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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
AS JESUS TAUGHT US.

DECEMBER 18, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
ADVENT

Advent



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*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us."*

MATTHEW 1:23

30 MANDALAY ROAD -- OAKLAND, CA 94618 -- 510.547.2777 -- STTHERESAOAKLAND.ORG

MASS INTENTIONS - DECEMBER 19 - 25

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

Mon. 8:30 am
 Tues. 8:30 am † Peter Oliverez, Sr.
 Wed. 8:30 am
 Thurs. 8:30 am
 Fri. 8:30 am

Sat. 5:00 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa
 10:00 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa
 Sun. 10:00 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

OR

Text: STT To: 84579

SUNDAY OFFERING

Due to an early publishing date the donation information for December 10 & 11 will be in the January 1st bulletin.



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

SUPPORT ST. THERESA CHURCH

By using smile.amazon.com and [amazon smile](https://amazon.com) 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.

MASS INTENTIONS

To request a Mass Intention contact Melody Marr at melody@sttheresaokland.org or 510.547.2777, ext. 120

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 Bayloq, 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, Susan Rubio, Martin Tierney, Denise Bayloq, Fr. Paul Schmidt.

LIVING STEWARDSHIP

Ways to help new life:

Make donations or volunteer time to the Gabriel Project, Birthright, Right to Life, or any other organization that benefits expectant mothers or new mothers and their children.



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BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES

December 18 bulletin was due by December 7 (**Wednesday**)
 December 25 bulletin is due by December 13 (**Tuesday**)
 January 1 bulletin is due by December 19 (**Monday**)
 January 8 bulletin is due by December 29 (**Thursday**)
 Items must be received by 4:00 pm on the due date.
 Email to cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org.

**Bishop's Ministries Appeal 2022****St. Theresa Parish Goal - \$35,800**

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

Percentage Achieved **62.48%****\$22,369.50** as of November 30, 2022

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Are you ready?

Here we are a week away from the celebration of Christmas Day and I am sure most of you have been asked that question. Are the Christmas cookies made and presents wrapped? Are cards or ecards sent out and travel plans in place?

During Advent, the Church also asks if we are ready, but it is not about any of the questions above but are we ready to meet Jesus today and welcome him into our hearts and homes and are we ready for his return in glory when all the world will be handed over to the Father.

I encourage all to think about the Church's questions this week and hopefully many of the questions in the first paragraph will answer the Church's questions because every moment of preparation and planning have been filled with love, joy and gratitude which is truly what Christ's coming is all about.

And you know me that each year I remind you that Christmas is not just one day a year, but at least twelve according to the Christmas song we sing and hear, and Christmas might be all year long because Jesus lovingly walks with us every day until the day, we see him face to face in Heaven!

There was some Christmas magic in the great annual 'Men's' Club Pancake Breakfast' last Sunday. It is another sign, in spite of more cases of sickness erupting in people's lives at this time, that we are getting back to a more normal and familiar way of being our parish and enjoying its treasured traditions, gatherings and celebrations. I thank all who helped in buying the supplies needed, cooking

them, and serving them generously. As much as they try to get a count about how many will partake, as usual more than those who had reservations, and more than enough food was prepared so no one went home hungry.



I thank all in the Men's Club for sponsoring this annual event, but especially, Chris Bruni, Patrick Ramsey, Patrick McGahan, and those who spent many hours physically making sure it was just right and getting Santa to pose for any family that wanted their picture with him.

Next week, I hope you will see some people and families you have not seen for a while or ever. Please continue our great tradition of welcoming them and letting them know how good it is that they are here. During this week, please invite a neighbor or someone that you have missed. We have sent out cards and made calls from the staff as you have guided us, but an outreach from you will be the most effective. It is again a sign of what we celebrate that we are now the Christ bearers, and we know his wish is that we all be together and one.

If you are travelling, I pray you will arrive there safely and on time. If you are staying here, I pray none of what is going around will slow you down. If you aren't ready, know that God loves you just the way you are and it will always be the love, forgiveness, generosity, welcome, compassion and faith that will assure us that we are ready when Christ comes in glory.



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/advnt>



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

December 24

5:00 pm Children's Liturgy
9:00 pm Concert
10:00 pm MASS

December 25

10:00 am Mass

There will not be a 9:00 am Mass on December 25

DECEMBER 31

5:00 pm Saturday Vigil Mass

JANUARY 1

9:00 am Sunday Mass

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Offices will be closed on the following days in observance of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.



December 23 (Friday)

December 26 - December 30

January 2 (Monday)

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 your 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.

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

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 president's communion station to receive a low gluten host.

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, 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 2nd, it would be greatly appreciated.

Moving forward, should there be a need for a key that is 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.

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://bre.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 in January. Please RSVP to Lydia Deck at 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 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 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>.

WEEKLY READINGS*December 19 - 25***Monday:**

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

Tuesday:

Is 7:10-14
Ps 24
Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday:

Sg 2:8-14
Ps 33
Lk 1:39-45

Thursday:

1 Sm 1:24-28
Ps 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8
Lk 1:46-56

Friday

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24
Ps 25
Lk 1:57-66

Saturday:

Is 9:2-4, 6-7
Ps 96
Ti 3:4-6
Lk 2:1-14

Sunday:

Is 62:11-12
Ps 97
Ti 3:4-7
Lk 2:15-20

**COME AND HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!**

Sunday, December 18, at 10:15 am

Many Hands are needed especially to assemble the Christmas trees, hang wreaths put together the nativity scene and many other jobs.

Come and volunteer for 1 or 2 hours.

God's Word for Children

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Matthew 1:18-24 tells the story of Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus. Read the sentences below and number them 1 to 4 according to the order in which they happened.



When Joseph found out that Mary was going to have a baby, he decided to call off the wedding.



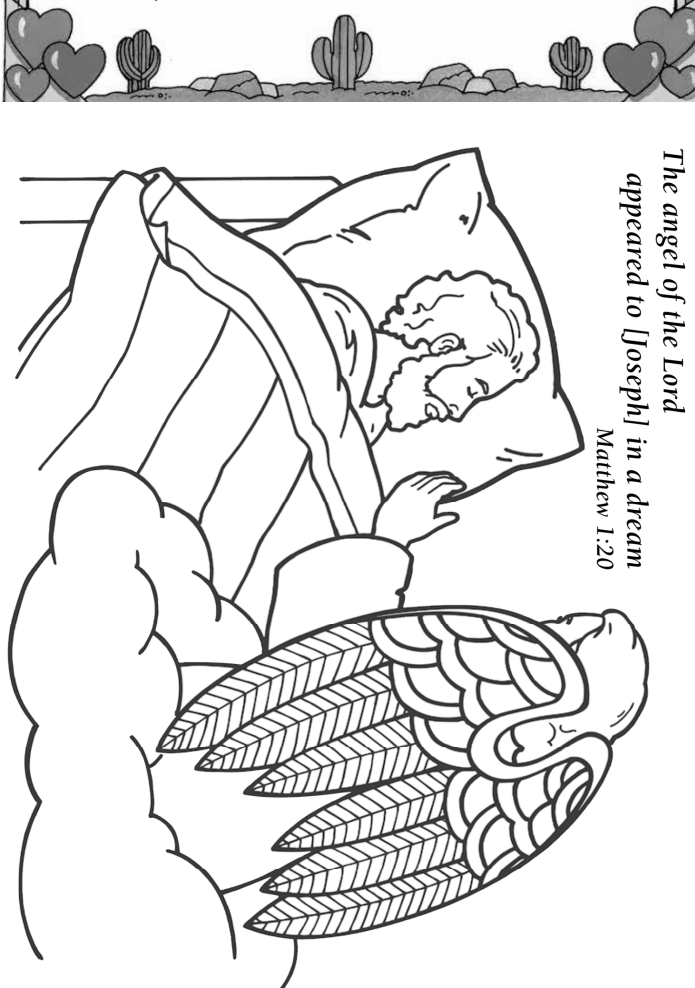
While Mary was engaged to Joseph, she learned that she would have a child through the power of the Holy Spirit.



Out of obedience to the Lord, Joseph took Mary into his home as his wife.



An angel told Joseph not to be afraid to make Mary his bride. Mary's baby was God's son. Joseph was to name the boy Jesus.



The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream
Matthew 1:20

Joseph had a dream. In his dream an angel told him that Mary would have a baby—*God's own son!* Look at both of the angels below. Circle five things that make Angel #1 different from Angel #2.







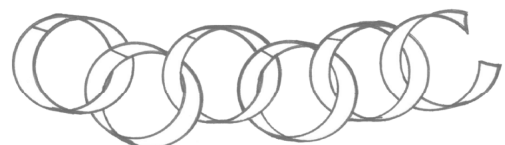
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GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY

Christmas is almost here. We make the last links of our Advent chain. When it is complete draw a large star to use as a hanger. Write one of the "O Antiphon" names of Jesus in the middle. Hang it on your tree or use it to decorate your house. Think about all the things you learned about Jesus during this Advent season.

- 
December 22
 "O King." "The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice" (Psalm 97:1).
 What sort of king is Jesus?
- 
December 23
 "O Emmanuel." "God with us," the name first mentioned by the prophet Isaiah. Where do you find Jesus "with us" now?
- 
December 24
 Christmas Eve! The Gospel of the Vigil Mass names Jesus' ancestors. Who are your family's ancestors in faith?
- 
December 25
 "I proclaim to you good news of great joy. . . For today. . . a Savior is born for you who is Christ and Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).



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

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

YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn5JX1e3QrqXTsa_7qmNCIw

PARISH STAFF: 510.547.2777

Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 121

Pastor

rjmccann@sttheresaoakland.org

Rev. Abraham Addam, ext. 122

In Residence

Rev. Ngema W. Enow, ext. 128

In Residence

ngemawil.enow@gmail.com

Cathy Brady, ext. 126

Liturgy Director

cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org

Jenny Bruni, ext. 123

High School Youth Ministry Coordinator

jenny@sttheresaoakland.org

Rob Cakebread, ext. 127

Music Ministry Director

rob@sttheresaoakland.org

Melody Marr, ext. 120

Parish Administrator

melody@sttheresaoakland.org

Keri Nims, ext. 124

Coordinator for Early Childhood Catechesis & RCIC

keri@sttheresaoakland.org

ST. THERESA SCHOOL

Alicia Ortegon, 510.547.3146

St. Theresa School Principal

a_ortegon@sttheresaschool.org

website: 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

Middle School Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

Jenny Bruni and Keri Nims: Co-Coordinators

High School Youth Ministry/Confirmation

Jenny Bruni ~ jenny@sttheresaoakland.org

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

Cathy Brady ~ cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org

Parish Organizations

Pastoral Council:

Finance Council:

Carolyn Mahoney carolyn.mahoney675@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

Chris Bruni mensclubsttheresa@gmail.com

Legion of Mary

Tom Wallace tomw1313@sbcglobal.net

WINGS

Geri Tong geritong1944@gmail.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

Cursillo

Geri Tong gt4palancaoakland@gmail.com

Kinderchurch

Shanon Ciston s.ciston@gmail.com

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