Voice of Jesus

When my wireless provider introduced HD Voice, the voice I heard on my phone was unbelievably clear, and it felt at times like both the caller and I were in the same room. The best aspect of this feature is that it didn't cost the customer any additional fees, and it didn't require any changes to the phone. I could say it was free, but I suspect I was already paying for it in my monthly bill anyway. At least it felt free.

The clearer the voice calling you, the easier it is to recognize who it is on the other end of the line. In John's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the gatekeeper who opens the gate and calls for his sheep. They respond because they know his voice. Others try to lure the sheep when the gatekeeper is not there, but the sheep find their voices unclear or unfamiliar.

Jesus is our gatekeeper. But unlike receiving something for free from a wireless company, to be able to hear his voice we need to pay attention and practice listening. By developing a stewardship way of life that is mindful and prayerful, we become attuned to his voice and are able to discern when the call is from our Lord and when it is from an imposter. It is great to talk about all the things we can do and all the gifts we can share, but if we are not listening for his call to hear where our offerings are needed, we can end up like a lost sheep searching for the gatekeeper.



### *Heidi Moll Schoedel Open Arms Award*

The LPOT parishes have been selected to receive *The Heidi Moll Schoedel Open Arms Award* in recognition of their faithful service and contributions to Exodus World Service's mission of welcoming and befriending refugees. Presented annually, this award honors outstanding service on behalf of refugees and is named in memory of Exodus World Service's late co-founder and former executive director. Through collecting care packs, mobilizing volunteers, serving at [Heidi's House](#), raising awareness within the Christian community, and more; the LPOT parishes have made a lasting impact as dedicated refugee champions.



*St. Vincent de Paul, St. Josaphat, St. Teresa of Avila, Immaculate Conception and St. Joseph*

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS IS OBSERVED ON GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY.

CLPI

## 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>

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:cgioia@stteresaparish.org)

Thank you



## 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).



## Mass Intentions

10AM- Brian Mangano (D)  
12 PM - Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Living and Deceased  
6PM- 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 5/3 10am- Fr. Frank  
Sunday 5/3 12pm- Fr. Frank  
Sunday 5/3 6pm- Fr. Frank

## Blessing of the Good Shepherd

Dear Jesus,

Be the Good Shepherd in my life.

Help me to know your voice and to respond.

Help me to find your fold and the paths on which you lead.

Bless me with verdant pastures and restful waters.

Refresh my soul. Amen.

## Sunday Funday April 26th:

Today is Pretzel Day

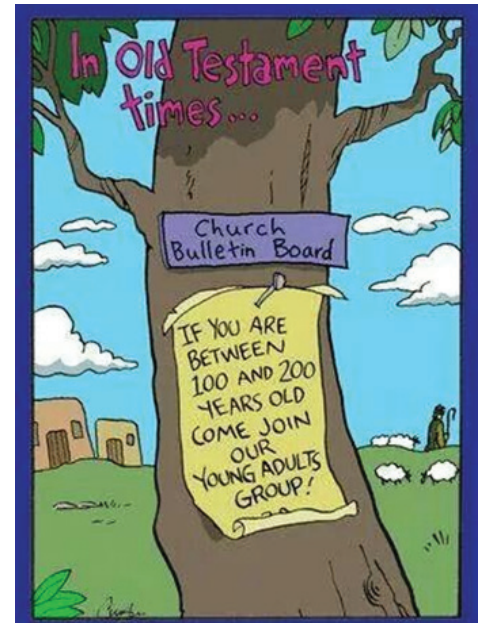
1564- Playwright William Shakespeare was baptized in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, England. People were traditionally baptized three days after birth, this is how we know his birthday was April 23.

1977- Studio 54 opened at 254 West 54th Street in New York City.

2011- The Voice premiered on NBC

“If someone tells you that you cannot do something and you believe it, they are right.” - Carol Burnett

A group of Sardines is called a Family.



MAY

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 1-800-785-4483

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.



Priesthood Sunday:



Devotions, Explained!

Seven Churches Pilgrimage, Explained

The Seven Churches Pilgrimage is the practice of visiting seven different churches on Holy Thursday, in imitation of the journey of Christ on the eve of his crucifixion.

The devotion is thought to have originated in sixteenth-century Rome, where pilgrims — likely led by St. Philip Neri — would visit the seven major basilicas there: St. Peter’s in the Vatican, St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. Mary Major, St. Sebastian Outside the Walls, St. Lawrence Outside the Walls and Santa Croce in Gerusalemme.

Pilgrims undertaking this journey anywhere in the world can visit any seven churches while adoring Christ in the Blessed Sacrament upon the Altar of Repose, fulfilling his request of his disciples to stay with him as he awaited his Passion. There are specific Scripture passages that pilgrims can meditate upon at each altar.

Catholic Trivia:

Question: In religious art, it is common to use a circle of light above Jesus or another holy person’s head to set them apart. What is this “circle of light” called?

Answer: Halo

Catholic Q & A:

Exaltation of the Cross

Question:

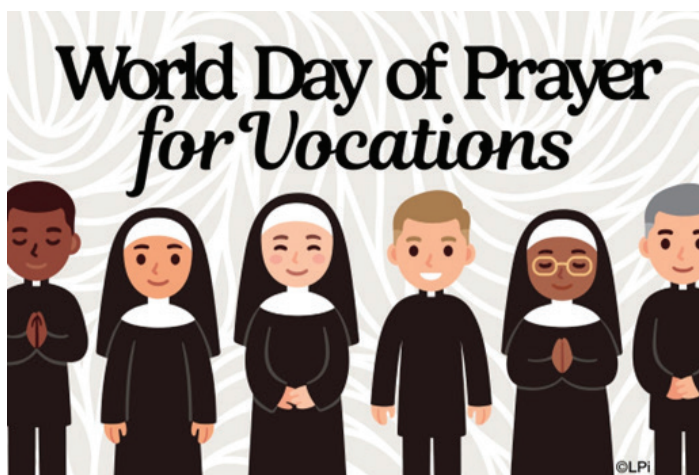
What is the history behind feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross?

Answer:

Emperor Constantine’s mother, Helena, is credited with having discovered the true cross around 330. She traveled to the Holy Land and uncovered the places associated with Jesus’ life. Legend has it that Helena uncovered three crosses but was not able to detect the true cross until each of them was laid on a leper. Only one of them cured the leper, proving it to be the true cross. A great church was built at the site, and soon various portions of the cross were sent to other churches as relics to be venerated.

The day after the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, September 14, 335, the actual cross was displayed for veneration. Egeria, a women traveler to Jerusalem around the year 386, kept a diary that has survived. She tells of the unique veneration of the wood of the cross that took place on Good Friday, something maintained ritually to this very day.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross focuses on the gift of love that Jesus manifested by his total gift of self, offered for all. The cross, the ultimate form of capital punishment in its day, has become for us the ultimate symbol of love and triumph over evil and death.



## Staff

**Fr. Frank Latzko**

Pastor

[frfrankjohn56@gmail.com](mailto:frfrankjohn56@gmail.com)

**Charisse Gioia**

Office Manager/Technology Coordinator/  
Bulletin

[cgioia@stteresaparish.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:cspalla@archicago.org)

**Jason Krumwiede**

Director of Music

[musicalnut1@mac.com](mailto:musicalnut1@mac.com)

## Staff

Housekeeping

**Irma Saavedra**

**Sergio Mora**

Building & Facilities Manager

[smora@stteresaparish.org](mailto:smora@stteresaparish.org)

## Parish Council

**Anna Althoff- President**

[annamariealthoff@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.