

# ST. THERESA

# PARISH COMMUNITY

## ST. THERESA MISSION STATEMENT

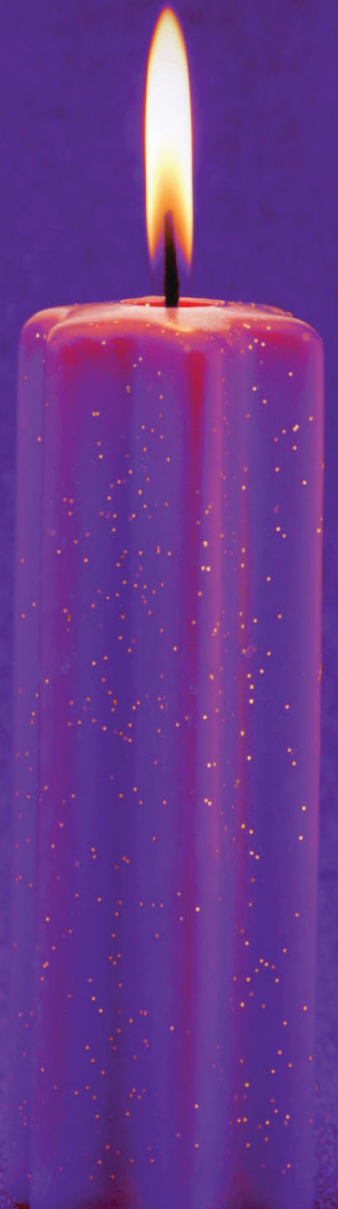
WE ARE A WELCOMING,  
ACTIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
UNITED BY OUR FAITH, OPEN TO TRANSFORMATION,  
GROWING SPIRITUALLY AND REACHING OUT  
TO LOVE AND TO SERVE OTHERS  
AS JESUS TAUGHT US.

DECEMBER 1, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY  
OF  
ADVENT

“You . . . must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect,  
the Son of Man will come.”

— Matthew 24:44



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30 MANDALAY ROAD - OAKLAND, CA 94618 - 510.547.2777



## NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 8

Sat. 5:00 pm † Edward Reinhardt  
 Sun. 9:00 am † Kam Malloy  
 11:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa

Mon. 8:30 am † Deceased Members of the Parish  
 Tues. 8:30 am Those who are Homeless  
 Wed. 8:30 am † Gabriel Decker  
 Thurs. 8:30 am † Jerome McCabe  
 Fri. 8:30 am Immigrants & Refugees

Sat. 5:00 pm † Carlo Pernecco  
 Sun. 9:00 am † Irene Crosetti  
 11:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa

*We want apologize. There was a problem with the Mass Intention calendar and the Tuesday intentions were lost. If you had scheduled an intention on a Tuesday please contact Melody in the office 510.547.2777, melody@sttheresaokland.org so we can place it back on the calendar.*

### Retirement Fund for Religious Collection, Dec. 7 & 8



Aging religious need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies - often for little pay. Their sacrifices leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

### Low Gluten Hosts



Prior to the start of the liturgy there will be a small container of the hosts next to the bread and wine on the table in the back of the church. Take a host from the container and place it in the glass bowl. At communion you will receive Eucharist from one of the ministers in the center aisle.



**Please remember in your prayers all those who are ill especially:** Matt Mercier, Irene Clark, Daniel Sullivan, Dave DeMonte, Sven Cooper Little, Nadine McMillan, Heidi Parmelee, Denise Bridges, Fredrika May, Kristine Berman, Helen Buty, Aiden Farinella, Liza Mitra, Guido M., Jim Testa, Kevin Stallone, Dolores Gomez, Alegria Hipolito, Betty Wharton, Patricia Green, Hazel Villata, Juanita Estrella, Diane Longfield, Leslie Fischer, Mike Reilly, Dorothy Donnelly, Pat Tynan, Olga Lamberti, Michael Bamrick, Matt White, Mark Dreier, Tom Sanford, Maria Gabriel Decker, Fr. Alex Snyder, Wendy Parmelee.

Immaculate Conception



### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

This year (2019), the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred from its usual date (December 8<sup>th</sup>, which falls on a Sunday) to the following day, Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Because it has been moved to Monday it is not a Holy Day of obligation this year.

Weekly Offering



**DUE TO AN EARLY PUBLISHING DATE, THE SUNDAY OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> WILL BE POSTED IN THE DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> BULLETIN.**

ParishSOFT | Giving

### Online Giving

Online Giving is available for anyone who prefers to donate through automatic draft for their Sunday Offering, Building Maintenance and Second Collections.

Go to: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/sttheresaokland> to sign up. Contact Cathy Brady with any questions. cathy\_b@sttheresaokland.org, 547.2777, ext. 26.

### BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES

December 1 bulletin was due by November 20 (Wednesday)  
 December 8 bulletin was due by November 29 (Friday)  
 December 15 bulletin is due by December 6 (Friday)  
 December 22 bulletin is due by December 11 (Wednesday)

Items must be received by 4:00 pm on the due date.  
 Email to cathy\_b@sttheresaokland.org.

### LIVING STEWARDSHIP

Drop something you usually do at this time of year but do not enjoy. Choose an Advent custom and make it part of your daily routine.



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### Question of the Week

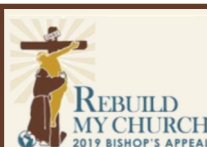
**Adult:** What will you do during Advent so that others can see that you have put on the light of Jesus Christ?

**Child:** What will you do during Advent so that others can see the light of Jesus in you?

Support St. Theresa Church

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By using [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choosing St. Theresa Catholic Church, location: Oakland, CA as your charity when you shop, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the parish.



### Bishop's Appeal 2019

St. Theresa Parish Goal - \$35,800

Percentage Achieved 75.9%

\$27,173 as of October 15, 2019

## A WORD FROM THE PASTOR:



A new year of Grace begins this weekend with the short but wonderful season we call Advent. Everyone I have spoken with recently already feels the push of the holidays now that Thanksgiving is behind us. Most years, we have eight to ten days between Thanksgiving and the First Sunday of Advent but this year only two.

With a new year of grace, we are continuing and starting things to help us celebrate these special days.

Next Sunday, we inaugurate our first **RISE AND SHINE MASS**. We invite and hope all children from our school and religious education programs will help facilitate a special Mass each month. It will connect us better to each other as parishioners and hopefully generate a moment of prayer that will rise our hearts even more to the Lord. Want to know more: **just come and see what happens next Sunday at the 9am Mass. All are welcome!**

The following week is the annual Men's Club pancake breakfast which will be held in the Event Center. It is the best deal in town and plenty of great food. Last year the men found a way to keep the line from getting too long. We may need an extra table or two, but that is part of the fun. Rumor has it that you can again get a picture with Santa.

Our annual October count (you are counted at every Mass in October) indicates attendance numbers are down at our parish and in most parishes. For the past few years, you have been asked to invite someone you know who has no attachment to a church to **COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS**. This year we ask you again to bring these invitations to those you know may not have a place to go. But if you also notice someone who has been here and is not around recently, please contact them also and invite them. If you bring any name and contact information to parish staff, we are happy to personally make a call and invite them to be with us.

Advent is the period of four Sundays and weeks before Christmas (or sometimes from the 1<sup>st</sup> December to Christmas Day!). Advent means 'Coming' in Latin. This is the coming of Jesus into the world. Christians use the four Sundays and weeks of Advent to prepare and remember the real meaning of Christmas.

There are three meanings of 'coming' that Christians describe in Advent. The first, and most thought of, happened about 2000 years ago when Jesus came into the world as a baby to live as a man and die for us. The second can happen now as Jesus wants to come into our lives now. And the third will happen in the future when Jesus comes back to the world as King and Judge, not a baby.

No one is really sure when Advent was first celebrated but it dates back to at least 567 when monks were ordered to fast during December leading up to Christmas.

Some people fast during Advent to help them concentrate on preparing to celebrate Jesus's coming. In many Orthodox and Eastern Catholic Churches, Advent lasts for 40 days and starts on November 15th and is also called the Nativity Fast. (Advent also starts on November 15th in Celtic Christianity.)

There are some Christmas Carols that are really Advent Carols! These include 'People Look East', 'Come, thou long expected Jesus', 'Lo! He comes, with clouds descending' and perhaps the most popular Advent song 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel!'

There are several ways that Advent is counted down but the most common is by a calendar or candle(s). The Advent Wreath appears in the church and in many homes.

One candle is lit on the first Sunday of Advent, two are lit on the second Sunday and so on. Each candle has a different meaning. Different churches have given them different meanings, but I was taught the following:

- *The first represents Isaiah and other prophets in the Bible that predicted the coming of Jesus.*
- *The second represents the whole Bible and how it predicts the coming of the Messiah.*
- *The third represents Mary, the mother of Jesus.*
- *The fourth represents John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, who told the people in Israel to get ready for Jesus' teaching.*

The middle or separate candle is lit on Christmas Day and represents Jesus, the light of the world. In Germany this fifth candle is known as the 'Heiligabend' and is lit on Christmas Eve.

The color purple is used to signify the season of Advent. On the third Sunday, representing Mary, the color is sometimes changing to rose or blue.

Happy Advent! In the midst of the preparations, let the season prepare for what the holidays are all about: Jesus in our midst.

## PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS



Please join us for our monthly *RISE & SHINE* Mass  
at 9am on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.  
This is a youth-friendly and youth-participatory Mass.



### COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

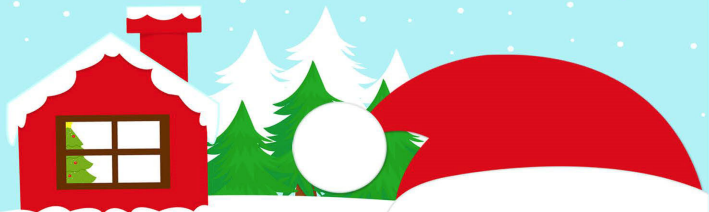
**Do you know people  
~ friends, family, neighbors ~**

who used to be a part of this community, and who for various reasons no longer  
worship with us?

Shall we extend a gracious and loving invitation to these brothers and sisters to  
come home for Christmas?

You can pick up a '*COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS*' card at the information desk  
and send them a personal invitation to our Christmas liturgies or share with us  
their name, and contact information. We will send them an invitation to come  
home for Christmas.

Drop off information at the Parish Office; or email to [melody@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:melody@sttheresaokland.org)



Join us for the annual:

### Men's Club Pancake Breakfast

December 15th  
10:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

St. Theresa Event Center

Visit with Santa and  
take holiday photos.



**\$9/adult**  
**\$5/child**

Use the link on the parish  
website to order tickets online.

### ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT



DECEMBER 3 ~ 7:00 PM ~ EVENT CENTER

St. Theresa Ladies – Please join us.

7:00 to 7:30 p.m. Check in, 7:30 to 8:00 Program,  
8:00 to 9:00 Coffee, Tea & Desserts

*Advent by Candlelight is a special evening event for  
the women of the parish to come together and  
celebrate the season of Advent.*

*In the spirit of Christmas giving, we invite guests to  
bring diapers (size 3-6), pull-ups (toddler size 3-6) and  
wipes to donate to the Children's Primary Care Clinic  
at Children's Hospital.*

**TO ATTEND THIS EVENT, YOUR RSVP IS  
REQUIRED BY DECEMBER 1, 2019.**

*RSVP in the church vestibule, or contact Shirley  
Fairbairn at [shirley\\_fairbairn@yahoo.com](mailto:shirley_fairbairn@yahoo.com) / 510-333-  
8598*

*Seating for the event is random, there are no assigned  
tables. Please keep in mind there are a limited number  
of seats.*

## Women in God's Spirit



**WINGS** is a faith enhancement group that encourages spiritual growth through prayer, Scripture study, life sharing and community. We gather on Wednesdays in Meeting Room 1 at 9:15am from October through May with hospitality, followed by the guest speaker and program until 11:15am. Our engaging speakers will uplift you and keep you informed. You'll experience a welcoming community as we support each other in our spiritual growth. Bring a friend! Women from local parishes and other denominations are welcome! Our theme for this year is "Walking with God". Join us on opening day, October 9th. Say "Yes" to WINGS!

The theme for the year is: *"Walking With God"*

**DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>**

**ANNE SYMENS-BUCHER**

FOUNDER, CANTICLE FARM

*Active Hope in the Season of Darkness*

## FAMILY ROSARY



Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe

5 pm Rosary in the Church

Dinner and Celebration to Follow

**All are invited to join us as we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe.**

Contact Patrick McGahan with any questions at [pjmcgahan@gmail.com](mailto:pjmcgahan@gmail.com)

## Infant/Child Baptism



If you are interested in having your child/ children baptized at St. Theresa Church, Baptism classes for parents and godparents are held once a month in the rectory from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. These classes are for adults only. Contact the parish office to register, [melody@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:melody@sttheresaokland.org) or 547.2777, ext. 20.

## CONFIRMATION & HSYM

*High Schoolers and Parents, please note the following dates and remember that all Sunday Sessions begin with 9am Mass:*

- ♦ **Sunday, Dec. 8 - Years I & II - 10am-12noon, Meeting Rooms**

### *Other parish community events:*

- Tuesday, Dec. 3 - Advent By Candlelight, 7-9pm, Event Center
- Saturday, Dec. 8 - RISE & SHINE Mass for all
- Sunday, Dec. 15 - Annual Men's Club Pancake Breakfast, Event Center

For more information, please contact:



Jenny Bruni  
HSYM Coordinator  
[jenny@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:jenny@sttheresaokland.org)  
(510) 547-2777 x 39



## ST. THERESA MUSIC MINISTRY JOIN A CHOIR TODAY!

The Adult Choir rehearses on Thursday at 7 pm.

The Children's Choir rehearses on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 4:00-4:30 pm in the church. We learn about the liturgy and the role of music in it, as well as about music.

All are welcome to attend!

Contact Rob at [rob@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:rob@sttheresaokland.org).

**explore**  
**life**  
**faith**  
**meaning**

The evening starts with a light dinner, followed by a presentation and small group discussion and sharing.

You're invited to  
**TRY ALPHA**  
Tuesdays, 6:30pm  
St. Theresa Catholic Church

Alpha  
Cathy Brady  
[cathy\\_b@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org)



# WEEKLY CALENDAR

	Start Time	Event	Location
November 30 Saturday	4:00 PM	Reconciliation	Church
	5:00 PM	Mass: Baptism, Kajus Didzbalis	Church
December 1 Sunday	9:00 AM	Mass	Church
	10:00 AM	FFF - Family Faith Formation	Mtg Rms
December 2 Monday	11:00 AM	Mass	Church
	8:30 AM	Mass	Church
	4:00 PM	CYO Practice	Event Center
December 3 Tuesday	6:30 PM	Boy Scout Meeting	Hall
	7:00 PM	Memory Bears	Hall
	8:30 AM	Mass	Church
December 4 Wednesday	9:00 AM	Legion of Mary	Hall
	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Advent by Candlelight</b>	<b>Event Center</b>
December 5 Thursday	7:30 AM	Cursillo Faith Sharing	PC Parlor
	8:30 AM	Mass	Church
	4:00 PM	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Church
	4:00 PM	CYO Practice	Event Center
December 6 Friday	7:00 PM	Centering Prayer	Vestibule
	7:30 AM	Men's Cursillo Faith Sharing	PC Parlor
	8:30 AM	Mass	Church
	4:00 PM	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Church
	4:00 PM	CYO Practice	Event Center
	5:00 PM	Bell Choir	Church
December 7 Saturday	6:30 PM	National Charities League Meeting	Hall
	7:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Offsite
	8:30 PM	Men's Basketball	Event Center
	<b>Parish Offices closed on Fridays</b>		
	8:00 AM	Women's Volleyball	Event Center
December 8 Sunday	8:30 AM	Mass	Church
	9:00 AM	First Friday Adoration	Church
	4:30 PM	First Friday Benediction	Church
	6:30 PM	STEP Game Night	Hall
December 9 Monday	8:00 AM	CYO Games	Event Center
	4:00 PM	Reconciliation	Church
	5:00 PM	Mass	Church
December 10 Tuesday	9:00 AM	Mass	Church
	10:00 AM	FFF - Family Faith Formation	School
	10:00 AM	HSYM/Confirmation	Mtg Rms
	11:00 AM	Mass	Church
	1:00 PM	CYO Games	Event Center
	5:00 PM	Family Rosary	Church
December 11 Wednesday	6:00 PM	MSYM/Middle School Youth Ministry	Hall



December 2 - 8

## Monday:

Is 4:2-6  
Ps 122  
Mt 8:5-11

## Tuesday

Is 11:1-10  
Ps 72  
Lk 10:21-24

## Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a  
Ps 23  
Mt 15:29-37

## Thursday:

Is 26:1-6  
Ps 118  
Mt 7:21, 24-27

## Friday

Is 29:17-24  
Ps 27  
Mt 9:27-31

## Saturday:

Is 30:19-21, 23-26  
Ps 147  
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

## Sunday:

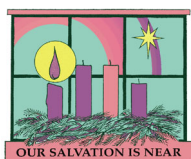
Is 11:1-10  
Ps 72  
Rom 15:4-9  
Mt 3:1-12



FOR YOUR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SPIRITUAL JOURNEY, PLEASE PICK UP A COPY OF THE ADVENT & CHRISTMAS REFLECTION BOOKLET IN THE VESTIBULE.

### Pictures of our beloved dead

Any pictures not removed from the table of remembrance are available for pickup at the information desk in the vestibule.



### LIVING GOD'S WORD

What will it mean for you to "walk in the light of the Lord" this Advent? Will it mean changing an aspect of your life that is darkened by sin, or noticing and alleviating some of the suffering in our world?

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# PARISH INFORMATION



## Mass Schedules:

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am  
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm  
Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:00 am  
*unless otherwise noted in bulletin*

## Reconciliation:

Saturdays 4:00-4:30 pm  
*or by appointment*

## Parish Center Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
*THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY*

Phone 510.547.2777 ~~~ Fax 510.653.3575

After Hours Medical Emergency & Emergency Line:  
510.610.7715

Parish Website: [www.sttheresaoakland.org](http://www.sttheresaoakland.org)

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

Parish Staff: 510.547.2777

Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 21  
*Pastor*

[rjmccann@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:rjmccann@sttheresaoakland.org)

Cathy Brady, ext. 26  
*Liturgy Director*

[cathy\\_b@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org)

Jenny Bruni, ext. 39  
*High School Youth Ministry Coordinator*  
[jenny@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:jenny@sttheresaoakland.org)

Rob Cakebread, ext. 11  
*Music Ministry Director*  
[rob@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:rob@sttheresaoakland.org)

Joyce Holden  
*Middle School Youth Ministry*  
[joyce@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:joyce@sttheresaoakland.org)

Melody Marr, ext. 20  
*Parish Administrator*  
[melody@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:melody@sttheresaoakland.org)

Keri Nims, ext. 24  
*Faith Formation Director*  
[keri@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:keri@sttheresaoakland.org)

**St Theresa School:**  
Judith KoneffKlatt, 510.547.3146  
*School Principal*  
[j\\_koneffklatt@sttheresaschool.org](mailto:j_koneffklatt@sttheresaschool.org)  
website: [www.sttheresaschool.org](http://www.sttheresaschool.org)

**Baptisms and Marriages**  
by appointment

## Confirmation (High School)

Sunday Sessions  
Year 1: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Year 2: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

## R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Contact  
Cathy Brady ~ [cathy\\_b@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org)

## Kinderchurch

Preschoolers and Kindergarteners  
9:00 am Sunday Mass

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

Grades 1-5, 9:00 am Mass

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month (September - May)

## Parish Organizations

**Pastoral Council:**  
Carrie Schaefer [caralee\\_schaefer@yahoo.com](mailto:caralee_schaefer@yahoo.com)

**Finance Council:**  
Carolyn Mahoney [carolyn.mahoney675@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.mahoney675@gmail.com)

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**  
Greg Govan [glgovan@comcast.net](mailto:glgovan@comcast.net)

**CYO (Catholic Youth Organization):**  
Clarence Robinson [sttheresaathletics@gmail.com](mailto:sttheresaathletics@gmail.com)

**St. Theresa Men's Club**  
PJ McGahan [pjmcgahan@gmail.com](mailto:pjmcgahan@gmail.com)

**Legion of Mary**  
Tom Wallace [tomw1313@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tomw1313@sbcglobal.net)

**WINGS**  
Laurie Porter [laurinporter@att.net](mailto:laurinporter@att.net)  
Sharon Chipman [sharonchipman@gmail.com](mailto:sharonchipman@gmail.com)

**Men's Faith Sharing**  
Jim Frei [jim@ottofrei.com](mailto:jim@ottofrei.com)

**Cursillo**  
Sharon Chipman [sharonchipman@gmail.com](mailto:sharonchipman@gmail.com)

**Kinderchurch**  
Shanon Ciston [s.ciston@gmail.com](mailto:s.ciston@gmail.com)



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A MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND