



# St. Teresa of Avila

Catholic Church

Sixth Sunday of Easter  
May 13, 2012

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you  
and appointed you to go and bear fruit.

—John 15:16

## Parish Mission Statement

The Saint Teresa of Avila Parish is a diverse Catholic community of faith that embraces everyone, without exception. We see ourselves as uniquely able to engage in dialogue with people of all faiths and act as peacemakers in our city. Challenged by the Gospel, nourished by the Eucharist and inspired by the teachings of Saint Teresa of Avila, we are called to be witnesses of Christ's Love, for the salvation of all people.

# Stewardship Matters

May 13 – May 19

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## Jeanine's Story

I once saved up all year to attend a workshop. I was standing in the dinner line next to the workshop presenter as she said loudly, "Ah! It's good to be alive!" That set me thinking. For her and for me it *is* good to be alive. But what about the homeless person sleeping in the park, or the person with cancer and no insurance? What about the family living in a tent in Haiti, the woman in Los Angeles addicted to heroin? What about the hungry children in a Darfur refugee camp? I wish that everyone could have what I do. I am not arrogant enough to propose solutions, but I know I must work for others to have a better life in any way I can, or my gratitude becomes meaningless. If I close the door on my Christianity and my humanity, I become trapped in complacency. Then I am very poor indeed.

### Living Stewardship Now

Parishes are full of opportunities for you to offer service to fellow parishioners. Local charities have many openings for volunteers. Give some of your time and ability to serve people in the community. Financial donations are welcome everywhere!



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## La Historia de Juanita

Una vez ahorré durante todo un año para ir a una conferencia. Me tocó estar al lado de la conferenciante en la línea para cenar y la escuché decir en alta voz:

"¡Ah, qué bueno es vivir!" Eso me puso a pensar. Para ella y para mí *es* bueno vivir pero, ¿y qué de la persona que vive en la calle y que tiene que dormir en un parque o de la persona con cáncer y sin seguro médico? ¿Y qué de la familia que vive en un refugio en Haití o de la mujer en Los Ángeles adicta a la heroína? ¿Y qué de los niños hambrientos en un campamento de refugiados en Darfur? Yo quisiera que todos tuvieran lo que yo tengo; pero aunque no soy tan arrogante

como para proponer una solución, sé que debo hacer todo lo que esté a mi alcance para que otras personas tengan una vida mejor, pues de lo contrario mi gratitud es vana. Si le cierro las puertas a mi cristianismo y a mi humanidad, me quedo atrapada en mi autocomplacencia. Entonces sí sería muy pobre.

### La corresponsabilidad vivida ahora

Las parroquias nos ofrecen muchas oportunidades donde podemos ayudar a las personas de la comunidad. Organizaciones locales de beneficencia o sin fines de lucros pueden aceptar voluntarios. Da un poco de tu tiempo y habilidades para ayudar a las personas de tu comunidad. ¡Donaciones de dinero se aceptan en todos los lugares!

# Stewardship Matters

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## St. Teresa of Avila Food Pantry Shopping List

The St. Teresa Food Pantry can always use non-perishable food items such as those listed below.

Pasta Sauce (26 oz.)	Canned Vegetables (15 oz.)
Canned Beans (15 oz.)	Spaghetti O's (15 oz.)
Canned Fruit (15oz.)	Chili (15 oz.)
Peanut Butter (18 oz.)	Cereal
Tuna	Pasta
Macaroni & Cheese	Jelly
Canned Soup (10 oz.)	Canned Chicken



Boxed Soap Bar (4-5 oz.)

Sizes are the Maximum  
Larger, sturdy paper and plastic shopping bags with handles  
are always in need.

Please check the expiration dates on all food items before donating them; we discard anything past the expiration date



The Food Pantry needs larger, sturdy paper and plastic bags with handles. Please drop them off in the church, parish center or parish office.

If your family would like to sponsor a large amount of a particular item, please contact Dave Hilko at [dahilko@aol.com](mailto:dahilko@aol.com).

## The Counting Team Needs You!

Do you have a few hours once a month that you can dedicate to the church? Of course you do! One of the ministries that is always in need of help is the Counting Team.

The counters help to organize and deposit the church's funds on a weekly basis. Without them, the finances would come to a halt.

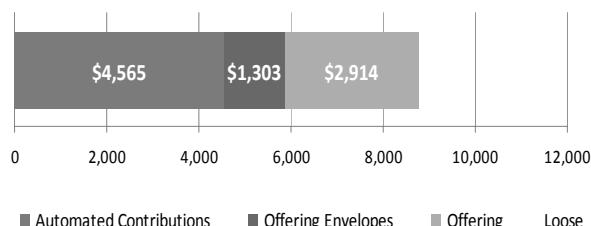
If you are interested in joining us, please contact Erica at (773) 528-6650 or [esacucci@gmail.com](mailto:esacucci@gmail.com).

## Weekly Collections Recap For May 6, 2012

5/6/2012

Automated Contributions	Offering Envelopes	Offering Loose	Total
\$4,565	\$1,303	\$2,914	\$8,782

Weekly Sunday Collections (Budget of \$12,000)



We are currently running a \$3,218 deficit of our budgeted Sunday collections of \$12,000 for the weekend of May 6, 2012. Currently we are flat with collections from last fiscal year.

## Comments & Concerns

We want to ensure that any questions or concerns are fully addressed. Please contact the Finance Council Chair, Bill Mack, at [wiliamdmack@hotmail.com](mailto:wiliamdmack@hotmail.com) or (312) 706-4266. Bill can provide you with the latest financial status, projections and key issues.

We also encourage you to attend the monthly Finance Council meetings on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

## Website & Bulletin Materials

Articles must be submitted by 11:00 am on Monday to be considered for the following Sunday's bulletin or for posting on the Website. Please contact Dean at (773) 528-6650 or [dvaeth@stteresaparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@stteresaparish.org)

# Readings, Liturgy & Tradition

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## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Gentiles also (Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48).

**Psalm** — The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power (Psalm 98).

**Second Reading** — Let us love one another, because love is of God (1 John 4:7-10) or 1 John 4:11-16.

**Gospel** — This is my commandment: love one another as I love you (John 15:9-17) or Jn 17:11b-19.



## The Presence of the Holy Spirit

We have a unique episode in the Acts of the Apostles today. A whole roomful of people are baptized with the Holy Spirit before they are baptized with water! The verb used—"the Holy Spirit 'fell' on them" (Acts 10:44)—is characteristic of the way the Spirit works throughout the book of Acts: powerful and surprising. Though this "baptism" is not the normative way the New Testament describes baptism, it is still a good reminder today that the Holy Spirit is not controlled by whether or not we pour water, but rather that our sacramental signs reveal the presence of the Spirit at work among us. And we have a double reinforcement of how this work is accomplished from a Letter and a Gospel bearing John's name. It is love, self-sacrificing and self-giving love, that manifests the Spirit of Jesus in our midst. It is love that is the greatest of commandments. The Spirit is manifested equally through those who live in that love. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Acts 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Jn 16:12-15
<b>Thursday:</b>	Acts 18:1-8; Jn 16:16-20
<b>Friday:</b>	Acts 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23
<b>Saturday:</b>	Acts 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28
<b>Sunday:</b>	Ascension Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mk 16:15-20d



## Treasures from Our Tradition

Just as the origins of Lent have to do with accompanying people in the final stages of preparation for baptism at Eastertime, so does the structure of the Easter season help the newly received Catholics take root in the community. This is the season of "mystagogy," which means "reflection on the mysteries." This means that new Catholics are remembering the sacraments by which they become one with us, and are sorting out the implications for their everyday life. They can understand the excitement of Cornelius and his family in the first reading, filled with the Holy Spirit, and so eager to begin their new life that they overwhelm St. Peter. The second reading and the Gospel today likewise help our new brothers and sisters explore their new life as an experience of God's tender love.

Long ago, our tradition named these newly baptized adults and children the "neophytes," from Greek words meaning "newly planted." Newly planted in the garden of faith, they look to us to provide the fertile soil in which their new life can take root and grow. You can help. If you have "neophytes" in your parish, a card or note of welcome, or warm words of congratulation, are still timely. It's Easter! — James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

# Lecturas, Liturgia Y Tradición

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## La Presencia Del Espíritu Santo



Hoy tenemos un episodio único en los Hechos de los Apóstoles. ¡Un grupo de personas que llena una habitación es bautizado con el Espíritu Santo antes de que se bautizaran con agua! La palabra que se usa para describir el suceso: “el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre ellos” (Hechos 10:44), es característica de la forma en que el Espíritu obra en todo el libro de los Hechos: de manera poderosa y sorprendente. Aunque este “bautismo” no es la norma para describir el bautismo en el Nuevo Testamento, es sin embargo un buen recordatorio de que el Espíritu Santo no está controlado por si hemos vertido el agua o no, sino que nuestros signos sacramentales revelan al Espíritu presente y obrando entre nosotros. Y tenemos un doble refuerzo de cómo esta obra se lleva a cabo en la carta y el Evangelio que llevan el nombre de Juan. Es el amor, el auto sacrificio y el amor de entrega, que manifiestan al Espíritu de Jesús entre nosotros. El amor es el más grande de los mandamientos. El Espíritu se manifiesta también a través de los que viven en ese amor.

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## Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

El día 15 de mayo los campesinos de Ichocán, Perú adornan sus yugos, y las puertas de sus casas con el fruto de sus cosechas en honor a San Isidro Labrador. Muchos países Latinoamericanos celebran esta fiesta. En un continente donde la agricultura es tan importante no hay que sorprenderse de la importancia de este santo español del siglo XII. Además San Isidro se parece a mucha gente de Latinoamérica: es de padres campesinos, de familia pobre y religiosa, no fue a la escuela, quedó huérfano y se empleó como peón de campo, ayudando en la agricultura.

Se casó con María la cual también llegó a ser Santa. Tuvieron un hijo. Los tres fueron reconocidos como piadosos y generosos. Gracias a Dios, la santidad se encuentra en todo tipo de persona. Los casados y padres y madres de familia también llegan a ser santos. Después de su muerte en 1130 se descubrió que su cuerpo estaba milagrosamente incorrupto. En 1622 el Papa canonizó a este humilde campesino junto con algunos grandes religiosos como Santa Teresa, San Ignacio, y San Francisco Javier.

—Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gilz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## Lecturas de hoy

**Primera lectura** — Mediante las prédicas de Pedro, el Espíritu Santo viene a los gentiles (Hechos 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48).

**Salmo** — El Señor nos ha mostrado su amor y su lealtad. Aleluya (Salmo 98 [97]).

**Segunda lectura** — Dios es amor y Dios nos ama (1 Juan 4:7-10) o 1 Juan 4:11-16.

**Evangelio** — Jesús da este mandamiento a sus discípulos: ámense unos a otros como yo los he amado (Juan 15:9-17) o Juan 17:11b-19.

## Lecturas de la Semana

<b>Lunes:</b>	Hch 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17
<b>Martes:</b>	Hch 16:22-34; Jn 16:5-11
<b>Miércoles:</b>	Hch 17:15, 22-18:1; Jn 16:12-15
<b>Jueves:</b>	Hch 1:1-11; Sal 47 (46); Efe 1:17-23 o Efe 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mc 16:15-20
<b>Viernes:</b>	Hch 18:9-18; Jn 16:20-23
<b>Sábado:</b>	Hch 18:23-28; Jn 16:23b-28
<b>Domingo:</b>	Ascensión Hch 1:1-11; Ps 47 (46); Efe 1:17-23 o Efe 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mc 16:15-20



# Sacraments & Ministries

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## Congratulations May Baptisms



*Koen William McCue (5-6-12)  
Vincent Daniel Murchie (5-6-12)  
Keira Malecha Koleski (5-6-12)  
James Shanahan Shockley (5-20-12)  
Alexander David Kay (5-20-12)  
Devan James Mehandru (5-20-12)  
Andrew Ruston Broussard (5-27-12)*

## St. Teresa says...

**“However long it lasts, it lasts but a moment in comparison with eternity...We will finish our day’s journey, for it goes by so quickly and all comes to an end.”**



## Congratulations May Confirmations

*Phoebe Hicks, Peyton Lacey, Elizabeth O'Toole,  
Maya Trinka, Kelly Doyle, Andrew Jackson*

*Clementine Duvauchelle, Clemence Forin,  
Anatole Gros-Martial, Apoline Gros-Martial,  
Clarisse Pinel, Augustin Prolongeau,  
Marie Lou Vallet*



## Calendar at a Glance

### May 13, Sunday

*Sixth Sunday of Easter • Sexto Domingo del Pascua*

- 9:00 am, PC1-2, 9 AM Nursery
- 9:15 am, REC4, Children’s Liturgy of the Word
- 10:00 am, PC4, Hospitality
- 10:30 am, REC1-2-3, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 7:00 pm, REC4, The Edge

### May 14, Monday

*St. Matthias • San Matías*

- 7:00 pm, PC3, Parish Council Meeting

### May 15, Tuesday

*St. Isidore • San Isidro*

- 4:30 pm, REC1-2-3, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 6:00 pm, APC, 12-Step Meeting AA
- 6:00 pm, PC3, *Time of Your Life* Meeting
- 7:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration

### May 16, Wednesday

- 5:30 pm, PC1-2, CCFC Catechesis
- 7:00 pm, PC4, Chicago Catholic Scripture School
- 7:30 pm, APC, 12-Step AA Meeting

### May 17, Thursday

- 4:30 pm, REC1-2-3, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

### May 18, Friday

*St. John I • San Juan I*

- 11:00 am, REC 4, Parent-Baby Journey
- 12:00 pm, Kitchen, Spaghetti Dinner Cooking
- 3:30 pm, PC3-4, Loaves & Fishes Set Up
- 5:00 pm, PC 3-4, Loaves & Fishes Dinner
- 7:00 pm, Church, Spanish Prayer Group

### May 19, Saturday

- 5:00 pm, PC3-4, Annual Spaghetti Dinner



# Mass Schedule & Intentions

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## Mass Intentions

### May 12

- 5:00 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish
- May 13**
- 9:00 am Doris Reed  
For the Special Intentions  
of the Fombelle Family
- 10:30 am Gabriel Bernal  
Estela Montes  
Felix Lopez
- 12:00 noon All Deceased Members of the Parish
- 6:00 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish

Our Mass intentions have many openings. If you would like to have a Mass said for someone alive or deceased, contact Dean Vaeth at the parish office at (773) 528-6650 or [dvaeth@stteresaparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@stteresaparish.org)

In order to be added to our prayer list, a member of the immediate family should request that a person's name be added. We list the names of the deceased parishioners and friends for six months. If you wish the name of a loved one left on the list longer than six months, please contact Dean Vaeth at the parish office.

## In Our Prayers

Please pray for our deceased friends and parishioners...

*Alfonzo Ardana, Amalia Bech, Greg Bruce, Ethel Brumleve, John Breault, Phyllis Carlino, Gaspar Diaz, Julia Faloyin, Isabella Feliciano, Carlos Hernandez Gomez, Manuel Gomez, Donald Grabarczyk, Sr. Joan Granzier, Timothy Halpin, Lee Incandela, Teresa Joan Kilcullen, Michael Kinsella, Elaine Klecker, Laura Lee, Isabelle Martinez, Melory Mizicko, Cindy O'Keefe, Ben & Susan Patrasso, Sophia Sanchez, Lino Stefan, Jim Teterycz, Victims of War & Domestic Violence*

Let us also pray for those who are ill, especially...

<i>Johnnie Mae Alexander</i>	<i>David Ivanac</i>	<i>Honorata Alicea Peña</i>
<i>Alicia Anderson</i>	<i>Chuck Jabaley</i>	<i>Michele Piotrowski</i>
<i>Berta Billalvazo</i>	<i>Theresa Jabaley</i>	<i>Hector J. Rivera</i>
<i>Patricia Chuck</i>	<i>Pat Johnson</i>	<i>Pedro Rodriguez</i>
<i>Basilio Diaz</i>	<i>Betty LaCour</i>	<i>Ray Romero</i>
<i>Jackson Fineske &amp; Family</i>	<i>Adolfo Lorenzana</i>	<i>Jeffrey Roscoe</i>
<i>Pat Flynn</i>	<i>Carmen Dolores Lorenzana</i>	<i>Sr. Jean Ryan, O.C.D.</i>
<i>Padraig Gallagher</i>	<i>Carmen Felicita Lorenzana</i>	<i>Jack Schank</i>
<i>Eloisa Gallegos</i>	<i>Miguel Lorenzana</i>	<i>Ruth Schmitz</i>
<i>Michael Gibbons</i>	<i>George Maroquin</i>	<i>Mima Tome</i>
<i>Angela Goldberg</i>	<i>Jose Marroquin</i>	<i>Jon Wagenknecht</i>
<i>Kaylee Gommel</i>	<i>Tammy Martin &amp; Family</i>	<i>John Wagner</i>
<i>Les Gordon</i>	<i>Sally Jo Morrow</i>	<i>Bernadine Walters</i>
<i>Genevieve Gorgo</i>	<i>Margaret Sue Meadors</i>	<i>Hilda Williams</i>
<i>Mrs. Grabarczyk</i>	<i>Bill Mobley</i>	<i>Jack Williams</i>
<i>George Halloran</i>	<i>John Monier</i>	<i>Michael Woyan</i>
<i>Kellar Harris</i>	<i>Elda Myers</i>	
<i>Fr. Patrick Harrity, C.M.</i>	<i>Angel Nieves</i>	<i>Survivors and perpetrators of sexual abuse</i>
<i>David Hoffman</i>	<i>P. A. O'Neil</i>	
	<i>Msgr. Kevin O'Neill</i>	



DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	LECTOR	EUCARISTIC BREAD	EUCARISTIC WINE
5-19-12 Saturday	5:00 pm	Fr. Frank	Dave Kostelansky	Jean Kostelansky	Maggie Kuhlmann Leigh Hartley
5-20-12 Sunday	9:00 am	Fr. Frank	Lina Hilko	Rose Ohiku Myrna Gomez Kinsella George Halloran	Tom Kinsella Phyllis Halloran Mary Beth Hughes Wilke
5-20-12 Sunday	10:30 am	Fr. Benjamin Aguilar	Geraldo Martinez Belen Gonzales	Carmen Vazquez	Bolivar Gonzales
5-20-12 Sunday	12:00 noon	Fr. Frank	Amy McCue	Colin McCue	Alice Morales-Villenas Jennifer Barrett
5-20-12 Sunday	6:00 pm	Fr. Frank	Sharon Lindstrom	Kathy Richgels Nancy Van Grinsven Jane Ott	Mark Van Grinsven Eileen Raia Christine Villoc Luke Kolman

# Parish Life

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## Women's Spirituality May 29th



Women of St. Teresa's who seek spiritual nourishment and an opportunity for quiet prayer, reflection and conversation are invited to gather in Avila Place, on Tuesday, May 29th at 7:30 pm at 1930 N. Kenmore Ave.

This will be our final gathering until we resume in September. Hope you can join us on the 29th. Contact Cathy Flaherty, [cgflaherty@aol.com](mailto:cgflaherty@aol.com), with any questions.

## Garage Sale July 21st



It's time to clean out your closets, drawers, storage units, and crawl spaces and donate all those unwanted, salable items to St. Teresa's. Remember those Christmas and birthday gifts you didn't like. Re-gift those items now!

We're looking for books, appliances, CDs, DVDs, games, household and kitchen items, jewelry, furniture, electronics, decorative items, sporting equipment, and whatever else might sell. Any donations of clothes should be in new or near-new condition.

If you'd like to volunteer to help at the sale or donate items, contact Dean at the parish office at (773) 528-6650 or Frank Swiderski at either (773) 339-7790 or (773) 227-9922.

6:51 Club Meets  
May 20th



St. Teresa's 6:51 Club meets on the third Sunday of every month after the 6:00 pm Mass.

Join us to meet fellow parishioners over a delicious free dinner. This Month's 6:51 Club is May 20th.

You can contact Sara Foley  
[foleysara@gmail.com](mailto:foleysara@gmail.com) for more details.

## Acceptance: The way to serenity and peace of mind

One of the more perplexing religious/ethical questions is, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" Most of the faithful have asked this question. Scripture scholars will have us turn to the book of Job in attempt to find an answer. But in the end, the bible really does not give us an answer. In Job's case, he was a righteous man that suffered terribly. Job's only answer to the question of "why" his suffering, was to have faith and trust in God.

One strain of the philosophy of religion makes the case that man has actually created the concept of God and religion out of fear. Namely, that man cannot control most, if not all, of the variables in his life. And this fact of being out of control scares the living day lights out of man and as a response to buffer himself from this fear man has created a God that protects him, a God that he can go to in times of trouble.

At one of our recent gatherings, our Men's Spirituality group took on the concept of "Acceptance." We read through a little pamphlet titled "Acceptance: The way to serenity and peace of mind." A wide range of responses were shared regarding how each of us deals with troubling news or challenging events in our lives.

For men, if we can't manage it, control it or get a handle on it..., well, the challenging it becomes very difficult personally and mentally. I mean, we are supposed to be charge here aren't we? And to hear "you just have to let it go," or "you just need to take a positive attitude toward it," does not help. What helps is the gift of faith from God. What helps more is the gift of faith from God in the context of a community of believers. For sometimes, actually most of the times, we cannot do it alone.

Join us for the next session of  
Men's Spirituality Group  
on Tuesday, May 22nd,  
from 6:15 am to 7:30 am in the parish center.

Contact Matt Priesbe at (847) 729-1220 and [mpriesbe@aol.com](mailto:mpriesbe@aol.com),  
or contact  
Tom Kosnik at (312) 527-2950 and [tkosnik@visusgroup.com](mailto:tkosnik@visusgroup.com)

— Tom Kosnik

## Sign Up for Automated Contributions

Summertime is almost upon us! That means family vacations and trips to see family and friends. As a parish, during the summer we see a dramatic decrease in our collections. This affects our overall budget for the year.

To ensure that our budget is met, we would recommend signing up for automated contributions. Automated contributions are used by about 50% of our donors. You can donate either by using credit card or directly from your bank account.

To begin your automated contribution please either fill our the automated form found in the back of church and drop it in the collection, bring it to the parish office, or you can even scan and email it to Erica Saccucci, the business manager, at [esaccucci@gmail.com](mailto:esaccucci@gmail.com). Please feel free to contact Erica with any questions at (773) 528-6650.

## CONTRIBUTE TODAY

**ST. TERESA OF AVILA  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

## PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE



## 1st Summertime SPRED Mass



St. Teresa's SPRED group shares with our parish its first summertime SPRED Mass June 3rd at 6:00 pm.

SPRED stands for **SP**ecial **R**Eligious **D**evelopment, an archdiocesan program ministering religious growth and development to our friends with special needs.

St. Teresa's SPRED program is for our friends from 11 to 16 years of age. St. Vincent de Paul and Immaculate Conception parishes are also in our deanery and minister to friends of different age groups.

Our Mass uses music and movements to interpret the psalms, readings and the Gospel. Please come join us June 3rd at 6:00 pm for this beautiful and inspirational way to experience Mass.

St. Teresa SPRED is looking for more catechists. If you are interested, please see us after Mass.

## Hospitality Volunteers Needed

Do you enjoy treats and fellowship after 9AM mass? If so, please **step forward to help host!** This is a really family-friendly and enjoyable service opportunity.

We need parishioners to signup to cover Sundays during the summer months. It's easy to say, "I'm too busy" or "I'm not sure about my schedule." So, please take time to consider which weekend you know you'll be in town and can help.

You can signup on the sheet at refreshments or through a link on the St. Teresa web site (under Religious Education, Family Service Opportunities).

For more information, talk to Lina Hilko (312-274-0705; [LHilko@aol.com](mailto:LHilko@aol.com)). Thanks for helping build community!!



# Parish Life

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## Jesus Chose to Love

We have been told a thousand times that God loves us. We want to believe that — but we know how it feels when someone loves us, and God's love doesn't feel that way.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning wrote a poem that began: "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways."

Let's count at least some of the ways that God loves you. I suppose God could have loved you by creating you to live directly in his presence, skipping the earthly experience. But what kind of love would that have been, without the ups and downs, gives and takes of love; the sensuality of physical love; the risk of unrequited love; the uncertainty and surprise of love?

God made that mistake in his first human creation. God doesn't want to make that mistake again. God thought Adam would be perfectly happy loving and being loved by God directly. But no, Adam wanted to taste the apple, have sex, travel outside paradise, see the world, try different ways of relating, stretch the limits of love.

God understood, and so God worked up to you. Starting from scratch. God squeezed primal matter into a ball until it exploded into galaxies. God enjoyed the display, then followed developments closely. God loved the simple rocks, cherished the weeds, warmed up to caribou, thought humanoids were actually lovable. But God said: "It is good to love, but better



**But forced love is no love; love must be freely given, so God carved into this creature the freedom not to love. It was a great risk.**

to be loved."

So, God created human creatures. But not from nothing, as if God's prior creations meant nothing. No, humans were the apex of all created things, the perfection of evolution, the crowning glory of God's handiwork. Humans incorporate the sturdiness of rocks, the flexibility of trees, the mobility of rabbits, the intelligence of apes. And God placed in the first human the capacity for friendship, the ability to care for another.

But forced love is no love; love must be freely given, so God carved into this creature the freedom not to love. It was a great risk. And God paid dearly for it. Humans used their freedom not to love in multiple ways: hatred, abortion,

crime, adultery, murder, war, theft, genocide. The total depravity of the human heart is still unknown.

There was no way to know how it would all end. Some people would surely love God back, but what of humankind as a whole? Would it end in disaster? Would God's offer of love be rejected wholesale? Human freedom allowed for that horrible possibility.

But what could God do? All God could think of was to ask his Son to be incarnated, mortalized as a human being. Jesus could have the experience of human loving and being loved; he could choose to love or not.

Jesus chose to love his Father with all his being, and his neighbor as himself.

That is how God loves you. As your Father and as your neighbor. As a fellow human, Jesus loves you, his neighbor, as he loves himself. He wants you to have the necessities of life, he wants you to be successful and happy, he wants you free of suffering and sin, he wants you to be personally fulfilled, he wants you to love his Father the way he does. But most of all, he wants you to be his friend.

We are humbled, exalted, amazed when someone shines their love on us to declare us lovable, to enable us to accept our self and be invited to love them in return.

And what if the One who loves us like that is God himself?

# Directory

## Parish Office

1930 N. Kenmore  
Chicago, IL 60614  
(773) 528-6650  
(773) 871-6766 fax  
[www.st-teresa.net](http://www.st-teresa.net)  
[dvaeth@stteresaparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@stteresaparish.org)



## Office Hours

Monday—Friday: 9:00 am—7:30 pm  
Saturday: 9:00 am—12:00 noon

## Staff

**Pastor**  
Rev. Frank Latzko, ext. 232

[FJSasso@aol.com](mailto:FJSasso@aol.com)

**Deacon**  
Deacon Hector Rivera

**Director of Religious Education**  
Kate Lynch, ext. 232  
[kolynchdre@gmail.com](mailto:kolynchdre@gmail.com)

**Music Director**  
Jason Krumwiede  
[musicalnut1@mac.com](mailto:musicalnut1@mac.com)

**Business Manager**  
Erica Saccucci, ext. 231  
[esaccucci@gmail.com](mailto:esaccucci@gmail.com)

**Office Manager**  
Dean Vaeth, ext. 230  
[dvaeth@stteresaparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@stteresaparish.org)

**Reception**  
Olu Balogun, ext. 210  
[obalogun@stteresaparish.org](mailto:obalogun@stteresaparish.org)

**Facilities Manager**  
Thomas Micinski, ext. 212  
[tmicinski@stteresaparish.org](mailto:tmicinski@stteresaparish.org)

**Maintenance/Housekeeping**  
Sergio Mora  
Irma Saavedra

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
Dave Wisneski, Chair

Jon Assell	Mark Matejka
Joe Haley	Bertel Olson
Catherine Kosnik	Tony Rivera
Jessica Marx	

## Infant Baptism

Baptisms are generally celebrated on the first Sunday of the month during mass, and on the third Sunday of the month following the noon mass. Parents are required to attend baptism preparation session. Please call Dean at the parish office (773) 528-6650, ext. 230 to schedule a preparation session and baptism at least three months in advance.

## Marriage

Weddings are held at 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm on Saturday afternoons. Call the parish office for an appointment at least six months in advance.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—RCIA

For those interested in becoming Catholic or simply desiring to learn more about our Catholic faith, contact Fr. Frank..

## Children's Religious Education

Religious education is offered for children from age 3 through 8th grades. Two programs are offered - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (a Montessori program) and a middle school program for 7th and 8th grade. For more information on religious education programs or sacramental preparation, please contact Kate Lynch at the parish office, ext. 232.

## Registration

Registration forms are available at the back of church or at the parish office, or on our website at [www.st-teresa.net](http://www.st-teresa.net).

## Time for Prayer

The church may be opened for private prayer during the day. Please come to the parish office.

## Weekend Masses

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	9:00 am
<i>en español</i>	10:30 am
	12:00 noon
	6:00 pm

## Weekday Masses

Monday to Thursday	7:30 am
Friday *	7:30 am

\*Communion Service only

## Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday	7:00 pm
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## Reconciliation

Please call the parish office to make an appointment with a priest for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

## Communion for the Sick

Please call the parish office for arrangements.

## Counseling Services

**Theresa Nollette, M.Div., LCSW**  
Pastoral Counselor  
(312) 540-0320  
[theresa\\_nollette@sbcglobal.net](mailto:theresa_nollette@sbcglobal.net)

## Mary Ellen Moore, Ph.D.

Counseling and  
Spiritual Direction  
(773) 643-6259, ext. 17  
[www.claretcenter.org](http://www.claretcenter.org)

## Melanie McNally, LCPC

Psychotherapist  
(773) 643-6259, ext. 38.  
[mmaxwell@my.adler.edu](mailto:mmaxwell@my.adler.edu)



**St. Teresa  
of Avila**  
Catholic Church