

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.



DECEMBER 4, 2011
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR:

Everyone did a great job last week as we welcomed the new words to our Liturgy with the beginning of Advent. I conclude with one more column on the communal prayer we pray together and then we can move on to the normal things that affect our lives. I hope many of you will come next week to the 10am 'Teaching Mass'. It has always helped a group understand better the things we do so often.

EUCHARIST—DINING WITH JESUS

Jesus came on a Sabbath to eat a meal in the house of one of the leading Pharisees...He said to the one who invited him, 'When you give a lunch or dinner, do not invite your friends or relatives or wealthy neighbors. They might invite you in return and thus repay you. No when you have a reception, invite beggars and the crippled, the lame and the blind. You should be pleased that they cannot repay you for you will be repaid in the resurrection of the just.' At these words someone in the party said to him, 'Happy is the one who eats bread in the Kingdom of God!' Lk 14: 1, 12-15.

Scripture Scholar, Eugene LaVerdiere SSS in a wonderful book, *Dining in the Kingdom of God, the Origins of the Eucharist according to Luke*, states,

"A meal is not so much about food as it is about people. In all meals it is the guest list, not the menu, that matters. Blessings and prayers, liturgical and non-liturgical, have to do with people who have come together to share the meal. That is what we hear in the words of Jesus and that is what we hear from the participant who exclaimed, "Blessed is the one who will dine in the Kingdom of God."

There is only one Gospel that Christians proclaim. It is the Good News of Jesus the Christ. We tell of his coming to share our life, his death and resurrection. As a living memorial of his dying and rising and as the Lord's Supper, the Eucharist is at the heart of that Gospel. Sometimes Christians and even Catholics forget that Eucharist is a Gospel event. As LaVerdiere says the Eucharist is "a gospel event, the high point of Jesus' life, and a *compendium of the whole Gospel.*"

To think of the Eucharist as something separate from the Gospel is to the detriment of both the Gospel and the Eucharist. Gospel that does not find its expression in the Eucharistic sharing is greatly impoverished. Eucharist that is cut off from the Gospel is ineffective.

Jesus' life is a great journey where meals and simple family hospitality play a significant role for him and his followers. Jesus, his followers and later the Church "are a people on a journey; a people of hospitality, both offered and received. The Eucharist is the supreme expression of that hospitality, sustaining them on their journey to the kingdom of God."—*Dining in the Kingdom of God*

For Jesus meals are prophetic signs. They are moments of gathering in the "Lost sheep of the house of Israel" and therefore are moments of reconciliation. They establish a bond between the banqueters and are communion of radical equality. They are important moments for the bread of his teaching where we discover that Jesus is our nourishment. They are also the source of much of the conflict that Jesus has with the religious authorities

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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)
- Boy's Basketball
 - 12:00 - 4th Grade
 - St. Philip Neri vs. St. Elizabeth
 - 1:00 pm - 6th Grade
 - St. Philip Neri vs. St. Theresa
 - 2:00 pm - 7th Grade
 - St. Theresa vs. Corpus Christi
- 6:30 pm Confirmation (Mtg Rm 1&2)
- 7:00 pm FIT meeting (Library)
- 7:00 pm Corazon Information Night (Church)

Monday, December 5

- 4:00 pm CYO (Event Center)

Tuesday, December 6

- 4:00 pm CYO (Event Center)
- 6:00 pm Athletic Board Mtg (Library)
- 7:30 pm Penance Service

Wednesday, December 7

- 9:15 am WINGS (Mtg Rm 1&2)
- 2:15 pm Children's Choir (Church)
- 2:30 pm CYO (Event Center)
- 7:00 pm Scouts (Hall)
- 7:00 pm Parent Board Mtg (Staff Lounge)
- 7:30 pm RCIA (Mtg Rm 1)
- 7:30 pm Centering Prayer (Rectory)
- 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (Church)
- 8:30 pm Men's Community Basketball (Event Center)

Thursday, December 8

- Feast of the Immaculate Conception*
- 8:30 am Mass
- 3:15 pm Girl Scouts (Mtg Rm 1)
- 4:00 pm CYO (Event Center)
- 7:30 pm Mass

Friday, December 9

- 8:30 am Mother Lode Volleyball (Event Center)
- 9:00 am Centering Prayer (Rectory)
- 5:00 pm EBPLL League (EC)

Saturday, December 10

- 8:00 am EBPLL League (EC)
- 4:00 pm Reconciliation
- 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, December .

- 8:00 am Live-Scan (Library)
- 8:30 am Mass
- 10 am Kinderchurch (Mtg Rm 1&2)
- 10:00 am Mass
- 1:00 pm Baptism
- 1:00 pm EBPLL League (EC)
- 6:00 pm FFF Advent Event (MR1)

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS:

A word From Our Pastor, continued from front page

and will point to his passion.

The Last meal Jesus shares is a recapitulation of all the other meals he has shared through his life and ministry. At the Last Supper he announces and anticipates the day of fulfillment when he will 'eat and drink again in the Kingdom of God.' And in many resurrection accounts he shares food again with his disciples where they recognize the Risen One who lives forever in the breaking of the bread. (Luke 24:13-35)

In the Eucharist we are at the table of Jesus the Christ. We are called to solidarity with each other in offering our lives that others might live. We do this in imitation of the example and command of Jesus. The Last Supper challenges us when we fall short of our baptismal covenant to live it in our mission, relationships and ministry. And the Eucharist brings us the reconciling peace of whose blood in the New Covenant brings us the forgiveness of sins.

Our celebration of Eucharist should enrich all our meals. Every meal can be a sign of the Kingdom, each diner is the Christ. Our kindness and hospitality, like Jesus, is our self-gift of life and our offering of thanks to the source of all blessings. Really if we are going to fully understand the Eucharist we need to learn again the importance of eating together. If we learn to take the time our meals enrich our understanding of Jesus and Eucharist. And Eucharist teaches us the importance of our family meals.

If we are going to give witness to the Risen Lord in the Eucharist those who share at the table must not only welcome all but bring the message of conversion and forgiveness to all. We must not only see Jesus in the face of the stranger but also see him in the flesh and blood of the Eucharistic assembly. As Fr LaVerdiere summarizes, *The Gospel is about the Kingdom of God, and Eucharist is the heart of the Gospel. Blessed is the one who dines in the Kingdom of God!*

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.



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 1/2 hours to celebrate.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Support elderly religious. Show your support for the senior Catholic Sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have made a positive difference in so many lives. Please Share in the Care and give generously to next week's second collection.



WOMEN OF ST. THERESA PARISH LIGHTING THE WAY

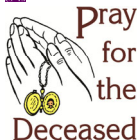
friendship ~ faith ~ festivity



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.

For reservations please call Ann Goslee at 653.2237

If you would like to host a table please contact Jenny Bruni at 548.8618 or georgiajennifer@yahoo.com.



Pray for those who have died especially, Catherine Doyle, mother of Mary Orfali and Florence Dunn, mother of Jerry Dunn

STEWARDSHIP



Advent is a season of patient waiting. Make an effort to cultivate patience. Pray for patience with family, especially small children, with people who are hard to take, with the petty annoyances of everyday life.

Christmas Eve Concert



Please come to Mass early on Christmas Eve! Our choir will be presenting their annual concert beginning at 9:15 p.m. On the program is "The Messiah Christmas Sampler," highlights of Handel's *Messiah*, festive organ music, and congregational carols. Mark your calendars now so you won't miss it! The choir works diligently to present this concert; it would be wonderful to have a "full house."



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.

AN INVITATION TO ALL VOLUNTEERS IN THE PARISH

Mark your 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.



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.



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'.

DECEMBER 7TH

Fr. Robert McCann

PASTOR, ST. THERESA PARISH



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.

St. Theresa Guild

For Women

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.



DO YOU LIKE DONUTS?... AFTER MASS???

Do your kids? We need a few more volunteers to be Donut Hosts. It's a simple but very much appreciated service to the community. If you could do this ministry of hospitality once a month, or even once every 2 months PLEASE call Debbie Rubin in the parish office at 547.2777 ext 20. It is actually very easy – and you get to have all the donuts you want!

8th Grade Boys Christmas Tourney

The 8th Grade Boys are holding a basketball tournament on December 27th, 28th, and 29th at the Event Center. Come on out and support the 8th Grade Boys. Proceeds to go to St. Theresa Athletic Fund.



MASS INTENTIONS

- Sat. 5:00 pm Mildred Craig
- Sun. 8:30 am The People of St. Theresa Parish
- 10:00 am Barbara Cameron Gerard
- Mon. 8:30 am Albert Risi
- Tues. 8:30 am Richard Corrigan
- Wed. 8:30 am Tiziana Musante
- Thurs. 8:30 am Melvin Moglia
- 7:30 pm Ezana Tessu
- Fri. 8:30 am Cathy Curtin
- Sat. 5:00 pm Dorothy G. MulHoland (Anniv)
- Sun. 8:30 am The People of St. Theresa Parish
- 10:00 am Bartolomeo Caviglia

Readings for the Week



December 5 - 11

- Monday:
 - Is 35:1-10
 - Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:
 - Is 40:1-11
 - Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday:
 - Is 40:25-31
 - Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday:
 - Gn 3:9-15
 - Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
 - Lk 1:26-38
- Friday:
 - Is 48:17-19
 - Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday:
 - Sir 48:1-4, 9-11
 - Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Sunday:
 - Is 61:1-2a, 10-11
 - Ps Lk 1
 - 1 Thes 5:16-24
 - Jn 1:6-8

Our Weekly Offering

- November 20, 2011 \$5,363.00
- Campaign for Human Dev. \$1,867.00
- November 27, 2011 \$4,916.00



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.