



St. Teresa
of Avila
Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 10, 2013

**Whoever is in Christ is a new creation:
the old things have passed away;
behold, new things have come.**

— 2 Corinthians 5:17

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.

We are a stewardship parish. Three percent of our operating income is shared with other missions.

Reflections

March 10 — March 16

Page Two

Reflecting on God's Word

When Israel packed its few bags and went rushing out of Egypt, God's chosen people began a journey into being a new creation, from being a nation of slaves to being a nation of free men and women, a people under the heel of Egypt to one joined to God by the covenant, a community that ate manna (which literally means "What is it?") to one that ate the produce of the promised land. This journey took forty years and it wasn't easy.

When the prodigal son finally "came to his senses" and realized he would be better off back home as a hired worker than stealing slop from the pigs, he began a journey from being lost to being found, from being dead to being alive. This journey did not take forty years, but how do you measure in clock time a journey that transforms the heart? This journey wasn't easy either.

The path to being a new creation can take forty years, forty days, forty minutes, or forty seconds. Sometimes it involves an outer journey; it is always an inner one. It is difficult—dying to self always is. What matters is that we make it. Because the end result is the radiance of a people, or a son or daughter, who has finally arrived where they belong, at a party where the Father has an arm around them and the older brother who brought this about through his saving death is standing at the Father's side, with the Spirit hovering above them all.

Living God's Word

We pray that whatever form our journey takes, we will persevere in becoming, individually and communally, a new creation. We ask the Father to send forth the Holy Spirit upon us so that we will be recreated as this same Spirit continues to renew the face of the earth.



Reflexionemos sobre la Palabra de Dios

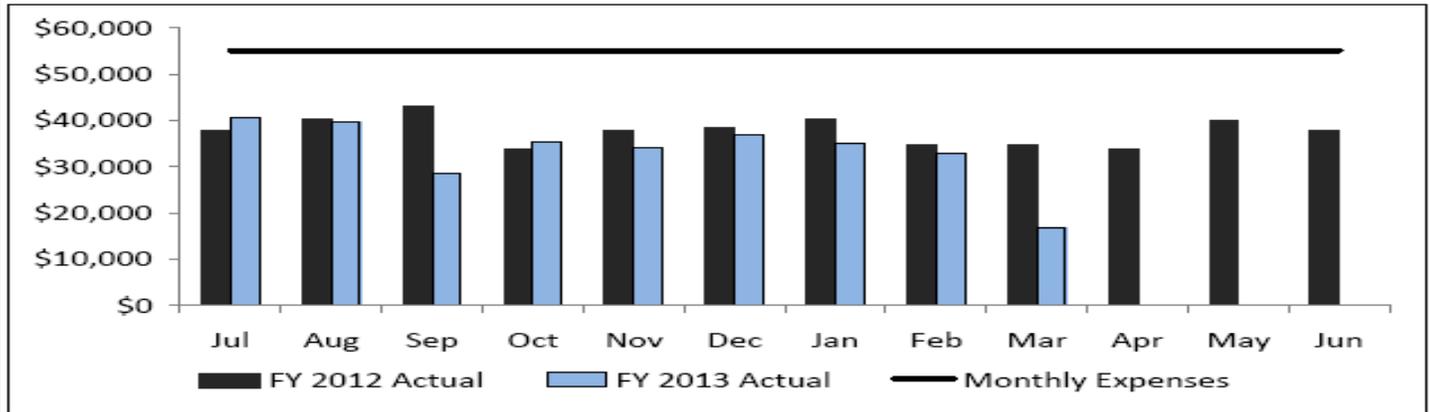
Cuando Israel, el pueblo escogido de Dios, hizo sus pocas maletas y salió corriendo de Egipto, comenzó su camino para convertirse en una nueva creación; de ser una nación de esclavos pasaron a ser un pueblo de hombres y mujeres libres; de estar bajo la opresión de Egipto a estar unidos a Dios por la alianza; de ser una comunidad que comió el maná (que textualmente significa "¿Qué es esto?") a comer los frutos agrícolas de la tierra prometida. Este viaje duró cuarenta años y no fue fácil.

Cuando el hijo pródigo por fin reaccionó y cayó en cuenta de que si regresaba al hogar, aunque fuera de jornalero, estaría mejor que robándose el alimento de los cerdos, comenzó su camino; de haber estado perdido a ser encontrado, de estar muerto a volver a la vida. Ese viaje no duró cuarenta años pero, ¿cómo se puede medir con las horas del reloj un viaje que transforma el corazón? Ese viaje tampoco fue fácil. El camino hacia convertirse en una nueva creación puede tomar cuarenta años, cuarenta días, cuarenta minutos o cuarenta segundos. Algunas veces requerirá un viaje exterior, pero siempre habrá un viaje interior. Es difícil, pues morir a sí mismo siempre lo es. Lo importante es que lo hagamos, porque el resultado será la refulgencia de un pueblo, de un hijo o una hija, que por fin ha llegado a donde pertenece, a una fiesta donde el Padre lo recibe con un abrazo y Jesús, el hermano mayor, que realizó esa salvación por su muerte, está esperando junto al Padre en unión del Espíritu Santo, que aletea sobre todos sus hijos e hijas.

Vivamos la Palabra de Dios

Oremos para que sea cual fuere la forma de nuestro viaje, podamos perseverar y llegar a convertirnos, individual y comunitariamente, en una nueva creación. Pidamos al Padre que envíe el Espíritu Santo para que haga de nosotros una creación nueva y continúe renovando la faz de la tierra.

Fiscal Year (07/01 - 06/30) Comparison to Date



- For the first seven months of the 2013 Fiscal Year, Sunday and Holy Day collections are down 8% from the 2012 Fiscal Year. As the chart above depicts, the key driver was poor collections in September 2012.
- We ask that Parishioners periodically consider an increase to their weekly gifts to St. Teresa's. Our goal is to fund all operations from the weekly collections, i.e. the goal is for the bars to exceed the expense line in the chart above.
- We are sincerely grateful to all who gave so generously at Christmas. The Parish had a tremendous Christmas collection which was \$20,000 better than last Fiscal Year. This, coupled with our efforts to control expenses, will aid in ending the year with a balanced budget. We hope that our Easter collection is equally successful. If you are able, please consider making a special gift at Easter.
- St. Teresa's annual fundraisers assist in meeting funding gaps. It is the Finance Council's and Fr. Frank's goal to increase weekly giving to meet our ongoing expenses, and use the proceeds from fundraisers to fund special initiatives and outreach programs of the Parish.
- Please contact the Chair of the St. Teresa Finance Council, Bill Mack, at williamdmack@hotmail.com or (312) 706-4266. Bill can provide you with the latest financial status, projections, and key issues.
- The Finance Council meets the third Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

Food Pantry Schedule for March

Saturday, March 2nd
9:00 am to 11:00 am Bagging & Distribution

Thursday, March 7th
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Bagging

Friday, March 8th
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

Saturday, March 16th
9:00 am to 11:00 am Bagging & Distribution

Thursday, March 21st
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Bagging

Friday, March 22nd
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

The next Food Pantry Meeting will be held March 3 at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.

Food Pantry Shopping List

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

Brown Rice (box) or Rice Packets
Crackers or Saltines
Boxed Soap Bar (4-5 oz.)



Extra-strength shopping bags with handles are always in need.



Readings, Liturgy & Tradition

March 10 — March 16

Page Four

Today's Readings

First Reading — The Israelites ate of the yield of the land of Canaan (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) or *1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a*.

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) or *Psalm 23*.

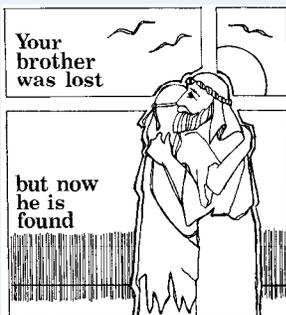
Second Reading — Whoever is in Christ is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) or *Ephesians 5:8-14*.

Gospel — This man welcomes sinners and eats with them (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) or *John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]*.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday: Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11
Alternate readings (Year A): Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

Passages



The point of today's first reading is fulfillment. The forty-year trek of the Israelites is over; they now camp in the Promised Land and celebrate the Passover. The manna that has sustained them in the desert ends; from now on they will eat of the produce of the land. Our Eucharist—the manna of our journey—will end when we enter heaven.

Paul, in the second reading, speaks of change. The old order has passed away: all is new. Reconciliation has been secured in Christ. The message has to be proclaimed everywhere by the ambassadors for Christ.

The beautiful parable of the prodigal son is given to us by Christ in answer to the criticism of the Pharisees, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Jesus tells the story not to illustrate some vague human ideal of being broadminded or tolerant. He wants us to identify the father with God—a God who reaches out across rules, regulations, and even common sense to embrace and to forgive. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Treasures from Our Tradition

Today, "Laetare Sunday," breaks the somberness of Lent for a little rejoicing, and the readings all summon us to an awareness of reconciliation. One of the best-loved stories of our tradition is today's Gospel story of the runaway son and the prodigal father. Prodigal, of course, is an adjective meaning "spendthrift or extravagant to a degree bordering on recklessness," and although the boy maxes out the credit cards, it is really the father who is prodigal with forgiveness.

Part of the excitement of this Laetare Sunday is rooted in the ancient catechumenate. Long ago, midway through Lent, the "elect" were focusing more and more on the gift of reconciliation accomplished for them by Christ and about to be realized in the Easter sacraments they were preparing to celebrate. In some places, the elect were even bedecked with roses on this day. A person bedecked with roses sticks out in a crowd; a person formed by the Eucharist and committed to living a life of reconciliation does, too. That's you! — James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Pasos



El tema de la primera lectura de hoy es el cumplimiento. La caminata de cuarenta años de los israelitas ha terminado, ahora establecen su campamento en la Tierra Prometida y celebran la Pascua. El maná que los ha sostenido en el desierto cesa; de ahora en adelante tendrán que comer del producto de la tierra. Nuestra Eucaristía –el maná de nuestra jornada– terminará cuando entremos al cielo.

Pablo, en la segunda lectura, habla de cambio. Lo viejo ha terminado: todo es nuevo. La reconciliación se ha logrado en Cristo. El mensaje tiene que ser proclamado en todo lugar por los embajadores de Cristo.

Cristo nos dio la hermosa parábola del hijo pródigo para responder a la crítica de los fariseos: “Este hombre recibe a los pecadores y come con ellos”. Jesús nos cuenta la historia no para ilustrar algún vago ideal humano sobre la tolerancia y la aceptación. Él quiere que identifiquemos al padre con Dios –un Dios que se sale de las reglas, de las leyes y del sentido común para aceptar y perdonar. – Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

Cuaresma es tiempo de reconciliación por medio del perdón. En este espíritu, el Papa beato Juan Pablo II pidió perdón por pecados cometidos por la Iglesia. Uno de estos pecados es la manera como América fue cristianizada.

La relación del latino con la religión católica ha sido entre buenas intenciones y antagonismos. Gracias a Dios, ¡somos cristianos! Lamentablemente, nuestro bautizo, en la mayor parte de los casos, fue en agua bendita y sangre indígena a la vez, ya que América fue evangelizada con cruz y espada. Los pobres misioneros que con fatiga, predicaron en nuestras tierras venían acompañados por hombres poderosos en busca de riquezas.

El filósofo romano-español Séneca (siglo I) afirmaba: "la religión es algo que para la persona común es verdad, para el sabio es falso y para el poderoso es útil". A su vez, el romano-judío Pablo de Tarso declara que en Cristo, Dios ha revelado que la persona común y necia derribará la falsedad de los sabios (1 Cor 1:18-31).

El latino creyente reconoce que su fe nació del dolor de la conquista y no niega los abusos clericales, pero confía en el Evangelio reconciliador. – Fray Gilberto Cavazos-Gluz, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Lecturas de hoy

Primera lectura — El pueblo de Dios come de los frutos de la tierra prometida (Josué 5:9a, 10-12) ó *1 Samuel 16: 1b, 6-7, 10-13a.*

Salmo — Haz la prueba y verás qué bueno es el Señor (Salmo 34 [33]) ó *Salmo 23(22).*

Segunda lectura — Ahora somos embajadores de Cristo (Corintios 5:17-21) ó *Efesios 5:8-14.*

Evangelio — Este recibe a los pecadores y come con ellos (Lucas 15:1-3, 11-32) ó *Juan 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].*

Lecturas de la Semana

- Lunes:** Is 65:17-21; Sal 30 (29):2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
- Martes:** Ez 47:1-9, 12; Sal 46 (45):2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
- Miércoles:** Is 49:8-15; Sal 145 (144):8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
- Jueves:** Ex 32:7-14; Sal 106 (105):19-23; Jn 5:31-47
- Viernes:** Sab 2:1a, 12-22; Sal 34 (33):17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Sábado:** Jer 11:18-20; Sal 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
- Domingo:** Is 43:16-21; Sal 126 (125):1-6; Fil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11 Lecturas alternativas (Año A): Ez 37:12-14; Sal 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

Parish Life

March 10 — March 16

Page Six

This Week's Lenten Opportunities

Monday-Thursday, 7:30 am - 8:00 am: *Mass*, in the Church

Tuesday, March 12th, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm: *Eucharistic Adoration* in the Church

Friday, March 15th, 7:30 am - 8:00 am: *Communion Service* in the Church

Friday, March 15th, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm: *Loaves & Fishes Diners* in the Parish Center

Friday, March 15th, 7:00 pm - 7:45 pm: *Stations of the Cross* in the Church

Friday, March 15th, 7:45 pm - 9:00 pm: *Spanish Prayer Group* in the Church

Saturday, March 16th, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm: *Food Pantry Bagging and Distribution* in the Parish Center



Principles of Catholic Social Justice

- 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

St. Teresa said...

“The more that love and humility grow, the greater fragrance these flowers of virtues give off, both for oneself and for others.”



Calendar at a Glance

March 10, Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Lent • Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma

- 9:00 am, RR, 9AM Nursery
- 9:15 am, REC, Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 10:00 am, PC3-4, Hospitality
- 10:00 am, REC 4, Baptism Preparation
- 10:30 am, REC1-4, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 10:30 am, Rectory, RCIA
- 1:00 pm, PC3, Sacramental Preparation
- 4:30 pm, REC, CCFC Catechesis

March 11, Monday

- 12:30 pm, PC4, Chicago House
- 7:00 pm, PC3, Parish Council

March 12, Tuesday

- 6:15 am, PC3, Men's Spirituality Group
- 1:00 pm, REC1-4, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 4:30 pm, REC1-4, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- 6:00 pm, REC, PC3, Kitchen, SPRED Community
- 7:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration

March 13, Wednesday

- 5:15 pm, REC, CCFC Catechesis
- 7:00 pm, PC3, Major Gift Orientation
- 7:00 pm, REC, Liturgy Committee

March 14, Thursday

- 6:30 pm, REC4, Praying with the Scriptures

March 15, Friday

Abstinence • Abstinencia

- 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
- 7:00 pm, Church, Stations of the Cross

March 16, Saturday

- 10:00 am, Kitchen, The Edge
- 9:00 am, PC3, GS, Food Pantry Preparation & Distribution
- 4:30 pm, REC, CCFC First Eucharist

The Religious Ed Center (REC) is located at 1940 N. Kenmore Ave., one block south of the Parish Center (PC) at 1950 N. Kenmore. The Gathering Space (GS) is the entrance area to the PC. The Reconciliation Room (RR) is at the back of church next to the font.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Mass Intentions

In Our Prayers

March 9

- 5:00 pm All deceased members of the parish
- 9:00 am Joseph Kachnik
- 12:00 pm All deceased members of the parish
- 6:00 pm Sr. Cabrini Schmitz, OSB

March 10

Please pray for our deceased friends and parishioners...

Alfonzo Ardana, Amalia Bech, Greg Bruce, Ethel Brumleve, John Breault, Phyllis Carlino, Gaspar Diaz, Mark Dudley, Emmanuel & Julia Faloyin, Isabella Feliciano, Carlos Hernandez Gomez, Manuel Gomez, Donald Grabarczyk, Timothy Halpin, Lee Incandela, Pat Johnson, Teresa Joan Kilcullen, Michael Kinsella, Laura Lee, Catherine Malec, Isabelle Martinez, Mike McCabe, Melory Mizicko, Sally Jo Morrow, Cindy O'Keefe, Nella Palazzola, Ben & Susan Patrasso, Sophia Sanchez, Maurice Shatto, Ruth Schmitz, Jim Teterycz, Oscar R. Torres, Jon Wagenknecht, Victims of War & Domestic Violence

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 in the parish office.

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

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Alicia Anderson</i> | <i>Carmen Dolores Lorenzana</i> | <i>Jennifer Schubeck</i> |
| <i>Berta Billalvazo</i> | <i>Carmen Felicitia Lorenzana</i> | <i>Sandra Seiffert</i> |
| <i>Patricia Chuck</i> | <i>Miguel Lorenzana</i> | <i>Mima Tome</i> |
| <i>Basilio Diaz</i> | <i>Palmira Mancini</i> | <i>JoAnn Jahnke Trainer</i> |
| <i>Jackson Fineske & Family</i> | <i>George Marroquin</i> | <i>John Wagner</i> |
| <i>Padraig Gallagher</i> | <i>Jose Marroquin</i> | <i>Bernadine Walters</i> |
| <i>Eloisa Gallegos</i> | <i>Margaret Sue Meadors</i> | <i>Jack Williams</i> |
| <i>Michael Gibbons</i> | <i>Bill Mobley</i> | <i>Mae Witry</i> |
| <i>Angela Goldberg</i> | <i>John Monier</i> | |
| <i>Kaylee Gommel</i> | <i>Elda Myers</i> | <i>Survivors and perpetrators of</i> |
| <i>Les Gordon</i> | <i>Angel Nieves</i> | <i>sexual abuse</i> |
| <i>Genevieve Gorgo</i> | <i>P. A. O'Neil</i> | |
| <i>Mrs. Grabarczyk</i> | <i>Msgr. Kevin O'Neill</i> | |
| <i>Kellar Harris</i> | <i>Honorata Alicea Peña</i> | |
| <i>David Hoffman</i> | <i>Hector J. Rivera</i> | |
| <i>David Ivanac</i> | <i>Pedro Rodriguez</i> | |
| <i>Chuck Jabaley</i> | <i>Ray Romero</i> | |
| <i>Theresa Jabaley</i> | <i>Jeffrey Roscoe</i> | |
| <i>Jack Kavanagh</i> | <i>Sr. Camilla Mary Marney, OCD</i> | |
| <i>Betty LaCour</i> | <i>Sr. Jean Ryan, OCD</i> | |
| <i>Adolfo Lorenzana</i> | <i>Jack Schank</i> | |

Celebrant and Minister Schedule

DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC BREAD	EUCCHARISTIC WINE
3-16-13 Saturday	5:00 pm	Fr. Barry Moriarty	Maggie Kuhlmann	Lisa Marquez	Kari Richardson Luke Kolman
3-17-13 Sunday	9:00 am	Fr. Benjamin Aguilar	Elizabeth Rooney	Annie Monak Nancy Van Grinsven Dennis Kamalick	Michael Zost Rose Ohiku Lina Hilko Mark Van Grinsven
Next Spanish Mass 4-7-13	10:30 am				
3-17-13 Sunday	12:00 pm	Fr. Barry Moriarty	Tony Rivera	Aimee Jaszczor	Colin McCue Bert Olson
3-17-13 Sunday	6:00 pm	Fr. Pascal Kasanziki	Katie Assell	Christopher Parente Jon Assell Minister Needed (H4)	Mary Serrahn Christine Villoch Jocelyn Lutkus James Lutkus

Building Campaign Prayer

Loving God -

You are the Giver of all good gifts.
You are our strength and well-spring of grace.

With confident faith we entrust this parish project to your care and protection.

Guide us as we *build faith together*.
Bless us with a unity of mind and spirit as we accept the responsibilities and challenges of this parish undertaking. May our efforts bear fruit for the glory of your kingdom.

We thank you for all that we have and for the sacrifices and generosity of our Faith Family.

Deepen our commitment to the future of this parish and grant us the ability to share our faith and spread your Good News today, tomorrow, and always.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Singing, Altar Servers & Masses

Please contact Kate Lynch at (773) 528-6650 or kolynchdre@gmail.com if you have interest in any of the following:

- Singer/musician needed to sing with the children before the Sunday Religious Education from 10:15 to 10:30am each Sunday.
- Singer/musician needed to sing with the youth group occasionally. The youth group meets Sunday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30pm.
- If you are interested in being an altar server, we are providing on-going altar server training.
- If you have children who would like to participate in Children's Masses or other family events that are offered, but are not on our CGS or EDGE email list.

Building Campaign Update

The planning phase of our campaign is off to a terrific start. Since our initial announcement, we have begun recruiting the campaign's leadership and we are blessed to have the following parishioners share their talents and lead this important effort.



General Chairs:

Steve & Anmarie Kolinski
Caleb Marx

Honorary Chairs:

Bill Mack
Tom & Cathy Micinski

Campaign Committee:

Jane Bronson	Karen Kinsella
Carol Christiansen	Kate Lynch
Craig & Kelly Dean	John Mitchell
Dave & Meg Espinoza	Erica Saccucci
Dave Hilko	Dan Summins
Dan Hurley	Frank Swiderski



Eucharistic Adoration

TUESDAYS

7:00-8:30PM



1037 W. Armitage Ave. • Chicago, Illinois 60614
773-528-6650 • www.st-teresa.net

6:51 Club French Community Rice Bowl this Sunday



The 6:51 Club will meet on this Sunday and not their usual 3rd Sunday to make room for a special treat.

The March hospitality meal will be hosted by St. Teresa's French as part of operation rice bowl. We will have a simple meal of rice and vegetables, and a Lenten discussion to accompany dinner.

**You can contact Sara Foley
at foleysar@gmail.com for more details.**

Join Us for a Day of Retreat

L'Arche Chicago presents "A Day of Retreat Using the Words and Writings of Jean Vanier and Henri Nouwen on Saturday, March 16 from 9:30 to 3:30 in the Centennial Room at St. Clement School, 2524 N. Orchard, Chicago, IL, 60614. The registration fee of \$30 includes lunch.

Participants are asked to bring along their favorite work by Vanier or Nouwen. The "Essential Writings" of each author will be available for additional purchase. Free parking is available in the church lot at Deming and Orchard.

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

Fasting Beyond the Middle Way

Fasting can be like training for a marathon. I start out with a particular time goal in mind. I will generally pursue a training program that has brought me success in the past. I start the training program with vigor and excitement. I will even get into a weekend long-run group to help out with the three or four 20 mile runs that I will eventually have to do in order to hit my goal.

At some point, the excitement wears off and the work begins. I don't mean the work to lace up my running shoes and do a long run or a pace workout or, God forbid, a speed workout on a track at ripe young age of... whatever. I mean the psychological work to remain focused and committed and excited not only about my running schedule but about keeping certain behaviors at that will potentially hinder my workouts like staying up too late or drinking too much on the weekend.

Eventually I hit a "middle way." All marathon runners do when they are training. This middle way is a groove. It is a certain sense of peace that comes with a process of internal negotiating. Fact is, not many will follow a marathon training program to the letter; everyone cheats a little. Things pop up like aches and pains or unavoidable family events that throw one off their schedule for a few days.

As far as this Lenten season goes, we are in the middle way. We are just a couple of weeks away from Easter. Like me, you may have cheated a little on your fasting. Like me, your internal negotiating may not have been as strong as it could have been. But the goal is not our fasting. Fasting is not an end in itself but a means to a greater end. Fasting ultimately aids us in our spiritual development. And fasting is intimately connected to prayer, justice, mercy and many other things. I hope and pray that as we close in on Easter that your fasting will have truly enriched your spiritual development this season.

**Join us for the next session of
Men's Spirituality Group
on Tuesday, March 12,
from 6:15 am to 7:30 am in the parish center.**

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

— Tom Kosnik

A Certain Space

The father goes out each day hoping to see his prodigal son come over the hill. And today, in front of his disbelieving eyes, what he dreamed of is actually happening. Imagine what the father thinks:

“He’s getting closer. I must arrange my thoughts, prepare my response, say the right thing ...

“But the honest truth is: I don’t care why he is coming back or how long he stays or what he thinks of me. I just want to hold my son in my arms.”

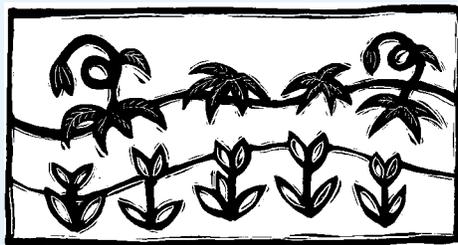
When someone abandons us for someone they perceive to be better, our feelings are usually mixed. First, we probably blame the betrayer for being fickle, shallow or stupid, for not appreciating our true worth. But second thoughts may arouse anxiety about our real value, about where the relationship was going.

If we are unsure about our self or our lost companion, we might not really know whether we are better or worse off without them. If we love them, the loss is devastating.

Now, imagine the turmoil in the head and heart of the son. *He* is in the wrong, not the father. He is the one who left, not the father. He is the one who has to explain why he is coming home; he is the one who must justify his existence.

He lays out his defense: “I had to leave home to find my own way. I was restless to see the big world ...

“But the real truth is I



© Annika Nelson

There is a certain space between human beings that cannot be bridged except by mutual acceptance. We either forgive and accept forgiveness or we don’t.

wanted to shake off my responsibilities and do whatever I wanted. I now realize that it was a mistake, that I had it better than I knew. I’m guilty of throwing away my father’s love. I will ask his forgiveness ... and hope.”

When we abandon a person for someone else whom we perceive to be more appealing, we feel unsettled. We are relieved at leaving behind all those uncertainties about the old relationship, but at the same time, we are anxious about the future, about the possibility of not being accepted for who we are. And if our new venture ends in disaster, we are forced to plan our recovery. Do we cut our losses and move on? Do we blame our new friend? Do we give up on all relationships? Or do we swallow our pride and seek acceptance on

different terms with our old situation?

At last, father and son stand face to face. The son starts to explain; the father cuts him off. Some things cannot be justified. There is a certain space between human beings that cannot be bridged except by mutual acceptance. We either forgive and accept forgiveness or we don’t. We choose to love, or not.

The celebration begins, and its joy overflows into the serious labor of the other son. When he is told that the return of his vagrant brother is being celebrated, imagine his chagrin. He has remained faithful, he has improved the farm, he has not wasted his money or energy in frivolous experiences.

He knows that he is just and honest and hardworking and deserving. He suspects that there is more to life than what he knows. He suspects that joy is the sign of real goodness — but joy is hard to find in dirt farming.

The elder son hesitates between what he knows and what he suspects. He teeters on the edge between past and future. We don’t know whether he finally decided to celebrate with his brother and father.

But we do know that there is a certain space between sheer existence and real life, which can be bridged only by a clear decision.

Directory

Parish Leadership

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Frank Latzko
On Sabbatical

Director of Religious Education

Kate Lynch, ext. 232
kolyndre@gmail.com

Music Director

Jason Krumwiede
musicalnut1@mac.com

Business Manager

Erica Saccucci, ext. 231
esaccucci@gmail.com

Office Manager

Deacon Dean Vaeth, ext. 230
dvaeth@stteresaparish.org

Evening Reception

Olu Balogun, ext. 210
obalogun@stteresaparish.org

Facilities Manager

Thomas Micinski, ext. 212
tmicinski@stteresaparish.org

Maintenance/Housekeeping

Sergio Mora
Irma Saavedra



St. Teresa
of Avila
Catholic Church

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dave Wisneski, Chair**Jon Assell****Jessica Marx****Mark Matejka****Bertel Olson****Marjorie Rice****Michael Rice****Tony Rivera****Christine Villoch**

The Parish Pastoral Council is a consultative body to the pastor and represents a cross section of the parish. PPC is kept abreast of the activities of the Parish and its operations. Together with the Pastor, the PPC helps to craft and carry out the Mission of the Parish. PPC also researches the needs of the parish and works with Parish leadership to evaluate and improve our quality of life as a faith community.

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

Bill Mack, Chair**Brian Scullion****Jane Bronson****Jack Halpin****Jane Ott****Dave Hilko****Steve Fortino****Andrew Deye****Becky Francis**

The St. Teresa Finance Council reviews the financial documents and position of the parish and advises the pastor and business manager on financial matters, including the preparation of the annual parish budget.

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

Information

Weekend Masses

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

* *First Sunday of the Month*

Weekday Masses

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

* *Communion Service only*

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays	7:00 pm
----------	---------

For information about ...

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

Please call Dean in the Parish Office

1950 N. Kenmore, Chicago, IL 60614
(773) 528-6650 · (773) 871-6766 fax
www.st-teresa.net · dvaeth@stteresaparish.org

Office Hours

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am—7:30 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am—Noon
Closed Sundays & Holidays.

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