



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

October 29, 2023
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY
TIME

Memorial Mass



Praying for those who have died in the Lord has always been an important part of the Church's tradition. The month of November and particularly the celebration of the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls call us as believers to remember our own mortality and to pray especially for those whom God has already called to eternal life.

This year, our parish will again celebrate a **Memorial Mass** at each of its Worship Sites for our Faithful Departed. Because you have experienced the death of a loved one during last year, we would like to extend a special invitation to you and your family to participate in this liturgy.

Please feel free to invite friends too.

On Sunday, November 5th at the 9:30am mass at St. Barbara Church, and the following Sunday, November 12th at the 10:30am mass at St. Therese Church, your departed loved ones will be remembered. During the Mass and at the end of the regular Prayer of the Faithful, the names of the deceased for the last year will be called and a member of the family will be invited to light a candle for her/him. The following are deceased parishioners between October 1, 2022 & October 1, 2023. Please keep them in your prayers.

Mary Lockard
Barbara Metzinger
Lucy Wong
Lynette Heidmann
Rebecca Casa
Tom Stepinski
Bo Chung Yau
Raymond Polakowski
Dixon Chin

Marilyn Leung
Magno Vilencia, Jr.
Diana Zepeda
Ricardo Rosales Urbina
Ken Stempinski
Loretto Barry
Chusiu Moy
Dorothy S. Kawalerski
Therese Ryudak

James Patrick Flannery, Jr.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace, Amen!
May their soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

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, Oct. 28th Vigil | 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. + Jim Kroner, Sr. by SB Five O'Clock Lectors
+ Dorothy Kawalerski by Bernie & Pas Sandacz

Sunday, Oct. 29th | 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:00 a.m. + Thomas E. Glaser by Mark & Darlene Freeman

9:30 a.m. + Mary Diaz DeLeon by Family
+ Teresita Holcomb by King Family
+ Dorothy Kawalerski by Judy Lukwinski
+ Wally Gusich by St. Barbara Senior Club

Tuesday, Oct. 31st | Weekday

8:00 a.m. + Ed Glabicki by wife

Wednesday, Nov. 1st | All Saints

7:00 p.m. Blessings for Benefactors & Parishioners

Thursday, Nov. 2nd All Souls

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

Saturday, Nov. 4th | Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Mother's Day Remembrance

Saturday, Nov. 4th Vigil | 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. + Anniversary Joseph S. Lotta Sr by John & Susan Adamaitis
+ Gertrude Mierzwinsky by Paula Schipiour
+ Ronald Devito by Rita Macmell

Sunday, Nov. 5th | 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:00 a.m. + James "MJ" Bertucci by Jim & Christina Bertucci
+ Joseph & Lucille Biblanski by Jim & Christina Bertucci

9:30 a.m. + Furmanek Family by Sonny
+ Teresita Holcomb by King Family
+ Rizzo Family by Sonny
+ Lia Bao Gui by Izabel Sheh
+ Kelly Hopp by Cliff and Arlene Whitehouse

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

St. Barbara

7:00 p.m., Nov. 1st All Saints: M. Tse, J. Chau

Eucharistic Minister: C. Sokolowski

Saturday, Nov. 4th:

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

Eucharistic Minister: A. Skokal

Sunday, Nov. 5th:

6a.m. Lector: J. Bertucci

Eucharistic Minister: J. Balasa

9:30 a.m. Lectors: Sr. K. McNulty, W. Podrazik

Eucharistic Minister: A. Alonzo

St. Therese Worship Site

Sunday, Oct. 29th | 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Health Blessings for Gene Lee by Teresa Lee & Family
+ Chusiu Moy by Teresa Lee & Margaret Moy
+ Genevieve & Clement Campana by Family Friend

10:30 a.m. Health Blessings for Jian Guoxin by Jean Wu
Thanksgiving by A. Briglio
Thanksgiving by Rose Lee
+ Marilyn Leung by Lonnie & Phil Lee

Monday, Oct. 30th | Weekday

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

Wednesday, Nov. 1st | All Saints

8:00 a.m. + All Deceased Members of the Zito & D'Amico Families by Joe & Rena

Thursday, Nov. 2nd | All Souls

7:00 p.m. + All Deceased Members of the Masangcay Family by Elizabeth Masangcay
+ All Deceased Members of the Hill Family by Family
+ Mary Moy by Darlene & Chris
+ All Deceased Members of the Briglio Family by A. Briglio
+ Adan Barajas by Martha, Lily, Roberto, Roberto Jr. & Family
+ Alfredo Barajas by Martha, Lily, Roberto, Roberto Jr. & Family
+ Fortino Garibay by Martha, Lily, Roberto, Roberto Jr. & Family

Friday, Nov. 3rd | Saint Martin de Porres, Religious

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

St. Therese

Sunday, Nov. 5th:

8:00a.m Greeters: D. Barshop, W. Barshop

Lectors: B. Fung, J. Fung

St. Michael Ministry: Chris

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

Lectors: Cantonese Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Jean (Altar) (Choir)

St. Michael Ministry: Tim

St. Barbara Church HVAC Donors



PLEASE...

verify the spelling of your name and donation amount, and if there are any mistakes, please call St. Barbara Rectory (312)842-7979 or drop a note in the rectory mailbox titled "HVAC DONOR LIST" by Nov. 13th. We would like to get the donor plaque made asap. THANK YOU!

PLATINUM DONORS gift over \$3,000

Lily & Richard May
Thursday Bingo
Tom & Carol Spalla
Barbara Rekar
Kenneth Ricci & Eva Mrgan
Anonymous
Dorothy M. Jalowiec
In Memory of Irene Zima
Altar & Rosary Society
St. Therese Chinese Catholic School

GOLD DONORS gift \$1,000 - \$2,999

Bernard P. Krygowski
Margaret Wong
Francis & Margaret Harmon
Adeline Skokal
M. & P. Januszewski
Christopher Lau
Edward Jung
Hong Moy Foundation
Katharina & Budi Kusnoto

SILVER DONORS gift \$300 - \$999

Laurence & Therese Wong
Fr. John Cuff
Mr. & Mrs. Yang
Catherine Chan
Larry Pusateri
Edward Payton
Theresa Latham
Diane Rzasa & Marilyn Rzasa in Memory
of our Parents Ann and John Rzasa
Chester Jendryczka
Fr. Frances Li
Chris & Frances Lee
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(continued)



BRONZE DONORS gift under \$300

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Laura Chu
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Renee & George Fong
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Gemma Wong
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Anfei Hsieh
Rose Lee
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Mary Ann Nudo
Lucy Moy
Guadalupe & John Arellano
Anonymous
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Elizabeth Nardi
Elizabeth Pienta
Henry DeLeon & Laura Cruz
Jennifer Sin & Jacob Mellor
Le Roy & Mary Szczepanski
Ellen Kroner & Nick Andriacchi
Matthew & Judy Dalcamo
William & Barbara Webb
Bernadette Glabicki & Laura Lyons
Gerard & Darlene Chan
Christine Krupa
Gilberto & Araceli Perez
Anonymous
John F. Allan
Ronald J Kash
Evelyn Zaleski
Pam & Dan Spalla
Gina Ciaccia
Mr. & Mrs. Jake Yan
Walter Podrazik
Teresa Lee
Chris & Frances Lee
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kowalsky
Helen Distasio
Marilyn Leung
Jennifer Chan

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Eugenia Kryzyzanski
Jolenna Chan
BiJiang Lin
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Danel & Xiao Mai Rak
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Rose LaVelle
Marci & Matt Rodriguez
Marilyn Lee
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Anonymous
Paul & Roseann Mostacchio
Mary Kay McCann
Douglas Huey
Rose Bonomo
Gary Leverage
Jean & Charley Yu
Johnny Bertucci
Rosalind Toy
HsinLei Wang
Marta Herrera
Tochukwu Duru
John & Desirae Heil
Gail Yumanay



Special Schedule:

Mondays with the Sisters of the Missionary of Charity: 4pm-5pm

Street Rosary and 5pm-6pm Ado-

ration 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.

Oct. 28---Trunk & Treat Beginning with the 5pm Mass and Ending at 7pm at St. Barbara Site

Oct. 29---12 Noon Baptism... AND our next **Religious Education Students led mass** will be at the 10:30am mass.

Nov. 3-- First Friday Holy Hour & Benediction, STC following 8am Mass

Nov. 4-- Anointing of the Sick, SBC Chapel, 8am Mass

ALL SAINTS / ALL SOULS MASSES:

Our parish's masses for **All Saints Day (11/1)** are 7pm Vigil Mass at St. Barbara Church and 8am mass at St. Therese Church with our St. Therese Campus Students and Faculties. **All Souls Day (11/2)** masses are 7pm Vigil Mass at St. Therese Church and 8am mass at St. Barbara Church.

Annual 2023 Walkathon Report

A heartfelt THANK YOU once again to all our walkers, sponsors, matching donors, especially to Sharon Wong and her family who led the very successful and fun fundraiser!

2023 WALKATHON SUMMARY

Walkers	\$12,345.00
Organizations	\$6,140.00
Matching Donations	\$6,000.00
Total Funds Raised	\$24,485.00

Expenses	\$1,421.59
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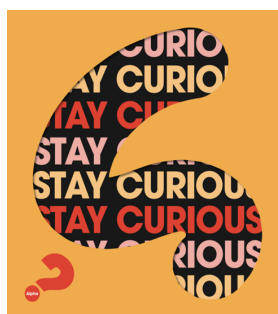
NET FUNDS RAISED \$23,063.41

Top 4 Fundraisers

Darlene Chan-Lowe	\$3,360
Jing Zhang	\$2,580
John & Sheila Lin	\$1,265
Sharon Wong & Tony Lin	\$740

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."

~ **St. Mother Teresa**



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 studying 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 St. Barbara Catholic Church 2859 S Throop 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



HOLY FAMILY NEWS

All men 18 and up welcome to come down and check out the Society on the 2nd Friday of every month at 7pm, St. Barbara site mobile unit. Next meeting is November 10th, 7 pm.

100 Club Winners for October are: 1st George Jr., 2nd Yolanda B., 3rd Graham Thomas, 4th B. Glabicki, 5th Bette Pienta. **Queen of Hearts** tickets can be obtained from any Holy Name member or contact Roberto 773-230-9285. *The Holy Name Society also donated \$1000 to the Parish to be used as needed.*

WEEKLY COLLECTION—OCTOBER 22, 2023

St. Barbara

Sunday Envelopes	\$ 1,326.00
Sunday Loose	\$ 274.00
Give Central	\$ 487.00
Total Collection	\$ 2,087.00

YTD Weekly

Actual	\$ 31,914.00	\$ 2,087.00
Goal	\$ 45,900.00	\$ 2,700.00
% of Goal	70%	77%

\$

2nd Collection	\$ 550.00
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St. Therese

\$ 655.00
\$ 673.00
\$ 855.00
\$ 2,183.00

YTD Weekly

\$ 36,106.00	\$ 2,183.00
\$ 45,900.00	\$ 2,700.00
79%	81%

\$

\$ 670.00

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 Aver-et, 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, Jimmy Distasio, Kate Lynch, Josephine Laco, Dolores Becatti, Michele Young, Charles Corbett, Rick Deleon, Shirley Mendoza, Gary Leverence, 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:
Ms. Jing Zhang
jzhang@stmothertereseparish.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](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:

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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
www.winsontan.com 312.927.2505

閻攝影室

Luxy opened in 2011, it is an All Inclusive wedding services as well as photography studio (Winson Tan Photography) in Chicago. With more than 10 years of experience designing weddings of all sizes, Luxy can help tailor a plan for your wedding decorations, offering detailed options to consider and compare if you're feeling undecided. Most importantly, our approach to design ensures that every detail contributes to your once-in-a-lifetime event's ambience in a meaningful way. People called us "Dream Maker", we aim to deliver everything you could possibly need to make your dream wedding come true.

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EVANGELIZING LORI: ALL SAINTS' DAY by Roberta Cheong



I attended Mass last year on All Saints' Day to honor the saints and because it is a holy day of obligation. My nursing home roommate Lori, who is Lutheran, asked me why I went to church on a Tuesday. That question launched an entire week of the most intense conversations about religion between us. She had copious questions, and I spent the whole week catechizing her on Original Sin, Baptism, Confession, salvation, Judgment, Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, the saints, the Last Rites, etc. She said, "I'm not a practicing Lutheran. I only know the basics." But even the concept of Original Sin was difficult for her to understand, and I needed to explain it many times in different ways until she got it.

On All Saints' Day, I taught Lori about how everyone in Heaven is a saint, but some of them are also canonized saints on Earth. I explained the formal process of how one becomes a canonized saint in the Catholic Church and the title they are given at each step on the way to sainthood, i.e. first "Venerable," then "Blessed," then "Saint." I explained how a major miracle needs to be attributed to the intercession of that candidate in order to advance to the next step toward sainthood (so two miracles total) and how the Catholic Church is very meticulous in determining whether something counts as a miracle.

The next day (All Souls' Day), I told Lori, "Today is one of the top 3 days when the largest number of souls leave Purgatory and go to Heaven. Another one of these days is on Christmas... It's like they 'graduate' today into Heaven." This was the first time she had ever learned about Purgatory, so she had a myriad of questions, and we talked until 3 am. Fr. Mike Schmitz once said, "The more seriously a person takes their faith, the more often they have questions." I taught Lori about what the purpose of Purgatory is, why a soul would go there, how a soul is able to leave Purgatory, and the importance of praying for the dead. She asked me, "So then, no one goes straight to Heaven after they die?" I answered, "No, some people do. Martyrs, for example, who died as a result of being persecuted for their faith in Jesus Christ do."

I taught her how the Last Rites are like 3 sacraments in one (Anointing of the Sick, Communion, and Confession) and what happens during Last Rites, which I personally received when I nearly died multiple times during my 10 years of kidney disease. Angrily, she asked me, "So my dad can receive his Last Rites in the hour before he dies and could go straight to Heaven, but my mom—who was a way better person than my dad—might have to suffer in Purgatory first?" I replied, "That just shows we can't earn our way into Heaven. It's based on God's mercy. Even a murderer can get into Heaven. There needs to be real repentance, though. We believe that God is just *and* merciful. I know you want justice for the way your father treated you, but instead of that, why not be more loving and desire mercy for your father? God would not put someone in Purgatory if He didn't think they needed to be there. Like when Jesus was crucified on the cross, there were two other people who were crucified with Him. One of them believed in Jesus in the last moment of his life and repented. Then Jesus said to him, 'Today you will be with me in Heaven' even though he had lived a life of sin. Whereas the other man didn't believe and repent."

I told Lori, "Purgatory is a gift from God. It's like a spiritual shower. The people who are in Purgatory want to be there." She exclaimed, "What?! Nobody *wants* to suffer!" The next day, I explained further and said, "Yesterday, I said that the people in Purgatory are glad that they are there and want to be there. I said that not because they have to suffer, but because the purification, perfection in holiness, and virtues they receive there FAR outweighs any of their sufferings. It's not even comparable. **The suffering we endure is so temporary, but the trade-off is so much greater.** They know that when they leave there, they get to go to Heaven, and they will be pure and perfect in holiness. Like, I feel like I'm going through Purgatory on Earth—throwing up every day and having dialysis—but I'm SO HAPPY, because through my physical sufferings, I am growing closer to God and becoming a better person. Think of how short life is compared to an eternity in Heaven. It's like a drop of water in the ocean."

After everything I taught her about Catholicism, the one thing she wrestled with the most was the concept of Purgatory, so I sent her 6 videos of Catholic priests explaining Purgatory, Confession, and suffering and illness much better than I could. To my surprise, she actually watched the videos, but remained offended by the ideas of Purgatory, Last Rites, and Confession after watching them. Ultimately, I said, "Even if you don't like the idea of it, Purgatory exists."

Open Gym

**Nov. 12th after
SBC Family Mass**

For adults and children

9:30 - 10:30 AM Mass
10:30 - 11:30 AM Open Gym
Potluck of morning snacks
Arts & crafts and board games

Mass will include a blessing for those celebrating their Catholic wedding anniversary that month!



Bring your own water bottle!
We will have free water-proof stickers to decorate and personalize your water bottle!



God Blesses Those Who Bless Others **CLOTHING & HYGIENE ITEMS DRIVE** **for St. James Food Pantry (Oct. 22-Nov. 26)**



At this time of Thanksgiving when we consider all the blessings we have received throughout the year, let us also take time to consider those in need. St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish will be conducting a clothing drive to benefit the St. James Food Pantry for the month of November. BUT surprisingly, they are not in need of food. The people they serve do need our help though. ***They need socks, gloves, and personal hygiene items.*** We are asking each family to donate these items as they are able. Please see the signs and collection boxes at the entrances of St. Barbara & St. Therese churches for further details. Thanking you in advance for your generosity!

~ Led by Parish Evangelization Team