

ST. THERESA PARISH COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 24, 2023

FOURTH 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>

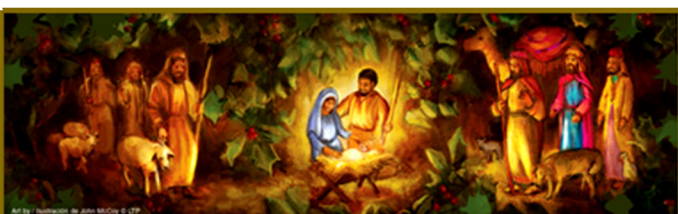
30 MANDALAY ROAD -- OAKLAND, CA 94618 -- 510.547.2777

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Offices will be closed on the following days in observance of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.



December 22 (Friday)
December 25 (Monday)
December 29 (Friday)
January 1 (Monday)



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

Parish Listening Sessions

Plan on attending the Annual Parish Listening Sessions following the Masses on, January 13 & 14.

You will have the opportunity to comment about our parish with the Pastor, Parish Staff and Pastoral Council. These listening sessions have been very helpful and insightful in the past years.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Adoration
of the
Blessed
Sacrament



January 5th

9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Benediction at 4:30 pm

SOCIAL JUSTICE & ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Information and activities for the Social Justice committee and St. Vincent de Paul can be found in the Friday Flocknote.

If you do not receive the Friday Flocknote it is available on the parish website <https://sttheresaokland.org/>, click on the Bulletin/Flocknote link at the top of the page.



Our theme for the
2023/2024 year is:

"Walking the Journey of Faith"

**DECEMBER 27TH
Christmas Break**

WEEKLY READINGS: DECEMBER 25 - 31

Monday:	Tuesday:	Wednesday:	Thursday:	Friday	Saturday:	Sunday:
Is 62:11-12 Ps 98 Heb 1:1-6 Lk 2:15-20	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31 Mt 10:17-22	1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97 Jn 20:1a, 2-8	1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124 Mt 2:13-18	1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96 Lk 2:22-35	1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96 Lk 2:36-40	Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 105 Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40

MASS INTENTIONS - DECEMBER 23 - 31

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
Mon.	10:00 am	Parish Community of St. Theresa
Tues.	8:30 am	Special Intention
Wed.	8:30 am	For the poor, and hidden within our own community
Thurs.	8:30 am	✦ John McCole
Fri.	8:30 am	✦ Donnelly Family & Friends
Sat.	5:00 pm	✦ Paul Dolan
Sun.	9:00 am	Parish Community of St. Theresa

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 your full name and email address.

SUNDAY OFFERING**ONLINE GIVING:**

(December 11 - 17) 53 DONORS

\$ 1,873.50

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:

(December 11 - 17) 47 DONORS

\$ 2,785.00



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

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION, DECEMBER 30 & 31

The St. Vincent de Paul 5th Sunday Collection is scheduled for December 30 & 31. Your continued support continues to help our neighbors from being evicted from their homes, keep their utilities from being shut off, provide help with their rental down payments for those who are fortunate find new housing, and assistance with their other needs and necessities. Please be generous. The homeless will be forever grateful. You may use Online Giving to donate.

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 Marietta Estilo, the mother of Robert Estilo.

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.



I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

Bishop's Ministries Appeal 2023

St. Theresa Parish Goal \$35,800

Percentage Achieved **90.84%**

\$32,520 as of December 15, 2023

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

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

This morning it is the Fourth Sunday of Advent and at 5pm we begin our Christmas celebration with the annual Mass. We hope if you are reading this on Saturday night or Sunday morning, you will bring the children to help us celebrate and retell the story with the 'no practice' Nativity play! With a very fast Advent this year we can move to say:



Merry Christmas!

On behalf of I and the entire staff of St. Theresa's Parish, we wish you a happy and holy Season of Christmas!

My prayer and wish is that the mystery of love that we celebrate with the event that happened centuries ago in Bethlehem will continue to bless your lives and the lives of all you love.

How wonderful and amazing, the fact that our God chose to be born into our world as one like us so that he could lead us and welcome us to be like Him in Paradise.

The gifts we exchange with one another are mere tokens and reminders of this ultimate gift from God. Our exchange of gifts is a reminder to those we care about a memento to show anew our love for them. The token will remind them of that fact and also make their lives richer and happier because of the care and personal attention we put into producing or finding and purchasing that gift. We will probably get gifts in return as a reciprocation of our love.

I hope today and through the twelve days of Christmas, each will reflect on the gift that God gives us: His beloved Son. God sends us Jesus so that we can have life to the fullest one day in eternity. We honor and thank God by doing what is demonstrated with the birth of the Savior. That is, to love as God loves us. Yet, there is no equal return that we can ever give to a perfect God. And, unlike our own gift-giving, God's gift has no strings. It is purely given out of unconditional and total love for each of us.

The hymns and carols of this time lead our prayer: "Come let us adore, Him! Let us reflect on 'what child is this.' Let us follow the example of Holy Mary and say yes to what God invites us to be and do in the coming New Year!

May the celebration of Christmas be a time for all to reflect on our relationships and how in the coming New Year we can better demonstrate our love with each person we encounter.

Remember, the Church wisely says this is so great a feast that one day is never long enough to celebrate it properly. (Remember the song: *The Twelve Days of Christmas*). If every day for the next twelve days we try to demonstrate our love clearly and demonstratively, what a great start it will be for the New Year, and what a great example to our family and friends and the world itself it can be about the true meaning of Christmas.

If you are visiting us for Christmas, please know we are grateful for your presence and hope you will feel welcomed and will taste the joy and love we profess. Please know our doors will always be open to you if you live close to our parish site and we sincerely hope you will join us again soon. Our parish is so much more complete with all of you.

To all who are here each week, I thank you in the name of our whole staff for your presence, generosity, and ongoing support. We thank you because we know God loves you and is overjoyed at your faith and faithfulness. I wish you every Christmas blessing. May the joy of Christmas be yours this week and throughout the coming New Year! Long ago, you learned the gift it is to walk this pilgrimage together. We pray that each of you will have an adventurous and great journey in the coming year knowing we are here for one another.

Happy Christmas and may you have a good, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

Fr. Bob McCann Cathy Brady Keri Nims
Rob Cakebread Alicia Ortega Melody Marr
Fr. Abraham Addam Fr. Ngema W. Enow

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.