

ST. THERESA PARISH COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 10, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS SCHEDULE:

Weekday: 8:30 am (Mon.-Fri.)

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am

(live-streamed on our YouTube channel for the sick and homebound)

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday - Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

The office is closed on Monday and Friday

Phone: 510.547.2777

After Hours Medical Emergency Line: 510.610.7715

 Parish Website: www.sttheresaoakland.org

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

 https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrqXTsa_7qmNCIw

PARISH STAFF: 510.547.2777

Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 121 rjmccann@sttheresaoakland.org
Pastor

Rev. Abraham Addam, ext. 122
In Residence

Rev. Ngema W. Enow, ext. 128 ngemawil.enow@gmail.com
In Residence

Cathy Brady, ext. 126 cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org
Liturgy Director

Rob Cakebread, ext. 127 rob@sttheresaoakland.org
Music Ministry Director

Melody Marr, ext. 120 melody@sttheresaoakland.org
Parish Administrator

Keri Nims, ext. 124 keri@sttheresaoakland.org
Coordinator for Early Childhood Catechesis & RCIC

ST. THERESA SCHOOL
Alicia Ortegon, 510.547.3146 a_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org
St. Theresa School Principal
website: www.sttheresaschool.org

Baptisms and Marriages

by appointment (call parish office 510.547.2777)

To arrange a Funeral

call parish office 510.547.2777, ext. 120

Family Faith Formation (Grades TK-5) & R.C.I.C.

Keri Nims ~ keri@sttheresaoakland.org

Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

Keri Nims ~ keri@sttheresaoakland.org

High School Youth Ministry/Confirmation

R.C.I.A. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Cathy Brady ~ cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org

Parish Calendar: <https://sttheresaoakland.org/calendar>

Parish Organization Contacts

Pastoral Council:

Paulette Tuckner pmtuckner@comcast.net

Finance Council:

Carolyn Mahoney carolyn.mahoney675@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Greg Govan glgovan@comcast.net

CYO (Catholic Youth Organization):

Clarence Robinson sttheresaathletics@gmail.com

St. Theresa Men's Club

Chris Bruni mensclubsttheresa@gmail.com

Legion of Mary

Tom Wallace tomw1313@sbcglobal.net

WINGS

Geri Tong geritong1944@gmail.com

Social Justice Committee (SJC)

Lydia Deck ltdeck@me.com

Consolation Ministry

Cecile Cuttitta cecile.cuttitta@att.net

Men's Faith Sharing

Jim Frei jim@ottofrei.com

Cursillo

Geri Tong gt4palancaoakland@gmail.com

Kinderchurch

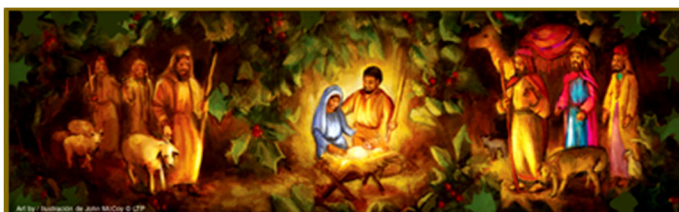
Shanon Ciston s.ciston@gmail.com

Additional information and events can be found in the Friday Flocknote available on our website: <https://sttheresaoakland.org/Bulletin/Flocknote>

30 MANDALAY ROAD -- OAKLAND, CA 94618 -- 510.547.2777



On Sunday, December 17th at the 9:00 am Mass the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered to all those who suffer from a serious, acute or chronic illness.



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

December 24

9:00 am Mass, 4th Sunday of Advent **

5:00 pm Children's Liturgy

9:00 pm Concert **

10:00 pm Mass **

December 25

10:00 am Mass

DECEMBER 30 & 31

5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass

9:00 am Sunday Mass **

JANUARY 1

9:00 am Mass **

** Service will be live streamed for the sick & homebound

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?

Send them a personal invitation

Email/text them

Give them a call

**INVITE THEM TO OUR ADVENT AND
CHRISTMAS LITURGIES**

**Or fill out the form on the parish website
and we will contact them:**

<https://sttheresaokland.org/pray/advent>



Our theme for the 2023/2024 year is:

"Walking the Journey of Faith"

DECEMBER 13TH

Christmas Holiday Gathering

WEEKLY READINGS: DECEMBER 11 - 17

Monday: Is 35:1-10 Ps 85 Lk 5:17-26	Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 Ps Jdt 13 Lk 1:26-38	Wednesday: Is 40:25-31 Ps 103 Mt 11:28-30	Thursday: Is 41:13-20 Ps 145 Mt 11:11-15	Friday: Is 48:17-19 Ps 1 Mt 11:16-19	Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80 Mt 17:9a, 10-13	Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 Ps Lk 1 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
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MASS INTENTIONS - DECEMBER 9 - 17

Sat. 5:00 pm ✦ Tina Bruno
 Sun. 9:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa

Mon. 8:30 am ✦ Joseph & Clementina Brignole
 Tues. 8:30 am ✦ Gabriel Cors
 Wed. 8:30 am ✦ Pat Tynan
 Thurs. 8:30 am ✦ Tom Donnelly
 Fri. 8:30 am ✦ Dave Lyons

Sat. 5:00 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa
 Sun. 9:00 am ✦ Tom & Dorothy Donnelly

MASS INTENTIONS

To request a Mass Intention contact Melody Marr at
melody@sttheresaokland.org
 or 510.547.2777, ext. 120

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US

- ◆ Receive the weekly Friday Flocknote
You will receive everything contained in the bulletin plus additional information.
- ◆ Unsubscribe anytime

Sign-up at: flocknote.com/StTheresa30

OR

Text: STT To: 84579

OR send an email to

cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org with a request to be added to the Friday Flocknote Group with you full name and email address.

SUNDAY OFFERING**ONLINE GIVING:**

(November 27 - December 3) 60 DONORS **\$ 3,310.70**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:

(November 27 - December 3) 52 DONORS **\$ 5,960.00**

PARISH MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT:

ONLINE: (NOV. 6 - DEC. 3) 42 DONORS **\$ 3,897.20**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED: 37 DONORS **\$ 2,636.00**



You can use our online giving platform to deepen your commitment to the church and the ministries you care about most. Your recurring gifts will sustain our mission month after month. You will also help our parish by cutting costs for envelopes and paper, and allowing our staff to spend less time processing cash and checks and more time on ministries.

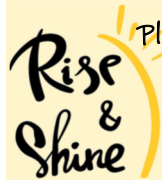
It's easy to get started. Here are the ways to sign up:



Text
510-876-9679
 Text "GIVE" to this number to receive a link to our online giving page.

Visit us at
<https://sttheresaokland.org/donate>

Thank you for giving generously to St. Theresa Parish



Please join us for our monthly **RISE & SHINE Mass** at 9am on Sunday, December 10th.

This is a youth-friendly and youth-participatory Mass.

PARISH CALENDAR

Find out what is happening at the parish.

<https://sttheresaokland.org/calendar>

DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers, those who have died especially Kristie Smith and Flora Mazda.

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee has a need for someone whose background includes being a controller.

It will not be a big time commitment but we need your skills. If you'd like to explore this, please call Carolyn Mahoney at 510-918-1987.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

Low Gluten hosts are available at all weekend Masses. They are less than 20 parts per million gluten, under .002%. For additional information go to <https://www.parishcrossroads.com/low-gluten.htm>.

Please use the presider's communion station to receive a low gluten host.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ALL THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Matt Mercier, Heidi Parmelee, Dolores Gomez, Alegria Hipolito, Betty Wharton, Juanita Estrella, Olga Lamberti, Wendy Parmelee, Roger Baylocq, Alicia Gonzalez, Susan Springer, Wendy Jones, Orlanda Gonzalez, Kevin Chapman, Diane Cerille, Tom Wilberding, Shirley Roberts, Danny Ramos, Mark Leonard, Christopher Rodriguez, Maryanne Walsh, Rhonda Santeen, John Whatley, Bishop John Cummins, Nancy Coyne, Kevin Stallone, Della Spinelli, Jeanne Cuttitta, Susan Buller, Amy Kantowitz, Ann Springer, Guy Wallace, Ray Bertolotti, William McCarthy, Cindy Crimmins, Fred & Lidia Loupy, Rebecca Rogers, Kathleen Guevara, Clarence Robinson, Armando Diaz de Leon, Fr. Ron Schmidt, Laura Jones, Jeff Mills, Mary Pat Power, Bonnie & John Bouey, Susan Rubio, Fr. Paul Schmidt, Isabella Guillot Williams, Violet Chancey, Ann Kirkman, Hal Lauth, Phil Stover, Joey Smith, Raymond Buckley, Jr., Norma Ninalga, Betty Jo Olson, Jennifer Walwark, Greg Govan, Anita Lim, Karl Zahihaas-Libnee, Marilyn McCabe, Helen Lightner-Smith, Marietta Estilo



I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

Bishop's Ministries Appeal 2023

St. Theresa Parish Goal \$35,800

Percentage Achieved **85.47%**

\$30,600 as of November 30, 2023

<https://www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-appeal-donation-page>

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Did you miss Advent yet? This year, Advent is only twenty-two days and if we blink, we will miss it. Last week I tried to give some reference to this rich liturgical season. Advent seems to have followed the practice of Lent in the early Church. When a great feast and celebration was coming, the Church needed to prepare. Extra prayer and fasting were the means to this preparation in former ages.



The day after Thanksgiving, my close friend began the annual task of making Christmas cookies. His mom did this every year to make their Christmas special with lights, music and of course cookies: wreath and tree spritz cookies, anise cookies, special K chocolate bars, molasses, and his great, great grandmother's recipe for pfeffernusse cookies all kept the anticipation of Christmas exciting.

The cookies were made, decorated, and stored in cookie tins on the porch at their Minnesota home and no one was allowed a taste until Christmas. The smell of wonderful cookies baking, the delight of seeing the sprinkles and stars decorate some, the anticipation of when they could be eaten is akin to Advent. We wait in joyful hope for the coming of something delightful and wonderful. My friend assures me that he and his two brothers did not break the fast while Christmas seemed far away at times. I hope you will find special ways to prepare for the great feast of God becoming like us so we can become like God one day. A sweet, delicious cookie may be a foreshadowing of things to come that we can't even imagine.

This end of the year time is also the annual time that many are asking for our help as there are so many needs in our world today. Christ spared nothing for us to demonstrate how God loves us, can we not imitate Jesus and share the love we enjoy?

If you are on the parish mailing list, you received my annual letter asking for an end of the year extra and special donation to support the parish and the work we do in God's name. It is one of the tasks I loathe to do each year, but it is part of the job. Be assured of my gratitude to all who regularly throughout the year help us pay the bills and staff to keep our parish mission going, but with rising costs of things, the loss of long-time parishioners who have passed away or moved to a facility and not as many active school families we are falling short of what it takes to pay our bills and maintain staff and parish buildings. Thanks for your consideration and response to this special appeal.

On the weekend of January 13-14 when we hold the annual 'listening sessions' at all of the weekend Masses they will be

offered for you and your intentions, our benefactors, and generous supporters.

When I was young and not yet a priest, but active in my parish, I complained that the only time we heard from the bishop was when a collection was approaching. Now I see many reasons for that, but I am also aware of the many appeals we receive in the mail if we ever go outside from our parish. If one gave even a dollar to an organization, some would also make more money on selling our address information. Besides all of these solicitations, in the parish we have the regular weekly collection, the special appeal to maintain and repair our buildings, a St. Vincent DePaul collection on a fifth Sunday and the national annual collection for retired religious nuns, brothers, and priests.

St. Vincent DePaul has approached us late in asking for gift cards so they can help needy families and the Social Justice Committee has also asked for gift cards for needy families at the Catholic Worker office in Oakland and a clinic at Children's Hospital. All are worthy of our support, but I sometimes daydream about getting into the church just to pray as we have to push past the 'bake sale' table, steer around the ornament or wreath opportunity, clear the special collection for the eighth grade to have special graduation festivities and the sale to raise funds for the seventh-grade worthy charity to teach them about community service and social outreach.

All are worthy of our attention! If you hit the lottery, maybe you can help all, but I know all of us have limited funds and we can only do so much. This is why the Pastoral Council and Finance Council with my endorsement a few years ago said we can only allow one extra fundraiser a month unless there is an urgent need as necessitated by a disaster. Parish, school, and outside groups who want to solicit funds from us, must ask and work within the confines of a very full schedule in a timely fashion so as to fit into the whole calendar of asking and worthy collections.

I fully believe the stewardship belief that if we are generous with our time, talent and treasure for others, God will provide enough for us. But when we have so many asking and more than I mentioned, sometimes taking care of our own needs suffers. So, I ask you to think about this during Advent. It is the beginning of a new year of grace and how will I personally support it in my parish? Covid changed many things. We again need the talent within us to step up and lector, give out Communion, usher, greet, sing in the choir, altar serve, volunteer for the Pastoral and Finance Councils as we continue to gain pre-Covid momentum.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING FOR PARISH & SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS



For many parish and school volunteers it is time for you to renew your training. You will or have received an email reminder with a link for you to complete the online training. Please complete the training by the renewal date in the email.

If you have any problems or questions contact Cathy Brady at cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org.

To renew or register for the first time, click on the link in your email or go to <https://www.virtusonline.org> or click on the link in the upper right corner of the parish website sttheresaokland.org.

Please remember that in order to volunteer at the parish in any capacity (Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Catechist, Choir Member, St. Vincent de Paul, Legion of Mary, CYO etc.), or school, you must complete the training.