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COMMUNITY

ST. THERESA MISSION STATEMENT

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

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME



Summer Concert on the Grass
following the Back to School Mass.

Thank you to the St. Theresa Dad's
Band for providing the music.



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Happy Labor Day weekend! This is a good time to reaffirm Catholic Social teaching regarding labor that was clearly articulated in 1891 by Pope Leo XIII. Here is a brief edited summary of the encyclical *Rerum Novarum* written by Barbara Nanari:

"All Catholic social doctrine is based on the dignity of the human person. Man derives both his dignity and his social nature from the fact that he is made in the image and likeness of God. God is a community of loving relationships between the three Persons of the Blessed Trinity. Man, similarly seeks out loving relationships in his life on earth. As man by his very nature desires to live in loving community with others and with God, Catholic social doctrine seeks to support all that facilitates this endeavor and seeks to eliminate all that hampers this endeavor. While the Catholic Church is primarily concerned with the salvation of souls and with one's eternal destiny, it is also genuinely concerned with man's earthly existence and his temporal welfare during his pilgrimage to his eternal home."

In 1891, in response to a growing disparity of wealth in many areas of the world, Pope Leo XIII wrote an encyclical letter that addressed the rights and duties of those with capital who employed laborers and the rights and duties of laborers toward those with greater wealth who employed them. This encyclical, called *Rerum Novarum* (hereafter RN), laid out fundamental principles for the relationship between "capital" and "labor," and responded to both negative and positive methods that were being employed to deal with this problem.

Seven principles of Catholic social doctrine that were laid out in this encyclical. They are as applicable today as they were over a hundred years ago.

The dignity of the human person, as mentioned above, comes from the fact that man is created in the image and likeness of God. Each person has God's life, law and love deeply imprinted on his very nature. God, each person has the ability and desire to both give and receive life, law, and love to others. The ability of man to practice virtues regarding God and his fellow man gives him a value much higher than any other earthly creature. His ability to practice virtues like prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance allows him to bring to fulfillment the powers and gifts that he possesses, hopefully in loving communion with God and his fellow man.

The common good, according to RN, is truly more about making man virtuous than granting man material comforts. Pope Leo XIII believed that the highest good a society is virtue. For if everyone in society was virtuous, then there would be just and fair laws, and no one would be without the means to live fairly well because Christian charity would cause others to provide for those who were needy.

Pope Leo XIII states that if the needs of the common laborers are met, then they are more productive and those with capital benefit as well. He writes that to obtain profit and in the process cause another to be needy is morally wrong. Rather, when one is blessed with material wealth, one should use this to benefit as many others as possible.

Subsidiarity is a very important principle in Catholic social doctrine. While RN does not use this term specifically, it refers to the basic principle. States or governments should not replace the rights and responsibilities of families. Rather, those in authority in government should see themselves in a parental role of guidance and protection. Government should be at the service of the family, not vice versa.



Participation is the principle that every person in a society should participate in building up society, while keeping in mind God's plan for the human person individually and communally. This principle is based on the belief that every person has been given gifts and talents by God to grow in virtue themselves and to aid others in growing in virtue. By using one's gifts and abilities, one can achieve his highest good and intended end, as well as help others to do the same. God wants man to participate in the world in which he lives. He wants man to participate in a life with the Blessed Trinity and with one's fellow man. This goes back to the human person's social nature; the fact that man was created for communion, not for isolation. Participation is a duty to be fulfilled by all, whereby one contributes to the cultural, economic, political, and social life of the civil community to which he belongs.

Solidarity is the principle that all members of society have a responsibility to help the other members of their family, community or country with the needs and problems that they cannot remedy themselves. This includes protecting and caring for those who are weak, injured, or unable to provide for themselves for one reason or another. States have a duty to prevent abuses of basic human rights and punish abuses when families and communities are unable or unwilling to take care of abuses on their own.

The right of private property is explained extensively in RN. Pope Leo XIII states that private property represents the wages that one has rightfully earned, and that one needs private property to provide for the needs of one's family.

Universal destination of goods is the principle that God made the goods of the earth for the use of all men so that all would be fed, clothed, and sheltered. RN states that Christian living should lead to temporal prosperity for all; not necessarily great temporal wealth for all, but adequate food and shelter for all. For this to be a reality, man must share the goods of the earth with all."

Several popes after Pope Leo have affirmed and restated these principles and they are clearly part of the Church's magisterium. Unfortunately, as we commemorate another Labor Day, many in our current society do not adhere to these principles. So, this Labor Day I invite all to pray for all who labor, to pray that the work anyone does will be enough to sustain themselves and their family, and that this ongoing teaching may one day lead to a world where no one is hungry, and no one is homeless.

*"It is not enough to say we are Christians.
We must live the faith,
not only with our words,
but with our actions."*
— Pope Francis

St. Theresa Parish Social Justice Committee Presents:



Fr. James Martin, SJ

*Building A Bridge:
How to Reach Out to our
LGBTQ Friends*

September 22, 6:00 PM
on Zoom

Please join the St. Theresa Parish Social Justice Committee on **September 22nd** as we proudly present distinguished guest speaker **Rev. James Martin, SJ.**

Fr. Martin is a Jesuit priest and the Editor-at-Large for America Media. A prolific writer, Fr. Martin wrote the NY Times bestseller The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything: A Spirituality for Real Life, as well as My Life with the Saints, and Jesus: A Pilgrimage. He is a sought-after public speaker and media commentator on subjects such as the life and teachings of Jesus, and Ignatian spirituality inspired by the life and teachings of Saint Ignatius of Loyola. In 2017, Pope Francis appointed Fr. Martin as a consultant to the Vatican's Secretariat for Communications.

Please RSVP to Lydia Deck at ldeck@me.com
for a link to the meeting.

This is a presentation not to be missed!



2021-2022 Faith Formation Registration

Registration Weekend for the following ministries will take place after all Masses the weekend of **August 28th & 29th**. Registration packets are available in the church vestibule and on the parish website (follow the Formation link).

Online registration is also available at:

<https://sttheresaokland.org/formation>.

- **KinderChurch**
- **FFF (Family Faith Formation, Gr. 1-5)**
- **First Holy Eucharist Preparation**
- **RCIC (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children)**
- **MSYM (Middle School Youth Ministry, Gr. 6-8)**
- **Confirmation Years I & II (High School Gr. 9 & 10)**
- **HSYM (High School Youth Ministry)**

For additional information, please contact:

Keri Nims, Early Childhood Catechesis and RCIC
Jenny Bruni, High School Youth Ministry



Save the Date ~ October 3

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



Are you or someone you know interested in joining the Catholic Church?

ARE YOU UNBAPTIZED, SEEKING A FAITH COMMUNITY?

OR

ARE YOU BAPTIZED IN ANOTHER FAITH?

OR

ARE YOU A BAPTIZED CATHOLIC SEEKING TO COMPLETE THE SACRAMENTS OF FIRST EUCHARIST AND/OR CONFIRMATION?

~~~~~  
RCIA might be just what you are looking for. A new inquiry session will begin in September.

Contact Cathy Brady at [cathy\\_b@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org) for more information, or to register for our sessions beginning in September.

### VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT MASS

A thank you to all who over the past year have helped to make our celebration of the liturgy safe, dignified and reverent. Your commitment to the parish has been a blessing.

There is a need for volunteers for the following ministries at the 5:00 pm Saturday and 10:00 am Sunday Masses.

- † **Lector**
- † **Eucharistic Minister**
- † **Videographer**  
(for live-stream at the 10:00 am Sunday Mass)
- † **Greeter**
- † **Usher**

All the information on how to volunteer and the various options can be found on the parish website at: <https://sttheresaokland.org/reopening>

There will be a mandatory training session for Eucharistic Ministers to go over the current protocols for the distribution of the Eucharist.

### LIVE-STREAM MASS FOR HOMEBOUND & ILL



The Sunday 10:00 am Mass is live-streamed for the HOMEBOUND and ILL on the St. Theresa Facebook page [StTheresaChurch/Oakland](https://www.facebook.com/StTheresaChurchOakland).

**SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE (SJC) CORNER**

*"I There is no 'them' and 'us'. There is only us." — Fr. Greg Boyle*

We send prayers to Afghanistan, Haiti, and those suffering from hurricane Ida, wildfires and those suffering from COVID. We know that many have been exploring ways to support relief efforts. Charity Navigator is a good place to see what many organizations are doing and has rating systems to see where your dollars are going.

But we know everyone is busy so here is a short list:

**Hurricane Ida Relief:**

Catholic Charities USA has set up a Text-to-Give for Hurricane Ida donations. To donate, **text HurrIda to 41444** or visit [www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org). To donate by phone, call 1-800-919-9338.

**Afghanistan:**

International Committee of the Red Cross  
International Rescue Committee  
Save the Children

**Haiti:**

Catholic Relief Services- //www.crs.org/our-work-overseas/where-we-work/haiti  
UNICEF  
Project HOPE  
Hope for Haiti

**Wildfires:**

American Red Cross

Also remember our 'save the date' on September 22<sup>nd</sup> as the Social Justice Committee welcomes guest speaker **Rev. James Martin, SJ**. He is a Jesuit priest and the Editor-at-Large for America Media. He wrote the NY Times Bestseller, *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything: A Spirituality for Real Life*.

Fr. Martin's presentation, **Building a Bridge: How to Reach Out to our LGBTQ Friends**, is scheduled on Wednesday, **September 22, at 6:00pm** via Zoom. Please RSVP to Lydia Deck at [ltdeck@me.com](mailto:ltdeck@me.com) for a link to the meeting. This is a presentation not to be missed!

**California Eviction Moratorium extended to September 30, 2021**

Governor Gavin Newsom signed legislation to extend the state's eviction moratorium through September 30, 2021 and clear rent debt for low-income Californians that have suffered economic hardship due to the pandemic. California will significantly increase cash assistance to low-income tenants and small landlords under the state's \$5.2 billion rent relief program to now cover 100 percent of past-due and prospective rent payments, as well as utility bills for income-qualified tenants.

Our Parish Conference of St Vincent de Paul will continue to help our neighbors in need, including assisting those who qualify for California's rent relief program to apply for and receive these State funds.

If you know of anyone in need requiring assistance, please refer them to our Conference.

Our Parish SVdP Conference meets bimonthly, every third Saturday at 9:30am. Our next meeting is September 18. If interested in learning more about our Conference's work, contact Judy Bojorquez at [jtsbojorquez@yahoo.com](mailto:jtsbojorquez@yahoo.com) to be added to email distribution and with any questions you might have.

To volunteer at the St. Vincent de Paul Center in Oakland contact the Volunteer Coordinator: Kellie Foster - 510-277-6435 or [kfoster@svdp-alameda.org](mailto:kfoster@svdp-alameda.org).

**WEEKLY READINGS**

*September 6 - 12*

**Monday:**

Col 1:24-2:3  
Ps 62  
Lk 6:6-11

**Tuesday:**

Col 2:6-15  
Ps 145  
Lk 6:12-19

**Wednesday:**

Mi 5:1-4a  
Ps 13  
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

**Thursday:**

Col 3:12-17  
Ps 150  
Lk 6:27-38

**Friday:**

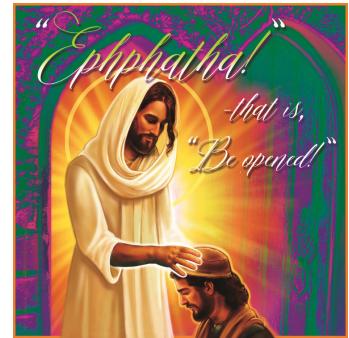
1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14  
Ps 16  
Lk 6:39-42

**Saturday:**

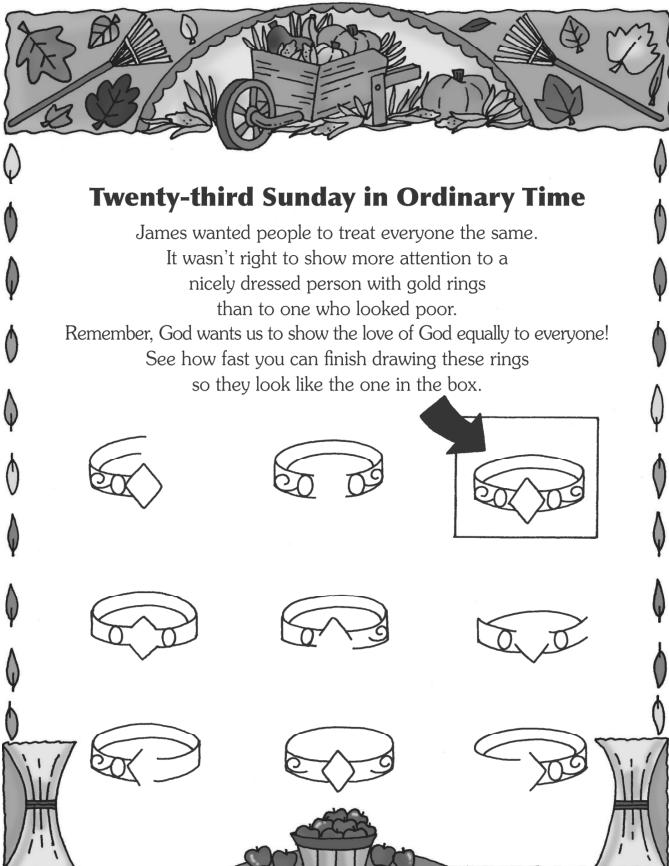
1 Tm 1:15-17  
Ps 113  
Lk 6:43-49

**Sunday:**

Is 50:4c-9a  
Ps 116  
Jas 2:14-18  
Mk 8:27-35



# God's Word for Children



God told the prophet Isaiah what to say to us when we feel afraid (Isaiah 35:4). To find what that is, use the star code to fill in the circles. Then tell a friend what you have learned.

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| $\star = g$             | $\star \star = o$       |
| $\star \star = n$       | $\star \star \star = d$ |
| $\star \star \star = e$ | $\star \star \star = +$ |

Bo sOron  
feor +!

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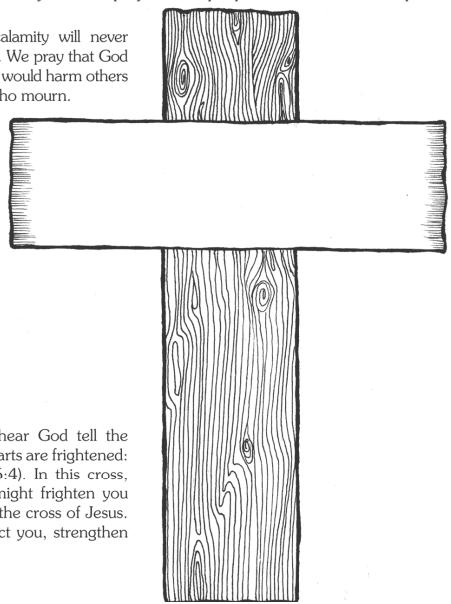
## BE STRONG, FEAR NOT

On September 11, 2001, a great tragedy struck our nation. Hundreds of people died, many others were injured, and parts of our country were destroyed. Each year on the anniversary of this event, we remember those who lost their lives and pray for their families and friends. With Christian generosity we also pray for the people who took over the planes and created the disaster.

We pray that this sort of calamity will never happen again. We pray for peace. We pray that God will soften the hearts of those who would harm others and comfort the hearts of those who mourn.

On September 14, the Church celebrates an important feast, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The cross, a symbol of the suffering and death of Jesus, is also a sign of hope. The cross that seems to be a tragedy is also a sign of victory. Death is overcome by new life for those who believe. We pray that victims of all tragedies find peace in the new life promised them by God.

In today's first reading we hear God tell the prophet, "Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not!" (Isaiah 35:4). In this cross, write some of the things that might frighten you or make you sad. Place them in the cross of Jesus. Ask Jesus to comfort and protect you, strengthen you, and calm your fears.



# PARISH INFORMATION



## MASS SCHEDULE:

Face Masks are required for all people attending Mass regardless of vaccination status.

**Weekday: 8:30 am (Mon.-Fri.)**

**Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm**

**Sunday: 10:00 am**

## RECONCILIATION:

**Saturday: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

## PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS:

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

*Please ring doorbell for entrance to parish offices.*

**Phone: 510.547.2777**

**After Hours Medical Emergency Line: 510.610.7715**

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

**Facebook:** StTheresaChurch/Oakland

## PARISH STAFF: 510.547.2777

**Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 121**

*Pastor*

[rjmccann@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:rjmccann@sttheresaoakland.org)

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

*In Residence*

**Rev. Ngema W. Enow, ext. 128**

*In Residence*

**Cathy Brady, ext. 126**

*Liturgy Director*

[cathy\\_b@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org)

**Jenny Bruni, ext. 123**

*High School Youth Ministry Coordinator*

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**Rob Cakebread, ext. 127**

*Music Ministry Director*

[rob@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:rob@sttheresaoakland.org)

**Melody Marr, ext. 120**

*Parish Administrator*

[melody@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:melody@sttheresaoakland.org)

**Keri Nims, ext. 124**

*Coordinator for Early Childhood Catechesis & RCIC*

[keri@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:keri@sttheresaoakland.org)

**ST. THERESA SCHOOL**

Alicia Ortegon, 510.547.3146

*St. Theresa School Principal*

[a\\_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org](mailto:a_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org)

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@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:keri@sttheresaoakland.org)

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

## High School Youth Ministry/Confirmation

Jenny Bruni ~ [jenny@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:jenny@sttheresaoakland.org)

## R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Contact

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

## Parish Organizations

### Pastoral Council:

Carrie Schaefer

[caralee\\_schaefer@yahoo.com](mailto:caralee_schaefer@yahoo.com)

### Finance Council:

Carolyn Mahoney

[carolyn.mahoney675@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.mahoney675@gmail.com)

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

Greg Govan

[glogevan@comcast.net](mailto:glogevan@comcast.net)

### CYO (Catholic Youth Organization):

Clarence Robinson

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

### St. Theresa Men's Club

PJ McGahan

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

### Legion of Mary

Tom Wallace

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

### WINGS

Sharon Chipman

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

Ruthanne Allen-Hunt

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### Social Justice Committee (SJC)

Lydia Deck

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

### Consolation Ministry

Cecile Cuttitta

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### Men's Faith Sharing

Jim Frei

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

### Cursillo

Sharon Chipman

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### Kinderchurch

Shanon Ciston

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