

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST. 1889

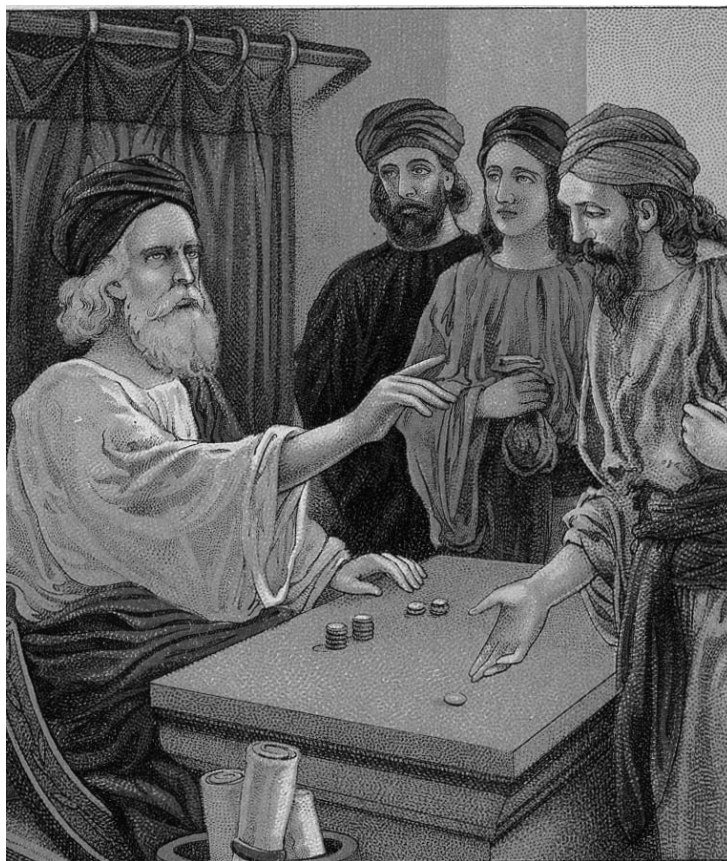


Faith & Spirit, *Alive*

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time November 19, 2017

After a long time
the master of those servants came back
and settled accounts with them.

— Matthew 25:19



Rev. Frank John Latzko, Pastor

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday at 5 PM & 6:30 PM (En Française¹)

Sunday at 9 AM, 10:30 AM (En Español²) 12 PM, 6 PM

¹ First & Second Saturdays ² First Sundays

Daily Mass Schedule

Monday — Thursday at 7:30 AM

Friday Communion Service at 7:30 AM

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays 6 PM to 7:30 PM

Baptism Preparation

2nd Sunday of the Month 10 AM

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 9 AM to 7:30 PM

Saturday 9 AM to 12 PM

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St. Teresa of Avila Parish ♦ 1950 North Kenmore Avenue ♦ Chicago, Illinois 60614
(773) 528-6650 ♦ st-teresa.net

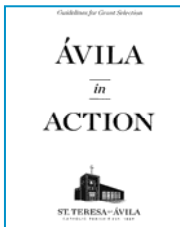
Stewardship

November 19 — November 25

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Avila in Action Grant Winners

The Stewardship Committee is pleased to announce the 2017 Avila in Action grant winners. Currently, 6% of Sunday Collections are dedicated to groups outside our own ministries who are working to change the world for the better. These six groups were selected from a total of 24 applicants.



Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership (\$7,500):

A leadership and community organizing training program grounded in the Catholic spiritual and theological tradition addressing justice issues in Chicago, with plans to increase civic engagement in Maywood and Cicero.

Honduras Educational Development Assistance Corporation (\$7,000): Operates the only after-school center in Morazan, Yoro, Honduras. The grant will be used to complete the center's kitchen to provide meals and facilitate culinary and entrepreneurial programming.

UMOJA Student Development (\$5,000): Umoja facilitates Restorative Justice models in public schools to emphasize repairing harm over the need to assign blame and punishment in discipline situations. Restorative Justice is key to breaking the vicious cycle of harm, violence, and retaliation.

Southwest Organizing Project (\$5,000): Creates neighborhoods of good schools, safe streets, and affordable homes. In an initial target area, crime has been cut in half, schools have dramatically improved, hundreds of families have saved their homes, and more than 50 vacant buildings have been transformed into over 100 new homes. Funds will help expand this work to a new 70-block target area.

The Bloc (\$5,000): The Bloc mentors, tutors, and inspires Chicago 7th through 12th graders on the West Side to reach their full potential through engagement in their boxing program. The Bloc offers students homework help, technology skills training, and access to paid internships. The grant will expand the Bloc's ability to expose kids to the world beyond their neighborhood through student-mentor outings.

The Healing Corner (\$3,000): The Healing Corner goes to street corners directly impacted by violence and engages people in order to spread love and restore hope. Healing Corner events transform traditionally violent areas into safe community events by handing out food, hugs, and resources.

For more information visit st-teresa.net/stewardship/avila-in-action or email robrien@sttersaparish.org.

Thank you!!

Thank you to all who helped with this year's successful and inspiring *Time of Your Life Gala* — attendees and volunteers; those who donated tickets and auction items; and those who bought and sold raffle tickets.

Special thanks to the very talented and dedicated Gala Committee!!

Update: The Gala Getaway Raffle raised \$28,000 to support our parish. Congratulations to the winner: Francoise Falkenholm. Enjoy your trip!



Christ the King Celebration

On Saturday-Sunday, November 25th-26th, the last weekend of the 2017 liturgical year, Fr. Frank will celebrate the *Solemnity of Christ the King* at all the Masses.



In preparation for this celebration, please bring with you one of the items from the list below to be presented during the liturgy:

- Non-perishable food item for the food pantry;
- New hats, gloves, scarves or thermal underwear for our *Loaves & Fishes* guests;
- A Christmas card, addressed to
Daniel Bowers (in prison)
#M34438
5835 State Rd. 154
Pinckneyville, Illinois 62274

'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink...a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you...ill or in prison, and visit you?'

— Matthew 25:37-39

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

Financial Stewardship

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November 19 — November 25

Annual Report Preview

We are at that time of year where we give our Annual Report to the Archdiocese of Chicago. This year's report is particularly important as the Archdiocese reviews various parishes for potential consolidation under its *Renew My Church* program. Here is a preview of some relevant information regarding St. Teresa's Fiscal Year 2017 (July 2016 – June 2017).

Monthly Sunday Collections:

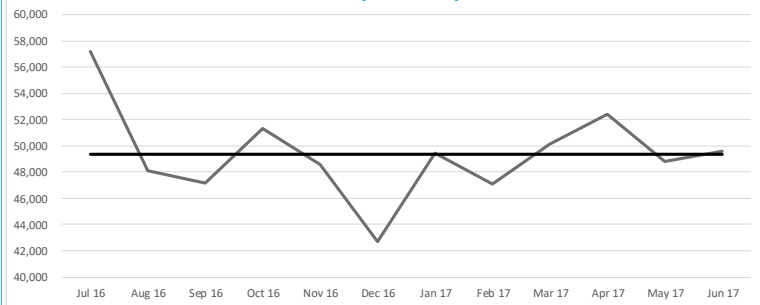
For fiscal 2017, our Sunday collections totaled \$592,596, a 5% increase from 2016 and a 17% increase from 2015. Our Sunday Collections cover nearly 70% of St. Teresa's operating expenses; our remaining expenses are primarily covered by the proceeds from our *Time of Your Life* fundraiser.

Time of Your Life:

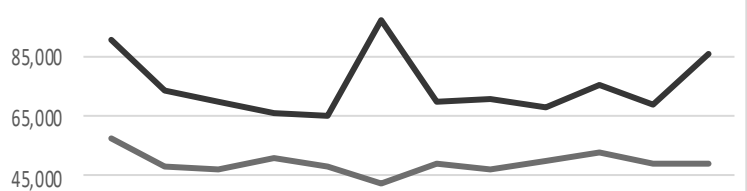
The net proceeds (after paying all the expenses for the event) from our major fundraiser *Time of Your Life* increased from \$156k in 2016 to \$171k in 2017, but remained flat when compared to \$169k in 2015.

Thank you to the parishioners of St. Teresa. Without your continued help, we would not be on a path to a more stable financial position. If you have

FY 2017 Monthly Sunday Collections



FY 2017 Monthly Operating Expenses



FY 2017 Monthly Sunday Collections



Stewardship of Prayer and Worship

Sunday: 11-5-17

Saturday, 5:00 pm Mass Attendance	60
Saturday, 6:30 pm Mass Attendance (French)	-
Sunday, 9:00 am Mass Attendance	290
Sunday, 10:30 am Mass Attendance (Spanish)	-
Sunday, 12:00 pm Mass Attendance	160
Sunday, 6:00 pm Mass Attendance	130
Total Weekend Mass Attendance	640
Average Weekday Mass Attendance	10
Average Friday Communion Service Attendance	3
Confessions this Week	1
Anointing/Sick Calls/Hospital Visits this Week	0
Funerals since January 2017	3
Weddings since January 2017	8
Baptisms since January 2017	39



There are 351 parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago; only 55 parishes have weekend attendance that exceeds 2,000. St. Teresa's 2016 October Count averaged 550 people at weekend Masses; 2017 averaged 628. The 2017 monthly averages are: January, 489; February, 570; March, 640; April, 705; May, 573; June, 541; July, 463; August, 510; September, 566; October, 621. 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 Calendars

November 19 — November 25

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Celebrant-Minister Schedule & Events

Date	Time	Celebrant	Sacristan/Lector	Eucharistic Host	Eucharistic Cup
Thanksgiving 11-23-17	9:00 AM	Fr. Frank			
Saturday 11-25-17	5:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Lisa Hanzelka Lector: Lector Needed	Minister Needed (H2,T)	Minister Needed (C1) Minister Needed (C2)
Sunday 11-26-17	9:00 AM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Frank Swiderski Lector: Peggy Teterycz	Minister Needed (H2,T) Michael Zost Jamie Lutkus	Rose Ohiku Geneva Gorgo Minister Needed (C4) Carly Johnston
Next Spanish Mass Sunday 12-10-17	10:30 AM	Rev. Jose Rubio, CM	Alex Lopez Maria Montes	Josefina Gomez	Carmen Cruz
Sunday 11-26-17	12:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Francisco Perez Lector: Maria Montes	Mike Usiak	Bob Pedro Alejandro Lopez
Sunday 11-26-17	6:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Amir Rafizadeh Lector: Doug Lovette	Sharon Lindstrom Kevin Ludden Elizabeth Cuda	Dani Shane Anne Heller Anne Seigenthaler Cara Gannon

Week's Activities

Sunday, November 19

- 10:30 am, REC, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 11:30 am, PC, Our Lady of Providence Celebration
- 3:30 pm, REC, CGS Makeup Session
- 4:30 pm, PC, Edge/Quest
- 4:30 pm, REC, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Monday, November 20

- No Activities Planned

Tuesday, November 21

- 6:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, November 22

- No Activities Planned

Thursday, November 23

Office Closed

- 9:00 am, Church, Thanksgiving Day Mass
- 9:00 am, PC, Food Pantry Delivery

Friday, November 24

Office Closed

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

Saturday, November 25

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

Saints & Special Observances

Sunday:

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tuesday:

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday:

St. Cecilia

Thursday:

St. Clement I, St. Columban; Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro; Thanksgiving Day

Friday:

St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions

Saturday:

St. Catherine of Alexandria; Blessed Virgin Mary

Domingo:

Trigésimo Tercer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Martes:

La Presentación de la Santísima Virgen María

Miércoles:

Santa Cecilia

Jueves:

San Clemente I; San Columbano; Beato Miguel Agustín Pro; Día de Acción de Gracias

Viernes:

San Andrés Dung-Lac y compañeros

Sábado:

Santa Catalina de Alejandría; Santa María Virgen

This Month's Food Pantry Dates

Saturday, November 4

9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

Saturday, November 11

9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

Saturday, November 18

9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

Saturday, November 25

9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution



Mass Intentions & Prayers

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November 19 — November 25

Mass Intentions

5:00 pm	Saturday, November 18 Deceased Members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish
9:00 am	Sunday, November 19 Sheila & Danny Drew; Drew Parial
10:30 am	Deceased Members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish
12:00 pm	William Hernandez; Craig Matthews
6:00 pm	Deceased Members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish
9:00 am	Thursday, November 23 John Buciak

Let Us Pray

Please pray for the deceased ...

Lauren Dittrich Bilyeu, Michael Dudash, Andrea Harris, Dave Hilko, Edward Nevera, Andrzej Jastrzebski, Andrea Mastro Hoinacki, Fr. Barry Moriarty, C.M., Bob Semmer, Noemie Sylvestre, Eddy Velazquez, and the Victims of War & Domestic Violence

This Month's Baptisms

Adelaide Serrahn (11-5), Elle March (11-12), Charles Finch (11-12), Maeve Sullivan (11-19)

This Month's Baptism Anniversaries

Christie Tarantino (11-3), Barb Schell (11-7), Annmarie Kolinski (11-14), Steve Kolinski (11-27)

Please pray for all those who are ill, especially for ...

Alicia Anderson
Jason Andre
Dorothy Barns
Berta Billalvazo
Elizabeth Ryan Dean
Michael De Blasis
Alex DeNoma
Kathy Derrick
Kim Duffy
Isabelle Eiffert
Jackson Fineske & Family
Pat Folland
Alice Flynn
Eloisa Gallegos
Michael Gibbons
Angela Goldberg
Kaylee Gommel
Bolivar Gonzales, Jr.
Les Gordon

Mrs. Grabarczyk
George Halloran
Kellar Harris
Peg Hausen
David Ivanac
Chuck Jabaley
Ronald Jakubec
Joyce Jaszczor
Frank Kolman
Krista Kutz
Liz Kunkel
Betty LaCour
Carmen D. Lorenzana
Gabriel Lozada
Palmira Mancini
George Maroquin
Jose Maroquin
Lisa Marquez
Margaret Sue Meadors

Sage Mesen
Daniel Meyer
Tracy Mirabella
Bill Mobley
John Monier
Elda Myers
John Paul Nelson
Angel Nieves
Msgr. Kevin O'Neill
Frank O'Toole
Clayton Poe
Carol Poyner
Marie Koesters-Ranley
Hector J. Rivera
Luis Rivera
Pedro Rodriguez
Ray Romero
Jeffrey Roscoe
Sr. Camilla Mary Marney, OCD

Sr. Jean Ryan, OCD
Jack Shank
Will Sullivan
Mima Tome
JoAnn Jahnke Trainer
Marianne Usiak
Sara Vega
Susan Violapiano
Jack Williams
Valerie Williams
Mae Witry
David Zeunert

For the intentions on our prayer cards; for survivors and perpetrators of sexual abuse

#prayforpeace

We pray for those who lost their lives to violence in the City of Chicago between November 3rd and November 9th: *Paris Thompson; Pamela Enge; Alonte Barber; Rahsaan Adams; Sauvignon Adams; and Jerome Russell.*

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. In order to be added to our prayer list, a member of the immediate family should request that a person's name be added to the names of the deceased parishioners and friends for about twelve months.

Parish Life

November 19 — November 25

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Holiday Greenery Sale Set for December 2nd and 3rd

As St. Teresa Parish has done in the past, we are going to offer a Greenery Sale after all masses the first weekend in December... **December 2nd and December 3rd**. All of the profits benefit St. Teresa Parish.



We will be offering some of our most popular items such as wreaths, swags, centerpieces, and mini table top trees. There are no pre-orders taken on these items; it will just be first come, first serve, until we run out.

So mark your calendars and plan to stop by the gathering space after Mass on the weekend of December 2nd and 3rd to purchase festive items to decorate your home and support St Teresa Parish.

SPRED Needs Catechists

The Special Religious Development (SPRED) group at St. Teresa Parish is in need of adult catechists to volunteer with our children. We work with kids ages 11-17 and meet for a few hours on Tuesday evenings during the school year.



If you are interested in learning more about being a SPRED volunteer, please contact Dani Shain at (913) 634-3294 or contact Dani by email at dani.s.shain@gmail.com.

Please consider giving of your time and energy to help us keep this wonderful ministry thriving at St. Teresa Parish!

Support Erika's Lighthouse Sign Up by November 21st!!

Support Erika's Lighthouse one of the *Avila in Action* grant recipients, an organization that supports young people who may be struggling with depression and their families.

Teens spend most of their days in their school building, which is why their classroom programs promote positive mental health messages and let teens know that hope and help are available.

Join our 2018 Bank of America Chicago Marathon charity team!

Go to www.erikaslighthouse.org and fill out an interest form by November 21st for more information on a **guaranteed** entry into the Bank of America Chicago Marathon.

Run for Team Erika's Lighthouse

Make strides against stigma in the
2018 Bank of America Chicago Marathon!



Race day is October 7, 2018, and running for our organization guarantees your entry into Chicago's most coveted race!

Sign up today at www.erikaslighthouse.org until November 21, 2017 to reserve your spot.

Welcome, Babies!

As part of our parish refugee program we have outfitted *12 babies* with all the essentials for their arrivals. Your overwhelming response in donations has made it possible to support two more women, a Congolese and Rohingya, who are soon to give birth. The families are here with little or no support and we can help lighten that load. No clothing is needed at this time, but cash gifts are always welcomed to put toward cribs and car seats.



Thank you for your generous response to help families in need.

If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Mairead Reidy at mairead.reidy@yahoo.com.

Catechists Needed: Training Provided

We're still in need of catechists for Children's Liturgy of the Word and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program. Our needs at this point include:

- For Children's Liturgy of the Word we need four leaders to lead the children for 20 minutes during the 9:00 am Mass. Training is provided.
- For our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program has had an increase in enrollment. CGS meets about three times a month through April. So we need:
 - ✓ One assistant catechist for Mondays (4-5:30pm) with the 1st, 2nd & 3rd graders.
 - ✓ One assistant catechist for Mondays (4-5:30pm) with the 4th, 5th & 6th graders.



Contact Kate Lynch to find out more details: klynch@stteresaparish.org or cell (262) 358-0834

Save the Date: February 11, 2018



Save the Date for *Cuisine du Coeur*, Sunday, February 11, 2018, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

This year we will embark on a culinary tour of the beautiful Valley of the Loire—complete with exciting new dishes from the region.

Stay tuned: more news to follow



Stewardship Opportunity

We are currently scheduling hosts to provide refreshments after all Masses. There are currently five spaces left to fill.

If you have ever enjoyed lingering about after Mass over refreshments and conversation, please consider hosting just once per year. It's easy to do.

You can sign up through the Signup.com by clicking on the word "Volunteer" at our website stteresa.net. Or visit signup.com/go/BnYEHC to browse our openings to find one that works for you.



Questions/training: Contact Mairead Reidy mairead.reidy@yahoo.com

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

Readings/Lecturas

November 19 — November 25

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Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-7; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk 19:41-44 Thanksgiving Day, Suggested: Sir 50:22-24; Ps 145:2-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11-12; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

Lecturas de la Semana

Lunes: 1 Mac 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Sal 119 (118):53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lc 18:35-43
Martes: 2 Mac 6:18-31; Sal 3:2-7; Lc 19:1-10
Miércoles: 2 Mac 7:1, 20-31; Sal 17 (16):1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15; Lc 19:11-28
Jueves: 1 Mac 2:15-29; Sal 50 (49):1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lc 19:41-44 Día de Acción de Gracias (sugerencia): Sir 50:22-24; Sal 145 (144):2-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lc 17:11-19
Viernes: 1 Mac 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Cr 29:10bcd, 11-12; Lc 19:45-48
Sábado: 1 Mac 6:1-13; Sal 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lc 20:27-40
Domingo: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Sal 23 (22):1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

Treasures from Tradition

Earlier this autumn, we looked at how our Eucharistic Prayers have been enriched by the approval of several new prayers to augment the old Roman Canon. For us, there are the four standard prayers, three for Masses with Children, and the most recent addition, the former Swiss Eucharistic Prayer with four alternative forms (now known as the Eucharistic Prayer for Masses for Various Needs and Occasions).

We also have two Eucharistic Prayers for Masses of Reconciliation. The source for these two prayers is the request by many bishops for a special prayer for the “Holy Year” of 1975. Originally, the committee in charge was commissioned to write a single prayer, but the theme proved so rich that it gave rise to two. The first is based on and develops biblical texts on reconciliation. The second starts with the experience of living in today’s fractured world, and how the Spirit calls us to reconciliation and peace. Not everyone was happy with all this creativity, saying that if too many were published, it would be difficult for the Vatican to control further requests. Everyone thought the pope would put strict limits on the prayers, but in the end he said he was willing to open doors that had long been closed. Although he approved them for a period of only three years, they were never formally removed from the *Sacramentary* and have been incorporated into the new Roman Missal. — Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

El 23 de noviembre de 1927, un pelotón de soldados conducía al jesuita mexicano Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez al paredón de fusilamiento. Uno de ellos le susurraba “perdóneme”. Miguel le respondió que no sólo lo perdonaba, sino que le daba las gracias por darle la oportunidad de dar testimonio de su fe derramando su sangre por Cristo. Días antes había sido arrestado y acusado de intento de asesinato contra el presidente mexicano Álvaro Obregón. En realidad su delito era el de bautizar niños, bendecir matrimonios, llevar la comunión a los enfermos y escuchar la confesión de los arrepentidos.

Miguelito nació en 1891 y entró al noviciado jesuita en 1914, al mismo tiempo que el gobierno mexicano comenzaba una persecución en contra de la Iglesia. Debido a esta situación, Miguel tuvo que hacer su formación religiosa fuera de México. Apenas pudo, regresó a su nación como sacerdote e hizo su pastoral a escondidas, sabiendo muy bien que podía ser martirizado.

Miguel decía a sus amigos que al morir iría al cielo y si se encontraba con santos resacos, bailarían un jarabe tapatío hasta hacerles sonreír para Cristo Rey. — Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Readings/Lecturas

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November 19 — November 25

Sharing Our Gifts

Autumn is the season for harvesting and sharing the fruits of our labors. This week's scriptures use images of the harvest, family life, pregnancy, and investment to describe the abundant harvest in the reign of God. We discover that sharing the gifts we have been given brings eternal rewards for everyone.

In the Gospel parable a master entrusts his possessions to three servants before going on a journey. Each is given some talents. What they do with those talents determines what the master will do with them when he returns. How about us? What are we doing with our talents? How will our Master treat us when he returns?

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Compartiendo Nuestros Dones

El otoño es la estación de la cosecha y de compartir los frutos de nuestra labor. Las lecturas bíblicas de esta semana emplean imágenes de la cosecha, la vida familiar, el embarazo y la inversión para describir la abundante cosecha en el Reino de Dios. Descubrimos que compartir los dones que hemos recibido trae recompensa eterna para todos.

En la parábola del Evangelio un hombre le encarga sus bienes a tres servidores antes de partir de viaje. A cada uno le da dinero. Lo que hacen con ese dinero determina lo que el amo hará con ellos cuando regrese. ¿Y qué de nosotros? ¿Qué estamos haciendo con nuestros talentos? ¿Cómo nos tratará nuestro Maestro cuando vuelva?

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Today's Readings

First Reading — The woman who fears the LORD is to be praised (Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31).

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord (Psalm 128).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters, you are children of the light (1 Thessalonians 5:1-6).

Gospel — To all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance (Matthew 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]).



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Lecturas de Hoy

Primera lectura — Un esposo es capaz de confiar su corazón a su esposa que es como una joya (Proverbios 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31).

Salmo — Bendito sean los que temen al Señor (Salmo 128 [127]).

Segunda lectura — El día del Señor vendrá como el ladrón en la noche (1 Tesalonicenses 5:1-6).

Evangelio — Porque has sido fiel en lo poco, ven a compartir la alegría de tu Señor (Mateo 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]).

What's Your Image of God

I usually begin my high school theology class by asking my sophomores to reflect on their personal image of God. Their initial descriptions of God are fairly typical and obviously scriptural: father, shepherd, dove, Jesus. But they also list several images from culture; the two most popular are an old man with a white beard sitting on a cloud and, of course, Morgan Freeman. The exercise gets a bit more interesting when I challenge my students to figure out how their dominant image of God was formed. Often, the image is literally just that — an image, usually in the form of a painting hanging in a grandparent's home. The students are surprised when we peruse the vast scriptural images of God. Pointing out examples of a feminine image of God really blows their minds. They begin to make a connection between their personal understanding of God and how they, in turn, respond.

Today's Gospel is a familiar one. We have a traveling master who entrusts his possessions to servants. Two clever servants use the original sum to make more money for their master. The third one did not fare so well; he made the ill-advised decision to bury the one talent given to him. A seemingly obvious question can be directed toward the third servant, "What were you thinking?" The servant himself answers the question: "Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where



The servant's ...misconception of what the master demanded caused the servant to act out of fear, a fear so deep he was afraid to even try and do the work expected.

you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear, I went off and buried your talent in the ground."

We have a clear contrast in the Scriptures today between a group of hard-working and God-fearing people and the lone slacker. The readings are pretty straightforward about the blessings granted and taken away from each. What is the motivation for those that do the work and for the servant who does not? In Proverbs and Psalm 128, we are told that the motivation is "fear of the Lord." Paul tells us that it is an anticipation of the "day of the Lord" that is sure to come when least expected. Each person who labors is assured a reward. The worthy wife is praised at the city gates, the psalmist promises fruit in

the form of family, and Matthew's servants are heaped with hefty praise and greater responsibilities. It is only the parable's third servant who is left with nothing. He was not rewarded because he did not do the work required. In fact, he was chastised and stripped of the little he did have. But how did the servant miss the mark by so much? Are we not told that he also "feared" his master?

The servant's failure to fully understand who his master is and what is most important to him leads the servant to think that burying his treasure is the correct course of action. His misconception of what the master demanded caused the servant to act out of fear, a fear so deep he was afraid to even try and do the work expected.

We, like all the people in today's readings, are called to work with the talents our master has given us. This requires us to look at our image of God. Do we have a "fear of God," meaning awe that inspires a desire to double God's treasures? Or is it a fear and misunderstanding of a punishing God that causes us to doubt our own abilities? What image of God, be it a good shepherd or even Morgan Freeman, can we carry forward that will help us discover and use the gifts we are given so we, too, can hear our master's voice saying: "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

St. Teresa of Avila Parish Leadership Teams

Pastoral Council

Jessica Marx
Anna Althoff
Bertel Olson
Luke Kolman
Kate Lynch

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

Finance Council

Justin Alden
Jane Bronson
Jack Halpin
Ray Genellie
Steve Fortino
Becky Francis

Andrew O'Dekirk
Chris Touns
Cooper Cohen
Alexandra Vizard
Steve Kolinski

Stewardship Committee

Danny Cortese
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

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

Justin Alden is chair of the Parish Finance Council; his email is justin.alden@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.

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

Office Information & Bulletin Deadlines

Parish Offices are located at 1950 N. Kenmore. Phone is (773) 528-6650. FAX is (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 most Sunday bulletins is 11:00 am on the Monday before; deadlines are accelerated for the holidays. The bulletin is also published electronically on st-teresa.net. Please contact Dean at dvaeth@stteresaparish.org for more information.



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Adult Spirituality

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Special Events & Fundraising

Rebecca O'Brien
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Stewardship

Rebecca O'Brien
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. Six percent of our Sunday collections 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.



STOP IN
FOR QUIET PRAYER
TUESDAYS
6:00 TO 7:30 PM



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

For information about ...

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

Contact Deacon Dean in the Parish Office
dvaeth@stteresaparish.org