

# ST. THERESA PARISH COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 24, 2023

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF  
JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

## 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.sttheresaokland.org](http://www.sttheresaokland.org)

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

 [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrqXTsa\\_7qmNCIw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrqXTsa_7qmNCIw)

PARISH STAFF: 510.547.2777

Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 121 [rjmccann@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:rjmccann@sttheresaokland.org)  
*Pastor*

Rev. Abraham Addam, ext. 122  
*In Residence*

Rev. Ngema W. Enow, ext. 128 [ngemawil.enow@gmail.com](mailto:ngemawil.enow@gmail.com)  
*In Residence*

Cathy Brady, ext. 126 [cathy\\_b@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org)  
*Liturgy Director*

Rob Cakebread, ext. 127 [rob@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:rob@sttheresaokland.org)  
*Music Ministry Director*

Melody Marr, ext. 120 [melody@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:melody@sttheresaokland.org)  
*Parish Administrator*

Keri Nims, ext. 124 [keri@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:keri@sttheresaokland.org)  
*Coordinator for Early Childhood Catechesis & RCIC*

## ST. THERESA SCHOOL

Alicia Ortegon, 510.547.3146 [a\\_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org](mailto:a_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org)  
*St. Theresa School Principal*

website: [www.sttheresaschool.org](http://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@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:keri@sttheresaokland.org)

## Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

Keri Nims ~ [keri@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:keri@sttheresaokland.org)

## High School Youth Ministry/Confirmation

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

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

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

## Parish Organization Contacts

### Pastoral Council:

Paulette Tuckner [pmtuckner@comcast.net](mailto:pmtuckner@comcast.net)

### 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

Chris Bruni [mensclubsttheresa@gmail.com](mailto:mensclubsttheresa@gmail.com)

### Legion of Mary

Tom Wallace [tomw1313@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tomw1313@sbcglobal.net)

### WINGS

Geri Tong [geritong1944@gmail.com](mailto:geritong1944@gmail.com)

### Social Justice Committee (SJC)

Lydia Deck [ltdeck@me.com](mailto:ltdeck@me.com)

### Consolation Ministry

Cecile Cuttitta [cecile.cuttitta@att.net](mailto:cecile.cuttitta@att.net)

### Men's Faith Sharing

Jim Frei [jim@ottofrei.com](mailto:jim@ottofrei.com)

### Cursillo

Geri Tong [gt4palancaokland@gmail.com](mailto:gt4palancaokland@gmail.com)

### Kinderchurch

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

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

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE who participated in our Christmas Liturgies!**



Liturgy is the work of the people and thanks to the work of many, our Christmas Liturgies were spiritually uplifting and joyful. Thank you to Keri Nims who directed the children for the Christmas Gospel Tableau and the children played their instruments at the Children’s Liturgy. Thank you to all the Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Sacristans, Videographer, the Environment Team that gave of their time, and to all Choir members, who spent many hours in preparation for our Liturgies. Moreover, thank you to the parish community for your full participation in all our wonderful Christmas Liturgies.

**VOLUNTEER FOR A LITURGICAL MINISTRY**

Please consider volunteering for one of our Liturgical ministries. Liturgy is the work of the people and we need your assistance.

What is your gift, passion, what do you really like to do? Do you like to read, talk with people, serve people, work behind the scenes, electronics? Turn that passion into a ministry, there is something for everyone. Prayerfully consider one of the following ministries.

- ✚ Lector
- ✚ Eucharistic Minister
- ✚ Sacristan
- ✚ Altar Server (grade 3 and up)
- ✚ Projectionist
- ✚ Videographer (for the live-stream 9am Sunday Mass)
- ✚ Greeter
- ✚ Usher
- ✚ Altar Linens

Contact Cathy Brady to volunteer, [cathy\\_b@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org)

**Parish Listening Sessions**

Plan on attending the Annual Parish Listening Sessions following Mass 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 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**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”**

**JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>**  
**KAREN PERMILION.**  
**HEALTHCARE ACCESS MANAGER**  
*Walking the Journey of Faith*

**WEEKLY READINGS: JANUARY 1 - 7**

Monday:	Tuesday:	Wednesday:	Thursday:	Friday	Saturday:	Sunday:
Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21	1 Jn 2:22-28 Ps 98 Jn 1:19-28	1 Jn 2:29-3:6 Ps 98 Jn 1:29-34	1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98 Jn 1:35-42	1 Jn 3:11-21 Ps 100 Jn 1:43-51	1 Jn 5:5-13 Ps 147 Mk 1:7-11	Is 60:1-6 Ps 72 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12

**MASS INTENTIONS - DECEMBER 23 - 31**

Sat.	5:00 pm	✠ Paul Dolan
Sun.	9:00 am	Parish Community of St. Theresa
Mon.	<b>9:00 am</b>	Parish Community of St. Theresa
Tues.	8:30 am	✠ Timothy Donnelly
Wed.	8:30 am	✠ Pat Tynan
Thurs.	8:30 am	For the people of Israel and Palestine
Fri.	8:30 am	For our parish benefactors
Sat.	5:00 pm	✠ Florenzo Mazza
Sun.	9:00 am	Parish Community of St. Theresa

**MASS INTENTIONS**

To request a Mass Intention contact Melody Marr at [melody@sttheresaokland.org](mailto: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](http://flocknote.com/StTheresa30)

**OR**

**Text:** STT To: 84579

**OR** send an email to

[cathy\\_b@sttheresaokland.org](mailto: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 18 - 24) 54 DONORS **\$ 2,569.50**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:  
(December 18 - 24) 36 DONORS **\$ 2,714.00**

**CHRISTMAS:**

ONLINE: 20 DONORS **\$ 7,391.00**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED: 100 DONORS **\$ 12,926.00**



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*

**PARISH MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT**

The second collection for the Parish Maintenance & Improvement Fund will be on January 6 & 7.

You may also use Online Giving for this collection.

**PARISH CALENDAR**

Find out what is happening at the parish.

<https://sttheresaokland.org/calendar>

**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, Steve Lauth



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

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

The days of Christmas continue, and I am grateful for all who made last weekend's Saturday, Sunday and Monday wonderful celebrations of the season. The decorators moved fast since they only had Sunday morning after Mass to get ready for Christmas Eve! The choir and added young musicians were the best ever, even with Rob, our music director afflicted with pneumonia!



Cathy Brady coordinated it all and I am so grateful for those who stepped up to lector and distribute Holy Communion. Sacristans, the wonderful person who washes and irons the purificators and towels we use at Mass, sound and video coordinators and our amazing greeters are just some of those who made the days special. Keri Nims really made the 'Nativity Pageant' memorable for our little ones even with a shortage of shepherds. And I promise next year to not leave out the lambs, but when they baaa'd their way into the presentation a new St. T memory was written.

Happily, further away from Covid, more attended all of the services. We are seeing a steady increase and that is wonderful as we head into the 99<sup>th</sup> year since the parish was established. This is the year we plan for our centenary celebration, and I am ready to listen to all your suggestions.

Our annual 'listening sessions' will soon be here and I am grateful to all who have responded to my special end of the year appeal. Some have been quite generous, which makes our day to day functioning easier. On the January listening sessions days, all of the Masses will be offered for the benefactors who continue to support the ministries and our operations as a parish. May the Lord bless a hundred-fold every dollar you have given and will give in the coming new year.

The New Year's Day Mass for many years was a special Mass for peace. Sadly, we enter 2024 with horrific wars being waged. We get only a small glimpse of the wars in Ukraine and Palestine, Gaza, and Israel. I beg

all to pray for peace every day! I encourage you to support local peace movements and those more global. We can bring peace to our world as the Lord intends. I want to share a letter I received from a priest who is in Bethlehem. Fr. Bernard Poggi was born and raised in San Mateo but is a priest in Palestine and the among other things the rector of the seminary in the Patriarchate. As I ask all to commit in the New Year for peace, may his description help us focus on the needs of many.:

"In Bethlehem, we feel lonely and isolated; all the roads to Jerusalem are closed, no pilgrims fill our streets, and the grotto is cold and empty. Yet, the Incarnation, God becoming a man, is the very reason we have hope. Without Jesus, we have no hope and only death to look forward to (1 Thessalonians 4:13–14). We are reminded if God is with us, who can be against us. (ref. Romans 8:31)

In Genesis we read that God originally created a perfect world (Genesis 1:31), but it was soon marred by Adam and Eve's sin. The consequence for sin was death (Genesis 2:17; Romans 6:23). However, even during the darkest day in history, God offered a message of hope, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel" (Genesis 3:15). God promised that He would send a Savior who would conquer Satan and deal with the problem of death and suffering.

This year, we earnestly call out – Come Lord Jesus, look at the suffering of your people and save us. Yesterday, after meeting with families from Gaza who live in Bethlehem, I can assure you that they are desperate. It is not about food, water, electricity, and medicine anymore, it is about wanting to leave, wanting not to live in fear, wanting to sleep a full night in a bed. They are desperate, and their families are too, please keep them in your prayers, and call out with them, Come Lord Jesus, look at the suffering of your people and save us.

He is our hope, he is our salvation, and he is our promise for a better future."

## 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](mailto: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](http://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.