



# 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 17, 2023**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

## O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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]."

~by Wendy Sin



## 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. 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  
+ Joseph Frasco by Janet Ropke  
+ Members of the Bertucci & Ropke Families  
by Janet Ropke  
+ Ronald Ropke, Jr. by Janet Ropke  
+ Dorothy Kawalerski by David & Ruth  
Czarnik

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

#### **Tuesday, Dec. 19th | Late Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. + Marie Dephillips by A. Briglio  
Birthday Blessing: Michelle Pienta by Bette  
Pienta

#### **Thursday, Dec. 21st | Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church**

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

#### **Saturday, Dec. 23rd | Saint John of Kanty, Priest**

8:00 a.m. All Parishioners  
+ Virginia Trejo Rappold by Lupe Arellano

#### **Saturday, Dec. 23rd Vigil | 4th Sunday of Advent**

5:00 p.m. Blessings for Benefactors & Parishioners

#### **Sunday, Dec. 24th | 4th 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  
+ Joseph Frasco by Janet Ropke  
+ Members of the Bertucci & Ropke Families  
by Janet Ropke  
+ Ronald Ropke, Sr. by Janet Ropke

9:30 a.m. + Mary Diaz De Leon by Family  
+ Teresita Holcomb by King Family  
+ Dorothy Kawalerski by Dan Powers  
+ Charlene Szczepanski by Barbara Hudren

### St. Therese Worship Site

#### **Sunday, Dec. 17th | Third Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. 30th Birthday Blessing for Deanna by Mom  
Health Blessing for Chris Maynard by Monica  
& Vincent  
+ Rosa & Salvatore Geraci by Family  
+ Rosa & Salvatore Crisanti by Family  
+ Walter Marko by Chris Wong

10:30 a.m. Health Blessings for Jian Guoxin by Jean Wu  
Health Blessings for Kartika Kusnoto & Kelly  
Lovewell by Katharina  
+ Marilyn Leung by Nicole, Nori & Ishan  
+ June Moy by Ricky Yong  
+ Ben & Mabel Chan by Patti Lee  
+ Sue Chan by Darlene & Chris Lowe

#### **12:30 p.m. MANDARIN MASS**

#### **Monday, Dec. 18th | Late Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. Thanksgiving & Health Blessing by A. Briglio  
+ Joseph Nawracaj by Stan Nawracaj & Family  
+ Birthday Remembrance: James J. Lelidsh  
by Bette Pienta

#### **Wednesday, Dec. 20th | Late Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. + Dominic Barbaro by Barbaro Family

#### **Friday, Dec. 22nd | Late Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. + John & Helen Bradlo by Daughter

### **LITURGICAL MINISTERS:**

#### **St. Barbara**

##### **Saturday, Dec. 23rd:**

**5p.m. Lectors:** M. Tse, J. Chau

**Eucharistic Minister:** C. Sokolowski

##### **Sunday, Dec. 24th:**

**6a.m. Lector:** J. Bertucci

**Eucharistic Minister:** J. Balasa

**9:30 a.m. Lectors:** L. Szczepanski, W. Podrazik

**Eucharistic Minister:** J. Lukwinski

**12:00 a.m. Midnight:** Lector: W. Podrazik

##### **Monday, Dec. 25th:**

**Lectors:** 6am—J. Bertucci:

9:30am— Sr. K. McNulty, P. Saletta

#### **St. Therese**

##### **Sunday, Dec. 24th:**

**8:00a.m. Greeters:** N. Lowe, J. Lowe

**Lectors:** N. Gonzalez

**St. Michael Ministry:** Chris

**10:30a.m. Greeters:** C. Lee, J. Yee, D. Lowe

**Lectors:** Jade, Darlene

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Wing (Altar) Jade (Choir)

**St. Michael Ministry:** Pat

**5:00p.m. TBA**

**Monday, Dec. 25th: Lectors:** 10:30a.m. Jade, JJ

"The Lord lift up his face to you and  
grant you peace." —Numbers 6:26



## THANKS

Thanks to all who donated to our “Gloves & Hygiene Items Drive.” Special thanks to all members of the **Evangelization team** for taking the lead!

Thanks to **all parishioners and school parents** for their hard work on last Sunday’s celebration of St. Barbara and Breakfast with Santa. It was wonderful to see so many of our children involved and all participants had a fun time.



Thanks to our **Evangelization team** for their outreach to Senior Suites of Bridgeport last Tuesday. They had a wonderful prayer session and shared Christmas gift-giving of socks and slippers to the seniors! Everyone had a wonderful time and really felt the Christmas joy!



## How Much Do You Know about the Eucharist? Week 3 ---The Liturgy of the Eucharist



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 Liturgy of the Word. Today we focus on the Liturgy of the Eucharist. One of the symbols for



Fr. Francis Li  
PASTOR

Eucharist is the image of a banquet, in which food is an indispensable ingredient. **Food, who doesn’t like good food? How many times do you have to eat every day?** Jesus left us his Body and Blood as our spiritual food so that our hearts might be known to God.

**The Altar-table** is the focal point of the Eucharistic Liturgy.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist is made up of three main parts: **the Preparation of the Gifts, the Eucharistic Prayer and the Communion Rite.**

**The Purpose of the Preparation of Gifts** is to prepare the altar, the gifts, and the community for the offering to come. It consists of preparation of the altar, presentation of the gifts, offertory song, and prayers at the presentation of the gifts, mixing of water and wine, washing of hands, prayer over the offerings and its invitation.

The high point in this part is the offering of the bread and wine and other gifts. The bread and wine, along with collection and other gifts are brought forward by the faithful and presented to the Presider. It is a symbolic expression of the gathered assembly’s participation in the Eucharist and in the social mission of the Church.

**The Eucharistic Prayer** is a single liturgical act, consisting of several parts: an introductory dialogue, preface, the *Sanctus*, the calling down of the Holy Spirit (*epiclesis*), the institution narrative, the memorial acclamation, the anamnesis, the offering, the intercessions, and the doxology with its Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer is “the center and summit of the entire celebration.” It is a summary of what it means for the church to celebrate the Eucharist. The high point in this part is the consecration and the Eucharistic prayer afterwards.

The calling down of the Holy Spirit, by the words of consecration, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. The substance is changed, but the appearance is the same. Imagine a bowl of water, after you mix some white sugar in, the substance of the water is changed, but its appearance is the same. It shows the power of the word spoken by Christ through the priest.

The Eucharistic prayers are intended to make the mystery of Christ’s death and resurrection a present reality. There are four options in the Sacramentary for the presider to choose. We also have Eucharistic Prayers for reconciliation and Children’s mass.

**The Communion Rite** consists of several elements: the Lord’s prayer, the sign of peace, the breaking of the bread, the *Agnus Dei* chant, the reception of holy communion, communion song, purification of the vessels, silent prayer, and prayer after communion.

The high point of the Communion Rite is the reception of Holy Communion. As spiritual food, only those of the faithful who are properly disposed can receive Communion.

“If Communion is given only under the species of bread, the Priest raises the host slightly and shows it to each, saying, The Body of Christ. The communicant replies, Amen, and receives the Sacrament either on the tongue or, where this is allowed, in the hand, the choice lying with the communicant. As soon as the communicant receives the host, he or she consumes the whole of it.”

**A gesture of reverence (head bow) is made before receiving the Body of Christ.**

**Eucharist is our spiritual food, a thanksgiving meal and a sacrificial meal! What a meaningful meal we have!** I hope that you know each part of this unique and indispensable ritual we have as Catholics.

Next weekend, we will focus on the Concluding Rite.

Peace ~ Fr. Francis



## Beyond the Envelope Series

### Week 3: To Give is to Receive (Tax Benefits)

Last week we went over the benefits of donating through GiveCentral; this week let's talk about six other types of giving that come with different tax benefits.

1. Donate stock or mutual fund holdings – you will pay no capital gains tax and the parish will receive the full value of the donation.
  - With Long-Term Capital Gains or Investments held for more than 1 year, you can claim a full-value deduction in your Itemized Deductions.
  - With Short-Term Capital Gains or Investments held for less than 1 year, your deduction is limited to the cost basis of the stock or mutual fund in your Itemized Deductions.
2. Donate appreciated real estate held for more than one year:
  - For property with no mortgage remaining, pay no capital gains tax and claim the full value in your Itemized deductions.
  - For a mortgaged property, the extent of tax benefit will depend on the amount of the mortgage remaining.
3. Establish a Donor-Advised Fund:
  - Easily and quickly set up a charitable investment account for the sole purpose of supporting charitable organizations.
  - Qualify for immediate tax deductions through contributions of cash, stock, or mutual funds. Grow the invested funds tax-free.
  - Recommend ongoing grants to any IRS-qualified charities.
  - Name a successor to continue gifting to charitable organizations after you are born to eternal life.
4. Make Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) from a traditional IRA account:
  - Donor must be aged 70.5 years or older.
  - Payment from a traditional IRA goes to the parish directly.
  - Use these donations to lower your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).
  - These distributions count towards the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) if the donor is 72 or older.
5. Name the parish in your life insurance policy:
  - Donate a new or existing life insurance policy by transferring ownership.
  - Donate any dividends and receive tax deductions.
6. Plan for Gifts and Bequests – bequests, gift annuities, charitable trusts, and other planned gifts make a lasting impact after you are born to eternal life.

If you are interested in pursuing or learning more about how to implement these ways of giving, please visit the following Archdiocese website and reach out to their offices for more detailed information:

<https://giving.archchicago.org/ways-to-give/how-to-give#accordion-example-1>

The information listed above is not intended to be all inclusive or exhaustive. Please be sure to consult your tax advisor and financial institutions for your particular situation to implement any of these gifting options.

And tune in next week for some free ways to support the parish. Thank you for your continued support of SMTCP!

## SCHOOL NEWS

What a great community we have! All the elves came together for a successful Breakfast with Santa sponsored by the SFA. Thank you to our Alderwoman, Nicole Lee for volunteering her time and truly setting an example of helping out our community. A special heart felt thanks to our parents, without them, this event would not have been a success!



**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.

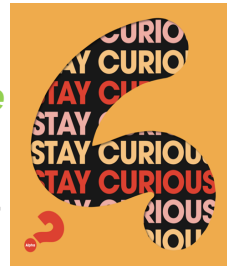
**2023 English Calendar** is available at the Church entrance tables. Please pick up as many copies as you want and feel free to share it with neighbors and friends.

***“I prefer you to make mistakes in kindness than work miracles in unkindness.”***

***~ St. Mother Teresa***



## Upcoming Special Events & Schedule 2023-2024



## 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 con-

versations, 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 judgment-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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:schen22@hotmail.com)**



## **HOLY NAME NEWS**

The next Holy Name meeting is January 12, 2024 -yes the New Year is here. Come and join us, all men 18 and older are welcome.

We meet at 7pm at the St. Barbara mobile unit in the north parking lot for a great meal and social gathering.

Our Split the Pot Winners for December are:

1<sup>st</sup> Cielle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Spaargaren, 3<sup>rd</sup> Chris Nelson, 100 Club winners are: 1<sup>st</sup> George Vanderford, Sr., 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Spaargaren, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sinbad, 4<sup>th</sup> George Vanderford, Sr., 5<sup>th</sup> Lili Garibay. Tickets for both games and the Queen of Hearts as well are available from Holy Name members and in the back of church at the St. Barbara site. Thank you all for your support.



## **Wedding Banns**

Rhedintza Audryna & Nicholas Laurence  
Yuwono

**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. 17<sup>th</sup>** 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. 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>** Weekend Mass Schedule as Usual (5pm Vigil, 6am, 8am, 9:30am & 10:30am)

## **Christmas**

**Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Eve Mass with Pageant at 5pm at St. Therese

Christmas Carols at 11:30pm

**Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> 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. 30<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>** Weekend Mass Schedule as Usual (5pm Vigil, 6am, 8am, 9:30am & 10:30am)

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

## **2024**

**January 1<sup>st</sup> New Year's Day Masses:**

**9:30am at St. Barbara Church**

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

## **RESPECT LIFE**

**St. Josephine Bakhita** – Born in Sudan in 1869 and enslaved as a child, Josephine Bakhita was sold to an Italian diplomat and taken to Italy. She was later brought to freedom through the help of the Canossian Daughters of Charity. In October 2000, she was canonized by Pope John Paul II, who noted that "in St. Josephine Bakhita we find a shining advocate of genuine emancipation. The history of her life inspires not passive acceptance but the firm resolve to work effectively to free girls and women from oppression and violence, and to return them to their dignity in the full exercise of their rights." "O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free." — USCCB, "Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita."

**Our Prayer** – For all victims of human trafficking: May they find hope and healing in the Lord who proclaims liberty to captives and release to prisoners; *We pray to the Lord:*

## WEEKLY COLLECTION—DECEMBER 10, 2023

### St. Barbara

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 1,027.00
Sunday Loose	\$ 334.00
Give Central	\$ 347.00
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>\$ 1,708.00</b>

#### YTD      Weekly

Actual	\$ 46,182.00	\$ 1,708.00
Goal	\$ 64,800.00	\$ 2,700.00
% of Goal	71%	63%
	\$	
	\$	.00

### St. Therese

\$ 1,324.00
\$ 274.00
\$ 377.00
<b>\$ 1,975.00</b>

#### YTD      Weekly

\$ 51,926.00	\$ 1,975.00
\$ 64,800.00	\$ 2,700.00
80%	73%
\$	
\$	.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](http://www.givecentral.org/location/190) **St. Barbara Church:** [www.givecentral.org/location/445](http://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@stmotherteresaparish.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:**  
Ms. Jing Zhang  
jzhang@stmotherteresaparish.org

**Office Assistant & Sacristan:**  
Ms. Judy Lukwinski  
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**

**Twitter@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.stmotherteresaparish.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](http://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.

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## ONE WHOM YOU DO NOT KNOW by Fr. Cuff

A certain monastery was going through a crisis. Some monks left, no new candidates were joining them, and people were no longer coming for prayer and consultation as they used to. The few monks that remained were becoming old and depressed and bitter in their relationships with one another. The abbot heard about a holy man, a hermit living alone in the woods, and went to consult him. He told the hermit how the monastery had dwindled and diminished and now was just a shadow of what it used to be. Only seven old monks remained. The hermit told the abbot that he had a secret for him: he said that one of the monks living in his monastery was actually the Messiah, but living in such a way that no one could recognize him.

With this revelation the astonished abbot returned to the monastery. He called a meeting and recounted what the holy hermit told him. The aging monks looked at one another in disbelief, trying to discern who among them could be the Christ. Could it be Brother Mark, who prays all the time? But he's got this holier-than-thou attitude toward others. Is it Brother Joseph, who's always ready to help? But he always overeats and cannot fast. No, it couldn't be him. The abbot then reminded them that the Messiah may have adopted some bad habits as a way of camouflaging his real identity. This only made them more confused and unable to figure out who was the Christ among them. By the end of the meeting, what each of the monks knew for sure was that any of them excepting himself could be the Christ. So from that day onward, the monks began to treat one another with greater respect and humility, knowing that the person they were speaking to could be the very Christ. They began to show more love for one another, their common life became more brotherly, and their common prayer more fervent. People outside began to take notice of the new spirit in the monastery and began coming back for retreats and spiritual direction. Word began to spread, and before you knew it, vocations started showing up and the monastery began to grow again in number as the monks grew in zeal and holiness. All this because a man of God drew their attention to the truth that Christ was living in their midst as one of them.

In today's Gospel John announces the same powerful message: **"Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal."** No one would know where he came from, humanly speaking, because he came from God. So when finally he came born of a woman like every other person, they didn't recognize them. He was too ordinary, too unimpressive. After 2000 years, are we now better able to recognize Christ in the persons of ordinary men and women in our midst, together with their unimpressive attitudes, habits and appearances?



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~ Led by Parish Evangelization Team