



St. Teresa of Avila

Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2013

*“I have made you a light to the Gentiles,
that you may be an instrument of salvation
to the ends of the earth.”*

— *Acts 13:47b*

Point, shoot,
and donate to
St. Teresa's
offertory col-
lection with
your *smart*
phone.



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

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Reflecting on God's Word

The game called Follow the Leader can be fun—depending on how the leader leads. If the leader charges through tangled bushes, over high fences, under fallen branches, and around barking dogs, trying to lose and discourage the other players, the followers tend to give up in defeat, feeling cowardly, sad, and weak. On the other hand, if the leader blazes the trail for the others, and encourages and guides them along the way, the followers can complete the game feeling confident and joyful.

Today's scriptures show Christ as the latter kind of leader. He guides us and wipes away our tears. He is a shepherd who encourages us and brings us through suffering to life-giving water. Paul and Barnabas joyfully follow his lead by becoming Christ-like leaders themselves. They encourage and ease the way for their own followers through whatever distress may come their way. In the same way, all followers of Christ are meant to become leaders who share with others the courage, confidence, and joy they have found in following Christ.

Living God's Word

The passage from Revelation speaks of “a great multitude . . . wearing white robes” (7:9). This refers to all who have put on Christ in baptism. Those who put on Christ will suffer as Christ suffered. Suffering will come to each of us who chooses to follow our shepherd-leader.



Reflexionemos sobre la Palabra de Dios

Un juego de niños popular en los Estados Unidos es *Follow the Leader* (Sigan al líder) y puede ser muy divertido, dependiendo de cómo dirija el líder. Si el líder dirige a sus seguidores por entre matorrales enredados, saltando cercas, por donde hay ramas caídas y por donde hay perros ladrandos, empeñándose en perder y disuadir a los otros jugadores, éstos tienden a darse por

vencidos al sentirse cobardes, tristes o débiles. Por otro lado, si el líder le abre el camino a los demás, los anima y guía, los seguidores terminarán el juego sintiéndose confiados y alegres.

Las Escrituras que se leen hoy muestran a Cristo como esa última clase de líder, que nos dirige mientras seca nuestras lágrimas. Él es un pastor que nos anima y nos lleva desde el sufrimiento hacia el agua viva. Pablo y Bernabé lo siguen gozosamente convirtiéndose ellos mismos en líderes semejantes a Cristo. Ellos animan a sus seguidores y les facilitan el camino a través de cualquier congoja que pudieran encontrar en el camino. De la misma manera, los discípulos que siguen a Cristo deben convertirse en líderes que comparten con los demás la valentía, la confianza y el gozo que ellos han encontrado por seguir a Cristo.

Vivamos la Palabra de Dios

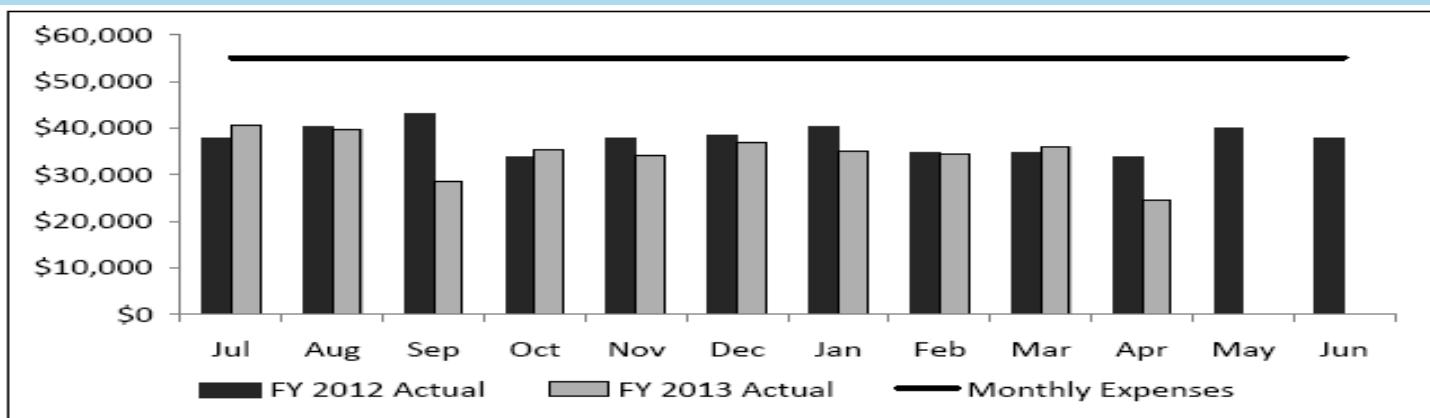
El pasaje del Apocalipsis habla de “una multitud enorme”, “gentes de toda nación... [que] vestían de blanco” (7:9). Esto se refiere a todos los que se han revestido de Cristo en el bautismo. Aquellos que se revisten de Cristo sufrirán como Cristo sufrió. El sufrimiento vendrá para todos los que hemos escogido seguir a nuestro pastor y líder.

Stewardship Matters

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



- For the first eight full months of the 2013 Fiscal Year, Sunday and Holy Day collections are down 6.0% from the 2012 Fiscal Year. As the chart above depicts, the key driver was poor collections in September 2012.
- The Easter collection was successful in raising \$15,223. Thank you to everyone who was able to contribute. If you would like to contribute, donations can be made by check, cash, or online at www.givecentral.org.
- In September 2012, Fr. Frank and the Finance Council asked Parishioners to consider an increase to their weekly gifts to St. Teresa's. Thank you to everyone who has been able to do so. As a point of reference, the weekly cost per adult to operate St. Teresa's and all of her programs is \$32.
- 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.
- 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 312-706-4266 or williamdmack@hotmail.com. Bill can provide you with the latest financial status, projections, and key issues.
- The Finance Council meets the third Monday of every month at 7:00PM in the Parish Center.

Food Pantry Schedule for April

Saturday, April 6th

10:00 am to 12:00 am Bagging & Distribution

Thursday, April 11th

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Bagging

Friday, April 12th

10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

Saturday, April 20th

10:00 am to 12:00 am Bagging & Distribution

Thursday, April 25th

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm Bagging

Friday, April 26th

10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

To Teach Who Christ Is Archdiocesan Campaign

As you may have heard, the Archdiocese of Chicago will be starting their own capital campaign in every parish in the Archdiocese. The campaign, "To Teach Who Christ Is," is an effort to help put our Catholic schools on stable ground.

In that some of the parishes in the Archdiocese do not have schools, like our own, we will see 60% of the money that we raised return to our parish for our needs. The vast majority of parishes are having to delay their own capital campaigns or add on the amount that the Archdiocese would like each parish to raise. We have been fortunate enough, since our campaign is already well underway, to receive an exemption.

We will have to participate in the Archdiocesan campaign, but not until our own is concluding in 2015. Please keep our neighboring parishes who are undertaking this in your prayers as well as our own capital campaign.

Readings, Liturgy & Tradition

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Today's Readings

First Reading — The word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region (Acts 13:14, 43-52).

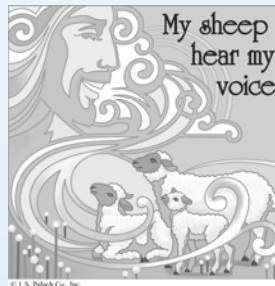
Psalm — We are his people, the sheep of his flock (Psalm 100).

Second Reading — I had a vision of a great multitude (Revelation 7:9, 14b-17).

Gospel — My sheep hear my voice; I know them and give them eternal life (John 10:27-30).

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday:	Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday:	Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
Thursday:	1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 6:15-20
Friday:	Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday:	Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
Sunday:	Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-13; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35



The Good Shepherd

The Good Shepherd not only knows us but has given his life for us. We belong to the Shepherd. His life is the source of our life. One part of this relationship is firm—God's part. The Father has entrusted us to the Son, and the Son will not let go of our hand.

The other part of this relationship depends on us, of course. In today's Gospel, Jesus assumes our open-hearted good will. "My sheep hear my voice . . . and they follow me." This hearing and following is a daily undertaking that implies responsibility. Take Paul and Barnabas, for example. They moved ever closer to the reality that salvation was also meant for those members of the flock who did not yet know God's saving power. The Gentiles were the sheep known by the Shepherd. Paul could finally see that now was the acceptable time for them to know the Shepherd. Now the circle could be completed. Finally, those who were known and loved by the God of Jesus could know and follow the God of Jesus. There will never be a last chapter to this story of salvation. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Treasures from Our Tradition

The reception of Holy Communion at Sunday Mass is such an expected feature of the Mass these days that it is surprising to realize that for many centuries, receiving Communion was a relatively rare event in the life of a faithful Christian. "Easter duty" means that Catholics must celebrate reconciliation if aware of serious sin, and receive Holy Communion during the Easter season. For a while, this was a requirement of Easter week, and later extended to the whole season of fifty days, and even beyond that by a few weeks. For the majority of people long ago, this meant Communion was a once-a-year moment. A rather complex bureaucracy grew up around this rule in the Middle Ages. Amazingly, people received a kind of token at confession admitting them to Communion in their home parish, which then kept careful records and reported them to the bishop.

Surviving records can tell us a great deal about our ancestors. In fact, people were encouraged to journey to the church of their baptism in order to fulfill their duty, and therefore the Easter duty includes in its origins a grateful pilgrimage to the font in which you were first embraced by Christ. If your "Holy Mother Church" is within a drive, why not make a pilgrimage to that font be a feature of your Easter celebration of these fifty days? — James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Lecturas, Liturgia Y Tradición

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El Buen Pastor



El Buen Pastor no sólo nos conoce sino que da su vida por nosotros. Le pertenecemos. Su vida es la fuente de nuestra vida. Una parte de esta relación es firme —la parte de Dios. El Padre nos ha confiado al Hijo, y el Hijo no nos soltará la mano.

La otra parte de esa relación depende de nosotros, por supuesto. En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús asume que aceptamos su voluntad con el corazón abierto. “Mis ovejas oyen mi voz... y me siguen”. Este oír y seguir es una tarea diaria que implica responsabilidad. Tomemos por ejemplo a Pablo y a Bernabé. Ambos estaban convencidos de que la salvación era también para aquellos miembros del rebaño que aún no conocían el poder salvador de Dios. Los gentiles eran las ovejas que el Pastor conocía. Pablo pudo finalmente ver que ahora era el momento oportuno para ellos conocer al Pastor. Ahora el círculo se cerraría. Finalmente, aquellos a quienes el Dios de Jesús conocía y amaba, podrían conocer y seguir al Dios de Jesús. Nunca habrá un último capítulo en esta historia de salvación.

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Lecturas de hoy

Primera lectura — La palabra de Dios se iba propagando por toda la región (Hechos 13:14, 43-52).

Salmo — El Señor es nuestro Dios y nosotros su pueblo, confío. Aleluya (Salmo 100 [99]).

Segunda lectura — Juan tiene la visión de una multitud en vestiduras blancas (Apocalipsis 7:9, 14b-17).

Evangelio — Mis ovejas conocen mi voz; ellas me siguen. Yo les doy vida eterna (Juan 10:27-30).

Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

El 25 de abril la Iglesia conmemora a Pedro de Betancur (1626–1667). Originalmente de las Islas Canarias, a la edad de 24, se trasladó a Cuba. En 1651 llegó a Guatemala con la ambición de predicar a Cristo. Esto lo hizo, no como sacerdote ni religioso. El fue como laico, reconociendo su deber bautismal de evangelizar.

En 1655 ingresó en la Orden Seglar Franciscana y como laico quiso poner en práctica la espiritualidad franciscana, ayudando a los pobres. Sin su propio pan o casa el alimentaba al hambriento y amparaba al indigente. A todos recordaba la necesidad de la salvación y en la simplicidad de su mensaje derretía el egoísmo de los ricos. Les abría el corazón enseñándoles a compartir con los más pequeños de sus hermanos y hermanas.

Eventualmente su nobleza de espíritu atrajo a hombres y mujeres que deseaban compartir su apostolado y fundó la Orden Betlehemitica. También fundó la primera escuela de niños en Centro América convirtiéndose en el alfabetizador de Guatemala. Así dio ejemplo de lo que la Iglesia debe hacer por el pobre y marginado.

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Lecturas de la Semana

Lunes:	Hch 11:1-18; Sal 42 (41):2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
Martes:	Hch 11:19-26; Sal 87 (86):1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Miércoles:	Hch 12:24 — 13:5a; Sal 67 (66):2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
Jueves:	1 Pt 5:5b-14; Sal 89 (88):2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mc 6:15-20
Viernes:	Hch 13:26-33; Sal 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Sábado:	Hch 13:44-52; Sal 98 (97):1-4; Jn 14:7-14
Domingo:	Hch 14:21-27; Sal 145 (144):8-13; Ap 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

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April Baptisms

Ava Michel Juliette Donaghy (4-6-13)
Annette Marjorie Kristinat (4-6-13)
Patrick Wesley Anglin (4-7-13)
Blake Tobin Harvey (4-7-13)
Elizabeth Helen Tetzlaff (4-7-13)
Zachary Aarum Cimbala (4-14-13)
Vivian Lynn Marx (4-14-13)

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

Parish Mission Starts May 19

Exciting news!! Starting Sunday evening, May 19th and ending Wednesday evening, May 22nd we're having a Parish Mission led by Catholic Lay Evangelist, Bill Wegner, of Good News International.

It will be a fantastic way to deepen our relationships with God and each other. Plan to bring a friend.

St. Teresa said...

"Where, my Lord, did I think I could find a remedy save in You? What folly; to flee from the light so as to be always stumbling!"



Calendar at a Glance

April 21 Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Easter • Cuarto Domingo de Pascua

- 9:00 am, RR, 9AM Nursery
- 9:15 am, REC, Children's Liturgy of the Word
- 10:00 am, PC3-4, Hospitality
- 1:00 pm, PC3, Sacramental Preparation
- 4:30 pm, REC, CCFC Catechesis
- 6:51 pm, PC3-4, 6:51 Club Hospitality
- 7:00 pm, REC4, The Edge

April 22, Monday

- 7:00 pm, PC3, Finance Council

April 23, Tuesday

St. George; St. Adalbert • San Jorge; San Adalberto

- 6:15 am, PC3, Men's Spirituality Group
- 6:00 pm, REC, PC3, Kitchen, SPRED Community
- 7:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration



April 24, Wednesday

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen • San Fidel de Sigmaringen

- 7:00 pm, PC3-4, Chairs and Gifts Meeting

April 25, Thursday

St. Mark • San Marcos

- 11:30 am, REC4, About Parents
- 6:00 pm, PC3, GS, Food Pantry Setup
- 6:30 pm, REC4, Praying with the Scriptures
- 7:00 pm, PC4, Parking Lot Party Meeting

April 26, Friday

- 10:00 am, PC3, 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

April 27, Saturday

- 9:00 am, PC3-4, Reconciliation-First Communion Retreat
- 6:00 pm, PC3-4, De Paul—Chicago Citizen's for Change
- 7:00 pm, Rectory, TOYL Meeting

Mass Schedule & Intentions

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Mass Intentions

April 20

5:00 pm John Paul Borowicz
Daniel Stock

April 21

9:00 am All deceased members of the parish
12:00 pm All deceased members of the parish
6:00 pm All deceased members of the parish

In Our Prayers

Please pray for our deceased friends and parishioners...

Phyllis Carlino, Margaret Dean, Mark Dudley, Emmanuel & Julia Faloyin, Pat Johnson, Jack Kavanagh, Teresa Joan Kilcullen, Laura Lee, Catherine Malec, Mike McCabe, Melory Mizicko, John Ryan, Sally Jo Morrow, Henry Pryor, Sophia Sanchez, Maurice Shatto, Ruth Schmitz, John Sylvester, Jim Teterycz, Oscar R. Torres, Jon Wagenknecht, Lindsay Walleman, Victims of War & Domestic Violence

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

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

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.

Celebrant and Minister Schedule

DATE	TIME	CELEBRANT	LECTOR	EUCARISTIC BREAD	EUCARISTIC WINE
4-27-13 Saturday	5:00 pm	Fr. Charles Shelby	Becky Francis	Kari Richardson	Maggie Kuhlmann Jane Bronson
4-28-13 Sunday	9:00 am	Fr. Frank	Mark Van Grinsven	Dan Anderson Annie Monak Tom Kosnik	Nancy Van Grinsven Geneva Gorgo Luke Kolman Michael Zost
Next Spanish Mass 5-2-13 Sunday	10:30 am				
4-28-13 Sunday	12:00 pm	Fr. Frank	Children	Jane Ott Amy McCue Katie Broussard	Lina Hilko Kaitlin Cronin Aimee Jaszczer Bob Pedro
4-28-13 Sunday	6:00 pm	Fr. Frank	Karen Melchert	Christine Villoch Aubre Hewett Jocelyn Lutkus	Eileen Raia Mary Serrahn Bert Olson James Lutkus

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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.

Parish Deanery Representatives Needed

II-D

Fr. Frank is looking for two individuals to represent St. Teresa of Avila Parish on the II-D Deanery Council in which our parish and 10 other neighboring parishes belong.

Parish representatives act as liaisons between the parish and the Deanery by gathering information about the parish and letting our neighboring parishes know what is going on at St. Teresa.

Please contact Fr. Frank at (773) 528-6650 or FJSasso@aol.com if you're interested.

By Building. Faith. *Together* We are Leaving a Lasting Impression

Last week's kickoff celebration for **Building. Faith. Together** brought out many wonderful stories that we all share as God's children and carry with us about our beloved St. Teresa Parish. Stories of yesterday, stories of today, and stories that will live on for future generations.

With our campaign you also have the potential for a truly gratifying experience - to give an extraordinary gift to honor your family name or in memory of someone important to you as we are **Building. Faith. Together**.

A few naming opportunities are:

Original Stained Glass Windows
Reconciliation Room
Multipurpose room
A Pew

Please feel free to reference our campaign case booklet or visit with a campaign volunteer for greater detail.

Please remember, every generous gift is truly helping St. Teresa for generations to come.

Thank you and God Bless!
Fr. Frank

Visit www.st-teresa.net for updates.

End of Life Care: What to do, when and why

Would you know how to make health care decisions for a loved one with a terminal illness? Have you ever told your family not to put you on life support machines if an accident left you in a vegetative state? Have you thought about what a faithful Catholic should do in these situations?



To learn about end-of-life issues like these, come hear Father Peter Wojcik, medical ethicist and chaplain at Lurie Children's Hospital; Karen Nisley-Long, president of the Chicago End-of-Life Care Coalition; and Ronette McCarthy, a lawyer specializing in end-of-life issues; on Tuesday, April 23rd at 7:00 pm in Saint Clement's Fireside Hall, 2524 N. Orchard Street. Light meal and drinks will be available at 6:45 pm.

6:51 Club is this Sunday!



St. Teresa's *6:51 Club* meets every 3rd Sunday of the month after the 6:00 pm Mass for hospitality and community.

April's *6:51 Club* will be a warm and Springy after-church dinner. Join us to meet fellow parishioners and to welcome Fr. Frank back from sabbatical.

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

Opportunities at Mercy Home



At Solution for Kids in Crisis

Volunteers are a major asset to the success of many programs and special events at Mercy Home for Boys & Girls. Here are some ways you can make a difference just by making time:

Mentor A Child – Our *Friends First* program matches adults, one-on-one, with kids from all over Chicago. As a mentor, you can have a life-long impact on a child simply by going with them on fun outings to parks, zoos, museums and more. Commitment = 1 year (8 hours per month)...

Tutor A Youth – One hour a week can make a lifetime of difference. Volunteer tutors assist our young people with their homework, help them catch up in school, build confidence and fulfill their academic potential. Commitment = 1 full school term (minimum)...

After School Programs – The *After School Program* provides a wide range of activities and enrichment classes each evening. Volunteers provide a variety of talents including, music lessons, book clubs, exercise groups, public speaking, etiquette, and more. Commitment = Ongoing (as needed)...

Special Events – Mercy Home hosts a number of special events throughout the year that depend on volunteers for their success. Volunteers are welcome to assist in setting things up, hosting guests during the events, and putting things away. Commitment = Ongoing (as required for the event)...

These are just a few ways you can volunteer at Mercy Home for Boys & Girls. To learn more about these programs and other volunteer opportunities, contact Dee Yelvington at deeyel@mercyhome.org or (312) 738-7552.

Two Minutes I Did Not Have

I was in a business meeting in downtown Chicago when the two explosions occurred at the Boston Marathon this past Monday. The meeting was just a couple of blocks from my office and I did not take my mobile phone as I did not want to be distracted. Upon my arrival back to my office a delivery man in the elevator asked me if I heard the news about the Boston Marathon. I had not. As soon as he told me, there was a pit in my stomach.

The first thing I did when I got into my office was to open my browser to Yahoo to see what was posted. I just couldn't believe it. Then I got into my email program and I had tons of emails. Then I looked at my phone and there were tons of voice mails and text messages.

I have been fortunate enough to have run the Boston Marathon six times. I had several friends and associates running the race this year. The emails, voice messages, text messages were from family, friends, clients, fellow marathon runners..., all people that know I try to get into and run the Boston Marathon every year as it is such an incredible experience.

In 2012 I did not qualify for the Boston. I missed my qualifying time by two minutes. Two minutes seems really short, unless you are running a marathon and trying to keep a certain mile pace. One of my clients said to me, "I bet you are glad that you did have those two minutes last year." Even though I was affirmed by all the calls and messages, I was most concerned about my friends and associates who were running this year.

Experiences like the explosions at the Boston Marathon can easily put us in a pessimistic or an aggressive revengeful frame of mind about the world. But this is not our faith. Our faith is to actively affirm life as Saint Paul tells us in Second Timothy, "I have completed the race. I have kept the faith." From my experience, this also takes training, focus, dedication and hard work.

**Join us for the next session of
Men's Spirituality Group
on Tuesday, April 23,
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

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More than Life

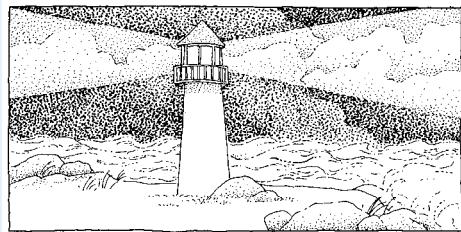
Jesus promised his hearers eternal life. That was surely a great gift to them, but the idea seems to mean less to modern people.

Eternal life must have been a powerful symbol and a very attractive future for the first Christians. Their image of afterlife was a shadowy existence in a dark underworld. Any different kind of life would be better than the one they had expected.

They also lived short, rugged existences with a life expectancy of about 35 years. Any longer time would be perceived as a bonus. They lived simple lives. Perhaps most of them lived all their days in one village of about 300 people, mostly extended family. And if they ventured to the next village, it was more of the same. Since most of their time was spent working, any added excitement would be a boon.

We modern people, on the other hand, expect to live twice that long, to have a multitude of experiences; and if we don't visit foreign countries, they visit us. We have done everything we could expect to do, many times over. Most people have had enough of life by age 90; and although they may not want to die right now, they don't want to keep living eternally.

Besides, the word "eternal" has the sound of something going on interminably, like a pesky noise that will not stop. Eternity feels like an inescapable fate from an impregnable prison.



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Love is the most human, most valuable, most pleasurable, most exquisite thing we can do. It doesn't take any time — time stops in love.

The word "everlasting" has more appeal. The way the taste of peppermint lasts and lasts. The way a song lingers after the music dies. The way perfume permeates the air; the way a kiss is embossed in the memory long after the fact. Everlasting is not a dreary procession of time; it is more like the cessation of time, the essence of time. Something everlasting doesn't take any time at all.

So let us say that we have "everlasting life." But the word "life" doesn't quite satisfy us, either. Life is so all-encompassing. It takes in so much territory, it includes so many experiences, it allows so many interpretations. We have to segment it into past, present and future. Life is so ambivalent that it includes should and would and could. Life is so complex that we divide it into spiritual life, physical life, psychological life. Whereas death is simple, sudden, complete, final. We must override

death with a stronger image.

So, we need to exchange "everlasting life" with "everlasting something else." Something as valuable as life, as human as life, as necessary as life, as universal as life.

Let's try the word "love." Love is more specific: You live in general, but you love in particular. Love is more personal: You live like everyone else, but you love as only you can. Love is more human: All kinds of beings can live, but only humans can love.

Love is the most human, most valuable, most pleasurable, most exquisite thing we can do. It doesn't take any time — time stops in love. Love doesn't take anything away from us — it enlarges our being. If we could in one timeless moment love all the things and all the people we have loved in life, along with the God of Love, that would be worth dying for.

I have not been inspired to write a new Gospel, nor do I presume to create new doctrine. If you want to test my theory, get a concordance that directs you to every place in the Bible where "eternal life" is written. If you cannot in every case replace "eternal life" with "everlasting love," you may call me a heretic.

— Fr. James Smith, Celebration Publications

Directory

Parish Leadership

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor
Rev. Frank Latzko, ext. 217
FJSasso@aol.com

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

Music Director
Jason Krumwiede
musicalnut1@mac.com

Business Manager
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Office Manager
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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

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
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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