

First Sunday of Lent March 5, 2017

St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church and School Archdiocesan Center for Chinese Apostolate

聖德力華人天主教堂

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Mass Schedule 彌撒時間

English Mass 英語彌撒

Daily Mass 平日彌撒:

Monday - Saturday at 8:00am 每日 上午八時

Sunday Mass 主日彌撒:

Saturday: 5:00pm 星期六 下午五時正

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am (Except 1st Sunday of the Month) 主日 上午八時 & 10:30 (首主日除外)

Cantonese 粵語:

1st Sunday of each month at 10:30am

每月第一主日 上午十時三十分

Indonesian 印尼語:

2nd Sunday of each month at 12:00 noon

每月第二主日 中午十二時

Mandarin 國語:

4th Sunday of each month at 12:00noon

每月第四主日 中午十二時

Sacraments

Baptisms: Parents and Godparents must attend a baptismal preparation session before a baptism will be scheduled.

Weddings: Church arrangements must be made at least six months in advance, before booking a reception hall.

Confessions: Saturdays, 4:30-5:00 pm or by appointment.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and Communion Calls are available to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

Please contact the church office for additional information.

Mass Intentions

March 5, 2017 First Sunday of Lent

8:00 A.M. +

10:30 A.M. + Lon Fong Yau by Ching Shiu Yau

Special Prayers to Blessed Mother Mary for a successful project
beginning by Bernie & Nicole

MON. March 6th

Lenten Weekday

8:00 A.M. + Wei-Tung Ting by Daughter Lily May

TUE. March 7th

Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

8:00 A.M. + Joseph Spina by Joe & Rena Zito

WED. March 8th

Saint John of God, Religious

8:00 A.M. + Darlene Ray by Francesco & Vincent Barbaro

THU. March 9th

Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

8:00 A.M. + Birthday remembrance for Joseph Spina & Rose Marie &
Howard Thome & V. Bertucci by Briglio Family

FRI. March 10th

Lenten Weekday

8:00 A.M. + In Honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Dominic Barbaro

6:30 P.M. Mass / Stations of the Cross at 7pm

SAT. March 11th

Lenten Weekday

8:00 A.M. + In Honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Dominic Barbaro

5:00 P.M. For Family & Friends of St. Therese Parish



From the Desk of Fr. Francis

Greetings of Christ's Peace and Joy! Hope you all had a blessed week.

Thanks

Thanks to **Wing Chan, John Lin, Deacon Daniel** and **Jing Zhang** for their help with ordering, stamping and placing the new Chinese lectionaries and song books from Taiwan and Hong Kong. We purchased those most up-to-date books for your use in Church. Please do not take them home.

Thanks to **Florence Yu** for cooking for the last Overseas Student Gathering. Below are a few photos taken from the Gathering, the Rite of Election at Holy Name last Sunday, and the distribution of Ashes to our school children on Ash Wednesday (more photos next page).



A Lenten message from Cardinal Cupich: Give yourself a gift this Lent, silence

The noise pollution of modern society grows harsher every year. We are bombarded by noise from traffic, aircraft, office equipment, home appliances, TVs and cell-phone conversations. Oddly enough, we rarely seem to notice the increased noise because we have learned to live with it or just block it out.

However, we pay a price for all of the increasing decibels in the modern age. In addition to the immediate danger of hearing loss due to long-term exposure to high levels of noise, we also suffer from an increase of stress and irritability from this overstimulation.

Lent is the season of silence. It is a time to enter into the desert, as Jesus did for 40 days. Admittedly, silence can make us feel uneasy. Perhaps it is because silence forces us to think, to feel, to be in touch with those deep areas of our lives where a sense of emptiness or meaninglessness may be lurking in our hearts.

Throughout the Gospels Jesus is portrayed as going off alone in silence to pray. The evangelists repeatedly recorded such retreats from the noise of the world not just to tell us something about Jesus, but also about those who followed him. They, too, discovered that silence takes us into the divine presence. Meister Eckhart, a 14th-century German Dominican, said it so well: "Nothing in all creation is so like God as silence."

This Lent I have asked our pastors to invite their communities to take extra time for silence during Mass, especially after Communion. In fact, the church recognizes the value of silence at certain moments of the Mass as a way of quietly absorbing the great mysteries we celebrate. Taking time for silence after Communion can be a special grace for each of us individually and for us as a worshipping community. We actively pray to God for our needs and raise our voices in songs of prayer. Yet, we need this silent time to allow God to speak to us. That means quieting ourselves even from saying prayers and just being aware of what Jesus tells us: we abide in God and God in us.

I especially invite you to enter into silence during these 40 days, not as a place of fear, but as the place where you encounter the living God who wants to speak to you. Give yourself the gift of silence this Lent. You will discover what Eckhart did centuries ago: "Nothing in all of creation is so like God as silence."

Peace ~ Fr. Francis



Lenten Regulations (from March 1st, 2017, Ash Wednesday, to the Paschal Triduum)



Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. The special Paschal fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.

+ + + + + + +

Hospitality Schedule for March 12, 2017:

GREETERS: Kim Casey, Joseph Lowe, Jean Ng

RECEPTION: Earl, Jorge, Jean Wong

Today's Liturgy – March 5, 2017

Readings: GATHER 1016 - First Sunday of Lent / Year A
Chinese Hymnal

PROCESSIONAL: #575- 耶穌基督品位尊 Jesus Christ, Sovereign King

OFFERTORY: #210 – 上主萬有天主 Lord Almighty

COMMUNION: #572- 因你聖血身上流 By the Blood Flow from Thee

RECESSIONAL: #569 – 耶穌救世無窮愛 Jesus Infinite Love

News and Events

Annual Second Collection to support the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

Next week, we will take up a Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in over 20 countries, many of which are still struggling to recover in the aftermath of Soviet rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Your support **restores the Church and builds the future** in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/ccce.

Andrew Dinner with Bishop Alberto Rojas "Andrew found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus." ---John 1: 41-42

High school and college age men who may be called by the Lord to the priesthood are invited to an Andrew Dinner hosted by Bishop Rojas on Sunday, March 26, 2017 at 5:00pm at St. Malachy/Precious Blood---2248 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60612. If you are interested in attending, please let Fr. Francis know.

FRIDAY, MASS AT 6:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross at 7pm. There will be no Fish Fry this year during Lent.

2016 Tax Letter for Church Donations

Parishioners with assigned offering envelopes, if needed, please contact the parish office for your 2016 tax letter.

Please pray for the following Mercy Hospital Patients:

David, Colleen, Maria, Stella, Tasha, Lillie, Lenora, James, Leroy, Louise, Melanie, Clifton, Karen, David, Verna, Carolyn, Richard



SPOTLIGHT CORNER

St. Therese Parish would like to thank **KEELEY FOOD SERVICE, located at 2500 S. Dearborn Street**, for their support of our Winter Wonderland Dinner Dance on 1/7/17. Their generosity helped us raise money to rebuild the Church in HeBei, China that was recently destroyed by fire. Please patronize our Spotlight Donors! Thank YOU!



ST. JAMES FOOD PANTRY

Volunteers are needed on Saturday, March 11, 2017 from 8:30 –11:00am. If you can lend a helping hand, please sign up at the church entrance table. Cantonese & Mandarin speaking volunteers are especially needed.

CRS Rice Bowl

Our parish will be participating again in the CRS (Catholic Relief Services) Rice Bowl this Lent. **Please pick up a bowl at the church entrance table** after mass and return it on the weekends of April 1 & 2, and 8 & 9. *This is a great and simple way to give alms during Lent!*

1st Reconciliation

For our School and Religious Education Program students will take place on Sat. March 11th at 10:00am in Church. Please keep them in your prayers.

Vatican Radio

Pope: Don't put off conversion, give up a double life

(Vatican Radio February 23, 2017) Don't scandalize "the little ones" with a double life, because scandal destroys. That was the message of Pope Francis in his homily at the morning Mass at the Casa Santa Marta. And so, the Pope said, we should not put off conversion.

"Cut off your hand," "Pluck out your eye," but "don't scandalize the little ones," that is, the just, those who confide in the Lord, who believe simply in the Lord. That was the Pope's exhortation in the homily, based on the day's Gospel. For the Lord, he said, scandal is destruction:

"But what is scandal? Scandal is saying one thing and doing another; it is a double life, a double life. A totally double life: 'I am very Catholic, I always go to Mass, I belong to this association and that one; but my life is not Christian, I don't pay my workers a just wage, I exploit people, I am dirty in my business, I launder money...' A double life. And so many Christians are like this, and these people scandalize others. How many times have we heard – all of us, around the neighbourhood and elsewhere – 'but to be a Catholic like that, it's better to be an atheist.' It is that, scandal. You destroy. You beat down. And this happens every day, it's enough to see the news on TV, or to read the papers. In the papers there are so many scandals, and there is also the great publicity of the scandals. And with the scandals there is destruction."

The Pope gave the example of a company that was on the brink of failure. The leaders wanted to avoid a just strike, but the company had not done well, and they wanted to talk with the authorities of the company. The people didn't have money for their daily needs because they had not received their wages. And the head of the company, a Catholic, was taking his winter vacation on a beach in the Middle East, and the people knew it, even if it hadn't made the papers. "These are scandals," Pope Francis said:

"Jesus talks, in the Gospel, about those who commit scandal, without saying the word 'scandal,' but it's understood: But you will arrive in heaven and you will knock at the gate: 'Here I am, Lord!' – 'But don't you remember? I went to Church, I was close to you, I belong to this association, I did this... Don't you remember all the offerings I made?' 'Yes, I remember. The offerings, I remember them: All dirty. All stolen from the poor. I don't know you.' That will be Jesus' response to these scandalous people who live a double life."

"The double life comes from following the passions of the heart, the capital sins that are the wounds of original sin," hiding the passions, but following them, the Pope explained. The first Reading, in fact, tells us that they do not satisfy, and not to trust in riches, to not say, "There's enough for myself." And so Pope Francis calls us to not put off conversion:

"It would be good for all of us, each one of us, today, to consider if there is something of a double life within us, of appearing just, of seeming to be good believers, good Catholics, but underneath doing something else; if there is something of a double life, if there is an excessive confidence: 'But, sure, the Lord will eventually forgive everything, but I'll keep going as I have been...' If there is something saying, 'Sure, this is not going well, I will convert, but not today: tomorrow.' Let's think about that. And let us profit from the Word of the Lord and consider the fact that on this point, the Lord is very strict. Scandal destroys."

en.radiovaticana.va/news/2017/02/23/pope_dont_put_off_conversion_give_up_a_double_life/1294470

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

March 20, 2017: Solemnity of Saint Joseph — Because March 19 falls on a Sunday this year, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, will be observed Monday, March 20. The 2016-2017 Respect Life Program resource guide includes a novena to St. Joseph focused on the issue of adoption. You are welcome to use it any time of year; for instance, you can use it leading up to the Solemnity of St. Joseph on March 20. See: <http://store.usccb.org/2016-2017-Respect-Life-Program-Resource-Guide-p/c1602.htm>.

Down Syndrome —Down syndrome is like some kind of disability. For some people, Down do face disappointment, frustration and impossible situations, just like in cases of disabilities. However, most people with Down syndrome are happy with their lives, and those who live with them can testify to it. March 21 is World Down Syndrome Day. Here is a 2 minute film about children with Down syndrome: "Dear Future Mom", <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ju-q4OnBtNU>. Sadly, some segment in the society would consider the deliberate elimination of Down children under the pretense of healthcare and women's rights.

Respect Life Quotes –

* "For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, 'Abba, Father!'" — Romans 8:15.

* "Whether it lasts for a brief moment or for a hundred years, each of our lives is a good and perfect gift. At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love. ...Every life is worth living." — USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, Respect Life Program Flyer, www.goo.gl/sYADTw.

Useful Readings – Pamphlet "'Wash Me Thoroughly': Healing from Pornography Use and Addiction," <http://store.usccb.org/Wash-Me-Thoroughly-p/7-551.htm>; Create In Me A Clean Heart Series <http://store.usccb.org/Create-In-Me-A-Clean-Heart-Series-s/2199.htm>.

Weekly Offering:

Collection for February 26, 2017

Sunday Envelopes	\$1,695	
GiveCentral	197	July 1-To-Present (Actual): \$69,749.02
Sunday Loose	\$ 623	July 1-To -Present (Budget): \$70,000
Total Collection	\$2,515	

Weekly Budget: \$2,000 % of Budget Attained: 99%

Please consider giving one hour of **your weekly salary as your contribution.**

May God bless your generosity! Thank YOU!

Mandarin Mass of February 26, 2017: \$622 Thank YOU!



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
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archchicago.org

February 24, 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Our faith calls us to stand in solidarity with all. We hear this call in the Gospel of Matthew, when Jesus proclaims, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me" (Matt 25:40). We hear it in the words of Pope Francis, who invites us to build a culture of encounter: "We are called to reach out to those who find themselves living at the margins of our societies and to show particular solidarity with the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters: the poor, the disabled, the unborn and the sick, migrants and refugees, the elderly and the young who lack employment."

In the spirit of contributing to such a culture here in the Archdiocese of Chicago, I encourage you to participate in the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl program during this upcoming Lenten season. The CRS Rice Bowl program provides resources that bring the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to life for families, parishes, and school communities.

In 2016, the Archdiocese of Chicago's generous support enabled CRS to respond to global emergencies in countries such as Columbia, Laos, Rwanda, Honduras, Madagascar, and Haiti. In addition, forty local CRS Rice Bowl grants were distributed to local parishes and organizations which helped to fight hunger and poverty within our own archdiocese. For more information about the CRS Rice Bowl program, the work of Catholic Relief Services, and additional Lenten resources, I encourage you to visit <https://pvm.archchicago.org/human-dignity-solidarity/catholic-relief-services>.

Thank you for your continued participation in the CRS Rice Bowl program. May your faith community experience a true witness of love during this year's Lenten season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Card. Blase J. Cupich".

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago



Please remember in your prayers those who are ill, hospitalized, and homebound...

Phil Maraldi
Jerry Ecklund
Vincent Thome
Barbara McElroy
Ramona Zavala
Michael Howley
Baby Jessa Piotrowski
Fr. Walter Johnson, MM
Rose Perez
Phyllis Robinson
Bai Xue
John Palenik
Luz Whitehead
Jade Yee
Anthony Scuito
Rev. Anthony Adducci
James Gemkow
Lisa Rak

Joey L.
Cita Orendain
Karl Schroeder
Sr. Barbara Walenty
Nicholas Tobar
Sister Noel Devine
Ken Barber
Jimmy Annoreno
Ruth Barone
Betsy Young
Richard Tobar
John Galvin
James Longo III
David Leung
Luke Williamson
Richard Shew
Brian Cook
Roberta Cheong
Angelo Iasillo
Mina Preysler Munoz
Ceil Scuito

Cookie Jarzyna
Amelia Lorraine Schroeder
Nathaniel Hicks
Theresa Spalla
Rosemary Moy
Joseph Rubin
Cecila Zastro
Soledad Magay
Dorothy Pascente
Joey Nardi
Mark Donato
Joyce Eng
Lan Ying Yee
Ching Shiu Yau
Henry F. Wong
Matthew Mantia
Phyllis Centofanti
Susan Zibricky
Barbara Metzinger
James Rak

If you wish to add a name or remove your name from this list, please call the parish office.

'LENT 2017'

January and February have been very unique this year. We have had very little snow. Some plants, crocus, are coming up already and we are only starting Lent this week. Lent is a very special season. It is a word that means spring. We are waiting for the warmth of the season and the growth of daffodils and tulips and the start of that special green of grass at the Springtime of the year. We are looking to Easter, the fullness of new life, risen life.

We have forty days to prepare for the biggest celebration and miracle of our faith. During Lent we are called to make ourselves, with the grace of God, a new and renewed creation. Each spring flower begins under the dark earth and gradually grows through the earth's ground peeping its green stem up toward the sun and warmth and finally opening to a flower bathed in the sunshine.

Each of us has those things in our lives, in ourselves, which need to be changed, nurtured, and transformed. If we were to take one idea to work on every day of Lent, perhaps it would be the focus Jesus responds to Satan with. "Get away Satan! It is written: "The Lord, your God, shall you worship and Him alone shall you serve." All sin has its basis in wanting to be God. Our Lenten challenge is to place God first in our lives. We are called to worship God only. We are called to serve Him in every way possible. How will you do this the next forty days? Will you be ready to walk with Jesus, the Way of the Cross? Will you die to your sinful self to rise with Jesus Alive?

~Sister Caritas



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## 2017 Updated

*To Teach Who Christ Is*

### **First Sunday of March**

Beginning on March 5<sup>th</sup>, our 9:30am mass will be changed to 10:30am.

### **Stations of the Cross**

Fridays at 7:00P.M. in Church preceded by **Mass at 6:30 P.M. *NO FISH FRY this year!***

### **Holy Hour and Benediction**

Takes place on 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays of March (3) and of April (7) immediately following the Stations of the Cross

### **CRS Rice Bowl**

Distribution on March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and Returning on April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>

### **Service**

We will help out at St. James Food Pantry on Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **RCIA---Scrutiny Rites**

will be celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Lent.

### **First Reconciliation**

For School and R. E. students will take place on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.

### **Parish Religious Program**

Students will lead the 10:30am mass on Sunday March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Students will sponsor their annual pancake breakfast on Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Reconciliation will take place on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> after the 10:30A.M. mass.

### **Indonesian Mass**

March 12<sup>th</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup> at noon

### **Parish Lenten Retreat**

On March 26<sup>th</sup> following the 10:30am mass

### **March Mandarin Mass**

On March 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon followed by a Lenten Recollection

### **Cantonese Lenten Retreat**

April 1st from 9:00am to 3:30pm in the Community Room

### **Living Stations of the Cross by St. Therese School**

Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in Church

*“Day after day, both in and around the temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”*

**-Acts 5:42**