

ST. THERESA PARISH COMMUNITY

DECEMBER 1, 2024

FIRST 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 OFFICE HOURS:

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

The office is closed on Monday and Friday

Phone: 510.547.2777, ext. 120

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_7qmNClw

PARISH STAFF: 510.547.2777

Parish Office: ext. 120

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

Joey Gutierrez, ext. 123 joey@sttheresaoakland.org
Youth Ministry Coordinator, Middle School & High School

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, ext. 120, or email admin@sttheresaoakland.org

To arrange a Funeral

call parish office 510.547.2777, ext. 120, or email admin@sttheresaoakland.org

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

Keri Nims ~ keri@sttheresaoakland.org

Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

Joey Gutierrez ~ joey@sttheresaoakland.org

High School Youth Ministry/Confirmation

Joey Gutierrez ~ joey@sttheresaoakland.org

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:

Chris Colby ccolby@well.com

Finance Council:

Carolyn Mahoney carolyn.mahoney675@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Greg Govan glgovan@comcast.net

CYO (Catholic Youth Organization):

Carlos Palacios sttheresaathletics@gmail.com

St. Theresa Men's Club

mensclubsttheresa@gmail.com

Legion of Mary

Tom Wallace tomw1313@sbcglobal.net

WINGS

Cindy Crimmins cyncrim@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

Shannon 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



SVdP's CHRISTMAS FOR THE KIDS 2024

Our SVdP parish conference is helping the Alameda County Community Center in downtown Oakland collect UNWRAPPED toys, books and games for 600 children (newborns – 16yrs old).

The Annual SVdP Christmas Celebration will take place Saturday, December 14 at the Community Center. Gift donations are needed by the weekend of December 9th.

Donations can be made online using either the Target or Amazon barcodes provided below, or they can be left in the SVdP donation box in the church vestibule.

Amazon Registry:



Target Registry:



Please know that the Social Justice Committee will be collecting gift cards in the vestibule after the December 14th weekend masses for Catholic Worker of Oakland, to help immigrant parents to purchase Christmas gifts for their families.

We know there are many worthy organizations doing good works every holiday season and appreciate our parishioners' generosity in helping bring Christmas joy to many communities. We present these as two worthy options from which to choose.



ST. THERESA CHURCH 100TH JUBILEE CELEBRATION

The parish will celebrate its 100th Jubilee in October 2025. There will be monthly events leading up to the Anniversary beginning January 2025.

If you would like to be a part of the planning process for these events, send an email to:

anniversary@sttheresaokland.org

In celebration of St Theresa Church's 100th jubilee, we are planning a parish photo directory. This will include names, contact information, and a photo of families in our St. Theresa community. ALL individuals, households, and families in our parish and school are invited to participate. This form is to collect your feedback on what kind of directory will serve us best. <https://forms.gle/auk7AG681my>

WINGS



Theme for the 2024/2025 year "Living in Hope"

Through prayer, thought provoking presentations on a variety of subjects, and small group faith-sharing and discussion of how the Spirit is working in their lives, women journey together.

Our Fall session meetings, focusing on spirituality, each with a different expert speaker, takes place, from 9:15-11:15am, on Wednesday's in the Meeting Rooms. 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 Dee McDonough at deesigns@comcast.net.

DECEMBER 4TH

JEAN MOLESKY-POZ, PH.D.
CO-FOUNDER OF WOMEN IN CONVERSATION,
NEWMAN-HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
Impasse and Hope

MASS INTENTIONS - NOVEMBER 23–DECEMBER 1

Sat. 5:00 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa
 Sun. 9:00 am † Joan Olmos

Mon. 8:30 am † Ida & Nick Monti
 Tues. 8:30 am † Christopher Cutler
 Wed. 8:30 am For the children of the parish
 Thurs. 8:30 am For all effected by recent storms
 Fri. 8:30 am † Msgr. Nicholas P. Connolly

Sat. 5:00 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa
 Sun. 9:00 am David Clark

ONLINE PRAYER REQUEST FOR THE SICK OR RECENTLY DECEASED

You can submit names for the Prayers of the Faithful for our Weekend Masses and the bulletin prayer list (*Prayers for the Sick or Recently Deceased*) online.

Please complete the form on the parish website page:

<https://sttheresaokland.org/pray/mass-and-confession-times>

their name will be included in the weekly bulletin, Friday Flocknote, and Weekend Masses.

This form is not for Mass Intentions.

RECEPTION OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

Reception of the Precious Blood Guideline from Bishop Barber, May 15, 2023. "Other than the priest, no communicant may ever dip the Sacred Host into the chalice to communicate himself."

SUNDAY OFFERING**SUNDAY COLLECTION (NOVEMBER 18—24):**

ONLINE: 45 DONORS \$ 2,239.00
 MASS DONATIONS: 46 DONORS \$ 2,330.00

PARISH CALENDAR

Find out what is happening at the parish:

<https://sttheresaokland.org/calendar>

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.

Bishop's Ministries Appeal 2024

St. Theresa Parish Goal \$35,800
 Percentage Achieved 61.53%

\$22,733 as of November 15, 2024

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

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others -- educating the young, comforting the sick, and ministering to the less fortunate. Today many are frail and need assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care and more. Please give generously to the second collection on December 7 & 8.

SCHEDULE A MASS INTENTION ONLINE!

<https://sttheresaokland.org/pray/mass-confession-times/mass-intention>

Mass Intentions may only be made up to a year in advance. You may only submit one Mass Intention per form. We will make every effort to use the date you have requested. If there is a conflict with the date we will contact you. If a date shows **BUSY** on the calendar, there is already a Mass Intention scheduled for that date.

You can also send an email to:

admin@sttheresaokland.org or call 510.547.2777, ext. 120

if you do not wish to use the online option.

DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers, those who have died especially Alfred Gross, father-in-law of Mary Jane Gross.

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, 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, Bonnie & John Bouey, Susan Rubio, Fr. Paul Schmidt, Marley Malone, Isabella Guillot Williams, 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, Mary Malloy, Peter Cuttitta, James Lang, John Donovan, Mary & Leo Martinez, Sr., James Spalding, Tiffany Converse, Adrian McEville, Joan Marchi, Diana Nelson Curtis, Charlie Schnellbacher, Theresa Joyce, Maureen Carver, Ernestine Pernecco, Vince Nims, Barrett Baker, Genevieve 'Beth' McElroy, Rick Fama, Eleanor Ceccarelli, Maureen Querio.



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

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

I hope everyone had a pleasant Thanksgiving. With Thanksgiving behind us, we race toward the Christmas season, but I hope you will take a copy of the Advent meditation book in the vestibule and let it guide the season that passes too quickly but has so many treasures of music, prayers and focus if we can keep out the early Christmas that surrounds us.



The ongoing saga of our church heating system continues. As I said at Mass last weekend, the expert who said we should fix it, is now saying the current system needs to be completely replaced due to age, lack of parts, difficulty in isolating defective areas and major cost for a repair that will not be effective for very long. I am still waiting for his proposal and will let you know when I hear from him and others.

Once again, I turn to Deacon Greg Kandra to help us think about the season of Advent that we begin this weekend: Deacon Greg writes:

“I live not far from a synagogue in Queens, New York and on the wall outside is a plaque, dedicated to Helen Keller. The legendary blind and deaf writer once lived in a house that stood on that spot. Sometimes I walk past and wonder whether the neighborhood has changed much since her day. I might close my eyes and imagine, for just a moment, what she felt, what she sensed, and what she feared.

It must have been terrifying. She couldn’t hear the cars, or the children on bicycles, or the stirring of the leaves in the wind. She wasn’t aware of the planes descending overhead, getting ready to land at the airport. She wouldn’t know if someone was approaching her – no footfall, no voices – and she didn’t even know if it was daylight. To her, it was always night.

Little wonder, then, that Helen Keller once famously summed up our existence with this simple proclamation: “Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing.” In her universe, every moment was an adventure. It had to be. Otherwise, she would have remained forever a prisoner of her senses.

Well, we get some idea of the daring that life involves as we begin the season of Advent.

Whether we realize it or not, we’re embarking on an adventure of our own. The name of this season, after all, shares the same root as “adventure” — from the Latin, *adventus*, meaning arrival. The arrival we await, of course, is the Messiah. And what an adventure that waiting will be.

It can be a challenge. These days, the nights grow longer. For many, the weather turns colder. We are as far as we can ever be from the sun. But we know in our bones and in our hearts that this darkness will not last. So, we wait it out. We light candles. We trim trees.

But there is so much to do, too! As the nights lengthen and the light dims, we shop, we wrap, we spend time in long lines at the post office and bear gifts for one another and attend parties where we drink too much eggnog and make too many promises we never manage to keep.

And we sing. *O come; o come Emmanuel.* When will we be ransomed? When will our Rescuer arrive?

“Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence.”

At the start of Advent, as we begin this adventure, we are striking out, stepping boldly into the dark. But we are not alone. We will encounter many other travelers along the way. A teenager will run to her cousin to announce a miracle. Later, she and her husband will travel toward a stable in a distant town. Wise men will set out to follow a star. What a journey! We may find ourselves disoriented at the turn the road takes.

But we remember this: life is either a daring adventure, or nothing.

And we feel certain we are heading in the right direction.

We take heart and take hope. We know there will again be light. But for now, we wait. Advent is a time of perpetual anticipation. Dorothy Day once compared this season of expectation to pregnancy; it is like a mother waiting to give birth. She was a mother, and she understood that analogy well.

But I keep going back to her contemporary, Helen Keller — who once wrote something that makes me wonder if Dorothy Day had it backwards.

As Keller wrote, in a very different context: “Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence.” Could it be that the power of this season lies not in waiting to give birth, but in waiting to be born?

Perhaps we are the ones who are in the womb, in darkness and silence, waiting — in every sense — to be delivered.

Either way, I think, this moment in time — this waiting, this anticipation, this expectancy, this Advent — is a daring adventure.

And it is not nothing — in fact, it is everything.

Let’s get started.”

— From *The Living Gospel: Daily Devotions for Advent 2018* (Ave Maria Press)

WEEKLY READINGS: DECEMBER 2–8

Monday:	Tuesday:	Wednesday:	Thursday	Friday	Saturday:	Sunday:
Is 2:1-5 Ps 122 Mt 8:5-11	Is 11:1-10 Ps 72 Lk 10:21-24	Is 25:6-10a Ps 23 Mt 15:29-37	Is 26:1-6 Ps 118 Mt 7:21, 24-27	Is 29:17-24 Ps 27 Mt 9:27-31	Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Ps 147 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	Bar 5:1-9 Ps 126 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Lk 3:1-6