Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2020

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

St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church 聖徳力華人天主教堂 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/StThereseChinatown Twitter @StThereseChi St. Barbara Church 2859 S. Throop Street, Chicago, IL 60608 Phone: 312-842-7979 www.StBarbaraChicago.org https://www.facebook.com/StMotherTeresaParish

Pastor: Fr. Francis Li 本堂: 李東平神父 FLi@StThereseChinatown.org

> Resident: Fr. John Cuff JCuff@maryknoll.org Operations Director Mr. Piotr Wojtasik Office Manager Ms. Jing Zhang Bulletin Editor

Mrs. Darlene Chan-Lowe

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

St. Therese Chinese Catholic School 聖徳力華人天主教學校

A 2010 & 2018 National Blue Ribbon School

Principal: Ms. Lisa Deborah Oi DOi@StThereseChicago.org

> Assistant Principal: Ms. Susan Leef

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.

Ministry Coordinators

Youth Ministry: Mr.& Mrs. Nick & Ellen Andriacchi Young Adult Ministry: Mr. Joseph Lowe 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

Mass Intentions December 13, 2020 Third Sunday of Advent

December 15,	2020 Inna Sanaay Oj Maveni		
8:00 A.M. + + + + + +	Phyllis Centofanti by Rose Marie Delfin Masangcay by Pam Spano & Family Fr. Aniello Salicone, SX by Margaret Moy & Teresa Lee Marie Panozzo by Gene & Teresa Lee Mr. Bambang Handana by Katharina Atmadja		
10:30 A.M. + + + + + + + +	Blessings for Roque Cheong & Family by Roberta Cheong Bow Kam Woo by Lonnie & Phil Lee Delfin Masangcay by Marian Woo Torrez & Family Judy Moy by Marilyn Leung Fr. Aniello Salicone, SX by Wendy Sin Marie Panozzo by Marion Roti Kay Culen by Pat, Wendy & Family		
MON. Dec. 14th	Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church *(Mass at St. Therese Church)		
8:00 A.M. + + + +	Judy Moy by Agnes Lee Kin Bun Lau by Agnes Lee Kay Culen by Pat, Wendy & Family Dominic Barbaro by Barbaro family		
TUE. Dec. 15th	Advent Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Church)		
8:00 A.M. +	Kay Culen by Pat, Wendy & Family		
WED. Dec. 16th	Advent Weekday *(Mass at St. Therese Church)		
8:00 A.M. + + + + + +	Theresa Hill, Anniversary Remembrance by Marion Judy Moy by Agnes Lee Mary Lydon, Remembrance by Bi Jiang Kay Culen by Pat, Wendy & Family All Forgotten Souls in Purgatory by Barbaro family		
THU. Dec. 17th	Late Advent Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)		
8:00 A.M. +	Kay Culen by Pat, Wendy & Family		
FRI. Dec. 18th	Late Advent Weekday *(Mass at St. Therese Church)		
8:00 A.M. + +	Vince Briglio by Family Kay Culen by Pat, Wendy & Family		
SAT. Dec. 19th	Late Advent Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)		
8:00 A.M. +	Kay Culen by Pat, Wendy & Family		
5:00 P.M.	*(Mass at St. Barbara Church)		

From the Desk of Fr. Francis



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

Thanks

Thanks to **Bruno Caruso**, president of St. Rocco Society, for generously donating all Christmas Poinsettias to our parish again. He personally purchased and delivered them to both of our Worship Sites. His support to our parish is greatly appreciated. What an example of faith, love and hope!

Thanks to all who helped with our St. Barbara Feast celebration. The contributions from our ministers, catechists and students made our Church's feast day so prayerful and thought-provoking. We thank God for St. Barbara and we definitely continue to rely on her intercessions for our communi-



ty. We are also very grateful for the countless men and women of faith who have supported St. Barbara and who continue to do so. You are a blessing to our parish and I hope St. Barbara and St. Therese of St. Mother Teresa Parish continues to faithfully follow the call of our Lord and provide the best services possible to all of our parishioners and friends.



The Act of Perfect Contrition

One of the ways for us to prepare ourselves during this season of Advent is going to Confession, celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, our parish's special scheduled Reconciliation Services for our students both from our school and Religious Education Program and for our parishioners at large have been cancelled. We are still able to continue with our regular Saturday Confession from 4:15pm to 4:45pm at St. Barbara Church.

So the question is if I have to stay at home or if I can't find a suitable time or place for Confession during this pandemic, is there any other way that I can have my sins absolved?

The answer is yes. You can make an act of perfect contrition. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "When it arises from a love by which God is loved above all else, contrition is called 'perfect' (contrition of charity). Such contrition remits venial sins; it also obtains forgiveness of mortal sins if it includes the firm possible" (CCC §1452).

There are three indispensable motives in the act of perfect contrition: 1). Sinners choose to be contrite based on one's love of God; 2). Sinners have to have a firm desire of not sinning again in the future; 3), Sinners have to have the intention to go to Confession in person when it's possible.

Comparing to imperfect contrition, the motive for an imperfect contrition is fear of the eternal punishment. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The contrition called "imperfect" (or "attrition") is also a gift of God, a prompting of the Holy Spirit. It is born of the consideration of sin's ugliness or the fear of eternal damnation and the other penalties threatening the sinner (contrition of fear). Such a stirring of conscience can initiate an interior process which, under the prompting of grace, will be brought to completion by sacramental absolution. By itself however, imperfect contrition cannot obtain the forgiveness of grave sins, but it disposes one to obtain forgiveness in the sacrament of Penance" (**CCC 1453**).

Another important element to have our sins forgiven is an examination of conscience. Relying on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, penitents need to take some time to examine one's life and one's relationships with God, others and oneself, before Confession or making the act of perfect contrition.

I hope each of you can take some time during this Advent to receive God's gift of forgiveness by either celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation or by making an Act of Perfect Contrition.

Peace ~ **Fr. Francis**

WHEN NOTHING SEEMS CLEAR

By Fr. John Cuff

John the Baptist had given everything to God. He had left his home and his family. He lived in total poverty. And even if you eat them with honey, locusts are still bugs.

John the Baptist had preached the Kingdom of God; he had given everything to prepare the way for Jesus. And what's his apparent reward? He's in prison. It seems that God is hidden from him. He hears about the miracles that Jesus is doing, and yet he remains in prison.

He sends his friends to ask the most important question; everything hinges on this question. He asks Jesus: "Who are you?" "Are you the meaning of my life? Are you the mercy of God made visible? I have given everything – even my freedom – for God. Are you his face among us?"

And the answer that Jesus gives to John's question can seem a bit cryptic. He doesn't say, "Obviously... Of course I'm the one who is to come. All your difficulties and sufferings are over!"

Jesus is telling John, "You don't have to understand everything. You're not God. All I ask is that you listen and look at what I've done and continue to do in your life and in the lives of others."

We all have our John the Baptist moments, when nothing seems clear, when Christmas may seem far away. And in those moments, Jesus is telling us, "Look, and listen."

Bible Sharing

Our parish offers bi-weekly Mandarin and weekly Cantonese Bible Sharing on Zoom during this pandemic. All are welcome to join. For the Mandarin group, please email Jing Zhang for the Zoom information at jzsttherese@gmail.com or contact John Lin via our parish offices at 312-842-7979 or 312-842-6777 for the Cantonese Zoom information.

Upcoming Special Events and Schedule2020 & 2021			
Tuesdays Alpha on Zoom			
Nov. 22 nd - Dec. 20 ^t	Baby Bottle Project to benefit The Women's Center St. Vincent DePaul Society's Hats, Gloves, Scarves and Socks Drive to benefit the needy		
December 12 th	5:00pm Simbang Gabi Mass		
December 16 th	St. Therese School Christmas Concert on Zoom		
December 20 th	Mandarin Mass at 12:30pm and Christmas Cantata at 7:30pm on Zoom		
December 24 th	Christmas Eve Mass at 5pm at St. Therese (Live-Streamed @ http://www.youtube.com/StMotherTeresaOfCalcuttaParishChicago		
	Christmas Carols at 11:30pm		
December 25 th	Christmas Mass at 12am (Midnight Mass) at St. Barbara Church		
	Christmas Day Masses:		
	6:00am and 9:30am at St. Barbara Church		
	8:00am and 11:00am (Live-Streamed @ <u>http://www.youtube.com/StMotherTeresaOfCalcuttaParishChicago</u>) at St. Therese Church		
December 26 th - 27 ^{ti}	^h The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Masses: 5:00pm Vigil, 6:00am, and 9:30am at St. Barbara Church 8:00am and 10:30am at St. Therese Church		
December 31 st	New Year's Eve Mass at 5pm, followed by BENEDICTION at St. Therese		
	2021		
January 1 st	New Year's Day Masses: 9:30am at St. Barbara Church 10:00am at St. Therese Church		
Our parish offers the following regular opportunities to pray the rosary together.			
1.) 2.) 3.) 4.)	 5:30am on Sundays at St. Barbara Church 5pm on Mondays with Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity at St. Therese Church 2:30pm on Tuesdays in Mandarin on Zoom 7pm on Wednesdays in English on Zoom First Friday of the Month at 7pm at St. Therese Church 		
"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2:11).			

ST. THERESE CAMPUS 247 W. 23⁴⁰ STREET CHICAGO, IL 60616 312 326 2837



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HERE IS OUR WINNER FROM LAST YEAR - THIS YEAR'S WINNER COULD BE YOU!



Please support our school...

There's still time to purchase a ticket for your chance to win the Grand Prize!

Baby Bottle Project



This year our parish will once again participate in the Baby Bottle Project. You can pick up a bottle at both entrances of St. Barbara Church and St. Therese Church, and *return it on the weekend before Christmas*. Thank you in advance for your support which will help:

- + The Ministry of the Women's Center
- + Teen parents with their babies
- + Pregnant women with babies
- + People of good will to have a great opportunity for conversations

about life and to help people in our community and beyond who might be in need. We depend on you, and they depend on us.

ST. THERESE SCHOOL NEWS

CALLING ALL ALUMNI!

St. Barbara and St. Therese School alumni are invited to join a newly formed Alumni Committee to help further the mission of our school.



Please contact Nicole Yong at nyong@sttheresechicago.org for more information.

As part of our Religious Education program, St. Therese School's 7th and 8th grade students and Parish PREP students continue working on their *Saint Project*. Their research and reflection was conducted in preparation for both All Saints Day and their Confirmation next spring.

St. Mary the Mother of God (c.18 BC - c. 30 - 33 AD)

- She is the patron saint of mothers, humanity, purity, and virgins.
- St. Mary was only around 12 to 15 years old when she became pregnant with Jesus. While Mary was pregnant, she had to leave Nazareth with Joseph, and make a long trip to Bethlehem.
- Even after Jesus' death, she went on to spread the word of God.
- Important Dates Honoring St. Mary the Mother of God:
 - Annunciation of the Lord: March 25
 - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: August 15
 - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: December 8



Student Reflection #1: I believe that Saint Mary will help me pursue holiness because she is a mother. With that being said, mothers care for their children very much, and they love them. Saint Mary is our mother and she will always be there for us, her children. Just like a mother, Mary will help us stay with God, and she will protect us from the devil. Whenever I am scared, I pray to Mary because I know she will always protect me, and she won't let anything bad happen to me.

Weekly Offering					
Collection for December 6, 2020					
Sunday Envelopes	\$ 1,183				
GiveCentral	470	July 1-To-Present (Actual): \$44,145			
Sunday Loose	91	July 1-To -Present (Budget): \$ 50,600			
Total Collection	\$ 1,744				
Weekly Budget:	\$2,200	% of Budget Attained: 87%			

Please consider giving one hour of your weekly salary as your contribution. May God bless your generosity! Thank YOU!



Cita Orendain Lois Payton Shiu Wah Leung Lan Ying Yee Amelia Lorraine Schroeder Karl Schroeder Phil Maraldi Nicholas Tobar Sister Noel Devine Barbara McElroy Ramona Zavala Michael Howley Mina Preysler Munoz Michael Tobar MAD & Rose Marie Donato

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

Bernie Wong Anne Pataka Gerard Phillips Dolly Roti Richard Shew Lai I Fan Xue Ying Mou Ching Shiu Yau Gyna Gazzi Joseph Rubin Ken Barber Kay Siani Ted Sin James Rak Mark Donato Roberta Cheong Victor Roa Felina Li Debbie Annoreno Jose Cardenal Mia Rose Faciana Matthew Mantia Anthony Valentino Bai Xue James Gemkow Frank Karagianes Levi Kirkland Phyllis Robinson Susan Zibricky Rose AnnFormusa George Lee Hu Bin Barbara Metzinger Ali Powers Florence Yu John Palenik Lucy Wong Luke Williamson David Leung Luz Whitehead James Longo III Rose Perez June Moy Brian Cook

Rejoice, God is Faithful by Sr. Caritas

Many days in winter, teaching in Kindergarten and/or First grade, I watched children struggle with putting on boots or putting on winter coats. When you have twenty or more little ones, all trying to put on boots, it takes a while, so you had to start early before dismissal. Eventually I would go and help after I finished the other child. I would go down the line of children until everyone was ready to go home. Sometimes I too would have to struggle with the child's boots in helping them.

We are given directives today in St Paul's letter about getting ready for the coming of the Lord. We are told to rejoice. The realization that the coming of the Lord is getting closer and closer should enable us to rejoice. St. Paul also tells us how to prepare. "Give thanks in all circumstances." That can be hard since some things that happen make it hard to thank God. Keep the Spirit alive in you. Listen to real prophesy and follow those speaking for God. Be a person of discernment in all situations. Do not choose evil. All these are clear directives which would help us prepare and draw closer to God. These are things we can struggle with just as the young children struggle with boots. Put on this way of life which makes us prepared.

By ourselves we may or may not be able to do these things. The one who can accomplish all these things in us is God. God's spirit can fill us and enable us to put on the called for qualities. God has the power to transform us. We need to do our part. We need to be open and accept the graces. Transformative grace comes to us from God.

Rejoice because as St. Paul says, "The one who calls you is faithful and will accomplish it." The faithful God will help us and do in us what we cannot do by ourselves. We are to prepare and open ourselves to God's action in us. Then we can truly REJOICE!









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"To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God's glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ" (The Gospel of Life).



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News and Events

Dec. Mandarin Mass is moved to Sunday Dec. 20th at 12:30pm.

Our annual **Simbangbi Mass** will take place on Saturday, Dec. 12th at the 5pm mass at St. Barbara.

Christmas Decoration will take place on Sunday Dec. 20th after the 10:30am mass. Your help is needed.

Our Parish's Live-Streamed 10:30am Sunday Mass Catholics are still absolved from Sunday obligations. Those who can't yet participate in person can still join us online; our 10:30am Sunday mass is live-streamed via Facebook and YouTube (<u>https://</u>

www.youtube.com/channel/ UCzAgZ6h3s85o fB3QSYO2VQ)

Our Parish has a new Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/StMotherT</u> <u>eresaParish</u>. Please like us and follow us for parish events!

RCIA Programs

Our English, Cantonese and Mandarin RCIA have started. Classes are taught online this year. You may still invite interested parties to join our programs.

Religious Education (RE) for children from 1st to 8th Grade. If you would like to enroll your child, please contact: Chris Delfin at: <u>ChrisDelfin@gmail.com</u> Parish Office at 312-842-6777

Prayers: Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Marie Panozzo**, whose funeral mass was at our church last Thursday. May she rest in heavenly peace.

MASS SCHEDULE

<u>St. Barbara Church:</u> 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 2nd Saturday at 4pm; and 4th Sunday of the month at 12:30PM

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:

2nd Sunday of each month at St. Barbara Chapel at 11:00am

Mandarin Mass 國語:

2nd Saturday of each month at 4pm 4th Sunday of each month at 12:30pm 每月第二周六下午四点和第四 主日中午十二 点半

<u>Weekdays:</u>

8:00AM Mass: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays

REMINDER:

If you are considered as "vulnerable population;" or if you are having pre-existing health conditions; or if you are experiencing any health issues, out of abundant caution and pure love for yourself and others, we strongly encourage you not to join our mass inperson for now and we kindly invite you to join our online masses.