



ST. THERESA
CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

PARISH BULLETIN

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
AND CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 21-25, 2025



SUSTAINING OUR PARISH & SCHOOL

As the year comes to a close, many families take time to reflect on gratitude and stewardship. Any donation made and dated by December 31, 2025 will count toward the current tax year. Please note that changes to the federal tax code are scheduled to take effect in 2026, which may impact future charitable deductions. Your generosity directly supports the mission of St. Theresa Catholic Church & School, and we are deeply grateful for your continued support. Visit st-theresa.org and click on donate or use the QR code.



"HERE I AM LORD, SEND ME" - PARISH VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

God has given you unique gifts, say 'YES' to using those gifts for God's work. Please prayerfully choose one (or more) **Volunteer Opportunity** below where you can serve, shine and help our church thrive. We grow in faith, love, and mission as we all share our gifts. For more information go to the link below <https://st-theresa.org/serve> or use QR



- ✦ **CHRISTMAS MASSES - GREETERS** - Come share our St Theresa warm welcome with visitors during the holidays. Welcome desk ministers are needed for December and all Christmas Masses!
- ✦ **ST. THERESA FOOD SORTING** - *NEW! Saturday, January 24 from 9 - Noon. Bring the whole family for a special St. Theresa Serve Day sorting food donations at Central Texas Food Bank.
- ✦ **FUNERAL MINISTRY** - Like to cook (or pick stuff up at H-E-B)? Helping Hands Funeral Ministry volunteers provide light meals for grieving families following a funeral Mass. Want to join the team? Our group would love new members. Contact Nita Charrin: nitacharrin@gmail.com.

THANK YOU FROM OUR KNIGHTS! A heartfelt thank you to all who supported the holiday nuts sales. Your generosity helps fund important programs that support St. Theresa Church & School, including parish ministries, collaborating organizations, and student scholarships. We are truly grateful for your continued support! May God bless you and your families this Christmas season and throughout the New Year. Knights of Columbus, Council 9796

EXPECTING A BABY? Bundle of Blessings Ministry - The St. Theresa Bundle of Blessings ministry stops by the homes of families who have welcomed a new child, bringing food, support, and a small gift. Add your due date to our calendar and our community will pray for you! www.st-theresa.org/baby



WORD ON FIRE - Check out the free daily Scripture readings, inspirational videos, and Bishop Barron's weekly homily. The website is a wonderful resource to help you grow in your Catholic faith. www.wordonfire.org
FORMED - Helps you to dive into the treasures of the Church, from daily reflections to small group studies, all designed to nourish your faith journey. www.formed.org St Theresa has a free online subscription.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DEC 20

5:00 PM – Barbara Jean Olson †, Penny Mary Waters

SUNDAY, DEC 21

7:30 AM – Cay Quoyser +, Bobby Vernengo, Jr. †

9:00 AM – Barbara Jean Olson †

11:00 AM – Parishioners of STCC

MONDAY, DEC 22

11:30 AM – Rosemary Lane +, Martin McCarroll †

TUESDAY, DEC 23

11:30 – Richard Lane †

WEDNESDAY, DEC 24

4:00 PM – Claire Marie Seibert

6:00 PM – Thomas Dooley †

THURSDAY, DEC 25

Midnight 12:00 AM – Esperanza Perez †

10:00 AM – Pat McCloskey, Dave Yuhas

FRIDAY, DEC 26

11:30 AM – Michael Starkey, Mary Starkey †

Monday, Dec 22

DAILY MASS 11:30 AM

Tuesday, Dec 23

DAILY MASS 11:30 AM

Wednesday, Dec 24

MASS 4:00 PM (Church & Gym) & 6:30 PM

Thursday, Dec 25

MIDNIGHT MASS 12:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Friday, Dec 26

DAILY MASS 11:30 AM

MASS INTENTIONS - To honor someone with a Mass intention please visit the parish office during business hours or call 512-451-5121. The suggested donation per Mass intention is \$5.

ALTAR FLOWERS - A wonderful way to remember a loved one who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or who has passed. Contact the parish office for information.

JOIN US AND GET INVOLVED

SUN A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP DANIEL E. GARCIA

DEC 21 "This Advent let us answer the call to care and pray for our neighbors in need. May this holy season open our hearts to Christ assisting us to bring the Good News to God's people. You and your families are in my daily prayers, but especially during this holy and joyous season. May the peace of the infant child, Jesus, be experienced by all whom you love. Merry Christmas!"

-Bishop Daniel Garcia



CHURCH DECORATING PARTY | 5 PM - 8 PM - Help us prepare our church for Christmas Masses! We need many volunteers to hang lights, ornaments, garlands, and to place poinsettias. Feel free to stop by anytime.



NEW YEAR - NEW OPPORTUNITIES!

BEAUTY BEYOND LOSS | HALF-DAY RETREAT, SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH | 8:30 AM - NOON | FAMILY CENTER

Have you experienced loss? Perhaps a loved one died, maybe it was divorce, job loss, even retirement or health problems and limitations can feel like a profound loss. Women and men of the parish and beyond are invited to a half-day retreat sponsored by Women's Connections and given by author and international retreat leader, Paula D'Arcy. The retreat is free but please RSVP here: <https://st-theresa.org/griefretreat>



FAMILY MINISTRY WITH KRISTIN ARMSTRONG | SUNDAY, JANUARY 11th | 10:25-11:00 AM | FAMILY CENTER

Our Between the Masses Family Ministry seminars are pretty amazing — just stay for 30 minutes after Coffee & Donuts during catechesis classes and leave inspired. This session, St. Theresa is thrilled to welcome parishioner, spiritual director, and writer Kristin Arnold (nee Armstrong), who will present "New Year, New Rhythm: Letting Go and Leaning In." Kristin is a columnist for Tribeza magazine, a contributor to Living Faith, and her freelance work has appeared in Glamour, Parents, O—The Oprah Magazine, USA Today, and The Huffington Post. Come start your new year with intention! No RSVP required. All are welcome. Just show up!

CATHOLICISM 101 | BEGINNING MONDAY, JANUARY 12TH | 7 PM | ELMER RM 202

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or feeling called to learn more about the faith? Our next Catholicism 101 course begins Monday, January 12th, and all adults are welcome—those preparing for Confirmation as well as parishioners seeking deeper formation. Each week, we'll explore essential topics such as how to read the Bible, what it means to live a life of holiness, how to pray like the saints, and what the Church teaches about justification and the path to Heaven. If this speaks to you, we'd love to welcome you. Visit st-theresa.org/become-catholic for more information, or contact Chase Crouse at chase-crouse@st-theresa.org.

COFFEE & CHRIST | JAN. 15, 22, 29 and 2/5 AT 7:45 AM | THURSDAYS, ELMER RM 202

If you or a mom you know is drowning in dishes, diapers, or carpool duty, Coffee and Christ may have the book for you. We will start the new year with a 21-Day personal retreat, *Sacred Chaos*, to kickstart our prayer lives and connect with Jesus in a new way. Want to join us? All moms or mother-figures are welcome! Childcare available. Sign up at: st-theresa.org/news/ccstudy

55+ CHILI LUNCH | SAT, JAN. 24 | NOON | FAMILY CENTER

Each year, our 55+ Ministry hosts a casual social to bring members in from the cold and to share chili and conversation. The Knights of Columbus will donate some of their famous chili, and the church will provide sides. Attendees should bring a dessert to share (last names A-H), cornbread (G-N), or a bag of chips (O-Z). See you there! No tickets necessary. Free-will offering collected.

MINI-MINISTRY FAIR | SUN, JAN. 25 | AFTER 9 & 11 MASSES | GYM

Looking for a way to feel more connected at St. Theresa? Our Mid-Year Mini Ministry Fair is a simple, no-pressure way to meet people, discover what's happening in parish life, and find where you belong — with free fancy coffee truck and donuts as a bonus. Visit 4 booths and you'll be entered to win prizes like reserved parking and dinner out!

WOMEN'S "BE" RETREAT | FEBRUARY 6 & 7 | ST. THERESA - Don't miss this chance to grow in faith and friendship at St. Theresa. Discover Being, Belonging, and Becoming. The Be Retreat will begin the evening of Feb. 6th and conclude the evening of Feb. 7th (no overnight stay). Join us in this life-changing experience. Use this link or QR Code to register: <https://st-theresa.org/be> or QR code



WELCOME TO ST. THERESA



Save the Date

12/21	Sun.		FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
12/21	Sun.	5:00-8:00 PM	CHURCH DECORATING PARTY
12/31	Wed.	5:00 PM	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD* VIGIL
1/1	Thurs.	10:00 AM	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD*

* Holy Day of Obligation

Christmas Eve

DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM (Church and Gym Overflow) & **6:30 PM**

MUSIC

4:00 PM – St. Cecilia Youth Choir joined by adult singers, with organ, trumpet, and flute
6:30 PM – Full string ensemble and choir

Christmas

DECEMBER 25

Midnight Mass at **12:00 AM** and **10:00 AM**

MUSIC

Midnight Mass – Our most festive celebration with full choir, string quartet, timpani, and organ
10:00 AM – Choir, brass, and organ

Wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas!

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC SCHOOL - 2026-2027 APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN! APPLY TODAY AT ST-THERESA.ORG/SCHOOL

We invite you to live the "Little Way" at St. Theresa Catholic School. Serving 3 year olds to 8th grade. National Blue Ribbon School scoring in the top 15% of nationwide assessments. BOOK A TOUR TODAY: Contact Susie Thompson, Admissions Director at sthompson@sttheresa.org.



ST. THERESA ANNUAL GALA 2026 - Tickets On Sale - stcs.hellofund.io

Tickets for Gala 2026 are disappearing faster than cassette tapes—get yours before they're gone! Don't wait to join the fun, dress up in your best 80s prom attire, and enjoy a totally rad night.



SAINTS & SCHOLARS | Celebrating Catholic Schools Dinner & Awards Ceremony - January 17, 7 PM | Hyatt Regency Austin - Honoring the unsung heroes of our schools - Congratulations to our own Debbie Spurlin. Proceeds from this even support tuition assistance. For more information : <https://csdatx.org/2026gala>

ST. THERESA CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL
4311 SMALL DRIVE, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78731

OFFICE: (512)451-5121 | M - F 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
ST-THERESA.ORG

Fr. Larry Covington - Pastor
Fr. Barry Cuba - Parochial Vicar
Deacon Tony Pynes
Deacon Keith Carter
Deacon Peter Barger

We are a vibrant and welcoming Catholic community in Northwest Austin. Following the example of our patroness, St. Theresa is grounded in scripture, growing in the Spirit, and reaching out in love. We are making disciples for the Lord Jesus Christ and, together in ministry for Him, advancing the Kingdom of God.

All are welcome here!

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FURTHER THE CATHOLIC FAITH AND OUR VIBRANT ST. THERESA COMMUNITY!

Your Offertory

December 8-14: \$61,763
 December MTD: \$165,955
 December Budgeted Offertory: \$352,232

TEXT STCC to 84576

email/text updates

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday Mass 7:30 AM 9:00 AM* 11:00 AM

*Livestream on YouTube

Daily Mass - 11:30 AM (M - F)

Reconciliation - Saturday, 4:00 PM or by appt.

Adoration - Fridays, Noon - 1:00 PM



GIVE



JOIN



@stccaustin

@sttaustin

@st-theresa

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP!

If you have not yet had a chance to make your 2026 Offertory Commitment, we kindly encourage you to do so this week. Your support strengthens our ministries and helps us build a vibrant future for St. Theresa. Cards are available in the Narthex, and online giving is always available at st-theresa.org/stewardship. We give together, we grow together!