The Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021

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: <u>facebook.com/StThereseChinatown</u> Twitter @StThereseChi

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Young Adult Ministry:

Mr. Joseph Lowe

Religious Education Program:Mrs. Christine Delfin

Wits. Christine Dellin

RCIA Coordinators:

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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.

Mass Intentions

January 10, 2021 The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 A.M. + +	Antoinette Pacelli by Nephew Jody Sau Fong Yuan by Margaret & Teresa
10:30 A.M. + + + + + + + + + +	Bow Kam Woo by Karen Moy Kay Culen by Darlene & Chris Lowe Jenping J. Chan by Darlene Judy Moy by Roberta Cheong Lai I. Fan by Regina Cheong & Family Antonius Prijohandojo Kristanto by Katharina & Family Delfin Masangcay by Elizabeth Masangcay & Family
MON. Jan. 11th	Weekday *(Mass at St. Therese Church)
8:00 A.M. + +	Mariano Caruso by Family Marie Roti by Francine
TUE. Jan. 12th 8:00 A.M.	Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Church)
WED. Jan. 13th	Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church *(Mass at St. Therese Church)
8:00 A.M. +	All Forgotten Souls in Purgatory by Dominic Barbaro
8:00 A.M. + THU. Jan. 14th 8:00 A.M.	All Forgotten Souls in Purgatory by Dominic Barbaro Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)
THU. Jan. 14th	
THU. Jan. 14th 8:00 A.M. FRI. Jan. 15th	Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)
THU. Jan. 14th 8:00 A.M. FRI. Jan. 15th 8:00 A.M.	Weekday *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel) Weekday *(Mass at St Therese Church)



From the Desk of Fr. Francis

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

Thanks

This past Christmas and New Year celebrations were peaceful, prudent, and certainly with less festivities. We were blessed to have so many of our parishioners and visitors to celebrate the masses both in person and online with us. At the same time, we missed seeing a lot of our parishioners who without the pandemic would have been part of our joyful celebrations.

During this challenging time, I am continuously amazed by the good that so many of you do for our parish on a daily basis. Thanks to all for making our holy day celebrations safe and fruitful.

Special thanks to **our liturgical ministers** for their extraordinary commitment and to **all of our parishioners and benefactors** who have generously and financially supported our Christmas giving. Our parish's Christmas collection in this unusual year is about \$50,000.00, which sets a new record high. This definitely helps our operations during this unprecedented time when more than sixty percent of our regular parishioners can't attend our parish's services in person, yet our parish strives to provide as much services both in person and online as possible and to do our best to keep our doors open.

Special thanks to **ZhiWei Niu and Paul Wang** for their generous Christmas donation of \$1000.00 and for choosing our parish this year as their company's matching donation organization. So their \$1000.00 with 3X matching becomes a \$4000.00 Christmas offering to our parish. If your company has matching donations, you may want to consider our parish too.

Special thanks to **Linda Leong and her family** for having 250 customized masks made with our churches' logos, and generously donating them to our parish. I plan to give these to our ministers and volunteers in the upcoming Appreciation Gathering or at an appropriate time.

Special thanks to three of our youngsters, Lizzy Andriacchi, Christina and Rosella Follino for taking time to spread some Christmas joy and care to our neighbors by distributing a Christmas wrist band and a greeting message on behalf of our parish and thanks to Ellen and Nick Andriacchi for organizing this.







New Year "Resolution"

What's your New Year's resolution for your own life, your family, and your parish?

The celebration of the Baptism of the Lord calls us to reflect on our own baptismal missions. Our baptism makes each one of us a part of the Body of Christ and gives us the privilege of living in the Good News and sharing it with our brothers and sisters.

As I look forward to serve you in the New Year, I would like to invite all of us to ponder and act upon the following areas of Mission for responding to the Mission entrusted to us by our Lord and for the good of our faith community: focusing and getting involved with **radical hospitality**, **faith formation** and **evangelization**. As a community, we must continue to follow the call of our Lord by being fed with the Eucharist, the center of our life and of the life of our community, by finding creative ways to reach out to our brothers and sisters with the Good News, and by fostering "a culture of care" as Pope Francis invites us to do at his New Year's message.

I can spend hours and pages with each of the three areas I mentioned, namely hospitality, formation and evangelization. As for now, I ask you to pray about it and to give some thoughts on how you would like to be part of these missions. Throughout this year, you will hear more from me on these missionary endeavors and as a community we will intentionally work on them.

Peace~ Fr. Francis

The Grace of Baptism --- Fr. John Cuff

Years ago, there was a conference in England to discuss the question, "What makes Christianity different from all the other religions of the world?" At the conference, some suggested that Christianity is unique in its teaching that God became a human being. It was pointed out that the Hindu religion has many instances of God coming to earth as human. Others suggested that it is the belief in the resurrection. Again it was pointed out that other faiths believe that the dead rise again. The debate grew loud and heated until C. S. Lewis, the great defender of Christianity, came in. "What's the rumpus about?" he asked. When he was told that it was a question of the uniqueness of Christianity, he said, "Oh, that's easy. It's grace."

In a reading on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Paul's Letter to Titus focuses on us Christians as people who have been saved through the grace of Baptism. "For when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit." (Titus 3:4-5).

Here we see the meaning of grace. G-R-A-C-E spells God's Riches At Christ's Expense. The salvation we've received isn't in payment for any good works we may have done but a free and unconditional gift of God. In Baptism God wipes away all our sins and no longer holds us accountable for them. My favorite definition of grace is "God gives everything in return for nothing to us who don't deserve anything."

C.S. Lewis was right when he said that the doctrine of grace makes the Christian faith unique among all other faiths. There are no preconditions for receiving God's grace. To receive God's grace is free and unconditional. But to remain in God's grace demands a response from us. This response is, on the one hand, that we say no the devil and to the temptation to run our own lives according to our selfish and worldly inclinations, and, on the other hand, that we submit to God and lead our lives in submission to God's holy will. In order words, we who have received the grace of baptism must endeavor to live up to our Baptismal promises.

As we celebrate Christ's Baptism in the Jordan, let us thank God for the free gift of salvation we received through the grace of Baptism. Let us also earnestly ask Him for the grace to keep us faithful to our baptismal promises to say no to Satan and all his false promises and to say yes to God even unto death.

ST. THERESE SCHOOL NEWS

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 upcoming Confirmation next spring.

St. Joseph (c. 1st century CE)

- Patron saint of workers.
- Patron of the Universal Church.
- Spouse of Blessed Virgin Mary.
- · Foster father of Jesus.
- Descendant of King David.
- Year of St. Joseph (Dec. 8, 2020---Dec. 8, 2021). proclaimed by Pope Francis
- Feast Day: March 19



Student Reflection #1: I believe this saint will help me pursue my faith because he shows what you can become when you work hard. St. Joseph will also help me pursue my holiness, because he shows me that I don't have to have a normal life. I can do what I want to do, whether that's becoming a priest, lawyer, or whatever I want to be. As long as I believe.

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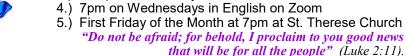
OPEN HOUSE FRIDAYS 1/15, 2/12, 3/12 2:15-3 PM

CONTACT US

312,326,2837 ADMISSIONS@STTHERESECHICAGO.ORG

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
- "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy





Christmas Donations as of 01/04/2021

Deacon Paul Spalla	\$1,000	Anthony Fratto	\$100
Kusnoto Family	\$1,000	Therese Vallina	\$25
Agnes Lee	\$40	Marion Roti	\$100
Feng Family	\$300	Dominick La Caria	\$10
Pat Culen	\$250	Wanda & Michael Jordan	\$200
Lily & Richard May	\$4,764.50	Catherine Chan	\$30
Sandy Ren-Ho	\$100	Laura Chu	\$100
Jimmy & Lynn Galleli	\$500	Lan-Sun Hu	\$250
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Vinci	\$50	Chung Chan	\$20
Theresa Latham	\$100	Kwok Chi Lee	\$100
Larry Pusateri	\$350	Rose Lee	\$100
Bernarda Wong	\$200	Akina Moy	\$200
Rita Co	\$20	Simon Dusan	\$100
Catherine Chang	\$100	Thomas Lam	\$100
Miriam Wong	\$30	Robert Lee	\$10
Mary Ann Wong	\$50	Shao-Chen Lin	\$50
Jeannie Hui	\$50	Hayashi Megumi	\$50
Michael Madia	\$25	Jim & Maryann Distasio	\$500
Rita Lam Family	\$20	Dominique Feng	\$100
Laurence & Theresa Wong	\$150	Maria Feng	\$100
Ellen & Nick Andriacchi	\$250	Suet Mui	\$20
Nora Gonzalez	\$150	Chuck Lee	\$100
Lucy Wong	\$50	Chris & Frances Lee	\$500
Paul & Rebecca Lee	\$500	Paul & Cindy Lau	\$1,000
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Nudo	\$100	Gemma Wong	\$100
Francine Caruso	\$50	Teresa Moy	\$100
Anita Chen Hong	\$20	Marilyn Lee	\$60
Teresa & Henry Lee	\$300	Eleanor & Ignatius He	\$200
Fung Kam Oi	\$500	Pauline Wong	\$100
Sacred Heart Ladies	\$1,000	Katherine Moy	\$100
Joseph & Carol Marzullo	\$25	Anonymous	\$200
Betsy Young	\$100	Fung Family	\$100
Dr. Hak Sue	\$500	Lucy Moy	\$50
Fr. Francis Li	\$100	Nancy & Steve Wong	\$200
SMI Club	\$200	Nian-Chih Yang	\$500
Lucille Salerno	\$100	Anthony & Anita Spina	\$500
William Pacella	\$200	Carol & Thomas Spalla	\$100
Tom Chan	\$50	Anonymous	\$100
Peter Chan	\$50	Raymond Chin	\$1,000
Shiu-Mei Sim	\$100	Betty Kovathana	\$200
Helen Distasio	\$50	Wil Chan	\$2,000
<u>An</u> Fei Hsieh	\$200	Christopher Lau	\$500
Marianne Cibulka	\$10	Joseph Zito	\$500
Vivian Wong	\$50	Teresa Au	\$50

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Cing Ching	\$200	Wing F. Chan	\$20
Amy Wu	\$200	Sam Ng	\$100
Rose Cho	\$100	Dominick Lai	\$100
Jennifer & Jorge Morales	\$200	Dorothy Albanese	\$25
Richard Co	\$200	Rosemary Tagge	\$500
Chi-Ing Li	\$2,500	Frank Scuito	\$20
ZhiWei Niu & Paul Wong	\$1,000	Lucy Leung	\$50
Louis Vittori	\$100	Lin Bi Jiang	\$50
Betty Fung	\$20	Kun Cheong	\$10
Sevila Yee-Schiml	\$500	Marian & Vincent Torrez	\$100
Thomas & Libia Howard	\$40	Monica Lam	\$50
Karen Zewe	\$25	Ka Soen & Lushia Tie	\$125
Anna Cheung	\$100	Sheila & John Lin	\$100
Anonymous	\$150	Connie Liu	\$10
Farlen Lee	\$30	Joe DiFazio Jr.	\$100
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Kee Chung Leong	\$100	Peter & Barbara Pon	\$50
Peter Tse	\$100	Lisa & Edy Gunawan	\$200
Rita & Richard Young	\$300	Raymond Lin	\$500
Rosetta Palumbo	\$10	Mary & Tom Hellmann	\$40
Suey Kin Yuen	\$50	Marie Chan	\$100
Earl Hokens	\$200	Naomi & Joe Lowe	\$200
James Chin	\$500	Frances Karagianes	\$25
Linda S. Weiler	\$200	Gertrude Chan	\$100
George & Yvette Lee	\$500	Antoinette Briglio	\$25
Nancy Shortino	\$25	Mary & Elizabeth Masangcay	\$2
Wendy & Jerome Fluder	\$200	Corwin & Luann Eng	\$100
Rosemarie Centofanti	\$50	Loose Cash	\$484
Anonymous	\$500	Ireneo Lorenzo	\$250
Keating Family	\$200	Theresa Scopacasa	\$50
Linda Myers	\$100	Stephen D'Elia	\$100
Marilyn Leung	\$50	Joseph & Moun-Mei Kao	\$100
Yu Chen	\$10	Lucy Setlak	\$50
Janet Fecteau & Al DiFranco	\$100	Eileen Chin	\$100
Darlene & Chris Lowe	\$350	John Lee	\$20
St. Rocco Society	\$350	Rita Spalla	\$30
Margaret Moy	\$100	Linda Leong	\$10
Michael Fung	\$20	Jean Ng	\$100
Janet Moy	\$50	Joseph A. Zito Jr	\$200
Elizabeth Mov	\$100	Mimi & Jing Zhang	\$60
Gene & Teresa Lee	\$200	April Alonzo	\$25
Eleanor He	\$20	Joe & Natia Difazio	\$25 \$100
Peter Delich & Family	\$50	Christine & Joe Delfin	\$30
Larry Pusateri	\$50	Kien & Agnes Chai	\$300
Lss Real Properties LLC	\$100	Lucy & Victor Moy	\$200
Sharon Wong	\$200	Bo-Chung Yan	\$100
Barrett - Krach	\$125	Ms. So Ho	\$225
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Grand Total 01/04/2021: \$40,258 Thank you to all who have donated!

Weekly Offering

Collection for January 3, 2020

Sunday Envelopes \$ 1,025

GiveCentral 415 July 1-To-Present (Actual): \$50,712 Sunday Loose 50,400

Total Collection \$ 2,085

Weekly Budget: \$2,200 % of Budget Attained: 85%

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...

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Roberta Cheong Victor Roa Felina Li Debbie Annoreno Jose Cardenal

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James Gemkow Frank Karagianes Levi Kirkland Phyllis Robinson Susan Zibricky Rose AnnFormusa George Lee Hu Bin

Barbara Metzinger Ali Powers Florence Yu Brian Cook Lucy Wong Luke Williamson David Leung

Luz Whitehead James Longo III Rose Perez June Moy

In Whom I am Pleased by Sr. Caritas

Sometimes when teaching I would have to find ways to encourage good behavior. I would tell the fourth row that they were sitting so straight and were the best row. Everyone in the row sat very straight and tall and all the other rows in the class immediately adjusted their behavior and I would proceed to compliment other rows. Soon the whole class was sitting correctly and quietly. Perhaps you remember a compliment from a teacher or another person you respected and what a deep, impression it made on you.

In today's Gospel, we have the story of Jesus being baptized in the Jordan by John the Baptist. Jesus comes up out of the water. "He saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son, with you I am well pleased." As the Holy Trinity is manifested in this gospel, The Father praises and identifies Jesus as the loved Son and is pleasing to the Father. This affirmation of Jesus is for John the Baptist and for anyone else who is there and is open to hearing and having faith.

If we are Catholic at some time, we were baptized. By being baptized we become adopted children of God. God is truly Our Father. Jesus is Our Brother and we are filled with the Holy Spirit. At that moment God, The Father can say of us what He said of Jesus, "You are my son (or daughter) in whom I am well pleased." The challenge of our lives is to live this adoption and "pleasing the Father" each day of our lives. It takes faith to recognize this special relationship with God. We live in the grace we are given and are led by the Holy Spirit. If we take time to let this reality deepen in us, if we take time to live out our adoption, we will experience the affirmation of the Father. He will be pleased in us. God will live in us and we will reveal Jesus, God, to those we meet. Will you take the time to fully enter into this wonderous mystery?







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Prayer for the New Year

"May God make your year a happy one! Not by shielding us from all sorrows and pain, But by strengthening us to bear it, as it comes; Not by making our path easy,

But by making us sturdy to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from us,

But by taking fear from our heart;

Not by granting us unbroken sunshine, But by keeping our face bright, even in the

shadows;

Not by making our life always pleasant, But by showing us when people and their causes need us most,

and by making us anxious to be there to help. God's love, peace, hope and joy to us for the year ahead."

-Author Unknown

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 Chinese and English Calendars are 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/UCzAqZ6h3s85o 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.

Christmas Decoration will be taken down today after the 10:30am mass. Your help is needed and appreciated.

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 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

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 inperson for now and we kindly invite you to join our online masses.