



St. Teresa of Avila

Catholic Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 6, 2012

Let us love not in word or speech
but in deed and truth.

— *1 John 3:18*

Parish Mission Statement

The Saint Teresa of Avila Parish is a diverse Catholic community of faith that embraces everyone, without exception. We see ourselves as uniquely able to engage in dialogue with people of all faiths and act as peacemakers in our city. Challenged by the Gospel, nourished by the Eucharist and inspired by the teachings of Saint Teresa of Avila, we are called to be witnesses of Christ's Love, for the salvation of all people.

Stewardship Matters

May 6 – May 12

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Hearing Aid

These days the word “obedience” has come to mean surrendering control. The original Latin, *obaudire*, meant “to listen well.” Let’s face it, many of us have an unconscious aversion to others. We want to be around them, but not get too familiar. Is it true that committed relationships—in a marriage, family, or parish—limit us? God created us to reach our full potential only in communion with others. We begin by learning to repent and to obey. “Repent” in scripture translates the Greek *metanoia*, or “change one’s mind (or heart).” So repentance and obedience go hand in hand. We must “listen responsibly” to learn our limitations and strengths, and translate them into action. Wonderful, blessed things can happen when everyone listens and responds appropriately to what is asked of them. Truly, where God is there are no limits to what can be done in love for God’s glory and for the salvation of all humankind.

Living Stewardship Now

Make a consistent effort to listening attentively—to God in prayer and during Mass, to people in conversations. Consider carefully what response is being asked of you; then put it into action.



A La Escucha

Hoy día la palabra “obediencia” ha llegado a significar una renuncia de control. Mas, el vocablo original del latín, *obaudire*, significa “escuchar bien”. Nosotros los hispanos hacemos amistad fácilmente, pero escucharnos unos a otros generalmente nos cuesta más. Y sin embargo, ¿podemos entrar en una buena relación —como en el matrimonio, la familia o la parroquia— sin escucharnos mutuamente? Dios nos creó para que podamos llegar a nuestra máxima capacidad sólo en comunión con los demás. Hay que empezar por aprender a arrepentirnos y a obedecer. El

“arrepentimiento” en las Escrituras viene de la palabra griega *metanoia* o “cambio de mentalidad (o de corazón)”. Por lo tanto, el arrepentimiento y la obediencia van de la mano. Debemos “escuchar responsablemente” para conocer nuestras limitaciones así como nuestros puntos fuertes y traducirlo en acción. Pueden darse muchas bendiciones y suceder cosas maravillosas cuando todos se escuchan mutuamente y responden apropiadamente a lo que se les pide. Ciertamente que donde está Dios no hay límites en lo que nuestro amor puede hacer para la gloria de Dios y la salvación de toda la humanidad.

La corresponsabilidad vivida ahora

Esfuerzate constantemente por escuchar atentamente, a Dios en la oración y durante la Misa, a las personas en sus conversaciones. Considera cuidadosamente la respuesta que te piden, luego ponla en práctica.

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St. Teresa of Avila Food Pantry Shopping List

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

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



Boxed Soap Bar (4-5 oz.)

Sizes are the Maximum
Larger, sturdy paper and plastic shopping bags with handles
are always in need.

Please check the expiration dates on all food items before donating them; we discard anything past the expiration date.



The Food Pantry needs larger, sturdy paper and plastic bags with handles. Please drop them off in the church, parish center or parish office.

If your family would like to sponsor a large amount of a particular item, please contact Dave Hilko at dahilko@aol.com.

The Counting Team Needs You!

Do you have a few hours once a month that you can dedicate to the church? Of course you do! One of the ministries that is always in need of help is the Counting Team.

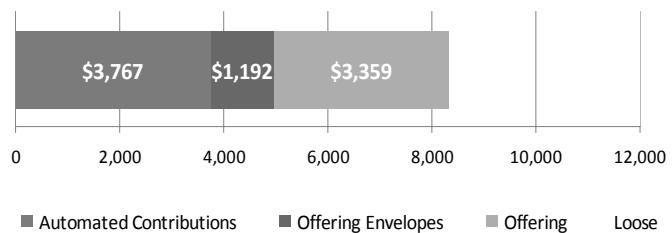
The counters help to organize and deposit the church's funds on a weekly basis. Without them, the finances would come to a halt.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Erica at (773) 528-6650 or esacucci@gmail.com.

Weekly Collections Recap For April 29, 2012

Automated Contributions	Offering Envelopes	Offering Loose	Total
\$3,767	\$1,192	\$3,359	\$8,318

Weekly Sunday Collections (Budget of \$12,000)



We are currently running a \$3,682 deficit of our budgeted Sunday collections of \$12,000 for the weekend of April 29, 2012. Currently we are flat with collections from last fiscal year. Please note that April has five weekends rather than four, so the automated donation average is slightly lower.

Comments & Concerns

We want to ensure that any questions or concerns are fully addressed. Please contact the Finance Council Chair, Bill Mack, at wiliamdmack@hotmail.com or (312) 706-4266. Bill can provide you with the latest financial status, projections and key issues.

We also encourage you to attend the monthly Finance Council meetings on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

Website & Bulletin Materials

Articles must be submitted by 11:00 am on Monday to be considered for the following Sunday's bulletin or for posting on the Website. Please contact Dean at (773) 528-6650 or dvaeth@stteresaparish.org

Readings, Liturgy & Tradition

May 6 – May 12

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Today's Readings

First Reading — The church was being built up, and grew in numbers (Acts 9:26-31).

Psalm — I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people (Psalm 22).

Second Reading — Let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth (1 John 3:18-24).

Gospel — Remain in me, as I remain in you. I am the vine, you are the branches (John 15:1-8).

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21
Sunday:	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98; 1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17 or Jn 17:11b-19



Bearing Fruit

Few of us, even when we meditate on the image of the vine and branches, stop to really think about how God “prunes” us. For some there is the danger of thinking that we are already producing fruit for the kingdom, in deed and truth as John says, perhaps raising a family, being active in our parish, and so on. But even those branches which are bearing fruit, the Gospel tells us, can be pruned to produce still more. Today Saul, freshly “pruned” by his conversion, arrives in Jerusalem and meets resistance. Since he had been persecuting Christians, this was only natural. But even after he is accepted and begins to bear fruit, he meets further adversity, and his letters are filled with many accounts of how his trials “pruned” him to produce greater fruit for the kingdom. Like him, as long as we remain in Christ we will continue to bear fruit and, when the will of the Father determines it is time to prune us, the strength of the true vine must enable us to endure it.



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Treasures from Our Tradition

The month of May has not only good weather, but an interesting pedigree. It is named after the Roman goddess Maia, said to be the mother of Hermes, or Mercury. The Romans saw it as “love’s month,” while in England, more practical farmers called it “Three Milks,” since the cows grazing on springtime’s bounty could produce at a phenomenal rate. Old customs die hard, and Christians have never made peace with May-time frolics. No wonder that popular tradition dedicated the month’s prayers and devotions to Mary, although we cannot lose sight of the fact that the liturgy always has Easter at the center of celebration. Recent developments have enriched Mary’s place in a cycle of feast days woven through the whole year, dedicated Saturday as a weekly day for devotion, and highlighted Mary’s role in the Advent story. In fact, every day of the year Evening Prayer centers on the singing of Mary’s Canticle of Praise. The fifty days of Easter culminate on Pentecost with Mary, present of course for Christ’s birth, waiting in the upper room for the birth of the church.

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

Lecturas, Liturgia Y Tradición

May 6 – May 12

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De los Frutos



Pocos de nosotros, incluso cuando meditamos sobre la imagen de la vid y los sarmientos, nos detenemos a pensar realmente acerca de cómo Dios nos “poda”. Para algunos, existe el peligro de pensar que ya estamos produciendo frutos para el reino, de verdad y con hechos como dice Juan, tal vez criando una familia, siendo activos en nuestra parroquia y así. Pero incluso aquellas ramas que están dando sus frutos, nos dice el Evangelio, se pueden podar para producir aún más. Hoy Saulo, recién “podado” por su conversión, llega a Jerusalén y encuentra resistencia. Ya que había estado persiguiendo a los cristianos, esto era natural. Pero incluso después de que lo aceptan y comienza a dar frutos, se encuentra con más adversidad, y sus cartas están llenas de muchos relatos de cómo sus pruebas eran “podas” para que produjera más frutos para el Reino. Al igual que él, siempre y cuando permanezcamos en Cristo, vamos a seguir dando frutos y, cuando la voluntad del Padre, determine que es hora de que nos pade, la fuerza de la vid verdadera deberá permitirnos soportarlo.

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Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

Durante la Última Cena, Jesús dijo a sus apóstoles: “Yo soy la vid, ustedes son los sarmientos” (Juan 15:5). Jesús añade que los sarmientos (ramas) que permanecen en Él, dan mucho fruto. Según la agricultura, la vid es una parra, es decir, una planta perenne de ramas frondosas.

Una parte importante de la vid son las hojas. Es obvio que una vid tiene hojas, pero Jesús no las menciona, prefiere enfocarse en los sarmientos. Las partes de la vid son las raíces, tronco, sarmientos, hojas, flores y fruto. Según esta división Jesús sería el tronco, pero él dice ser la vid completa. Esta es una imagen de la unidad que Jesús quiere entre sus seguidores. Recordemos que Jesús celebra la Última Cena con sus discípulos. La comunidad de discípulos unidos a Jesús formamos la vid. Los sarmientos o ramas conducen agua y minerales a las hojas, flores y frutos, y son útiles en tanto estén unidos a la vid. Lo mismo vale de los cristianos, discípulos de Jesús. Son ellos y ellas los que hacen presente y le dan vida a Jesús en el mundo de hoy.

– Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Giz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Lecturas de hoy

Primera lectura — Bernabé explica a los discípulos en Jerusalén la conversión de Pablo (Hechos 9:26-31).

Salmo — Bendito sea el Señor. Aleluya (Salmo 22 [21]).

Segunda lectura — Dios nos ordena que creamos en el nombre de Jesucristo y que nos amemos como él nos ama (1 Juan 3:18-24).

Evangelio — Los que viven

Lecturas de la Semana

Lunes:	Hch 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26
Martes:	Hch 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a
Miércoles:	Hch 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8
Jueves:	Hch 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11
Viernes:	Hch 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17
Sábado:	Hch 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21
Domingo:	Hch 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; Sal 98 (97); 1 Jn 4:7-10 o 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17 o Jn 17:11b-19



Sacraments & Ministries

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Congratulations May Baptisms



*Koen William McCue (5-6-12)
Vincent Daniel Murchie (5-6-12)
Keira Malecha Koleski (5-6-12)
Liliana Chimento (5-20-12)
James Shanahan Shockley (5-20-12)
Alexander David Kay (5-20-12)
Devan James Mehandru (5-20-12)
Andrew Ruston Broussard (5-27-12)*

St. Teresa says...

“He knows what each one can suffer. He does not delay in doing His will in anyone He sees has the strength.”



The Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

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



Calendar at a Glance

May 6, Sunday

Fifth Sunday of Easter • Quinto Domingo del Pascua

- 9:00 am, PC1-2, 9 AM Nursery
- 9:15 am, REC4, Children’s Liturgy of the Word
- 10:00, GS, Midwest Workers Association Display
- 10:00 am, PC4, Hospitality
- 10:15 am, Rectory, Bible Study
- 10:30 am, REC1-2-3, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 1:30 pm, PC1-2, CCFC Confirmation

May 7, Monday

- No activities scheduled

May 8, Tuesday

- 6:15 am, PC3, Men’s Spirituality Group
- 4:30 pm, REC1-2-3, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 6:00 pm, APC, 12-Step Meeting AA
- 6:30 pm, PC4, Catholicism
- 7:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration



May 9, Wednesday

- 5:30 pm, PC1-2, CCFC Catechesis
- 7:00 pm, PC4, Chicago Catholic Scripture School
- 7:30 pm, APC, 12-Step AA Meeting

May 10, Thursday

- St. Damien Joseph de Veuster of Molokai • San Damián José de Veuster de Molokai
- 4:30 pm, REC1-2-3, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
 - 6:00 pm, PC3, GS, Food Pantry Setup

May 11, Friday

- 10:00 am, PC1-2, GS, Food Pantry Distribution
- 12:00 pm, Kitchen, Loaves & Fishes Cooking
- 3:30 pm, PC3-4, Loaves & Fishes Set Up
- 5:00 pm, PC 3-4, Loaves & Fishes Dinner
- 7:00 pm, Church, Spanish Prayer Group

May 12, Saturday

- Ss. Nereus and Achilleus; St. Pancras • Santos Nereo y Aquiles; San Pancracio
- 1:00 pm, Mothers’ Day Hospitality Setup
 - 6:30 pm. Church, CCFC Mass

Mass Schedule & Intentions

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Mass Intentions

May 5

- 5:00 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish
- 9:00 am Doris Reed
- 10:30 am Ethel and Maurice Brumleve
- Gabriel Bernal
- 12:00 noon Phyllis Carlino
- 6:00 pm All Deceased Members of the Parish

May 6

- Doris Reed

- Ethel and Maurice Brumleve

Gabriel Bernal

Phyllis Carlino

All Deceased Members of the Parish

Our Mass intentions have many openings. If you would like to have a Mass said for someone alive or deceased, contact Dean Vaeth at the parish office at (773) 528-6650 or dvaeth@stteresaparish.org

In order to be added to our prayer list, a member of the immediate family should request that a person's name be added. We list the names of the deceased parishioners and friends for six months. If you wish the name of a loved one left on the list longer than six months, please contact Dean Vaeth at the parish office.

In Our Prayers

Please pray for our deceased friends and parishioners...

Alfonzo Ardanza, Amalia Bech, Greg Bruce, Ethel Brumleve, John Breault, Phyllis Carlino, Gaspar Diaz, Julia Faloyin, Isabella Feliciano, Carlos Hernandez Gomez, Manuel Gomez, Donald Grabarczyk, Sr. Joan Granzier, Timothy Halpin, Lee Incandela, Teresa Joan Kilcullen, Michael Kinsella, Laura Lee, Isabelle Martinez, Melory Mizicko, Cindy O'Keefe, Ben & Susan Patrasso, Sophia Sanchez, Lino Stefani, Jim Teterycz, Victims of War & Domestic Violence

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

<i>Johnnie Mae Alexander</i>	<i>Chuck Jabaley</i>	<i>Michele Piotrowski</i>
<i>Alicia Anderson</i>	<i>Theresa Jabaley</i>	<i>Hector J. Rivera</i>
<i>Berta Billalvazo</i>	<i>Pat Johnson</i>	<i>Pedro Rodriguez</i>
<i>Patricia Chuck</i>	<i>Betty LaCour</i>	<i>Ray Romero</i>
<i>Basilio Diaz</i>	<i>Adolfo Lorenzana</i>	<i>Jeffrey Roscoe</i>
<i>Jackson Fineske & Family</i>	<i>Carmen Dolores Lorenzana</i>	<i>Sr. Jean Ryan, O.C.D.</i>
<i>Padraig Gallagher</i>	<i>Carmen Felicita Lorenzana</i>	<i>Jack Schank</i>
<i>Eloisa Gallegos</i>	<i>Miguel Lorenzana</i>	<i>Ruth Schmitz</i>
<i>Michael Gibbons</i>	<i>George Maroquin</i>	<i>Mina Tome</i>
<i>Angela Goldberg</i>	<i>Jose Marroquin</i>	<i>Jon Wagenknecht</i>
<i>Kaylee Gommel</i>	<i>Tammy Martin & Family</i>	<i>John Wagner</i>
<i>Les Gordon</i>	<i>Sally Jo Morrow</i>	<i>Bernadine Walters</i>
<i>Genevieve Gorgo</i>	<i>Margaret Sue Meadors</i>	<i>Hilda Williams</i>
<i>Mrs. Grabarczyk</i>	<i>Bill Mobley</i>	<i>Jack Williams</i>
<i>George Halloran</i>	<i>John Monier</i>	<i>Michael Woyan</i>
<i>Kellar Harris</i>	<i>Elda Myers</i>	<i>Survivors and perpetrators of sexual abuse</i>
<i>Fr. Patrick Harrity, C.M.</i>	<i>Angel Nieves</i>	
<i>David Hoffman</i>	<i>P. A. O'Neil</i>	
<i>David Iyanac</i>	<i>Msgr. Kevin O'Neill</i>	
	<i>Honorata Alicea Peña</i>	



DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	LECTOR	EUCARISTIC BREAD	EUCARISTIC WINE
5-12-12 Saturday	5:00 pm	Fr. Frank	Becky Frances	Minister Needed	Annie Monak Minister Needed
5-13-12 Sunday	9:00 am	Fr. Benjamin Aguilar	Mark Trinka	Mark Van Grinsven Geneva Gorgo Deana LaBrosse-Zost	Michael Zost Nancy Van Grinsven Bernadette Diaz Tom Kosnik
5-13-12 Sunday	10:30 am	Fr. Benjamin Aguilar	Geraldo Martinez Belen Gonzales	Carmen Vazquez	Bolivar Gonzales
5-13-12 Sunday	12:00 noon	Fr. Frank	Wendy Tynan	Luke Kolman	Aimee Jaszczer Brendan Lynch
5-13-12 Sunday	6:00 pm	Fr. Frank	Kevin Carlino	Christine Villock Jane Bronson Katie Assell	Eileen Raia Jonathan Assell Karen Melchert Jane Ott

Parish Life

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Garage Sale July 21st



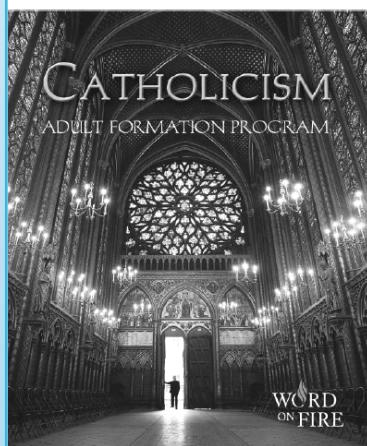
It's time to clean out your closets, drawers, storage units, and crawl spaces and donate all those unwanted, salable items to St. Teresa's. Remember those Christmas and birthday gifts you didn't like. Re-gift those items now!

We're looking for books, appliances, CDs, DVDs, games, household and kitchen items, jewelry, furniture, electronics, decorative items, sporting equipment, and whatever else might sell. Any donations of clothes should be in new or near-new condition.

If you'd like to volunteer to help at the sale or donate items, contact Dean at the parish office at (773) 528-6650 or Frank Swiderski at either (773) 339-7790 or (773) 227-9922.

CATHOLICISM

Journey Around the World and Deep into the Faith



"Simply the most vivid catechism ever created; a high-def illustrated manuscript for the twenty-first century; the best-ever film about the Catholic faith."

-Brad Miner, The Catholic Thing blog

With creator and host Father Robert Barron, you will learn what Catholics believe and why, while being immersed in the art, architecture, literature, beliefs, and practices of the Catholic tradition.

Filmed in 50 locations throughout 15 countries, the CATHOLICISM DVD series is on-location and in the streets illustrating the splendor of the global Church.

The Adult Formation Program expands and reinforces the content of the DVDs with extensive commentary and questions for understanding and application.

Father Robert Barron is an acclaimed author, theologian and podcasting priest from Chicago, and one of the world's great and most innovative teachers of the Catholic faith.

St. Teresa Parish Presents

Fr. Robert Barron's
Ten-part Series
CATHOLICISM

Tuesdays During Lent & Easter Season
6:30pm to 8:30pm

February 28 • March 6, 13, 20, 27 • April 10, 17, 24 • May 1 [REDACTED]
Refreshments Served

Acceptance:

The way to serenity and peace of mind.

One of the more perplexing religious/ethical questions is, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" Most of the faithful have asked this question. Scripture scholars will have us turn to the book of Job in attempt to find an answer. But in the end, the bible really does not give us an answer. In Job's case, he was a righteous man that suffered terribly. Job's only answer to the question of "why" his suffering, was to have faith and trust in God.

One strain of the philosophy of religion makes the case that man has actually created the concept of God and religion out of fear. Namely, that man cannot control most, if not all, of the variables in his life. And this fact of being out of control scares the living day lights out of man and as a response to buffer himself from this fear man has created a God that protects him, a God that he can go to in times of trouble.

At one of our recent gatherings, our Men's Spirituality group took on the concept of "Acceptance." We read through a little pamphlet titled "Acceptance: The way to serenity and peace of mind." A wide range of responses were shared regarding how each of us deals with troubling news or challenging events in our lives.

For men, if we can't manage it, control it or get a handle on it..., well, the challenging it becomes very difficult personally and mentally. I mean, we are supposed to be charge here aren't we? And to hear "you just have to let it go," or "you just need to take a positive attitude toward it," does not help. What helps is the gift of faith from God. What helps more is the gift of faith from God in the context of a community of believers. For sometimes, actually most of the times, we cannot do it alone.

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

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

— Tom Kosnik

Parish Life

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Midwest Workers Association At St. Teresa this Weekend

Next weekend, May 5th and 6th, members of Midwest Workers Association (MWA) will be in the Gathering Space before and after Mass.

MWA is a free and voluntary membership association of the greater Chicago area's lowest-paid workers, as well as those out of work or on fixed incomes. Since 1996, MWA has been uniting its membership of low-income workers with business owners, professionals, students, clergy and others to build a powerful force to eradicate the root causes of poverty.

More volunteers and support are urgently needed. Please stop by MWA's table to find out how you can join these historic efforts.

Help The Women's Center

Pregnant women in difficult situations often find themselves feeling confused, under pressure and alone. At *The Women's Center* our counselors help them through friendship, counseling, and material assistance.

Volunteers are needed to help sell flowers after Masses for our annual flower sale on Mother's Day weekend, May 12-13. Help is also needed sorting donations in our Chicago Family Resource Room on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Call Jackie at (773) 794-8807.

We need for baby shampoo, baby wash, lotion and powder, maternity clothing and diapers sizes 5 and 6. These must be delivered to us unless accompanied by baby furniture. We desperately need 6 fixed-side baby cribs, 8 infant/cARRIER car seats, 6 pack-n-plays, 2 changing tables, 4 double strollers, 5 single strollers and 4 bassinets.

It will be a great help if you can deliver these to us. For our address, or if a pick-up is needed, please call (773) 794-1313.

Due to limited space we are unable to accept anything except the items listed.

You're Invited to a Bible Study!

Sunday Mornings at 10:15am – 11:45am

- Join at any time
- No preparation required
- Convenient time between morning masses
- Childcare available (call to arrange)
- Bring your coffee, breakfast, and bible!



Our Presenter: Tom Kosnik

Tom comes to us with a Masters of Divinity from Catholic Theological Union. Tom spent four months in Israel studying scripture and has hosted several well received bible studies at St. Teresa in his 15 years at the parish.

May 6th is the next Bible study.

Praise from Current Students

"Bible Study opens your heart to hear God's word in a way you never have before. Tom leads us into the history and meaning of the familiar and unfamiliar parables, miracles and stories that totally changes how you hear the readings each week." - Theresa Jabaley

"The thing I have enjoyed the most about the bible study is digging deeper into scripture and learning so much more than I could on my own. It's a wonderful opportunity to get connected with other parishioners and with each meeting I leave feeling rejuvenated and excited for the next lesson!" - Lindsey Hayes

For more information contact Kate Garwood
at (601)454-0837 or katiemgarwood@gmail.com

ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE



Parish Life

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Page Ten

Beyond Suspicion

The first Christian community in Jerusalem was afraid of Paul. Because they didn't trust him. Because they were suspicious of his motives. Because he raised their stress level.

You and I know all about fear and trust and stress and suspicion.

If the 20th century was called the “age of anxiety,” the 21st century might be called the “age of suspicion.” We are streetwise. We spend much of our energy trying to see through people, trying to “suss” out situations. We’ve developed a sixth sense about who to trust. We automatically assume that behind every good deed lurks some motive for personal profit.

And, unfortunately, our worst suspicions are often confirmed by sordid scandals in high places. It seems no trust is too sacred to be betrayed, in large institutions or in personal relationships. Friendships are fragile, contracts are breakable, marriages are dissoluble.

Surrounded by so much suspicion, we begin to doubt our own integrity. And the final victim is God: We wonder if even God can really be that loving and kind and forgiving.

From there, it’s easy to become paranoid. Fearing to be taken in by some and found out by others, we take defensive measures. The rich hide behind gated communities, the middle class get entrenched in lifestyle enclaves and the poor



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Surrounded by so much suspicion, we begin to doubt our own integrity. And the final victim is God...

retreat into bigotry. All of us squat behind protective shields, poised for attack, trusting no one.

That situation is not unlike the situation of the first Christian communities. They were a small minority within an entrenched Judaism and an established Roman power. To the Jews they were heretics, to the Romans they were atheists. To everyone they were suspect. They huddled together for safety, trusting no one.

Then, into this fearful, anxious little group came Paul. He was a sophisticated, educated, literate man, unlike most of them. He was a foreign-born Jew from Tarsus and a Roman citizen. He was not like the really faithful Jews who lived in Jerusalem; and with dual citizenship, he must have a divided heart. How could they trust him?

It was only after one of the inner circle vouched for him that

they reluctantly accepted him. But as soon as he started to get involved in preaching their cherished beliefs, their fear of outsiders became unbearable. They thought their only safety lay in killing him.

Our own fear of other people, our suspicion of their motives, our mistrust of novelty seldom reaches a violent response. But when we suspect the worst in others, we are more apt to bring it out.

Without trust, we become defensive rather than proactive. It’s like a football game with both teams playing not to lose instead of playing to win. We may appreciate the skill, but it is a grim, ugly contest, a true no-win situation. That kind of life is mere survival instead of a joyful adventure.

But the greatest victim is, again, God. We set up defenses against God — because not even God can be finally trusted. We pit our justice against God’s mercy, our betrayal against God’s faithfulness. We try to win God’s approval instead of accepting God’s unmerited love. We think it’s safer to obey laws than to love God. The relationship unravels.

It is all such a waste. If God wants to harm us, we cannot escape. We have no recourse but to trust in a goodness beyond our imagination.

- Fr. James Smith, Celebration Publications

Directory

Parish Office

1930 N. Kenmore
Chicago, IL 60614
(773) 528-6650
(773) 871-6766 fax
www.st-teresa.net
dvaeth@stteresaparish.org



Office Hours

Monday—Friday: 9:00 am—7:30 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am—12:00 noon

Staff

Pastor
Rev. Frank Latzko, ext. 232

FJSasso@aol.com

Deacon
Deacon Hector Rivera

Director of Religious Education
Kate Lynch, ext. 232
kolynchdre@gmail.com

Music Director
Jason Krumwiede
musicalnut1@mac.com

Business Manager
Erica Saccucci, ext. 231
esaccucci@gmail.com

Office Manager
Dean Vaeth, ext. 230
dvaeth@stteresaparish.org

Reception
Olu Balogun, ext. 210
obalogun@stteresaparish.org

Facilities Manager
Thomas Micinski, ext. 212
tmicinski@stteresaparish.org

Maintenance/Housekeeping
Sergio Mora
Irma Saavedra

Parish Pastoral Council
Dave Wisneski, Chair

Jon Assell	Mark Matejka
Joe Haley	Bertel Olson
Catherine Kosnik	Tony Rivera
Jessica Marx	

Infant Baptism

Baptisms are generally celebrated on the first Sunday of the month during mass, and on the third Sunday of the month following the noon mass. Parents are required to attend baptism preparation session. Please call Dean at the parish office (773) 528-6650, ext. 230 to schedule a preparation session and baptism at least three months in advance.

Marriage

Weddings are held at 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm on Saturday afternoons. Call the parish office for an appointment at least six months in advance.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—RCIA

For those interested in becoming Catholic or simply desiring to learn more about our Catholic faith, contact Fr. Frank..

Children's Religious Education

Religious education is offered for children from age 3 through 8th grades. Two programs are offered - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (a Montessori program) and a middle school program for 7th and 8th grade. For more information on religious education programs or sacramental preparation, please contact Kate Lynch at the parish office, ext. 232.

Registration

Registration forms are available at the back of church or at the parish office, or on our website at www.st-teresa.net.

Time for Prayer

The church may be opened for private prayer during the day. Please come to the parish office.

Weekend Masses

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

Weekday Masses

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

*Communion Service only

Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday	7:00 pm
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Reconciliation

Please call the parish office to make an appointment with a priest for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Communion for the Sick

Please call the parish office for arrangements.

Counseling Services

Theresa Nollette, M.Div., LCSW
Pastoral Counselor
(312) 540-0320
theresa_nollette@sbcglobal.net

Mary Ellen Moore, Ph.D.

Counseling and
Spiritual Direction
(773) 643-6259, ext. 17
www.claretcenter.org

Melanie McNally, LCPC

Psychotherapist
(773) 643-6259, ext. 38.
mmaxwell@my.adler.edu



**St. Teresa
of Avila**
Catholic Church

