

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 22, 2019

FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
ADVENT



BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN
SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON,
AND THEY SHALL NAME HIM EMMANUEL,
WHICH MEANS "GOD IS WITH US."

MATTHEW 1:23

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Photo: Mosaic, the Annunciation of Mary, Santa Maria del Fiore, Caravaggio, Italy; matthe1 (Adobe Stock - Adobe) from Shutterstock.com, 2019.

30 MANDALAY ROAD - OAKLAND, CA 94618 - 510.547.2777



DECEMBER 21 - 29

Sat. 5:00 pm † John McCole
 Sun. 9:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa
 11:00 am † Al Gabriel

Mon. 8:30 am An Intention for Ann Henning
 Tues. 5:00 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa
 10:00 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa
 Wed. 10:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa
 Thurs. 8:30 am † Gerry Bernick
 Fri. 8:30 am † Kam Malloy

Sat. 5:00 pm Parish Community of St. Theresa
 Sun. 9:00 am Parish Community of St. Theresa
 11:00 am † Robert 'Bob' Stallone



St. Vincent de Paul Collection

The collection for St. Vincent de Paul will be on December 28 & 29. This collection benefits the St. Vincent de Paul Society conference in our parish, 100% of your donation benefits people in our community.

Low Gluten Hosts



Prior to the start of the liturgy there will be a small container of the hosts next to the bread and wine on the table in the back of the church. Take a host from the container and place it in the glass bowl. At communion you will receive Eucharist from one of the ministers in the center aisle.



COME AND HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS!

Sunday, December 22, at noon

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.



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, Fredrika May, 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 Bayloq, Ida Scodella



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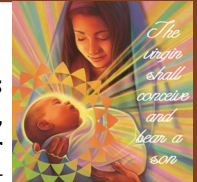
Text: STT To: 84579

Infant/Child Baptism



If you are interested in having your child/children baptized at St. Theresa Church, Baptism classes for parents and godparents are held once a month in the rectory from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. These classes are for adults only. Contact the parish office to register, melody@sttheresaokland.org or 547.2777, ext. 20.

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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Question of the Week

Adult: Whom do you find it difficult to welcome in your life? What can you do to overcome that?

Child: What could you do this week to make someone feel welcome, as Joseph welcomed Mary?

ParishSOFT | Giving

Online Giving

Online Giving is available for anyone who prefers to donate through automatic draft for their Sunday Offering, Building Maintenance and Second Collections.

Go to: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/sttheresaokland> to sign up. Contact Cathy Brady with any questions. cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org, 547.2777, ext. 26.

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES

December 22 bulletin was due by December 11 (Wednesday)

December 29 bulletin was due by December 17 (Tuesday)

January 5 bulletin was due by December 19 (Thursday)

January 12 bulletin is due by January 3 (Friday)

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

Email to cathy_b@sttheresaokland.org.

Support St. Theresa Church

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By using smile.amazon.com and 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.

Bishop's Appeal 2019

St. Theresa Parish Goal - \$35,800

Percentage Achieved **77.37%**

\$27,698.41 as of November 30, 2019



A WORD FROM THE PASTOR:



HAPPY FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

My prayer is that the mystery of love that we celebrate with the event that happened centuries ago in Bethlehem will continue to bless your lives and the lives of all you love.

How wonderful and amazing, the fact that our God chose to be born into our world as one like us so that he could lead us back to the fullness of love.

The gifts we exchange with one another are mere tokens and reminders of this ultimate gift from God. Our exchange of gifts let others know about our love for them. The token of our gift will remind those we love of that fact and also make their lives richer and happier because of the care and personal attention we put into producing or procuring the gift. We will probably get gifts in return as a reciprocation of our love.

I invite you to meditate and pray about the gift that God gives us. God spared nothing, not even his beloved Son so that we might have life and love to the fullest.

As the Psalmist writes, "how can we ever give back to God for all that God has given and done for us. Let us lift the cup of salvation and give thanks to the Lord." Let us do what is demonstrated with the birth of the Savior. That is, love as God loves us. God's gift has no strings. It is pure unconditional love. Let us try to imitate that kind of love!

The hymnology of the Church eloquently chants this theology: What wondrous love. God's love can do anything. God's love can lead us to a paradise we cannot even yet imagine.

May the celebration of this feast be a time for us to reflect on our relationships and how in the coming New Year we can better demonstrate our love for one another.

Remember, the Church wisely directs that Christmas is so great a feast that one day is not enough with which to celebrate it. (Remember the song: *The Twelve Days of Christmas*). I encourage all beginning this Tuesday night and for the following twelve days to consciously reflect on the gift God has given us in the birth of his Son. Try to demonstrate your love in your family and all around.

Even though the radio stations will stop playing Christmas music at midnight on Christmas night, the true meaning of Christmas should continue to be part of our lives through twelve days and all through the year to all around us.

Thank you for being part of the St. Theresa Parish Community. I look forward with you to a new year where our faith and joy in Christ can grow and find happiness that will not be fleeting.

On behalf of Cathy Brady, Keri Nims, Rob Cakebread, Jenny Bruni, Melody Marr, Judy KoneffKlatt, Joyce Holden and myself, we wish you a happy fast end to Advent and joyful celebration of Christmas!

If you are visiting us for Christmas, please know we are grateful for your presence and hope you will feel welcomed and will taste the joy and love we profess. Please know our doors will always be open to you.

To all who are here each week, I thank you in the name of our whole staff for your presence, generosity and ongoing support. Many wonderful things have happened here over the past calendar year. This could not have happened without your presence, guidance, generosity and at times diligent work. We wish you every Christmas blessing. May the joy of Christmas be yours this week and throughout the coming New Year!

Have a blessed and wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS



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?

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

You can pick up a '*COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS*' card at the information desk and send them a personal invitation to our Christmas liturgies or share with us their name, and contact information. We will send them an invitation to come home for Christmas.

Drop off information at the Parish Office; or email to melody@sttheresaokland.org



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 24th

5:00 pm Children's Mass with Gospel Tableau
9:15 pm Concert
10:00 pm Mass

December 25th

10:00 am Mass

January 1st

9:00 am Mass

DO YOU NEED TO REGISTER,

**HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR EMAIL
ADDRESS,**

HAVE A NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER,

**DO YOU RECEIVE OUR
FLOCKNOTE EMAILS & TEXTS?**



Let us know so we can update our parish database and keep you current with all upcoming events, news and year-end reports or give you a registration form.

You can stop by the Information Desk in the church on the weekend or the Parish Office (*2nd floor of the Parish Center*), Monday - Thursday or email melody@sttheresaokland.org.

Christmas Flower Donation

We are asking for monetary donations to offset the cost of our Christmas flowers. Donations in memory of your loved one(s) may be made through the special flower envelopes in the vestibule of the church. All memorials will be inscribed in our parish memory book, on display during the Christmas season. Your donation envelope can be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the Parish Office.



Please join us for our monthly *RISE & SHINE MASS* at 9am on Sunday, January 26th. This is a youth-friendly and youth-participatory Mass.

Advent: Less Hectic, More Holy...



Children's Christmas Tableau

Advent is supposed to be a time of quiet, holy mystery, but often it is the busiest time of the year. In our intention to be "Less Hectic and More Holy." We continue to having a no-rehearsals format for the Children's Christmas Tableau.

The Tableau will take place during the 5:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve. All children through the fifth grade are invited to participate. Bring your child to church dressed in one of these costumes: stable animal, angel, shepherd or sheep. Please use whatever costumes are easiest for you and your child. If you don't have a costume we will have some costume pieces available in the church hall beginning at 4:00 pm. Children will sit with their families during the entire Mass. Parents be sure to pick up instructions for the pageant as you enter the church.

We will need 4-5 parents to help from the 4-5 timeslot with passing out of costumes in the Hall. Let me know if you would like to help with that.

If you have any questions please contact Keri Nims at keri@sttheresaokland.org.

Women in God's Spirit

WINGS is a faith enhancement group that encourages spiritual growth through prayer, Scripture study, life sharing and community. We gather on Wednesdays in Meeting Room 1 at 9:15am from October through May with hospitality, followed by the guest speaker and program until 11:15am. 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. Bring a friend! Women from local parishes and other denominations are welcome! Our theme for this year is "Walking with God". Join us on opening day, October 9th. Say "Yes" to WINGS!



The theme for the year is: "*Walking With God*"

DECEMBER 25TH
CHRISTMAS BREAK

CONFIRMATION & HSYM

*High Schoolers and Parents, please note the following dates and remember that all **Sunday Sessions begin with 9am Mass:***

- ♦ MON, Dec. 23 - Service Opportunity @ GRIP, Richmond - preparing, cooking & serving a meal for the shelter residents
- ♦ SUN, Jan. 5 - good Sunday HABITS-Years I + II, 10am-12noon, Church Hall
- ♦ SUN, Jan. 12 - Confirmation Year II- SPONSOR & CANDIDATE Session - 9am Mass together, then 10am-12noon, Mtg. Rms. / 15 minute RETREAT MTG. following our session
- ♦ SUN, Jan. 26 - Confirmation Year I RETREAT- 9am-3pm, begin with Rise & Shine Mass together, then proceed to the Retreat
- ♦ FRI, Jan. 31 - SUN, Feb. 2 - Confirmation Year II WEEKEND RETREAT @ Camp Arroyo, Livermore



For more information, please contact:

Jenny Bruni
HSYM Coordinator
jenny@sttheresaokland.org
(510) 547-2777 x 39



THE EPIPHANY PARTY FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS WILL BE RESCHEDULED.

Archbishop Peter will be with us on Saturday, January 11 at the 5:00 pm Mass to celebrate the 28th Anniversary of his ordination. There will be a reception following Mass.

**PARISH VOLUNTEER
EPIPHANY PARTY**

explore
life
faith
meaning

The evening starts with a light dinner, followed by a presentation and small group discussion and sharing.

Next Meeting, January 7
You're invited to
TRY ALPHA
Tuesdays, 6:30pm
St. Theresa Catholic Church

Alpha
Cathy Brady



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WEEKLY CALENDAR

	Start Time	Event	Location
December 21 Saturday	1:00 PM	Cookie Exchange	Hall
	3:30 PM	Parish Reconciliation Service	Church
	5:00 PM	Mass	Church
December 22 Sunday	9:00 AM	Mass	Church
	11:00 AM	Mass	Church
December 23 Monday	8:30 AM	Mass	Church
	7:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
December 24 Tuesday	9:00 AM	Legion of Mary	Hall
	5:00 PM	Children's Mass with Gospel Tableau	Church
	9:15 PM	Christmas Concert	Church
	10:00 PM	Christmas Eve Mass	Church
December 25 Wednesday	10:00 AM	Christmas Mass	Church
December 26 Thursday	7:30 AM	Men's Cursillo Faith Sharing	PC Parlor
	8:00 AM	Women's Volleyball	Event Center
	8:30 AM	Mass	Church
	8:30 PM	Men's Basketball	Event Center
December 27	Parish Offices closed on Fridays		
	8:30 AM	Mass	Church
December 28 Saturday	4:00 PM	Reconciliation	Church
	5:00 PM	Mass	Church
December 29 Sunday	9:00 AM	Mass	Church
	11:00 AM	Mass	Church



Weekly Readings

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December 23 - 29

Monday:

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Ps 31
Mt 10:17-22

Friday

1 Jn 1:1-4
Ps 97
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday:

1 Jn 1:5-2:2
Ps 124
Mt 2:13-18

Sunday:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
Ps 128
Col 3:12-21
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



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LIVING GOD'S WORD

We ask God to continue to save us in our own day from all that would lead us away from God. We ask God to continue to help us to know Jesus as Emmanuel, God with us, so that our father may be rooted in the wisdom and power of God.

PARISH INFORMATION



Mass Schedules:

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:00 am
unless otherwise noted in bulletin

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 4:00-4:30 pm
or by appointment

Parish Center Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY

Phone 510.547.2777 ~~~ Fax 510.653.3575

After Hours Medical Emergency & Emergency Line:
510.610.7715

Parish Website: www.sttheresaoakland.org

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

Parish Staff: 510.547.2777

Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 21
Pastor

rjmccann@sttheresaoakland.org

Cathy Brady, ext. 26
Liturgy Director

cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org

Jenny Bruni, ext. 39
High School Youth Ministry Coordinator
jenny@sttheresaoakland.org

Rob Cakebread, ext. 11
Music Ministry Director
rob@sttheresaoakland.org

Joyce Holden
Middle School Youth Ministry
joyce@sttheresaoakland.org

Melody Marr, ext. 20
Parish Administrator
melody@sttheresaoakland.org

Keri Nims, ext. 24
Faith Formation Director
keri@sttheresaoakland.org

St Theresa School:
Judith KoneffKlatt, 510.547.3146
School Principal
j_koneffklatt@sttheresaschool.org
website: www.sttheresaschool.org

Baptisms and Marriages
by appointment

Confirmation (High School)

Sunday Sessions
Year 1: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Year 2: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

R.C.I.A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Contact
Cathy Brady ~ cathy_b@sttheresaoakland.org

Kinderchurch

Preschoolers and Kindergarteners
9:00 am Sunday Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Grades 1-5, 9:00 am Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month (September - May)

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
Laurie Porter laurinporter@att.net
Sharon Chipman sharonchipman@gmail.com

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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