

**ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA**  
CATHOLIC PARISH ✚ EST. 1889



Faith & Spirit, *Alive*

# Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 2017

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

— *John 1:6-8*

**I am a voice  
crying out  
in the desert**



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 17 — December 23

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## Advent Events

During Advent, we prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ Child. There are multiple opportunities this week at St. Teresa to prepare your heart. Take advantage of these opportunities and your Christmas celebration will be even more meaningful:



- Tuesday, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm: Stop by the church for Eucharistic Adoration and spend a few minutes in quiet prayer.
- Wednesday, 7:00 pm: Attend the communal reconciliation and experience the peace and joy of forgiveness.
- Thursday, 7:00 pm: Take a break from the hustle and bustle and join us in the church for Concert de Noel. Sponsored by our French community, enjoy 30 minutes of arias followed by a simple reception.
- M-F, 7:30am: attend daily Mass/Communion Service and see how 20 minutes of morning prayer brightens the rest of your day.
- Anytime: schedule a Christmas donation online at [givecentral.org/location/209/4175](http://givecentral.org/location/209/4175)

## Christmas Gifts

At Christmas, we celebrate together with our families, but we celebrate as a church family too! The reality at our parish, is that many of our cherished church-family members travel over the holiday. I encourage all of us to keep our parish-family members in our prayers, especially those who are not with us this holiday. If you are in town, join us for joyous celebrations on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.



Whether you are in town or away this season, please keep St. Teresa of Avila on your "nice" list and consider an additional gift to the parish. You can schedule a gift today online at [givecentral.org/location/209/4175](http://givecentral.org/location/209/4175). You can set your gift to occur on Christmas Day, or any day you like. Even if you are away for the holiday, you can still be a part of the celebration through prayer and giving.

Thank you for being a part of our church family. May you and your loved ones experience peace and joy this Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Lord.

## 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 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

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:

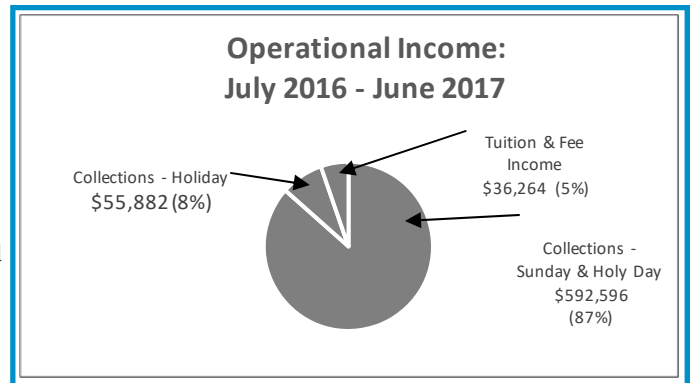
As our Fiscal Year 2017 (July 2016 – June 2017) has ended, we are doing better than we were last fiscal year (July 2015 – June 2016). Our Sunday collections totaled \$592,596, a 5% increase from 2016 and a 17% increase from 2015. Our Sunday Collections cover nearly 75% of St. Teresa's operating expenses.

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 17 — December 23

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## Celebrant-Minister Schedule & Events

Date	Time	Celebrant	Sacristan/Lector	Eucharistic Host	Eucharistic Cup
Saturday 12-23-17	5:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Lisa Marquez Lector: Luke Kolman	Eric Fredericks	Carly Johnston Lisa Hanzelka
Sunday 12-24-17	9:00 AM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Frank Swiderski Lector: Geneva Gorgo	Anne Seigenthaler Molly Malloy Margaret Burke	Rose Ohiku Philip Malloy Minister Needed (C4) Brian Shea
Christmas Mass Schedule					
Sunday 12-24-17	3:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Minister Needed Lector: Children's Service	Eileen Raia Bob Pedro Carmen Ubides	Kevin Ludden Mike Usiak Daniel Kang Tyler Paul
Sunday 12-24-17	8:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Adam Hock Lector: Karen Carpino	Alejandro Lopez Sara Hock	Minister Needed (C1) Minister Needed (C2) Maria Montes
Monday 12-25-17	10:00 AM	Fr. Frank	Sacristan: Minister Needed Lector: Jayme Nicholas	Andrew De Leonardis Alice Morales-Villenas Minister Needed (H4)	Mike Usiak Roberto Martinez Minister Needed (C3) Minister Needed (C4)

### Week's Activities

- **Sunday, December 10<sup>7</sup>**
- 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
- 6:00 pm, Church, Teen Participatory Mass
- 7:00 pm, PC, Edge/Quest
- **Monday, December 18**
- 4:30 pm, REC, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- **Tuesday, December 19**
- 4:30 pm, REC, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 6:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00 pm, PC, CGS Training
- **Wednesday, December 20**
- 6:00 pm, Church, Communal Reconciliation Service
- 8:00 pm, Church, CCFC Rosary
- **Thursday, December 21**
- 7:00 pm, Church, CCFC Christmas Concert
- **Friday, December 22**
- 10:00 am, Kitchen, Loaves & Fishes Cooking
- 4:00 pm, Church, Benson-Finlay Wedding
- 5:00 pm, PC, Loaves and Fishes Dinner
- 7:00 pm, Church, Spanish Prayer Group
- **Saturday, December 23**
- 10:00 am, PC-GS, Food Pantry Distribution

### Saints & Special Observances

- **Sunday:** Third Sunday of Advent
- **Thursday:** St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins
- **Saturday:** St. John of Kanty
- **Domingo:** Tercer Domingo de Adviento
- **Jueves:** San Pedro Canisio; Comienza el invierno
- **Sábado:** San Juan de Kanty



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### 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 17 — December 23

## Mass Intentions

## Let Us Pray

### Saturday, December 16

5:00 pm Deceased Members of St. Teresa of Avila Parish

### Sunday, December 17

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

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

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

### Please pray for the deceased ...

*Lauren Dittrich Bilyeu, Michael Dudash, Andrea Harris, Dave Hilko, Edward Nevera, Andrzej Jastrzebski, Andrea Mastro Hoinacki, Sage Messen, 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 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*

*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 30<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>: *Eric Thomas; Tra'don Sanders; Isaiah High; Amery Shannon; and Curley Harvey.*

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 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, 9:00 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.

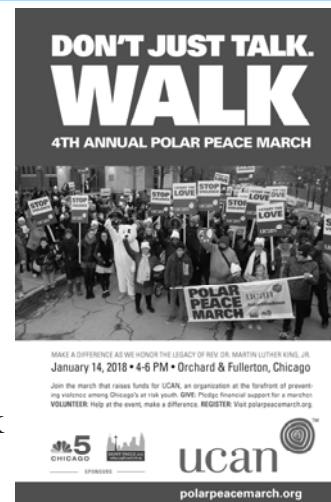
Thank you for supporting *The Women's Centers of Greater Chicagoland* again this year!



## 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 26th**

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 17 — December 23

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## Readings for the Week

<b>Monday:</b>	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
<b>Thursday:</b>	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
<b>Friday:</b>	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
<b>Saturday:</b>	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
<b>Sunday:</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

## Lecturas de la Semana

<b>Lunes:</b>	Jer 23:5-8; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
<b>Martes:</b>	Jue 13:2-7, 24-25a; Sal 71 (70):3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lc 1:5-25
<b>Miércoles:</b>	Is 7:10-14; Sal 24 (23):1-4ab, 5-6; Lc 1:26-38
<b>Jueves:</b>	Cant 2:8-14 o Sof 3:14-18a; Sal 33 (32):2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lc 1:39-45
<b>Viernes:</b>	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lc 1:46-56
<b>Sábado:</b>	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Sal 25 (24):4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lc 1:57-66
<b>Domingo:</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lc 1:26-38

## Treasures from Tradition

Last week, we looked at a form of nativity scene called a *presepio*, characterized by framing the crèche of Jesus with a vast array of personalities and a rich geographical context. The tradition was carried to the New World, and finds very rich expression in Latin America today. While in Europe the *presepio* was reserved mostly to the homes of wealthy nobles and great churches, in Latin America it was claimed by the poor and expressed the skills of native artisans. In Mexico, you can still find clay figures in every village market. In a way, the native people took the religion of Spanish rule and baptized it with their Indian culture by surrounding the crib of Jesus with local geography and people. In Brazil, where Christmas falls in summer, the figure of the baby Jesus is wrapped in gold and gems, and set on a hillside surrounded by flowers and animals of all kinds. Sometimes there is a double *presepio*, presenting both Nativity and Crucifixion.

In some places in Latin America, even non-religious people take care to have a *presepio* in the home, sometimes dedicating one whole room in the house or apartment to the scene. Some cities have markets where people from the countryside sell plants and figurines. In Cuzco, churches and families provide hot chocolate for the children of the poor who come down to help create the nativity scenes. In Paraguay, the baby Jesus grows—the small infant who arrives on Christmas Eve is replaced at New Year with a toddler Jesus who holds in one hand the globe and in the other a cross. Few Christmas traditions have the vitality and variety of *presepios* and crèches honoring the Nativity. — Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



## Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

El día 16 de diciembre comienza la Novena de Aguinaldos en Colombia y otras partes de Latinoamérica. La novena consiste en 9 partes que se repiten por 9 noches:

- |                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1- Oración inicial | 4- Reflexión del día              |
| 2- Oración Mariana | 5- Gozos                          |
| 3- Oración de José | 6- Oración al Niño Jesús          |
|                    | 7- Un Salmo                       |
|                    | 8- Invocación final               |
|                    | 9- Villancicos (cantos navideños) |

Los participantes buscan aguinaldo (regalo). Para esto los colombianos tienen la costumbre de jugar “pajita en boca” buscando quien no trae una pajita en boca. La persona que no pueda mostrar que trae pajita en boca tiene que dar un regalo a quien lo descubrió. Los aguinaldos son recuerdo del regalo que nos dio Dios en su Hijo Jesús, prenda de su amor. Y si Dios nos da un aguinaldo tan grande es porque Dios no tiene pajita en boca cuando nos dice que nos ama.

En el corazón de la Novena está el refrán de Gozos:  
Dulce Jesús mío / mi niño adorado  
ven a nuestras almas / ven no tardes tanto.  
Muy buen mensaje para el Adviento.

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



# Readings/Lecturas

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December 17 — December 23

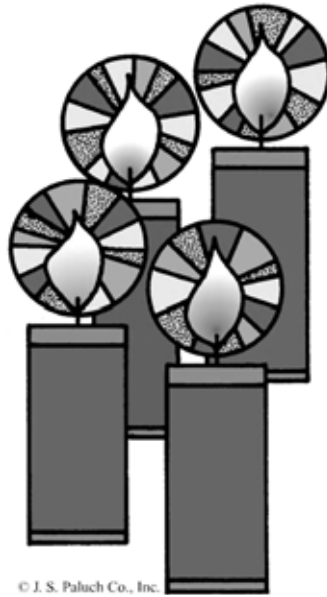
## Rejoice!

Isaiah proclaims truly good news to us! God's coming brings not sadness, guilt, fear, wrath, or condemnation. No, God's coming is a source of comfort and joy. Saying it once is not enough, for today's readings are full of joy. Mary's Magnificat substitutes for our psalm today, and our second reading encourages us to rejoice, to give thanks and praise. This is the root meaning of the Greek word for eucharist. We are urged to rejoice and give thanks, because the coming of the Lord brings joy, healing, liberty, release, vindication. It makes the very earth spring up with new life! Good tidings!

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## ¡Alégrate!

¡Isaías realmente nos proclama una buena nueva! La venida del Señor no trae tristeza, culpa, miedo, ira ni condena. No, la venida del Señor es fuente de júbilo y consuelo. No basta con decirlo una vez, las lecturas de hoy están llenas de júbilo. El Magníficat de María reemplaza a nuestro salmo hoy y nuestra segunda lectura nos anima a alegrarnos, dar gracia y rendir alabanza. Éste es el significado principal de la palabra griega para eucaristía. Se nos insta a alegrarnos y dar gracias, porque la venida del Señor trae júbilo, curación, libertad, perdón y vindicación. ¡Hace que la tierra eche brotes de vida nueva!



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## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will GOD make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

**Psalms** — My soul rejoices in my God (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

**Second Reading** — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

**Gospel** — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28).



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## Lecturas de Hoy

**Primera lectura** — Regocíjense en el Espíritu del Señor que nos trae buenas noticias (Isaías 61:1-2a, 10-11).

**Salmo** — Se alegra mi espíritu en Dios mi Salvador (Lc 1:46-50, 53-54).

**Segunda lectura** — ¡Alégrese! Conserven su integridad en el Espíritu y guárdense sin mancha hasta la venida del Señor (1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24).

**Evangelio** — Cuando preguntan a Juan Bautista quien es, dice, “Soy la voz que grita en el desierto” (Juan 1:6-8, 19-28).

# Parish Life

December 17 — December 23

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## Letter from Fr. Frank

On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis wrote of Mary, “She is the evergreen oasis of humanity,” the only human being redeemed at the first moment of her life and totally open to God. Her mission is to share this beautiful “oasis” of Christ’s never ending and never failing love with every human being. Mary is the Mother, not only of the baptized disciple, but of all people. Her “oasis” knows no bounds or limits.



During Advent, we wait and pray that Mary will be our companion in the journey, a refuge for all of us who are searching for God. Who isn’t, in one way or another? Sometimes the journey gets lonesome and we thirst for completion. In Mary, our ever present oasis, our thirst is quenched with the presence of her Son, Who comes into our lives in unexpected ways. Mary is smiling, perhaps laughing, in joy as we encounter Jesus. Mary gave Jesus a home in the womb of her being when she said “YES” to the angel Gabriel at the Annunciation, beginning the Christmas mystery of the “Word Made Flesh.”

During these busy Advent days of preparation, let’s pray to Mary that we may be open at a moment’s notice to the coming of her Son. He comes in the wondering faces of children of all ages, seeing the beauty of lights filling the darkness; he comes when we stop to learn the name of someone needing our help; he comes when we say “I’m sorry” or “I forgive you”; he comes when we celebrate Reconciliation by confessing our sins; he comes in every act of prayer and justice, not to forget the Corporal Works of Mercy etched in our windows.

Christ never ceases to come...

Peace,

Fr. Frank

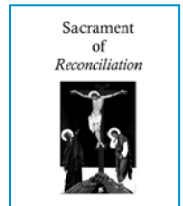
## Communal Reconciliation December 20th 6:30 PM

A combined Advent Reconciliation for our parish grouping (St. Teresa; St. Vincent; St. Michael; Immaculate Conception-St. Joseph; St. Josaphat) will be held at 6:30 pm, on Wednesday, December 20th at St. Teresa of Avila.



There will be opportunity to make individual confessions.

There are Sacrament of Reconciliation booklets at the back of church that will help prepare you and guide you through the process of examination of conscience. Please take one.



## Friday Morning Playgroup

Join us on Friday Mornings  
at the

St. Teresa of Avila  
baby-toddler playgroup

10:00 to 11:30 am

in the

Religious Education Center

(Enter at 1950 N. Kenmore)



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Dr. Casimer Badynee, Principal



# 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 1037 W. Armitage Ave. 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)