

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

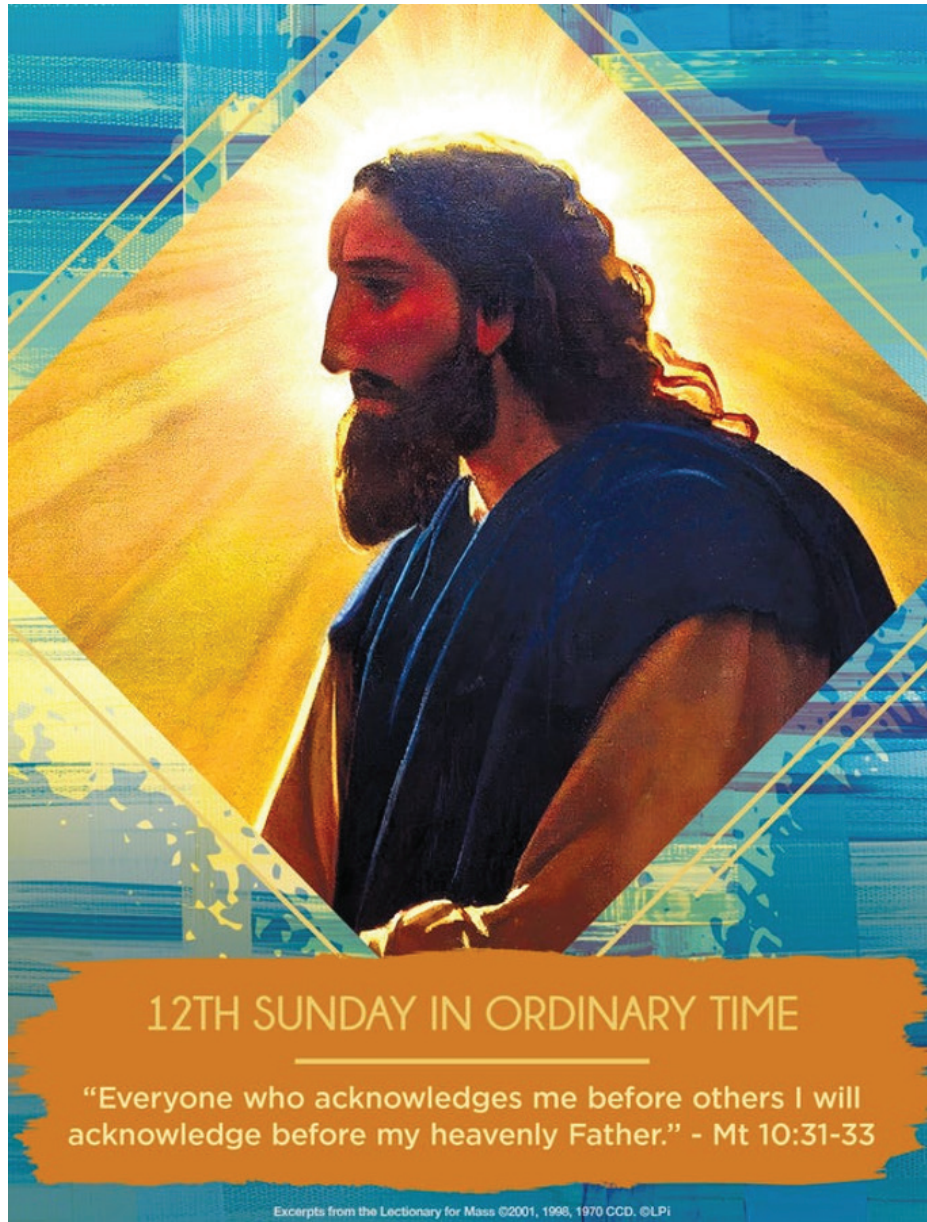
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

June 21, 2026

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

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Pastor

Reverend Frank John Latzko

Address

1037 W. Armitage Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60614

773-528-6650

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 6 PM French Mass

Sunday 10 AM, 12 PM, 6 PM

Daily Mass Schedule

Wednesday - 8:00AM

Baptism, Reconciliation, Anointing

Please call the office to arrange or email
cgioia@stteraparish.org

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays- 6 PM to 7:30 PM

Office Hours

Weekdays: 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

www.teresa.church

Welcome

“St. Teresa of Avila Parish is an engaged community rooted in the beauty of the Eucharist and our Catholic faith. We want to make a difference in the lives of the people, especially those who are searching to discover how much God loves them and is calling them to join in the Mission of Christ to live His Gospel. We do so by welcoming people of all backgrounds and cultures in our parish, respecting their desires and questions, crossing borders and learning from those we encounter. You are welcomed to join in the Mission of building bridges and sharing the Good News of Christ.”

Community Ministries

If you want to serve the St. Teresa’s community in our liturgies or our planning, there are many opportunities for you!

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

teresa.church/rcia

If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church, or helping those through that process as a companion.

Lectors

teresa.church/lectors

Email eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com for more information.

Eucharistic Ministers

teresa.church/eucharistic-ministers

Email eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com for more information.

Pastoral Council

teresa.church/pastoral-council

Represent the parish and help advise the pastor in our mission and vision for our community.

Finance Council

teresa.church/finance-council

Reviews financial documents and position of the parish and advise pastor and business manager on financial decisions.



Are you interested in making St. Teresa’s your spiritual home? Or just want to learn more about our community? Fill out the below form and drop it in the collection basket or join online at teresa.church/join.

Name	
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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.

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: "Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD, for he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!" (Jer 20:13)

Second Reading: But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many. (Rom 5:15)

Gospel: "What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light; what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops." (Mt 10:27)

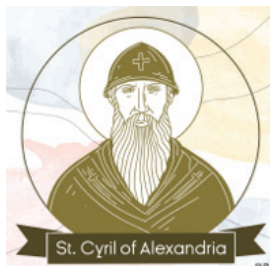
Feasts and Saints:

6/21- Father's Day

6/22- St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Sts. John Fisher, Bishop and St. Thomas More, Martyrs

6/24- The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

6/27- St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church



Gospel Meditation: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jean Améry, a Holocaust survivor tortured by the Nazis, later wrote about the abyss of human evil. He described his reaction as an "indignant despair." Haven't we all, to some degree, felt that abyss opened beneath us? A sudden loss, a violent headline, a moment of loneliness or panic, when the world feels fragile and meaning seems to collapse?

It is to this fear that Jesus speaks in today's Gospel: "Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body." (Matthew 10:28) He does not deny evil or pretend we will never suffer. Instead, He reframes the abyss: do not fear those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Your life is seen, known, and counted by the Father. Even the hairs of your head, even the sparrow's fall.

This is no superficial comfort. Jesus himself has entered the abyss: suffering, death, even our sense of forsakenness, and he has come through it. That is why his words, "Do not be afraid," hold such weight. They do not erase the abyss but build a bridge across it.

Faith is not pretending everything is fine. It is staring into the abyss and still choosing trust. And in that trust, we discover we are never alone. Christ stands with us, and the Father's care surrounds us. That is the only comfort deep enough for our (often fearful) hearts.

— Father John Muir

Financials: April 2026

	FY26	FY25
Basket/Mail In:	22,930	12,585
Give Central:	37,170	37,150
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$60,100	\$49,735
	\$10,365	



Saints John Fisher, Bishop and Martyr and Thomas More, Martyr | June 22

John Fisher was born in Beverley, Yorkshire, England, in 1469. After studying theology at the University of Cambridge, Fisher was ordained a priest at age twenty-two. At Cambridge, he fulfilled roles as a chaplain, professor, and eventually Vice-Chancellor and Chancellor. In 1504, he was ordained a bishop and appointed to the Diocese of Rochester where he became renowned for his preaching, pastoral care, and adherence to orthodox faith.

Born in London in 1478, Thomas More's intelligence led to a career in law that he combined with a strong faith. He worked in Parliament and as undersheriff of London. When his wife died, he married Alice Middleton who helped him care for his four children. Over the next twenty-one years, Thomas' faith, family, and career thrived. In 1529, he became the first layman to hold the post of Lord Chancellor, the top legal position in England. After three years, he resigned, citing reasons of health, but his real reason was his opposition to Henry VIII's actions regarding the Catholic Church.

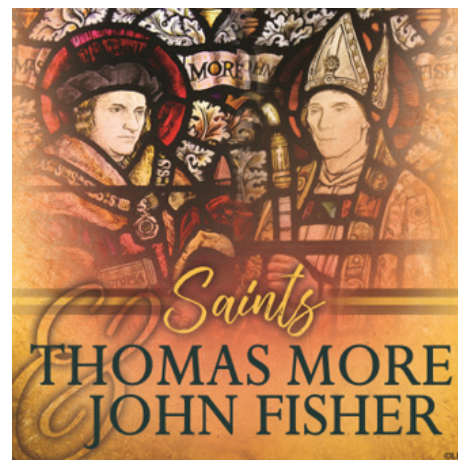
Henry VIII sought an annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon, contending it was invalid because Catherine had consummated her five-month marriage to Henry's late brother Arthur, a charge Catherine denied. Henry cited his lack of a male heir as a sign of divine displeasure. The pope rejected Henry's request, provoking Henry's anger and intensifying conflicts between him and the pope, along with those who opposed Henry among the clergy and civil servants.

In 1532, King Henry appointed as Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas Cranmer, who sympathized with those who sought reform of the English Church and separation from Rome. Cranmer declared Henry's first marriage null and void and validated his subsequent marriage to Anne Boleyn in 1533. In 1534, with the backing of Parliament, King Henry VIII proclaimed himself the head of the Church in England, effectively severing ties with the pope and the Roman Catholic Church.

Bishop John Fisher stated that he was willing to die, as Saint John the Baptist did, for the defense of marriage. Outraged, the king had Bishop Fisher arrested before he could publicly oppose the new queen's coronation. Initially released, he was arrested again on April 26, 1534, and remained in prison under harsh conditions until his death about fourteen months later. Eventually, Fisher was tricked into confessing his opposition to the king, which led to his beheading.

Thomas More also refused to support the king's claim that he was the head of the Church of England and refused to support Anne Boleyn's coronation. After refusing to attend the coronation, More was arrested and tried for treason. Found guilty, he was executed two weeks after Fisher. More's head replaced Fisher's on London Bridge after his execution.

Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, your fidelity to the truth and your courage left a shining example for all. Though your deaths appeared to be defeats at the time, your love of God and love for the king who killed you live on. Please pray that I will imitate your courage and fidelity to Christ in every way that I am called, for the glory of God and the salvation of others. Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.



Gospel Reflections:

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Fear No One

In the 1883 painting “Mass in a Connemara Cabin,” a small congregation of shabbily dressed faithful is huddled together in a sparsely appointed room. A priest extends his hand over them in blessing. One woman presses her forehead to the ground in prayer.

This painting, created in 1883 by Aloysius O’Kelley, depicts a “station Mass,” offered for the community in a private home. Though this practice originated in the period of the Penal Laws, when Catholic worship was illegal in Ireland, it persisted even after the “emancipation” of Catholics in the 19th century.

I have used quotation marks around the word “emancipation” because we must never forget that just because something is made legal does not mean it is made popular. And it certainly is not made safe.

In the moments that pass immediately after this scene concludes, the altar candles will be extinguished and the faithful will disperse, carrying the Body and Blood of Christ into a world suspicious of him, suspicious of them.

And yet here they are, kneeling. Foreheads pressed to the floor.

This painting sits on my family’s prayer table as a call to reflection. I make my living writing Catholic things for Catholic publications. The people who read what I write are bound to agree with me – they’re usually reading my words in a church. I must confess that in my personal life, I am far less bold. I fear controversy. I dread giving offense. I buckle beneath the weight of discipleship.

It doesn’t matter that most Americans identify as “Christians” – the world we face when we leave Mass is every bit as resentful of true Catholic teaching as the world that lies beyond O’Kelley’s Connemara cottage. And while I do not fear those who can kill my body, I do fear those who can kill my reputation.

“Mass in a Connemara Cabin” illustrates how my ancestors worshiped: in secret, in shadow.

I worship in the daylight.

Which of us acknowledges Christ more fully? More courageously?

Stewardship Reflections:

Will You Say Yes?

You find yourself in the difficult situation of being accused of blasphemy and confronting possible execution. Your crime is believing in Jesus Christ. The question is then asked of you, “Are you a Christian, a follower of the one named Jesus Christ?” Your answer may very well dictate what happens to you next. What is your answer?

It is probably easier to answer this question when the scenario is make-believe. All of us want to believe that we would say yes to the question of belief in Jesus, but strange things happen when humans panic in the face of extreme stress. As we reflect on what we would say, there are those all over the world who are being asked that very same question. It is a question that was asked of many in the first centuries of the Church. Those who respond “yes” are considered martyrs and saints.

We might not usually think of all this in terms of good stewardship living. However, our faith is also a gift we have received from God to cultivate, grow, and share with others. The more interesting question than the one posed above is, “Would an accuser even think of asking you such a question?” Would you have cultivated, grown, and shared your faith enough that anyone would even consider you worthy of asking the question? They might assume you don’t know Jesus Christ at all. I don’t like conflict and do not seek out conflict, but I would rather someone ask the first question posed than assume there is no reason to confront me in the first place.



The Nativity of St. John the Baptist | June 24

When Elizabeth conceived John the Baptist, she and her husband, Zechariah, “were advanced in years” .

The angel Gabriel announced the child’s birth to Zechariah when his priestly clan chose him by lot to enter the Temple sanctuary to burn incense to the Lord. Zechariah was told that his wife would conceive and bear a son who would “ be great in the sight of the Lord...be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother’s womb...turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord...will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah...turn the hearts of fathers toward children...to prepare a people fit for the Lord” . The announcement was joyous beyond belief. After the sorrow of having no children, Zechariah would have a child “great in the sight of the Lord.” Disbelieving the angel, Zechariah was struck mute until John was born.

That same Archangel, Gabriel, appeared to Mary to announce that she would conceive the Savior of the World by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit. Gabriel then told her, “And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God” (Luke 1:36–37). In the Father’s plan of salvation, John’s mission was intimately connected to that of Jesus. When Mary traveled in haste to her cousin Elizabeth to help her in the final months of her pregnancy, the unborn infant, John, leaped for joy in Elizabeth’s womb at the sound of Mary’s greeting. Saint Thomas Aquinas teaches that John was sanctified in the womb at that moment, meaning he was freed from sin and prepared for his sacred mission of preparing the way for Jesus’ ministry. Saint Thomas even speculates about that moment of sanctification as follows: “Perhaps also in this child the use of reason and will was so far accelerated that while in his mother’s womb he was able to acknowledge, believe, and consent, whereas in other children we have to wait for these things till they grow older: this again I count as a miraculous result of the divine power” .

John’s birth was surrounded by mystery, amazement, awe, and intrigue. St. Luke records the reaction to his birth as, “Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, ‘What, then, will this child be?’ For surely the hand of the Lord was with him” .

Other than the Solemnity of the Birth of Christ (Christmas), the Church honors only Saint John with a solemnity on his birth. While our Blessed Mother’s Immaculate Conception is commemorated with a solemnity, her birth is celebrated with a feast. It is a great honor, indeed, to honor this unique man’s birth with the highest rank of celebration within our Church.

Saint John the Baptist, you were conceived by God’s special grace and given to parents who were barren and advanced in years. Through your conception and birth, God spoke to the world that He can do anything He so chooses and bring forth His saving grace whenever He wills. Please pray that I will more fully understand the role you played in salvation history and be more open to all that God has revealed to the world through your holy life. Saint John the Baptist, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.



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 please sign up on the board in the Parish Center.

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

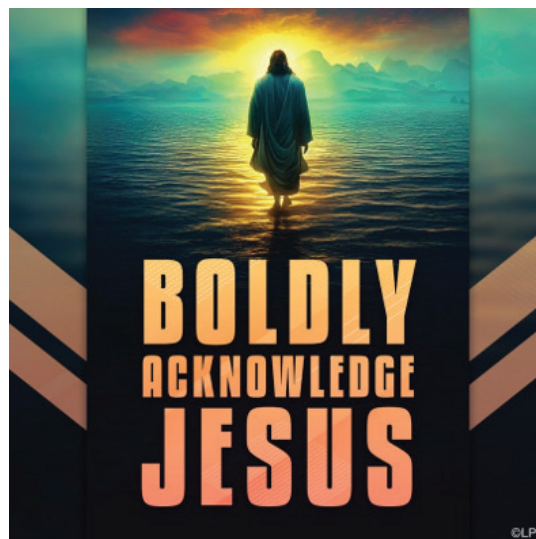
Thank you



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- Carlos Ayala (D)
12 PM - Kenneth Jaszczor (D) and Albert Gannon (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 6/28 10am- Fr. Frank
Sunday 6/28 12pm- Fr. Udovic
Sunday 6/28 6pm- Fr. Frank

Blessing for the Summer

Praise God!

Pour Your mercy upon this season, Lord! As the days fill with sun, fill our hearts with the fire of Your love. As we gather to share story and song, campfires and connection, be with us. Bless our work, our rest, and our play in Your goodness.

Amen.



Sunday Funday Father's Day

Today is Father's Day

Question: Which U.S. president fathered the most children?

Answer: John Tyler, who had 15 children

Question: What kind of fish are father-and-son duo Nemo and Marlon from Finding Nemo?

Answer: Clownfish

Question: What are the names of Prince William's children?

Answer: Louis, Charlotte, and George

Question: What political office does Yellowstone's John Dutton hold?

Answer: Governor of Montana



Happy Father's Day!

FUN FACT! Let's thank God for the fathers and father figures who care for their families and help build loving homes. St. Joseph, pray for us, and especially for our fathers!



Father's Day Prayer

God our Father,
you govern and protect your people
and shepherd them with a father's love.
You place a father in a family
as a sign of your love, care,
and constant protection.

May fathers everywhere be faithful
to the example shown in the Scriptures:
steadfast in love, forgiving
transgressions, sustaining the family,
caring for those in need.

Give your wisdom to fathers
that they may encourage and
guide their children.
Keep them healthy
so they may support a family.

Guide every father
with the Spirit of your love
that they may grow in holiness
and draw their family ever closer to you.
Amen

Author Unknown



Virtues, Explained!

Affability, Explained!

There was a certain sister in the Carmelite convent who particularly tried the patience of St. Therese of Lisieux.

But instead of avoiding this person, St. Therese instead made a point of smiling at her whenever the two met.

“Charity must not consist in feelings, but in works,” wrote St. Therese. “I set myself to doing for this Sister what I would do for the person I loved the most.” In doing so, she learned to see “Jesus hidden in the depths” of this woman’s soul.

St. Therese was growing in the virtue of affability when she did this. Affability is attached to justice, writes St. Thomas Aquinas, and demands “that we behave pleasantly to those among whom we dwell.” (Sum., II:II, 114, Art. 2)

In being affable, we make ourselves friendly, approachable, and agreeable to those around us, regardless of how they make us feel. “How good and how pleasant it is when brothers dwell together as one,” writes King David in Psalm 133.

Catholic Trivia:

Question: Absolution, penance, and confession all refer to which Sacrament?

Answer: The Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Catholic Q & A:

Priestly Ordination of Men

Question:

Why are only men allowed to be priests or deacons in the Church?

Answer:

One of the most debated and – in some circles – contentious teachings of the Church is that only men can be ordained as priests and deacons. Critics see it as a way of strengthening a patriarchal system in which women have little or no voice. Those who support this teaching look to New Testament teaching (where we read of Jesus choosing only men to be apostles) and the long-standing practice of the Church. This was certainly the perspective of St. John Paul II who, in his 1994 apostolic letter, *Ordinatio Sacerdotalis*, closed the discussion on the possibility of ordaining women as priests.

In the letter, he reflected on the dignity of women and their call to share in the life and mission of the Church, but he concluded by solemnly declaring that “the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgement is to be definitely held by all the Church’s faithful” (no. 4).

This position has been upheld by Pope Francis in interviews, most notably as he returned from his 2016 visit to Sweden.

The ordination of women to the diaconate is another question and one which is being studied. In 2016, Pope Francis created a 12-member commission to study the question from several perspectives (theological, liturgical, historical, etc.). The commission issued an initial report for Pope Francis who later said that the commission had not yet produced a “definite response” to the question because of a lack of agreement on the role of female deacons in the Early Church.

For now, however, regardless of what changes might come from ongoing study and debate, the Church continues to reserve ordination to the diaconate to men only, recognizing a vital link between the diaconate and the priesthood and the lack of certainty about the presence and function of female deacons throughout history.



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.

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

Housekeeping

Irma Saavedra

Sergio Mora

Building & Facilities Manager

smora@stteresaparish.org

Parish Council

Anna Althoff- President

annamariemothoff@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.