

# 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

DECEMBER 6, 2020  
SECOND SUNDAY  
OF  
ADVENT

A voice cries out:  
In the desert prepare the way of the Lord!  
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!  
Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill shall be made low.

Isaiah 40:3-4



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30 MANDALAY ROAD - OAKLAND, CA 94618 - 510.547.2777

**MASS INTENTIONS ~ DECEMBER 6 - 13**

Sun. 10:00 am Jerry McCormick  
 † Carlo Pernecco  
 John Kelly

Mon.

Tues. 8:30 am Parish Community of St. Theresa  
 6:30 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa

Wed.

Thurs.

Fri. † Joseph & Clementina Brignole

Sun. 10:00 am † Peter & Virginia Cuttitta

**KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US****Via email or text message:**

- ♦ Receive parish updates and notices of special events
- ♦ Choose to receive updates from groups you're interested in
- ♦ Unsubscribe anytime



Sign-up at  
[flocknote.com/StTheresa30](http://flocknote.com/StTheresa30)  
 OR  
 Text: STT To: 84579

**SUNDAY OFFERING****ONLINE GIVING :**

(November 16 - 22) 73 DONORS	<b>\$ 3,755.60</b>
(November 23 - 29) 68 DONORS	<b>\$ 3,937.20</b>

**DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:**

(November 16 - 22) 30 DONORS	<b>\$ 3,780.00</b>
(November 23 - 29) 24 DONORS	<b>\$ 3,029.00</b>

**CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:**

ONLINE, 8 DONORS:	<b>\$ 355.00</b>
DROP-OFF/MAILED, 8 DONORS:	<b>\$ 525.00</b>

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:**

ONLINE, 1 DONOR:	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
DROP-OFF/MAILED, 19 DONORS:	<b>\$ 1,631.00</b>

*You can help us*  
 during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During this challenging time, we depend on online donations to continue our ministry. Use eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet to set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

*Use the link on the parish website to donate.*

**BISHOP'S APPEAL 2020****Bishop's Appeal 2020**

St. Theresa Parish Goal - \$35,800

Percentage Achieved **99.73%**  
**\$35,704.00** as of October 31, 2020

**DECEASED**

Please remember in your prayers, those who have died especially Doug Patton, the husband of Jan Patton.

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

Matt Mercier, Irene Clark, Daniel Sullivan, Dave DeMonte, Sven Cooper Little, Nadine McMillan, Heidi Parmelee, Denise Bridges, Kristine Berman, Helen Buty, Aiden Farinella, Liza Mitra, Guido M., Jim Testa, Kevin Stallone, Dolores Gomez, Alegria Hipolito, Betty Wharton, Patricia Green, Hazel Villata, Juanita Estrella, Diane Longfield, Leslie Fischer, Mike Reilly, Dorothy Donnelly, Pat Tynan, Olga Lamberti, Michael Bamrick, Matt White, Mark Dreier, Tom Sanford, Maria Gabriel Decker, Fr. Alex Snyder, Wendy Parmelee, Roger Baylocq, Ida Scodella, Tom Jones, Sigrid Castaldo, Alicia Gonzalez, Denise Moore, Barbara Krummer, John Bouey, Mirella Baldo, Karis Chodzko, Diana Martínez, Susan Springer, Rachel Cecchetti, Br. Michael Gillette, Takako Smith, Jeanne Cuttitta, Melinda Parker, Margie Sullivan Maddie Heitkemper, Chris Cuttitta, Daryl Shields, Lennox Peerson, and all who have the corona virus throughout the world.

**LIVING STEWARDSHIP**

Advent is a season of patient waiting. Make an effort to cultivate patience. Pray for patience with family, especially small children, with people who are hard to take, with the petty annoyances of everyday life.

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**SUPPORT ST. THERESA CHURCH**

By using smile.amazon.com and **amazon smile** choosing St. 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 6 bulletin, was due by November 27 (Friday)  
 December 13 bulletin, was due by December 4 (Friday)  
 December 20 bulletin, is due by Dec. 9 (Wednesday)  
 December 27 bulletin, is due by Dec. 15 (Tuesday)  
 Items must be received by 4:00 pm on the due date.  
 Email to [cathy\\_b@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org).

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

The purple we wear every Advent has new meaning this year as we find ourselves and county in the purple tier of the pandemic. As I said last Sunday, Advent is part a penitential season and we certainly have done the penance already by abiding by the civil restrictions in the hope of serving the common good of all.

We wear a mask and stay away from close contacts with one another not to protect ourselves from coming down with the virus, but to keep it from others if we might have it. I have celebrated a couple of extremely limited graveside services where in one case the individual had been in the hospital for five months without being allowed any visitors. He passed at the age of 57. His family could finally visit the day before he passed. Then they were all quarantined for 14 days before we could have a funeral. Our actions can affect many, so let us commit at the beginning of this new Church year to live for others as Jesus lived and died for us. Then we can be assured that one day we will be with the great company of saints forever in heaven.

I hope you are participating in the “It’s a Wonderful Life retreat’. George spent himself for others and every time he almost gets to do something for himself, another needs his time or disrupts his plans. He doesn’t and we don’t always see this, but I encourage you to participate and maybe appreciate the gift others are to you and the gift you are too many. This is what the short season of Advent is all about. I again quote the wisdom of Deacon Greg Kandra:

*“What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’ What a powerful way to begin Advent!*

*Jesus reminds us: the most important thing we can do to begin this season is open our eyes—and open our hearts. Twice in last Sunday’s gospel, Jesus gives his followers this simple command: to watch, to be alert, to pay attention.*

**But What are we watching for?** The Gospels over the next few weeks give us clues. We will see miracles and wonder. We will see a wild man in the desert, wearing the hair of a camel, eating locusts and honey. We will witness an angel telling a virgin that she will give birth to the Son of God. We will encounter heavenly hosts singing “Glory to God” when this child is born. We will see wise men from afar offering priceless gifts. We will look for a star. Light will pierce the dark and history will be made.

**“Watch!” Jesus says.** What you are about to see is unbelievable. But we believe. As the angel declared to a doubting girl in Galilee: “Nothing is impossible with God.” We believe. We hope. We wait. And we watch.

*This is the great call of Advent, our great purpose during these weeks when we cry out to God, pleading with him to come and ransom us while we wait. And we watch.*

**But what are we really watching for? What do we seek?**

*Our theology tells us there are three comings of Christ—the time when he was born in Bethlehem, the time when he will return to us at the end of history, and the here and now, when Jesus, Emmanuel, continues to dwell among us.*

*We celebrate the first coming at Christmas, with all the songs and presents and parties. And we watch and “wait in*

*joyful hope” for his last coming at the end of time. **But do we watch for in his other coming, in the here and now?***

*Do we actively look for Christ? Are we watching for him? Are we alert to the ways in which he reveals himself every day to a cold and often indifferent world?*



*This is the Jesus you won’t find in the nativity scenes we see. You won’t see him in a Christmas special on TV or on a card from Hallmark. You will find this Jesus today in other places—not always where you might expect. He comes to us, as one of our prayers tells us, in “Word and Sacrament.” And, significantly, he comes to us in strangers we meet, as well.*

*As Mother Teresa used to say, he comes to us in the “distressing disguise of the poor.” **Watch him.** He is there on a park bench, at a bus stop, in an orphanage, in a shelter. You will find him in every heart that is broken. You will find him in every child who is forgotten. You will find him in every family that is anxious, or frightened, or hungry or cold. You will find him among those seeking solace and refuge, those seeking comfort and hope. He is with those who are outcast and downcast—all of us who need to be ransomed from suffering or sin.*

*He came to dwell among the poorest, the weakest, the smallest. He sought out those on the margins, whom others had left behind. And he comes to us again and again—as he will here, at this altar—in the unlikely appearance of a blessed and broken piece of bread—the divine Messiah, the King of Kings, crumbling in our hands.*

*This is a moment for us to remember that Emmanuel, the one whose name means “God with us,” came to us once—and he is with us still! Advent, this yearly time of prayer and penance and hope, this season of waiting and watching, serves to remind us that he is still here, if only we look for him. So, watch and hope for the Lord is with us!”*

On a very mundane note, a few years ago I asked, and you responded with donating several cell phones. Two went to the immigrant families we sponsored. One became the designated St. Theresa emergency phone so one of the priests could be directly contacted when a serious emergency was happening, and someone immediately needed the Sacrament of the Sick.

Fr. Abraham has been the guardian of the emergency phone, but it is slowing down and not charging well. If you are getting a new phone and not trading it in for a discount, we would be happy to replace our current iPhone 7 with the one you are discarding. I can say I do say a prayer for the donor each time we have set on our way to help a parishioner in need.

May Advent bring us a new hope and bring us to a time when the pandemic is conquered! Happy St. Nicholas day today!

**Join us as we journey to Bedford Falls in a 4 session Advent Bible Study.**

**Wednesday Nights**  
**Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23**  
**7:00**  
**Via Zoom**

**Based around the scenes and themes of the beloved film *It's a Wonderful Life*, this retreat emphasizes it is Christ who makes our life precious.**

**Discussion questions, prayer and reflection will help us see the wonderful things Christ has done in our lives.**

**RSVP: via the link below or email**  
**Keri@sttheresaoakland.org**

[https://sttheresaoakland.org/A Wonderful Life in Christ](https://sttheresaoakland.org/A%20Wonderful%20Life%20in%20Christ)

**WALK-UP HOLY COMMUNION****FOLLOWING THE 10:00 AM LIVE-STREAM MASS**

Communion will be distributed in the church vestibule following the live-stream Mass. We ask that you line up using the social distancing markers on the steps and blacktop. Family units may remain together. Volunteers will be there to assist you.

Masks MUST be worn at all times. Please use a hand sanitizer before receiving communion. If you are wearing gloves, you must remove them before receiving Eucharist. It is preferred that you receive the Host in your hands for the time being.

After receiving Holy Communion, there will be a table where you may pick up a bulletin and a basket for your Sunday offering, and then please return to your car and depart. The church will not be open for individual prayer during this time.

**PRAYER FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things

and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,

Come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there

And unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

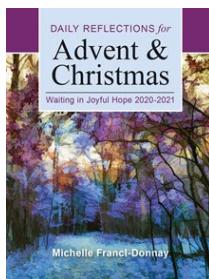
**Purchase your HOLIDAY EVERGREENS early this year!**

St. Theresa Confirmation group is selling a limited amount of HOLIDAY EVERGREENS this year. Proceeds offset costs for our retreats and activities. Thank you for your support!  
Wreaths, Swag, and Garlands ~ \$25 a piece

Advance purchases can be made by contacting Jenny Bruni directly at [jenny@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:jenny@sttheresaoakland.org) or by calling **510.547.2777 x123**. Order envelopes are also available in the vestibule. Please be sure to specify your order. Your order is secure once the cash or check payment is made.

Distribution, pick up, and final sales: Sunday, DEC 6

For more information, please contact:  
Jenny Bruni, HSYM Coordinator  
[jenny@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:jenny@sttheresaoakland.org)  
(510) 547-2777 x123



**FOR YOUR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SPIRITUAL JOURNEY, PLEASE PICK UP A COPY OF THE ADVENT & CHRISTMAS REFLECTION BOOKLET IN THE VESTIBULE.**

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

**WINGS** is a faith enhancement group for women that encourages spiritual growth through prayer, Scripture study, life sharing and community. We meet on Wednesdays on the Zoom platform from 9:15-11:15am for the rest of this year. Our engaging speakers will uplift you and keep you informed. You'll experience a welcoming community as we support each other in our spiritual growth. Invite a friend! Women from local parishes and other denominations are welcome! If you were a member last year you will automatically receive a Zoom invitation. If you're new to WINGS or wish to sample a meeting, send your email address to Nancy Midlin [midlin.nancy@gmail.com](mailto:midlin.nancy@gmail.com). She will send you the link to Zoom.

The theme for the year is:

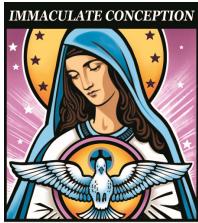
**"Strength for the Journey"**

**DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>**

**ANNE SYMENS-BUCHER**  
**FOUNDER, CANTICLE FARM**

**Spirituality at the Intersection of Faith, Justice and Ecology**





**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**December 8th**

Live-stream Mass Schedule

**8:30 am  
6:30 pm**

Walk-Up Holy Communion will be available following both Masses

The St. Theresa School is excited to announce our **Holiday Instant Wine Cellar** fundraiser!

Purchase raffle tickets to support the school this season, and you might win an instant wine cellar, just in time to stock up for the holidays. To find out more details and to purchase tickets, please visit the Wine Cellar website at:

<https://sttheresaschool.rallyup.com/sttheresawinecellar2020>



**SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER**

*Let's celebrate hope by keeping it simple. Let's live gently on the earth.*

Advent is a time of hope and waiting for the coming of Jesus, who came to give us abundant life. In this Advent season, we invite you to reflect on the difference between the "abundant life" offered by Jesus and the "good life" promoted by society which says in order to be happy, we must always have more (money, possessions, and power). Living the abundant life often corresponds to living gently on the earth. This Advent, learn ways to live life more abundantly that will also heal the earth. Check out Ignatian Solidarity Network Advent Calendar on their website.

**Advent Faith in Action Projects:**

Several Bay Area agencies are in need of many things especially monetary donations. They are doing great works to help those in need. For questions contact Lydia Deck at [ltdeck@me.com](mailto:ltdeck@me.com)

St. Vincent de Paul of Alameda County: Feeds, clothes and houses and heals individuals and families in need.

Contact: [glovan@gmail.com](mailto:glovan@gmail.com)

Bay Area Crisis Nursery: mission to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Contact: [kimberly@bayareacrisisnursery.org](mailto:kimberly@bayareacrisisnursery.org)

Nights on the Streets-Catholic Worker: hospitality to the homeless  
Contact: [noscw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:noscw@sbcglobal.net)

Oakland Catholic Worker: Hospitality house for Latin American immigrants and refugees.

Contact: [oaklandcatholicworker@yahoo.com](mailto:oaklandcatholicworker@yahoo.com)

**Monique Williams Primary Care Clinic Holiday Adopt-A-Family: Now Through Dec. 20!**

This year's Adopt-A-Family Program will run from November 1 to December 20, 2020.

**Questions?** Contact Javay Ross, MD, [PrimaryCareHolidayAdopt-A-FamilyProgram@ucsf.edu](mailto:PrimaryCareHolidayAdopt-A-FamilyProgram@ucsf.edu)

Please let her know that you are from St. Theresa Parish.



**WEEKLY READINGS**

**December 7 - 13**

**Monday:**

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

**Tuesday**

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

**Wednesday**

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

**Thursday:**

Is 41:13-20  
Ps 145  
Mt 11:11-15

**Friday**

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

**Saturday**

Zec 2:14-17  
Ps Jdt 13  
Lk 1:26-38

**Sunday:**

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11  
Ps Lk 1  
1 Thes 5:16-24  
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



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# GOD'S WORD FOR CHILDREN!

Second Sunday of Advent Year B

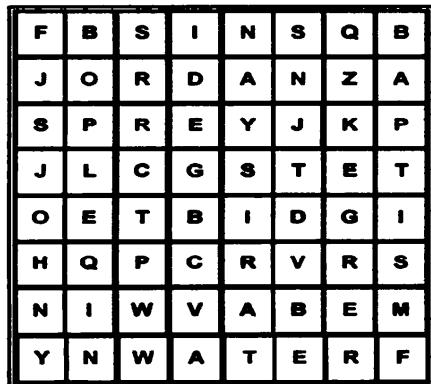
**God sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of the Lord.  
John then performed baptisms of repentance for the  
forgiveness of sins in the Jordan River.**

Is 40:1-5, 9-11  
2 Pt 3:8-14

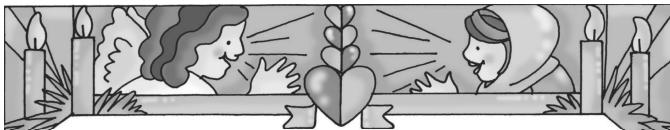
Ps 85:9-14  
Mk 1:8

**Directions:** Find and circle these hidden words in the seek and find puzzle.

BAPTISM	FORGIVE	JORDAN
JOHN	WATER	SINS

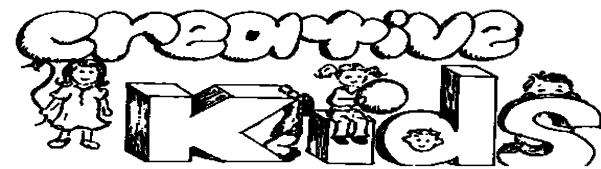
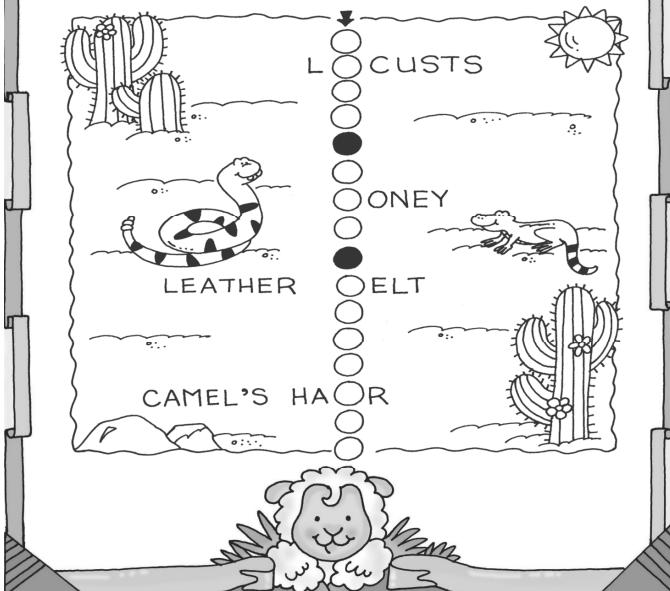


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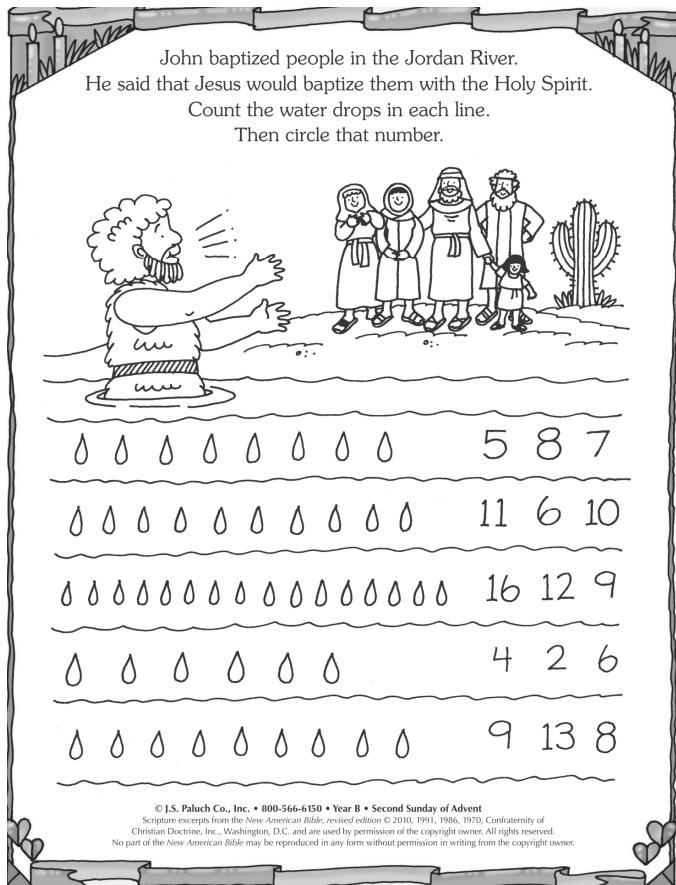
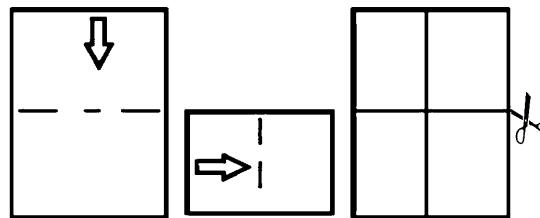
## Second Sunday of Advent

John told people about Jesus and forgiveness. Start at the top and write "JOHN THE BAPTIST" into the blank circles. When you're finished, you'll find what John ate and what he wore in the desert.



## Good Behavior Award

1. Fold a piece of paper in half and press down to crease the paper.
2. Fold the paper again in the other direction. It should now be about 4"x5". Press down to make another crease in the paper.
3. Open the paper back up.
4. With adult supervision, cut along the creases. You will have 4 smaller pieces of paper.
5. Draw and color a big smiley face on each of the papers.
6. Whenever you see someone doing something nice for another person, give them a smiley face.



# PARISH INFORMATION



## Mass Schedules:

Weekday: 8:30 am (*suspended*)  
Sunday: 10:00 am (*public Mass suspended*)

Live-Stream on Facebook

Walk-Up Holy Communion  
following Mass

**Reconciliation:** (*suspended*)

## Parish Center Office Hours:

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

*THE PARISH OFFICES ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.*

*THE PARISH STAFF IS AVAILABLE BY PHONE AND EMAIL  
DURING OFFICE HOURS.*

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 Wi 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*

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

Rob Cakebread, ext. 127  
*Music Ministry Director*

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

Joyce Holden  
*Middle School Youth Ministry*

[joyce@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:joyce@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  
Katie Murphy, 510.547.3146

*St. Theresa School Interim Principal*

[k\\_murphy@sttheresaschool.org](mailto:k_murphy@sttheresaschool.org)

website: [www.sttheresaschool.org](http://www.sttheresaschool.org)

## Baptisms and Marriages

by appointment

## Family Faith Formation (Grades 1-5)

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

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

Joyce Holden ~ [joyce@sttheresaoakland.org](mailto:joyce@sttheresaoakland.org)

## 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:

PJ McGahan [pjmcgahan@gmail.com](mailto:pjmcgahan@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

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 [ruthanneah@gmail.com](mailto:ruthanneah@gmail.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

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

### Kinderchurch

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



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St. Theresa Alumni, Parent,  
Native, Resident

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