

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20, 2020

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

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St. Therese Chinese Catholic School

聖德力華人天主教學校

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

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<http://www.sttheresechicago.org>



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Mandarin RCIA: Mrs. Joyce Hsieh

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Sr. Mary Caritas Wehrman

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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

December 20, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 A.M. + Judy Moy by Rose Marie Centofanti
+ Fr. Aniello Salicone, SX by Rose Marie Centofanti
+ Marie Panozzo by Gene & Teresa Lee

10:30 A.M. + Bow Kam Woo by Jade Yee
+ Judy Moy by Gertrude Chan
+ Fr. Aniello Salicone, SX by Gertrude Chan
+ Marie Panozzo by Marion Roti
+ Kay Culen by Pat, Wendy & Family

12:30 P.M. **Mandarin Mass**
+ Ko Ming Simon Chang by Elaine, Livia & Alberto
+ Chao Huai Jiang by Paul Chen

MON. Dec. 21st Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church **(Mass at St. Therese Church)*

8:00 A.M. Thanksgiving by Barbaro Family
+ John Bialek, Jr. by Margie Mezatis
+ Kay Culen by the Sin, Bertozzi & Mellor Families

*TUE. Dec. 22nd Late Advent Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Church)* 8:00 A.M.

*WED. Dec. 23rd Saint John of Kanty, Priest *(Mass at St. Therese Church)*

8:00 A.M. + Deceased Members of the Bertucci, Briglio, Spina & Thome Families
by A. Briglio
+ Deceased Members of the Barbaro Family by Dominic Barbaro
+ Kay Culen by the Sin, Bertozzi & Mellor Families

*THU. Dec. 24th Late Advent Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)*

5:00 P.M. **Christmas Eve Mass**
+ Chuck H. Oi, One Year Anniversary Remembrance by Family

FRI. Dec. 25th The Nativity of The Lord—Christmas (Mass at St Therese)

8:00 A.M. + All Deceased Members of the D'Amico & Zito Families by Joe & Rena
+ Kay Culen by the Sin, Bertozzi & Mellor Families
+ All Deceased Family Members of Marion Roti
+ Cookie & David Jarzyna by Marion Roti
+ Fr. Aniello Salicone, SX by Margaret Moy & Teresa Lee
+ Marie Panozzo by Gene & Teresa Lee

11:00 A.M. + Kum Tse by Lucy Moy
+ Judy Moy by Darlene & Chris Lowe
+ Fr. Aniello Salicone, SX by Dorothy Albanese
+ Delfin Masangcay by the Masangcay Family

*SAT. Dec. 26th Saint Stephen, The First Martyr *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)*

8:00 A.M.

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

As we quickly approach Christmas and New Year, I would like to thank all of our committed staff, ministers, committee members, and volunteers for their involvement and leadership in our faith community. Our annual "Appreciation Gathering" will have to be delayed this time due to the COVID-19 restrictions. But I assure you that we will have it when it's safe to do so.

Christmas 2020

Christmas is one of my favorite seasons of the year: the green trees, the colorful lights, all the enjoyable music, and above all, the birth of a savior for all the people to offer us great warmth, inspiration and hope.

This Christmas, unlike the last one, is going to be historic. We may not be able to do some of the traditional things we normally do. At the same time, we are challenged to find new ways to celebrate this wonder of God's incarnation, Jesus coming into our World, and our lives. We might have to simplify our decorations or have our family gatherings online or even attend Mass on TV. These changes also offer each one of us time to reflect and re-examine our lives, our desires, and expectations: What do we need Jesus to come into our lives for?

For me, there are two things I desire the most this Christmas: **healing and hope**. Faced with the continuous dangers of COVID-19, I earnestly pray that our human family will truly and really receive the gifts of God's healing and hope. "*I, the Lord, am your healer*" (Exodus 15: 26). And Jesus is our "*blessed hope*." I find the second reading for the Nativity of the Lord's mass during the night very powerful and enlightening:

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all
and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires
and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age,
as we await the blessed hope,
the appearance of the glory of our great God
and savior Jesus Christ,
who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness
and to cleanse for himself a people as his own,
eager to do what is good. (Titus 2:11-14)

The celebration of the birth of our savior can bring us God's healing power and reaffirm our hope. Jesus, our healer and hope, comes to save us, to transform us, and to empower us to do "what is good." May the celebration of this Christmas touch the core of our human existence, heal the wounds of our offenses, and give us undying hope in the Lord.

Lastly, as you receive God's gifts this Christmas, I invite you to kindly offer a gift to our parish and prudently consider joining our parish's Christmas celebrations in person or online. Our volunteer greeters have been doing a great job to help all in person mass participants observe all the CDC and Archdiocese safety guidelines. I am grateful and confident that they will continue to do so for our Christmas celebrations. With six masses and two live-streamed masses, we should have enough space and options for you to choose. If out of abundance of caution you can't join us in person on Christmas, you are encouraged to observe the octave of Christmas.

With all my heart, I wish you and your loved ones a SAFE and HOPEFUL and BLESSED Christmas! You are in my daily prayers. Please keep me and St. Mother Teresa Parish in yours!

With Gratitude and Prayers! Fr. Francis

The Annunciations to Mary and Joseph

By Fr. John Cuff

At Christmastime, the Church invites us to reflect on Mary and Joseph and their courageous faith. I can think of no better models for us to welcome Our Savior than our Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph. Their example invites us to accept Jesus who is Emmanuel, God-with-us.



The Gospels tell us about two annunciations: one is the Annunciation to Joseph and the other is the Annunciation to Mary. Both are amazing announcements of the Incarnation delivered by heavenly messengers. They also involve the amazing responses, one spoken and the other unspoken, which express the obedient faith of Mary and Joseph to God's will and plan for our salvation.

The angel appeared to Mary when she was awake and the angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. In both Annunciations, the angel said: "Do not be afraid." In the case of Mary, she was troubled by the greeting of the angel, not knowing what it meant. In the case of Joseph, he was in turmoil because of Mary's pregnancy, having decided "to divorce her quietly" since he was "unwilling to expose her to shame." They were both afraid and confused, but God's revelation, which they accepted with obedient faith, filled them with peace. It was the revelation of the Incarnation, that the Son conceived by Mary is of the Holy Spirit.

The angel told Mary: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Holy Spirit will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." The angel told Joseph: "It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her." The angel told both Mary and Joseph that the child should be named "Jesus," a name which means "God saves."

Mary is our exemplar and model of faith in her response to the message of the angel: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Though we have no spoken words of Saint Joseph at the Annunciation to him, the Gospel tells us that "when Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." Both Mary and Joseph responded positively to the word of God. Saint John Paul II wrote that "Joseph is the first to share in the faith of the Mother of God, the first to be placed by God on the path of Mary's pilgrimage of faith." We are called to walk that pilgrimage of faith, to walk with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem this Christmas.

Let us in our prayers contemplate the mystery we celebrate this Christmas, maybe even having a little spiritual conversation with Mary and Joseph. Ask them to help you to live the true spirit of Christmas, to be close to their Son. I encourage you to find some quiet time for prayer during these busy days. There is an aura of silence around Saint Joseph. Yet, that silence speaks eloquently to us of the interior life of Joseph, who, like Mary, is a model of humility and prayer. If we desire to experience the true joy of Christmas, we can learn from Mary and Joseph the secret of silence and reflection on the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Mary and Joseph teach us that the true gift of Christmas is Jesus. The best gifts we can give to others at Christmas are not expensive presents. The best gift we can share is the love, joy, and peace of the Lord. We do so by our prayers for others, kind words and gestures, forgiveness, a welcoming home, and joyful witness. Material gifts have value too, when they are expressions of love and generosity. And let us not forget the poor in our gift-giving at Christmas! It is a wonderful custom in our archdiocese to take up special collections for Catholic Charities at our Christmas Masses, an opportunity to support the charitable works of the Church in our diocese, to share with our brothers and sisters in need.

Let us celebrate Christmas by contemplating Mary and Joseph: "Mary, the woman full of grace who had the courage to entrust herself totally to the Word of God; and Joseph, the faithful and just man who chose to believe the Lord rather than listen to the voices of doubt and human pride. With them, let us walk together toward Bethlehem" (Pope Francis). Through the intercession of Mary and Joseph, may we be free of all worldliness and ready to welcome anew our Savior into our hearts!

Upcoming Special Events and Schedule---2020 & 2021

Tuesdays Alpha on Zoom

- Nov. 22nd - Dec. 20th** 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 20th** Mandarin Mass at 12:30pm and Christmas Cantata at 7:30pm on
Zoom
- December 24th** Christmas Eve Mass at 5pm at St. Therese (**Live-Streamed @**
[http://www.youtube.com/
StMotherTeresaOfCalcuttaParishChicago](http://www.youtube.com/StMotherTeresaOfCalcuttaParishChicago))
- Christmas Carols at 11:30pm
- December 25th** **Christmas Mass at 12am (Midnight Mass) at St. Barbara**
Christmas Day Masses:
6:00am and 9:30am at St. Barbara Church
8:00am and 11:00am (**Live-Streamed @**
[http://www.youtube.com/
StMotherTeresaOfCalcuttaParishChicago](http://www.youtube.com/StMotherTeresaOfCalcuttaParishChicago))
at St. Therese Church
- December 26th - 27th** **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**
Masses: 5:00pm Vigil, 6:00am, and 9:30am at St. Barbara
8:00am and 10:30am at St. Therese
- December 31st** **New Year's Eve Mass at 5pm**, followed by **BENEDICTION** at
St. Therese
- 2021**
- January 1st** **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.) 5:30am on Sundays at St. Barbara Church
- 2.) 5pm on Mondays with Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity
at St. Therese Church
- 3.) 2:30pm on Tuesdays in Mandarin on Zoom
- 4.) 7pm on Wednesdays in English on Zoom
- 5.) 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).

Christmas Donations as of 12/14/2020

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-------------------------|--------|
| Deacon Paul Spalla | \$1,000 | Michael Madia | \$25 |
| Karharina Atmadja | \$1,000 | Rita Lam & Family | \$20 |
| Agnes Lee | \$40 | Laurence & Theresa Wong | \$150 |
| Feng Family | \$300 | Ellen & Nick Andriacchi | \$250 |
| Pat Culen | \$250 | Nora Gonzalez | \$150 |
| Lily & Richard May | \$4,764 | Lucy Wong | \$50 |
| Sandy Ren-Ho | \$100 | Paul & Rebecca Lee | \$500 |
| Jimmy & Lynn Galleli | \$500 | Anthony Nudo & Family | \$100 |
| Anthony Vinci & Family | \$50 | Francine Caruso | \$50 |
| Theresa Latham | \$100 | Anita Chen Hong | \$20 |
| Larry Pusateri | \$350 | Teresa & Henry Lee | \$300 |
| Bernarda Wong | \$200 | Fung Kam Oi | \$500 |
| Rita Co | \$20 | Sacred Heart Ladies | \$1000 |
| Catherine Chang | \$100 | Joseph & Carol Marzullo | \$25 |
| Miriam Wong | \$30 | Betsy Wong | \$100 |
| Mary Ann Wong | \$50 | Dr. Hak Sue | \$500 |
| Jeannie Hui | \$50 | | |

Total Donated as of 12/14/2020 \$13,294

Thank You to all who contributed!

Baby Bottle Project

Please **return your baby bottles ASAP!** Thank you for participating. Your support 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.*

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.



<https://www.freepik.com/vectors/education>

ST. THERESE NEWS

In partnership with the Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community (CBCAC), St. Therese Church and St. Therese School were featured in the BMO Harris Bank Magnificent Mile Lights Festival. Stop by 131 E. Superior to view this beautiful display up close. Can you spot us? This display will be featured until January 6, 2021. A big thank you to the CBCAC for putting this together!



A note from the CBCAC on this holiday display: For this holiday season, Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community (CBCAC) celebrates the strength and resilience in the Greater Chinatown area. We want to honor the community members who came together to assist each other, our organizations that worked collaboratively and creatively to reach solutions, and the other communities who have supported and uplifted us.
(Photo Credit: CBCAC)

Weekly Offering

Collection for December 13, 2020

| | | |
|---------------------|------------|--|
| Sunday Envelopes | \$ 880 | |
| GiveCentral | 473 | July 1-To-Present (Actual): \$ 45,686 |
| <u>Sunday Loose</u> | <u>188</u> | July 1-To -Present (Budget): \$ 52,800 |
| Total Collection | \$ 1,541 | |
| Weekly Budget: | \$2,200 | % of Budget Attained: 86% |

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



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

Cita Orendain
Lois Payton
Shiu Wah Leung
Lan Ying Yee
Amelia Lorraine Schroeder
Karl Schroeder
Phil Maraldi
Nicholas Tobar
Sister Noel Devine
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Mina Preysler Munoz
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Anne Pataka
Gerard Phillips
Dolly Roti
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Xue Ying Mou
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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

God's Home by Sr. Caritas

Every family who starts as a family, establishes a place to live. Some may be one or two rooms, a house of many rooms or an elegant palace. The family that lives there, where there is love and care, calls it home. When we look back at our early lives, we always remember the first place where we lived as a family. It has a "specialness" to it, as we recall where we grew up. It may not have been very fancy, but it was home.

In the first reading today, we hear David, who is settled in his great palace, being concerned that God, is still dwelling in a tent as He had all through the travels through the desert and the struggles with David's enemies. He is concerned that God does not have a great home. He wants to build one. God tells Nathan the prophet to tell David, not to worry. He made it possible to defeat all David's enemies. He can provide a home for Himself.

In the Gospel today, we have the story of the Annunciation. The angel Gabriel comes to Mary. God has prepared Mary. We just celebrated the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Mary was conceived without sin and was always free of sin. God was preparing her to be His mother. The angel tells her, she is to be the Mother of Jesus, the Son of God. Answering Mary's question, Mary is told that the Holy Spirit will overshadow her. She will conceive a son, the Son of God, who will be called Jesus. The Son of God would grow within Mary's womb. The Son of God would make Mary His home, dwelling within her for nine months, as many babies live in their Mothers. For the Son of God this was His first earthly home, the womb of the Virgin Mary. During Advent we look to the coming of Emmanuel, God with us. Jesus will be born.

God wants to dwell in us too. Through grace, Jesus lives in us. We have some time to still prepare and be open to Jesus living in us and among us. "Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation." Jesus, Son of God will be with us.



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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 im-
age 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

December Mandarin Mass has been moved to Sunday, Dec. 20th at 12:30pm.

Christmas Decoration: Sunday, December 20th

St. Barbara Church will be decorated after the 9:30am mass, and St. Therese Church will be decorated after 10:30 am mass. Your help is needed and appreciated.

2021 Offering Envelopes for Registered Parishioners are at the Church entrance table. Please pick up yours after mass today. If you currently don't have offering envelopes, you may contact the Church office to obtain a box.

2021 Calendar is available at the Church entrance table, please pick up a copy this weekend after mass.

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 (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzAgZ6h3s85o_fB3QSYO2VQ)

Our Parish has a new **Facebook** page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMotherTeresaParish>. 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: ChrisDelfin@gmail.com
Parish Office at 312-842-6777



**Please pray for the following
Mercy Hospital Patients:** Norma,

Charles, Jackson, Paula, Kionel, Caroline, Steven, William, Larry, Francis, Cheryl, Zhao Fang

MASS SCHEDULE

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 2nd Saturday at 4pm; and 4th Sunday of the month at 12:30PM

Cantonese Mass 粵語:

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

Weekdays:

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 in-person for now and we kindly invite you to join our online masses.