

# St. Theresa

## Parish Community

*We are a welcoming, active Catholic community united by our faith, open to transformation, growing spiritually and reaching out to love and to serve others as Jesus taught us.*

### 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 home-bound)

### Reconciliation:

Saturday: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

### Parish Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
 The office is closed on Monday and Friday  
 Phone: 510.547.2777, ext. 120 or (direct line) 341.220.0077  
 After Hours Medical Emergency:  
 510.547.2777, Option #4

**Parish Website:** [www.sttheresaokland.org](http://www.sttheresaokland.org)

**Facebook:** StTheresaChurch/Oakland

### YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrQXTsa\\_7qmNClw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrQXTsa_7qmNClw)

### Baptisms and Marriages

by appointment, call parish office 510.547.2777, ext. 120, or email [admin@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:admin@sttheresaokland.org)

### To arrange a Funeral

call parish office 510.547.2777, ext. 120, or email [admin@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:admin@sttheresaokland.org)

### 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

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

### 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 Main Line: 510.547.2777**

**Parish Office: ext. 120 (direct line) 341.202.0077**

**Rev. Robert J. McCann, Pastor,**

[rjmccann@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:rjmccann@sttheresaokland.org)  
 (direct line) 341.202.0159

**Rev. Ngema W. Enow, In Residence**

[ngemawil.enow@gmail.com](mailto:ngemawil.enow@gmail.com)  
 (direct line) 341.202.0137

**Cathy Brady, Liturgy Director**

[cathy\\_b@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org)  
 (direct line) 341.202.0086

**Rob Cakebread, Music Ministry Director**

[rob@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:rob@sttheresaokland.org)  
 (direct line) 341.202.0139

**Keri Nims, Coordinator Early Childhood Catechesis & RCIC**

[keri@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:keri@sttheresaokland.org)  
 (direct line) 341.202.0076

**Alicia Ortegon, St. Theresa School Principal**

[a\\_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org](mailto:a_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org)  
 510.547.3146  
 website: [www.sttheresaschool.org](http://www.sttheresaschool.org)

### Parish Organization Contacts

#### Pastoral Council:

Chris Colby [ccolby@well.com](mailto:ccolby@well.com)

#### 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):

Carlos Palacios [ttheresaathletics@gmail.com](mailto:ttheresaathletics@gmail.com)

#### St. Theresa Men's Club

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

#### Legion of Mary

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

#### WINGS

Deb McJilton [dolcedeb@yahoo.com](mailto:dolcedeb@yahoo.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)

#### Kinderchurch

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



**100TH JUBILEE**

## *Dinner Dance*


Premier viewing of the St. Theresa Community documentary

Live music by The Marchmen

Dinner with wine \$100 per person - adults only  
All dinner selections include salad, pasta with marinara sauce and mixed vegetables  
Your entre choices are as follows:  
Chicken Marsala or New York Strip Roast or Eggplant Parmesan

**JANUARY 10, 2026**  
6 P M

**COLOMBO CLUB**  
Place your order using the QR code



## 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**



## St. Theresa Church 100th Jubilee Celebration

The parish is celebrating its 100th Jubilee.

## Upcoming Events



Join us for the annual:

## Holiday Pancake Breakfast


**December 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00am-11:30am**  
**St Theresa Event Center**

Visit with Santa and  
take holiday photos.



**\$11/adult**  
**\$7/child**  
(8<sup>th</sup> grade and under)

Buy your tickets now!





**COME AND HELP DECORATE  
THE CHURCH FOR  
CHRISTMAS!**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21**  
**AT 10:15 AM**

Many hands are needed especially to  
assemble the Christmas trees, hang  
wreaths, put together the nativity  
scene and many other jobs.

**Come and volunteer for  
1 or 2 hours.**



**Mass Intentions - November 29—December 7**

Sat. 5:00 pm ☩ Abbie Jeanne Clark  
 Sun. 9:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa

Mon. 8:30 am Marilyn McCabe  
 Tues. 8:30 am Marilyn McCabe  
 Wed. 8:30 am ☩ Dee Humm  
 Thurs. 8:30 am ☩ McArtor Family  
 Fri. 8:30 am Sylvia Oliveriez

Sat. 5:00 pm ☩ Peter Oliveriez, Sr.  
 Sun. 9:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa

**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 (December 1 - 7):**

Online: 64 Donors \$ 4,353.00  
 Mass Donations: 35 Donors \$ 4,946.00

**Parish Maintenance & Improvement:**

Online: 43 Donors (Nov. 3 - Dec. 7) \$ 7,122.00  
 Mass/Drop-Off/Mailed: 21 Donors \$ 886.00

**Immaculate Conception:**

Online: 3 Donors \$ 135.00  
 Mass/Drop-Off/Mailed: 11 Donors \$ 544.00



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*

**JOY to the WORLD****Christmas Mass Schedule****December 24**

5:00 pm Children's Liturgy  
 9:00 pm Concert \*\*  
 10:00 pm Mass \*\*

**December 25**

10:00 am Mass

\*\* Service will be live streamed for the sick & homebound

**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](mailto:admin@sttheresaokland.org) or 341.202.0077

**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, Susan Springer, Wendy Jones, Orlanda Gonzalez, Kevin Chapman, Diane Cerille, Tom Wilberding, Danny Ramos, Mark Leonard, Christopher Rodriguez, Maryanne Walsh, Rhonda Santeen, John Whatley, Nancy Coyne, Kevin Stallone, Della Spinelli, Susan Buller, Ann Springer, Ray Bertolotti, William McCarthy, Cindy Crimmins, Fred & Lidia Loupy, Rebecca Rogers, Kathleen Guevara, Clarence Robinson, Armando Diaz de Leon, Fr. Ron Schmidt, Bonnie & John Bouey, Susan Rubio, Fr. Paul Schmidt, Phil Stover, Joey Smith, Raymond Buckley, Jr., Norma Ninalga, Betty Jo Olson, Jennifer Walwark, Greg Govan, Anita Lim, Marilyn McCabe, Steve Lauth, Mary Malloy, John Donovan, Mary Martinez, James Spalding, Tiffany Converse, Adrian McEvilly, Joan Marchi, Diana Nelson Curtis, Charlie Schnellbacher, Maureen Carver, Vince Nims, Barrett Baker, Rick Fama, Eleanor Ceccarelli, Lois Johnson, Antoinette Tamburrino, Anne Marie Roseme, Greg Anderson, Judy Udove, Mary McCole, baby Gianna Sorbello, Mary Ann Giuntoli.

**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:** <https://sttheresaokland.org/about-us/contact-us>  
 OR

**Email** [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.

**Bishop's Ministries Appeal 2025 Parish Goal \$35,800**

Percentage Achieved 46.90%

\$16,790 as of NOVEMBER 30, 2025

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

Donation Envelopes are available in the church vestibule

Checks must be made out to the Roman Catholic Bishop of Oakland.



## A Word from our Pastor

Gaudete: rejoice, the Lord is near!

This Gaudete Sunday, I want to quickly acknowledge all who have responded to my appeal letter. A number of special donations have already arrived and our Finance Committee which met this past week is breathing easier as our everyday expenses have increased and several of our major donors have passed away or moved away. We are running at a deficit as we look for more ways to go forward, but every donation makes that easier and I just want to say thank you and will give a full report in the New Year.

Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent, named after the Latin word for "rejoice". It signifies a break from the penitential nature of Advent to rejoice in the imminent arrival of Jesus for Christmas. This joy is reflected by wearing rose color vestments and lighting the third candle, known as the "Gaudete" or "Shepherd's" candle, on the Advent wreath.

The third candle on the Advent wreath is lit, symbolizing the joy of the shepherds and the growing anticipation for Christ's birth.

Theologians tell us It is a time to focus on the joy of Christ's first coming and to anticipate his second coming. It reminds believers that joy is found in God's presence, even amidst difficulties.

Gaudete Sunday is a counterpart to Laetare Sunday in the liturgical season of Lent. It provides a similar break about midway through a season and signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming.

While the theme of Advent is a focus on the coming of Jesus in three ways: His first, His present, and His final Advent, the readings for Gaudete Sunday focus on rejoicing in the Lord — Christian joy — as well as the mission of St. John the Baptist and his connection with Advent.

Joy vs. Happiness

Theologian Henri Nouwen described the difference between joy and happiness. While happiness depends on external conditions, joy is "the experience of knowing that you are unconditionally loved and that nothing — sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death — can take that love away." Thus, joy can be present even amid sadness.

Pope Francis's Words of Wisdom

In his 2014 Gaudete Sunday homily, Pope Francis said that Gaudete Sunday is known as the "Sunday of joy" and that instead of fretting about "all they still haven't" done to prepare for Christmas, people should "think of all the good things life has given you."

So, I invite you all to rejoice and celebrate with joy. A good start is with the pancake breakfast today in the Event Center. There might be a line like any breakfast place on a Sunday morning, but you will be with fellow parishioners who everyday are celebrating and demonstrating God's presence with us today.

Then, after some Sunday time for relaxation, think about what made past Christmases in your family and among your friends memorable. I would guess the Lord's presence just received in hearing God's Word and being nourished by the Sacrament fueled that joy and the love you treasure from those moments. Then follow Pope Francis' advice found above: think of all the good things life has given you." And say AMEN and then REJOICE!



## Weekly Readings December 15 - 21

### Monday:

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a  
Ps 25  
Mt 21:23-27

### Tuesday:

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13  
Ps 34  
Mt 21:28-32

### Wednesday:

Gn 49:2, 8-10  
Ps 172  
Mt 1:1-17

### Thursday:

Jer 23:5-8  
Ps 72  
Mt 1:18-25

### Friday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a  
Ps 71  
Lk 1:5-25

### Saturday:

Is 7:10-14  
Ps 24  
Lk 1:26-38

### Sunday:

Is 7:10-14  
Ps 24  
Rom 1:1-7  
Mt 1:18-24



Theme for the  
year:

"Pilgrims of Hope"

December 17<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Break

## Parish Calendar

Find out what is  
happening at the  
parish:

[https://  
sttheresaokland.org/  
calendar](https://sttheresaokland.org/calendar)