

# St. Teresa of Avila Parish

*A Roman Catholic Faith Community*

*Armitage & Kenmore Avenues*

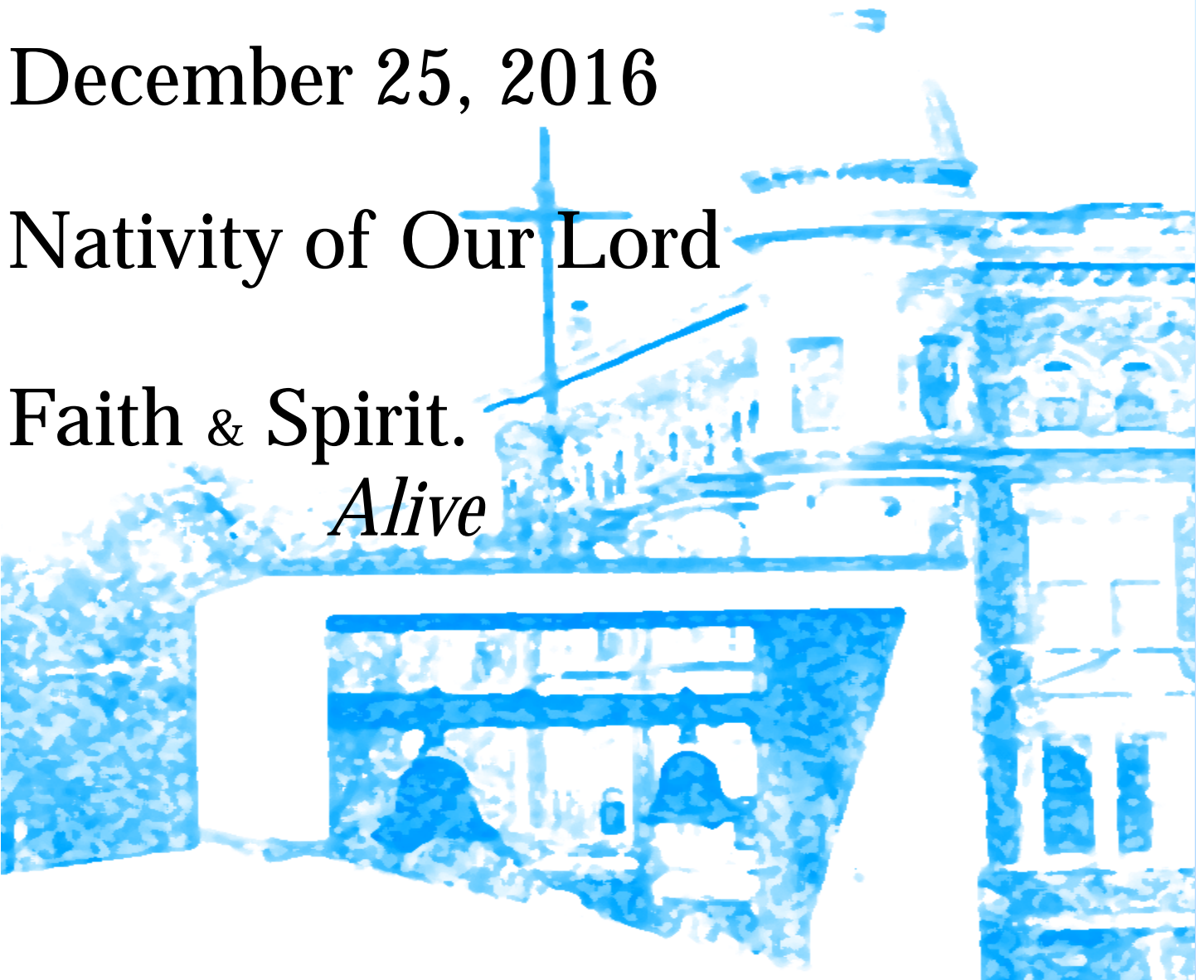
*Chicago, IL 60614*



December 25, 2016

Nativity of Our Lord

Faith & Spirit.  
*Alive*



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The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not  
overcome it.

— John 1:5

# Stewardship

December 25 — December 31

Page Two

## A Steward's Story



When I moved to Chicago in 2001, my personal goals were to find an engaging Catholic parish, to volunteer, and to play a co-ed sport. When the parish had a volunteer fair, I started

tutoring high schoolers in math and science. At my first tutoring session, a fellow tutor needed a female volleyball player to fill his roster, and I signed up. I made volunteering a priority, and everything else fell into place.

Today, I continue to be actively involved at St. Teresa's, both in the Stewardship and Liturgical ministries, and I am still on a seasonal volleyball team. My involvement in the parish community not

only results in spiritual enrichment, but it is the gift that continues to pay it forward- via new friendships, skills, experiences and so much more!

— Mary Serrahn, Stewardship Committee Member

Share *your* story! Email [robrien@stteresaparish.org](mailto:robrien@stteresaparish.org)

### Ministry Fair, January 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> – Save the Date!

The Stewardship Committee is excited to announce our next ministry fair to be held on January 7-8, after all Masses! Having a dynamic ministry fair was one of the key goals that came out of Parish Transformation. A ministry fair is a chance for people to learn more about our volunteer opportunities and other ways to get involved, and enjoy food, drink and raffle prizes!



## Refugee Ministry Update

A big thank you to all who have supported the refugee ministry!

- Toyumba, Shakir and Noorbar are doing well. Noorbar is attending school and Shakir is keeping busy with work to help support his family. We continue to supplement their living expenses as the family adapts to life in the US.
- The “Welcome, Babies!” project was a huge success and we are no longer in need of baby item donations. On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sumaiya gave birth to Jamida who weighed in at 7lbs,

2oz. Mom and daughter are doing well and thrilled with the wardrobe and essentials that we’ve provided.

- Our ministry was thrilled to provided 50 Christmas gifts for children and teens in the Catholic Charities Refugee program.

We are ready to sponsor a new refugee family but need additional mentors to commit to working with a family on an ongoing basis.

Email [robrien@stteresaparish.org](mailto:robrien@stteresaparish.org) to learn more.

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 follow 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



Save the  
Date!

*Cuisine du Coeur*

“France, Food and Fashion”

Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>  
11am - 3pm

More info coming soon

Visit [st-teresa.net/volunteer](http://st-teresa.net/volunteer) to browse and sign up for a selection of recurring volunteer opportunities.

*Most  
Wanted  
Volunteers*

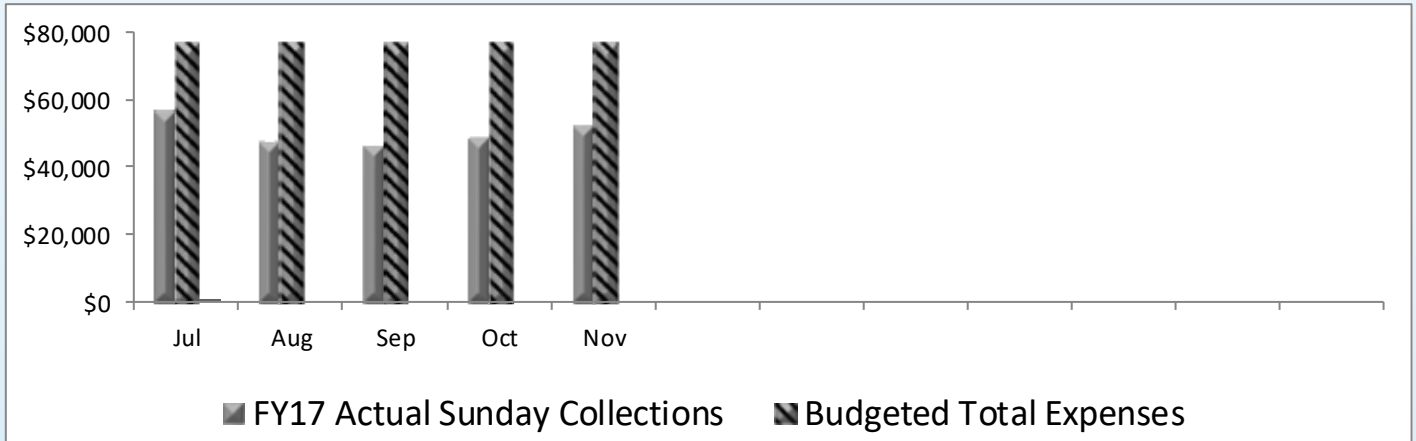
Bible Study Leaders  
or Hosts

Refugee Mentors

Greeters

Interested in volunteering? Contact Rebecca at [robrien@stteresaparish.org](mailto:robrien@stteresaparish.org) or (773) 528-6650

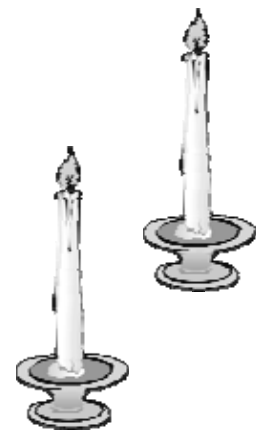
## Fiscal Year (07/1 - 6/30) Comparison to Date



- In the graph above you will see that we have not yet met our budgeted expenses with our Sunday collections. We are on budget with our total income versus expense. Total income includes Sunday, Christmas and Easter collections, fundraising and miscellaneous donations.
- Our goal is to fund all operations and expenses from the weekly collections.
- St. Teresa's annual fundraisers assist in meeting funding gaps. It is the goal of the Finance Council and Fr. Frank to increase weekly giving to meet ongoing expenses and to use the proceeds from fundraisers for special initiatives and outreach programs.
- Please contact our Business Manager, Maggie Fernandez, with any questions at [mfernandez@sttereseparish.org](mailto:mfernandez@sttereseparish.org), or Matt Donner, our Finance Council chair, at [mtonner19199@gmail.com](mailto:mtonner19199@gmail.com).
- The next Finance Council meeting is January 16, 2017.

### Stewardship of Prayer and Worship

Advent Weekend Count:	11-27-16	12-4-16	12-11-16	12-18-16
Average Daily Mass Attendance	7	6	6	6
Average Friday Communion Service	2	2	2	2
Saturday, 5:00 pm Mass Attendance	60	55	80	70
Saturday, 6:30 pm Mass Attendance (French)	-	60	-	52
Sunday, 9:00 am Mass Attendance	180	195	160	170
Sunday, 10:30 am Mass Attendance (Spanish)	-	-	60	-
Sunday, 12:00 pm Mass Attendance	100	150	120	135
Sunday, 6:00 pm Mass Attendance	160	145	150	130
<b>Total Weekend Mass Attendance</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>557</b>
Confessions this Week	3	0	6	0
Anointing/Sick Calls/Hospital Visits this Week	0	0	0	0
Funerals since January 2016	5	6	6	6
Weddings since January 2016	8	8	8	8
Infant Baptisms since January 2016	27	28	28	28



There are 351 parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago; only 55 parishes have weekend attendance that exceeds 2,000. **St. Teresa of Avila's 2016 October Count was an average 550 people attending weekend Masses.** In the Archdiocese there is 1 priest for every 1,525 parishioners; in the USA the ratio is 1:1,653 Catholics; 27 percent of US parishes do not have a resident priest. In comparison, South America has a ratio of 1:7,094 Catholics.

# Parish Calendar

December 25 — December 31

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## December Baptisms

*Henrick Liam Lennox (12-4-16)*



## Interested in the Catholic Faith?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process through which interested adults are introduced to the Roman Catholic faith and way of life.



The RCIA process is for the un-baptized who want to join the Catholic Church; and those who have been baptized Catholic or in another Christian denomination, and want to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith, please contact Fr. Frank at (773) 528-6650.

## Calendar at a Glance

### Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

- No Activities Planned

### Monday, December 26

- Christmas Holiday—Office Closed
- No 7:30 am Mass

### Tuesday, December 27

- 6:30 am, PC, Men's Spirituality
- 6:15 pm, Church, Lectio Divina
- 7:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration

### Wednesday, December 28

- 7:00 pm, PC-Kitchen, Night Ministry Cooking

### Thursday, December 29

- 9:00 am, PC, Food Pantry Delivery

### Friday, December 30

- 10:00 am, Kitchen, Loaves & Fishes Cooking
- 5:00 pm, PC, Loaves and Fishes Dinner
- 7:00 pm, Church, Spanish Prayer Group

### Saturday, December 31

New Year's Eve

- 10:00 am, PC-GS, Food Pantry Distribution

### Saints & Special Observances

- Sunday:** The Nativity of the Lord  
**Monday:** St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins  
**Tuesday:** St. John  
**Wednesday:** The Holy Innocents  
**Thursday:** St. Thomas Becket  
**Friday:** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
**Saturday:** St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

- Domingo:** La Natividad del Señor  
**Lunes:** San Esteban; Se inicia Kwanza  
**Martes:** San Juan  
**Miércoles:** Los Santos Inocentes  
**Jueves:** Santo Tomás Becket  
**Viernes:** La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José  
**Sábado:** San Silvestre I; Víspera del Año Nuevo; Séptimo Día de la Octava de Navidad

### December 2016 Food Pantry Schedule

- Saturday, December 3**  
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution
- Saturday, December 10**  
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution
- Saturday, December 17**  
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution
- Saturday, December 24**  
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution
- Saturday, December 31**  
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution



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 at Kenmore Avenue.

# Mass Schedule & Intentions

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm Deceased Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila  
8:00 pm Bill Walsh; John & Mildred Buciak

### Sunday, December 25

9:00 am Deceased Parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila  
12:00 pm Isabella Feliciano

Our **Mass Intentions** have many openings. If you would like to have a Mass said for someone alive or deceased, contact Deacon Dean 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.

## Let Us Pray

### Please pray for our deceased friends and parishioners...

*Rodolfo Bech, Barbara Byrd, Dolores Berendsen, Shaun Cantrell, Jerica Elaine Harris, Dorothy Holdsworth, Fred Jabaley, Joseph Kamalick, Rev. Oscar Lukefahr, CM, Anthony Mastro, Angel Luis Neris, Carmela Nurmi, John and Margaret O'Neill, Robert Rooney, Bridie Ryan, Rev. David Stagaman, SJ, John Wagner, Victims of War & Domestic Violence*

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

*Alicia Anderson  
Dorothy Barns  
Berta Billavazo  
Lauren Dittrich Bilyeu  
Elizabeth Ryan Dean  
Michael De Blasis  
Kathy Derrick  
Kim Duffy  
Isabelle Eiffert  
Jackson Fineske & Family  
Alice Flynn  
Padraig Gallagher  
Eloisa Gallegos  
Michael Gibbons  
Angela Goldberg  
Kaylee Gommel  
Bolívar Gonzales, Jr.  
Les Gordon  
Mrs. Grabarczyk  
George Halloran  
Kellar Harris  
Peg Hausen  
David Hoffman  
David Ivanac*

*Chuck Jabaley  
Ronald Jakubec  
Krista Kutz  
Tom Kinsella  
Liz Kunkel  
Betty LaCour  
Carmen D. Lorenzana  
Gabriel Lozada  
Palмира Mancini  
George Maroquin  
Jose Maroquin  
Lisa Marquez  
Margaret Sue Meadors  
Daniel Meyer  
Bill Mobley  
John Monier  
Fr. Barry Moriarty, C.M.  
Elda Myers  
John Paul Nelson  
Angel Nieves  
Msgr. Kevin O'Neill  
Frank O'Toole  
Clayton Poe  
Carol Poyner*

*Marie Koesters-Ranley  
Deacon Hector Rivera  
Hector J. Rivera  
Luis Rivera  
Pedro Rodriguez  
Ray Romero  
Jeffrey Roscoe  
Sr. Camilla Mary Marney, OCD  
Sr. Jean Ryan, OCD  
Jack Schank  
Will Sullivan  
Laura Szejka  
Mima Tome  
JoAnn Jahnke Trainer  
Marianne Usiak  
Sara Vega  
Susan Violapiano  
Jack Williams  
Valerie Williams  
Mae Witry  
David Zeunert  
Survivors and perpetrators of sexual abuse*

## Celebrant and Minister Schedule

DATE	TIME	Celebrant	Sacristan/ Lector	Eucharistic Host	Eucharistic Cup
12-31-16	5:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Lisa Marquez Lector: Luke Kolman	Lisa Marquez	Luke Kolman Minister Needed (C2)
1-1-17	9:00 AM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Frank Swiderski Lector: Sasha Woods	Kevin Ludden	Frank Swiderski Minister Needed (C2)
1-1-17	10:30 AM	Rev. Tom Ess, OFM	Sacristan: Francisco Perez Lector: Alejandro Lopez		
1-1-17	12:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Francisco Perez Lector: Lisa Hanzelka	Minister Needed	Bert Olson Aimee Jaszczor
1-1-17	No 6:00 PM Mass				
Next French Mass 1-7-17	6:30 PM	Fr. Cesaire			



# Readings/Lecturas

December 25 — December 31

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## Readings for the Week

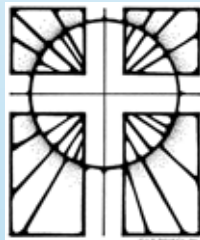
<b>Monday:</b>	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
<b>Thursday:</b>	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40
<b>Friday:</b>	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
<b>Sunday:</b>	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

## Lecturas de la Semana

<b>Lunes:</b>	Hch 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Sal 31 (30):3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
<b>Martes:</b>	1 Jn 1:1-4; Sal 97 (96):1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
<b>Miércoles:</b>	1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Sal 124 (123):2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
<b>Jueves:</b>	1 Jn 2:3-11; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 5b-6; Lc 2:36-40
<b>Viernes:</b>	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 o Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Sal 128 (127):1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
<b>Sábado:</b>	1 Jn 2:18-21; Sal 96 (95):1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
<b>Domingo:</b>	Nm 6:22-27; Sal 67 (66):2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gál 4:4-7; Lc 2:16-21

## Treasures from Tradition

An old joke asks, “What time is Midnight Mass?” The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of “midnight” predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as “The Shepherds’ Mass,” and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus’ birth to focus on the key to the day’s celebration: John the Evangelist’s majestic theology of Christ’s identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you’re officially late! — James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



## Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

Hoy celebramos el nacimiento de Jesús, comenzando con la Misa de Gallo. A esta Misa se le añade la tradición popular que ha comenzado en el hogar con pesebres, comidas y regalos. Se nos haría difícil imaginar terminar el año sin la Navidad. Pero el calendario cristiano sólo la ha festejado algunos 1800 años. Los primeros cristianos únicamente celebraban la Pascua de Resurrección, siguiendo lo que todos los evangelios nos relatan de los eventos de la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Jesús. Sólo Mateo y Lucas mencionan su nacimiento.

Alrededor del año 200 d.C., los cristianos egipcios empezaron a conmemorar el nacimiento de Jesús el 20 de marzo que era el noveno mes de su calendario. Con el tiempo, la idea de festejar el nacimiento del Mesías se extendió a otras comunidades cristianas, pero con diversas fechas como el 19 de abril, el 6 de enero, el 28 de marzo y otras. Fue hasta el siglo cuarto que se fijó la fecha para el 25 de diciembre, gracias a Juan Crisóstomo y al Papa Julio I. Otras fuentes señalan que en el año 366 los cristianos comenzaron a celebrar el nacimiento de Cristo, sol de justicia, precisamente el 25 de diciembre.

En realidad no sabemos cuándo nació Jesús, pero sí sabemos que hay que celebrar el hecho que Dios se hizo uno de nosotros. — Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gluz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## The Gift of God's Word

On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



## El Don de la Palabra de Dios

En este día de recibir y dar regalos, parece apropiado que tomemos un momento para reflexionar sobre el gran don de la Palabra de Dios. La Palabra de Dios es creativa y por eso siempre apunta a su autor, siempre nos llama a responder. La Palabra de Dios es poderosa y puede enlazar lo sublime con lo ridículo, lo trascendente con lo inmanente, lo divino con lo humano. La Palabra de Dios es llena de gracia, establece una relación de intimidad profunda entre nosotros y Dios.

En el corazón de la Palabra de Dios yace una tensión seductora entre lo misterioso y lo mundano. En nuestra celebración litúrgica, esta tensión sin resolución revela el significado de la vida para nosotros y también nos llama a responder para actuar según ese significado.

Una vez que la aceptamos y la abrimos, el don de la Palabra de Dios es un regalo que sigue dando y sigue llamándonos a dar a cambio. Nos reta a ser como el dador de regalos y a convertirse en regalos para los demás, no solo en Navidad, sino en cada momento de la vida. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).

**Psalm** — All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God (Psalm 98).

**Second Reading** — God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God's being (Hebrews 1:1-6).

**Gospel** — The Word became flesh; from his fullness we have all received grace (John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).



## Lecturas de Hoy

**Primera lectura** — Todos a una gritan alborozados. Verá la tierra entera la salvación que viene de nuestro Dios (Isaías 52:7-10).

**Salmo** — Los confines de la tierra han contemplado la victoria de nuestro Dios (Salmo 98 [97]).

**Segunda lectura** — Dios nos ha hablado por medio de su Hijo, la imagen fiel de su ser (Hebreos 1:1-

6).

**Evangelio** — El Verbo se hizo carne; y todos recibimos de él en una sucesión de gracias sin número (Juan 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).

# Parish Life

December 25 — December 31

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## Guaranteed Entry: 2017 Chicago Marathon

All St. Teresa members plus their family and friends are invited to join one of the following charity teams: The Taller de José and Erica's Lighthouse.



Earlier this year both charities received an Avila in Action grant! Now they are looking for people to join their marathon teams.

Further information concerning these charities running teams including their mission statements and team members benefits can be found on their web pages or by contacting Coach Mark Buciak at: [theroadtoboston.info](http://theroadtoboston.info)

Runners, joggers and walkers of all abilities are welcome especially first time marathoners! Coach Mark has a customized training program to get you to the finish line.

## Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50)

Looking to start 2017 off with a renewed sense of purpose & belonging?

Then register today for a life-changing *Reflect* weekend retreat at the Cardinal Stritch Retreat House, Mundelein, IL (in the northern suburbs), on Feb 17-19, 2017.

Take a chance and get involved... this is one New Year's resolution you won't regret! Cost is \$197 for meals and a single room.

Call (312) 532-8286, email [reflect.chicagoland@gmail.com](mailto:reflect.chicagoland@gmail.com), or visit [www.ReflectRetreat.com](http://www.ReflectRetreat.com) for details.



## Food Pantry Shopping List

There are five items the Food Pantry could *really* use:

- Pasta & rice (all kinds)
- Oatmeal
- Boxed cereal
- Hearty canned soups
- Regular- and family-size deodorant & shampoo; toothbrushes & toothpaste



**We no longer need extra-strength grocery bags.** If you are interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry, contact Lisa Hanzelka at [lhanelka@gmail.com](mailto:lhanelka@gmail.com) or Dave Hilko at [dahilko@deloitte.com](mailto:dahilko@deloitte.com)

## The Giving Tree Gifts Pile Up

Thank you for your generous support of the 198 children at Marillac-St. Vincent Family Services this year.

And thank you Andrew and Kelly Roccasalva for helping with the gift tags again this year.

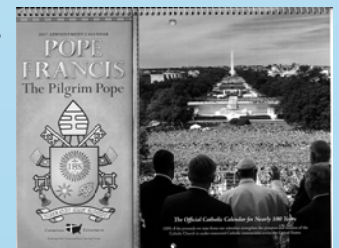
**Your gifts were picked up last Tuesday and delivered to the children the next day.**



## 2017 Calendars

There are 2017 Pope Francis Calendars are now available in English and Spanish.

**Pick up a copy at the church entrances.**





## From Fr. Frank ...

Last Sunday, thanks to Kerry O'Brien, we had a magnificent feast in the rectory. His lamb roast dinner was absolutely phenomenal, not to mention delicious!! We had nearly 80 people stop by at the rectory for a Christmas celebration. Thank you, Kerry.



I want to thank all of you for supporting me after the death of my father. Your words and prayers meant much to me as I celebrated my Dad's life of 91 years! The Mass was beautiful and prayerful. The loss of both of my parents has created a huge void within that will eventually be filled with God's Presence. Thank God for friends and parishioners.

I went to the *Christkindlmarket* yesterday in Daley Center. The presence of police barricades at the two entrances was a stark reminder of the recent terrorist attack in the *Christkindlmarket* in Berlin that killed 12 people, injuring dozens. May the Peace of Christmas descend on the earth and may hearts...all hearts...be transformed.

I wish all of you a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

— Peace. Fr. Frank

## Baby Bottle Project

St. Teresa of Avila is supporting in the Baby Bottle Project benefiting *The Women's Centers of Greater Chicagoland* again this year.



This non-profit organization directly assists families experiencing crisis pregnancies by offering emotional, financial, material and spiritual support.

This is a simple, but crucial fundraising effort for *The Women's Centers*.

**Please take a Baby Bottle home with you today and bring it back to St. Teresa no later than Sunday, January 8th.**

## Blest Art Here January 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

Blest Art will be visiting St. Teresa of Avila parish on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Our mission is to support those families in the Holy Land.

For centuries, the Christians in and around Bethlehem have earned a living by carving religious olive wood art to sell to visiting pilgrims. Fewer pilgrims are journeying to the Holy Land today, making it difficult for those Christians to support their families.

Blest Art, Inc. helps the struggling Christian families of Bethlehem by marketing their artwork in the United States.

On January 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, please visit the Blest Art display and to consider purchasing a piece of art from the Holy Land. In doing so, you will help support the many families who depend on this form or art for their living. Your purchase will make a difference in the lives of many Christian families.

If you will be out of town the weekend we visit your parish, please stop by our Web site: [www.BlestArt.org](http://www.BlestArt.org). You can order beautiful carvings to be shipped to your home.



## St. Teresa said...

Mental prayer ...is nothing else than an intimate sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us.



## Starlit Paths to God

Let's listen to the artists and the bible talk about words. The poet, Czesław Miłosz said, "Language is the only homeland." The scriptures tell us that in the beginning God "created the heavens and the earth" then go on to tell us that "in the beginning was the Word." It was made flesh and dwells among us. The word is Jesus, artistically presented.

For all we know God created Jesus because God is fundamentally an artist or a writer or a sculptor. God as artist is a very different way of thinking of God than God as judge or even creator.

This Christmas morn when we catch our breath to look at the tree we have sculpted or the cards written to or by us or the packages we have created, we may want to have a little fun and think of ourselves as artists. We may want to join the divine in the images of art.

As Mary Oliver notes in *The Writer's Almanac*: "Jack Kerouac was a fast typist, and it frustrated him to have to change the paper so often. So he took long sheets of drawing paper, trimmed them to fit in the machine, and wrote all of *On the Road* that way. When he taped them together at the end, the manuscript was 120 feet long." You could call Kerouac's trick appropriate technology or creative handling of an asset that had met a problem. Or you could imagine God's long manuscript, written in the history



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**In the beginning was a new word. A new way. It's called peace. At the end there will be a new word, also. It will be creative. It will be peace.**

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of human kind. It goes on and on and on.

Take a sculptural metaphor if you don't care for the written or poetic word. Melissa McGill's sculpture *Constellation* drags the stars to earth just about any night off the Beacon shore or from the train between Cold Spring and Beacon in New York. She installed LED lights on an island in the Hudson River. When the artist asked the contractor how hard it would be to install the lights in such a way as to mimic the stars above them and in such a way that they would "come on" every night parallel to the real stars in the real sky, the contractor said it would be almost impossible. "Have to haul everything over there by boat." "Wind." "Snow" "Sturdy poles." And then he smiled and said, but you are going to do this right? And she and he did.

I can imagine God's con-

tractors saying the same thing at the moment of creation. That and "Are you kidding me?"

The night after the Orlando shooting earlier this year, on the night of the Oscars, the award winning play *Alexander Hamilton* received a ton of awards. They got to perform a little – and did a major scene of the play differently. Instead of staging the battle with muskets, they staged it without muskets. In the beginning was a new word. A new way. It's called peace. At the end there will be a new word, also. It will be creative. It will be peace.

Maybe you'll never get to New York to see *Constellation*, this hundredth wonder of the world. And perhaps you can't afford the tickets to *Hamilton*. You can always go out at night and stare at a star and let it lead you to the Messiah and his magnificently made and natural cosmos. Or you can make a star out of paper and put it on your tree. Or write a poem about the star that guides you. Or live as if starlight and starlit paths to God are your real homeland.

# St. Teresa of Avila Parish Leadership Teams

## Pastoral Council

Jessica Marx  
Anna Althoff  
Bertel Olson  
Paolo Basil  
Justin Peters  
Luke Kolman  
Kate Lynch

Alex Lopez  
Chris Parente  
Jose Cervantes  
Mary Paz Ramirez  
Tom Micinski  
Rebecca O'Brien

## Finance Council

Jane Bronson  
Jack Halpin  
Ray Genellie  
Justin Alden

Dave Hilko  
Steve Fortino  
Becky Francis  
Andrew O'Dekirk

## Stewardship Committee

Paolo Basil  
Anastasia Bullinger  
Kelly Dean  
Lisa Marquez  
John Mitchell

Rebecca O'Brien  
Chris Parente  
Mary Serrahn  
Dan Summins  
Mark Van Grinsven

Jessica Marx is president of the Parish Pastoral Council; her email is [chicago2381@hotmail.com](mailto:chicago2381@hotmail.com)

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

Matt Donner is chair of the Parish Finance Council; his email is [mddonner19199@gmail.com](mailto:mddonner19199@gmail.com)

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

Please contact Rebecca O'Brien for information on joining the Stewardship committee; her email is [robrien@stteresaparish.org](mailto:robrien@stteresaparish.org).

The Stewardship Committee meet one Thursday per month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

## Parish Transformation Committee

Marilyn Aleide  
Paolo Basil  
Rick Blair  
Mark Buciak  
Shannon & Jonathan Clinton  
Michael Gallo  
Lisa Hanzelka  
Linda & Rob Harmer

Sara & Adam Hock  
Michael Kmec  
Jackie Koesters  
Fr. Frank Latzko  
Barbara McHugh  
Tom Micinski  
Rebecca O'Brien

**Parish Offices** are at 1950 N. Kenmore, (773) 528-6650, FAX (773) 871-6766. Hours are: 9:00 am to 7:30 pm Monday through Friday, and Saturday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

The submission deadline for Sunday bulletins is 11:00 am on the Monday before. The bulletin is also published electronically on [st-teresa.net](http://st-teresa.net).

Contact Dean at [dvaeth@stteresaparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@stteresaparish.org)

## Parish Staff

Fr. Frank Latzko, ext. 213  
Pastor  
[fjsasso@aol.com](mailto:fjsasso@aol.com)  
Maggie Fernandez  
Business Manager  
[mfernandez@stteresaparish.org](mailto:mfernandez@stteresaparish.org)

Kate Lynch, ext. 232  
Director of Religious Education  
[klynch@stteresaparish.org](mailto:klynch@stteresaparish.org)

Rebecca O'Brien, ext. 234  
Director of Stewardship  
[robrien@stteresaparish.org](mailto:robrien@stteresaparish.org)

Tom Micinski, ext. 212  
Building & Facilities Manager  
[tmicinski@stteresaparish.org](mailto:tmicinski@stteresaparish.org)

Sergio Mora,  
Maintenance

Irma Saavedra,  
Housekeeping

Jason Krumweide,  
Director of Music  
[musicalnut1@mac.com](mailto:musicalnut1@mac.com)

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

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

## Ministry Leadership Chart

### Faith Formation

Kate Lynch  
[klynch@stteresaparish.org](mailto:klynch@stteresaparish.org)

### Social Justice

Deacon Dean Vaeth  
[dvaeth@stteresaparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@stteresaparish.org)

### Liturgy

Fr. Frank  
[fjsasso@aol.com](mailto:fjsasso@aol.com)

### Adult Spirituality

Lina Hilko  
[lhilko@aol.com](mailto:lhilko@aol.com)

### Buildings & Facilities

Tom Micinski  
[tmicinski@stteresaparish.org](mailto:tmicinski@stteresaparish.org)

### Special Events & Fundraising

Rebecca O'Brien  
[robrien@stteresaparish.org](mailto:robrien@stteresaparish.org)

### Stewardship

Rebecca O'Brien  
[robrien@stteresaparish.org](mailto:robrien@stteresaparish.org)

### Evangelization

Seeking a Leader

**Our Mission** 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.

### Help with Stress...

The Holbrook Center, a service of Catholic Charities, provides confidential counseling at many locations, including its newest office at Holy Name Cathedral. Licensed counselors, affordable fees, and convenient appointment times, including evenings.

The Holbrook Counseling Center is in the network with BC/BS PPO. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call at (312) 655-7725.

### For information about ...

Friday Playgroup (0-3 year-olds), Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (3-12 year-olds), The EDGE Youth Group (12-14 year-olds), or Quest Youth Group (High School)

Contact Kate in the Parish Office  
[klynch@stteresaparish.org](mailto:klynch@stteresaparish.org)

### For information about ...

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

Contact Dean in the Parish Office  
[dvaeth@stteresaparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@stteresaparish.org)

### Weekend Masses

<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 pm
<i>en Français</i>	6:30 pm <sup>+</sup>
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am
<i>en Español</i>	10:30 am*
	12:00 pm
	6:00 pm

<sup>+</sup> First and third Saturdays, September through June

\* First Sundays

### Weekday Masses

7:30 am Monday through Thursday  
7:30 am Fridays Communion Service

