



**St. Teresa**  
*of Avila*  
Catholic Church

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**  
**December 30, 2012**

**Beloved, we are God's children now;  
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.**

— *1 John 3:2a*

**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.

We are a stewardship parish. Three percent of our operating income is shared with other missions.

# Reflections

December 30 — January 5

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## Reflecting on God's Word

One of the all-time great Christmas movies is *It's a Wonderful Life!* The classic scene is the final one. The townspeople are gathering in George Bailey's living room. They're pouring money onto a table, all with the intention of rescuing George from financial ruin. It's not long before George's brother enters the picture. Having heard of the hard times George had been going through, he secured a leave from the military, hopped a plane, and flew all day and night to make it to Bedford Falls. He wanted to be of help. Seeing the people and the mountain of money, he raises his glass and toasts his brother, "the richest man in the world!"

George Bailey was rich, all right, but not because he was suddenly inundated with money. He was rich because he had family and friends who loved him and cared about him. There's much to be said for the benefits and blessings of family.

### Living God's Word

The feast of the Holy Family gives us pause to ponder the phenomenon of family. If we can duplicate the love Mary and Joseph and Jesus had for each other, there's no telling what the positive and rich effects might be.

## Reflexionemos sobre la Palabra de Dios

Una de las películas estadounidenses más famosas de todos los tiempos para el tiempo de Navidad es *It's a Wonderful Life!* ("¡Qué bello es vivir!"). La escena clásica sucede al final. La gente del pueblo está reunida en la sala de George Bailey. Están tirando dinero sobre una mesa con la intención de rescatar a George de una ruina financiera. No pasa mucho tiempo cuando entra en acción el hermano de George. Él se había enterado de las



dificultades por las que estaba atravesando George y pidió un permiso del ejército; agarró un avión y voló todo el día y toda la noche para llegar a Bedford Falls. Él quería ayudar. Al ver a la gente y la montaña de dinero, levanta su vaso para brindar por su hermano, "¡el hombre más rico del mundo!"

Oh sí, George Bailey era rico, pero no porque se vio inundado súbitamente de dinero. Él era rico porque tenía familia y amigos que lo amaban y velaban por él. Muchos son los beneficios y las bendiciones que nos trae la familia.

### Vivamos la Palabra de Dios

La fiesta de la Sagrada Familia nos da la oportunidad de detenernos a contemplar el fenómeno de la familia. Si pudiéramos duplicar el amor que María, José y Jesús se tenían mutuamente, son inimaginables los efectos ricos y positivos que ese amor pudiera ser.

## Food Pantry Shopping List

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

Sizes are the Maximum

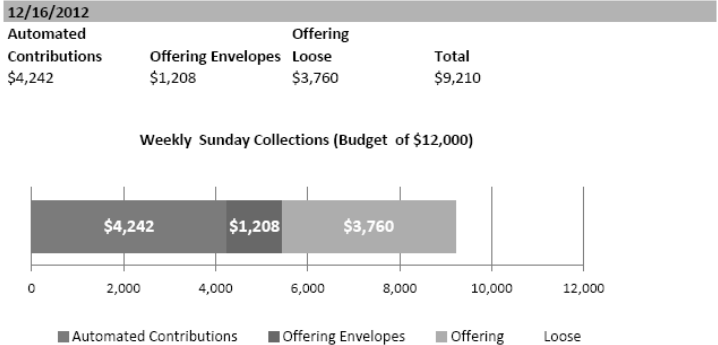
- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Pasta Sauce (26 oz.)        | Canned Vegetables (15 oz.) |
| Canned Beans (15 oz.)       | Spaghetti O's (15 oz.)     |
| Canned Fruit (15oz.)        | Chili (15 oz.)        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

Boxed Soap Bar (4-5 oz.)



**Larger, sturdier paper and plastic shopping bags with handles are always in need.**

## Weekly Collections Recap from December 16, 2012



We had a \$2,790 of our budgeted regular Sunday collections of \$12,000 for the weekend of December 16, 2012. Please consider donating through automated contributions.

The 2012 *Time of Your Life* fundraiser netter \$110,000.

Due to the accelerated publishing schedule during the Christmas-New Year holidays, we are reporting the collection for December 16, 2012.

## Food Pantry Schedule for January

**Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**  
9:00 am to 11:00 am Bagging & Distribution

**Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**  
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Bagging

**Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

**Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**  
9:00 am to 11:00 am Bagging & Distribution

**Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**  
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Bagging

**Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

## Comments & Concerns

We want to ensure that any questions or concerns are fully addressed. Please contact the Chair of the St. Teresa Finance Council, 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.

**The next Finance Council meeting will be held Monday, January 21, at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.**

## Website & Bulletin Submissions

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@sttereseparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@sttereseparish.org)

# Readings, Liturgy & Tradition

December 30 — January 5

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## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) or *Sirach* 3:2-6, 12-14.

**Psalm** — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) or *Psalm* 128.

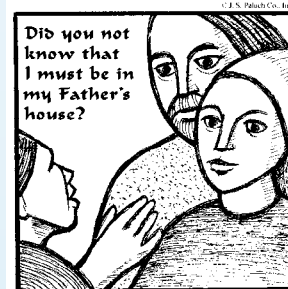
**Second Reading** — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2, 21-24) or *Colossians* 3:12-21 [12-17].

**Gospel** — The boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They found him in the temple, in the midst of the teachers (Luke 2:41-52).

## Home is Where the Family is

The idea, dream, and reality of family is so strong and durable that we use it to describe all that is best about human gatherings. We speak of the family of nations, of our church and parish families. The greatest compliment we can pay a friend or gracious host is to say that we feel at home with them, we feel part of the family.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always “get it right,” but they always tried to. These three “amateurs” were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father’s work—but he also returned home with his parents. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



## Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

## Treasures from Our Tradition

Today’s feast is new as feasts go, and it sets us this year in a very modern crisis. Amid conflicting schedules and commitments, a young man, testing the limits, has strayed from his parents and gone off to the big city. Mary and Joseph search frantically, only to find the child Jesus in the temple, conversing with the elders and scholars of the law, who are amazed at his wisdom.

In the time of Jesus, the temple was the religious center of Jewish ritual. Outside of Jerusalem, people gathered in the synagogues, centers of learning, for daily prayer and study. Still, everyone longed to journey to the temple to participate in the offerings, and to fulfill certain obligations of the law that could only be done there. On this feast, we catch a glimpse of the family of Jesus: parents dealing with the normal stresses of raising a child, and yet completely grounded in the ways of faith and tradition.

There has always been an appreciation in Christianity for the value of pilgrimage—the journey to holy places that is a symbol of our life’s journey to God, and a sense of connection to important events in our family history. During the Christmas season, many of us undertake pilgrimages to the family homestead for festival meals, to the parishes where we were formed in the faith, or perhaps even to a beautiful manger scene or festival of lights. There are few better days than this in our calendar for spending time with the family, especially on a short pilgrimage to a favorite place. Just make sure that no one gets left behind! — James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## En el Hogar está la Familia



La idea, el sueño y la realidad de lo que es familia es tan fuerte y perdurable que lo usamos para describir lo mejor de las relaciones humanas. Hablamos de una familia de naciones, de nuestra familia eclesial y parroquial. El mejor halago que podemos dar a un amigo o amable anfitrión es decirle que nos sentimos como en casa con su compañía, que nos sentimos parte de la familia.

Las familias son el primer crisol en el que se prueba y se fortalece el amor. Jesús mismo fue una de tres personas que vivía a la sombra del otro. Esta familia, como la nuestra, no siempre “lo hacía todo bien”, pero siempre trataba. Estos tres amateurs celebraban un día de fiesta, y uno de ellos se perdió. Los otros dos se preocuparon bastante y se esforzaron grandemente para encontrar al tercero, un niño después de todo, que siempre buscaba el significado de su llamado. Encontró su vocación –hacer la obra del Padre– pero también volvió a casa con sus padres. – Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

El primer domingo después de la Navidad celebramos la fiesta de la Sagrada Familia. Los latinos somos un pueblo muy unido en familia. Para nosotros es más que un pequeño grupo compuesto de padre, madre, hijos e hijas. La familia para nosotros los latinos es un conjunto grande de abuelos, abuelas, tíos, tías, primos, primas, compadres, comadres, suegros, suegras y otros más además del padre, la madre y los hijos. Para los latinos una fiesta que celebra la familia de Jesús es la cosa más natural del mundo.

Extrañamente esta fiesta no es muy antigua. En realidad es una celebración que data de comienzos de la época moderna en el siglo XVII. Antes de estas fechas la familia de Jesús casi siempre era entendida como compuesta por Jesús, María y Ana (la madre de María). Se daba por hecho que José estaba por allí. Pero en el siglo XVII muchos perdieron sus padres pues tenían que ir a las fábricas a trabajar. Por eso el magisterio instituyó la conmemoración de la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José para recordar a los padres cristianos su deber ante sus hijos y su esposa. – Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## Lecturas de hoy

**Primera lectura** — Ana entregó su hijo Samuel al Señor, dejándolo en el templo de Siló (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) o *Sirácide* 3:2-7, 12-14.

**Salmo** — Señor, dichosos los que viven en tu casa (Salmo 84 [83]) o *Salmo* 128(127).

**Segunda lectura** — Somos hijos de Dios cuando creemos en el nombre de su Hijo, Jesucristo (1 Juan 3:1-2, 21-24) o *Colosenses* 3:12-21 [12-17].

**Evangelio** — José y María encuentran a Jesús perdido en el templo en medio de los maestros (Lucas 2:41-52).

## Lecturas de la Semana

<b>Lunes:</b>	1 Jn 2:18-21; Sal 96 (95):1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
<b>Martes:</b>	Nm 6:22-27; Sal 67 (66):2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gál 4:4-7; Lc 2:16-21
<b>Miércoles:</b>	1 Jn 2:22-28; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Jn 1:19-28
<b>Jueves:</b>	1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Sal 98 (97):1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
<b>Viernes:</b>	1 Jn 3:7-10; Sal 98 (97):1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
<b>Sábado:</b>	1 Jn 3:11-21; Sal 100 (99):1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
<b>Domingo:</b>	Is 60:1-6; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Ef 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

# Sacraments & Ministries

December 30 — January 5

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## December Baptisms

Boland Marie Gregory (12-8-12)  
Tyler Raczyla (12-30-12)



## St. Teresa said...

“What we must do is beg like the needy poor before a great emperor, and then lower our eyes and wait with humility.”



## Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- The Call to Family, Community and Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
- Solidarity: One Human Family
- Care of God's Creation



## Calendar at a Glance

### December 30, Sunday

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph • La Sagrada Familia

- 9:00 am, RR, 9AM Nursery
- 9:15 am, REC, Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 10:30 am, REC1-4, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

### December 31, Monday

St. Sylvester I • San Silvestre I

- No 7:30 am Mass
- 5:00 pm, Church, Mass Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- No Activities Scheduled
- Office Closed

### January 1, Tuesday

Mary, Holy Mother of God; New Year's Day • Santa María, Madre de Dios; Año Nuevo

- 10:00 am, Church, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- No Activities Scheduled
- Office Closed

### January 2, Wednesday

Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen • Santos Basilio Magno Y Gregorio Nacienzeno

- No Activities Scheduled

### January 3, Thursday

The Most Holy Name of Jesus • El Santísimo Nombre de Jesús

- No Activities Scheduled

### January 4, Friday

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; First Friday • San Isabel Ana Seton; Primer Viernes

- 10:00 am, PC3, GS, Food Pantry Distribution
- 12:00 pm, Kitchen, Loaves & Fishes 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

### January 5, Saturday

St. John Nuemann; First Saturday • San Juan Neumann; Primer Sábado

- 9:00 am, PC3, GS, Food Pantry Distribution
- 2:00 pm, Church, William White-Ashley Beste Wedding
- 4:00 pm, Church, Our Lady of Fatima Rosary

The Religious Ed Center (REC) is located at 1940 N. Kenmore Ave., one block south of the Parish Center (PC) at 1950 N. Kenmore. The Gathering Space (GS) is the entrance area to the PC. The Reconciliation Room (RR) is at the back of church next to the font.



# Mass Schedule & Intentions

## Mass Intentions

### December 29

- 5:00 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish
- 9:00 am All Deceased Members of the Parish
- 12:00 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish
- 6:00 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish

### December 30

## 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, Mark Dudley, Julia Faloyin, Isabella Feliciano, Carlos Hernandez Gomez, Manuel Gomez, Donald Grabarczyk, Timothy Halpin, Lee Incandela, Pat Johnson, Teresa Joan Kilkullen, Michael Kinsella, Laura Lee, Catherine Malec, Isabelle Martinez, Melory Mizicko, Sally Jo Morrow, Cindy O'Keefe, Nella Palazzola, Ben & Susan Patraso, Sophia Sanchez, Maurice Shatto, Jim Teterycz, Oscar R. Torres, Jon Wagenknecht, Victims of War & Domestic Violence*

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.

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

- |                                     |                                  |   |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| <i>Alicia Anderson</i>              | <i>Theresa Jabaley</i>           | <i>Ray Romero</i>                                 |
| <i>Berta Billalvazo</i>             | <i>Betty LaCour</i>              | <i>Jeffrey Roscoe</i>                             |
| <i>Patricia Chuck</i>               | <i>Adolfo Lorenzana</i>          | <i>Sr. Jean Ryan, O.C.D.</i>                      |
| <i>Basilio Diaz</i>                 | <i>Carmen Dolores Lorenzana</i>  | <i>Jack Schank</i>                                |
| <i>Jackson Fineske &amp; Family</i> | <i>Carmen Felicita Lorenzana</i> | <i>Ruth Schmitz</i>                               |
| <i>Padraig Gallagher</i>            | <i>Miguel Lorenzana</i>          | <i>Jennifer Schubeck</i>                          |
| <i>Eloisa Gallegos</i>              | <i>George Marroquin</i>          | <i>Sandra Seiffert</i>                            |
| <i>Michael Gibbons</i>              | <i>Jose Marroquin</i>            | <i>Mima Tome</i>                                  |
| <i>Angela Goldberg</i>              | <i>Margaret Sue Meadors</i>      | <i>JoAnn Jahnke Trainer</i>                       |
| <i>Kaylee Gommel</i>                | <i>Bill Mobley</i>               | <i>John Wagner</i>                                |
| <i>Les Gordon</i>                   | <i>John Monier</i>               | <i>Bernadine Walters</i>                          |
| <i>Genevieve Gorgo</i>              | <i>Elda Myers</i>                | <i>Valerie Williams</i>                           |
| <i>Mrs. Grabarczyk</i>              | <i>Angel Nieves</i>              | <i>Jack Williams</i>                              |
| <i>Kellar Harris</i>                | <i>P. A. O'Neil</i>              | <i>Mae Witry</i>                                  |
| <i>David Hoffman</i>                | <i>Msgr. Kevin O'Neill</i>       |   |
| <i>David Ivanac</i>                 | <i>Honorata Alicea Peña</i>      | <i>Survivors and perpetrators of sexual abuse</i> |
| <i>Chuck Jabaley</i>                | <i>Hector J. Rivera</i>          |   |
|                                     | <i>Pedro Rodriguez</i>           |   |

## Celebrant and Minister Schedule

DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC BREAD	EUCCHARISTIC WINE
12-31-12 Monday	5:00 pm	Fr. John Rybolt	Michael Zost	Minister Needed (H2)	Tom Kosnik (C1) Minister Needed (C2)
1-1-13 Tuesday	10:00 am	Fr. Pascal Kasanziki	Elizabeth Rooney	Colin McCue	Jane Ott Minister Needed (C2)
1-5-13 Saturday	5:00 pm	Fr. Charles Shelby	Dennis Kamalick	Leigh Hartley	Becky Francis Maggie Kuhlmann
1-6-13 Sunday	9:00 am	Fr. Barry Moriarty	Geneva Gorgo	Jennifer Barrett Nancy Van Grinsven Mark Van Grinsven	Frank Swiderski Michael Zost Mary Serrahn Rose Ohiku
1-6-13 Sunday	10:30 am	Fr. Edil Calero Cortez	Maria Montes Alex Lopez	Carmen Cruz	Antonio Bosque
1-6-13 Sunday	12:00 pm	Fr. Barry Moriarty	Tom Kosnik	Aimee Jaszczor	Alice Morales-Villenas Katie Broussard
1-6-13 Sunday	6:00 pm	Fr. Tony Dosen	Christine Villoch	Eileen Raia Jocelyn Lutkus Jamie Lutkus	Jane Bronson Sharon Lindstrom Kathy Richgels Karen Melchert

## Enroll in Give Central this Weekend

Your stewardship and participation in the life of St. Teresa of Avila Parish is central to the continued vitality of this faith community.

We hope that GiveCentral will offer you a convenient and simple opportunity to continue and enhance your involvement in the church.

GiveCentral is an online donation tool. It is a secure way to give from a bank account, credit card or debit card.

GiveCentral enrollment forms will be available after all Masses this weekend on the tables at the back of church and in the Gathering Space.

Sign up for online giving at

***GiveCentral***

for your weekly offertory and other donations!

Three reasons to sign up:

1. Give Central is completely safe and secure as it follows SSL encryption standards.
2. It's easy to sign up, update throughout the year, and review your gifts as often as you like.
3. You can make your gifts through most credit cards or online checking.

GIVE  
CENTRAL.  
ORG

## Self-emptying Love of God

Our Nativity icon is filled with paradox. We see a simple birth, in a dark cave, in a barren land. There are no lush trees, cornucopia of foods and fruits, no king's castle. Yet it is here in this harsh and barren land that we experience the miracle of Christ's birth in the world. It is here that we experience the self-emptying love of God entering into the world ultimately to restore us to union with God.

The arch at the top of the Nativity icon is called the "arch of heaven". And even though we don't think of heaven as a specific physical place, it is one of the spaces where God resides in an icon. The ray descending from the arch of heaven represents the Holy Spirit. The star which is part of the infancy narrative is aligned with the arch of heaven and the Holy Spirit. In this icon the Trinity is present to us.

The ray of light pierces a fleshy color mountain that holds within itself a dark cave. We can see this fleshy color mountain as the womb of God birthing forth into the world both Mary and the Christ child. We can also see this fleshy color mountain as our hearts. It is in our hearts that the miraculous birth of Christ comes to us. It is in our hearts that the piercing love of God enters us and at times knocks us off our feet.

Sometimes we, in our hearts, can be like this barren land. Sometimes we, in our hearts, can be unwelcoming to the Christ child. It is a difficult thing to understand from our heart, from our being, that we are not saved by our own efforts. We are only saved by the mercy of God. It all begins from this revelation. Thomas Merton wrote in "Life and Holiness" about this dynamic. He writes, "If we are able to believe that he is truly our loving Father, if we can really accept the truth of his infinite and compassionate concern for us, if we believe that he loves us not because we are worthy but because we need his love, then we can advance with confidence."

**Join us for the next session of  
Men's Spirituality Group  
on Tuesday, January 8,  
from 6:15 am to 7:30 am in the parish center.**

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

— Tom Kosnik

## Next 6:51 Club is January 20th!



St. Teresa's 6:51 Club meets every 3rd Sunday of the month after the 6:00 pm Mass for hospitality and community.

January's 6:51 Club will be a warm and wintry after-church dinner. Join us to meet fellow parishioners.

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



### Women's Spirituality in January

On Tuesday, January 29th at 7:30 pm., women of St. Teresa's who seek spiritual nourishment and an opportunity for quiet prayer, reflection and conversation are invited to gather in the Religious Education Center at 1940 N. Kenmore Avenue.

We meet monthly, September through May, generally on the last Tuesday of the month. In January, one of our group will gather us in prayer. Hope you can join us.

Contact Cathy Flaherty, (773) 472-8456, with any questions.



### Women's Center Baby Bottle Project

This year's Baby Bottle Project ends this weekend— all baby bottles for the Women's Centers of Chicagoland are due back this Sunday.

The Women's Center directly assists mothers and families experiencing crisis pregnancies by offering emotional, financial, material, and spiritual support.

They are committed to helping people help themselves. In some cases, this is simply a matter of bringing out the clients' inner strength, courage and resolve, to face life's challenges. Sometimes, it involves helping to find available community resources to help overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

A good deal of our counseling staff time is spent working with clients and community organizations to bring together a good match of needs and available resources.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Women's Centers of Chicagoland this year..



### First Saturday — Primer Sábado Our Lady of Fatima Devotion


Everyone is welcome to join the First-Saturday rosary devotion to Our lady of Fatima on January 5 at 4:00 pm in the church.

Todos estan invitados a la devoción a la Virgen de Fátima el 5 de enero en la iglesia Santa Teresa de Avila a las 4:00 pm.



**Our Lady of Fátima** is a title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary with respect to reported apparitions of her to three shepherd children at Fátima in Portugal on the 13th day of six consecutive months in 1917.

The reported apparitions at Fatima were officially declared "worthy of belief" by the Catholic Church. To learn more go to [http://www.ewtn.com/fatima/apparitions/Third\\_Secret/Fatima.htm](http://www.ewtn.com/fatima/apparitions/Third_Secret/Fatima.htm)



**Eucharistic Adoration**

**TUESDAYS**  
7:00-8:30PM

**St. Teresa of Avila**  
Catholic Church

1037 W. Armitage Ave. • Chicago, Illinois 60614  
773-528-6650 • [www.st-teresa.net](http://www.st-teresa.net)

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## The Approach of God

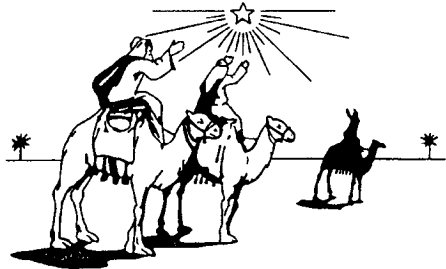
The Epiphany is the symbol of God's revelation to us humans. It is a very complicated relationship.

When Moses asked God what his name was, God was taken by surprise. "A name separates one person from another. But since there is no other God, there is no need for me to have a name. I never even thought about it. I am simply who I am."

And a name is just the beginning of the complex divine-human relationship. How does a human deal with divinity? Israel believed that if anyone saw God face to face they would die. That is why God showed Moses only God's backside — not to save face, but to save Moses' life.

When the Roman god Zeus appeared to anyone as a lightning bolt, that person was reduced to ashes. Zeus did not want to kill his worshipers, nor did God want to harm humans who approached him. It is just that God is so different, so overpowering, that God's presence automatically wiped out everything that was not God. God is like the physical force of a tornado or earthquake. These things don't intend to create devastation; they simply do what they are. Like a flame that unintentionally consumes a moth. God doesn't mean to create a vacuum when he appears. It just happens.

Then how do God and humans ever get together? Humans have no power to approach God. So the only way for them to meet is if



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Nietzsche called God a piece of undigested meat that gave us indigestion. But since Jesus, we can actually assimilate God into our bodies.

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God somehow becomes a part of the human world, somehow materializes in space and time. The only way that God could safely come into his world was as a vulnerable, weak person who took to himself the worst of human evil and allowed himself to be tortured and executed. Mortals could look at God face to face as one of their own kind, only lower.

Nietzsche called God a piece of undigested meat that gave us indigestion. But since Jesus, we can actually assimilate God into our bodies. In holy Communion, we know God at the material, molecular level. This divine revelation of God's real self demonstrates that God is bigger than all the boxes we try to put God in.

This great boon to us is also a benefit to God. Because in a way, God really becomes God only when someone calls him "God." Before that human recognition, God is

alone; God is not anything to anyone. God just *is*.

The philosopher Alfred North Whitehead describes a progression in our relationship with the holy, unnamable Mystery. He says that we first experience God as a void.

God has no content, no qualities, no personality. Since we know nothing about God and can never hope to plumb his mystery, all we experience is a great absence. Then, as God slowly reveals parts of his essence to us, God seems to be our enemy. God creates everything, sustains everything, knows everything, judges everyone, is powerful enough to destroy us. From our experience of human power, we assume that such great power would have no benefit in befriending us. It is only when we get to know God better, when we begin to trust his good intentions toward us, that we dare think of God as a friend. We eventually realize that all of God's power is directed toward our own good. We can now experience the void as God's absence, which strangely verifies God's reality. If there were no God, we could not feel God's absence.

Friends must endure the essential difference between each other. And learn to love the infinite distance.

# Directory

## Parish Leadership

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor**

Rev. Frank Latzko  
On Sabbatical

**Director of Religious Education**

Kate Lynch, ext. 232  
kolyndchre@gmail.com

**Music Director**

Jason Krumwiede  
musicalnut1@mac.com

**Business Manager**

Erica Saccucci, ext. 231  
esaccucci@gmail.com

**Office Manager**

Deacon Dean Vaeth, ext. 230  
dvaeth@stteresaparish.org

**Evening Reception**

Olu Balogun, ext. 210  
obalogun@stteresaparish.org

**Facilities Manager**

Thomas Micinski, ext. 212  
tmicinski@stteresaparish.org

**Maintenance/Housekeeping**

Sergio Mora  
Irma Saavedra



St. Teresa  
of Avila  
Catholic Church

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

**Dave Wisneski, Chair**

**Jon Assell**  
**Jessica Marx**  
**Mark Matejka**  
**Bertel Olson**

**Marjorie Rice**  
**Michael Rice**  
**Tony Rivera**  
**Christine Villoch**

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body to the pastor and represents a cross section of the parish. PPC is kept abreast of the activities of the Parish and its operations. Together with the Pastor, the PPC helps to craft and carry out the Mission of the Parish. PPC also researches the needs of the parish and works with Parish leadership to evaluate and improve our quality of life as a faith community.

**The Parish Council usually meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.**

### FINANCE COUNCIL

**Bill Mack, Chair**

**Brian Scullion**  
**Jane Bronson**  
**Jack Halpin**  
**Jane Ott**

**Dave Hilko**  
**Steve Fortino**  
**Andrew Deye**  
**Becky Francis**

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.

**The Finance Council usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.**

## Information

### Weekend Masses

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

\* First Sunday of the Month

### Weekday Masses

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

\* Communion Service only

### Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays	7:00 pm
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### For information about ...

Baptism, Marriage, Reconciliation,  
Mass Intentions, RCIA or Communion  
for the Sick

### Please call Dean in the Parish Office

1950 N. Kenmore, Chicago, IL 60614  
(773) 528-6650 · (773) 871-6766 fax  
www.st-teresa.net · dvaeth@stteresaparish.org

### Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am—7:30 pm  
Saturday: 9:00 am—Noon  
Closed Sundays & Holidays.

### Counseling Services

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

**Mary Ellen Moore, Ph.D.**  
Counseling and  
Spiritual Direction  
(773) 643-6259, ext. 17  
www.claretcenter.org