

# ST. THERESA

# PARISH 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  
AS JESUS TAUGHT US.

DECEMBER 4, 2022

SECOND SUNDAY  
OF  
ADVENT

# Advent



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John the Baptist appeared,  
preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,  
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

MATTHEW 3:1

**MASS INTENTIONS - DECEMBER 3 - 11**

Sat. 5:00 pm † Chris Cutler  
 Sun. 9:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa

Mon. 8:30 am  
 Tues. 8:30 am  
 Wed. 8:30 am  
 Thurs. 8:30 am † Peter Cuttitta  
 7:30 pm Parish Community  
 Fri. 8:30 am † Tina Bruno

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

**KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US**

Via email or text message:



- ◆ Receive the weekly Friday Flocknote
- ◆ Receive parish updates and notices of special events
- ◆ Unsubscribe anytime

Sign-up at: [flocknote.com/StTheresa30](https://flocknote.com/StTheresa30)

OR

Text: STT To: 84579

**SUNDAY OFFERING**

ONLINE GIVING :  
 (November 14 - 20) 56 DONORS **\$ 2,593.50**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:  
 (November 14 - 20) 38 DONORS **\$ 2,846.00**

CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:  
 ONLINE: 7 DONORS **\$ 270.00**  
 MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED: 17 DONORS **\$ 707.00**

ONLINE GIVING :  
 (November 21 - 27) 56 DONORS **\$ 3,279.50**

MASS/DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:  
 (November 21 - 27) 38 DONORS **\$ 2,891.00**



Online Giving makes spreading generosity quick, convenient, and secure!

Please consider choosing one of our e-giving methods listed below and schedule a recurring gift:



**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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

To request a Mass Intention contact Melody Marr at [melody@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:melody@sttheresaokland.org) or 510.547.2777, ext. 120

**DECEASED**

Please remember in your prayers, those who have died especially Eileen Vohs the wife of Jim Vohs; Evangeline Tinajero the sister of Lydia Deck.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ALL THOSE WHO ARE ILL ESPECIALLY:**

Matt Mercier, Heidi Parmelee, Aiden Farinella, Dolores Gomez, Alegria Hipolito, Betty Wharton, Juanita Estrella, Leslie Fischer, Mike Reilly, Dorothy Donnelly, Olga Lamberti, Wendy Parmelee, Roger Baylocq, Ida Scodella, Alicia Gonzalez, Denise Moore, Diana Martínez, Susan Springer, Margie Sullivan, Maddie Heitkemper, Joan Simmons, Badri Nakhjavani, Eddie Bradford, Wendy Jones, Bob Rogers, Orlanda Gonzalez, Kevin Chapman, Diane Cerille, Ruth McCabe, Tom Wilberding, Shirley Roberts, Karen Milliman, Anita Perricelli, Danny Ramos, Mark Leonard, Christopher Rodriguez, Maryanne Walsh, Rhonda Santeen, John Whatley, Bishop John Cummins, Nancy Coyne, Kevin Stallone, Herman Carmassi, Della Spinelli, Kelly Keith, 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, Patty Estopinal, Msgr. Slade Crawford, Laura Jones, Jeff Mills, Mary Pat Power, Bonnie & John Bouey, Ann Maramba Farrell, Ida Scodella, Susan Rubio, Martin Tierney, Denise Baylocq, and all who have the corona virus throughout the world.

**LIVING STEWARDSHIP**

Spend some time in a quiet place. Use the silence to ask what God is waiting to tell you this Advent.

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**SUPPORT ST. THERESA CHURCH**

By using [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choosing St. **amazon**smile Theresa Catholic Church, location: Oakland, CA as your charity when you shop, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the parish.

**BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

December 4 bulletin was due by November 25 (Friday)  
 December 11 bulletin was due by December 2 (Friday)  
 December 18 bulletin is due by December 7 (Wednesday)  
 December 25 bulletin is due by December 13 (Tuesday)

Items must be received by 4:00 pm on the due date.

Email to [cathy\\_b@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org).



"Feed my lambs, feed my sheep"  
 2022 BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL

**Bishop's Ministries Appeal 2022**

**St. Theresa Parish Goal - \$35,800**

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

Percentage Achieved **59.694%**

**\$21,369.50** as of November 15, 2022

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Advent is the very fast season where we 'wait in hope for the coming of our Savior'. We celebrate this short season with preparations and early celebrations for the feast of the Nativity of Jesus, commonly known as Christmas. Advent is a season not to be missed in spite of the many distractions and counter signs of a different season.

Advent is filled with beautiful and hopeful special music and scripture readings. They point us to the long-awaited hope presented through the prophets to Israel, God's chosen people. They point us who are now 'God's chosen people through Baptism' to the joyful hope that Jesus is here to lead us as a good shepherd throughout this life and death to the fulfillment of God's love forever.

The claim that we are 'God's chosen people' does not and never should have been a reason to believe that this place has been taken away from Israel. God's love is always loving and does not change because of politics or the understanding of this revealed in Christ.

I write this because I and I hope all of us are dismayed by the upswing of anti-Semitism and racism in our day. I write this to affirm with Pope Francis and our bishops that this can have no place in our communities and especially in our hearts as we reflect on what God has done for all creation in the Incarnation of Jesus. Yet sadly the Church at different times even persecuted Jews misunderstanding God's unconditional love for all.

I grew up in a community where Catholics and Jews lived together. We were friends, family and celebrated the richness of each tradition. I remember wonderful Christmas cookies and food that would be exchanged and shared for amazing Hanukkah dinners and desserts. The saints of Israel, from Moses, Abraham and Sarah, Joseph, Ruth, Rebecca, and David are our heritage as well. We remember that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph and all the apostles and first disciples were born and died as Jews.

So, we must stand up and condemn any prejudice, hatred, or anti-Semitic sentiment. Again, I quote Maya Angelou who had simple words against prejudice and racism in her own family and friends: "Just stand up and say no!" I will not tolerate or be a part of this vile sentiment.

Our bishops last week issued the following comments that I share parts of here:



WASHINGTON - In 1965, Pope Paul VI issued the Vatican Council's declaration about other world religions, [\*Nostra Aetate\*](#) ("In our time"), marking a key milestone in the relationship between the Catholic Church and Judaism. As the 60th anniversary of this prophetic document approaches, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs has issued a statement urging all believers in Christ once again to decry all "hatred, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism, directed against Jews at any time and by anyone." (*Nostra Aetate*, 4).

The full Committee's statement follows:

"More than ever, members of the Body of Christ must now become aware of their spiritual ties to the Jewish people chosen first to hear the Word of God. In his letter to the Romans, Saint Paul spoke of the Church as wild shoots grafted onto an olive tree, that is, the Jews. He cautioned: "you do not support the root; the root supports you." (*Rom 11:17-24*) As a result, the Church must take care to protect that same route from which she continues to draw sustenance as all await in varied ways the coming of the Messiah. (cf. *Nostra Aetate*, 4). The rising trend of antisemitic incidents has become even more painful in light of the Church's relationship to the Jewish tradition and our connections to the Jewish people in dialogue and friendship.

"Over the last six decades, the USCCB's Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs has been proud to build partnerships with the National Council of Synagogues, the Orthodox Union, and the newly established Modern Orthodox Group, promoting those positive relations so encouraged by the Council. In each of these exchanges, leaders in the Catholic and Jewish faiths have learned to encounter each other in a spirit of good will and a sincere desire to encourage our respective faithful to live together in a society increasingly diverse in its racial, ethnic, religious, and political makeup.

## A WORD FROM THE PASTER CONTINUED

“Today, however, these same lessons are being challenged by the re-emergence of antisemitism in new forms. Outraged by the deeply hurtful proliferations of antisemitic rhetoric, both online and in-person, and the violent attacks on Jewish individuals, homes, and institutions, we wish to convey our sincere support to the Jewish people. As Pope Francis has stated, ‘A true Christian cannot be an antisemite.’ ([Address to Members of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations](#), June 24, 2013).

“We must remain ever vigilant of the various ways in which these dangers arise. In unequivocal terms, we condemn any and all violence directed at the Jewish people, whether motivated by religious, racial, or political grievances. We furthermore denounce any rhetoric which seeks to demonize or dehumanize the Jewish people or Judaism as a religious tradition. We continue to remind ourselves of the shared spiritual patrimony that remains the foundation of our relationship with the Jewish people. We affirm that the Jewish people cannot be held responsible for the death of Christ or be depicted as rejected or accursed in theological discourse. It must always be remembered that Jesus, Mary, and his apostles were all Jewish. Finally, we remain firm in our dedication to a just political solution - a secure and recognized Israel living in peace alongside a viable and independent Palestine.

“As partners and neighbors, we seek to foster bonds of friendship between members of the Body of Christ and the Jewish people. With this in mind, and in light of the upcoming 60th anniversary of *Nostra Aetate*, we recommit ourselves to broadening the implementation of the teaching found within that prophetic document. In the nearly six decades since the promulgation of *Nostra Aetate*, the relationship between the Church and the Jewish people has continued to grow and strengthen with mutual respect and admiration. May God continue to bless us with a renewed friendship and a mutual understanding that one day will allow us to address the Lord and stand as brothers and sisters to serve him ‘shoulder to shoulder.’ (Soph. 3.19).”

Members of the Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs:

Most Reverend David P. Talley, Chairman



Join us for the annual:

# Men's Club Pancake Breakfast

December 11<sup>th</sup>  
10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m.

St. Theresa Parish Hall  
Visit with Santa and  
take holiday photos.

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

Buy your tickets now!

Use the QR Code or the link on the parish website to place a ticket order.

<https://sttheresaokland.org/Pancake%20Breakfast>



## PARISH KEY INVENTORY

Dear parishioners – the office needs your assistance for a report. Recently our parish had a safety and security protocols inspection to be sure we are following diocesan guidelines. As a result, there is an item we need your assistance with. The parish office needs to have a Master List of *EVERY* key distributed for parish property. If you have a key or keys, please send me an email, [melody@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:melody@sttheresaokland.org), or you may call if you prefer, and let me know which keys you have and the location they are for. We've already begun making a list with some of the more recent handouts, however some were given out many years ago. If everyone with a key would respond by Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, it would be greatly appreciated.

Moving forward, should there be a need for a key that it not located in one of the lockboxes, you'll need to come to the office to obtain and sign for a key, which must be returned.

If you have questions, please contact the church office 510-547-2777 x120.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Please join us for our monthly *RISE & SHINE MASS* at 9am on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. This is a youth-friendly and youth-participatory Mass.

### 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 or due to the pandemic are hesitant to come back to Mass?

Shall we extend a gracious and loving invitation to these brothers and sisters to come home for Christmas?

**Send them a personal invitation, email them, give them a call and invite them to our Advent and Christmas liturgies or fill out the form on the parish website and we will contact them:**

<https://sttheresaokland.org/pray/advent>

#### ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES

Assisted Listening available at Weekend Masses  
There are two ways to enjoy crisp, clear audio in the church for our weekend Masses.

**Option 1:** Download the app, connect to the church wireless network, put in you earbuds, open the app and you are set.

The WiFi password you will need to connect to our wireless network will be available at the sound system desk before and after Mass.



Download the free Listen EVERYWHERE App



Connect to the venue's wireless network



Audio is delivered to your Smartphone

**Option 2:** Assisted Listening Devices are available at our weekend Masses. You can check out a device at the sound system desk prior to Mass.

If you have any questions contact Cathy Brady at [cathy\\_b@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org)

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, DECEMBER 8



The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is December 8<sup>th</sup>, and is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Masses will be at 8:30 am and 7:30 pm. The 7:30 pm Mass will be live-streamed for the sick and homebound.

#### WINGS ~ WOMEN IN GOD'S SPIRIT

**WINGS** Fall session meetings, take place on a Zoom platform from 9:15-11:15am, on Wednesdays. If you're new to WINGS or wish to sample a meeting, send your email address and request the week's Zoom link, and any questions you may have about joining WINGS, to Denise Mollen at [mollend@aol.com](mailto:mollend@aol.com). She will send you the link to Zoom. Our theme for the 2022/2023 year is:



*"Abide in God's Love"*

DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>

**CARRIE GOVAN SKELLY**

ARTIST

*Sharing Meditation and Centering Prayer Practices*

#### PARISH CALENDAR

Find out what is happening at the parish. The parish calendar is available on the parish website:

<https://sttheresaokland.org/calendar>

#### FRIDAY FLOCKNOTE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The Friday Flocknote Newsletter is now available on the parish website. Click on the Bulletin/Flocknote link in the upper right corner of the website or enter <https://sttheresaokland.org/Bulletin/Flocknote>

#### LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

Low Gluten hosts are available at all weekend Masses. They are less than 20 parts per million gluten, under .002%

Please use the presider's communion station to receive a low gluten host.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE (SJC) CORNER****Going through Advent-**

With special thanks to Cindy Crimmins-  
God made us stewards and co inheritors of the earth.

**Holiday waste prevention**

<https://lbre.stanford.edu/pssistanford-recycling/frequently-asked-questions/frequently-asked-questions-holiday-waste-prevention>

**Gift giving:** Thinks about gifts with an environmental message or gifts of time or homemade baked goods. Gifts that build relationships.

Great article in NYT by Reverend Tish Harrison Warren Called "Are We More Addicted To Shopping Than We Think?"

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/13/opinion/shopping-addicted-consumerism-christian.html>

The gist of the article is about using your gift giving to create relationships. So buy locally and when you enter a shop introduce yourself, and be inquisitive about the business and the people running it, same goes for local artisans, give experiences rather than gifts that build relationships with the giver and receiver, that means assembling that dollhouse and the bike with you child, or perhaps give a special outing or baking, gardening sewing, scrapbooking, art lessons etc. with a grandchild rather than something material.

**From Ignatian Solidarity Network-**

**This Advent, commit to simplicity.** In a season that can mistakenly be focused on gifts and consumption, explore ways to live simply as we hopefully prepare for the coming of Jesus and the restoration of the earth.

<https://ignatiansolidarity.net/advent-simplicity-challenge/>

Let's celebrate this season of hope by keeping it simple.

Join us for our meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for special guest speaker- Dr. Javay Ross.  
Please RSVP to Lydia Deck at [ltdeck@me.com](mailto:ltdeck@me.com)

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL****CURRENT NEEDS**

Volunteers Needed for the Dining Room at the Direct Services Campus in West Oakland: 8:30am to 1pm Tuesday through Saturday. Volunteers help prepare, and bag warm meals for our guests and serve the meals at the gated entrance to the courtyard. Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Kristen Bernal: Email [kbernal@svdp-alameda.org](mailto:kbernal@svdp-alameda.org) 510-277-6435.

**Men's Clothing** (casual, work, denim, and work pants, and shoes in good condition) and women's hygiene articles can be dropped off in the Church vestibule. These donations are distributed through SVDP Clothes Closet in our Downtown Community Center.

**Nonperishable, non-expired food donations:** Our on-going food collections for the needy people in the Sacred Heart Parish have been graciously acknowledged by those who have been served. This is becoming a regular opportunity for us to feed the hungry, especially during these difficult economic times. We bring the food to Sacred Heart around the third Sunday of the month. Food donations may be left in the back of the vestibule in various baskets next to the "Giving Tree at any time.

Our Parish SVdP Conference meets bimonthly, every third Saturday at 9:30am. 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 or with any questions.

You may use online giving to make a donation to the St. Theresa St. Vincent de Paul conference. <https://sttheresaokland.org/donate>.

**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](mailto: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](http://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.

**WEEKLY READINGS**

*December 5 - 11*

**Monday:**

Is 35:1-10  
Ps 85  
Lk 5:17-26

**Tuesday:**

Is 40:1-11  
Ps 96  
Mt 18:12-14

**Wednesday:**

Is 40:25-31  
Ps 103  
Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:**

Gn 3:9-15, 20  
Ps 98  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12  
Lk 1:26-38

**Friday**

Is 48:17-19  
Ps 1  
Mt 11:16-19

**Saturday:**

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11  
Ps 80  
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Sunday:**

Is 35:1-6a. 10  
Ps 146  
Jas 5:7-10  
Mt 11:2-11

# PARISH INFORMATION



## MASS SCHEDULE:

Face Masks are required for all unvaccinated people attending Mass.

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

**Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm**

**Sunday: 9:00 am**  
(live-stream on our YouTube channel)

## RECONCILIATION:

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

## PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS:

**Monday: 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm**

**Tuesday - Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm**

**Phone: 510.547.2777**

**After Hours Medical Emergency Line: 510.610.7715**

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

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

**YouTube [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrqXTsa\\_7qmNCIw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrqXTsa_7qmNCIw)**

## 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*

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

Cathy Brady, ext. 126

*Liturgy Director*

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

Jenny Bruni, ext. 123

*High School Youth Ministry Coordinator*

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

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)

Jenny Bruni and Keri Nims: Co-Coordinators

## High School Youth Ministry/Confirmation

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

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

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

## Parish Organizations

### Pastoral Council:

### 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):

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

### St. Theresa Men's Club

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

### Legion of Mary

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

### WINGS

Geri Tong [geritong1944@gmail.com](mailto:geritong1944@gmail.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)

### Cursillo

Geri Tong [gt4palancaoakland@gmail.com](mailto:gt4palancaoakland@gmail.com)

### Kinderchurch

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

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