

ST. THERESA PARISH COMMUNITY

JANUARY 7, 2024

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

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

 https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrqXTsa_7qmNClw

PARISH STAFF: 510.547.2777

Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 121 rjmccann@sttheresaokland.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@sttheresaokland.org
Liturgy Director

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

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

Keri Nims, ext. 124 keri@sttheresaokland.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@sttheresaokland.org

Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

Keri Nims ~ keri@sttheresaokland.org

High School Youth Ministry/Confirmation

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

Cathy Brady ~ cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org

Parish Calendar: <https://sttheresaokland.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 gt4palancaokland@gmail.com

Kinderchurch

Shanon Ciston s.ciston@gmail.com

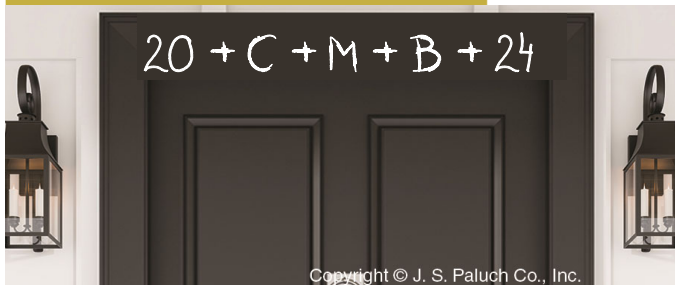
Additional information and events can be found in the Friday Flocknote available on our website: <https://sttheresaokland.org/Bulletin/Flocknote>

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

PARISH CALENDAR

Find out what is happening at the parish.
<https://sttheresaokland.org/calendar>

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING



In the Middle Ages houses were blessed on Epiphany, reflecting how the magi found Christ “on entering the house.” Try reviving this ancient tradition. Incense the house, sprinkle holy water, and write in chalk over every outside doorway “20 + C + M + B + 24” (or whatever the year is). The letters honor the three kings and also stand for *Christus mansionem benedicat*, “May Christ bless this home,” and symbolize welcoming everyone into the home as Christ.

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

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.

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”

WINGS continues this Winter on Wednesday mornings throughout the months of January and February. This faith enhancement group for women encourages spiritual growth through prayer, scripture study, life-sharing and community. Our Winter session meetings, each with a different expert speaker generally focusing on scripture and different aspects of our faith, takes place, from 9:15-11:15am, on Wednesday's in the Meeting Rooms. 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. Feel free to invite a friend! Women from local parishes and other denominations are most certainly welcome. If you're new to WINGS or wish to sample a meeting, feel free to attend the meeting at St. Theresa's. If you have any questions, contact Denise at mollend@aol.com.

JANUARY 10TH

SHARON CHIPMAN
RETIRED LAY MINISTER

Probing the Scriptures with Our Senses and Imagination

WEEKLY READINGS: JANUARY 8 - 14

Monday:	Tuesday:	Wednesday:	Thursday:	Friday	Saturday:	Sunday:
Is 55:1-11 Ps Is 12 1 Jn 5:1-9 Mk 1:7-11	1 Sm 1:9-20 Ps 1 Sm 2 Mk 1:21-28	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40 Mk 1:29-39	1 Sm 4 th 1-11 Ps 44 Mk 1:40-45	1 Sm 8 th 4-7, 10-22a Ps 89 Mk 2:1-12	1 Sm 9 th 1-4, 17-19, 10:1a Ps 21 Mk 2:13-17	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1:35-42

MASS INTENTIONS - JANUARY 6 - 14

Sat. 5:00 pm † Florenzo Mazza
 Sun. 9:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa

Mon. 8:30 am For an end to gun violence
 Tues. 8:30 am † Kristie Smith
 Wed. 8:30 am For all who feel alone or isolated
 Thurs. 8:30 am † Tom Donnelly
 Fri. 8:30 am † Ida & Nick Monti

Sat. 5:00 pm Parish benefactors
 Sun. 9:00 am Parish benefactors

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.

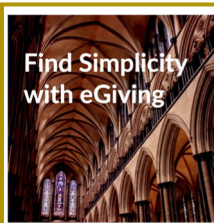
SUNDAY OFFERING

ONLINE GIVING:
 (December 25 - 31) 52 DONORS **\$ 2,465.70**
 MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:
 (December 25 - 31) 49 DONORS **\$ 5,220.00**

CHRISTMAS:
 MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED: 15 DONORS **\$ 2,265.00**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:
 ONLINE: 11 DONORS **\$ 446.00**
 MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED: 26 DONORS **\$ 1,311.00**

NEW YEAR'S, MARY, MOTHER OF GOD:
 ONLINE: 4 DONORS **\$ 136.00**
 MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED: 9 DONORS **\$ 316.00**



Find Simplicity with eGiving

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

SEMINARY COLLECTION, JANUARY 13 & 14

The Diocese of Oakland is blessed to have many seminarians preparing for priesthood. The formation program for a seminarian can be up to nine years long, depending on the seminarian's prior education. The cost to the diocese of educating our future priests is substantial. Please make a personal investment in your future priests by generously contributing to the Seminary Collection. You may also use Online Giving for this collection.

MASS INTENTIONS

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

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

Happy Epiphany! Happy journey along the way this year! The gospel says the magi: **“They departed for their country by another way.”** I hope you will join your fellow parishioners next week and attend the annual ‘listening sessions’ after the Masses. This is a time for me and the parish staff to hear suggestions, compliments, criticisms, visions, etc. that you have for our parish. In the past it has truly been instrumental in how we do things today. For today I again offer a wonderful and thoughtful meditation on the feast with celebrate written by Deacon Greg Kandra:



“Commentators and homilists have long used this phrase, the conclusion of this Gospel reading, to teach us that the magi found their lives changed by an encounter with Jesus. After seeing the newborn king, nothing could be the same. They had to find another way home, another way of living, another way of continuing the journey of their lives.

In a timely coincidence, that’s how a lot of us are feeling right now. But our ideas may be a little different than the magi’s.

We’re making resolutions. We’re looking at journeying through life on a treadmill or a Peloton; maybe we are thinking about life with fewer Christmas cookies for breakfast.

Maybe we’re thinking about the promises we inevitably won’t keep. Books we won’t read. Desserts we won’t skip. The bad habits we will fail to give up. It’s not for lack of trying.

A few days ago, a polling service revealed that just under half of Americans — 44% — have made resolutions related to their health. But consider this: less than a third — 29% — have made resolutions regarding their faith or their relationship to God. What that tells me is that more people seem to value physical health than spiritual health — or most may think their spiritual health is just fine. It’s the extra weight that worries them.

No matter how you look at it, we can always exercise more and eat better — but we can also exercise our spiritual muscles and pray better. St. Paul said, “We do not know how to pray as we ought.”

Most of us would agree. I would add we do not live as Christians as we ought. We easily lose our way. We radiate the light of Christ at Christmas, but soon that light dims and flickers and fades. The first reading today calls on us to “Rise up in splendor...to be radiant at what we see.” How many of us will radiate that in February the way we did in December?

How can we do that better this year?

The editors at America magazine last year had some suggestions. They turned to Pope Francis for inspiration. **They compiled a list of new year’s resolutions** from his own words.

At a moment when we are contemplating “another way” of journeying through life, here are some ideas that help point the way.

First, the pope suggests something we all need to do give more. Volunteer. Seek to help others. Speaking of St. Joseph, the Holy Father said: “Joseph teaches us this: ‘Do not look so much at the things that the world praises, look into the corners, look in the shadows, look at the peripheries, at what the world does not

want.’ St. Joseph reminds each of us to consider important what others discard.”

I would add, look for those the world does not have room for. Look for those rejected by the inn, those relegated to caves, stables, or alleys. Help them to know they matter. Jesus was one of them. They have dignity.

Secondly, resolve not to judge others. In an audience in November, Pope Francis said, “It is good to ask ourselves what drives us to correct a brother or a sister, and if we are not in some way co-responsible for their mistake.” In short, make space for compassion, not criticism.

Third, let go of grudges. With a friend. A co-worker. A spouse. A parent or sibling. “Never finish the day without making peace,” the pope said. “People say, ‘We fought. My God, I said bad words. I said awful things. But now, to finish the day, I must make peace.’ You know why? Because the cold war the next day is very dangerous.” In all of our relationships, we need to seek to be peacemakers. Bridge-builders. People who are “catholic” in the best sense — universal.

Fourth, stay in touch. Especially with the elderly. Marking World Grandparents Day, the pope said, “When was the last time we visited or telephoned an elderly person in order to show our closeness and to benefit from what they have to tell us?” He went on. “Let us not lose the memory preserved by the elderly, for we are children of that history, and without roots, we will wither.” Keep those roots strong. Nurture them. Love them. They make us who we are.

Fifth, pray more. Make it a habit. Even when you don’t want to. “Praying is not something easy,” the pope said during an audience in May. “And this is why we flee from it. Every time we want to pray, we are immediately reminded of many other activities, which at that moment seem more important and more urgent. This happens to me too!” The pope explained: “True progress in spiritual life comes from being able to persevere in difficult times: walk, walk, walk on.... and if you are tired, stop a bit and then start walking again.” Persevere.

This is the path of prayer. I would argue this is also the path to a holy life.

Which brings us back to the magi, the wise men, and the path they chose. This Sunday, of course, we mark the Epiphany of Our Lord. Webster’s defines “epiphany” as “a sudden manifestation or perception of the meaning of something.” For the wise men, that meant understanding the nature of the newborn King, following a light, and having their lives changed forever. That is part of the meaning of this sacred season. We are all called like the magi to follow a star — then go back by another way, a better way, a way radiant with light and hope.

Maybe some of us will fail at our resolutions. Maybe we won’t lose that weight or kick that habit. But let us make this a resolution to keep: to follow “another way” of living, of loving, of witnessing to our destiny as followers of Christ. As Francis suggests, that includes being people of mercy, of sacrifice, of compassion, of prayer. People who love God and love their neighbor.

It is countercultural, “another way” — the way of a faithful disciple of Christ. It is the way to begin anew — and begin the journey to have a truly blessed and happy 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.