

St. Teresa of Avila Parish

A Roman Catholic Faith Community

Armitage & Kenmore Avenues

Chicago, IL 60614



August 21, 2016

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Faith & Spirit. *Alive*



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Strengthen your drooping hands
and your weak knees.
Make straight paths for your feet,
that what is lame may
not be disjointed but healed.

— Hebrews 12:12-13

Stewardship

August 21 — August 27

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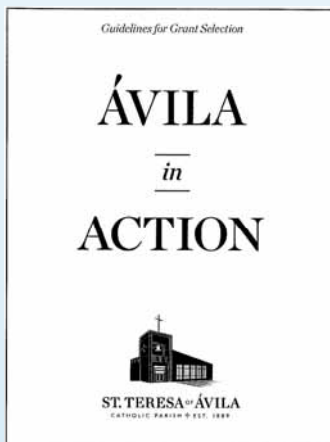
Announcing the 1st Class of *Avila in Action* Grant Recipients

The Stewardship Committee is proud to announce our first ever class of Avila in Action grant recipients! We received 19 applications from organizations all over the world that are truly working to change the world for the better through creative and innovative programs.

1. Taller de Jose (\$5,250): A dedicated organization located here in the Little Village area of Chicago connecting the most vulnerable members of our community with needed social services. Taller de Jose will use the grant to help fund the salary of a new full time "companion". A companion works directly with a client to personally walk them through the complex social service process and ensure that the client is able to successfully navigate the process with a help by their side every step of the way.

2. 8th Day Center for Justice (\$1,500): A coalition founded by Catholic religious congregations, 8th Day Center for Justice acts as a critical alternative voice to oppressive systems and works to change those systems. 8th Day Center for Justice will use the grant to help fund their annual Good Friday Walk for Justice, which highlights the need for social justice reform here in Chicago and beyond.

3. Partnership to Educate and Advance Kids (PEAK) (\$5,250): An organization aimed at serving high-risk high school children primarily from Chicago's West and South Sides. PEAK provides its students with a full four-year scholarship to a Catholic high school in Chicago (Holy Trinity) and pairs each student with a mentor to assist them throughout all four years of high school. PEAK will use the grant to continue funding its student-mentor programs - a key to PEAK's success. Since 2006, 100% of PEAK grads are accepted into college.



4. Erika's Lighthouse (\$5,000): A local organization aimed at combating teen depression through educating and raising awareness of the issue and encouraging good mental health in adolescents while working to break down the stigma of mental illness issues. Erika's Lighthouse will use its grant to fund its new video-based high school classroom program aimed at raising awareness of and promoting early identification and treatment for teen depression.

5. Cabrini Ministries Swaziland (\$8,000): A faith based community care organization providing health care, child care, education and social services to the most poor and vulnerable. Cabrini Ministries will use its grant to fund 60% of the operational cost for their newly opened preschool which provides a safe environment for students to develop a love of learning, critical thinking and English Language skills in a country where very few have access to education.

Over the coming months, the bulletin will feature each of the winning grant recipients and provide a full profile of the organization. All five of these organizations are truly putting Christ's mission of love and service into action and will greatly benefit from the Avila in Action grants they have been awarded.

About Avila in Action

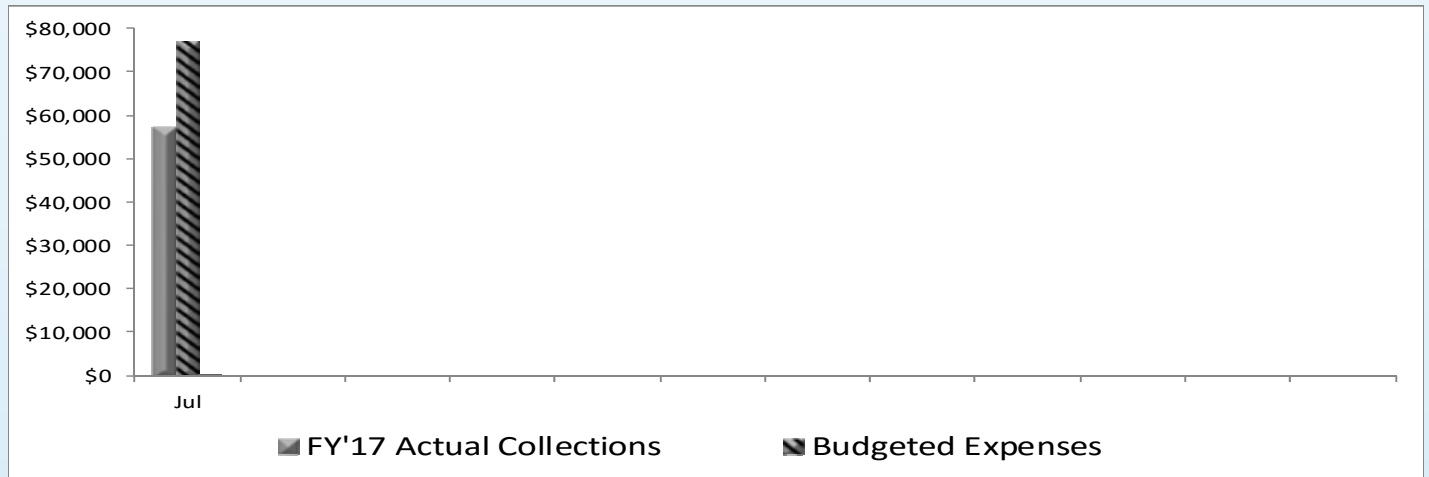
Stewardship is rooted in the idea that all we have is a gift from God, and with grace we gratefully give back to God from what we have been given. In 2015, the Stewardship Committee along with the Finance Council made a prayerful decision to increase our giving percentage from 3% to 6%, and to seek input from the parish on how the funds are distributed. Parishioners may nominate a charity of their choice to receive Avila in Action grant funds. For more information, email robrien@stteresaparish.org.

Visit st-teresa.net/volunteer to browse and sign up for a selection of recurring volunteer opportunities.

Most Wanted Volunteers	Catechists	Fundraising Committee Members	Greeters	Historical Website Admin
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Interested in volunteering? Contact Rebecca at robrien@stteresaparish.org or (773) 528-6650

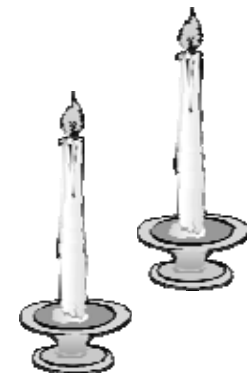
Fiscal Year (07/1 - 6/30) Comparison to Date



- In the graph above you will see that we have not yet met our budgeted expenses with our Sunday collections. We are on budget with our total income, versus expense. Total income includes Sunday collections, Christmas, Easter, fundraising, and miscellaneous donations.
- Our goal is to fund all operations and expenses from the weekly collections.
- 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 Business Manager, Erica Saccucci with any questions at esaccucci@stteresaparish.org, or Matt Donner, our Finance Council chair. Our financials are also available on our website at www.st-terea.net.
- The next Finance Council meeting is September 19th.

Stewardship of Prayer and Worship

	Weeks	7-31-16	8-7-16	8-14-16	8-21-16	8-28-16	9-4-16	9-11-16	9-18-16	9-25-16
Average Daily Mass Attendance		6	6	6						
Average Friday Communion Service		1	1	1						
Saturday, 5:00 pm Mass Attendance		38	50	40						
Saturday, 6:30 pm Mass Attendance (French)		-	25	-						
Sunday, 9:00 am Mass Attendance		165	180	170						
Sunday, 10:30 am Mass Attendance (Spanish)		-	55	-						
Sunday, 12:00 pm Mass Attendance		120	85	100						
Sunday, 6:00 pm Mass Attendance		90	90	95						
Total Weekend Mass Attendance		413	485	405						
Confessions this Week		0	0	0						
Anointing/Sick Calls/Hospital Visits this Week		1	2	0						
Funerals since January 2016		5	5	5						
Weddings since January 2016		5	5	7						
Infant Baptisms since January 2016		14	15	15						



There are 351 parishes in the Archdiocese of Chicago; only 55 parishes have weekend attendance that exceeds 2,000. Last year, St. Teresa of Avila's October Count was an average 545 people attending weekend Masses. In the Archdiocese there is 1 priest for every 1,525 parishioners; in the USA the ratio is 1:1,653 Catholics; 27 percent of US parishes do not have a resident priest. In comparison, South America has a ratio of 1:7,094 Catholics.

Parish Calendar

August 21 — August 27

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August Baptisms

Amelia Hope Khounthikoumane (8-7-16)
Corinna Teresa Maggio (8-28-16)



Interested in the Catholic Faith?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process through which interested adults are introduced to the Roman Catholic faith and way of life.



The RCIA process is for the un-baptized who want to join the Catholic Church; and those who have been baptized Catholic or in another Christian denomination, and want to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith, please contact Fr. Frank at (773) 528-6650.

Calendar at a Glance

Sunday, August 21

- Mission Speaker at all the Masses
- Welcoming Sunday
- 10:30 am, REC, Catechist Introduction to CGS

Monday, August 22

- 12:30 pm, PC, Chicago House

Tuesday, August 23

- 6:30 am, PC, Men's Spirituality
- 6:15 pm, Church, Lectio Divina
- 7:00 pm, Church, Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, August 24

- 10:00 am, PC, Memory Care Meetings
- 5:00 pm, PC-Kitchen, Night Ministry Cooking

Thursday, August 25

- 7:00 pm, REC, Stewardship Meeting
- 7:00 pm, REC, Bradley Methods Class

Friday, August 26

- 10:00 am, Kitchen, Loaves & Fishes Cooking
- 5:00 pm, PC, Loaves and Fishes Dinner
- 7:00 pm, Church, Spanish Prayer Group

Saturday, August 27

- 10:00 am, GS, Fit with Frank
- 10:00 am, PC, GS, Food Pantry Distribution
- 2:00 pm, Church, Wedding

Saints & Special Observances

- Sunday:** Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Tuesday:** St. Rose of Lima
- Wednesday:** St. Bartholomew
- Thursday:** St. Louis of France; St. Joseph Calasanz
- Saturday:** St. Monica
-
- Domingo:** Vigésimo Primer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario
- Lunes:** Santa María Virgen, Reina
- Martes:** Santa Rosa de Lima
- Miércoles:** San Bartolomé, apóstol
- Jueves:** San Luis de Francia; san José de Calasanz
- Sábado:** Santa Mónica

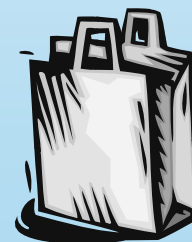
August 2016 Food Pantry Schedule

Saturday, August 6th
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

Saturday, August 13th
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

Saturday, August 20th
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution

Saturday, August 27th
9:00 am to 10:00 am Set Up
10:00 am to 12:00 pm Distribution



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 at Kenmore Avenue.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

August 21 — August 27

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Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 20

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

Sunday, August 21

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

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

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

Monday, August 22

7:30 am Mark and Barrie Buciak

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

In order to be added to our prayer list, a member of the immediate family should request that a person's name be added. 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 Deacon Dean in the parish office.

Let Us Pray

Please pray for our deceased friends and parishioners...

Rodolfo Bech, Barbara Byrd, Dolores Berendsen, Shaun Cantrell, Jerica Elaine Harris, Dorothy Holdsworth, Fred Jabaley, Joseph Kamalick, Rev. Oscar Lukefahr, CM, Anthony Mastro, Angel Luis Neris, Carmela Nurmi, John and Margaret O'Neill, Robert Rooney, Bridie Ryan, Rev. David Stagaman, SJ, John Wagner, Victims of War & Domestic Violence

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

<i>Alicia Anderson</i>	<i>Chuck Jabaley</i>	<i>Hector J. Rivera</i>
<i>Dorothy Barns</i>	<i>Ronald Jakubec</i>	<i>Luis Rivera</i>
<i>Berta Billavazo</i>	<i>Krista Kutz</i>	<i>Pedro Rodriguez</i>
<i>Lauren Dittrich Bilyeu</i>	<i>Tom Kinsella</i>	<i>Ray Romero</i>
<i>Elizabeth Ryan Dean</i>	<i>Liz Kunkel</i>	<i>Jeffrey Roscoe</i>
<i>Michael De Blasis</i>	<i>Betty LaCour</i>	<i>Sr. Camilla Mary Marney, OCD</i>
<i>Kathy Derrick</i>	<i>Carmen D. Lorenzana</i>	<i>Sr. Jean Ryan, OCD</i>
<i>Kim Duffy</i>	<i>Palмира Mancini</i>	<i>Jack Schank</i>
<i>Isabelle Eiffert</i>	<i>George Maroquin</i>	<i>Will Sullivan</i>
<i>Jackson Fineske & Family</i>	<i>Jose Maroquin</i>	<i>Laura Szejka</i>
<i>Alice Flynn</i>	<i>Lisa Marquez</i>	<i>Mima Tome</i>
<i>Padraig Gallagher</i>	<i>Margaret Sue Meadors</i>	<i>JoAnn Jahnke Trainer</i>
<i>Eloisa Gallegos</i>	<i>Daniel Meyer</i>	<i>Marianne Usiak</i>
<i>Michael Gibbons</i>	<i>Bill Mobley</i>	<i>Susan Violapiano</i>
<i>Angela Goldberg</i>	<i>Fr. Barry Moriarty, C.M.</i>	<i>Jack Williams</i>
<i>Kaylee Gommel</i>	<i>Elda Myers</i>	<i>Mae Witry</i>
<i>Bolivar Gonzales, Jr.</i>	<i>John Paul Nelson</i>	<i>David Zeumert</i>
<i>Les Gordon</i>	<i>Angel Nieves</i>	<i>Survivors and perpetrators of sexual abuse</i>
<i>Mrs. Grabarczyk</i>	<i>Msgr. Kevin O'Neill</i>	
<i>George Halloran</i>	<i>Frank O'Toole</i>	
<i>Kellar Harris</i>	<i>Clayton Poe</i>	
<i>Peg Hausen</i>	<i>Carol Poyner</i>	
<i>David Hoffman</i>	<i>Marie Koesters-Ranley</i>	
<i>David Ivanac</i>	<i>Deacon Hector Rivera</i>	

Celebrant and Minister Schedule

DATE	TIME	Celebrant	Lector	Eucharistic Host	Eucharistic Cup
8-27-16	5:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Eric Fredericks	Carly Johnston	Kevin Ludden Lisa Marquez
Next French Mass 9-3-16	6:30 PM				
8-28-16	9:00 AM	Fr. Frank	Laura Strybel	Barb Schell Jennifer Barrett Karen Secrest	Frank Swiderski Geneva Gorgo Chris Parente Jocelyn Lutkus
Next Spanish Mass 9-4-16	10:30 AM	Fr. Jose Rubio, CM			
8-28-16	12:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Claire Kenkel	Aimee Jaszczor	Alice Morales-Villenas Bert Olson
8-28-16	6:00 PM	Fr. Frank	Krista Kutz	Elizabeth Cuda Jane Bronson Minister Needed	Margaret Burke Mary Serrahn Sharon Lindstrom Cara Gannon

Readings/Lecturas

August 21 — August 27

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Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Ps 96:1-5;
Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13;
Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18;
Jn 1:45-51

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11;
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21;
Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Ps 68:4-7, 10-11;
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lk 14:1, 7-14

Lecturas de la Semana

Lunes: 2 Tes 1:1-5, 11-12; Sal 96 (95):1-5;
Mt 23:13-22

Martes: 2 Tes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Sal 96 (95):10-13;
Mt 23:23-26

Miércoles: Ap 21:9b-14; Sal 145 (144):10-13, 17-18;
Jn 1:45-51

Jueves: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Sal 145 (144):2-7; Mt 24:42-51

Viernes: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Sal 33 (32):1-2, 4-5, 10-11;
Mt 25:1-13

Sábado: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Sal 33 (32):12-13, 18-21;
Mt 25:14-30

Domingo: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Sal 68 (67):4-7,
10-11; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a; Lc 14:1, 7-14

Treasures from Our Tradition

In recent decades, attention has shifted away from headgear as a symbol of a bishop's authority to a more substantial symbol: the chair, called the *cathedra*. The word comes from the Latin word for a chair with armrests. It is exactly the reason why dining room sets were marketed in this country a few years ago with only one chair with armrests, the captain's chair. In many rectories of a certain vintage, you will see only one chair with arms at the dining table, a sign to the assisting priests of their proper place in the constellation. For us, as with most Anglicans and some Lutherans, the *cathedra* is a sign of the teaching authority of the bishop. We inherited the symbolism of the chair from Roman civil life in the fourth century. A church that houses a *cathedra* is called a cathedral, and the chair may be used only by the bishop of that diocese. Priests who preside at liturgy there must use a different presidential chair.

You may find the *cathedra* in its most traditional place at the head of the apse, or against a side wall as was favored in medieval times, but increasingly bishops are locating the *cathedra* in the midst of the assembly of the faithful. In the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, visitors will find no barrier to their trying out the *cathedra*, an expression of hospitality that helps the archbishop be mindful of those whom he serves. — Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Tradiciones de Nuestra Fe

Hay quienes quieren negar los derechos de los inmigrantes latinos que llegan a los Estados Unidos en busca de una vida mejor. Esta injusticia es extraña ya que los hispanos llegamos al territorio estadounidense en 1513, 73 años antes de la llegada de los primeros anglosajones. Estos fueron Ponce de León y compañeros quienes buscaban una mejor vida en la famosa fuente de la juventud. Eventualmente los hispanos dejaron de buscar la ilusoria fuente y en 1565 en la fiesta de san Agustín (28 de Agosto), Pedro Menéndez de Avilés fundó la primera ciudad en Florida.

Gracias a su santo patrón esta ciudad ha podido sobrevivir ataques de invasores británicos y piratas, amenazas de huracanes y tempestades para convertirse en la ciudad más vieja de la Unión Americana. ¿Pero quien fue este santo? Agustín, fue un obispo africano, quien después de una vida desordenada se convirtió en uno de los santos más importantes de la iglesia, gracias a las oraciones continuas de su madre santa Mónica. Nunca debemos menospreciar el poder de las oraciones de una madre por sus hijos. — Fray Gilberto Cavazos-GlZ, OFM, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Discipline

It is no accident that the words “disciple” and “discipline” are nearly identical. Their relationship in Christian faith and life, however, has fallen somewhat out of favor in the past generation, as certain prescribed Church rules and regulations have been reduced and relaxed. These rules were often referred to as “disciplines.” We are mistaken, however, to think that it no longer takes discipline to follow Christ. The Letter to the Hebrews assures us of that today. Our discipline is more like that of an athlete pursuing a victory or a personal best, or a musician striving for a concert career or to master a new piece of music. This discipline comes from desire, not from regulations. It was the desire to do the will of God that led Jesus on the path to his cross. It is that same desire he encourages in us today: to strive to enter through the narrow gate, to find ourselves in the kingdom with a surprising assortment of people who are there not because of mere observation of rules, but out of a genuine desire to recline at the table of the heavenly banquet. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Disciplina

No es accidente que las palabras “discípulo” y “disciplina” sean casi idénticas. Su relación en la fe y la vida cristianas, sin embargo, ha caído en desuso en la generación pasada debido a que ciertas reglas y regulaciones prescritas en la fe cristiana se han reducido o relajado. Estas reglas con frecuencia eran llamadas “disciplinas”. Nos equivocamos, sin embargo, si pensamos que ya no se necesita disciplina para seguir a Cristo. La *Carta a los Hebreos* nos lo asegura hoy. Nuestra disciplina es como la de un atleta que persigue una victoria o quiere ser el mejor, o como la de un músico que lucha por hacer carrera como concertista o por perfección en la ejecución de una nueva obra musical. Esta disciplina se basa en el deseo, no en las reglas. Fue el deseo de hacer la voluntad de Dios lo que motivó a Jesús en el camino hacia el calvario. Es ese mismo deseo el que él inspira en nosotros hoy: luchar por entrar por la puerta angosta, para encontrarnos en el Reino con muchas personas que están allí no solamente por observar las reglas, sino por un sincero deseo de reclinarsse a la mesa del celestial banquete. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Today's Readings

First Reading — Brothers and sisters of every race and language will be brought to Jerusalem (Isaiah 66:18-21).

Psalm — Go out to all the world and tell the Good News (Psalm 117).

Second Reading — Be strong and endure your trials as the “discipline” of a loving God, for it will result in the peaceful fruit of righteousness (Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13).

Gospel — People from east and west, north and south, recline at table in the kingdom of God (Luke 13:22-30).



Lecturas de Hoy

Primera lectura — Hermanos y hermanas de todas las razas e idiomas acudirán a Jerusalén (Isaías 66:18-21).

Salmo — Vayan por todo el mundo y prediquen el Evangelio (Salmo 117 [116]).

Segunda lectura — Sé fuerte y soporta las pruebas como la “disciplina” de un Dios amoroso (Hebreos 12:5-7, 11-13).

Evangelio — Gente del este y el oeste, del norte y del sur se sentarán a la mesa del Reino de Dios (Lucas 13:22-30).

Sign Up Now for the Annual Men's Retreat Scheduled

The Men's Spirituality Group invites and welcomes all men 18 and older to join us to our annual retreat at Bellarmine Retreat House in Barrington, Illinois, September 9-11.

This special weekend is a silent retreat, providing a restful atmosphere away from the distractions of daily life, a chance to hear God speaking to you.

This year we also have an excellent retreat master in Fr. Michael Sparough, S. J., well known author and speaker who many of you will know from his work across Chicago. Whether you spend reflective time on your own or participate in Mass and the retreat talks, this will be a rejuvenating weekend, especially among friends who are sharing the silence.

You can sign up directly at jesuitretreat.org/retreatschedules/
(Please indicate Matt Carpenter Group.)

Contact Craig Dean at cdean@aegpartners.com) or (312) 948-5605, for more information.

Carpooling will be available.



St. Teresa said...

The truly humble person always walks in doubt about his own virtues, and usually those he sees in his neighbor seem more certain and more valuable.



60 Pints for 60 Years!

Our next blood drive is October 23rd, Fr. Frank's 60th birthday. Let's honor Fr. Frank's Birthday by donating "60 pints of life" in his name. What a wonderful birthday gift that would be!

Date: Sunday, October 23rd,
Fr. Frank's 60th Birthday

Time: 7:00am to 1:30pm



Volunteer Opportunity: Host a Student through Rough Times

Non-profit *Depaul USA* is linked with the university in addressing a need unnoticed by many -- *DePaul University students confronting homelessness*-- and is working to house them and help them stay on the path towards a degree.



A student is maybe reeling from losses or trapped in an unsafe environment. The *Dax Host-Home Program* provides such a student with room and board for an academic quarter (12 weeks). *Depaul USA* provides mentoring and case management to access the other resources.

Consider hosting a student going through rough times. We will work closely with you.

Please contact Dax Program Coordinator Sister Judy Warmbold for more information:

312-802-9703

judy.warmbold@depaulusa.org

www.depaulusa.org

Catechists Needed for September

Volunteers needed for this fall: Catechists to work with children ages 3 to 12 years old. Complete training is provided.



St. Teresa of Avila offers a Montessori approach to catechesis called Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (www.cgsusa.org). This approach is very formative for both the children and the catechists who participate in spending time together.

If you are desiring a deeper understanding of your faith, becoming a catechist will greatly enrich your understanding of scripture, prayer and liturgy. Many of us have a limited understanding of these aspects of our faith, so becoming a catechist is a wonderful way to engage with our faith.

Training begins Tuesday, August 30 and classes begin the week of September 18.

For more information, please contact Kate Lynch at klynch@stteresaparish.org



Mission Weekend: August 20-21

During the weekend of August 20-21, a representative from the Brothers of St. Charles Lwanga will be speaking at all the Masses. The Brothers of St. Charles Lwanga were founded in 1927 and are the first indigenous order of men in Africa, south of the Sahara Desert.



The Brothers of St. Charles Lwanga devote their lives to educating youth and training them in artisan work, especially carpentry and joinery, brick laying and concrete practice, tailoring, shoe making, mechanics and plumbing. The Brothers are accredited for their quality works and innovations, charity and voluntary service to the needy and national service in their localities.

The beneficiaries of their summer mission appeal are St. Kizito Orphanage Primary school Kiteredde and St. Joseph's Vocational Technical Secondary School Kiteredde. St. Kizito and St. Joseph's are both mixed day and boarding primary and secondary schools respectively. They are dominated by orphans and with majority parents low income earners. Some students live with HIV/AIDS, some come from child headed families or are looked after by their grandparents unable to do any work for income. A good number of the students are orphans and of helpless cases.

After the brutality of the 1979 Liberation War, the region has suffered, first from HIV/Aids which is now transgenerational, and currently from draught that has affected key crops, leaving people with almost nothing to eat and sell for their income.

The goal of their Mission Appeal is to improve the Sanitation of St. Kizito Orphanage and St. Joseph's Schools.

The funds are intended to assist these schools buy water tanks and harvest rain water to provide students with safe drinking water while at school. The students have to travel for a long distance to fetch water from nearby swamps and water springs. This affects their learning and challenges of water borne diseases especially typhoid remains a big problem to these schools.

Strive to Enter through the Narrow Gate

“Lord, will only a few people be saved?”

This question has been asked many times down through the ages. And it always seems to carry with it an attached degree of anxiety, as in: “Will I be saved?” “Will I be among the select few?”

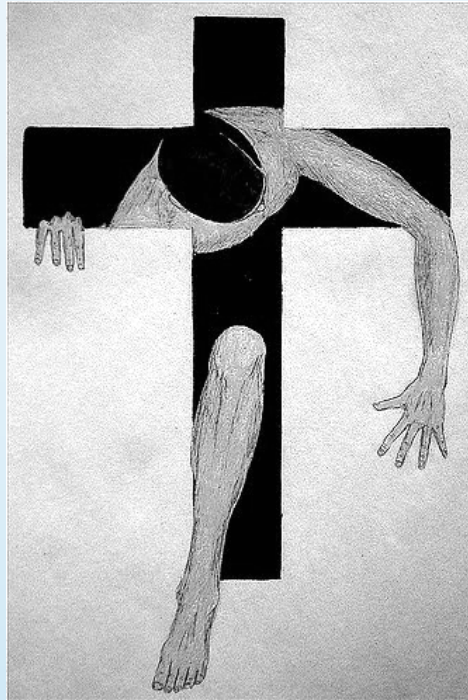
But, as urgent as this question is, Jesus’ response in today’s Gospel is somewhat baffling. It’s almost as if someone had asked him, “Is today Tuesday?” and he responded, “Seek the pig wearing a hat.”

To recall, here is Jesus’ response to the question about who will be saved: “Strive to enter through the narrow gate.” A narrow gate? Where did that concept come from? And what is it a gate to? No clear answer is given.

So let’s try to unpack what’s really going on here and hope that helps us understand better why Luke included this vignette when writing his Gospel.

Central to Luke’s message is the idea that everyone is invited to participate in the journey of dying to our egotistical self and rising to a life of generosity and mercy. Everyone is invited to follow the way of life Jesus dramatically portrayed. He refers to it as the “narrow gate.” He calls it that because it opens onto a path that is not our usual first choice.

We don’t want to squeeze through some narrow gate. We want to coast through the big, broad one — the gate of self-service, not other-service; the gate of ease and comfort, not hardship; the gate of power and influence, not the one of selfless sur-



Strive to “Be compassionate as your heavenly Father is compassionate.” Strive to “Forgive seventy times seven, as your Father does.” Strive to “Seek first the kingdom of God.” Strive to be among those to whom the Lord will say, “I was hungry and you gave me food.”

render.

And that’s why it’s called “narrow.” Few naturally choose it.

To put it another way, Jesus invites us into an inverted world, one that seems turned upside down. In this world, we are infinitely loved by a God who pursues us and welcomes us into an intimate relationship distinguished by such virtues as generosity, service and mercy. It’s a relationship defined by the word “love.”

Love, by its very nature, takes us out of ourselves. That’s

what marriage is all about. That’s what raising a child is all about. That’s what family is all about.

Love is about solidarity, not individualism. It’s about community, not aloneness. It’s about sharing, not taking. It’s about service, not self-satisfaction.

But our natural response to all this is to say that it’s too hard, too difficult, too demanding.

Jesus’ response to our natural reaction is captured in the first word he uses to answer the man’s question: strive. In the original Greek, the word connotes engaging in an intense struggle and effort against great opposition. It is similar to the word describing the passionate anguish that Jesus himself endured in the agony in the garden.

Strive. Struggle. Endeavor. Attempt. These are the words that the disciples of Jesus are to take to heart.

Songwriter Leonard Cohen says, “There is a crack in everything, and that’s how the light gets in.” Our faith journey is one of striving to find the cracks in order to see the light of hope. It’s one that embraces the old saying that goes: “The candle says to the darkness, ‘I beg to differ.’ ”

Strive to “Be compassionate as your heavenly Father is compassionate.” Strive to “Forgive seventy times seven, as your Father does.” Strive to “Seek first the kingdom of God.” Strive to be among those to whom the Lord will say, “I was hungry and you gave me food.”

To enter through the narrow gate is to follow Jesus, to love what Jesus loved, and to live like Jesus lived. Strive.

St. Teresa of Avila Parish Leadership Teams

Pastoral Council		Finance Council	Stewardship Committee		
Jessica Marx Anna Althoff Bertel Olson Paolo Basil Justin Peters Luke Kolman Kate Lynch	Alex Lopez Chris Parente Jose Cervantes Mary Paz Ramirez Tom Micinski Rebecca O'Brien	Jane Bronson Jack Halpin Ray Genellie Justin Alden	Dave Hilko Steve Fortino Becky Francis	Paolo Basil Anastasia Bullinger Kelly Dean Lisa Marquez John Mitchell	Rebecca O'Brien Chris Parente Mary Serrahn Dan Summins Mark Van Grinsven
Jessica Marx is president of the Parish Pastoral Council; her email is chicago2381@hotmail.com The Parish Pastoral Council usually meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.		Matt Donner is president of the Parish Finance Council; his email is mdonner19199@gmail.com The Finance Council usually meets the third Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.		Please contact Rebecca O'Brien for information on joining the Stewardship committee; her email is robrien@stteresaparish.org . The Stewardship Committee meet one Thursday per month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Center.	

Parish Transformation Committee	Parish Staff
Marilyn Aleide Paolo Basil Rick Blair Mark Buciak Shannon & Jonathan Clinton Michael Gallo Lisa Hanzelka Linda & Rob Harmer Sara & Adam Hock	Fr. Frank Latzko, ext. 213 Pastor fjsasso@aol.com Erica Saccucci, ext. 231 Business Manager esaccucci@stteresaparish.org Kate Lynch, ext. 232 Director of Religious Education klynch@stteresaparish.org Rebecca O'Brien, ext. 234 Director of Stewardship robrien@stteresaparish.org Tom Micinski, ext. 212 Building & Facilities Manager tmicinski@stteresaparish.org
Michael Kmec Jackie Koesters Fr. Frank Latzko Barbara McHugh Tom Micinski Rebecca O'Brien Scott Szykowny Andrew O'Dekirk Barb Schell	Sergio Mora, Maintenance Irma Saavedra, Housekeeping Jason Krumweide, Director of Music musicalnut1@mac.com Deacon Dean Vaeth, ext. 230 Office Manager dvaeth@stteresaparish.org Olu Balogun, ext. 210 Night Receptionist obalogun@stteresaparish.org
<p>Parish Offices are at 1950 N. Kenmore, (773) 528-6650, FAX (773) 871-6766. Hours are: 9:00 am to 7:30 pm Monday through Friday, and</p> <p>The submission deadline for Sunday bulletins is 11:00 am on the Monday before. The bulletin is also published electronically on st-teresa.net.</p> <p>Contact Dean at dvaeth@stteresaparish.org</p>	

Ministry Leadership Chart

Faith Formation Kate Lynch klynch@stteresaparish.org	Social Justice Deacon Dean Vaeth dvaeth@stteresaparish.org	Liturgy Fr. Frank fjsasso@aol.com	Adult Spirituality Lina Hilko lhilko@aol.com
Buildings & Facilities Tom Micinski tmicinski@stteresaparish.org	Special Events & Fundraising Rebecca O'Brien robrien@stteresaparish.org	Stewardship Rebecca O'Brien robrien@stteresaparish.org	Evangelization Seeking a Leader

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

<p>Help with Stress...</p> <p>The Holbrook Center, a service of Catholic Charities, provides confidential counseling at many locations, including its newest office at Holy Name Cathedral. Licensed counselors, affordable fees, and convenient appointment times, including evenings.</p> <p>The Holbrook Counseling Center is in the network with BC/BS PPO. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call at (312) 655-7725.</p>	<p>For information about ...</p> <p>Friday Playgroup (0-3 year-olds), Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (3-12 year-olds), The EDGE Youth Group (12-14 year-olds), or Quest Youth Group (High School)</p> <p>Contact Kate in the Parish Office klynch@stteresaparish.org</p>	<p>Weekend Masses</p> <table> <tr> <td>Saturday</td> <td>5:00 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>en Français</i></td> <td>6:30 pm⁺</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday</td> <td>9:00 am</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>en Español</i></td> <td>10:30 am*</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>12:00 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>6:00 pm</td> </tr> </table> <p>⁺ First and third Saturdays, October through June [*] First Sundays</p> <p>Weekday Masses</p> <p>7:30 am Monday through Thursday 7:30 am Fridays Communion Service</p>	Saturday	5:00 pm	<i>en Français</i>	6:30 pm ⁺	Sunday	9:00 am	<i>en Español</i>	10:30 am*		12:00 pm		6:00 pm
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	12:00 pm													
	6:00 pm													
<p>For information about ...</p> <p>Baptism, Marriage, Reconciliation, Mass Intentions, RCIA or Communion for the Sick</p> <p>Contact Dean in the Parish Office dvaeth@stteresaparish.org</p>														

