

# ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA

CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST. 1889



Faith & Spirit, *Alive*

## Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2017

Prepare  
the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.

— Mark 1:3



Rev. Frank John Latzko, Pastor

### Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday at 5 PM & 6:30 PM (En Française<sup>1</sup>)  
Sunday at 9 AM, 10:30 AM (En Español<sup>2</sup>) 12 PM, 6 PM  
<sup>1</sup> First & Second Saturdays <sup>2</sup> 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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# Stewardship

December 10 — December 16

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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.

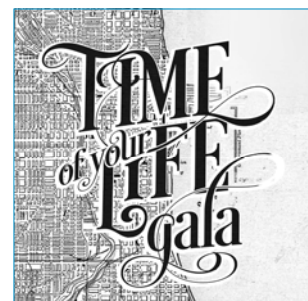
**The Healing Corner (\$3,000):** The Healing Corner goes to street corners directly impacted by violence and engages people in order to spread love and restore hope. Healing Corner events transform traditionally violent areas into safe community events by handing out food, hugs, and resources.

For more information visit [st-teresa.net/stewardship/avila-in-action](http://st-teresa.net/stewardship/avila-in-action) or email [robrien@sttersaparish.org](mailto:robrien@sttersaparish.org).

## Time of Your Life

Thank you to all who supported this year's Time of Your Life Gala.

We raised just over \$200,000, a new record for this event, and the funds will enable our parish to continue offering inspiring liturgies, services and outreach within our community.



## Food Pantry Giving Tree

This year's giving tree supports St. Teresa's food pantry throughout the entire Advent season with a fun and unique approach on the traditional Advent Calendar.

Pick up an instructions "ornament" from the tree, and a food pantry box. Place the box under your own tree, and every day place an item for the food pantry inside the box.

Thank you for keeping those in need at the heart of the Christmas season.



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

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

# Financial Stewardship

## Fiscal Year Advent Cheer

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 review of St. Teresa's Fiscal Year 2017 (July 2016 – June 2017).

### Monthly Sunday Collections:

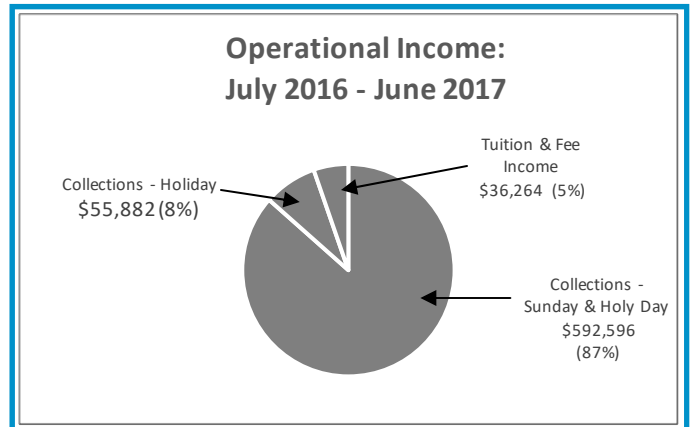
As our Fiscal Year 2017 (July 2016 – June 2017) has ended, we are doing better than we were last fiscal year (July 2015 – June 2016). Our Sunday collections totaled \$592,596, a 5% increase from 2016 and a 17% increase from 2015. Our Sunday Collections cover nearly 75% of St. Teresa's operating expenses.

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.

### Time of Your Life:

The recently (last month) concluded *Time Of Your Life* fundraiser was by far the most successful event in parish history. The net proceeds from TOYL was \$200k for the event on November 2017, which is a **nearly 20% increase** from the event in November 2016. (The \$200k is in the FISCAL 2018. Fiscal year 2018 = the time period of July 2017 – June 2018). The Time of Your Life Gala team did an amazing job and has set yet another record to beat for next year's event.

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. Questions or suggestions? Please email our Business Manager, Maggie Fernandez, at [mfernandez@stteresaparish.org](mailto:mfernandez@stteresaparish.org) or Justin Alden [justin.alden@gmail.com](mailto:justin.alden@gmail.com).



St. Teresa's Operational Income	FY 2017	% of total
Collections - Sunday & Holy Day	\$ 592,596	87%
Collections - Holiday	\$ 55,882	8%
Tuition & Fee Income	\$ 36,264	5%
	<b>\$ 684,742</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Stewardship of Prayer and Worship

	Sunday:	11-5-17	11-19-17	11-26-17
Saturday, 5:00 pm Mass Attendance		60	50	50
Saturday, 6:30 pm Mass Attendance (French)		-	64	-
Sunday, 9:00 am Mass Attendance		290	255	190
Sunday, 10:30 am Mass Attendance (Spanish)		-	65	-
Sunday, 12:00 pm Mass Attendance		160	125	140
Sunday, 6:00 pm Mass Attendance		130	138	145
<b>Total Weekend Mass Attendance</b>		<b>640</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>525</b>
Average Weekday Mass Attendance		10	10	10
Average Friday Communion Service Attendance		3	3	3
Confessions this Week		0	0	0
Anointing/Sick Calls/Hospital Visits this Week		0	0	0
Funerals since January 2017		3	3	3
Weddings since January 2017		8	9	9
Baptisms since January 2017		40	40	40



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

December 10 — December 16

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## Celebrant-Minister Schedule & Events

Date	Time	Celebrant	Sacristan/Lector	Eucharistic Host	Eucharistic Cup
Saturday 12-16-17	5:00 PM	Rev. Richard Benson, CM	Sacristan: Lisa Hanzelka Lector: Lector Needed	Minister Needed (H2,T)	Leigh Hartley Carly Johnston
French Mass Saturday 12-16-17	6:30 PM				
Sunday 12-17-17	9:00 AM	Rev. Tony Dosen, CM	Sacristan: Frank Swiderski Lector: Children's Service	Pete Doyle Nancy Van Grinsven Geneva Gorgo	Mark Van Grinsven Jamie Lutkus Shannon Clinton Philip Malloy
Sunday 12-17-17	12:00 PM	Rev. William Piletic, CM	Sacristan: Francisco Perez Lector: Mike Usiak	Daniel Kang	Laura Moran Tyler Paul
Sunday 12-17-17	6:00 PM	Rev. Tom Ess, OFM	Sacristan: Adam Hock Lector: Sharon Lindstrom	Bert Olsen Anne Seigenthaler Andrew DeLeonardis	Veronique Caffrey Sara Hock Luke Kolman Elizabeth Cuda

### Week's Activities

#### Sunday, December 10

- 10:00 am, REC, Baptism Preparation
- 10:30 am, REC, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 3:30 pm, REC, CGS Make-up Session
- 4:30 pm, REC, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 6:30 pm, PC, Quest
- 7:00 pm, PC, Edge

#### Monday, December 11

- 4:30 pm, REC, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

#### Tuesday, December 12

- 6:15 am, PC, Men's Spirituality
- 4:30 pm, REC, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 6:00 pm, REC-PC, SPRED PC
- 6:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration
- 7:30 pm, REC, Women's Spirituality

#### Wednesday, December 13

- 5:30 pm, Kitchen, Night Ministry Cooking
- 8:00 pm, Church, CCFC Rosary

#### Thursday, December 14

- 7:00 pm, PC, Stewardship

#### Friday, December 15

- 10:00 am, Kitchen, Loaves & Fishes Cooking
- 5:00 pm, PC, Loaves and Fishes Dinner

#### Saturday, December 16

- 10:00 am, PC-GS, Food Pantry Distribution
- 4:30 pm, REC, CCFC Catechesis
- 7:30 pm, REC, CCFC Potluck

### Saints & Special Observances

- Sunday:** Second Sunday of Advent  
**Monday:** St. Damasus I  
**Tuesday:** Our Lady of Guadalupe; Hanukkah begins at sunset  
**Wednesday:** St. Lucy  
**Thursday:** St. John of the Cross  
**Saturday:** *Las Posadas* begins

- Domingo:** Segundo Domingo de Adviento  
**Lunes:** San Dámaso I  
**Martes:** Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe; Januká comienza al atardecer  
**Miércoles:** Santa Lucía  
**Jueves:** San Juan de la Cruz  
**Sábado:** Primer día de las Posadas; Primer Aguinaldo

### Upcoming Food Pantry Dates

- Saturday, December 2**  
 9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution
- Saturday, December 9**  
 9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution
- Saturday, December 16**  
 9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution
- Saturday, December 23**  
 9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution
- Saturday, December 30**  
 9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up  
 10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution



# Mass Intentions & Prayers

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December 10 — December 16

## Mass Intentions

## Let Us Pray

### Saturday, December 9

5:00 pm Mary Ellen Crowley

### Sunday, December 10

9:00 am Deceased Members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish

10:30 am Concepcion Ramirez and Eusebio Lopez

12:00 pm Deceased Members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish

6:00 pm Deceased Members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish

### Thursday, December 14

7:30 am Rose Stefanic

### 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*

## Upcoming Baptism Anniversaries

***Karen Kinsella (12-8), Cindy Patrasso (12-27),  
Connor DeWitte (28), Tom Micinski (12-29)***

## 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 Duffly  
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 Schank  
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 Chicago between November 22nd and November 30th: ***Marquis Banks; Daimmyon Hackman; Sharine Catchings; Anthony Collins; Tyree Wise; Dashon Campbell; Miguel Ford; Juan Mason-Perry; and, Dontae Simmons***

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.

## This Year's Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th**

3:00 PM, Family Mass  
8:00 PM, Christmas Eve Mass

**Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th**

10:00 AM, Christmas Day Mass

Since Christmas Eve is Sunday, the weekend Mass schedule has been changed to the following:

**Saturday, December 23rd, 5:00 PM**

**Sunday, December 24th, 10:00 AM**

## Baby Bottles are Back

Beginning on this weekend, St. Teresa of Avila will participate in the Baby Bottle Project benefiting *The Women's Centers of Greater Chicagoland*.

This non-profit organization directly assists families experiencing crisis pregnancies by offering emotional, financial, material and spiritual support through counseling, clothing and monetary provisions, prayer and other aid. Each year the three Chicagoland locations of *The Women's Centers* handle 5,000 appointments with expectant mothers.

Please take a Baby Bottle home with you, fill it with your spare change, and return it the week of January 14th.

This is a simple, but crucial fundraising effort for *The Women's Centers*. Please return the baby bottles; they are recycled afterwards.

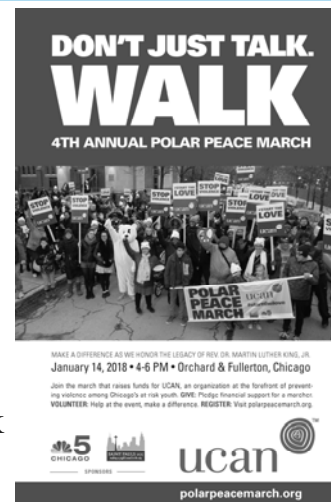
Thank you for supporting *The Women's Centers of Greater Chicagoland* again this year!



## Join the Polar Peace March

Join St. Teresa's for the Polar Peace March on January 14, 2018, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at Orchard and Fullerton.

All proceeds go to UCAN, an organization on the forefront of preventing violence among Chicago's at-risk youth.



You can participate in two ways:

1. **JOIN OUR TEAM:** Go to this link <http://bit.ly/2ifiquwa>. Find "St. Teresa of Avila" and join us!
2. **DONATE:** Click this link <http://bit.ly/2Anvry2>

**Please contact Ellen Moiani with questions at [ellen.moiani@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.moiani@gmail.com)**

## Join Men's Spirituality

Are you interested in deepening your faith life through discussion with fellow male parishioners?



The St. Teresa Men's Spirituality Group invites you every second and fourth Tuesday at 6:30 am for prayer and conversation.

**Next Meeting  
Tuesday, December 12th**

For more details, please contact Matt Priesbe at [mpriesbe@aol.com](mailto:mpriesbe@aol.com).

## Stewardship Opportunity

We are currently scheduling hosts to provide refreshments after the 9:00 am Sunday Masses between December and April 2018.

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 [st-teresa.net](http://st-teresa.net). Or visit [signup.com/go/BnYEHC](http://signup.com/go/BnYEHC) to browse our openings to find one that works for you.

**Questions/training: Contact Mairead Reidy**  
[mairiad.reidy@yahoo.com](mailto:mairiad.reidy@yahoo.com)



## SPRED Needs Catechists

St. Teresa's Special Religious Development (SPRED) group needs adult catechists to volunteer with our children, ages 11-17, for a few hours on Tuesday evenings during the school year.

If you are interested in giving of your time and energy to help us keep this wonderful ministry, please contact Dani Shain at (913) 634-3294 or contact Dani by email at [dani.s.shain@gmail.com](mailto:dani.s.shain@gmail.com).

SPRED is always welcoming new friends as well! If you know any children or adults (ages 6+) who would like to participate in SPRED, please give them Dani's contact information and she will direct them to the appropriate parish.



## Catechists Needed: Training Provided

We're still in need of catechists for Children's Liturgy of the Word and our 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](mailto: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**

## Sunday, December 17th Traditional Irish Breakfast Served After the 9:00 am Mass

Rashers, Irish Bacon, Bangers, Eggs,  
Grilled Tomatoes, Mushrooms, Baked Beans,  
Home Baked Blueberry, Cranberry & Raisin Scones,  
Irish Soda Bread, Brown Bread, Sweets, Juice, Tea,  
Coffee, and Irish Coffee (upon request)



# Readings/Lecturas

December 10 — December 16

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## Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of The Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
<b>Thursday:</b>	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
<b>Friday:</b>	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
<b>Saturday:</b>	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
<b>Sunday:</b>	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## Lecturas de la Semana

<b>Lunes:</b>	Is 35:1-10; Sal 85 (84):9ab, 10-14; Lc 5:17-26
<b>Martes:</b>	Zac 2:14-17 o Ap 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lc 1:26-38 o Lc 1:39-47, o cualquier lectura del Común de la Santísima María Virgen, nos. 707-712
<b>Miércoles:</b>	Is 40:25-31; Sal 103 (102):1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
<b>Jueves:</b>	Is 41:13-20; Sal 145 (144):1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
<b>Viernes:</b>	Is 48:17-19; Sal 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
<b>Sábado:</b>	Eclo 48:1-4, 9-11; Sal 80 (79):2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
<b>Domingo:</b>	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lc 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Tes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## Treasures from Tradition

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshippers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



## Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

El día 9 de diciembre conmemoramos a san Juan Diego de México. Hace un par de años este indígena mesoamericano fue canonizado por su misión en las apariciones Guadalupanas. Hubo controversia alrededor de su canonización porque había quienes insistían que Juan Diego nunca existió. Después de investigar, el Vaticano decidió que no sólo existió, sino que fue y es santo, digno de ser modelo e intercesor.

Las investigaciones encontraron que el nombre indígena de Juan Diego era Cuauhtlatoatzin, es decir "Águila que habla". Tal vez por este nombre tan significativo fue que los franciscanos lo bautizaron Juan Diego. El nombre Juan recuerda al apóstol, quien escribió el evangelio más místico y cuyo símbolo es el águila. Diego viene del apóstol Santiago o san Diego quien evangelizó a los españoles durante el siglo I. De cualquier manera, Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin se convirtió en el "Águila que habla" y anuncia el evangelio místico según Guadalupe, es "Águila que habla" de amor, paz, consuelo y desafío en una tierra conquistada, oprimida y llena de promesa. — Fray

Gilberto Cavazos-Glz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



# Readings/Lecturas

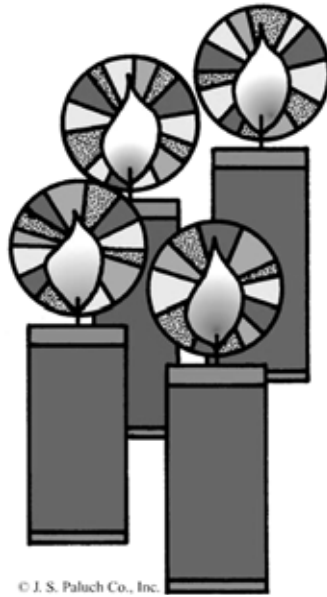
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December 10 — December 16

## News of Comfort

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, “Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God” (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness.

Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



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## Noticias Que Dan Consuelo

En un tiempo de preparación, relacionado en gran medida con cosas materiales, es bueno escuchar las palabras de Isaías: “Consuelen, consuelen a mi pueblo, dice nuestro Dios” (Isaías 40:1). En un tiempo de tanto nerviosismo y prisa, cuando nuestras cargas habituales se duplican a causa de los miles de preparativos navideños, podemos elegir aminorar la marcha, dedicar un tiempo a curar las heridas y valorar el enorme regalo que estamos por recibir. Cristo, el Hijo de Dios, se ha convertido en uno de nosotros y conoce nuestras limitaciones humanas. Sin embargo, Dios, incluso ahora, nos está librando de las cargas que se nos amontonan por no prestarle atención a él ni a nuestros anhelos más profundos. El Señor llega, no como un rey con ejércitos

poderosos, sino como un pastor que guía a los rebaños con amor y ternura. Isaías anuncia buenas noticias: nuestra servidumbre terminó, nuestros pecados han sido perdonados. El salvador que esperábamos está llegando, no por primera vez, sino al final de los tiempos, como nuestra salvación. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

**Psalm** — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

**Second Reading** — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

**Gospel** — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).



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## Lecturas de Hoy

**Primera lectura** — Prepara el camino del Señor; proclama la buena nueva (Isaías 40:1-5, 9-11).

**Salmo** — Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia y danos tu salvación (Salmo 85 [84]).

**Segunda lectura** — El Señor no tarda en guardar su promesa donde está la justicia de Dios (2 Pedro 3:8-14).

**Evangelio** — Juan Bautista apareció proclamando un bautismo de arrepentimiento (Marcos 1:1-8).

# Renew My Church

December 10 — December 16

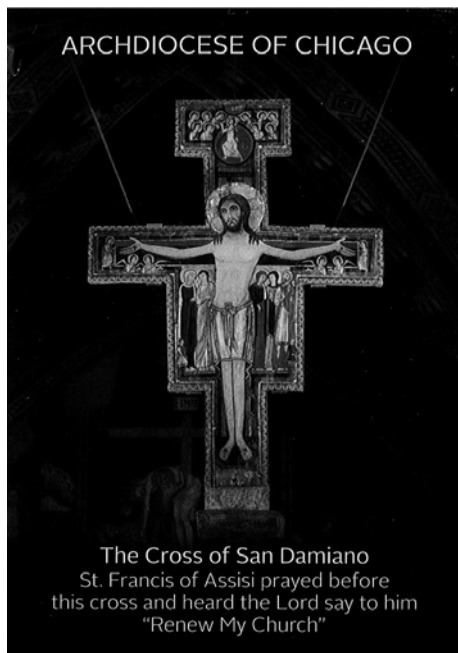
Page Ten

## Letter from Fr. Frank on *Renew My Church*

As I mentioned at Mass, I participated, along with other pastors in our area, in a series of workshops designed to help us lead and facilitate the *Renew My Church* process to begin February 3, 2018. The gathering was insightful and somewhat overwhelming as we were given an overall picture of this process, as well as all the details.

I learned that our parish grouping now has a new member, St. Josaphat Parish, to our west. Our grouping now includes: St. Teresa, St. Michael, St. Vincent, St. Josaphat, and St. Joseph/Immaculate Conception.

Each pastor will choose three parishioners to represent his parish. Each month from February until June we will meet approximately twice; there will also be a parish-wide meeting in each individual parish once each month. The small groups meetings and larger parish meetings will discuss particulars, such as, the October count (the average of how many people attend Mass on weekends), the financial picture/debt, maintenance of buildings, religious education, use of space, number of weekend



### A Prayer For "Renew My Church"

*Lord Jesus, you speak to us today, as you spoke to holy men and women who have gone before us. In every age and in our own time, you call to us and say: Renew My Church.*

*Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us, and so enable us to hear you clearly to listen to each other attentively to imagine our future boldly to discern your direction wisely to persevere in your holy will courageously to stay together in charity to surrender our own plans readily to embrace the greater good to hand on your gifts to future generations.*

*May we remain in the holy company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and all the saints.*

*May their example and presence inspire us with patient confidence in the work of your grace.*

*We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*

*Amen*

Masses, number of funerals, weddings, daily mass attendees, confessions, RCIA (how many converts), Confirmation, outreach ministries, and adult formation. The distance between parishes will also be discussed.

After all the meetings, a number of scenarios will surface, allowing us to see how to our use of resources, ministries, ministers and pastors might be re-configured to better share these resources, making evangelization a stronger reality.

Given the shrinking number of Catholics in the pews and priests to minister, we need to allow a new sense of parish and Church to emerge.

This is a time for prayer, reflection, discernment, and action. As the Church continues to move into the 21st Century, the Spirit is calling us to a new "Pentecost" so that our Catholic faith can take deeper root in the situation of our times.

I'm ready to begin this process and pray I can be a good leader throughout, representing our wonderful parish.

— Fr. Frank



# 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 Toups  
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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://st-teresa.net). Please contact Dean at [dvaeth@stteresaparish.org](mailto:dvaeth@stteresaparish.org) for more information.



## Parish Staff

**Fr. Frank Latzko, ext. 213**  
Pastor  
[fjsasso@aol.com](mailto:fjsasso@aol.com)

**Maggie Fernandez, ext. 231**  
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 Krumwiede,**  
Director of Music  
[musicalnut1@mac.com](mailto:musicalnut1@mac.com)

**Deacon Dean Vaeth, ext. 230**  
Office Manager, Bulletin Editor  
[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

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