

Mass Schedules:

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am
 Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
 Sunday: 8:30 am & 10:00 am
unless otherwise noted in bulletin

Reconciliation:

Saturdays 4:00-4:30 pm
 or by appointment

Parish Office:

Located 2nd floor Parish Center
 510.547.2777
 Fax 510.653.3575

Office Hours:

Mon-Fri, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Parish Staff:

Rev. Robert J. McCann, ext. 21

Pastor

rjmccann@sttheresaokland.org

Cathy Brady, ext. 26

Liturgy Director

cathy@sttheresaokland.org

Sharon Chipman, ext. 39

Faith Formation Director

sharon@sttheresaokland.org

George Husson, ext. 11

Director of Music Ministries

george@sttheresaokland.org

Debbie Rubin, ext. 20

Secretary/Facilities Manager

debbie@sttheresaokland.org

For additional information visit the parish website:

www.sttheresaokland.org

Baptisms and Marriages:

by appointment

Faith Formation:

Grades 1-5

Monthly Sunday Family Session

8:15 - 9:45 am

Grades 6-8

Monthly Sunday Session

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Confirmation:

Monthly Sunday Session

6:30 - 8:30 pm

Kinderchurch:

Preschoolers and Kindergarteners

10:00 am Sunday Mass

Delia Ann Jachec

deliaannj@yahoo.com

Kim Lopez-Walters

kimsparto@hotmail.com

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

Grades 1-5, 10:00 am Mass

St Theresa School:

510.547.3146

Fax 510.653.3573

Judith KoneffKlatt

School Principal

ST. THERESA PARISH COMMUNITY

ST. THERESA MISSION STATEMENT

WE ARE A WELCOMING,
 ACTIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
 UNITED BY OUR FAITH,
 OPEN TO TRANSFORMATION,
 GROWING SPIRITUALLY
 AND REACHING OUT TO LOVE
 AND TO SERVE OTHERS
 AS JESUS TAUGHT US.



NOVEMBER 27, 2011
 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR:

Happy Advent! Happy New Year! As we enter this great but short season and begin a new liturgical year, we also begin the use of a new missal. Don't be afraid to make mistakes with the new responses. We will all do that for a while. The important thing is that we are fully and actively trying. I continue comments that I began last week:

LITURGY IS TRANSFORMATIONAL. Each week we gather to participate in the most important action of the Church. We come to celebrate the Eucharistic Liturgy (Mass). There are two reasons for our celebration: to praise God and to transform ourselves, the worshipers. In another sense it is really one and the same purpose—because God is praised when we are transformed into Christ.

"The glory of God is humankind fully alive" said the early Church Father, St Irenaeus. The reason we gather each week in the liturgy is to become fully alive. God so loved us that from before time began he desired to share our life. So he planned to send his only Son Jesus to become one of us so that we could share the life of God—forever. Jesus became human so that we could become divine. And because we had fallen and the world became broken God's plan became even more critical.

In the Liturgy there is a prayer that expresses beautifully this plan of God. It is said silently when the priest pours the water into the wine. "By the mystery of this (mingling of) water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity."—RM

LITURGY TAKES OUR PERSONAL COMMITMENT. Through the Liturgy we are subtly and gradually transformed. Through symbolic actions we are invited to enter into a different experience than our everyday reality. By engaging the Liturgy with our imagination, we can get a glimpse and taste of the Kingdom of God. We do this through our conscious and active participation. Then nourished by this experience, we commit ourselves to the work of the coming Kingdom.

If the Liturgy is going to be transformative, though, it takes our personal commitment and cooperation. The celebration of the Liturgy always offers us the reality of the Kingdom and the presence of Christ but the fruitfulness of the celebration depends on our response. We must take on the vision of the Gospel and commit ourselves to live its justice, mercy and love.

LITURGY IS NOT SIMPLY A HUMAN CREATION. It relies on human actions, words and meanings. But the Liturgy is something that has been given to us by the Lord through the tradition of the Church, and we can only shape it within certain parameters. If the liturgy is an encounter with God, we must encounter God on God's terms, not ours. To enter into the Liturgy requires some letting go of our personal tastes and desires. I have always told Liturgy

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Sunday, November 27

7:30 am Men's Faith Sharing (Mtg Rm #1)
8:30 am Mass
10 am Kinderchurch (Mtg Rm 1&2)
10:00 am Mass

Monday, November 28

8:30 am Mass
4:00 pm CYO (Event Center)
7:00 pm Memory Bears (Hall)

Tuesday, November 29

8:30 am Mass
4:00 pm CYO (Event Center)

Wednesday, November 30

8:30 am Mass
9:15 am WINGS (Mtg Rm 1&2)
2:15 pm Children's Choir (Church)
2:30 pm CYO (Event Center)
7:30 pm RCIA (Mtg Rm 1)
7:30 pm Centering Prayer (Rectory)
9:00 pm Men's Community Basketball (Event Center)

Thursday, December 1

8:30 am Mass
4:00 pm CYO (Event Center)
7:00 pm ICF (Hall)
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (Church)

Friday, December 2

8:30 am Mass
8:30 am Mother Lode Volleyball (Event Center)
9:00 am Centering Prayer (Rectory)
9:00 am - 4:45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
5:00 pm EBPLL League (EC)

Saturday, December 3

8:00 am EBPLL League (EC)
4:00 pm Reconciliation
5:00 pm Mass
6:00 pm Christmas Caroling (Hall)

Sunday, December 4

8:00 am Family Faith Formation (Mtg Rm 1&2)
8:30 am Mass
10 am Kinderchurch (Mtg Rm 1&2)
10:00 am Mass
1:00 pm EBPLL League (EC)
6:30 pm Confirmation (Mtg Rm 1&2)
7:00 pm FIT meeting (Library)
7:00 pm Corazon Information Night (Church)

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS:

A word From Our Pastor, continued from front page

Committees we cannot force any one style—God is reflected in the variety of his creation—so we must reflect that same variety. That includes the varieties of human music, culture and art. If we look at our liturgy it reflects many influences of different cultures and periods.

LITURGY IS THE CALL TO UNITY IN COMMUNITY. The Liturgy is a corporate act of the Body of Christ, the Church, acting with the head who is the Risen Lord. This can be difficult for us who occupy an individualistically focused culture. We come to the Liturgy thinking about our individual needs, problems and concerns. It is doubly difficult for Catholics who were formed in the pre-Vatican II Liturgy where worshipers were at Mass but were not necessarily praying along with the Mass. Since it was in Latin they sat in silence, prayed their own devotions but never actively engaged.

Conditioned by our culture and our history of individualistic, devotional worship many can find it hard to learn how to enter into a communal act of worship. The prayer and sacrifice that we offer in liturgy is Christ himself. We are called to join with Christ by the power of the Spirit to offer praise and thanks to God the Father.

Once after mass many years ago, a very wise woman was commenting on something that I had said. I do not remember what I said but I always remember her words, "We either all hang together, or we will all just hang!" These words in a sense describe the work of the Liturgy. We are learning to stand together in solidarity with each other and God. This was the sentiment expressed by Pope John Paul in his letter Dies Domini (Day of the Lord).

Those who have received the grace of baptism are not saved as individuals alone, but as members of the mystical body, having become part of the People of God. It is important therefore that they come together to express the full identity of the church, the ekklesia, the assembly called by the Risen Lord who offered his life "to reunite the scattered children of God" (Jn. 11:52). They have become one in Christ (cf. Galatians 3:28) through the gift of the Spirit. This Unity becomes visible when Christians gather together: It is then that they come to know vividly and to testify to the world that they are the people redeemed, drawn "from every tribe and language and people and nation (Revelation 5: 9)—Dies Domini 1998

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is Thursday, December 8th and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be at 8:30 am (*the school children will attend*) & 7:30 pm.



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE December 6 at 7:30 PM

Advent is a time of preparation. Make your heart and mind ready for the coming of Christ, which we are soon to celebrate in the Mass of Christmas.

WOMEN OF ST. THERESA PARISH LIGHTING THE WAY

friendship ~ faith ~ festivity



All women of the parish are invited to attend our annual 'Advent by Candlelight' on December 12th at 7:00 pm in the Meeting Rooms.

If you would like to attend or host a table please sign up in the vestibule.



All are invited to a Teaching Mass on Sunday, December 11th at 10:00 am with Fr. Bob McCann.

Fr. Bob will take us through each part of the Liturgy and explain the why behind how we celebrate Liturgy. The Mass should take approximately 1 ½ hours to celebrate.

STEWARDSHIP



We are the servants of God, each with his or her own task. We will be judged good stewards of, at His coming, He finds us ready and conscientiously pursuing the tasks to which we have been called.



Mandatory Altar Server Training

There are a few significant changes in the manner in which the altar servers serve Mass. It is essential that everyone become familiar with these changes as soon as possible; therefore, there will be two mandatory meetings in December to familiarize servers with the new procedures. A server need only attend one meeting in order to continue to serve. The meetings will be held in the church, after school from 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm on Thursdays, December 1st and December 15th. Please select one of these dates and e-mail cathy@sttheresaokland.org with the one you wish to attend.

Your service to St. Theresa parish is greatly appreciated and your ministry is an important one. Thank you for your service.



Please join The Cathedral of Christ the Light as they celebrate the Advent season with the 2nd Annual Crèche Festival. This three-day event will be held December 9 - December 11.

One notable highlight of the event is the "Starlight Festival" which prominently features crèches created by the parishes and pastoral centers from the Diocese of Oakland. These unique and beautiful crèches are displayed all weekend in the Cathedral event Center. Additionally, professional designers and floral artists will showcase unique crèche displays in each of the meditation chapels in the Cathedral.

For additional information, visit www.ctlcathedral.org and click the "Crèche Festival" on the homepage.

St. Theresa Guild

The Guild invites the women of the parish to its Christmas party on Monday, December 12. Champagne will be served at 11:30 am, with a casserole luncheon following at 12 noon. The student choir will come and sing carols. Mothers of the students are invited for lunch. This gathering is a great way to meet Guild members.

For Women



Women in God's Spirit

WINGS is a faith enhancement group that encourages spiritual growth through prayer, Scripture study, catechesis, life sharing, and community. WINGS will be starting our new season on Wednesday, October 5th in Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 at 9:15 am for refreshments, followed by our guest speaker, from 9:45-10:15 am. Childcare services for potty-trained children are available for \$5/child.

The theme for the year is 'ON THE WAY'

NOVEMBER 30TH

Brother David L. Caretti, FSC

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL BERKELEY

Christmas Caroling & Dinner

Please mark your calendar for Saturday December 3 to join us for the St. Theresa annual Christmas Caroling & Dinner event from 6pm -9pm. Get into the holiday spirit by gathering for a casual dinner provide by St. Theresa Parent's Club & caroling with parish neighbors. Please bring an unwrapped new toy for a charitable gift donation. RSV to lisalamouroux@earthlink.net by November 28.



Christmas Flower Donation

We are asking for monetary donations to offset the cost of our Christmas flowers. Donations in memory of your loved one(s) may be made through the special flower envelopes in the vestibule of the church. All memorials will be inscribed in our parish memory book, on display during the Christmas season. Through your donations of money instead of flowers, we will be able to order the flowers in advance, which will allow us to have the necessary quantities and types for decorating the church. Your donation envelope can be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the Parish Office.



Corazon Information Session

7:30 to 8:30 pm Sunday December 4, in the Church. Anyone interested who is at least a Freshman in high school is welcome to attend. Adults welcome also. All Confirmandi will attend as part of our session. 2012 Corazon Build scheduled for the weekend of March 23rd.

Memory Bear Makers

We will be meeting on Monday, November 28th, in the Church Hall at 7:00pm. Our meetings are a nice time to get together with good people to help those in need. Please bring any sewing items such as: scissors, straight pins, needles, thread, bows, buttons, or lace. Questions, call Debbie at 510.547.2777.



AN INVITATION TO ALL VOLUNTEERS IN THE PARISH

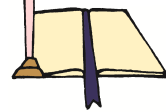
Mark you calendars for January 7th for an Epiphany Party from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Meeting Rooms. Keep an eye on the bulletin for additional information.



MASS INTENTIONS

- Sat. 5:00 pm Viola Calamonaci
- Sun. 8:30 am Albert Risi
- 10:00 am The People of St. Theresa Parish
- Mon. 8:30 am Arleen Barr
- Tues. 8:30 am Roberto Caredio
- Wed. 8:30 am Edward Reinhart
- Thurs. 9:00 am Charles T. Horngren
- Fri. 8:30 am Florence Moglia
- Sat. 5:00 pm Mildred Craig
- Sun. 8:30 am The People of St. Theresa Parish
- 10:00 am Barbara Cameron Gerard

Readings for the Week



Nov. 28 - Dec. 4

- Monday:
 - Is 2:1-5
 - Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday:
 - Is 11:1-10
 - Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday:
 - Rom 10:9-18
 - Mt 4:18-22
- Thursday:
 - Is 26:1-6
 - Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday:
 - Is 29:17-24
 - Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday:
 - Is 30:19-21, 23-26
 - Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Sunday:
 - Is 40:1-5, 9-11
 - Ps 85
 - 2 Pt 3:8-14
 - Mk 1:1-8



Online Giving

Online Giving is available for anyone who prefers to donate through automatic draft. Information can be found on the parish website sttheresaokland.org on how to get started. Contact Cathy Brady with any questions. 547.2777, ext 26 or

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT SUBMISSION

Each week the bulletin is sent for publishing on Tuesday morning for the upcoming weekend. All submissions need to be received by the prior Friday, email them to cathy@sttheresaokland.org.