

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: 341.220.0077
 After Hours Medical Emergency:
 510.547.2777, Option #4

Parish Website: www.sttheresaokland.org

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

YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrQXTsa_7qmNClw

Parish Main Line: 510.547.2777 (ext. 120)

Parish Office: (direct line) 341.202.0077

Cecile Cuttitta
 Yvonne Gabor

Rev. Robert J. McCann, Pastor

rjmccann@sttheresaokland.org
 (direct line) 341.202.0159

Rev. Ngema W. Enow, In Residence

ngemawil.enow@gmail.com
 (direct line) 341.202.0137

Cathy Brady, Liturgy Director

cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org
 (direct line) 341.202.0086

Rob Cakebread, Music Ministry Director

rob@sttheresaokland.org
 (direct line) 341.202.0139

Sophia Kassab, Parish Communications

sophia@sttheresaokland.org
 (direct line) 341.202.0134

Keri Nims, Coordinator Early Childhood Catechesis & RCIC

keri@sttheresaokland.org
 (direct line) 341.202.0076

Alicia Ortegon, St. Theresa School Principal

a_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org
 510.547.3146
 website: www.sttheresaschool.org

Baptisms and Marriages

by appointment, call parish office 510.547.2777, ext. 120, or email admin@sttheresaokland.org

To arrange a Funeral

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

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

Keri Nims ~ keri@sttheresaokland.org

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:**

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 ttheresaathletics@gmail.com

St. Theresa Men's Club

mensclubsttheresa@gmail.com

Legion of Mary

Tom Wallace tomw1313@sbcglobal.net

WINGS

Deb McJilton dolcedeb@yahoo.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

Kinderchurch

Shannon Ciston s.ciston@gmail.com

MICHAEL C. BARBER, S.J.
BISHOP OF OAKLAND



2121 HARRISON STREET
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612
510.267.8316

April 28, 2026

Dear brother priests and faithful of the Diocese of Oakland,

In 2021 we began the Mission Alignment Process, (MAP) a diocesan-wide effort to engage our clergy and our parishioners in a process of self-reflection and renewal.

I write to you today regarding the next phase of MAP and the important role each one of us must play in aligning our operations with our sacred mission. With God's help and with the resilience of our common faith, we press on in making our parishes places where people encounter Christ in the celebration of the Sunday liturgy, in our living the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and in our witness as missionary disciples.

We do this important work not in a vacuum, but in light of the diocesan-wide trends in declining Mass attendance, participation in the sacraments and Catholic school enrollment began in the early 2010s. We are also at an all-time low of priests assigned to our 80 parishes, and the average age of our priests continues to climb. Some parishes and schools are struggling with financial sustainability. Meanwhile, some parishes are seeing growth, as demographics in the East Bay are changing.

While many of our parishes were built to serve the Catholic Church of 1965, we now have far fewer priests and parishioners. Not all parishes can afford to pay for a support staff to fully serve the parish and our missionary aspirations. Others are surviving on rental of parish parking lots or empty school facilities.

Our parishes were not created to be monuments to the past. As described in *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), "The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community" (No. 28).

Our clergy and lay parish leaders participated in 2021-22 in a deep and extensive MAP consultation, looking at parish data that revealed where our parishes are struggling most.

The results of that consultation require significant change, change which is challenging for all involved. And, if we are open to the Holy Spirit, this change can also bring new life and blessings. Our Savior tells us, "See, I make all things new" (Rev. 21:5). We rest in that promise as we remind ourselves that, "if the parish proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptivity, it continues to be 'the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters'" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, No. 28).

This renewal begins with an effort to refocus on missionary work, therefore aligning our daily work with our divine mission. We must focus on the activities that foster prayerful celebrations of the Mass, prioritize works of mercy, and form missionary disciples.

The status quo is not sustainable nor is it serving God's people.

FOR THE GREATER GLORY OF GOD

We have successfully closed worship sites in the past. With considerable consultation and sustained prayer, I have determined it is necessary to close the following parish sites and pastoral center, and provide welcoming accommodation of all affected parishioners at another convenient location.

- Mary Help of Christians, Oakland
- Our Lady of Guadalupe site at Blacow Road, Fremont
- Our Lady of Lourdes, Oakland
- Sacred Heart, Oakland
- St. Albert the Great, Alameda
- St. Andrew Kim Korean Pastoral Center, Oakland
- St. Augustine, Oakland
- St. Barnabas, Alameda
- St. Paschal Baylon, Oakland
- St. Patrick, Oakland
- St. Rose of Lima, Crockett
- St. Stephen, Walnut Creek
- Transfiguration, Castro Valley

As I have full responsibility for the pastoral care of every Catholic in our diocese, it is my priority to ensure all affected parishioners are welcomed at a nearby parish. Many of these parish sites are already currently merged or clustered with another parish. I am committed to working with all to find the best solutions in each situation.

In addition, I want to say the following regarding MAP and the bankruptcy process. As you know, we are currently seeking bankruptcy court approval of our proposed plan of reorganization. Regardless of that outcome, we must face the realities described above and proceed with these closures.

I deeply understand the sacrifice this will require. We cannot allow nostalgia and sentimentality to hold back the message of the Gospel. While we love our local church building, the church has never been solely a building. The church has always been a people called by God and united in faith. The faith of our people will continue, just in a different place and with new people.

I ask all to join me in praying for those immediately affected by these changes. I also make a heartfelt plea to the "receiving" parishes to open your hearts wide to your fellow Catholics who will be joining you. Love them, make room for them not only in the pew alongside you, but in the activities of your parish. Welcome them as your own, for we are all one as Christ's body.

Together, we will fulfill Christ's mission to go and make disciples, to the ends of the earth, as we rely on His promise that He will be with us always.

With the assurance of my prayers and blessing, I am

Yours sincerely in Christ,

The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.
Bishop of Oakland

SCHOLASTIC

It's **BOOK FAIR** time!

DATE: May 2nd-May 8th

LOCATION: The Parish Meeting Rooms

TIMES: 8:30-4:30

Book Fair eWallet

Easy for families to set up, easy for others to contribute. eWallet lets your child shop independently and choose books they want to read. After the Fair, any unspent funds become a Scholastic eGift balance to use at a future Fair or to shop online.

Visit our school's Book Fair homepage to get started:

[ST. T'S BOOK FAIR WEBSITE :https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/sttheresaschool6](https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/sttheresaschool6)

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St. Theresa School will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in the meeting rooms the week of May 4th. All are welcome to shop for books and gifts for the young readers in their lives, and sales benefit St. Theresa school. Book Fair fundraising will be used to stock the shelves of our very own school library.

Confirmation

May 17, 2026, 10:30 am Mass, at Corpus Christi Church

Our Confirmation Candidates have been part of our combined Deanery Confirmation program this year.

Theme for the year:

"Pilgrims of Hope"

May 6, 2026

Molleen N. Depree-Dominguez, M.Div.

Religious Studies Department Chair
at Bishop O'Dowd High School

Discernment as an Act of Resistance

A Word from our Pastor



Welcome and congratulations to our second grade students who make their First Holy Communion at the 5pm Mass! Girls and boys, you have studied diligently, attended Mass many times and practiced the prayers. Your questions have helped all of us recall the great gift the Eucharist is to sustain all of us on our journey of faith in each day of our lives. We have watched you come up on the Communion line and cross your arms over your chest and heart with respect. Today we are so happy that you will join us today and for the rest of your lives, every time you participate at Mass. May this process bring you and all of us closer to Jesus and each other as we walk this life to God's kingdom one day.

I want to thank all who got us to this day. Mariela Kadow is our amazing second grade teacher and she has been very diligent in preparation for this day since the school year began this year. Keri Nims and our principal, Alicia Ortegon, have guided the special lessons leading up to this day. Rob Cakebread gave extra time to teaching our students the music we sing at Mass to help them and all to actively participate when we pray together. Special gratitude and thanks to the parents of our First Communicants. You chose to have them baptized and are the first teachers of the faith to them. Congratulations on your work and may the Lord help you to continue to foster this spiritual part of their lives each day so we may all rejoice one day in what Jesus has promised to his disciples.

Last year, we displayed the pictures of many who have gone before us in this parish who celebrated their First Communion here. Throughout our celebrations of being a parish for a hundred years, we treasure hundreds and thousands of moments that we are sure have brought us closer to the Lord and one another. A parish exists for that reason and the mission to bring Christ's good news to our neighbors, friends, family, community, and world. This has taken shape in many ways throughout the two thousand years the Church has existed.

On Wednesday morning we woke up to news that the diocesan Mission Alignment Process a bishop had determined that thirteen of our eighty parishes will be closed. I refer to you read the actual letter making this announcement and some of the reasons that has caused these decisions to be made. (You may find it in our bulletin, Friday Flocknote and on the diocesan website.)

Several of our neighboring parishes are affected: Sacred Heart, St. Patrick's, St. Augustine's, and Our Lady of Lourdes are all fairly close to our parish location. If you know any parishioners that are affected, please reach out and contact them. Offer them your prayers and support and assure them they are welcome to join our parish community.

Change is never easy, especially the older we get. Even though our Church is growing nationally with the most recent census and reception of adults this past Easter, in our own diocese, where many Catholics once lived, now has much fewer and places to our East is bursting and that is just one of the many reasons for these decisions.

Let us commit ourselves to treasure our parish, recommit to keep it vitalized and supported and always on the watch to welcome and bring in the newcomer. I conclude with a few words the bishop used in his announcement this past week:

"Pope Francis again reminds us that we cannot be so burdened with the past that we cannot birth the future Church: "The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. While certainly not the only institution which evangelizes, if the parish proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptivity, it continues to be 'the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters.'" (Evangelii Gaudium, The Joy of the Gospel, No. 28)

Weekly Readings May 4 - 10

Monday:

Acts 14:5-18
Ps 115
Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday:

Acts 14:19-28
Ps 145
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday:

Acts 15:1-6
Ps 122
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday:

Acts 15:7-21
Ps 96
Jn 15:9-11

Friday:

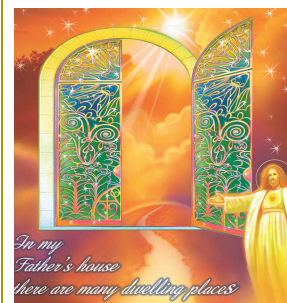
Acts 15:22-31
Ps 57
Jn 15:12-17

Saturday:

Acts 16:1-10
Ps 100
Jn 15:18-21

Sunday:

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
Ps 66
1 Pt 3:15-18
Jn 14:15-21



Parish Calendar

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