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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 13, 2020

THIRD SUNDAY
OF
ADVENT

As the earth brings forth its plants,
and a garden makes its growth spring up,
so will the Lord God make justice and praise
spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61:11



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30 MANDALAY ROAD - OAKLAND, CA 94618 - 510.547.2777

MASS INTENTIONS - DECEMBER 13 - 20

Sun. 10:00 am † Peter & Virginia Cuttitta

Monday

Tuesday † Tina Bruno

Wednesday † Petrina Imbraguglio

Thursday

Friday

Sun. 10:00 am † Peter Oliverez, Sr.

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
 OR
 Text: STT To: 84579

SUNDAY OFFERING**ONLINE GIVING :**

(November 30 - December 6) 83 DONORS \$ 5,930.80

DROP-OFF/MAILED DONATIONS:

(November 30 - December 6) 33 DONORS \$ 3,425.00

PARISH MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT:

ONLINE: November 2 - December 6: \$ 1,836.80
 48 DONORS

DROP-OFF/MAILED: \$ 1,375.00
 24 DONORS

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.

DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers, those who have died especially Michael Bamrick; Brian Boutell, the brother-in-law of Carrie Schaefer.

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, Matt White, Mark Dreier, Tom Sanford, 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 Martinez, 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

Find time to prepare your own heart for Christmas.

Pray more, go to confession, read the scriptures, attend a live-stream Mass.

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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 13 bulletin, was due by December 4 (Friday)
 December 20 bulletin, was due by Dec. 9 (Wednesday)
 December 27 bulletin, is due by Dec. 15 (Tuesday)
 January 3 bulletin, is due by December 21 (Monday)

Items must be received by 4:00 pm on the due date.
 Email to cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org.

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

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Advent is a noticeably short season and as you have heard from the Sunday homilies so far, a time when we wait in joyful hope for the coming in glory.

Christmas celebrates that God chose to be 'Emmanuel' (God with us) at the birth of Jesus. Advent's readings and prayers point us to the time when God will come again in glory, but a third presence is daily if we open our heart to Jesus each day in our prayer and in our treatment of one another. Sometimes we are not aware of God's presence in our daily lives until we look or reflect on what happened yesterday, last week and even as we examine our day each night before we sleep.

Sometimes there are not so grace filled moments. Advent's color is purple which in Lent signifies penance. We sin. But thanks be to God who gives us the sacrament where our sins are forgiven forever.

With the current pandemic, as we have not had public Mass, we have also not had the weekly opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on any Saturday afternoon before the 5pm Mass. Some have called and asked to celebrate this sacrament with an appointment (with COVID-19 precautions in place). As we would normally have a communal Penance service during Advent, but may not because of the restrictions in place, I want to invite those who wish to celebrate the sacrament individually with a few options we now wish to offer.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions and for the protection of all we are not allowed to use the confessional. But we can still celebrate the sacrament following some guidelines. A priest will be present in the church building sitting near the sanctuary with a plastic shield with another chair on the other side of the shield for those who wish to go to confession.

We are offering 3pm on Saturday, December 19, 5:30 pm on Tuesday, December 15 and 9:30 am on Wednesday morning, December 16 as times for you to celebrate individually the sacrament. We ask that you check yourself and not come if you have any symptoms of COVID-19. Someone will check your temperature in the vestibule before you are admitted. You will be ushered into the church one at a time. Someone will be there to direct you, so please follow

their directions. My prayer is that a regular routine will be in place before Easter.



Abundant blessings for all who were so generous in helping stock St. Mary's Center with food and hygienic supplies. Your action will make a great difference for many in need. Many are helping St. Vincent DePaul with their annual Christmas program. Again, may God bless your generosity a thousand times! Some of you have still been asking for more ways and Lydia Deck is proposing that we help with a project for the Oakland Catholic Worker.


In the Catholic Voice they had wish lists for different organizations. Oakland Catholic Worker is one of them. I know we can help them. They help Latin American immigrants and refugees, and they are right here in Oakland on International.

Since due to restrictions, we cannot drop off clothes and other items in the church vestibule there will be someone stationed at their car in the parking lot to collect donations each Sunday after Mass (11-11:30am). Lydia Deck will also coordinate the pick up at people's homes within the parish. Her contact information is on page 5. This project will start today, December 13th and go through January 6th.

The Catholic Worker wish list can be found on page 5 in the bulletin.

**Note clothes should be CLEAN and okay if gently used but NEW would be nice especially during these times of COVID.

Extraordinary times call for extraordinary responses. I know you will help as you can and am grateful for members of our parish who will facilitate this. Over these Advent days we honor Holy Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe. Holy Mary did an extraordinary thing when she said yes to becoming the mother of God and all of us have benefitted because of her courage and trust in God. Let us help one another as we can, and God will bless us!



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@sttheresaokland.org**

<https://sttheresaokland.org/A Wonderful Life in Christ>

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.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

We will have In-Church Confession on the following dates.

December 15 (Tuesday) at 6:30 pm
December 16 (Wednesday) at 9:00 am
December 19 (Saturday) at 3:00 pm

A priest will be present in the church building sitting near the sanctuary with a plastic shield and another chair on the other side of the shield for those who wish to go to confession.

Please line-up outside the church. you will be ushered into the church one at a time.

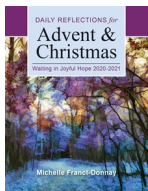


CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

5:00 pm - December 24
10:00 am - December 25


Both Masses will be live-streamed on the St. Theresa Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/sttheresaok>. The Masses will not be open to the public.

Walk-Up Holy Communion will be offered following both Masses.



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. She will send you the link to Zoom.

The theme for the year is:
"Strength for the Journey"

CHRISTMAS BREAK, THEY WILL BE BACK IN JANUARY

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>



WEEKLY READINGS

December 14 - 20

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

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25
Ps 85
Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday:

Gn 49:2, 8-10
Ps 72
Mt 1:1-17

Friday

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

Saturday

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

Sunday:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a,
16
Ps 89
Rom 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38

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:

Oakland Catholic Worker:

Hospitality house for Latin American immigrants and refugees.

WISH LIST:

- ◆ Gas cards
- ◆ toilet paper
- ◆ Paper towels
- ◆ earphones
- ◆ baseball hats for men
- ◆ sweatshirts for men and boys
- ◆ Women's & girls' sweaters and skirts and blouses
- ◆ Sweaters and sweatshirts for kids (1-18 years old)
- ◆ Women's sandals
- ◆ shampoo especially for dandruff
- ◆ tote bags
- ◆ Sewing machines
- ◆ A Washing machine

Due to restrictions, items cannot be dropped off in the church vestibule. There will be someone stationed at their car in the parking lot to collect donations each Sunday after Mass 11:00 - 11:30am. Lydia Deck will also coordinate the pick up of items at people's homes within the parish. Contact her at ltdeck@me.com. This project will start today, December 13th and go through January 6th.



GOD'S WORD FOR CHILDREN!

Third Sunday of Advent Year B

The priest asked John the Baptist, "Who are you?"

Is 61:1-2, 10-11 Lk 1:46-50, 53-54
1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Directions: Read the descriptions and fill in the blanks with the correct person from the list.

DOCTOR TEACHER PRIEST MAILMAN PILOT

- Who are you if you help someone learn how to read?

- Who are you if you fly an airplane?

- Who are you if you deliver a letter to someone?

- Who are you if you say Mass on Sunday?

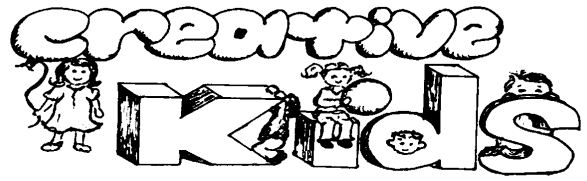
- Who are you if you fix a broken arm?

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Third Sunday of Advent
God is so wonderful and good!
We are filled with joy and we rejoice because of God's goodness.
Finish drawing the bottom sign so it looks like the top one.
Then color both.

Rejoice Always!

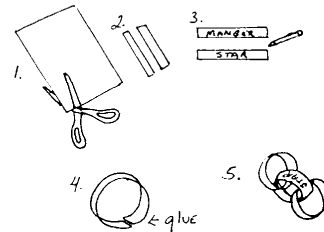
Rej i e
I ay!



Be The Messenger of Jesus' Coming

Directions:

- Cut a large star out of yellow construction paper or color a piece of white paper yellow.
- Cut out 11 strips of paper that are "1x6" in length.
- Put a dab of glue on the tip of one end of a strip. Touch the other end to the glue to make a ring. Hold together until glue is dry. (Taping or stapling also works.)
- Connect all but one of the strips in the same way, by looping them through the rings that have already been made so they make a paper chain.
- Put a dab of glue in the same spot on both sides of the star. With the strip that is left, loop it through the end of the chain and glue it to the star.
- Before you go to bed tonight, tear off one strip from the chain. When only the star is left, you will go to sleep and wake up on Jesus' birthday.



Write the letters on the folded hands in correct number order.
They will spell what Paul told the Christians in Thessalonica to keep doing.

4

1

2

3

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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 Sunday Mass

Reconciliation: (*schedule on page 4*)

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.sttheresaokland.org

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

PARISH STAFF: 510.547.2777

Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 121
Pastor

rjmccann@sttheresaokland.org

Rev. Abraham Addam, ext. 122
In Residence

Rev. Ngema Wi Enow, ext. 128
In Residence

Cathy Brady, ext. 126
Liturgy Director

cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org

Jenny Bruni, ext. 123
High School Youth Ministry Coordinator

jenny@sttheresaokland.org

Rob Cakebread, ext. 127
Music Ministry Director

rob@sttheresaokland.org

Joyce Holden
Middle School Youth Ministry

joyce@sttheresaokland.org

Melody Marr, ext. 120
Parish Administrator

melody@sttheresaokland.org

Keri Nims, ext. 124
Coordinator for Early Childhood Catechesis & RCIC

keri@sttheresaokland.org

ST. THERESA SCHOOL
Katie Murphy, 510.547.3146

St. Theresa School Interim Principal

k_murphy@sttheresaschool.org

website: www.sttheresaschool.org

Baptisms and Marriages

by appointment

Family Faith Formation (Grades 1-5)

Keri Nims ~ keri@sttheresaokland.org

Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

Joyce Holden ~ joyce@sttheresaokland.org

High School Youth Ministry/Confirmation

Jenny Bruni ~ jenny@sttheresaokland.org

R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Contact

Cathy Brady ~ cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org

Parish Organizations

Pastoral Council:

Carrie Schaefer caralee_schaefer@yahoo.com

Finance Council:

PJ McGahan pjmcgahan@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Greg Govan glgovan@comcast.net

CYO (Catholic Youth Organization):

Clarence Robinson sttheresaathletics@gmail.com

St. Theresa Men's Club

PJ McGahan pjmcgahan@gmail.com

Legion of Mary

Tom Wallace tomw1313@sbcglobal.net

WINGS

Sharon Chipman sharonchipman@gmail.com

Ruthanne Allen-Hunt ruthanneah@gmail.com

Consolation Ministry

Cecile Cuttitta cecile.cuttitta@att.net

Men's Faith Sharing

Jim Frei jim@ottofrei.com

Cursillo

Sharon Chipman sharonchipman@gmail.com

Kinderchurch

Shanon Ciston s.ciston@gmail.com



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