

**ST. MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA
PARISH**



**2859 South Throop Street
Chicago, Illinois 60608**



**THE EPIPHANY OF
THE LORD**



**Jan.
03
2021**

**All kings shall pay him homage,
all nations shall serve him.**

— Psalm 72:11

news and events

The Epiphany Of Our Lord

This Sunday, we celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord. This is the day we traditionally bless our homes with incense and mark our doors. Home blessing kits are available at the church entrance for \$3.00/box. For more information on the blessing of homes tradition, see the article entitled "Star Gazers" in the next column.

Safety Reminder

With the recent reports of the increasing COVID-19 infection rates in Chicago, we would like to remind you all to continue to observe all CDC and Archdiocese COVID-19 guidelines in all of our facilities:

- Wearing a mask fully covering your mouth and nose
- Practicing social distancing
- Washing your hands as often as possible
- Avoiding large group gatherings

Let's do our best to keep ourselves and each other safe and healthy; and let's continue to pray for an end to the pandemic and for God's healing power upon all sufferers. Thank YOU for your cooperation and for being super cautious.

Join us on Facebook

Our parish has a new Facebook page and it is <https://www.facebook.com/StMotherTeresaParish>. Please like us and follow us for parish events.

Praying the Rosary

St. Mother Teresa loved praying the rosary and taught her sisters to love this wonderful devotion too. She taught that *our fervent praying of the rosary is a very special way for us to contemplate with our Heavenly Mother the mysteries of Jesus' life that she shared so fully. Yes, we must always be very faithful and never give up praying the Rosary.*

Our parish offers the following regular opportunities to pray the rosary together:

1. 5:30am on Sundays at St. Barbara Church
2. 5pm on Mondays with Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity at St. Therese Church
3. 2:30pm on Tuesdays in Mandarin on Zoom
4. 7pm on Wednesdays in English on Zoom
5. First Friday of the Month at 7pm at St. Therese Church

Please email Jing Zhang for the Mandarin Zoom information at jzstherese@gmail.com or contact Perry Lau via our parish offices at 312-842-7979 or 312-842-6777 for the English Zoom information.

Bible Sharing

Our parish offers bi-weekly Mandarin and weekly Cantonese Bible Sharing on Zoom during this pandemic. All are welcome to join. For the Mandarin group, please email Jing

Zhang for the Zoom information at jzstherese@gmail.com or contact John Lin via our parish offices at 312-842-7979 or 312-842-6777 for the Cantonese Zoom information.

Faith Formation Series Continues

All parishioners are invited to join Dr. Thomas Howard for this year's **ONLINE** parent faith formation series:

- Sunday, January 10, 2021, 9-9:45 am; Topic: Theology of Eucharist and Confirmation
- Sunday, February 7, 2021, 9-9:45 am; Topic: Theology of Reconciliation and Lent

To attend via Zoom, please email thoward@sttheresechicago.org and you will receive the link.

STAR
GAZERS

20+C+M+B+21

Around a thousand years ago a stonemason in Autun, France, was working on decorations for the city's new cathedral. One of his carvings shows a charming scene. The three kings, all wearing crowns and sharing one cozy bed, are being awakened by an angel pointing to a star. The angel's finger is gently touching the hand of one of the kings on top of the patterned coverlet. This king's eyes have popped open in surprise, while the other two slumber on. The stonemason artistically combined two biblical stories into one. The star reminds us of the one that led the kings to Bethlehem, while the visiting angel refers to the warning they received in a dream not to return to Herod after visiting the Christ Child. For centuries tradition has held that the names of the kings were Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, but nobody really knows for sure. Other traditions call them wise men from the East who studied the stars. They were the first non-Jews to recognize and worship the Son of God and give him kingly gifts. In the Middle Ages, houses were blessed on Epiphany, reflecting how the magi found Christ "on entering the house." Try reviving this ancient tradition today. It can work for any family or household group. One person incenses the house while another sprinkles holy water, and a third writes in chalk over every outside doorway "20 + C + M + B + 21" (or whatever the year may be), which stands for "The three Holy Kings, Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar, in the year of Our Lord 2021." The letters C, M, and B also stand for *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless this home." Blessing the doorways symbolizes the family's commitment to welcome everyone as Christ into their home throughout the year.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

THANKS

On this beautiful winter day, Dec. 22, 2020, after joyfully receiving two St. Mother Teresa life-size statues into our churches and reverently found a temporary spot in each worship site and placed her statues up for reverence and intercessions, I found myself sitting in front of my computer and writing this message for next year's first bulletin, the weekend of Jan. 2 -3, 2021. The coming of St. Mother Teresa's statues two days before Christmas has brought much inner joy and peace to me and I certainly hope that this is true for our community too. 2020 was a historical year. Our church and our world had experienced lock-downs; we all had to be challenged to practice social distancing and isolations. We have been asking, when is this pandemic going to be over? We need light; we need hope; and we need security. The availability of the vaccines has offered us much hope. The celebration of Christmas and the Christmas season continue to give our life meaning and purpose. Definitely, I see that the coming of St. Mother Teresa's statue can unite, inspire, and encourage us and our new parish to refocus our relationships with the Lord and our mission to serve and to share the Good News. I invite you to bring your needs and the needs of our community to St. Mother Teresa. She took care of God's people while she was on earth. In heaven, she will continue to watch over and intercede for us.

Thanks to all who have made a generous Christmas gift to our parish. Your generosity is especially appreciated during this global pandemic when some of you might have been experiencing financial hardships. If you didn't have a chance, but still want to, you are most welcome to offer a gift to our parish.

Thanks to all who helped with our Churches' Christmas decoration. Since our school students couldn't help this year, many of you stepped up to beautifully decorate our Churches for this special season. From children to elderly, you all had fun decorating God's churches. Your joy and smiles can't even be covered by your masks.





I will share some Christmas photos and news next week. Wish you and your loved ones receive much God's love and joy as we begin this New Year. May the good Lord bless you with a healthy and peaceful year.

Peace

Fr. Francis

NEWBORN KING By Sister Caritas

Years ago, I went to the Planetarium around Christmas time. The Planetarium shows videos on the ceiling which make you feel like you are out in space. They were using some of their showtime to explain what the possible star seen by the Magi might have been. I learned and enjoyed the explanation and the show. The past week, around the twenty first of December, two planets, Jupiter and Saturn, came very close together showing a very bright star just at dusk. Maybe some people saw it.

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The Three Kings or Magi came to Jerusalem looking for the newborn "King of the Jews". "We have seen his star and have come to pay him homage." These men who came looking for Jesus were not Jewish or from Samaria. Tradition says they came from afar. They came bearing gifts. Perhaps they had traveled for several years to reach this destination. Herod, upon looking for the information, told them to go to Bethlehem. They found the infant. They did not obey Herod but went home another way, not telling him where they found the Infant.

The Magi found the star because they were looking for stars that appeared and seemed new. They were searching. It is true that we wouldn't find Jesus if we were not looking. Would we recognize the "Newborn Infant, King of the Jews" if we were not open, ready, prepared to see, welcome and pay homage to Him?" That is what we need to bring to the newborn Savior. We bring an open heart, awareness, willingness to welcome and receive Him. We offer Him our heart filled with love. Be aware, welcome Him. As we "FALL ON OUR KNEES AND HEAR THE ANGEL VOICES," WE OFFER OUR HEARTS TO JESUS.

Supporting Alpha

An individual who is unfamiliar with the Catholic faith but who regularly attends our ALPHA pilot recently stated, "I love the fact that there is no pressure during Alpha. The discussions, films, and atmosphere are very chill. Everyone should feel welcome to check it out!"



Perhaps you know someone similar, someone with a good heart but unaffiliated with any institutional faith. This person most likely is not yet ready to join you for mass, but perhaps they might consider attending one of the dynamic, interactive, and upbeat ALPHA ZOOM sessions in the spring (dates, TBA).

Please consider putting together a list of people who you can invite. Jing and I will provide a template for your invitation with registration information soon.

God Bless

Thomas Howard
Director of Religious Education
St. Therese Chinese Catholic School

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

You may have noticed tuckpointing work being done on the North side of the church. We are doing emergency repairs only on small areas to prevent any further damage to the church interior. The cost of this repair will be over \$32,400.

Recently, during an investigation of water damage visible inside the church (North wall), we have learned that the whole church requires solid tuckpointing work. It appears that the last tuckpointing work done on the church walls was more of a cosmetic job than real masonry work. We have discovered that it has been done without grinding out the old mortar. That means that the existing tuckpointing is less than a quarter inch thick and has no solid attachment to the wall. In consequence, it allows water to penetrate the walls, causing damage inside the church, and is falling from the walls exposing them to more damage. This situation of unprofessional and bad tuckpointing has been discovered on all church walls except the dome (over the roof) and a small section on the Southwest corner of the church.



Unfortunately that's not the only bad news about our church walls. The interior of the bell tower is in really bad condition and also requires tuckpointing. The estimate given for this job is over \$36,000. This work was scheduled to be done before winter; however, due to the more urgent need to tuckpoint the outside North section of the church, it has been postponed.

We don't have any estimate for the tuckpointing of the entire church building yet. We will get some estimates soon.

We also have no funds to perform the necessary work on all the walls at once. Most probably we will have to do it in phases as funds will allow us. Please keep this in consideration when evaluating your donations to the parish for the year of 2021. When the work performed on the North wall is finished, we will file a claim with the insurance company to get funds to repair the inside of the church walls damaged by water penetration.



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WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

Congratulations to our 50/50 Raffle Winners!

Grand Prize: Gabrielle Feliciano

First Prize: David Li

Second Prize: Sophia Zheng

Third Prize: Betsy Young





Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday - January 2 - Vigil of The Epiphany of The Lord

5:00 p.m. + Ed Glabicki (Wife, B.)
Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente Family)

Sunday, January 3 - The Epiphany of The Lord

6:00 a.m. Health Blessings: Virginia Zawacki (The Krzyzanski Sisters)
In Thanksgiving for All Blessings (The Saludo Family)

9:30 a.m. + Mary Novak (Irene Zima)
+ Teresita Villafuerte Holcomb (Angelica, Emmanuel & Jeremy King)
+ Mary Diaz DeLeon (Family)
+ 16th Ann. Rem.: Joseph Wojcik (Elizabeth Wojcik)
Special Intention (Maria & Edward Sraga)

Monday, January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Therese Church
+ Agnes Kuberska (Family)

Tuesday, January 5 - St. John Neumann

8:00 a.m. + The Mezydlo Family: John, Genevieve, Genevieve (Jean), Aloysius and Eleanore

Wednesday, January 6 - Christmas Weekday; St. André Bessette

8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Therese Church

Thursday, January 7 - Christmas Weekday; St. Raymond of Peñafort

8:00 a.m. + Birthday Rem.: Joe Kostecka (M. Korso)

Friday, January 8 - Christmas Weekday

9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Therese Church

Saturday, January 9 - Christmas Weekday

8:00 a.m. All Parishioners, Living and Deceased

Saturday, January 9 - Vigil of The Baptism of The Lord

5:00 p.m. Health Blessings: B. Glabicki (Maria Saludo)
Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente & Family)

Sunday, January 10 - The Baptism of the Lord

6:00 a.m. Health Blessings: Virginia Zawacki (The Krzyzanski Sisters)

+ Evelyn Badonski (Jim & Christine Bertucci)

9:30 a.m. + Teresita Villafuerte Holcomb (Angelica, Emmanuel & Jeremy King)

+ Stanley Slotarski (Family)

+ Rita M. Lukas

ATTEND MASS ONLINE

The Archdiocese of Chicago broadcasts Masses from Holy Name Cathedral every Sunday in English, Spanish and Polish. The Masses are available on the YouTube channel: youtube.com/catholic Chicago.

Weekday Masses 8:00 am

Monday, Wednesday, Friday — St. Therese Church
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday — St. Barbara Chapel

Collection - Week of December 19th - 20th

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 770.00
Sunday Loose:	\$ 258.00
Total Church Collection	\$ 1,028.00
Mailed-in Collection	\$ 783.00
Total Collection	\$ 1,811.00
Catholic Education Collection	\$ 126.25
Mailed-in Second Collection	70.00
Total Second Collection	\$ 196.25
Weekly Budget:	\$ 2,200.00
July 1st to Present (Actual):	\$ 39,762.07
July 1st to Present (Budgeted):	\$ 55,000.00

Due to the early publication of the bulletin, the collection for the week of December 26th-27th is not available. It will be published in next week's bulletin.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9TH

5:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Minister: J. Lukwinski

Lector: G. Dumelle

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10TH

6:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: G. Vanderford

Lector: J. Bertucci

9:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: H. Alonso or A. Alonso

Lector: L. Szczepanski



Altar & Liturgical Sponsor

In memory of Matthew Rekar

Requested by: His Wife

For those unable to attend Mass due to illness or for those who do not have access to the internet, please be sure to watch the Mass on television:

**Cardinal Cupich Mass from
Holy Name Cathedral
ABC-TV Channel 7 - Chicago
Sunday Mass: 9:30 am**

Year-Round
**Mercy Home - Sunday Mass at 9:30 am
WGN- TV Channel 9 - Chicago**

Pastor: Fr. Francis Li
FLi@StThereseChinatown.org

Resident: Fr. John Cuff
JCuff@maryknoll.org

School Principal: Ms. Lisa Deborah Oi
DOi@StThereseChicago.org

Oper. Director: Mr. Piotr M. Wojtasik
pwojtasik@StBarbaraChicago.org

Music Director: Ms. Eva Mrgan
emrgan@StBarbaraChicago.org

Parish Secretaries: Ms. Dolores Becatti
dbecatti@StBarbaraChicago.org
Ms. Judy Lukwinski
jlukwinski@StBarbaraChicago.org

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish
St. Barbara Church
2859 South Throop Street
Chicago, Illinois 60608
www.StBarbaraChicago.org

Rectory Phone: (312) 842-7979
Rectory Fax: (312) 842-7978
School Phone: (312) 326-6243
School Fax: (312) 842-7960

St. Therese Church
218 West Alexander Street
Chicago, Illinois 60616
www.stthereschinatown.org

Rectory Phone: (312) 842-6777

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND LITURGIES

St. Barbara: Saturday: 5:00 pm; Sunday: 6:00am, 9:30am
St. Therese: Mandarin Mass on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 4:00 pm followed by Bible sharing and food.
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am; and Mandarin Mass on the 4th Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

St. Barbara: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday: 8:00 am
St. Therese: Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 8:00 am

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

St. Barbara: Vigil Mass: 7:00 pm; Holy Day Masses: 6:00 am, 8:00 am

St. Therese: 8:00 am, 7:00 pm

FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR: St. Therese - 7:00 pm

FIRST SATURDAY HEALING MASS: St. Barbara Chapel - 8:00 am

CONFESION

St. Barbara: Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 pm or by appointment
St. Therese: By appointment

THE ROSARY

St. Barbara: The Rosary is prayed on Sunday at 5:30 a.m. before 6:00 am Mass.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, and Wednesday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm and Friday: 9:00 am - Noon. At the present time, the office is closed on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

Baptisms: Parents must be registered practicing parishioners and attend a baptismal preparation session before a baptism will be scheduled. Call the rectory office for further information.

Communion Calls: Please contact the Rectory when someone who is homebound or in the hospital wishes a visit to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The Anointing of the Sick is for anyone seriously sick and not only for those near death.

Ministry of Care: Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit, pray with, and bring Holy Communion to those who are sick and unable to attend Mass. Notify the Parish Office when this service is needed.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program for anyone inquiring and seeking information about entering the Catholic faith.

Weddings: Weddings need to be scheduled at least six months in advance. Couples are reminded to secure the Church date before the reception hall.

Please pray for those homebound, hospitalized and in need of continued prayers:

Amalia Agins, Austin Agins, Bernadette Agins, Joyce Agins, Stephen Agins, Mary Aguirre, Debbie Annerino, Walter Annerino, Amy Averet, Kimberly Babe, Geraldine Baldwin, Tony Baressi, Judith Beaudry, Christine Bertucci, Joseph 'Joey' Bertucci, Lonnie & Theresa Bertucci-Falls, Jennifer Bond, Fr. Michael Bowler, Jeff Bowman, Andrea Brongiel, Mary Camarda, Anthony Capone Sr., Adele Castro, Laverne Connolly, Tim Consola, Joe Cruz, Patti Cuchetto, Paul DeGrazia, Henry Diaz DeLeon, Kathy Egle, Nenita Feliciano, Jerry Felske, Minnie Ford, Natalia Francone, Bill Frank, Darlene Frost, Harold Frost, Paul Gadomski, Ray Gadomski, Lily Ann Galloway, John Gasca, Cheryl Lynn Gilhooly, Bernadette Glabicki, Ed Glos, Pat Grieco, Koen Guest, Jose P. Gutierrez, Kellar Harris, Lynette Heidemann, Jasmine Henson, Barbara Herr, Denise Holland, Gwen Holub, Morris Humphrey, Michaeline Hunter, Ted Hunter, Suzanne Ivester, Jennifer Janson, Chester Jendryczka, Dr. Joe, John Kaput, Dorothy Kawalerski, Rose Kisielowski, Stanley Kiwala, Anna Kolendo, Janice Kutansky, Craig Labudda, Ken Labudda, Sunny Labudda, Baby Kinsley Paige Leschinsky, Kiera Litwin, Lenny Loretto, Richard Lyznicki, Nancy Mallory, John Mangan, Kayle Marth, Paul Martinez, Bill Marcuk, Zena Masi, Maria Mawgwi, Lil' Joe Michalak, Cindy Moore, Dr. Mike, Cydney Muti, Stephanie Nicks, Ann Njeru, Deacon Jack O'Leary, Theresa Oleszkiewicz, Allison Pakula, Virginia Pakula, Eva Castillion Parcon, Josie Petkus, Michael Petrucci, Theresa Pickens, Dolores Pienta, Mitchell Pienta, Ellen Pietrzak, Beverly Pirelli, Ray Polakowski, Robert Potter, James Pzarek, Barbara Rekar, Josephine Richardson, Sandra Rios, Joel Rivera, Jose Rodriguez, Jose C. Rodriguez, Mila Rolon, Dolly Roti, Ellen Ryan, Therese Ryndak, Patricia Sacony, Maria Saludo, Edward John Schmit, Jr., Laverne Scianna, Kennedy Shepski, Adeline Skokal, Raymond Smolinski, Gary Solverson, Sharon Solverson, Rosalie Spalla, Diane Spata, Joanne Stewart, Lauren Stronczek, Rose Stronczek, Robert Synal, Baby Zachary Synal, Emily Rose Thomas, Norbert Trojanowski, Bill Ufferman, Dolores Ufferman, Dave Ulczycki, George Vanderford Sr., George Vanderford Jr., Juan Vargas, Joyce Vogt, Ava Walczak, Sadie Walker, Barbara Webb, Bill Webb, Sylvia Wiertel, Madison Young, Eugene & John Zabek, Evelyn Zaleski, Virginia Zawacki, Irene Zima



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