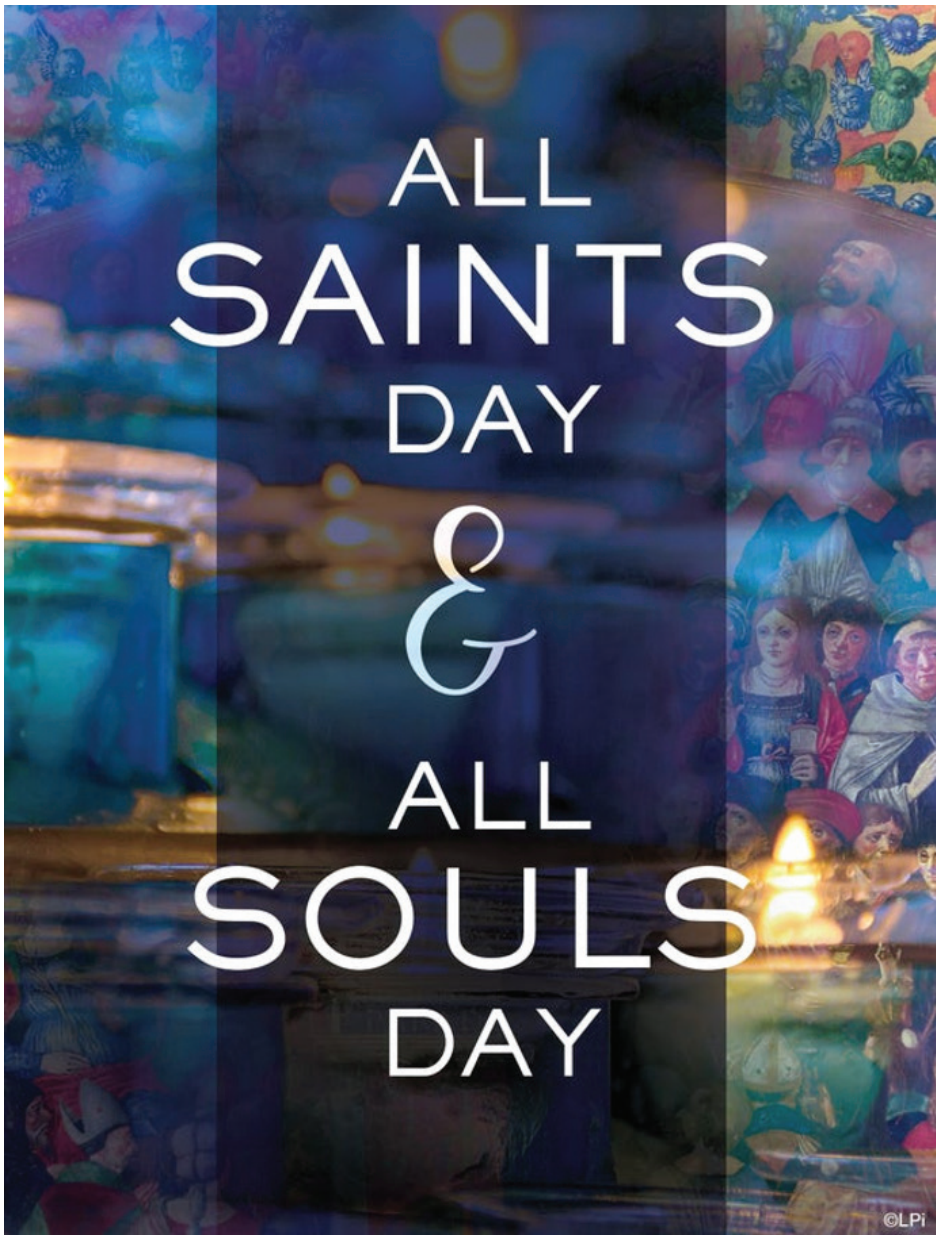
ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

CATHOLIC PARISH ✠ EST 1889

November 1, 2026

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

THE JOURNEY



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 learing 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 opportunites 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

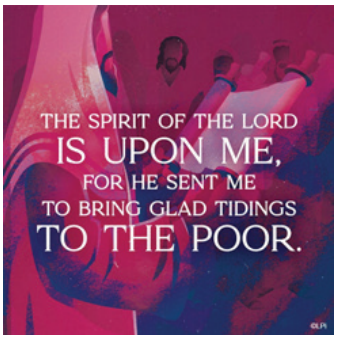
teresa.church/border-ministry

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: "Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen." (Rv 9:12)

Second Reading: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. (1 Jn 3:1)

Gospel: Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. (Mt 5:10)

Feasts and Saints:

11/1- All Saints Day

11/2- All Souls Day

11/3- St. Martin de Porres, Religious

11/4- St. Charles, Borromeo, Bishop



Gospel Meditation: All Saints' Day

At the end of her short life, my hero, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, found herself in a curious position. Audaciously, she was convinced that she would become a great saint and would be loved by many after her death. At the same time, she insisted that she was weak, impatient, and ordinary.

She became arguably the greatest saint in modern times. How is it possible that an ordinary and imperfect person can also be a great saint?

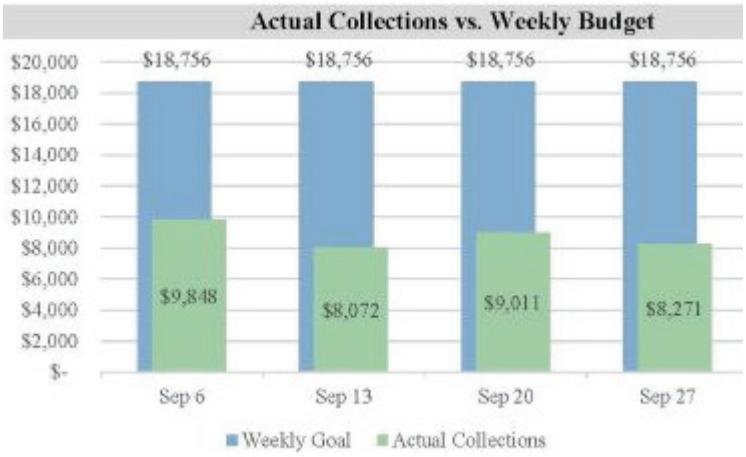
On this All Saints' Day, Jesus overturns our assumptions about holiness. He says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3). The blessed are not the impressive or the self-sufficient, but the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful, and the persecuted. These are not heroic traits by normal standards. They are signs of a heart that has learned to rely on God rather than itself. That's what St. Thérèse, and all the saints, are all about.

All Saints' Day is not a celebration of spiritual elites. Rather, it announces what grace can do in our ordinary lives. The saints are not those who avoid weakness or suffering, but those who allow these things to deepen their trust. What good news for us! The smaller and weaker we are, the more qualified we are to be great saints.

— Father John Muir

Financials: September 2026

	FY26	FY25
Basket/Mail In:	6,817	6,683
Give Central:	32,926	54,874
Total:	THIS YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
	$39,743	$61,557
	$(21,814)	



From Fr. Peter:

Sunday, November 1, 2026

Solemnity of All Saints

Saints in the Making

Dear Friends,

It is so easy to think of saints as people in stained glass. They have halos, they lived a long time ago, and they seem to have very little to do with our lives. But the Church gives us saints not to admire from a distance but to follow. They are proof that the Gospel can actually be lived, by real people, with real struggles, in real places.

This year I keep thinking about one saint in particular, because she lived so close to us. Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Mother Cabrini, was the first American citizen to be canonized, eighty years ago this past July. She is also our neighbor. In 1905 she opened Columbus Hospital at Deming Place and Lakeview Avenue, a short walk from Saint Clement and just a few blocks from our own church. She lived there, she worked there, and in 1917 she died there, in a simple room that is still preserved at her shrine on Lakeview. When we walk to the lake or grab coffee in the neighborhood, we are walking the same streets she walked.

What moves me about her is not that she was strong. She was not. She was small and often sick, and she was afraid of water her whole life, yet she crossed the ocean again and again to serve immigrants no one else wanted to serve. There is a story that when she was buying the hotel that became Columbus Hospital, she did not trust the developers, so she went out at dawn with a clothesline and measured the property herself. That is a woman who had let God's love so completely take hold of her that fear and weakness simply stopped having the last word. That is what grace does. It does not make us someone else. It makes us more fully who God created us to be.

And that is the invitation of this feast for all of us. We are saints in the making. It begins by accepting that God loves us, really accepting it, not just knowing it as an idea. Then we grow in that love by sharing it, and in sharing it we build up the Kingdom of God right here on Armitage Avenue.

One very concrete way we share that love is how we support the life and mission of our parish. Thank you, sincerely, to everyone who has already had a chance to sign up and update your Sunday giving for this year.

As I shared last week, there is a real disconnect right now between our growth as a community and our collections, which have been getting smaller. We need to close that gap so that we can fund our expenses, keep our programs strong and our offerings of high quality, and above all continue our impact in caring for those in need. If you have not yet had a chance to make your commitment, I ask you to prayerfully consider it this week.

Finally, please join us tomorrow, Monday, November 2, at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Clement, 642 W. Deming Place, for our All Souls Requiem Mass.

I will offer this Mass for all the faithful departed of both our parishes. It is a beautiful evening of music, candlelight, and prayer, and if you are carrying the loss of someone you love, please come and let us pray for them with you.

Today's Gospel gives us the Beatitudes, which is really Jesus' own portrait of a saint: the poor in spirit, the merciful, the peacemakers, the pure of heart. Mother Cabrini lived them a few blocks from here. So can we.

With you on the way of holiness,

Fr. Peter

St. Teresa's Greenery Sale 2026

All Pre-Orders are due no later than Monday, November 2nd @ Noon. Please send an email to kristen@rfcanning.com for any pre-orders. If you don't receive a confirmation email to ensure your order was received, please follow up by email before Nov. 2nd. Pick Up Date is the weekend of December 5th/6th after all masses.

22" Forest Elegance Wreath-$45

Noble Fir, Blue-Berried Juniper, Green Boxwood, three sets of cones and clusters of Red Berries-a simple yet very refined look. 22". Considered a standard size wreath. Can be used Indoor or Outdoor



26" Cascade Eucalyptus Wreath- $55

Noble Fir, Oregon Blue Berried Juniper, Seeded Eucalyptus, Faux White and Red Berries. . Can be Used Indoor or Outdoor on a slightly larger door or space.



14" Merry Berry Mini Wreath-$35 each or 2/$60

Noble Fir, Oregon Blue Berried Juniper, Green Boxwood, accented with faux red berries.

Can be hung as a small wreath in windows or used flat as a Candle Wreath (Candle not included).



Be Merry Mini Centerpiece-$25 each or 3/$65

Noble Fir, Western Red Cedar, Oregon Blue Berried Juniper, Natural and White Lodgepole, Pine Cones, Faux Red Berries in a Galvanized Container. Perfect for teacher/hostess gifts (discounted in sets of 3).
Size: 8" Outside Dimension x 9" Height



Balsam Heavy Grade Roping/Garland (Outdoor only)

50'-$85

All varieties of roping are thick, full and are approximately 50 feet long. Garland is created using durable wire core and only the highest quality boughs.



Mixed Douglas Fir And Western Red Cedar Roping/Garland

25' (Indoor or Outdoor)-$55

Our highest quality roping. All varieties of roping are thick, full and are approximately 10 inches wide and 25 feet .



Extra Large Balsam Wreaths (Outdoor use Only)

*Pre-Order Only

36 Inch: $60.00/ 60 Inch: $110.00



Yuletide Door Swag-$35 each or 2/$60

Incense Cedar, Blue Berried Juniper a spray of Red Berries and Lodgepole Cones in 28" swag to be hung length wise on door.



Holiday Bark Basket or Bird House Centerpiece-$40 each

Holiday Bark Basket: Bright Red Berries, White Lodge Pole Pine Cones, Fragrant Oregon Juniper, Western Red Cedar and Princess Pine with hardy Noble. Size: 10" W x 15" L x 11" H

Bird House Centerpiece: Noble Fir, Western Red Cedar, Oregon Blue Berried Juniper, Male and Female Cardinal in a Birdhouse Container Size: 6/5" Outside Dimension; 7" Heigh, 2 lb





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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.



Welcome Committee:

The Parish Council is excited to announce the formation of a new Welcoming Committee here at St Teresa of Avila. We are looking for 2-3 people to help lead this initiative, and help us build a team of welcome volunteers for each mass. The task is simple, we need amazing volunteers that will greet all parishioners before mass with a friendly smile, a nice "hello", and possibly help them find a seat! You may think we already do this, but it's not consistent. Imagine walking into someone's house and not being welcomed when you walk in the door, a place of business, or a restaurant. First impressions can be lasting impressions.

Please consider joining this committee because it'll be fun and rewarding! If interested, please reach out to Jessica Marx @ chicago2381@hotmail.com.

Loaves and Fishes:

The Loaves & Fishes ministry has been inviting guests indoors to enjoy their meal on Friday evenings.

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

Calling All Those Who Enjoy Cooking!

Calling All Those Who Enjoy Cooking! Hearing the call to serve those less fortunate? Always wanted to (learn to) cook for a crowd? Our Loaves and Fishes Ministry is seeking cooks (and helpers) to prepare a warm dinner for the elderly and homeless in our area, served each Friday afternoon. For a 3-6 hour commitment, you'll meet a wonderful group of people to work with, share kitchen tips and feel good about helping those in need. For more info, please contact Charisse Gioia

cgioia@stteresaparish.org



Prayer

Mass Intentions

10AM- Guiomar Havansek (D)

12 PM - Kenneth and Joyce Jaszczor (D)

6PM- Maria Teresa Rivadeneira Sandoval (D)

Mass Schedule

Sunday 11/8 10am- Fr. Peter Wojcik
Sunday 11/8 12pm- Fr. Peter Wojcik
Sunday 11/8 6pm- Fr. Peter Wojcik

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.



Blessing for All Saints

God,

Bless us as we journey in faith, a journey marked with twists and turns.
Bless us with the inspiration and friendship of those who have gone before us, the saints.
May their lives serve as guiding lights, beckoning us through the darkness to safety and rest.
Amen.



Sunday Funday November 1st:

Today is All Saints Day and Author's Day

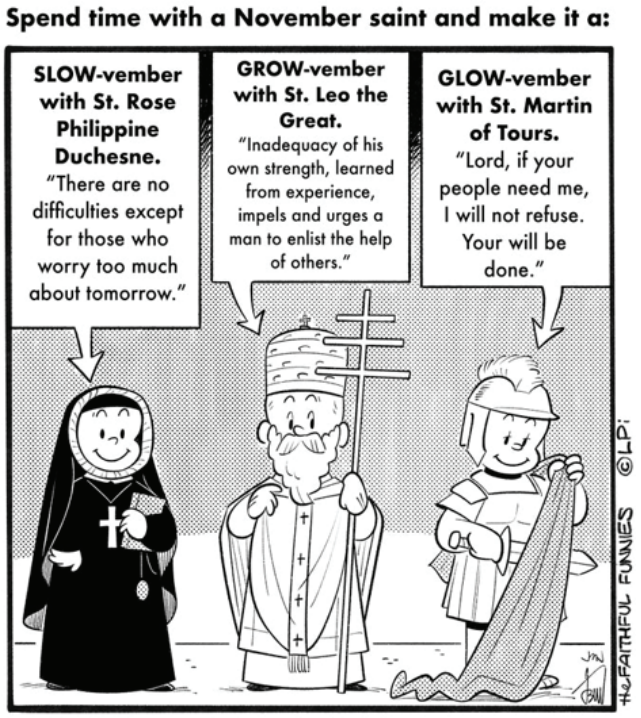
1512- Michelangelo's paintings on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, Italy were first exhibited. He started the work in 1508.

1570- The All Saints' Flood devastated the Dutch coast.

1959- The Hockey Mask was created by player Jacques Plante

1960- While campaigning for President of the United States, John F. Kennedy announced his idea of the Peace Corps.

1981- First Class US Mail raised from 18 cents to 20 cents. Prior to the use of stamps, postage was paid for by the receiver, not the sender.





The Journey of Christian Initiation (OCIA)

In John's gospel we hear John the Baptist point out Jesus out to his followers with the exclamation, "Behold the Lamb of God." Two of John's disciples decide to follow in Jesus' footsteps. One of them is Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

Jesus notices them, turns around and asks, "What are you looking for?" They simply respond, "Rabbi, where are you staying?" Jesus then invites them, "Come, and you will see." They stay with him the rest of that day. Notice, they don't really answer Jesus question. They may not understand what they are looking for, but they trust that following Jesus may reveal an answer.

Many people in our world today are searching. They may not be able to express what they're looking for, but they do pay attention when they see others radiate joy, hope, faith, servanthood and welcome. They want to know more, hoping to satisfy the deeper longings of their hearts. This is why Alpha draws so many young adults. This is why many seek out our process of Chrisitan/Catholic formation, the OCIA.

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.

Here is a link to register:

https://saintclement.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/1323/responses/new

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

Eucharistic Minister Training:

Have you ever considered becoming more involved in liturgy by serving as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister at Mass?

We have opportunities available for both ministries and we would welcome your getting involved in these unique roles in the liturgical life of St. Teresa of Avila. Service in these ministries will deepen your faith and help you grow in your love of the Lord. To serve as a Lector, all that is required is a deep love of the Word of God and a desire to serve God's people. Likewise, to serve as a Eucharistic Minister, all you need is a deep love of the Eucharist and a desire to serve. We will train you and teach you all you need to know.

We are in particular need of Eucharistic MInisters for the 6:00pm Mass, but we are happy to train for other Masses and for Lectors as well.

Please prayerfully consider serving your parish in these very important ministries.

We will be holding Eucharistic MInister training on two consecutive Sundays, November 8 and 15, at 4:00pm, before the 6:00 Mass.

Attendance at both sessions is required to complete the training. Lector training dates are yet to be determined.

If you are interested in serving, please contact Eric Fredericks at eric.fredericks+lm@gmail.com.



Devotions, Explained!

Prayer for the Dead, Explained!

It may seem strange to pray for someone who is already dead and who, according to our earthly reckoning of time, has already undergone judgment. But God is not subject to the constrictions of time as we understand them. Our prayers for the dead are, like our prayers for the living, an expression of charity and the unity that exists between all members of the Body of Christ.

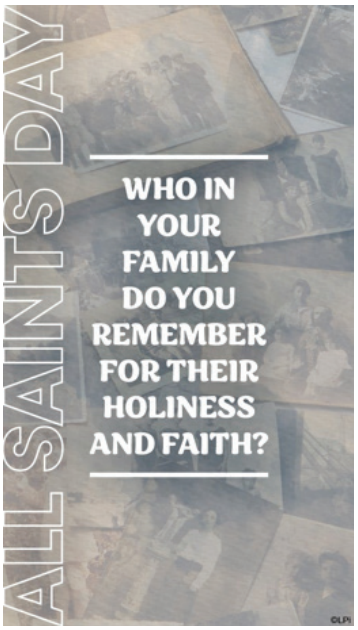
Prayer for the dead is a practice which not only predates Catholicism but predates Jesus Christ, as we see in the Second Book of Maccabees (2 Maccabees 12:42-45).

"By virtue of the 'communion of saints,' the Church commends the dead to God's mercy and offers her prayers, especially the holy sacrifice of the Eucharist, on their behalf," says the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 1055).

The most common Catholic prayer for the dead is as follows: "Eternal rest grant unto them, o Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace."





AVAILABLE NOW!
PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Dorothy Jaworska from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.

YOUR AD HERE

Dorothy Jaworska
(800) 888-4574 x2105
DJaworska@4lpi.com

St. Teresa's 11th Annual Turkey

Calling all walkers, joggers, runners, canines and turkeys!

Please join us for our 11th, free, non-competitive, 1 to 6 mile, Turkey Trot. Runners, joggers, and walkers of all abilities are welcome, including children and canines!

No racing, no timing, no awards, no entry fee*, no t-shirts, and no $60 bananas! Just lots of fun and smiles!
Come dressed to trot!

Thursday, November 26th Thanksgiving Day
7:00am: Check-in at the Parish Center
1950 N. Kenmore Ave.
7:30am: Trot

Back in plenty of time to attend the 9:00am Mass!
Light Pre & Post Trot breakfast provided.

* In lieu of an entry fee, please donate a non-perishable food item for the St. Teresa Food Pantry.

Questions & RSVP by November 21, 2026
Coach Mark
Markbuciak.qcc@rcn.com

Staff

Fr. Peter Wojcik
Pastor
pwojcik@archchicago.org

Fr. Radley Alcantara
Associate Pastor
ralcantara@archchicago.org

Charisse Gioia
Office Manager/Technology Coordinator/
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cgioia@stteresaparish.org

Barbara McHugh
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bmchugh@stteresaparish.org

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

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

Doug Lovette- 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.

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.