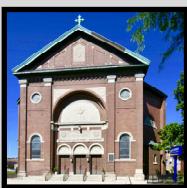


ST. MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH



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



**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE
ASCENSION OF THE LORD**



Celebrant: Rev. Francis Li

FIRST COMMUNICANTS

Ximone Bristol
Melany Dunagan
Adrian Estrada
Luca Gonzalez
Vincent Kusnoto
Cyrus Lin
Rocco Munoz
Marcelino Reyes
Dean Ruff
Isabel Ruiz
Riley Tuider
Amormia Valenzuela-Fernandez
Clement Yau
Jordan Zhang

**May
16,
2021**

**Whoever believes and is baptized
will be saved.**

— Mark 16:16

news and events

Re-igniting our Faith through the Eucharist and Liturgical Ministry

The pandemic has unprecedentedly disrupted our liturgical celebrations and ministries. It continues to challenge us to be prudent and hopeful. With the slowdown of the COVID spread and the vaccinations, we have seen some of our sisters and brothers returned to in-person mass with our community and we expect more parishioners and friends who will gradually and safely come back to our communal celebrations. This calls our parish to be proactively prepared. Our Liturgy Committee met last week to discuss our plan for safely re-engaging our parishioners and ministers. We hope some of our liturgical practices, such as ushers, altar servers, and gift bearers, will resume on Pentecost.

Based on our discussions, I now invite you to:

1. If you are our "inactive ministers" who are ready to be active again or if you are our current ministers during the pandemic, you will receive communications from your ministry heads regarding our parish's "action plan" for reengagement.
2. If you feel that God is calling you to be a new minister in our parish, please call me, email me or talk to me after mass, and our parish wants your participation. Good news...two of our brothers and sisters have already said YES!

May Schedule Updated

1st Communion and Parish May Crowning at St. Barbara Church: 9:30am mass on May 16th

Deacon Francisco's 1st Mass of Thanksgiving: Sunday May 23rd at 10:45am at St. Barbara Church

St. Therese Chinese Catholic School's 2021 Commencement Mass and Celebration: Sunday May 23rd at 2pm at St. Barbara Church

School Students' Baptism: Sunday May 30th at the 9:30am mass at St. Barbara Church

FIRST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

Bless the children coming forward to receive Holy Communion for the first time.



May this day be an initial step into a life-long love of the Eucharist.

Give them a hunger for this sacred food so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance, and wisdom as they grow into full discipleship.

Thank you for their innocence and goodness.

May their hands, extended in anticipation of your Body and Blood, inspire all of us to cherish this sacred sacrament.



Report as of April 15, 2021

Campaign Goal:	\$275,000
Total Pledged	\$286,697*
Percent of Goal:	104.2%
Total Collected to Date	\$148,011
60% Returned to St. Barbara	\$ 88,807

* The total amount pledged has been reduced by \$5,000 due to the cancellation of a pledge.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

FLORENCE GOGA
Long-time St. Barbara parishioner
and relative of many Bridgeport residents

Please keep the Goga, Mazarka and Pienta Families in your prayers.



Mother's Day Mass Remembrance
Mother - Grandmother -
Godmother - Sister - Aunt

Mother's Day Remembrance envelopes are available in back of church. Please return them with the names of all mothers to be remembered. Your intentions will be remembered in special Masses offered up throughout the year. You are asked to include a donation that is suitable to your intentions. Envelopes can also be brought to the rectory office. Please submit any intentions to the rectory by Tuesday, May 18th, so that we may publish the list in the May 23rd bulletin.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our school and Religious Education program students who celebrated their First Reconciliation last Saturday at St. Therese Worship Site. We had a wonderful group of 15 students and they were well prepared by their catechists and parents for this grace-filled Sacrament.



CHURCH CAPACITY UPDATE GUIDELINES

It's been wonderful to see some of our brothers and sisters return to in-person mass since Easter. For our Confirmation, the social distancing regulation made us plan for two masses in order to accommodate the many people who wanted to be part of the special celebrations for our young people. As more parishioners plan to return, the good news is also that we are allowed to have more people in our pews beginning May 14th. Please see the message below from the Archdiocese:

With the State of Illinois and City of Chicago poised to enter the 'Bridge Phase' within the week, which allows for increased capacity limits, parishes are hereby permitted to plan for increased attendance for liturgies and non-liturgical gatherings beginning May 14 (assuming no delays to the Bridge Phase), as follows:

- **Masses and liturgies:** capacity is 60% of the church. Based on measurements taken during the initial reopening efforts, and accounting for the necessity of maintaining physical distancing, this equates to approximately seating in every other pew. This is how to begin managing increased capacity if you have not already done so.
- **Social gatherings:** capacity is 250 people indoor; 500 people outdoor. This will have an impact on school-related events, such as graduations, and guidance will be provided to principals and school pastors this week, as well.
- **Offices:** capacity is 60% at any one time.

In all instances, all mitigation efforts remain required – masks are to be worn, individuals are to maintain as much physical distance as possible, hand washing/sanitization is essential. Additionally, registration is still required to manage capacity limits as well as assist in contact tracing efforts, as needed.

RESUMPTION OF SOME LITURGICAL PRACTICES

As communicated to you before, our liturgical leaders have been working hard to prepare our liturgical ministers' safely return to our in-person mass. Beginning on Pentecost Sunday, we will resume Altar Serving, Ushering, and Gift Bearer ministries. Since these ministers have not served for over a year, we know that it might take a few weeks for them to be totally comfortable with the COVID guidelines. We are grateful to their commitment and to your patience and understanding.

This Sunday we have May Crowning and First Communion at the St. Barb. Site. We rejoice with our First Communicants and we implore Mary's intercessions for our young people and for us all.

Peace

Fr. Francis

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

May 10, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Six years ago, Pope Francis issued the groundbreaking encyclical *Laudato Si'*. "I urgently appeal," he wrote, "...for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all." As Catholics, we are called to be stewards of all of God's creation. By protecting our planet and all of its inhabitants, we show our love for each other and our Creator.

During the week of May 16-24, Catholic communities throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to participate in "Laudato Si' Week" to marks its sixth anniversary. Pastors are encouraged to preach on the importance of caring for God's creation and promoting an integral ecology and include intentions for the healing and restoration of our common home.

Our Office of Human Dignity and Solidarity has provided resources and learning opportunities online at www.archchicago.org/creation to assist your families and community. Know that all of you are in my prayers during this hopeful Easter Season as access to vaccines becomes wider spread. With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop of Chicago

MONDAYS WITH THE SISTERS OF THE MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY:

4pm-5pm: meeting people on the street or praying the rosary at parishioners' homes



5pm-6pm: Holy Hour in St. Therese Church

ALL ARE WELCOME!

ASCENSION By Sister Caritas

One of the parishes where I have ministered was Our Lady of Lourdes on the west side of Chicago in North Lawndale. At one time, the area had been one of the poorest in the state of Illinois. It was an African American Parish. There were few resources financially and many wonderful people who kept the Church alive. There were limited programs and limited training for the people. After being there eighteen years, working with many people, children and young people, the Church was closed. Despite all the ways we had grown in many areas, it was still not enough to sustain the parish. I had to say "goodbye" to the people whom I had come to love and to the parish we had tried to keep open.

Today's Gospel tells of Jesus' farewell to His Apostles. After rising from the dead on Easter, Jesus was around His Apostles appearing and reappearing for about forty days. Then He met them and commissioned them to "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature." Jesus went to heaven and "took his seat at the right hand of God." The apostles went out and preached the gospel, "while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs." So it is with us. We are sent to share the Gospel wherever we go and wherever we are. We do not have to think we are in it alone. Just as Jesus did for the Apostles, so Jesus will do for us. Jesus works with us and through us in our ministry

THE ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN

By Fr. John Cuff

There's an ancient legend about the Ascension of Jesus into heaven.

According to the legend, on the day of his Ascension, when Jesus reached heaven, his body still showed the horrible wounds of the crucifixion.

His hands and feet still bore the print of the nails, his side the mark of the spear; his back bore the stripes from the whip, and his head bore the wounds of the thorns.

When the people of heaven saw these marks, they fell on their knees before Jesus, astounded to see how much he had suffered.

Then the angel Gabriel said to Jesus, "Lord, how much you must have suffered on earth! Do all the people on earth know and appreciate what you suffered for them and how much you love them? Do they have any idea?"

Jesus replied, "Actually no, only a handful of people in Palestine know about it; the rest haven't even heard of me yet. They don't know who I am or how much I suffered or how much I love them."

Gabriel was shocked to hear this, so he said to Jesus, "Then how will all the others on earth ever learn the depth of your suffering and love?"

Jesus said, "Well, just before I ascended, I told my Apostles and a few of their friends to tell the rest of the world for me; they'll tell as many people as they can, and these will tell others, and eventually all mankind will learn of my love for them."

Gabriel looked even more confused now; he knew how unfaithful people are, how forgetful they can be, how easily they can begin to doubt, so he said, "But Lord, what if the Apostles get discouraged or frustrated or begin to have doubts about you?"

"Or maybe the people they hand down their message to, what if they begin to grow cold or forget? Did you think about that? Do you have a back-up plan, just in case?"

Jesus said, "I did take all these things into account, but in the end I decided against having a back-up plan; this is the only plan I have."

"I'm counting on Peter, James and John and the others not to let me down; I'm counting on the people they tell not to let me down."

And almost two thousand years later, Jesus still has no other plan, He counted on Peter and the other Apostles not to let him down and they didn't. He counted on the people they told, and they didn't let him down either. Now Christ is counting on us.

So today, on the Feast of the Ascension, let us not be merely spectators applauding Jesus' victory. We are not to simply "stand staring up at the sky," as the two men in white tell the Apostles. Rather, we also have a key role to play, we have work to do.

Christ tells us we must get busy, to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them the way of Christ. Thus our work as Catholics in Chinatown and Bridgeport is to spread the Good News, by inviting friends and relatives to hear the Gospel taught in our doctrine classes and by witnessing to him in our lives.

In conclusion, we might compare the Feast of the Ascension to the passing of a baton from one runner to another in a relay race.

Two thousand years ago Jesus passed on his work to the Apostles; they in turn passed it on to the people who came after them, and they in turn passed it on to us.

Now it is our turn to pass it on to others. Let us not let Jesus down.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 15 - The Vigil of The Ascension of The Lord

5:00 p.m. + Edward Glabicki (Wife, B.)
+ Birth. Rem.: Sophie Jachim (Anita & Dan Isacson & Family)
Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente & Family)

Sunday, May 16 - The Ascension of the Lord; Our Lady of Fatima

6:00 a.m. + Ann. Rem.: Aniceto M. Saludo, Sr. (Family)
+ Birth. Rem.: James "JJ" Bertucci, Sr. (Son, Jim)

9:30 a.m. First Holy Communion

+ Teresita Villafuerte Holcomb (Angelica, Emmanuel and Jeremy King)
+ Theresa Oleszkiewicz (St. Barbara Holy Name Society)
+ Isabel (Liz) Wienczek & Jerome (Harry) Wienczek (Wally Gusich)

Health and Well-Being: Isaac Perez (Mother)

Monday, May 17 - Easter Weekday

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

Tuesday, May 18 - Easter Weekday; St. John I

8:00 a.m. + Carol & Ray Miller (B. Glabicki)
+ For Forgotten Souls in Purgatory (Dominic Barbaro)

Wednesday, May 19 - Easter Weekday

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

Thursday, May 20 - St. Bernadine of Siena

8:00 a.m. Birth. Blessings: Saturnino Saludo (Na Inday)

Friday, May 21 - Easter Weelday; St. Christopher Magallanes

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

Saturday, May 22 - Easter Weekday; St. Rita of Cascia

8:00 a.m. + All Souls' Remembrance
+ Charles S. Palumbo (Wife, Rosetta Palumbo)

Saturday, May 22 - Vigil of Pentecost Sunday

5:00 p.m. + Diane Vyian (Sister-in-Law, Jane Fockler)
+ Fred Schaff (Rose Stronczek)
Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente & Family)

Sunday, May 23 - Pentecost Sunday

6:00 a.m. + Charles & Mary Powers (Arlene & Cliff Whitehouse)
9:30 a.m. + Estelle Barton (B. Glabicki)
+ Teresita Villafuerte Holcomb (Angelica, Emmanuel and Jeremy King)
+ Vincent & Catherine Stronczek (Rose Stronczek)

Weekday Masses 8:00 am

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

Collection - Week of May 8th - 9th

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 1,027.00
Loose	214.00
Total Church Collection	\$ 1,241.00
Mailed in Envelopes	85.00
Total Sunday Collection	\$ 1,326.00
Second Collection - Utility	\$ 188.00
Weekly Budget:	\$ 2,200.00
July 1st to Present (Budgeted)	\$ 99,000.00
July 1st to Present (Actual)	\$ 70,269.41



Electronic giving through GiveCentral.org is the safe and secure way to make your weekly donations to St. Barbara. Donate via credit card or electronic check (ACH). Sign up by visiting St. Barbara's home WEB page and follow the prompts.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

SATURDAY, MAY 22ND

Eucharistic Minister: J. Lukwinski
Lector: G. Dumelle

SUNDAY, MAY 23RD

6:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: S. Guest
Lector: J. Bertucci

9:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: P. Rodriguez
Lector: W. Podrazik

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**

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

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, Angeleo Alonzo, 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., Laverne Connolly, Tim Consola, Joe Cruz, Patti Cuchetto, Paul DeGrazia, Henry Diaz DeLeon, Kathy Egle, Nenita Feliciano, Jerry Felske, Minnie Ford, Bill Frank, Darlene Frost, Harold Frost, Paul Gadomski, Ray Gadomski, Lily Ann Galloway, John Gasca, Cheryl Lynn Gilhooley, Bernadette Glabicki, Ed Glos, Pat Grieco, Koen Guest, Wally Gusich, 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, 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, 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, Maria Saludo, 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 & Bill Webb, Sylvia Wiertel, Madison Young, Eugene & John Zabek, Evelyn Zaleski, Virginia Zawacki, Irene Zima



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