



# **ST. MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA PARISH**



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



**Dec.  
27,  
2020**

## **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**

**My eyes have seen your  
salvation, which you  
have prepared in the  
sight of all peoples.**

**— Luke 2:30-31**

## **news and events**

### **Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**

The Feast of Mary, the Mother of God, celebrated on January 1st, is a Holy Day of Obligation. This year, a New Year's Eve Mass will be celebrated at St. Therese Church on Thursday evening at 5:00 pm followed by Benediction.

New Year's Day Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 am at St. Barbara Church and at 10:00 am at St Therese Church.

### **The Epiphany Of Our Lord**

Next Sunday, January 3rd, we will 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.

### **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 [jzsttherese@gmail.com](mailto:jzsttherese@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 [jzsttherese@gmail.com](mailto:jzsttherese@gmail.com) or contact John Lin via our parish offices at 312-842-7979 or 312-842-6777 for the Cantonese Zoom information.



# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

## THANKS

Thanks to our Filipino group for a beautiful and prayerful Simbang Gabi Mass on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. We were blessed to have Fr. Brad Zamora as our celebrant. In his homily, he reminds us of the gift of our diversity in unity. Indeed, we are many, but one faith and one Lord.

Thanks to our St. Vincent DePaul Society for the Hats, Gloves, Scarves, and Socks drive during Advent to benefit the needy. Thanks to all students in our school and Religious Education Program for taking the lead on the Advent Baby Bottle Project to benefit the Women's Center. Our parishioners responded generously to both of these events.



## YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH (DEC. 8, 2020-DEC. 8, 2021)

On the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as Patron of the universal Church by Pope Pius IX, Pope Francis proclaimed a year dedicated to honor St. Joseph in his apostolic letter, *Patris Corde, With a Father's Heart* in which he divides his letter into 7 sections to speak of St. Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father, a creatively courageous father, a working father, and a father in the shadows.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, it is appropriate to take some time to honor Joseph, Mary and Jesus. We need their examples especially now for parents and children to imitate. We need the intercessions of St. Joseph and St. Mary for our families, particularly all families who are experiencing divisions, struggles and sufferings.

Below is a prayer to St. Joseph, which is in the conclusion of Pope Francis' apostolic letter. Let's pray it and ask for St. Joseph to intercede for us and our families.

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

Peace

Fr. Francis

### **FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY** **By an Anonymous Mother**

During one of the parent formation sessions, Mr. Howard shared an inspiring slide show on the Advent Baby Bottle project, and it hit home. It took me back to 2008 when I had to consider having an abortion. I was no longer an 18-year-old female, thinking about prom, graduation, and college. Instead, I was facing a choice that would affect me for the rest of my life.

Being a first-generation Mexican American immigrant, I worked hard to maintain good grades with hopes of receiving college scholarships. Senior year approached, and I anxiously waited for acceptance letters and became excited for what was about to come until a doctor's visit rerouted my path.

I was two months pregnant, without a boyfriend, and feeling shame and guilt at the bottom of my heart. At that moment, I wanted to die! Questions of, "What will people think? My parents?" or "Should I abort? I want to attend college; I've worked so hard!" flooded my head.

As I took the courage to tell my parents, friends, teachers, and mentors, many told me to abort. But others told me to keep the baby.

I felt lost, alone, and hopeless. I was scared for the life of the unborn child and my future. One afternoon, I went to my parish and sat in the chapel. As I sat with the Holy Eucharist, my loneliness evaporated. I prayed and asked Jesus for a sign of what to do and tell me everything would be okay.

A week later, Father Stephen approached me, and we started to talk. He told me, "Young lady, Jesus died on the cross for us. He also did it for you! Jesus loves you very much. Don't be afraid, my child; nothing is impossible for Him, and nothing will be impossible for you. You can still graduate high school, attend college, and be a great mother. It'll be challenging, but you have so many people who can help you. This baby is a blessing from Him, and He wants you to love him."

At that moment, I felt a sense of peace, acceptance, and love and decided to continue my pregnancy. My son is now 12 years old, and I thank God every day for sending Father Stephen to my rescue and my son's. I cannot imagine a life without my son, and I'm proud of taking that leap of faith. Life is challenging and doesn't go as planned, but Jesus always has a way to make it work for us. All we have to do is listen and open our hearts to His love and reassurance of life.

## **My Christmas Offering Please remember to make your Special Gift to your Parish**

If you were out of town for Christmas and did not have the opportunity to remember St. Barbara with your special Christmas Offering, you can still do so by placing your donation in the regular Sunday collection. Extra *Christmas Offering* envelopes are available at the entrance to the Church.

### **GOD'S CHILD By Sister Caritas**

Young infants are a great joy, usually, to their family and extended family. In my family, many of us want to hold the baby. I am one of those "in line" to hold the child. I love holding babies. People make comments like "Oh, the baby looks just like the father, or grandfather. Sometimes they compare the child to how their mother was when they were born. Sometimes they have characteristics like one of the parents.

In celebrating the Feast of the Holy Family, we hear readings about tradition, ritual, faith, and beliefs. God kept His promise and gave Abraham a son and made him the father of a great nation with as many members as stars in the sky. Mary and Joseph came to the temple to fulfill the rituals for their son, Jesus. They make the traditional sacrificial offering of two turtle doves, consecrating Jesus to God. Simeon and Anna are drawn by the Holy Spirit to Mary, Joseph and the baby. Simeon, who was promised that he would see the Savior, recognizes Jesus and says now he is ready to die. He makes a prophecy about Jesus and His Mother. Anna, always in the temple, recognizes the baby as the awaited Messiah and she tells all who are waiting for the Savior. Mary and Joseph complete their worship and return to Nazareth.

As Catholics we have rituals and traditions. I know people who were baptized two days after they were home from the hospital, making sure the baby was baptized before they were sick and died. Now we wait a little longer, but Baptism is still the way we offer our children to God. The baptized infant becomes a child of God, filled, even at that age, with the grace of God and the indwelling of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The child belongs to God in a special way. Parents and Godparents promise to raise the child according to the teachings of the Church. We give thanks and praise to God for the child is a Child of God.

### **FAMILY PRAYER By Fr. John Cuff**

Here's a story that I think is suitable for Holy Family Sunday: A young man in Scotland hired himself out as a helper to a wealthy farmer; he liked the work and seemed to be doing a good job, but after two weeks he quit and returned home.

A friend asked him, "Why did you quit your job? Was the work too hard?" "Not at all," replied the young man. "Was it the wages?" "No," answered the youth, "the pay was excellent." "Well, then why did you quit?"

"I'll tell you," he said, "there was no roof on the house." In Scotland, "no roof on the house" is an expression used to indicate a home where there's no family prayer.

When I hear the terms "family prayer" and "holy family", I recall growing up in my own family on Chicago's south side. There were seven children and, during our grade school years, each night after supper our parents used to insist that before turning on the TV we all kneel down and say the Family Rosary, recommended by the nuns at school. I suppose the Family Rosary was the closest we got to being a "holy family" but, looking back, I think it had good results: No divorces, one religious vocation, sixteen grandchildren, plus thirty-one great-grandchildren and still counting, thanks, I believe, to our parents' fervent faith and their insistence on family prayer.

On this subject of Family Prayer, here's another story about prayer in the home: A pastor was doing a parish census and one of the questions was, "Do you have any kind of family prayer in your home?" One family, the Wongs, replied, "Truthfully, Father, we just don't have time for it."

So the priest asked them, "Suppose you knew that one of your children would take sick if you did not pray together, would you have some kind of family prayer then?" "Oh, I guess we would," answered Mr. Wong.

"Suppose you knew that on the day you failed to say a family prayer, one of your children would be injured in an accident, would you pray together then?" This time both Mr. and Mrs. Wong answered, "We most certainly would."

The priest continued, "Now suppose that every day you failed to pray together, the law would fine you twenty dollars, would you neglect family prayer?" Mr. Wong replied, "I'm sure we would pray, Father, but why are you asking all these questions?"

"Just this," said the priest. "Your problem is not time, you could find the time; the problem is that you do not believe family prayer is important, as important as paying a fine or keeping your family healthy."

"You love your children, but you don't see that the blessing of God that you get through family prayer is more important than anything else, am I right?" Mr. and Mrs. Wong had to agree. End of story. Question: Is there a roof on your house?



## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Saturday, December 26 - Vigil of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

5:00 p.m. + Dolores Rogers (Irene Zima)  
+ Paul & Sophie Jachim (Dan & Anita Isacson & Family)

Divine Mercy for All (C. Kisielente Family)

### Sunday, December 27 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

6:00 a.m. + Mary Ann Zirgaitis (Jim & Christine Bertucci)  
Health Blessings: Cameron Howel (The Krzyzanski Sisters)  
Health Blessings: Virginia Zawacki (The Krzyzanski Sisters)  
9:30 a.m. + Florence Brown (B. Glabicki)  
+ Virginia Pienta (The Duddleston Family)  
+ Teresita Villafuerte Holcomb (Angelica, Emmanuel & Jeremy King)  
+ Nemesio Villaverde (Hazel & Angeleo Alonzo & Family)  
+ Tarcila Quilang-Danguilan (Hazel & Angeleo Alonzo & Family)  
+ Jose G. Garcia (Hazel & Angeleo Alonzo & Family)  
Health Blessings: Maria & Edward Sraga

### Monday, December 28 - The Holy Innocents

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

### Tuesday, December 29 - Late Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. + Kay Culen (The Sin, Bertozzi and Mellor Families)  
Birthday Blessings: Aniceto Saludo III (Tita Inday)

### Wednesday, December 30 - Fifth Day Within the Octave of the Nativity; St. Thomas Becket

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

### Thursday, December 31 - Seventh Day Within the Octave of the Nativity; St. Sylvester I

8:00 a.m. + Allan Campione (Family)  
+ Andrew Nawracaj (Mr. & Mrs. Stan Nawracaj & Family)  
+ Lauren Mandel (Joe & Rena)

### Thursday, December 31 - The Vigil of The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

5:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Mass at St. Therese Church

### Friday, January 1 - The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Barbara Church  
+ Birthday Rem.: Lenore Malone (The Spalla Family)  
+ Gail Sabatino (Barbara Hudren)

10:00 a.m. Mass at St. Therese Church

### Saturday, January 2 - Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

8:00 a.m. + Erasmo Moya (Christine Krupa)

### Collection - Week of December 19th - 20th

Due to the early publication of the bulletin, the collection for the week of December 19th-20th is not available. It will be published in next week's bulletin.

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 1ST (NEW YEAR'S DAY)

#### 9:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: H. Alonso or A. Alonso  
Lector: L. Saletta

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 2ND

#### 5:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Minister: J. Lukwinski  
Lector: TBA

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 3RD

#### 6:00 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: J. Balasa  
Lector: J. Bertucci

#### 9:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Minister: P. Rodriguez or J. Rodriguez  
Lector: TBA

### 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.

### Please pray for the repose of the souls of:



#### DAVID MATA

Parishioner and School Parent

and

#### REV. JOSEPH E. AUER

Former Associate Pastor of St. Bridget's Church

Please keep the Mata and Auer Families in your prayers.

### 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)

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

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

**St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish**  
**St. Barbara Church**  
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**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, Jacqueline Dybas, 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

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish #275  
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