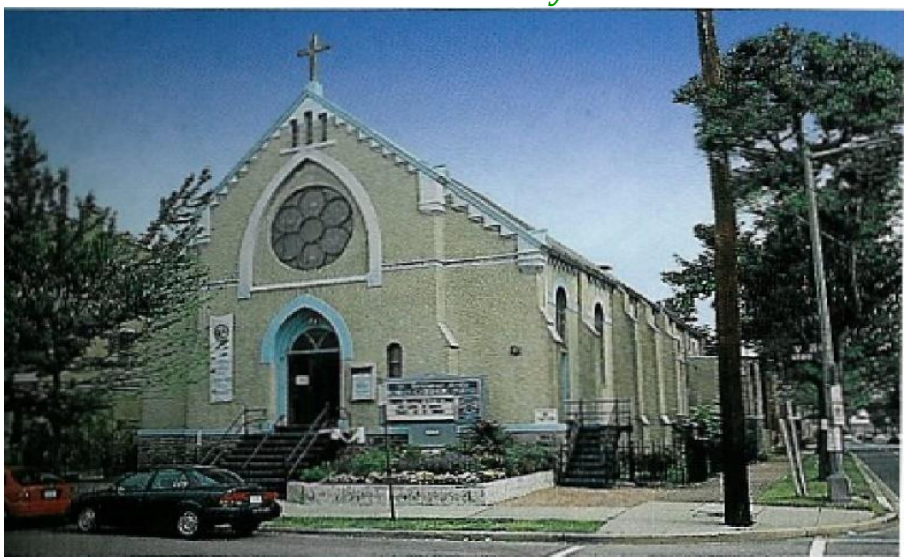
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 13, 2020

Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

1244 V Street SE, Washington, DC 20020-7016 *www.stachurchdc.org*

Our 140th Year as an Evangelizing Parish that positively impacts its Members and the Community in which it lives.



Mass Schedule: Sunday 9:30 a.m. in-person by pre-registration and livestream at home

Reconciliation:	**Monsignor East is available for drive-by confessions. Please contact the PLC to schedule a time**
Office Hours:	**Monday – Thursday, 10:00am – 3:00pm and Friday, 10am – 1pm**
Contact Us:	202-678-3709; **Fax:** 202-678-3325, Website: www.stachurchdc.org
Mailing Address:	**St. Teresa of Avila Parish Life Center** 1401 V Street SE, Washington, DC 20020-4809

Pastor – Msgr. Raymond G. East Easter090@gmail.com; Mobile 202-355-8888
Deacon – Dr. William A. Hawkins, Jr. whawk39564@aol.com
Director of Worship & Arts – Shirli Hughes shirli.stamusic@gmail.com
Spiritual Direction – Sister Anne Marie Schreiner, DC (205) 919-0010 or srannema@stv.org
Parish Manager – Linda Clay Roberson lindaroberson.stachurch@gmail.com
Parish Receptionist – Pamelia Council pcouncil2009@gmail.com
Parish Bookkeeper – Sister Pauline Oduekila paulineoduekila@yahoo.fr

Sunday Meditation
Forgiveness

*"Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus *said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven." _____Matthew 38:21-35*

As I reflect on today's gospel, I'm reminded of the today's civil unrest, inhumane treatment of mothers and children who don't look like the majority of our country, the senseless loss of life from a virus that does not discriminate and the rich getting richer without regard to the needs of the poor and disenfranchised. I wonder what Christ would say to us. Would he still want us to remember the parable of the kingdom of heaven when the king forgave his servants debts and the servant did not pay the kindness forward with his slave? I think he would.

Somehow it is easier to plea our case when we are in need but much harder to see the needs of others when they are different from our own. God wants us to see those needs and respond in kind to them. If we consider how many times that we have gone to God in prayer, with needs in our hearts that somehow seem too hard to bear, but never one time have we gone to Him, and he wasn't there. Never one time has he said to us, "get away, I don't care". If he can give to each of us, the very least of his people, forgiveness for all our sins with the blood of his son, how much more should we want to forgive others. Dwelling in this space, I think about anger. I believe that ***anger is the mother of all sin***. Before we think when we are hurt, we get angry. Even when we feel pain, anger is on the surface, with the thought, "Why Me?". It is rare that we allow ourselves to humbly thank God, for the times that things just don't go our way, when we get upset or feel despondent. Yet, if we did, we would see that the ***Thankful Heart is the soul of Forgiveness***. So, give willingly without expectation of repayment and watch what happens.

_____LARSK

MASS PARTICIPATION AT STA

As we move forward in gathering to celebrate the Eucharist in person, we look forward to doing so safely and joyfully. We will adhere to the rules and guidelines from both the District of Columbia and the Archdiocese of Washington. Please click here to review the guidelines below for in-person Mass as we begin to phase in one Mass per week at our parish.

Each week, you will have to register if you plan to attend in-person mass. You must have a confirmed reservation to attend Mass, this includes anyone who may be serving in any capacity. Space is limited and registration is mandatory. Reservations must be made by Fridays at 12:00 p.m.

Reminder: Parishioners who are particularly vulnerable (e.g., over the age of 60, those with serious underlying health conditions: high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised, heart or lung conditions, or who are immune-compromised), and those who are ill or suspect they may be ill, should remain at home. Livestreaming of our Sunday Mass on our STA YouTube and Facebook Live channels will continue each Sunday, with Mass at 9:30 a.m.

StreamingLive

We will continue the Livestream Mass on the STA Facebook page and St. Teresa of Avila YouTube channel every Sunday at 9:30am. Visit www.stachurchdc.org for links. We encourage you to get online 10 minutes early for virtual fellowship, praise, and worship time. Visit the Archdiocese website for additional recorded and live-streamed Masses at **https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/**

Twinning with our sister parish, St. Antoine, Vieux Bourg & with the Diocese of Jeremie in Haiti, West Indies

DAILY MASS READINGS

Sunday September 13th Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time *Sirach 27:30-28:7, Psalms 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12, Romans 14:7-9* *Matthew 18:21-35*
Monday, September 14th Twenty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross *Numbers 21:4B-9, Psalms 78:1BC-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38, Philippians 2:6-11* *John 3:13-17*
Tuesday, September 15th Twenty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows – Homily *1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31A, Psalms 100:1B-2, 3, 4, 5, John 19:25-27 Or Luke 2:33-35*
Wednesday, September 16th Twenty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs *1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13, Psalms 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 AND 22, Luke 7:31-35*
Thursday, September 17th Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time *1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Psalms 118:1B-2, 16AB-17, 28, Luke 7:36-50*
Friday, September 18th Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time 1 Corinthians 15:12-20, Psalms 17:1BCD, 6-7, 8B AND 15, Luke 8:1-3
Saturday, September 19th Twenty-third Week in Ordinary *1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49, Psalms 56: 10C-12, 13-14, Luke 8:4-15*
Sunday September 20th Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time *Isaiah 55:6-9, Psalms 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18, Philippians 1:20C-24, 27A* *Matthew 20:1-16A*

prayer & fasting

Please Pray for Our Sick, Our Shut-In, and all who are suffering from the scares of this Pandemic. And Jesus says, *let me fill you with My Love, "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being". – Ephesians 3:16*

Richie Allison (son of Sandi Allison-Harris), Katie Butler, Betty Cook (aunt of Wanda Smith), Nadine and Earl Day, Helen Despertt, Clark James Durand, Sylvester Enlow (father of Denise Yorkshire), Ricardo Featherstone, Corey Fowler-Cooke, Kurt Gillis (uncle of Fred and Betty Robinson), Patricia Franklin, Valerie Gillis (sister in-law of Fred and Betty Robinson), William Gorham, Mary Greenfield, Grimes and Tolliver families, Renee Gross, Antonio "Big Tony" Haggins, Ethel Hale, Audrey Hawkins, Barbara and Kevin Hill, Patricia Pickens-James, Reginald Johnson, Sheila Kennedy, Ronald McCants, Paul McCloud (Ralph McCloud's brother), Channing McKinney, Veronica McKinney, Inez Matthews, Dorothy Morgan, Mother Kamana Asteria Mukangango (mother of Fr. Didace), Vivian Parker (Sister Marie Bernadette's sister), Joe Robinson (uncle of Lethia & John Kelly), Jocelyn Reyes, Bonita Robinson, Barbara Savoy (mother of Liz Hall), Lee Scott (husband of Joanne Scott), Michelle Whatley-Seabrooks, Willa Spruill, Wanda Smith and the entire Smith Family, Frieda Stanley, Darian Taylor, Dorothy Taylor (cousin of Pauline Barnes), Yolanda Thomas, Bernadette Trowell, Paulette Vernon, Sharree Walls, and Denise Washington.

How can we pray for you and your family? You can send your request directly to stachurchcommunications@gmail.com or contact the PLC.

Prayer to the Most Holy Redeemer (Anima Christi)

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, embolden me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within thy wounds hide me.
Never permit me to be parted from you.
From the evil Enemy defend me.
In the hour of my death call me.
and bid me come to thee,
that with your saints I may praise thee
for age upon age. Amen.

Jesus Awaits Us in the Eucharist

Selection from Homilies by Pope Benedict XVI

Because of the coronavirus pandemic, many of us have had to go weeks or months without receiving the Eucharist.

This has been difficult for all of us, but it has also helped us to grow more in appreciation for this life-giving sacrament.

These homilies by Pope Benedict XVI can help us reflect on the amazing gift of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Do We Desire to Receive Jesus?

"I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer" (Luke 22:15). With these words, Jesus began the celebration of his final meal and the institution of the Holy Eucharist. Jesus approached that hour with eager desire. In his heart he awaited the moment when he would give himself to his own under the appearance of bread and wine. He awaited that moment, which would in some sense be the true messianic wedding feast: when he would transform the gifts of this world and become one with his own, so as to transform them and thus inaugurate the transformation of the world. In this eager desire of Jesus, we can recognize the desire of God himself—his expectant love for mankind, for his creation.

A love that awaits the moment of union, a love that wants to draw mankind to itself and thereby fulfill the desire of all creation, for creation eagerly awaits the revelation of the children of God (cf. Romans 8:19). Jesus desires us, he awaits us.

But what about ourselves? Do we really desire him? Are we anxious to meet him? Do we desire to encounter him, to become one with him, to receive the gifts he offers us in the Holy Eucharist? Or are we indifferent, distracted, busy with other things? From Jesus' banquet parables, we realize that he knows all about empty places at table, invitations refused, lack of interest in him and his closeness.

For us, the empty places at the table of the Lord's wedding feast, whether excusable or not, are no longer a parable but a reality in those very countries to which he had revealed his closeness in a special way. Jesus also knew about guests who come to the banquet without being robed in the wedding garment—they come not to rejoice in his presence but merely out of habit, since their hearts are elsewhere.

In one of his homilies, St. Gregory the Great asks: Who are these people who enter without the wedding garment? What is this garment and how does one acquire it? He replies that those who are invited and enter do in some way have faith. It is faith that opens the door to them. But they lack the wedding garment of love.

Those who do not live their faith as love are not ready for the banquet and are cast out. Eucharistic communion requires faith, but faith requires love; otherwise, even as faith, it is dead. . .

"I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you." Lord, you desire us, you desire me. You eagerly desire to share yourself with us in the Holy Eucharist, to be one with us. Lord, awaken in us the desire for you.
Strengthen us in unity with you and with one another. Grant unity to your Church, so that the world may believe. Amen.

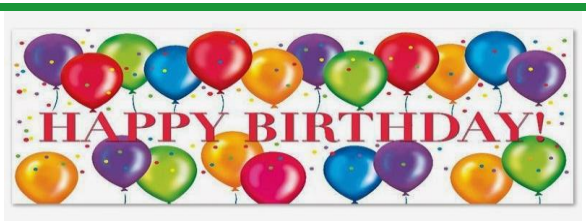
—Homily, Holy Thursday
St. Peter's Basilica, April 21, 2011

How to Make a Spiritual Communion

Below are recommendations for how to make a 'spiritual communion' when unable to participate in ***the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass****. The recommendations can be adapted based upon personal and family needs.*

- Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
- Take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass. You can find the readings in this Sunday Bulletin or at usccb.org and a Sunday Gospel reflection on our YouTube channel. In addition to the STA Live Stream Mass at 9:30 AM every Sunday, a weekly televised Sunday Mass is available to watch at adw.org/tvmass.
- Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.
- Pray the Lord's Prayer.
- Pray **"Prayer to the Most Holy Redeemer (Anima Christi)" or "Prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ Crucified"**
- Close with the sign of the cross.

(those who wish to receive in-person communion please contact the PLC)



While we cannot personally wish you a "Happy Birthday", we wanted you to know that we did not forget! Below is the list of ***birthdays for 3rd Week in September***. **If we have not listed your birthday, we don't have it! PLEASE CONTACT THE PLC IMMEDIATELY!**

(9/13) Michael Morris
(9/14) Wanda Smith
(9/15) William Hawkins
(9/16) Kelsi Jones
(9/18) Juliana Hall
(9/19) Ryan Ford, Craig Seastrong

We thank God for the life he has given us in you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stay Connected

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. Take time for yourself and visit the ***Health Awareness*** page on the STA website at **www.stachurchdc.org** under the ***Ministries Tab*** for some articles on mental and behavioral health.

The Sodality invites you to join them in reciting the Rosary **each Sunday at 10:45 am** via free conference. The dial in **number is 1-602-580-9273**. The **access code is 5360845. Please remember**, when you call-in prior to 10:45 am, and after announcing your name, **please mute your phone**. If you call-in after 10:45 am, the Rosary has started, please **DO NOT announce your name and kindly mute your phone.** You may **use *6 to mute** landline phones. ***All phones must be on mute unless you are speaking.*** Thank you for your cooperation. Be safe and continue to pray for one another. God's peace and blessings to each of you.

Word Among Us Notice

September will be the last month for the printed version of the Word Among Us. The church will no longer purchase them. You may subscribe online by downloading Word Among Us in the app store, purchase online at https://wau.org/subscribe/, or by phone at 1-800-775-WORD(9673). Final printed copy of the September issue will be available for pick up from the PLC on Mondays and Wednesday between 10am-3pm.

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH FLOCK NOTE

Missing important STA communications? Stay connected with the parish by signing up to receive email and text messages through our Flock Note communications tool. Sign up at www.stachurchdc.org.

the mindful word

Calling all writers! Has God been calling you to share your gifts and talents more during this time of social distancing? The STA Communications Committee is looking for writers to submit meditations for publishing in our weekly bulletin.

Share your gifts of the Holy Spirit with our parish family by submitting a meditation on the Sunday Gospel. Each week the bulletin will feature a new meditation based on the current week's readings. **If you are interested, please submit your name and email contact information to:** stachurchcommunications@gmail.com.

Young-Onset Alzheimer's Disease and other Dementias SUPPORT GROUP

ON THE 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from noon to 1:30 p.m.

By phone and email during the COVID-19 emergency Jihan Starr: 443-717-2289 jstarr12@jhmi.edu OR Rita Anaka at ranaka1@jhmi.edu.

COVID-19 Financial Relief

As a result of the CARES Act, consumers started to see some financial relief through *Economic Impact Payments (EIP)* issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

The IRS began distributing EIPs to eligible individuals that file income taxes in April 2020. An estimated 12 million individuals who do not normally file income taxes are still eligible to receive payments. **Eligible filers only have until October 15, 2020 to submit their information to the IRS** through the *non-filers portal* to get their EIP. The Federal Government would like this information to go to as many people as possible.

SEPTEMBER PARISH CHALLENGE – "Who Is This Baby?"

Many of us look the same but some have changed. Let's see if we can guess whose baby picture it is. Send us a photo of you as a baby, with a few details on how old you were and where the photo was taken.

During the month of September, we will share these photos showcasing our parish family when they were babies. Send photos to: stachurchcommunications@gmail.com.

Eat the Scroll Ministry Presents

"Control What You Can Control"

Two Respected Presenters in Money and Health Issues

Lamont Baxter
Chaplain of the Men of St. Teresa
St. Teresa of Avila Member

Robin Willis
Coordinator of the Health Ministry
St. Teresa of Avila Member

Evangelist Michael P. Howard, M.A., Moderator

Wednesdays - Sept 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2020
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Zoom Meeting Address: Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88554683086?pwd=UTdjOGlGaU5vZWh2MWdwbkorSnp0UT09

Meeting ID: 885 5468 3086
Passcode: 132548

Participants will engage in discussion about good health practices and wisdom in managing finances with an emphasis on ***"Control What You Can Control."***

Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
_____Romans 12:13

Say YES! to Volunteering

Catholic Charities is recruiting 50 volunteers to take on a weekly, year-long commitment to service.

General Volunteer Roles: Are you friendly, dependable, culturally sensitive, and able to encourage a person going through a big change – for example, returning to the community after incarceration or learning to speak English or finding a job? Become a virtual mentor or instructor.

Pro Bono Volunteer Roles: Are you a doctor, nurse, lawyer or financial professional? Contribute your expertise pro bono to our most marginalized neighbors.
All roles require an application, dialogue with program staff about expectations, and at least a 75-hour commitment including orientation and training. Except for medical professionals, volunteering is done remotely via video chat, phone calls, email, and regular mail. **Want more information?** Attend our Volunteer Open House on **October 1**. **Register here (http://bttr.im/z03q8)** Have questions? Send us an email to Volunteer@CC-DC.org. **Ready to commit?** Complete an application for the role of your choice. Apply by **October 14**!

SHARE Monthly Food Package Distribution

Calling energetic early-risers who can do some moderately heavy lifting to join us at the SHARE Warehouse on a Friday or Saturday for the monthly food-package assembly and distribution. We start early! **Get information and sign up here: SHARE Food Package Distribution (http://bttr.im/iuidn)**

Sew Face Coverings:

Thank you to the many people who have already made and donated thousands of face covers to Catholic Charities for our clients and staff who work in the shelters and the community. As the pandemic continues, we need even more face covers.

Here's how to help with this effort. https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Face-Covering-Instructions-for-Catholic-Charities.pdf.

Food Distribution Events:

Volunteers distribute Catholic Charities food packages to over 1000 families each week. ***Distribution events last a 2-4 hours***, occur 4 days a week, and at 3 different locations: ***Columbia Heights, Wheaton and one location that changes weekly***. Food packages are ~9lbs of frozen meats + ~10lbs of fresh produce + a homemade frozen meal for 4, that often includes ***produce from our Mona Farm*** (see below).

Food packages are assembled weekdays at the SHARE warehouse, volunteers welcome! To learn more and to sign up **visit our COVID-19 Volunteer Opportunities Page.**

Mona Center Farm:

Join us on Monday or Saturday morning to tend the Mona Center Farm.

Volunteers do not need any gardening experience, but it is welcome! Come ready to get your hands in the dirt and with an eager attitude. The vegetables harvested will go to Catholic Charities' KitchenWork, a program that provides food for St. Maria's Meals and the weekly community food distribution events. Get information and sign up here: Volunteer for Mona Center Farm.

St. Teresa of Avila Sodality

2020 Scholarship Recipients

St. Teresa of Avila Sodality proudly announce the **2020 Scholarship Recipients** and their accomplishments. Please congratulate each of them and keep them in your prayers as they move forward with their studies:

Naira Wiley -- a sophomore at Bishop McNamara High School. Naira is an honor roll student—Summa Cum Laude for four quarters of her freshman year. In addition to her academic achievements, Naira serves in several STA parish ministries, community, honors, and community service organizations.

Justin Owens -- a freshman at St. Vincent Pallotti High School. Justin graduated from St. Joseph Regional School as an honor student with a 4.0 GPA. Justin serves as a Junior Minister of Hospitality. He is also a member of several honors, extracurricular and community service organizations.

Congratulations Naira and Justin!

EAST OF THE RIVER REVIVAL ON MONDAY OCTOBER 5TH, 2020

The East of the River Fall Revival will be celebrating **its 31st Revival at St. Luke Catholic Church at 7pm on Monday, October 5th, 2020**. **This is a virtual event only.** The revivalist will be **Rev. Cornelius K. Ejiogu, S.S.J.**

To join the revival live stream please go to Facebook:
https://wwwfacebook.com/stluke.stlukesedc

Or Dial 425-436-6339
Access code 269615. The East of the River Revival will be available on YouTube:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxIUpGPb4HGGIYm9NWkBN7g/videos?view_as=subscriber.

Please support the Revival by sending a donation to ERRC/St. Luke Catholic Church, 4925 East Capitol St. S.E. D.C. 20019 or electronically via St. Luke

WEBSITE:
http://www.stlukechurchssj.org/then click on "Fund ERRC".

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Angel Tree
Provide gifts to a family so parents can **create a Merry Christmas** for their children. **Signup will be in mid-November at** www.CatholicCharitiesDC.org.

Coat Drive
Donate new and gently used coats, especially sized XL and larger, **starting in November. Keep an eye on the website for details.** Catholic Charities is taking many steps to keep volunteers, clients, and staff safe at in-person volunteer activities, including health screening questions, social distancing at the site, and requiring all staff and volunteers to wear a mask.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

You can contribute your **tithes and love offerings three ways:**

- **eGiving: Text staChurch to 77977, click the link and follow the prompts**
- **www.stachurchdc.org and click on "Tithes and Love Offerings"**
- **The PLC secure lockbox - 1401 V Street, SE, Washington DC 20020**