

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

May 10, 2026

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

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6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept."
John 14:16-17

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

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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/>.

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: For unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice, came out of many possessed people, and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured. There was great joy in that city. (Acts 8:7-8)

Second Reading: For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. (1 Pt 3:18)

Gospel: "Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him." (Jn 14:21)

Feasts and Saints:

5/12- Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs;

St. Pancras, Martyr

5/13- Our Lady of Fatima

5/14- St. Matthias, Apostle

5/15- St. Isidore



Gospel Meditation: 6th Sunday of Easter:

In my family, we can hardly speak about orphans without tears. My father was adopted as a baby. He frequently told us stories of how his parents welcomed him not just into their home but into their hearts. It was never merely a relocation or a legal transaction. It was the joy of being chosen, of receiving a family, a name, and a place where he belonged forever. Even in his later years, recalling that gift still moves him to tears of tender gratitude.

That is the kind of tenderness behind Jesus' words in today's Gospel: "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you." (John 14:18) He is going away, but not abandoning us. Instead, he sends us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit – his own Spirit, shared with the Father – who dwells in us. Through the Spirit, Christ is present in us, and we are present in him. His Spirit gives us a home and a family.

We deepen this knowledge in the sacraments, in prayer, and in the daily life of the Church. The Spirit is the bond of belonging, the power that makes us God's sons and daughters, not spiritual orphans. And this is not a one-time event. There is always a deeper outpouring of the Spirit available to us, a fresh appropriation of the promise that we are never abandoned.

If only we could be as grateful as my dad is for his adoption, realizing that we have been adopted by God Himself. In Christ, we are never left as orphans.

– Father John Muir

Financials: February 2026

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



From Fr. Frank:

As I said last Sunday, my retirement Mass and Celebration created an experience, a memory, that will stay with me until my last breath. The countless numbers of people who waited so long to wish me well and share a memory of how my ministry inspired them is some way. I just never realized just how many lives have been touched through my ministry.

This experience was absolutely overwhelming for me because I don't give much thought to the ways I have might have made a difference to people, both in times of joy and sadness. I try as best as I can to respond to people in whatever their life experience presents. The power that can happen just in "ordinary" conversations is amazing. Listening with an open ear and an open heart is the greatest gift we can give to each other. I need and want to give more reflection to how I have made a difference for the better.

I thank ALL of you from the depths of my heart for letting me be a pathway to connect you with Christ. At the heart of a priest's life is the people he gathers weekly, and at the great Feasts, around the Eucharist: the sacred meal that roots us in Christ's saving death and Resurrection. As we all emerge from the waters of Baptism, the Spirit leads us on a life long journey of discovering our unique mission, living it out by gathering every week with Christ's people at the Eucharist: being nourished with Food for the journey.

"When the Lord closes a door, somewhere He opens a window," spoken by Maria as she leaves the convent to start a new life, over the mountains. Life presents us with moments of transition when we let go of a particular way of living and pass through a "new door" leading us on a new pathway: falling in love, leaving home for college, marriage, the decision to remain single, children, letting go of a relationship, embracing a new relationship, facing a life changing diagnosis, the death of a loved one, retirement, and finally, aging, as a new life awaits, one with never a goodbye and every tear only in joy.

I leave here slowly walking through the door of retirement with hope and wonderment. I said would never walk the Camino again after the last disastrous one. Christ is having none of it. I'm called to walk again but in a much different spirit: the spirit of gratitude to YOU and all the other beautiful people in five parishes I have served and a high school. I will carry your words written to me on many cards and your prayers to the Cruz de Ferro, a shrine in which cards, mementos, holy cards and stones, symbolizing something we need to let go of, are left. I begin the journey on October 15, the Feast of St. Teresa of Avila.

I hope to re-start my Camino blog in which I will offer brief reflections on the Way. The Camino has been a "door" for me, creating a precious liminal space, meaning those experiences of transition and transformation. Letting go of the old and embracing the new.

This parish, your individual lives, your families have been "doors" leading me into Christ's heart so that I could guide you through the door leading into the heart of the Trinity. You have been a "priest" to me as much as I have hopefully been a priest for you.

And at heart, every priest is a mediator of Christ's love. Thank you for being that to me.

Next Sunday May 17th, 2026

Fr. Peter Wojcik, our new Parish Administrator will be celebrating all the masses to introduce himself to the parish.

All are invited to welcome Fr. Peter!



Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Christ You See

“What if you are the only version of Christ someone sees today?” a friend once asked me.

My blood ran cold. Jeez, I thought. That would be...really unfortunate.

The world cannot accept the Holy Spirit, Christ tells us, because the world cannot see and know the Holy Spirit (John 14:17). But the world can see us. The world can know us. In this way, we accomplish the Great Commission: we go forth, and we make disciples of all nations. In all that we are and all that we do, we offer an explanation for our hope (1 Peter 3:15).

We face a unique situation, 2,000 years after the Resurrection, because our mission field is full of people who have already heard about Christ.

And they have zero interest, thanks-and-please-get-off-my-porch.

This Christ they've seen? He puts himself first. He's suspicious of other people. He's not interested in mixing with the wrong crowd. He's been known to lie, to abuse trust, to protect himself.

Here's the problem: they haven't seen Christ at all. They've only seen Christians.

It's easy to blame the obvious culprits: the priest consumed in public scandal, the parish trustee who stole from the coffers. But these are only larger versions of the same failure of which I am guilty each time I shiver at the thought of someone associating my behavior, my words, and my attitude with my Savior.

I am not Christ. I am nowhere close. But I am fortunate enough to be a member of his Body.

We all fail, of course. Every apostle, every saint, every bishop, every priest, every man and woman in the pews: we are all broken. We are all in need of redemption. When we accept that redemption, however, we also accept responsibility. Because now, we become what the world sees of Christ.

Am I ready to be the only version of Christ someone sees today?

Stewardship Reflections:

Calculating Love

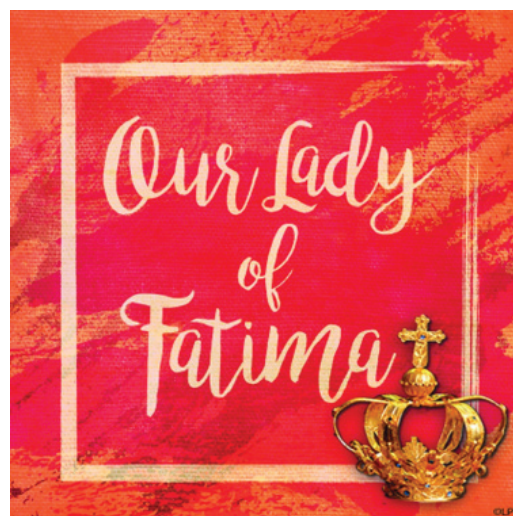
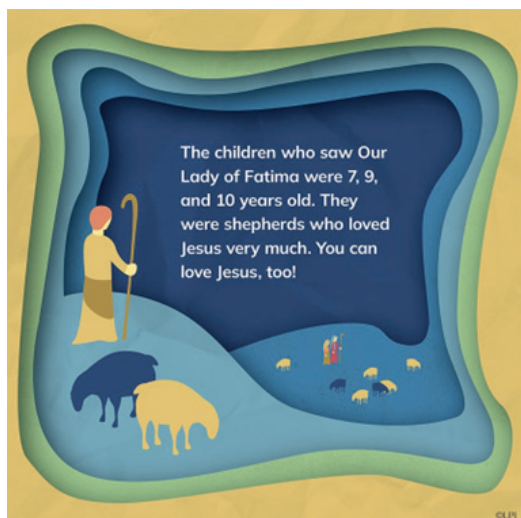
Have you ever Googled the word “love”? If you did, you may have come across something called the Love Calculator. It is a website where you can supply two names, and the percentage chance of a successful relationship is calculated. Curious, I entered my name and my wife's. Twenty percent! I hope my wife doesn't read this!

I then decided to add my name and God. A whopping thirteen percent! Then for the last attempt, I put in my name and Jesus. A very disappointing zero percent! Am I that unlovable? Of course, then I read the small print at the bottom of the page: “Please note that this site has no serious intention whatsoever.” Shocking!

The truth is, the modern world increasingly seems to have no real idea what love is or how to determine when love is real. That makes the seemingly simple words of Jesus about loving God and your neighbor very complex indeed. How can you love God with your all your heart, soul, and mind when you have no idea what the act of loving means? And then, what constitutes loving a neighbor? To make it more complicated, Jesus commands you to love them like you love yourself. I bet you can agree with me that there are a lot of people out there who do not even come close to loving themselves. Knowing what love is in modern times is just not that easy. How is a well-meaning person able to find out the true meaning of love?

You don't know what true love is? I think you do. Turn your eyes to that crucifix hanging in your church, home, or office. The answer was given over 2,000 years ago, and the image remains for the entire world to see.





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

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



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.



Mass Intentions

10AM- Stephanie Lucas (D)
 12 PM - Estella Montes (D); Concepcion Ramirez (D); Martha Montes (D) and Angeles Montes (D)
 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 5/17 10am- Fr. Peter Wojcik
 Sunday 5/17 12pm- Fr. Peter Wojcik
 Sunday 5/17 6pm- Fr. Peter Wojcik

Blessing for Mother's Day



Dear Lord,

Pour your goodness and grace upon the women of our community today in a special way. For mothers: fill them with joy and blessing. For those who have lost children: hold them in their sorrow. For those who have hoped for children: surround them with Your love. For those who have lost a mother: may they know Your comfort. For those carrying difficulty on this day: bring them consolation.

Bless all women this day. Thank you for the love they bring to this world, no matter their circumstances or story. Amen.

Sunday Funday May 10th:

Today is Clean Up Your Room Day and Shrimp Day

1503- Columbus stumbled across the Cayman Islands and dubbed them Las Tortugas, after the numerous sea turtles.

1849- A riot ensued at the Astor Opera House in Manhattan, New York City over a dispute between actors Edwin Forrest and William Charles Macready, killing at least 22 and injuring over 120

1975- Sony's Betamax, the first home videocassette recorder, went on sale in Japan

2013- One World Trade Center became the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere, at 1,776 feet.



Happy Mother's Day!



We ask Mary to intercede for all mothers in our community, and for those who want to be mothers, too.

©LPI

Lincoln Park Mayfest is Next Weekend!

Friday, May 15, 2026 | 4pm to 10pm

Saturday, May 16, 2026 | 12pm to 10pm

Sunday, May 17, 2026 | 12pm to 9pm

*The parish parking lot will be accessible through the alley



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

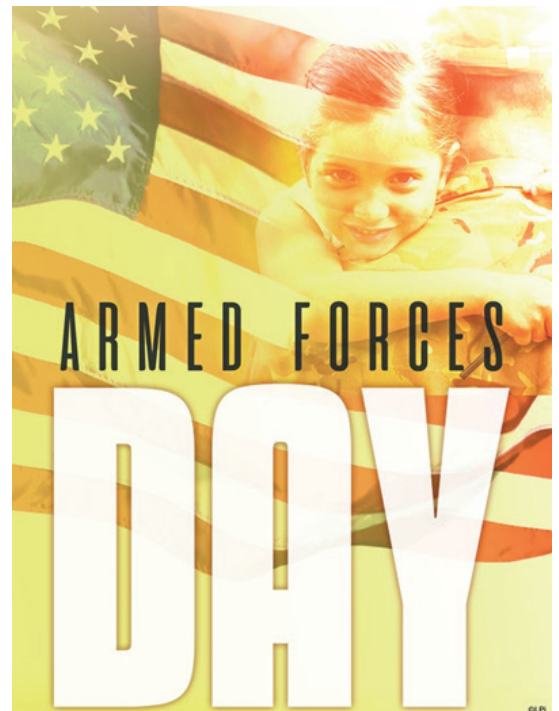
St. Teresa of Avila Church
Blood Drive

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.



Devotions, Explained!

Sprinkling Rite, Explained

The rite of sprinkling, also called the Asperges rite, describes the act of sprinkling the congregation with holy water, an action which recalls the new life we received in the waters of our baptism.

If this rite is performed during Mass, it takes the place of the penitential act.

The sprinkling rite usually takes place on Sundays during the Easter season but is permitted on any Sunday. When it is completed, the congregation sings the Gloria.

The name “asperges” comes from the first line of Psalm 51, a penitential psalm that begins with the words “Have mercy on me.” In the Extraordinary Form of the Mass, the Asperges rite is done before each principal Mass, except on Palm Sunday.

The tool used by the priest to sprinkle the congregation is called the aspergillum, and the bucket containing the water is called the aspersorium.

Catholic Trivia:

Question: What is required by Canon Law to be enclosed in every Catholic chapel and church?

Answer: A relic.

Catholic Q & A:

Body and Blood of Christ

Question:

One of my coworkers said that Catholics believe we kill Christ again when we celebrate the Mass since it is his sacrifice. I know that is not right, but how do we explain it?

Answer:

We do indeed believe that the Mass is the unbloody sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and we believe that the sacrifice is made present again on the altar—not to repeat it, but to join ourselves to it. We are joined to the saving work of Christ, not just simply remembering it.

The closest thing we might have in our culture is when a couple saves some wedding cake in the freezer, and on their first anniversary they may watch their wedding video and eat the cake, all to recapture the moment. The Jews celebrate a Seder meal, not to remember the Passover, but to participate in it through the ritual foods, questions, and readings. The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes the Mass as the “Holy Sacrifice, because it makes present the one sacrifice of Christ” (#1330). To think that we must sacrifice Christ over and over again would negate what he did on Calvary. To celebrate and renew it each day allows us to participate in it. That is the “source and summit” of Christian life (#1324).



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.