

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST 1889

October 11, 2026

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

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Pastor

Reverend Peter Wojcik

Associate Pastor

Fr. Radley Alcantara

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

Tuesday - 6:00PM

Wednesday - 8:00AM

Baptism, Reconciliation, Anointing

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

Eucharistic Adoration and Confession

Tuesdays- 6:30-7:30pm

Office Hours

Weekdays: 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

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.

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, Confirmation Preparation, 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: The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face. (Is 25:8)

Second Reading: I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need. I can do all things in him who strengthens me. (Phil 4:12-13)

Gospel: “Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find.” (Mt 22:9)

Feasts and Saints:

10/12- Columbus Day

10/14- St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr

10/15- St. Teresa of Avila, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

10/16- St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

10/17-St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr



The Parish Office will be closed Monday October 12th

Gospel Meditation: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Some friends invited me to one of the most famous and expensive restaurants in the country. I was grateful and eager to go. One invited friend even flew from another state for the experience. Every bite and sip was truly memorable and delicious. But my friends’ teenage children spent much of the time on their phones, complained about the food, and generally ignored the once-in-a-lifetime experience. I wanted to yell, “C’mon, you guys! Look what you’re missing!”

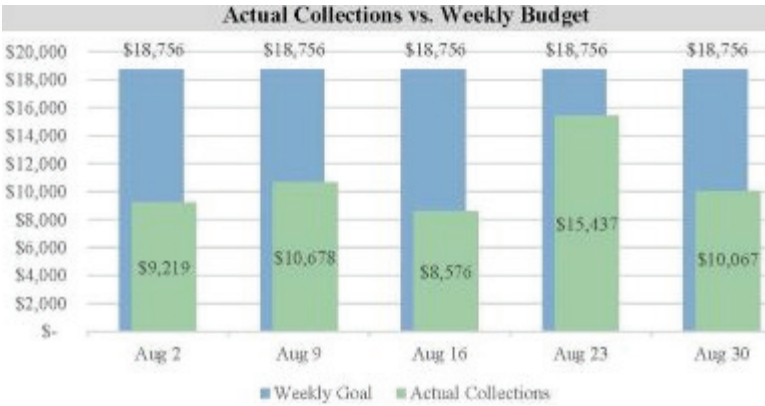
In today’s parable, Jesus describes people invited to an amazing wedding feast who respond with inexplicable indifference. He says, “Some ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business” (Matthew 22:5). The problem is not that they choose evil but that they allow other desires to distract them from an amazing opportunity. The feast is prepared, but their hearts are elsewhere. In Christ Jesus, God offers each of us a wildly extravagant offer: a place at the wedding banquet between heaven and earth.

What are your current excuses for the delay in engaging with Jesus? How are you postponing a deepening of your relationship with him under the guise of responsibility? The good news is that the feast is ready. His invitation remains. Hear the Lord say to us, “C’mon, guys! Look what you’re missing!” Then respond with concrete action.

— Father John Muir

Financials: August 2026

	FY26	FY25
Basket/Mail In:	17,878	15,384
Give Central:	31,257	33,899
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	\$49,135	\$49,283
		\$(148)



From Fr. Peter:

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Feast of Saint Teresa of Avila

Her Legacy Is Ours to Carry

Dear Friends,

Happy Feast Day, Saint Teresa! Whether you have been part of this parish for fifty years or this is your first Sunday, welcome home.

Please stay for the reception after Mass.

I have been getting to know our patron better since I arrived, and I will admit she is not an easy saint to put in a box. Teresa lived in sixteenth-century Spain, in a Church that was divided, anxious, and in real need of reform. She was often ill. She was frequently misunderstood, sometimes by the very people who were supposed to support her. And yet she traveled across Spain in rough carts on bad roads, founded convent after convent, reformed the Carmelite order, and wrote some of the most beautiful pages on prayer the Church has ever received. In 1970, she became the first woman named a Doctor of the Church.

What strikes me most is where her strength came from. Teresa described prayer as time spent with a friend who we know loves us. She did not reform anything by being clever or forceful. She went deep into friendship with Christ first, and everything else came out of that. That is exactly why she matters for us now. We also live in anxious and divided times. The temptation is to respond with more noise and more activity. Teresa shows us another way: stay close to Jesus, and then go out and do what he asks, even when the road is rough.

Her famous prayer still says it best.

Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things are passing, God alone never changes.

So how do we carry her legacy? When I look around this parish, I see it happening already, especially in the dedication of our staff and our leaders. I see it in our catechists, who give their Sunday mornings to children learning who Jesus is. I see it in our liturgical ministers, who make sure that every Mass is prayed with beauty and care.

I see it in our ministers of care, who bring Communion and a familiar face to people who can no longer come to us. And I see it in the team who feed the hungry here every Friday and Saturday, week after week, whether anyone notices or not. That is a Church on mission. Teresa would recognize it immediately.

I especially want to congratulate Barb McHugh, our Director of Children and Youth Formation, who has received the Christifideles Award from Cardinal Cupich. The award honors men and women across the Archdiocese of Chicago for generous service that flows from their baptism, and I cannot think of anyone who fits that description better. Since July, Barb has been one of my best teachers about this parish. For more than twenty years, she has been forming our children in the faith with competence, patience, and deep love, and many of the young people she taught are now adults who still carry what she gave them.

Barb, thank you. We are so proud of you. At the 10:00 a.m. Mass today we will bless you and give thanks for your ministry.

If you want to step further into Teresa's legacy, the next step is right in front of you. Our Life Groups kick off next Sunday, October 18, with lunch after the 12:00 p.m. Mass. Whether you are beginning with a Koinonia group or joining us for the new journey through Pope Leo's encyclical, this is where friendship with Christ becomes friendship with one another. Please register on our website.

Finally, Together in Joy is just around the corner, on Saturday, November 14 at Sarabande Chicago. I have come to see it as a feast day of its own, one more chance to celebrate who we are as a community. But there is also another critical element to this celebration. Last year Together in Joy brought in an amount equal to about a third of our entire Sunday collection. This parish could not do what it does without that evening. So please register at www.teresa.church.org, consider supporting it, and above all invite others. Bring a neighbor, a colleague, a friend who has never set foot in Saint Teresa. That is often how people find their way to us. In today's Gospel the king sends his servants out to the main roads with one instruction: invite everyone you find.

On our feast day, that is our instruction too.

With joy on our feast, and gratitude for all of you,

Fr. Peter

Congratulations Barb!



Life Groups

Including St. Teresa's Koinonia Faith Sharing Group

Kick-off event on Sunday, October 18, 1:15 pm, following the Noon Mass at St. Teresa.

We will begin with a meet-and-greet dinner and presentation, followed by individual groups meeting to identify their

Please register to participate in a Life Group and our Kick-off event at teresa.church and plan to join us for the October 18 Kick-off.

a lincoln park halloween hang

boos & bingo

COMMUNITY NIGHT

thursday, oct 29
6:30 – 8:30 pm

BRING YOUR FAV DESSERT

COSTUMES ENCOURAGED

competitive bingo energy also encouraged.

ALL ARE WELCOME

ST. TERESA OF AVILA



TOGETHER IN JOY

MASQUERADE GALA

AN EVENING OF ELEGANCE, MYSTERY, & GENEROSITY

DATE

SATURDAY, NOV. 14, 2026
6:00 PM

LOCATION

SARABANDE CHICAGO
2726 W ROSCOE ST

LEARN MORE



TOGETHERINJOY.COM

ARE YOU CALLED TO GIVE?

We're seeking sponsors, auction treasures, and unique experiences to
make this night unforgettable.

ST. TERESA^{OF} ÁVILA
A Together in Joy Event

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



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).



Mass Intentions

10AM- Dolores Gannon (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 perpetratorsof sexual abuse.



Sunday Funday October 11:

Today is *It's My Party Day* and *Sausage Pizza Day*

1962- Pope John XXIII convened the Second Vatican Council, changing several rules, including saying The mass in the local languages and having the celebrant face the congregation.

1984- Astronaut Kathryn D. Sullivan became the first American woman to perform a spacewalk on the Space Shuttle Challenger.

Leo the Lion is the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM) Mascot.

The North Star is the 49th brightest star in the sky.



Mass Schedule

Sunday 10/18 10am- Fr. Radley Alcantara

Sunday 10/18 12pm- Fr. Radley Alcantara

Sunday 10/18 6pm- Fr. Ed Udovic

Blessing for Our Common Home

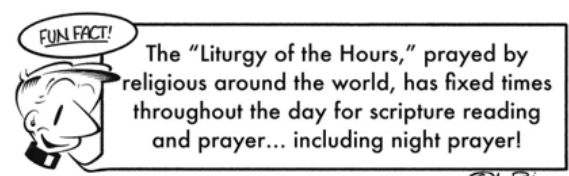
God, bless and protect this beautiful earth You have created, the place we call home.

Grow Your compassion in us, as we share our lives in this world, together.

Amen.



"I'd have to say my favorite prayer is **night prayer**."





The Pathway of Christian Initiation (OCIA)

Before the followers of Jesus were called “Christian,” they were known as people of “The Way.”

They saw themselves as the new Exodus, a people redeemed and freed by the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross, confirmed by his resurrection from the dead. In John’s gospel Jesus declares “I am the way, the truth and the life,” leading to communion with God the Father. The early followers were on a journey of living out the teachings of Jesus, focusing on love of God and love of neighbor in their daily lives, and within their communities. Some were literally on “the way,” traveling to preach the good news to other towns and cities across the Mediterranean and beyond. Our Christian identity impels us to share this Good News of our salvation, so that others might share in Jesus’ life and share it to the full. We sometimes receive questions about our OCIA “classes.” I prefer to refer to OCIA as a process. The process of Christian Initiation (OCIA) offers us a pathway (another word for being people of “The Way”) to creating and sustaining a relationship with Jesus built on prayer, familiarity with the Scriptures and service of those in need, which is grounded in a faith community nourished by weekly Eucharist. Our mission is to grow the Kingdom of God. We celebrate this Kingdom at Mass and are dismissed to take this Good News out the door into the world. Our Fall 2026 – Spring 2027 OCIA pathway begins in mid-November. We host two cohorts. The Thursday cohort will begin November 12, at St. Teresa of Avila, 1950 N. Kenmore at Armitage, just west of the Brown Line. The Monday cohort begins November 16, at St. Clement, 642 W. Deming Place. You may choose either day or indicate that you are flexible for either day. We meet from 7 - 8:30 pm with time off for holidays. Our sessions include Catholic content, discussion, Scripture reflection and prayer. Sacraments will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil on March 27, 2027. For those who have already registered, please be patient as Victor Lara and I reach out to schedule a time to meet with you, hear more about your spiritual journey and offer you our learning resources.

Register at clement.org

Fr. Radley Alcantara and Ed Harasim, OCIA Coordinator,
eharasim@clement.org

St Teresa of Avila | October 15

St. Teresa of Ávila (1515-1582) was a Spanish Carmelite nun who lived in the 16th century. She was a mystic and author of spiritual writings and poems. The originator of the Carmelite Reform, she founded numerous convents throughout Spain and restored the order’s contemplative life. She became well known for the mystical experiences, many of which she described in her autobiography.

The first of only four women to be named a Doctor of the Church, St. Teresa’s ascetic doctrine and Carmelite reforms shaped Roman Catholic contemplative life, and her writings on the Christian soul’s journey to God are considered works of art. Her writings, especially the “Way of Perfection” and “The Interior Castle,” have helped generations of believers.

St. Teresa of Avila died on Oct. 15, 1582. She was canonized on March 22, 1622, along with three of her greatest contemporaries: St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis Xavier, and St. Philip Neri.

St. Teresa of Ávila, pray for us!



Fall 2026 - Hard Calls: Faith, Judgment, and Work in the Age of AI

October 14 · Tom Raterman Vice Chairman, Runway Growth Capital, and Saint Clement parishioner The Wisdom to Build: Discernment in the Age of AI Saint Clement, Courtyard

October 21 · Matthew Harvey Sanders CEO of Longbeard, founder of Magisterium AI What Will You Build? Work, Calling, and Creativity in the Age of AI St. Teresa of Avila

October 28 · Cardinal Blase J. Cupich Archbishop of Chicago Finding Our Christian Voice in a World of AI St. Teresa of Avila

Reserve your spot today at www.clement.org



Monday, October 19, 2026 | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

St. Teresa of Avila Parish
950 North Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, IL 60614

This training is open to all who are a part of a Parish Bereavement Ministry Team looking for a refresher, or those who are new to Bereavement Ministry or Grief Ministry.

SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m.	Hospitality
10 a.m.	Program
	- The Christian Bereavement Journey Accompaniment
	- Planning the Funeral: Guidelines for the Mass of Christian Burial
	- Meeting with the Family: Accompanying the Grieving on their Journey
	- Grief Groups: Continued Accompaniment for those who are grieving
12 p.m.	Closing

To register, click [here](#) or scan the QR code.

For more information, please contact Cathy Walz at cwalz@archchicago.org or 312.343.5703





ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

BLOOD DRIVE

DONATE BLOOD

Sunday
October
25
7:30am-2:00pm

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

QUESTIONS? CALL
1-800-786-4483

St. Teresa of Avila Blood Drive
1950 N. KENMORE AVE CHICAGO, IL 60614
@ The Parish Center

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED, call 1-800-786-4483, or scan the QR code below or visit <https://tinyurl.com/rhya52u6>

One Pint can help save up to 3 lives! Your simple act of kindness could make a life-changing difference for patients in need.



GROWING IN *grace*
community of faith for 55+



MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

Pope Leo XIV's encyclical letter on safeguarding the human person in the age of artificial intelligence

Join us as Fr. Peter Wojcik leads our discussion of Pope Leo's first encyclical — a call to place human dignity, truth, work, justice, and peace at the center of the AI age.

Fr. Peter Wojcik serves as pastor of both Saint Clement & St. Teresa of Avila Parishes.

JOIN US, ALL ARE WELCOME!
Light hospitality provided

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24
Hospitality: 9:30 a.m. | Program: 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Location: Saint Clement Parish - Chapel
(642 W. Deming Place, Chicago, 60614)



REGISTER HERE
clement.org/growinginGrace

Staff

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Pastor

pwojcik@archchicago.org

Fr. Radley Alcantara

Associate Pastor

ralcantara@archchicago.org

Charisse Gioia

Office Manager/Technology Coordinator/
Bulletin

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Barbara McHugh

Religious Education

bmchugh@stteresaparish.org

Carol Spalla-Malone

Part-Time Business Manager

cspalla@archchicago.org

Jason Krumwiede

Director of Music

musicalnut1@mac.com

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Irma Saavedra

Sergio Mora

Building & Facilities Manager

smora@stteresaparish.org

Parish Council

Anna Althoff- President

aalthoff@gmail.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.