



**ST. MOTHER TERESA OF
CALCUTTA PARISH**

Archdiocesan Center for Chinese Apostolate

聖德肋撒堂區 總教區華人牧靈中心



**December 10, 2023
SECOND SUNDAY OF
ADVENT**



The Living Nativity

Saturday, December 16, 2023

3:00 -5:00 P.M.

St. Barbara Catholic Church

2859 S Throop Street

Chicago, IL 60608

Free outdoor event



Celebrate the Christmas season with us as we bring the nativity story to life with live barnyard animals, pony rides, music, singing, and multilingual readings. Afterwards, visit the historical St. Barbara Church and join us for the 5 PM Filipino Simbang Gabi Mass and reception.

Presented by:



**ST. MOTHER TERESA OF
CALCUTTA PARISH**

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ST. THERESE

CHINESE CATHOLIC SCHOOL 聖德力天主教學校

MASS SCHEDULE

St. Barbara Chapel

Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday: 8 a.m.

St. Barbara Church

Saturday: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 6 a.m./9:30 a.m.

Indonesian: 2nd Sunday: 11:30 a.m.

DEVOTIONS

First Saturday Healing Mass

St. Barbara Chapel: 8 a.m.

The Rosary

Sunday 5:30 a.m. Before 6 a.m. Mass

St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church

Monday/Wednesday/Friday: 8 a.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m./10:30 a.m.

Cantonese: 1st Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Mandarin: 2nd Saturday: 4:00 p.m. (TBA)

4th Sunday: 12:30 p.m.

DEVOTIONS

Mondays with Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity:

4-5 p.m. Rosary and 5-6 p.m. Holy Hour

First Friday Holy Hour: After the 8 a.m. Mass



Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Barbara Worship Site

Saturday, Dec. 9th Vigil | 2nd Sunday of Advent

5:00 p.m. In Honor Our Lady of Fatima by Dominic Barbaro
+ Rose Bertucci by Dominic Barbaro
+ In Memory of Bernadette Zito by Joe & Rena

Sunday, Dec. 10th | 2nd Sunday of Advent

6:00 a.m. + Joseph Frasca by Janet Ropke
+ Deceased Members of the Bertucci and Ropke Families by Janet Ropke
+ Ronald Ropke, Sr. by daughter Janet Ropke
+ Wally Gusich & Deceased Members of the Gusich Family by Janet Ropke
+ Maharda Maffea by Janet Ropke
+ Ronald Ropke, Sr. by George Tadin

9:30 a.m. + Mary Diaz De Leon by Family
+ Teresita Holcomb by King Family

11:30 a.m. **Indonesian Mass**
+ Theresa Ryndak by Jim & Christine Bertucci

Tuesday, Dec. 12th | Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 a.m. Blessings for Benefactors & Parishioners
+ Charles Palumbo by Rosetta Palumbo

Thursday, Dec. 14th | Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. Blessings for Benefactors & Parishioners

Saturday, Dec. 16th | Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. All Souls Day Remembrance

Saturday, Dec. 16th Vigil | 3rd Sunday of Advent

5:00 p.m. + Frank M. Nardi by Godmother
+ Theresa Hill, Anniversary by Marion Roti
+ John Fockler (husband) by Jane Fockler

Sunday, Dec. 17th | 3rd Sunday of Advent

6:00 a.m. + Wally Gusich by Janet Ropke
+ Deceased Members of the Gusich Family by Janet Ropke
+ Maharda Maffea by Janet Ropke

9:30 a.m. + 100th Birthday Remembrance Anniversary, Jean Fornek by Luether & Fornek Family
+ Teresita Holcomb by King Family

St. Therese Worship Site

Sunday, Dec. 10th | Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. + Anthony Nudo, Sr. by Marion Roti
+ Maria & Salvatore Geraci by Family

10:30 a.m. Health Blessings for Jian Guoxin by Jean Wu
+ Marilyn Leung by Nicole, Nori & Ishan
+ Raymond Sonntag by Lily Subannanone
+ Sue Chan by Darlene & Chris Lowe
+ Kartika Kusnoto & Kelly Lorewell by Katharina
+ Maureen Patula by SMI Club

Monday, Dec. 11th | Saint Damasus I, Pope

8:00 a.m. Blessings for Benefactors & Parishioners
+ Joseph Nawracaj by Stan Nawracaj & Family
+ Birthday Remembrance: James J. Lelidsh by Bette Pienta

Wednesday, Dec. 13th | Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

8:00 a.m. Blessings for Benefactors & Parishioners
+ Mercy for All Forgotten Souls in Purgatory by Dominic Barbaro

Friday, Dec. 15th | Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Blessings for Benefactors & Parishioners
Healthy Blessings for Marian Dinici by A. Briglio

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

St. Barbara

Saturday, Dec. 16th:

5p.m. Lectors: H. Alonzo, A. Alonzo, III
Eucharistic Minister: J. Lukwinski

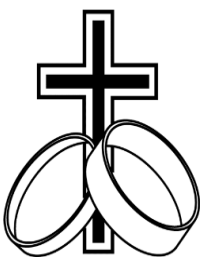
Sunday, Dec. 17th:

6a.m. Lector: J. Bertucci
Eucharistic Minister: C. Whitehouse
9:30 a.m. Lectors: B. Hudren, Sr. K. McNulty
Eucharistic Minister: A. Alonzo

St. Therese

Sunday, Dec. 17th:

8:00a.m Greeters: N. Lowe, J. Lowe
Lectors: B. Fung, J. Fung
St. Michael Ministry: Chris
10:30a.m Greeters: C. Lee, J. Yee, D. Lowe
Lectors: **Family Mass**
Eucharistic Ministers: Edy (Altar) Wing (Choir)
St. Michael Ministry: Tim



St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish
invites you to join our Family Masses
each month for a blessing for those
celebrating their

Catholic wedding anniversary.

2nd Sundays at St. Barbara 9:30am Mass
3rd Sundays at St. Therese 10:30am Mass

THANKS



Thanks to our Youth Ministers: **Nick and Ellen Andriacchi**, and new members this year, **Derrick Chariker**, Seminarian **Raymond Lee** and **Jeff Chrusciel** for leading a wonderful gathering for our young people last Saturday. We had a wonderful turnout too. They

shared on a very important title “Generous Giving.” Our young people are inspired to give, and I hope we all are in this season of giving as we look forward to receiving the best gift anew, Jesus Christ.

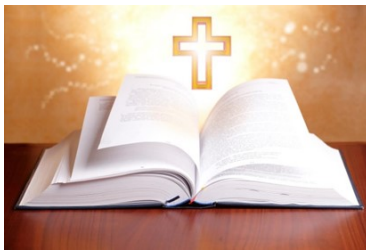


Thanks to **Deacon Andrew Wang** and **Sr. Josephina Sun** for choosing our Parish as their internship this Semester. As the semester is ending, Deacon Wang will go to New Orleans to continue his internship there and Sr. Sun will have a Christmas break and continue her studies at CTU. We wish both of them the best.

Special thanks to **Eddyfer Gramajo**- dad to Roberto in our Junior Kindergarten class! We appreciate his help in getting the parking lot lights ordered and fixed. The Gramajo family are new to our school community this year. Welcome to Eddyfer, Donna, Roberto, and Felix who comes next year to school!

How Much Do You Know about the Eucharist?

Week 2 ---The Liturgy of the Word



As we continue to celebrate the Year of Parish Eucharistic Revival (June 11, 2023---July 17, 2024), it is a good time to educate ourselves on the meaning behind our liturgy.

Last Sunday, we reviewed on The Introductory Rites, which call us to prepare our mind, heart, and our whole being to attentively listen to the Word of God. Preparation for mass begins before we come to Church and officially and communally takes place with the introductory rites. The more we are prepared, the more our hearts are able to be touched by the Word.

This Sunday, we focus on the Liturgy of the Word, which I put some of the major points together below for your reflection and re-learning.

The purpose of the Liturgy of the Word is not primarily to communicate information about God and the works of God. It is to forge a common identity and spirituality based upon the action of God among God’s people today. Its goal is to touch, move, and transform hearts, doing so by a dynamic blend of proclaiming, listening, responding, meditating, and being silent.



Fr. Francis Li
PASTOR

The Lectionary arranges the Sunday readings in three-year cycles, the characteristic feature of each year being the Gospel: *year A is based on Matthew, year B on Mark, and year C on Luke*. St. John’s Gospel occurs on the first Sundays of Lent, during the Easter season, and on certain Sundays during year B. For weekdays, there is a two –year cycle: the Gospels remain the same each year, but the first reading varies.

First Reading is usually taken from the Old Testament. On Sundays and major feasts there are always three readings. As a rule, the OT texts were chosen to prepare for the Gospel. On weekdays, there is only one reading before the Gospel. The selections are made from both New Testament and OT and they don’t always relate thematically to the Gospel.

Responsorial Psalm normally should be sung, and the whole assembly participates by singing the response.

Second Reading is always a New Testament text. The choice of the text is made to correspond with the mystery being celebrated at a particular time of the liturgical year.

Alleluia/Gospel Acclamation is usually sung by the whole of the people together before the Gospel except Lent when it is replaced by an equivalent acclamation of praise. Alleluia, a Greek word means praise the Lord. It accompanies the Gospel procession during which the whole liturgical assembly praises Christ who comes to proclaim the good news of salvation.

Gospel is the high point of the Liturgy of the Word. When the Gospel is proclaimed, it is Christ who proclaims it. As such, the reverence due to the Gospel reading must receive special attention.

The making of the small signs of the cross on the book, forehead, mouth, and heart was seen as expressing readiness to open one’s mind to the word, to confess it with the mouth, and to safeguard it in the heart.

Homily is meant to explain to the faithful the Word of God just proclaimed and to adapt it to the mentality of the time. The Homily should ordinarily be given by a priest or deacon.

Profession of Faith is an expression of the community’s response, assents, and adherence to the word of God proclaimed in the Scriptures and preached in the homily.

Prayer of the Faithful is offered by the gathered assembly to God for the salvation of all. The intentions are not only universal and local but also current to the changing events of the world.

A brief period of silence should be observed after the first reading, the second reading, and the homily. It is time for the assembly to digest what we just heard and respond to it.

The liturgy of the Word celebrates the mystery of the power of the Word of God, which can heal us, transform us, and sanctify us. It invites, urges, and challenges us to **hear the Word of God, to understand the Word of God, and to live the Word of God.**

The above notes are mainly taken from <<The General Instruction of the Roman Missal>> Third Edition and <<The Mystery of Faith: A Study of the Structural Elements of the Order of Mass>> by Lawrence J. Johnson.

Next Sunday, I will share with you the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Happy Feast of St. Barbara as we honor her today!
St. Barbara, pray for us and for our parish!

Peace ~ Fr. Francis

Beyond the Envelope Series

Week 2: Giving from the Comfort of your Couch

Most of us grew up with weekly donation envelopes... and many of us have on more than one occasion forgotten to bring the envelopes to Mass. Solution: Sending your Sunday Offerings online through GiveCentral is the easiest and most efficient way to support SMTCP.

- Set it and forget it – tell GiveCentral how much and how often to send to SMTCP, and then you won't have to worry about it (unless you want to change it).
- Donations can be set up from any computer or smartphone, and the parish office can help if needed.
- You control the frequency of donations – they can be weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or any other frequency you'd like.
- It's safe – your payment information is secured using Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) encryption, the industry standard in online payments.
- Print a record of your giving history at any time.
- Help the parish office reduce its bookkeeping and accounting work.
- Use an automated withdrawal from your bank account to provide the lowest cost to the parish – it's cheaper than credit card donations or printing/mailing envelopes.

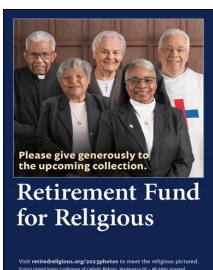
St. Barbara WS: <https://www.givecentral.org/location/190/event/2816>

St. Therese WS: <https://www.givecentral.org/location/445/event/11200>

Thank you for your support, and tune in next week to learn ways to receive additional tax benefits!

OPLATKI & FRANKINCENSE*MYRRH*GOLD are available at the St. Barbara Church entrance table. The suggested donations are: Oplatki \$3.00 per pack/ Frankincense*Myrrh*Gold \$5.00 per box.

2023 English Calendar is available at the Church entrance tables. Please pick up as many copies as you want and feel free to share it with neighbors and friends.



Annual Second Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious this weekend.

FEAST DAY OF BARBARA: SAINT AND MARTYR

PATRON SAINT FOR MINERS, FIREFIGHTERS, and ARTILLERY. (She's venerated by Catholics who face the danger of sudden and violent death)



St. Barbara known in the Eastern Orthodox Church as the Great Martyr Barbara, lived and suffered during the reign of the emperor Maximian (305-311). Because of doubts of her legend, she was removed from the General Roman Calendar in the 1969 revision, though not from the Catholic Church's list of saints.

Barbara was the daughter of the rich pagan named Dioscorus and when his wife died, Dioscorus put all his attention on his only daughter. Barbara was extraordinarily beautiful, so Dioscorus decided to hide her from the eyes of

strangers. Her father built her a tower where only her pagan teachers were allowed to see her. From her tower, Barbara was able to view the wooded hills, rivers and meadows blanketed with flowers, which was breathtaking. She came to the realization that idols could not have made the surrounding world. Her father and teachers worshiped these idols, but Barbara's desire to know the true God, consumed her soul, so she decided to devote all her life to this goal and to spend her life in virginity.

Before Dioscorus set off on a journey, he ordered a bathhouse to be erected for Barbara's use near her tower. Originally, two windows were to be put in, but Barbara had three windows put in as a symbol of the Holy Trinity. When her father returned, Barbara acknowledged herself as a Christian, which infuriated her father.

The short end of her story was that her father, being so angry at his daughter for not renouncing her Christian faith, took out his sword and beheaded her. However, as punishment, on his way home, he was struck by lightning and his body was consumed by flames. Barbara was buried by a Christian, Valentinus, and her tomb became the site of miracles.

St. Bárbara is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers. Her association with the lightning that killed her father has caused her to be invoked against lightning and fire; by association with explosions, she is also the patron of artillery and mining.

The Tower: is a reference to the Holy Trinity and this symbol is frequently associated with military engineering emblems.

The Cannon: a modern symbol referenced to her role as patron of artillerymen.

The Peacock Feather: a traditional Christian symbol of immortality due to the belief that peacock flesh does not decay. The peacock feather is frequently associated with St. Barbara in reference to her home city of Heliopolis.

The Crown: an early Christian symbol of immortality and martyrdom, in reference to the crown of thorns worn by Jesus Christ during his crucifixion.

The Chalice: symbol of the Sacrament, which is often associated with St. Barbara because of her final wish for the grace of Sacrament. St. Barbara is the only female saint to be depicted with the communion chalice and wafer.

Photo of the painting taken at: The Convent of the Capuchin Friars in Monterosso al Mare, Italy. (work cited from various internet research.)



Upcoming Special Events & Schedule 2023-2024

Mondays with the Sisters of the Missionary of Charity: 4pm-5pm Street Rosary and 5pm-6pm Adoration at St. Therese Church. All are welcome.

Good Shepherd Catechism for children ages 3 to 7 years on Sundays at 10:30am at St. Therese.

Christmas Toy Drive for Children for St. James Food Pantry— Now until Dec. 18th

Dec. 10th Celebrating the Feast of St. Barbara at the 9:30am Family Mass followed by Breakfast with Santa 11:30am Indonesian Mass at St. Barbara

Dec. 12th 8am Mass with School Students at St. Barbara followed by Reconciliation
3pm Evangelization Outreach---Prayer at SSB
Annual Second Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious at all Masses

Dec. 13th St. Therese School Christmas Concert at 6pm at St. Barbara Church

Dec. 16th 3pm---5pm Live-Nativity & 5pm Simbangabi Mass followed by Reception at St. Barbara

Dec. 17th 9am---10:15am Religious Education Students Reconciliation

10:30am Family Mass at St. Therese

12:30pm Mandarin Mass followed by Christmas Carols
Christmas Decoration of the Churches

Dec. 23rd-24th Weekend Mass Schedule as Usual (5pm Vigil, 6am, 8am, 9:30am & 10:30am)

Christmas

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Mass with Pageant at 5pm at St. Therese
Christmas Carols at 11:30pm

Dec. 25th Christmas Mass at 12am (Midnight Mass) at St. Barbara Church

6:00am and 9:30am at St. Barbara Church

8:00am and 10:30am at St. Therese Church

Dec. 30th-31st Weekend Mass Schedule as Usual (5pm Vigil, 6am, 8am, 9:30am & 10:30am)

Dec. 31st New Year's Eve Mass at 5pm, followed by **BENEDICTION and Hotpot** at St. Therese

2024

January 1st New Year's Day Masses:

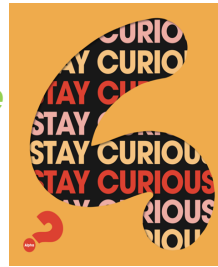
9:30am at St. Barbara Church

10:00am (English) at St. Therese Church



Wedding Banns

Rheditza Audryna & Nicholas Laurence
Yuwono



St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish invites you to join **ALPHA & GO DEEPER!**

ALPHA is a program where people from all walks of life can safely explore the big issues of life and faith and unpack the basics of Christian belief in honest conversations, addressing questions like "Who is Jesus?", "Why and how do I pray?", "How does God guide us?", and "What is the meaning and purpose of life?" in a judgement-free environment. Alpha helps bring people together while providing the chance to encounter Jesus.

GO DEEPER is the next level after Alpha for those who are interested in sharing the Bible more in-depth in a group discussion setting.

All programs are free

English Alpha

Meets every 3rd Saturday of the month at 6 pm at St. Mother Teresa's Hall at 2832 S Quinn Street, Dinner is included.

Please contact Roberto Garibay for more information: betocrew2004@yahoo.com

Cantonese Alpha

Meets every 1st Sunday of the month at 12 pm at the Community Room at St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church 218 W Alexander Street, Lunch is included.

Please contact John Lin for more information: homerunrty@yahoo.com

Mandarin Go Deeper

Meets every 4th Sunday of the month at 2 pm at the Community Room at St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church 218 W Alexander Street, Lunch is included.

Please contact Shao-Chen Lin for more information: schen22@hotmail.com

RESPECT LIFE

Quote – "Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother." — USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, *"10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting"*.

Our Prayer – May God help us prepare the way of the Lord by acting with tenderness and compassion, especially toward the most vulnerable among us;
We pray to the Lord;

"I know I am touching the living body of Christ in the broken bodies of the hungry and the suffering."

~ St. Mother Teresa

WEEKLY COLLECTION—DECEMBER 3, 2023

St. Barbara

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 1,835.00
Sunday Loose	\$ 383.00
Give Central	\$ 397.00
Total Collection	\$ 2,615.00

YTD Weekly

Actual	\$ 44,474.00	\$ 2,615.00
Goal	\$ 62,100.00	\$ 2,700.00
% of Goal	72%	97%
	\$	
	\$.00

St. Therese

\$ 777.00
\$ 888.00
\$ 465.00
\$ 2,130.00

YTD Weekly

\$ 49,951.00	\$ 2,130.00
\$ 62,100.00	\$ 2,700.00
80%	79%
\$	
\$.00

Attention: For those who make your offering in the form of a check, please make checks to St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish. Electronic giving through **GiveCentral.org** is the safe and secure way to make your weekly donations. Donate via credit card or electronic check (ACH). **Thank YOU, and God Bless you for your generosity!** **St. Therese Church :** www.givecentral.org/location/190 **St. Barbara Church:** www.givecentral.org/location/445



Please pray for those who are ill, homebound, hospitalized and in need of continued prayers.

Amalia Agins, Austin Agins, Bernadette Agins, Joyce Agins, Stephen Agins, Mary Aguirre, Angeleo Alonzo, Debbie Annoreno, Amy Averet, Kimberly Babe, Geraldine Baldwin, Judith Beaudry, Christine Bertucci, Joseph 'Joey' Bertucci, Lonnie & Theresa Bertucci-Falls, Jennifer Bond, Jeff Bowman, Andrea Brongiel, Mary Camarda, Anthony Capone Sr., Laverne Connolly, Joe Cruz, Patti Cuchetto, Paul DeGrazia, Henry Diaz De Leon, 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, Bernadette Glabicki, Ed Glos, Pat Grieco, Koen Guest, Jose P. Gutierrez, Kellar Harris, Jasmine Henson, Barbara Herr, Denise Holland, Gwen Holub, Morris Humphrey, Michaeline Hunter, Ted Hunter, Suzanne Ivester, Jennifer Janson, Maryann Januszewski, Chester Jendryczka, Dr. Joe, John Kaput, Rose Kisielowski, Anna Kolendo, Christine Krupa, Craig Labudda, Sunny Labudda, Baby Kinsley Paige Leschinsky, Kiera Litwin, Lenny Loretto, Richard Lyznicki, Nancy Mallory, John Mangan, Kayle Marth, Paul Martinez, Bill Marczuk, Zena Masi, Maria Mawgwi, Lil' Joe Michalak, Cindy Moore, Dr. Mike, Tony Mrgan, Cydney Muti, Stephanie Nicks, Deacon Jack O'Leary, Allison Pakula, Virginia Pakula, Eva Castillion Parcon, Josie Petkus, Michael Petruck, Theresa Pickens, Dolores Pienta, Mitchell Pienta, Ellen Pietrzak, Beverly Pirelli, Megan Pirelli, Barbara Rekar, Josephine Richardson, Sandra Rios, Joel Rivera, Jose Rodriguez, Jose C. Rodriguez, Mila Rolon, Dolly Roti, Ellen Ryan, Therese Ryndak, Maria Saludo, Kennedy Shepski, Anthony Sinople, Adeline Skokal, Raymond Smolinski, Gary Solverson, Sharon Solverson, Diane Spata, Joanne Stewart, Lauren Stroncsek, Rose Stroncsek, Shirley Synal, Robert Synal, Baby Zachary Synal, Emily Rose Thomas, Norbert Trojanowski, Bill Ufferman, Dolores Ufferman, Dave Ulczycki, Christine Vanderford, 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*** Ken Barber, Hu Bin, Jose Cardinal, Joseph Caruso, Roberta Cheong, Kim Chiu, Brian Cook, Sister Noel Devine, Jimmy Distasio, MAD & Rose Marie Donato, Mark Donato, Mia Rose Faciana, Kerry Fluder Setter, Gyna Gazzi, James Gemkow, Roseann Gurgone, Michael Howley, Frank Karagianes, Levi Kirkland, Angela Lasillo, George Lee, David Leung, Shiu Wah Leung, Felina Li, James Longo, III, Matthew Mantia, Phil Maraldi, Jerry McCarthy, Barbara McElroy, Xue Ying Mou, Lucy Moy, Mina Preysler Munoz, Cita Orendain, John Paleoik, Anne Pataka, Rose Perez, Gerard Phillips, Ali Powers, James Rak, Victor Roa, Phyllis Robinson, Joseph Rubin, Amelia Lorraine Schroeder, Karl Schroeder, David Sero, Richard Shew, Kay Siani, Nicholas Tobar, Richard Tobar, Anthony Valentino, Luz Whitehead, Luke Williamson, Bai Xue, Ching Shiu Yau, Lan Ying Yee, Ramona Zavala, Susan Zibricky, Sonny Furmanek, Juliana, 蔡宏恩, Kate Lynch, Josephine Laco, Dolores Becatti, Michele Young, Charles Corbett, Rick Deleon, Shirley Mendoza, Gary Leverage, Diane Rzasa, MingYing Liu, FanYa Zhang, Diana Cardinal, Karen Zovko, Darlene Phillips Smith, Ella Dover, Jian GuoXin, Louis Phillips, Jeffrey Fockler

*****Please review the above Prayer List to identify if there is a name that should be removed OR inform us if there is someone that needs to be added. Please call the rectory to make changes. Thank YOU!**

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Francis Li 本堂: 李東平神父
fli@stmothertereseparish.org

Resident: Fr. John Cuff
Jcuff@maryknoll.org

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

Music Director: Mr. Joe Delfin
jdelfin@sttheresechicago.org

Office Manager & Evangelization Lead:
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jzhang@stmothertereseparish.org

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jalukwinski@gmail.com

Office Assistant: Sr. Kathleen McNulty
kmcnulty@archchicago.org

Bulletin Editor: Mrs. Darlene Chan-Lowe
darlene.chan@sbcglobal.net

Ministry Coordinators

Youth Ministry: Mr. & Mrs. Nick & Ellen Andriacchi
Young Adult Ministry: Mr. & Mrs. Joseph & Naomi Lowe
Religious Education Program: Mrs. Christine Delfin
English OCIA: Mrs. Rose Lau
Cantonese OCIA: Mr. Perry Lau
Mandarin OCIA: HanFei Chan
Formation & Ministry of Care: Sr. Mary Caritas Wehrman
Chinese Apostolate: Ms. Jing Zhang
Parish Pastoral Council Chairs:
Mr. George Lee & Mrs. Sharon Wong & Mr. George Vanderford

St. Barbara Church

2859 South Throop Street, Chicago, Illinois 60608
Phone: (312) 842.7979 Fax: (312) 842.7978

St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church

聖德力華人天主教堂

218 West Alexander Street, Chicago, Illinois 60616

StTherese@ArchChicago.org

[Facebook.com/StThereseChinatown](https://www.facebook.com/StThereseChinatown)

[Twitter@StThereseChi](https://twitter.com/StThereseChi)

Phone: (312) 842.6777 Fax: (312) 567-1389

Office Hours: Mon., Tue., Wed., and Fri.: 9:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. . The office is closed on Thur., Sat., and Sun.

Website: <https://www.stmothertereseparish.org>

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMotherTeresaParish>

St. Therese Chinese Catholic School

聖德力華人天主教學校

A 2010 & 2018 National Blue Ribbon School

Principal: Ms. Lisa Deborah Oi
doi@sttheresechicago.org

Assistant Principal: Ms. Susan Leef
sleef@sttheresechicago.org

Director of Lifelong Faith Formation: Sr. Ria Angostura

247 W. 23rd Street, Chicago, IL 60616
Phone: (312) 326-2837
Fax: (312) 326-6068
sttheresechicago.org

St. Barbara Campus

2859 S. Throop Street, Chicago, IL 60608
Phone: (312) 326-6243
Fax: (312) 842-7960

Sacramental

Please contact parish office for any of the following:

Baptisms: Parents must be registered practicing parishioner and attend a baptismal preparation session before a baptism will be scheduled.

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.

Confessions: Saturdays, 4:15-4:45 p.m. at St. Barbara Church or by appointment.

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.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) 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.

Winson Tan Photography
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Emmanuel -God be with You by John Lin

During Advent, the church reminds us to prepare for the second coming of Christ. Do we have to wait until the end of time to encounter God?

The Bible described many dramatic situations during our encounter with God: Abraham heard the voice; Moses saw a burning bush; St Paul was stuck with lightning on his road to Damascus.

The bible also described some not so dramatic events. The disciples were living and travelling with Jesus like ordinary people. They sometimes did not even recognize Him as in the two disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35). They complained. Yet, Jesus was there listening and teaching us if we listen.

One common thread of all these encounters with God is the people got changed and drawn to God. Jesus said: "I am with you always, until the end of age" (Matthew 28:20). Can you think of the times you may have encountered God? Have you ever experienced this change or a story you can share?

For more on the road to Emmaus, please watch Bishop Barron's talk: <https://youtu.be/FIEuVNz64AQ>

厄瑪奴耳-天主與你同在 --連配擊

在將臨期，教會提醒我們為基督的第二次來臨做好準備。是否要等到今世的終結才能遇見天主嗎？

聖經描述了我們與天主相遇時的許多戲劇性的情景：亞巴郎聽到了聲音；梅瑟看見燃燒的灌；聖保羅在前往大馬士革的路上被閃電擊中。

聖經也描述了一些沒有那麼戲劇性的事件。門徒們像普通人一樣與耶穌一起生活和旅行。有時他們甚至沒有認出耶穌：例如在厄瑪烏路上的兩個門徒（路加福音24:13-35）。他們向耶穌傾訴。然而，耶穌就會在那裡聆聽並教導我們。

這些與天主相遇的情景有一個共同點是人被改變並被天主吸引。耶穌說：「我同你們天天在一起，直到今世的終結」（瑪竇福音28:20）。你可能曾經遇見過天主嗎？您是否經歷過這種變化或有什麼故事可以分享？

關於更多厄瑪烏之路請看夏主教講道



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Join us to pray!

**St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish
Accompanies You in Prayer**



Join us for an ecumenical prayer hosted by our evangelization team! Let's gather in gratitude and intercession for our community. All faiths are welcome. Bring your favorite prayer or intention. Afterward, enjoy refreshments and foster togetherness. See you there!

~ St. Mother Teresa Of Calcutta Parish (SMTc)

Any questions?
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O Come, O Come Emmanuel by Wendy Sin

This haunting hymn has been a staple of Advent seasons since the 1800s, and by now we can all probably sing the first verse by heart::

*O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom
captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.*

But what does this mean in 2023?

"Wars are always a defeat, always." (Pope Francis)

Headlining the news every day has been the war in Gaza, but the nation of Israel today is certainly not the same exiled Israel we sing about. The captive Israel in the hymn describes the situation in Exodus and serves today as a symbol of all who suffer in our midst - including people of both Israel and Palestine, along with those in Ukraine and other war-torn areas. These wars have taken the lives of too many, and the humanitarian crises they have created are unacceptable. We sing to cry out with those suffering under the captivity of a life that lacks basic human necessities, to mourn with those who have lost loved ones, and to wait with them for Emmanuel to deliver them from this exile.

"I was a stranger, and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35)

There is perhaps no lonelier exile than to flee your homeland, especially with young children. What kind of captivity would make trekking thousands of miles worth the risk of assault or even death? What kind of captivity would make constant hatred and jealousy from your new neighbors a preferred option in life? The Holy Family fled into Egypt to keep the newborn Jesus safe - similar to the migrants who have fled to our cities today. Perhaps God is showing us our own "captive Israel" right now, and we are being called to be the Emmanuel we sing of.

In truth, each of us is struggling with something in our lives, so every one of us is also potentially the song's "Israel." Held prisoner by guilt, addiction, physical ailments, mental illness, or any other difficulties, we are all awaiting Emmanuel to set us free. And when the Son of God does appear and ransom us, then we will truly sing, "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O [fill in the blank]."

ADVENTURING INTO AN ADVENT DESERT

by Fr. Cuff

"A voice crying out in the desert, 'Prepare the way of the Lord'." Our first reaction must be that if anyone's in the desert crying out, that person's probably not going to be heard. Yet thousands did hear John the Baptist's call and left towns and cities to go out to the desert to be baptized in the Jordan as they acknowledged their sins.

When speaking of the desert, we tend to regard it as a forbidding wasteland or wilderness. Yet, so often God chooses to reveal himself, not in palaces of kings, but rather in desolate and god-forsaken places. In the Bible, a desert is often seen as a place of being alone with God, and we too are all called to go into a desert during Advent. Three steps necessary to transform one from luke-warmness to enthusiasm in the faith can be seen from John's own experience. They are: (a) John went into the desert, (b) the word of God came to him, and (c) he left the desert and went about proclaiming the faith. During Advent we too need to pass through these three stages:

Stage one: We go into the desert when we take time off from our usual job or routine to be with God in prayer and in reading the Word of God. The desert is the place where we encounter God. But we must take the first step to go into the desert, to reach out to God, to look for God so He can find us.

Stage two: The Word of God comes to us. Once we open our hearts to God in the desert, God himself comes to us. A saint once said that when we take one step to God, God takes two steps to us. When this happens, we find we want to spend more time alone with God in prayer, in meditation, in Bible reading.

Stage three: Lastly, like John, we go out to proclaim our Faith. Having personally experienced the Lord, we want to share this experience with others so they too will encounter God personally. People look at us and see the joy, peace, and serenity that radiates from us and they want to be like us. We can help them by showing them the pathway to the desert, where they, in their turn, will encounter God personally.

In conclusion, Advent is a time of repentance and joy, and one of the best ways to repent and to find joy is to make a good Advent confession. Think of all those people who flocked to the desert to confess their sins hoping for forgiveness. But John was not a priest. They could only hope they were forgiven. How eagerly they would go to confession if they could. How joyful they would be if they knew that the priest's words of absolution could wash away their sins for good, so they could be reconciled with God. I hope all of us will have a chance to make a good confession this Advent.



CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE FOR CHILDREN for St. James Food Pantry (now until December 18th)

As we share our faith and open our hearts to the needy during this season of giving, we would like to help those children receive a toy for Christmas. If you are able, please drop a new toy or game of your choice in the box at the church entrance by December 18th. Toys will be distributed by the St James Food Pantry. Once again thank you for living the charity of Christ.

~ Led by Parish Evangelization Team