Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sept. 15, 2019

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish Archdiocesan Center for Chinese Apostolate

St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church 聖德力華人天主教堂 218 W. Alexander, Chicago, Illinois 60616 · (312) 842-6777 Fax (312) 567-1389 StTherese@ArchChicago.org · www.sttheresechinatown.org Like Us on Facebook: facebook.com/stherese Twitter @StThereseChi

Pastor: Fr. Francis Li 本堂: 李東平神父

FLi@StThereseChinatown.org

Associate Pastor: Fr. Lukas Ouda louda@archchicago.org

In Residence: Fr. Andrzej Beltowski abeltowski@StBarbaraChicago.org **Administrative Assistants**

Ms. Jing Zhang / Mrs. Darlene Chan-Lowe

The current staff at St. Barbara Church is not listed here.

St. Barbara Church 2859 S. Throop Street, Chicago, IL 60608 **Rectory Phone: 312-842-7979** www.StBarbaraChicago.org

Ministry Coordinators

Youth Ministry:

Mr.& Mrs. Nick & Ellen Andriacchi

Young Adult Ministry:

Mr. Joseph Lowe & Ms. Jennifer Sin

Religious Education Program:

Mrs. Christine Delfin

RCIA Coordinators:

English RCIA: Mrs. Rose Lau Cantonese RCIA: Mr. Perry Lau Mandarin RCIA: Mrs. Joyce Hsieh

Spiritual Formation:

Sr. Mary Caritas Wehrman

Parish Pastoral Council Co-Chairs Mr. George Lee & Mrs. Sharon Wong *See Mass Schedule in News & Events

St. Therese Chinese Catholic School 聖德力華人天主教學校

A 2010 & 2018 National Blue Ribbon School

Principal: Mrs. Deborah Oi DOi@StThereseChicago.org

Assistant Principals: Mrs. Catherine Biel and Mrs. Kelly Rojas

Director of Religious Education:

Mr. Thomas Howard 247 W. 23rd Street, Chicago, IL 60616 (312) 326-2837 http://www.sttheresechicago.org

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, 4:15-4:45 pm at St. Barbara Church 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

Sept. 15, 2019 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinar
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8:00 A.M. + Loraine Pon by Florence & Shu Man Yu

+ William J. Parrillo by Rosemarie & Phyllis Centofanti

+ August Centofanti by Rosemarie & Phyllis

10:30 A.M. Special Intention for Betty Fung by So Family

+ Loraine Pon by Florence & Shu Man Yu

+ Birthday Remembrance for Sonny Spalla by daughter Therese

MON. Sept. 16th Saints Cornelius, Pope; Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs *(Mass at St. Therese Church)

8:00 A.M.

TUE. Sept. 17th Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)

8:00 A.M.

WED. Sept. 18th

Weekday

*(Mass at St. Therese Church)

8:00 A.M + Deceased Members & Relatives of Dominic Barbaro
Vince Briglio by wife & family

THU. Sept. 19th

Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
*(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)

8:00 A.M.

FRI. Sept. 20th Saint Andrew Kin Tae-gon, Priest, and Paul Chong Ha-sang And Companions

a Companions *(Mass at St. Therese Church)

8:00 A.M. + David Jarzyna by wife Cookie

SAT. Sept. 21st Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

8:00 A.M.

5:00 P.M. *(Mass at St. Barbara Church)

Sau Fong Yuan by Yuan Family



From the Desk of Fr. Francis

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

Thanks

Thanks to all who made the Feast of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta an amazing celebration! Many of you helped with hospitality, decoration, worship aid, and all other liturgical ministries. I have received so many comments on the beauty of the Mass. It was God's grace, St. Mother Teresa's intercessions, and your participation that made it possible. Heartfelt thanks to Bishop Manz, and of course our joyful thanksgiving to our God! In the words of St. Mother Teresa, "Gratitude to God is to accept everything, even my problems, with joy."

Thanks to all who attended the Vision Day sponsored by Renew My Church last Friday. It was an inspirational day to be with one another from many different newly unified parishes in the Archdiocese, a day all participants were invited to pray to dream big for our new parishes and to be empowered to evangelize. It was a powerful experience to receive Bishop Casey's special blessing for our parish group. The question of the day is relevant to all of us, "What is your dream for your new parish?"

Thank the good Lord for a busy, but fruitful Sunday. We had our first Family Mass at St. Barbara Worship Site. It was a wonderful blessing to have had the faculty and staff of our School and many of our students and families to celebrate this special day. At St. Therese Worship Site, we had our annual SMI celebration in honor of our Mother Mary. Bishop Perry, his co-celebrants, and an inspired congregation enjoyed Mary's birthday.

Thanks to John Ligoa Funeral Home and James Bertucci Family for donating a beautiful framed picture of Our Lady of China to St. Barbara Worship Site! Your generosity and thoughtfulness are greatly appreciated by our whole parish!

Thanks to Jimmy Bertucci and his entire Thursday Bingo team for their hard work and dedication. In the last few months, they have brought \$8000.00 to our parish and paid about \$2000.00 to cover advertisements and St. Barbara Church carpet cleaning.



Merciful Father

Today's Gospel includes three "lost and found" parables. They all remind us of God's mercy. Like the lost sheep and coin, we too experience being lost in our lives. Like the lost ones, we too sometimes want to walk away or stay away from our God. Sometimes the kind of lost we are talking about is not physical but spiritual, being lost from God and from one's true self may not be obvious.

In the classical story of the prodigal son, the focus usually is on the younger son who insulted his father and squandered all, or his share of the inheritance. Then he came back and was warmly accepted by the father. Of course there are a lot of lessons we can learn from him. However, I think a lot of us oftentimes feel more like the older son, who is trying hard to live a good Christian life. Our obedience and hard work cause us to think that we deserve more or God is not fair. "Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends." This is why the older son needs conversion; dowe?

The Good News is that our loving Father is merciful: "everything I have is yours." God is generous to all. Indeed, everything in life is a gift from God, even when it is not obvious to us that our relationship with Jesus has strayed. It is the blessings the Holy Spirit granted us this past week that so lovingly help to bring us back to enrich our relationship with our God. So, let's strive to be merciful to one another as our heavenly Father is to us.

~Peace, Fr. Francis

Protecting God's Children for Adults - Virtus Training

Date: Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

Place: St. Therese School 247 W. 23rd Street, Chicago, IL Facilitator: Thomas Howard

Registration: Go to Virtus.org, create a user name and password, and register

Hospitality Schedule for Sept. 22, 2019:

GREETERS: Agnes Lee, Irene Lee/ RECEPTION: Jean Ng, Jean Wong

Today's Liturgy - Sept. 15, 2019

Gather 1163, - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time/C - Catechetical Sunday - Family Mass

PROCESSIONAL: #850 - All Are Welcome

OFFERTORY: #645 - Amazing Grace

COMMUNION: #916 - I Receive the Living God

RECESSIONAL: #644 – There is a Wideness in God's Mercy

St. Michael Schedule:

Sept. 15: 8am: Chris; 10:30am: Enrique, Eric, Miguel 8am: Chris; 10:30am: George, Peter, Robert

News and Events

Parish Religious Education Program

Begins today! To register your child, please Contact Chris Delfin at

ChrisDelfin@gmail.com

Or call 312-842-6777.

Catechists are also needed!

SAVE THE DATE: October 12, 2019 Parish Pilgrimage

St. Therese is sponsoring a Pilgrimage to the Carmelite Shrine in Munster, IN.

We begin with Mass at St. Barbara Church at 8:00 A.M. Depart at 8:45 A.M.

Bus Cost \$10 Lunch \$10.

Further information & registration available next week.



Wedding Banns:

Janice Lin and Brian Chow will celebrate their matrimony on Saturday, Sept. 28th. Please keep them in your prayers.



Please pray for the following Mercy Hospital Patients:

Diane, Edward, Theresa, Bruce, Sue, Michael, Deborah, Laura, Claude, Elaine, Barbara, Jaye, Mary Ann,

Josie, Alisa, Nina, Patricia, Claudgrie, Carl, Arlentha, Cheryl, Ethel, George, Helena, Jack Lucille, Richard, Bruce, Larry, Melissa, Labrea, Peter



Are you interested in becoming an altar server?

We welcome anyone grade 5 and up in this important ministry!

Contact Mr. Joe A Delfin at jdelfin@sttheresechicago.org

MASS SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019:

St. Barbara Church:

Weekends:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass: 5:00PM

Sunday: 6:00AM & 9:30AM

Weekdays:

8:00AM Mass: Tuesdays, Thursdays &

Saturdays

St. Therese Church:

Weekends:

Sunday: 8:00AM & 10:30AM, and Mandarin Mass on the 4th Sunday of the month at 12:00PM

Cantonese Mass 粤語:

1st Sunday of each month at 10:30am 每月第一主日 上午十時三十分

Indonesian Mass 印尼語:

Mass from August 2019 – January 2020 at Divine Word Mission in Techny, IL

Mandarin Mass 國語:

4th Sunday of each month at 12:00noon 每月第四 主日 中午十二時

Weekdays:

8:00AM Mass: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays

ATTENTION: For those who make your offering in the form of a check, please continue to make checks payable to your respective Worship Site Churches



Special September Masses



Date	Time	Worship Site	Description	
Thursday 9-5-10	10:00AM	St. Barbara	Feast of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Bishop John Manz, Celebrant	
Sunday 9-8-19	9:30AM	St. Barbara	Family Mass and Back to School Bash	
Tuesday 9-10-19	8:00AM	St. Barbara	School Mass for St. Barbara Campus	
Sunday 9-15-19	10:30AM	St. Therese	Family Mass, Catechetical Sunday, Blessing of Teachers Catechists for BOTH campuses	
Monday 9-16-19	8:00AM	St. Therese	School Mass for St. Therese Campus	
Tuesday 9-24-19	8:00AM.	St. Barbara	School Mass for St. Barbara Campus	
Wednesday 9-25-19	8:00AM	St. Therese	Class Mass for 7 th Graders of BOTH Campuses	
Monday 9-30-19	8:00AM	St. Therese	Feast of St. Therese, Little Flower	

Alive Again—By Sr. Caritas

Sometimes in our lives we do things that hurt others and we need to ask for forgiveness. We can make serious mistakes in important relationships and we know we need forgiveness. The process of coming to the point of going to the person and saying we are sorry and want to be forgiven can be a long process. We wonder, will the person forgive us? Will they take us back and still be our friend? It is even harder when the event has not been deliberate. We have, it seems, done something and we don't know what we have done that has offended our friend. Taking the steps back to the person without assurance that we will be welcomed is difficult

The first reading today tells of God's anger with His chosen people. They have made a calf of gold and are worshiping it. God tells Moses, to go to the people. God is about to punish the people but Moses pleads with God to spare them. God hears Moses and does not punish the people. God is merciful and forgiving. St. Paul, in the second reading, tells of God's great mercy and forgiveness given to him over and over. God is generous and loving, "slow to anger and abounding in kindness."

The Gospel today is the well-known passage of the story of the Prodigal Son. Despite his sinfulness, the son returns to his father. He makes the long trip back home and the journey of forgiveness acknowledging all that he has done wrong. He does not hesitate to come back to his father. He knows his father loves both of his sons. The Father embraces him and says he is alive, no longer dead. That is the welcome of God, our heavenly Father. He will always welcome us home.

The other son in the story is angry with his father and describes all he has done and what the father has not done. He is eager to point to the son not as a forgiven brother but as a bad, sinful person, unworthy of the father's love. The father does not love the wayward son because he is worthy of his love. The Pharisees and Scribes, for whom Jesus is telling this story, seem much like the second son. Jesus is willing to eat with the tax collectors and sinners whom the Scribes and Pharisees condemn. They want to condemn Jesus for being with "such people." Jesus does not condemn but gives them an opportunity to again draw closer to God. Jesus shows the Father's love and mercy. Which son are you like? Do you believe God is merciful and loving, always willing to forgive? Will you be like Jesus and His Father?

Respect Life Corner

"Youth Death Rates from Drugs and Alcohol Soar" - That's the headline of a recent communiqué from Natural High, a 25 year old, highly successful national, private sector prevention program (See https:// naturalhigh.org). The communication explains: "The Trust for America's Health just issued an alarming report which shows that death rates among 18 - 34 year olds from drugs, alcohol, and suicide have soared 400% in 20 years. In fact, more people died from drugs, alcohol, and suicide than from HIV, car crashes and guns combined." Related data are no less distressing: "These stunning numbers are largely due to the opioid crisis that has gripped our nation. But it's not just opiates — the same age group has seen a 69% rise in alcohol related deaths over the past decade, and a 35% rise in suicide, which is often alcohol or drug-fueled." And there's more: "In fact, according to studies, over 50% of all suicides are associated with alcohol and drug dependence and at least 25% of alcoholics and drug addicts commit suicide. Over 70% of adolescent suicides may be complicated by drug and alcohol use and dependence." These figures bespeak real tragedies which touch many of us in the pews personally. They belie the divine image in which the Creator has fashioned our young people. We parents can do better. We can give better example. We can teach life lessons we've learned from our own mistakes. We can focus on cultural hazards and call them out for our kids. We can reclaim our God given roles as first teachers of our children and not relinquish their formation to others, especially those whose values clash with ours. We can encourage, model discipline and hard work to our children. We don't need to fit in. We don't need to be trendy. What we do need is to love. That may mean being politically incorrect but that's what tough love often requires. Alcohol and drugs just shouldn't be our kids' friends. The founder of Natural High lost two brothers to drugs. It's personal to him and should be to us parents. How ironic that states like Illinois are congratulating themselves for legalizing recreational marijuana while the Surgeon General and Secretary of Health and Human Services are warning against marijuana use by adolescents (https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/reports-and-publications/addiction-and-substance-misuse/ advisory-on-marijuana-use-and-developing-brain/index.html). Moms and dads, we need to unmix the message for our young.

"By our baptism, we are members of Christ's body and sharers in his mission. Imitating Christ, we must care for all members of our communities, honoring each person as unique, sacred, and created in the image of God." — USCCB, "Open Wide Our Hearts"

For solidarity and peace in our global human family: that we may work together to protect the lives of the most vulnerable, we pray.

Weekly Offering

Collection for Sept. 8, 2019							
Sunday Envelopes	\$1,881						
GiveCentral	210	July 1-To-Present (Actual):	\$17,952				
Sunday Loose	280	July 1-To -Present (Budget):	\$22,000				

\$2,371

Total Collection

Weekly Budget: \$2,200 % of Budget Attained: 81%

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

May God bless your generosity! Thank YOU!
Collection at SMI Feast Celebration on 09/08/2019: \$3,645

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

Cita Orendain Lois Payton Helen Moy Benjamin N. Lucas

Amelia Lorraine Schroeder

leed for Prayer

Karl Schroeder Phil Maraldi Nicholas Tobar Sister Noel Devine Barbara McElroy Ramona Zavala Michael Howley Mina Prevsler Munoz Richard Tobar

Rose Perez Phyllis Robinson Richard Shew Jose Cardenal

John Palenik

Bernie Wong Anne Pataka Gerard Phillips Cookie Jarzyna

Lan Ying Yee Lai I Fan Xue Ying Mou Ching Shiu Yau Gyna Gazzi Joseph Rubin Ken Barber

Kay Siani Jerry McCarthy James Rak Mark Donato Florence Yu

James Longo III Matthew Mantia Luke Williamson Bai Xue

Victor Roa Felina Li Shiu Wah Leung Marie Panozzo Mia Rose Faciana Angelo Iasillo Anthony Valentino

Roberta Cheong

Anthony Scuito James Gemkow Frank Karagianes Levi Kirkland Ted Sin

Susan Zibricky Henry F. Wong Joseph Caruso MAD & Rose Marie Donato

David Leung

Luz Whitehead Phyllis Centofanti

Sun., Sep 15 10:30 AM

(St. Therese)

Sat., Oct 12 5:00 PM (St. Barbara)

Sun., Nov 10 10:30 AM (St. Therese)

Mass + Service (Church Maintenance)

Freshen up the church by painting & various maintenance! Beginners welcome!

Mass + Youth Ministry Meeting

Help mentor and lead the future Young Adults of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta!

Young Adult Mass + Refreshments For those looking for modern music and relevant homilies!



OUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Sign up at the church entrance or at:

young.adult.ministry@sttheresechinatown.org | facebook.com/groups/StThereseYAM





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