

ST. THERESA PARISH COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 17, 2023

THIRD 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

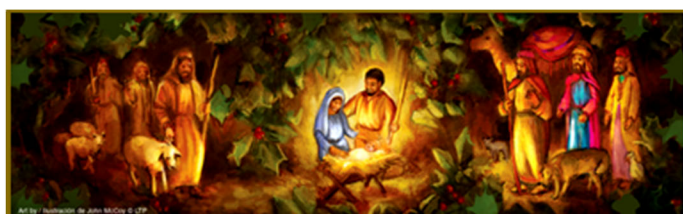
Shanon Ciston s.ciston@gmail.com

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 20TH
Christmas Break**

WEEKLY READINGS: DECEMBER 18-24

Monday: Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72 Mt 1:18-25	Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71 Lk 1:5-25	Wednesday: Is 7:10-14 Ps 24 Lk 1:26-38	Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 Ps 33 Lk 1:39-45	Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28 Ps 1 Sm 2 Lk 1:46-56	Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Ps 25 Lk 1:57-66	Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38
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MASS INTENTIONS - DECEMBER 16 - 24

Sat.	5:00 pm	Parish Community of St. Theresa
Sun.	9:00 am	✚ Tom & Dorothy Donnelly
Mon.	8:30 am	✚ The McArtor Family & Friends
Tues.	8:30 am	For all who are burdened by poverty
Wed.	8:30 am	✚ Peter Oliverez Carnero
Thurs.	8:30 am	✚ Patricia Nebel
Fri.	8:30 am	✚ Dorothy Donnelly
Sat.	5:00 pm	✚ Carlo Pernecco
Sun.	9:00 am	Parish Community of St. Theresa
	5:00 pm	Parish Community of St. Theresa
	10:00pm	Parish Community of St. Theresa

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:**

(December 4 - 10) 55 DONORS **\$ 3,504.50**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:

(December 4 - 10) 55 DONORS **\$ 3,849.00**

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND:

ONLINE: 5 DONORS **\$ 241.00**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED: 29 DONORS **\$ 1,169.00**

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

ONLINE: 8 DONORS **\$ 1,195.00**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED: 11 DONORS **\$ 250.00**



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

MASS INTENTIONS

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

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 Joanne Cieutat.

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, 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

Gratitude to all in the Men's Club who made the annual Pancake breakfast a great success! About one hundred bought advanced tickets, but the wise counsel in the Men's Club knew more would come and a total of two hundred and twenty-five had a great breakfast. The children had a great time and Santa took a picture with many of them. I am very grateful for some of the newer younger men in the parish who stepped up and made it look easy.



This advent is ever so short, but I am happy that Advent by Candlelight for our parish women, Advent for families and Advent for men all has great moments. I was able to attend the men's session and thirty men prayed and had wonderful fellowship in the midst of this fast season.

Next week will be both the Fourth Sunday of Advent and then Christmas Eve in the afternoon. Words from my priest friend, Fr. Ron Schmit help us focus and what we celebrate:

"Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice! Psalm 96:11

800 years ago, St Francis of Assisi created the first Nativity. On Christmas night of 1223, St Francis wanted to celebrate the Feast of Christmas, the coming in the flesh of Christ Jesus. The caves around the town of Greccio reminded him of the caves that he saw while he was in Bethlehem in the Holy Land.

One of those caves is where it is said that Jesus was born. Francis wanted the average poor folk to understand that God has taken on our humanity with all the complications that entails.

St. Francis chose a cave. He had someone build an animal feed box. Some of his brothers filled that box with hay. When Francis arrived, he found the manger filled with hay, nearby the ox, and the donkey. He placed a living baby in the feed box. The people flocked to the place with candles and torches. They were all filled with unspeakable joy they had never experienced before.

At that first Nativity there were no statues, the scene was recreated by those who were present. Then the parish priest celebrated the Mass, showing the connection between the Incarnation of the Son of God and the Eucharist. In the Eucharist, the Risen Christ takes flesh in us. We are now the risen body of Christ. Christ lives in our reality and day to day lives.

Incarnation means God takes on our humanity. Born into poverty, Jesus would know the trauma that many in our world face each day. Incarnation tells us that the memory of trauma and oppression is now in the eternal body of God. God will never forget. God will heal it even if it is not on our own timetable. We discern the Christ's presence in the faces of one another, but especially the poor and those on the margins.

Pope Francis reminds us that there are two signs at Christmas that guide us in recognizing Jesus. One is the sky full of stars. He says there are an infinity of stars but among them a special star that stands out. This is the star that prompted the Magi to leave their home and begin a journey that would lead them where they did not know. It happens in our lives.

At a certain time, a special "star" invites us to decide, to make a choice, and begin a journey. We have to ask God to show us the star that leads us to Jesus.

On that Holy Night we find another powerful sign: the smallness of God. The angels point the poor shepherds to a baby placed in the feed box of animals. Not a sign of power, self-sufficiency, or pride. No. The eternal God is reduced to the helplessness of a tiny baby. God lowers himself so that we could walk with him, and he can stand beside us, not above and far from us. The feast Christmas invites us to call forth awe and wonder in the God who dwells with us.

This Christmas make your home a manger that welcomes those who need love and comfort. In them see the face of Christ."

Christmas Blessings and May God Fill You with Peace in the New Year!

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.