### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 24, 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



## **Mass Intentions**

# January 24, 2021 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

<b>8:00 A.M.</b> +	Sau Fong Yuan by Marion Roti		
10:30 A.M. + + + + + +	Birthday Blessings for Lauren May by Richard & Lily May Bow Kam Woo by Nicole & Ishan Jenping J. Chan by Darlene Rebecca Moy by Regina Cheong & Family Reginald Simeon Kho-Kuriawan by Budi & Katharina Kusnoto Rose Chung by Marian Torrez & Family		
12:30 P.M.	Mandarin Mass Ko-Ming Simon Chang by Elaine, Livia & Alberto		
MON. Jan. 25th	The Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle *(Mass at St. Therese Church)		
8:00 A.M.			
TUE. Jan. 26th	Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops *(Mass at St. Barbara Church)		
8:00 A.M.			
WED. Jan. 27th	Saint Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder *(Mass at St. Therese Church)		
	pecial intention to St. Joseph for Joe by Mom ominic Barbaro by Barbaro Family		
THU. Jan. 28th 8:00 A.M.	Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)		
FRI. Jan. 29th	Weekday *(Mass at St Therese Church)		
8:00 A.M. +	Joseph Briglio, Sr. & Family by A. Briglio		
SAT. Jan. 30th	Blessed Gabriele M. Allegra, Priest *(Mass at St. Barbara Chapel)		
8:00 A.M.			

\*(Mass at St. Barbara Church)

5:00 P.M.



### From the Desk of Fr. Francis

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

### Sunday of the Word of God

In his Apostolic Letter, titled, "**APERUIT ILLIS**" in 2019, Pope Francis declared that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to "**the celebration**, **study and dissemination of the word of God**." This Sunday calls us to renew our love for the Word of God and to pray and reflect on the role of the Scripture in the life of our Church and of our own spirituality. The Word of God has power to help the Church to grow and to nourish each of us. Furthermore, after a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and on this traditionally known as Ecumenical Sunday, Pope Francis states that "this Sunday of the Word of God will thus be a fitting part of that time of the year when we are encouraged to strengthen our bonds with the Jewish people and to pray for Christian unity. This is more than a temporal coincidence: the celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God has ecumenical value, since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity."

St. Paul on his letter to 2 Timothy beautifully states on the power of the Word of God: "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work (3: 16-17)."

As Christians, we believe in the saving power of the Word which we hear it at Mass, we share it at our Bible Sharing Group, and we use it regularly as our favorite prayer. Pope Francis encourages all Christians to pray with the Scripture regularly by stating:

Regular reading of sacred Scripture and the celebration of the Eucharist make it possible for us to see ourselves as part of one another. As Christians, we are a single people, making our pilgrim way through history, sustained by the Lord, present in our midst, who speaks to us and nourishes us. A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a yearlong event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers. For this reason, we need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, struck as we are by so many forms of blindness.

Clearly, Bible is indispensable for the life of our Church and for our relationships with God and with each other. On this Sunday, let's renew our love for the Word of God and let's make some resolutions to make Bible part of our daily living. I hope the following "ways" will be helpful to you as we celebrate the Word of God Sunday.

#### 10 Ways to celebrate Word of God Sunday on January 24 (aleteia.org)

- 1. Celebrate a *Bible Enthronement* in your home or parish.
- 2. Go through your gift lists for this year, and consider giving the Bible as part of your Christmas, birthday or wedding gifts.
- 3. Make sure your grandparents or the elderly in your family have a large-print Bible or an audio Bible.
- 4. Resolve to read one chapter of the New Testament each day; write down what the Holy Spirit says to your heart. **This will become your spiritual diary and a treasure for years to come.**



- 5. Create a weekly Zoom or Google Meet group to read, meditate, and discuss the Sunday Gospel with family and friends.
- 6. Take an online free Catholic Scripture course as a way to study God's Word more systematically.
- 7. Look up artworks that depict passages of Scripture and discuss them with your children.
- 8. Find board games related to the Bible and play them as a family.
- 9. Make a list of your favorite Bible verses and categorize them according to the virtues of hope, faith, and charity.
- 10. Make a vow to make Christ the center of your life and **to know**, **live**, **and transmit God's Word** in everything you think, say and do.

May the Word be "a lamp for my feet, a light for my path" (Psalm 119: 105).

Peace~ Fr. Francis



It's that time of year again! COVID cannot stop professional football from being played, which means SUPER BOWL IS ON!

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta will be selling Super Duper Bowl Squares for \$100 each. You can buy multiple squares or split one with friends - whatever your budget allows. This is a great way to support the parish AND potentially win some money!

#### Payout Details:

- Final Score: \$2,500
- Halftime Score: \$500
- 1st and 3rd Quarter: \$250
- Score Changes: \$1,000 total (e.g., If there are 8 score changes, each gets \$1,000/8 = \$125)

Numbers for Squares will be randomly drawn on Saturday, February 6, 2021, after the 5pm Mass at St. Barbara Church. Once drawn, we will email and make the completed square sheet public.

Due to COVID, there will be no party this year. It is disappointing, but we appreciate your understanding.

To purchase Super Duper Bowl Squares or for more information, please contact:

- Parish Office at 312-842-6777 or 312-842-7979
- Nick Andriacchi at 312-933-7712 or email at nandriacchi@yahoo.com

#### Payment:

- Checks should be made payable to St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish, with "Squares" noted in the memo.
- GiveCentral at <a href="https://www.givecentral.org/location/445/event/12573">https://www.givecentral.org/location/445/event/12573</a>
- Paypal at <u>StTherese@ArchChicago.org</u>

All proceeds benefit St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish! Thank you for your support!



#### 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.

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#### CELEBRATING Catholic Schools Week 2021: Jan. 31-Feb. 6

The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year is Catholic Schools:

Communities of Faith and Resilience.

Please keep our students, teachers, staff and administrative leaders and of course parents in your prayers as they continue to navigate through this difficult time. May the Lord watch over them, keep them safe, and fill them with God's peace, wisdom and hope.



#### Infant Baptism---Fr. John Cuff

Should babies be baptized? A key dogma of our faith that the Church has always taught is the existence of Original Sin and the necessity of Baptism, including infant baptism, for salvation. Yet many Protestant sects would object; they don't believe in infant baptism.

They say you must have faith for baptism, and obviously an infant cannot have faith, for they can't even think; so infant baptism is impossible, it's meaningless, they say.

But the Church has always taught that not only is infant baptism possible, it's necessary to free the child from original sin and the power of the devil. In fact, the

Church teaches that Baptism should be given within the first few weeks after birth.

Thus the Church from earliest times has always taught with authority the doctrine of infant baptism; in fact, infant baptism is found in both scripture and tradition. In the Gospels Christ says, "Let the little children come unto me." Elsewhere, in the New Testament, for example, in the Acts of the Apostles and in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, it is recorded that the Apostles baptized "whole households," and that would include infants.

Other evidence comes from tradition; archaeologists investigating catacombs where early Christians buried their dead, have discovered inscriptions on the tombs of children that read: "So and so, child of so and so, baptized on such and such a day..." Thus there is ample evidence both in scripture and tradition that the practice of infant baptism goes back to the earliest days of the Church.

Sometimes you hear it said, "I haven't baptized my child yet because I think he should grow up and have the freedom to make his own decision about baptism; it seems like a violation of the child's freedom to baptize him and put a burden on him."

The Church authoritatively rejects this view, saying: "There is no such thing as pure human freedom, immune from evil influences; even on the natural level, parents make choices for their children necessary for their future good health and well-being."

"A so-called neutral attitude on the religious level would in fact be a negative choice which would deprive their child of an essential good."

Our own St. Therese uses another image to explain the same point. She says that in the tender years of a child, his or her soul is actually like warm wax; if Christ is not impressed on the soul at that early stage, then it's quite probable that evil will be.

In other words the Church says that you do not put a burden on your child when you introduce him to the one true God; the greatest gift parents can give their child after physical life is eternal life; how can anyone say that is doing a disservice to him?

Pope John Paul explained this point when he said, "It is a mistake for parents to delay infant baptism, thinking that children should desire baptism before receiving it; if the parents do so, they misunderstand the role and meaning of Baptism." "Christian life begins not simply with a human desire, but with a sacrament whose divine power acts on the soul."

In other words, as long as faith is present, it's the power of the sacrament of Baptism itself, which cleanses one of all sin and makes one a child of God and heir of heaven.

This brings us back to the first point about infant baptism: actually Protestants are right when they say where there is no faith, there is no baptism.

But the Church teaches that indeed there is faith present, not the infant's faith of course, for he or she can't even think, but the faith of the parents and godparents.

At infant baptism, the child is baptized in the faith of the parents; the parents as it were "loan" their faith to the child, till he or she grow up and make it their own. Only in the case of infant baptism does the Church allow faith to be passed on from one person to another.

Thus the Church teaches that in infant baptism, parents who have given their children physical life, are now able to give them the gift of eternal life, through their faith and through the power of the Sacrament of Baptism. To deny them this gift of God would be a disservice.

#### 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal

If you have donated to the Annual Catholic Appeal in 2020, you have probably received a letter from Cardinal Cupich with a commitment form for the 2021 Appeal, which will begin next weekend. The theme of this year's appeal is "Come Follow Me...and Bring Hope to the World". We have all received God's love. Especially this year, by financially supporting the ministries and services funded by the ACA, we help to extend God's love to many, many others.

#### January 19, 2021 Report

Donor Count	118	
2020 Goal	\$16,941.70	
Amount Pledged	\$23,878.02	
Amount Paid	\$22,488.02	
Balance Due	\$ 1,390.00	

As you can see from the above report, even though we did not reach our pledged amount, we have exceeded our 2020 goal by \$5,546.32, which will be rebated back to our parish.

If you have already mailed in your commitment card and envelope, thank you. You can also bring it to Church at the commitment weekend when the campaign is presented in church. Thank you.

Announcement Weekend: January 30 – 31 Commitment Weekend: February 6 – 7 Our Parish Goal for 2021 is \$19,007.00.

#### **Counseling Support Line**

If the pandemic has you feeling anxious or depressed and you'd like to talk with a counselor, please call the Catholic Charities Counseling Support Line at (312) 948-6951 anytime M-F from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Spanish speaking counselors are available. If you leave a message after hours, a counselor will call you back.

#### Legal Assistance Available

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Department has attorneys and volunteer attorneys available to provide advice in numerous areas of law. If you are unsure about your legal rights or lost in the legal system, let us help you. Services include in-depth advice and possible direct representation on many issues, including landlord/tenant issues, family law, consumer and debtor rights, foreclosure, employment issues, orders of protection, power of attorney, and more. CCLA provides free to low-cost legal services to eligible low-income individuals. For help and more information, contact the legal advice line at (312) 948-6821.

more information, contact the legal advice line at (512) 540-0021.						
Weekly Offering						
Collection for January 24, 2020						
Sunday Envelopes	\$	630				
GiveCentral		605	July 1-To-Present (Actual): \$54,387			
Sunday Loose		341	July 1-To -Present (Budget): \$62,800			
Total Collection	\$	1,576				
Weekly Budget:	\$2,200		% of Budget Attained: 86%			
Please consider giving one hour of your weekly salary as your contribution.						



### 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

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Ted Sin James Rak Mark Donato Roberta Cheong Victor Roa Felina Li Debbie Annoreno

Jose Cardenal John Palenik 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 Brian Cook Lucy Wong Luke Williamson David Leung

Luz Whitehead James Longo III Rose Perez June Moy

### Radical Change by Sr. Caritas

Each of us has very many different experiences in our lives. At different points in our lives we meet situations or people whose influence or experiences radically change our lives. It may be a teacher in a class we were in. It may be the person we met whom we fall in love with and marry and our lives are changed in ways we never imagined. Sometimes we make decisions that eventually lead to a radical difference in our situation or places we will live. We don't know when these will happen. We may think the decision is not very significant but looking back in our lives we realize it was a decisive turning point.

Our Gospel today is the story in John's Gospel which relates some radical changes in the lives of Jesus and the first apostles. John the Evangelist is one of the apostles called in the story. One of the changes in Jesus' life is He has left His mother, Mary. He is starting His ministerial life. It is radically different for Him. We are told it is the time when John the Baptist, Jesus' cousin, has been arrested. That is another difference for Jesus. He is walking along the shore and He sees two men, whom perhaps he has met with John. They are using their nets to fish. Simon and His brother Andrew listen to Jesus' call, "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men." They follow him leaving everything behind. They are starting on the journey which will radically change them. Further down the shore, Jesus meets James and John who are with their father, mending the nets. Jesus calls them "follow me" and they follow too and their lives are never the same.

We are like the apostles in the Gospel. We have been called. Through Baptism, we are called to follow Jesus. Jesus walked the road following the will of His Father. If we live our faith, we are walking a road of radical change. It is the challenge we are called to live out. We meet Jesus and this meeting makes us very different. We are called to live this radical life. Will you walk the life of faith? What will you do for love?







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(The Gospel of Life).



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#### Christmas Donations as of 01/18/2021:

May & Michael Capecci \$50

#### Grand Total 01/18/2021: \$40,958 Thank you to all who have donated!

**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

yet participate in person can still join us online; our 10:30am Sunday mass is livestreamed via Facebook and

YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzAqZ6h3s85o fB3QSYO2VQ)

Our Parish has a new Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/StMotherTeresaParish">https://www.facebook.com/StMotherTeresaParish</a>. Please like us and follow us for parish events!

## Please pray for the following

Mercy Hospital Patients: Sandra, Patricia,



Lorene, James, Dorothy, Jose, Charlotte, Mary, Paula, Esther, Juanita, Michael, Lizzie, Diana, Elvira, Jennifer, Julia, Selena, Helena, Tony, Curtis, Christian

#### **Prayer Intentions:**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Rebecca Moy** and **Genevieve Crocker**. They passed away recently and had their burial services this past week. May the Lord grant them eternal peace!

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