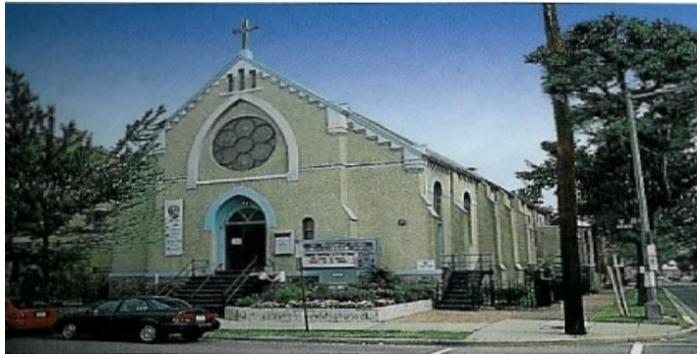


Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

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

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

The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 4, 2021



Msgr. Raymond G. East, Pastor rayeast@icloud.com; Mobile: 202-355-8888

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 9:30 a.m. in-person and livestream online

Sunday 11:30am in the courtyard between the church and the convent

Weather permitting

RECONCILIATION

Monsignor East is available for drive-by confessions. Please contact the PLC to schedule a time.

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

St. Teresa of Avila Parish Life Center

1401 V Street SE, Washington, DC 20020-4809

PLC: 202-678-3709; Fax: 202-678-3325, Website: www.stachurchdc.org

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 10:00am – 3:00pm and Friday, 10am – 1pm

PARISH STAFF

DEACON: Dr. William A. Hawkins, Jr. whawk39564@aol.com

DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP & ARTS: Shirli Hughes shirli.stamusic@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: Sis. Anne Marie Schreiner, DC (205) 919-0010 srannema@stv.org

PARISH RECEPTIONIST: Pamela Council pcouncil2009@gmail.com

PARISH BOOKKEEPER: Sister Pauline Oduekila paulineoduekila@yahoo.fr



Reflection on the Gospel

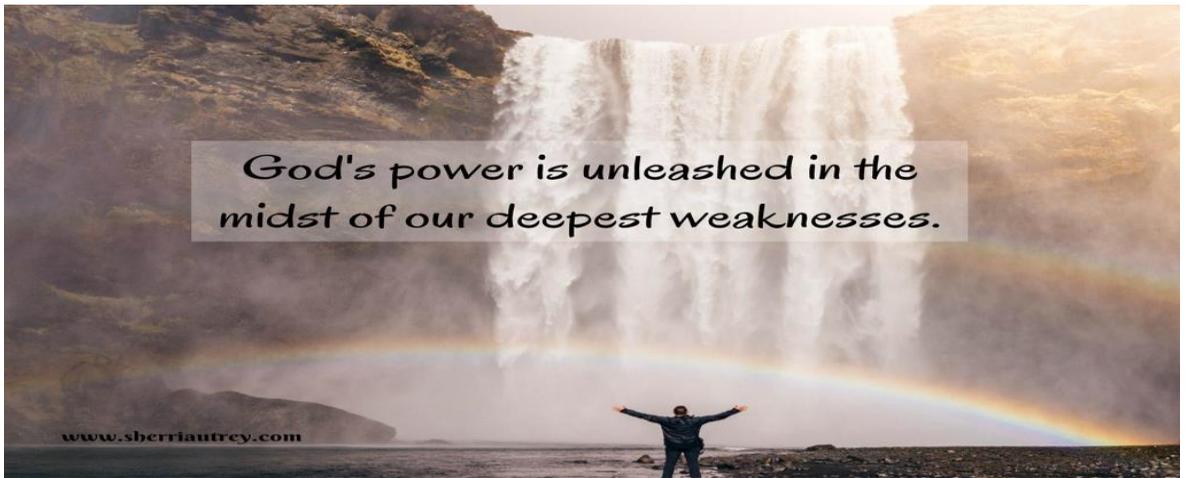
“God’s Power is Made Perfect in Our Weakness.”

_____ **Mark 6:1-6**

Good morning St. Teresa of Avila community. Today is the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, or as Msgr. East likes to call it, “**Extraordinary Time**”. It is also the 4th of July or Independence Day which commemorates the Declaration of Independence of the American colonies from Great Britain 245 years ago in 1776. I especially want to thank the Choir for virtually singing that Meditation Hymn, Available to You, because it relates to the title of my homily. The chorus goes like this:

*Lord, I’m available to You. My will I give to You.
I’ll do what You say do. Use me, Lord,
To show someone the way, and enable me to say,
My storage is empty, and I am available to You.*

Today’s reading from the second letter Paul to the Corinthians says, “*Three times I begged the Lord about this, that it might leave me, but he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness. I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses, in order that the power of Christ may dwell with me.’ We can slightly amplify Christ’s response to Paul to say, “My grace is sufficient for you, for [my] power is made perfect in [your] weakness.”*



Church, the title of my homily today is ***God's Power is Made Perfect in Our Weakness.*** Let me say that again, ***God's Power Is Made Perfect in Our Weakness.*** If the idea of being weak seems jarring to our modern way of thinking, we can look back in time to our first parents. God set them up with a perfect world over which He gave them dominion. The only rule they had to obey was that God's Will took precedence over theirs. Their pride led them to abuse their freedom and oppose God's plan for them. They tried to be strong in opposition to God and made a real mess of things. So, it is not only a modern but an old story as well.

Speaking of stories, a lot of them go around on the Internet. A friend of mine in Las Vegas sends many of them to me. One of them is called The Rope. A proud mountain climber is attached to a rope as he climbs alone. Almost at the summit of the mountain, he slips and begins to fall. The rope finally stops his fall, and he is left hanging. He now prays to God for help. God asks what he wants Him to do. The man asks God to save him. God tells him to let go of the rope. But the climber refuses to let go and is found dead the next morning, dangling from the rope. The end of the rope was only about 10 feet from the ground. If you ask me, I think he should have let go and let God's Power be made perfect in his weakness.

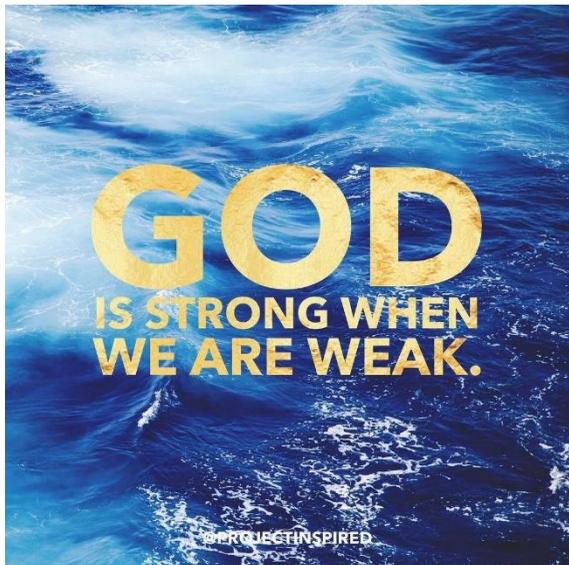
The Old Testament is full of stories about God's Power being made perfect in our weakness. The judge Gideon was called by God to deliver Israel from the power of the Midianites who had oppressed Israel for 7 years. Then God told Gideon that he had too many soldiers. Otherwise, the people of Israel will boast before the Lord and say, "My own power brought me the victory." Thirty-two thousand soldiers had gathered in response to Gideon's call. When Gideon told them, as God commanded, that anyone afraid may leave, only ten thousand remained. God next told Gideon to lead the soldiers to water and have them drink. Gideon was told to dismiss all but the most alert, namely those who drank from their hands.

The three hundred soldiers that remained were able to rout the enormous forces of the Midianites, Amelekites, and Kedemites. The Bible says their forces were as numerous as locusts and their camels as many as sands on the seashore. Judges 6 - 8 tells the story of Gideon.

As an old spiritual says, little David was a shepherd boy. He was anointed by the prophet Samuel at the direction of God. Filled with the Holy Spirit, David was able to kill Goliath, the giant champion of the Philistines, with a stone from his slingshot. David fought Goliath because Goliath insulted the army of the living God. The story of David and Goliath is told in the second book of Samuel chapter 17. God's Power Is Made Perfect in Our Weakness.

Martin Luther wrote a hymn almost five hundred years ago called A mighty fortress is our God. One stanza goes like this:

Did we in our strength confide,
Our striving would be losing;
We're not the right man on our side,
The man of God's own choosing:
You ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is He;
Lord Sabaoth, His Name;
From age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.



Another hymn contains the verse, ***“The battle is not yours, it's the Lord's.”*** I think it is sung by Yolanda Adams. I am sure you have heard the saying, “God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called.” All of this reminds us that we did not create ourselves. We were created by the Holy Trinity – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We were not created by the unholy trinity – me, myself, and I. As a priest named Fr. Leo once told us when we were studying to become deacons, “I've got news for you. There is a God and it ain't you!” The same God Who created all things has a special mission for you and me. But to accomplish this mission, we must accept that God's Power Is Made Perfect in Our Weakness.



The prophet Ezekiel tells how God called him to prophesy in today's first reading. "As the Lord spoke to me, the spirit entered me and set me on my feet, and I heard the one who was speaking say to me: Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites... And whether they heed or resist – for they are a rebellious house – they shall know that a prophet has been among them." Ezekiel could not determine the effect on Israel of his prophesies but he carried out the mission God had for him. God's Power Is Made Perfect In Our Weakness.

Today's reading from the Gospel of Mark says: "Jesus said to them, A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house. So, He was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith." They lacked faith because he was in his hometown. But that doesn't explain the lack of miracles. Jesus clearly did not lack the power to perform miracles. St. Augustine explained the situation when he said, "The God Who made us without us, will not save us without us." So, we must believe to be saved.

Jesus once described John the Baptist by saying, "There was never a man born of woman greater than John the Baptist." Yet, John the Baptist himself said in the Gospel of John 3: 30, "He must increase, I must decrease." In other words, God does not help those who help themselves. He helps those who seek Him with humble and contrite hearts. St. Augustine also said, "Who are the proud? Those who do not perform penance and confess their sins to be healed through humility... Those who attribute to themselves the few good qualities they seem to possess and endeavor to diminish the mercy of God." God's Power Is Made Perfect in Our Weakness.

The universal call to holiness requires each of us to act in the Person of Christ. We are called to be holy as our Heavenly Father is holy. We are called to worship and serve the Father in union with Jesus and through the Holy Spirit. For each of us, the way we manifest Jesus will differ. To fully manifest Jesus in our own special way, we must agree to follow His Will. As a Church, we have two thousand years of examples of what Jesus can accomplish through members of His Body who give themselves to Him.

In closing, I would like to ask you to repeat either in church or at home the chorus of the Meditation Hymn after me and consider praying it each morning to Jesus.

Lord, I'm available to You. My will I give to You.
I'll do what You say do. Use me, Lord,
To show someone the way, and enable me to say,
My storage is empty, and I am available to You.

Then Jesus will say to us as He said to St. Paul: ***“My grace is sufficient for you, for [my] power is made perfect in [your] weakness.”*** Church, God's Power Is Made Perfect in Our Weakness. Amen.

**Dr. William A. Hawkins, Jr., Deacon
Saint Teresa of Avila Church**



MASS PARTICIPATION AT STA



As COVID restrictions loosen in the District of Columbia, we welcome you back to in-person services. Whether fully vaccinated or not, St. Teresa of Avila will continue to practice COVID health and safety precautions for all. Each week if you plan to attend in-person Mass, to avoid any delays in getting into the church house, we ask that you complete the **online COVID-19 questionnaire by Saturday 2pm (this includes children)**. Please [click here](#) to complete the online questionnaire.



Livestreaming of our Sunday Mass on STA [YouTube](#) and [Facebook Live](#) channels will continue each Sunday, with Mass at 9:30 a.m. Visit the Archdiocese website for additional recorded and live-streamed Masses at <https://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/>.



Outdoor Mass will be continued to be held on Sundays at 11:30am in the courtyard between the church and the convent, weather permitting. ***All are welcome!***



DAILY

MASS READINGS

July 4th the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 2:2-5, Psalms 123:1-2, 2, 3-4, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Mark 6:1-6

July 5th Monday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 28:10-22A, Psalms 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15AB, Matthew 9:18-26

July 6th Tuesday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 32:23-33, Psalms 17:1B, 2-3, 6-7AB, 8B AND 15, Matthew 9:32-38

July 7th Wednesday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 41:55-57; 42:5-7A, 17-24A, Psalms 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19, Matthew 10:1-7

July 8th Thursday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

*Genesis 44:18-21, 23B-29; 45:1-5, Psalms 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21
Matthew 10:7-15*

July 9th Friday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 46:1-7, 28-30, Psalms 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40, Matthew 10:16-23

July 10th Saturday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26A, Psalms 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, Matthew 10:24-33

July 11th the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Amos 7:12-15, Psalms 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14, Ephesians 1:3-14 or Ephesians 1:3-10
Mark 6:7-13*

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**

Stefan Abresch and family, Richie Allison (son of Sandi Allison-Harris), Joyce Barbour (sister of Audrey Barbour), Marian Barbour (mother of Audrey Barbour), Darren Barnes, Dorothy Barnes (cousin of Pat Waddell), Briana Brown (granddaughter of Robin Kelly), Katie Butler, Audrey Caldwell, Vermel Thompson-Chichester, Betty Cook (aunt of Wanda Smith), Bro. Jeff Corry, Nadine and Earl Day, Helen Despertt, Gloria (Sister of Ruth Dixon), Clark James Durand, Ricardo Featherstone, Howard Fleming, Corey Fowler-Cooke, Patricia Franklin, Wanda Garrett, William Gorham, Mary Greenfield, Donna Grimes, Renee Gross, Antonio “Big Tony” Haggins, Ethel Hale, Betty Hamer (mother of Anna Friday), Delores Hatcherson, Audrey Hawkins, Princess Collins (niece Shirley Hawkins), Barbara Hill, Patricia Pickens-James, Margaret Jenkins, Charles Johnson III, Reginald Johnson, Sheila Kennedy, Jahan Keys (great nephew of Shirley Hawkins), Inez Matthews, Ronald McCants, Paul McCloud (Ralph McCloud’s brother), Channing McKinney, Veronica McKinney, Alec Metz and Family, Dorothy Morgan, Mother Kamana Asteria Mukangango (mother of Fr. Didace), Vivian Parker (Sister Marie Bernadette’s sister), Dennis Patterson (father of Denise Wilson, Grandfather of Sheronne Wilson and Great Grandfather of Dylan), Mackenzie Pierce (daughter of the late Thomas “Butter” Pierce), Angela (Angie) Powell (daughter of Jackie Christian), Jocelyn Reyes, Bonita Robinson, Sister Anne Marie Schreiner, Joanne Scott, Lee Scott, Michelle Whatley-Seabrooks, Sister Anne Marie Schreiner, Willa Spruill, Darian Taylor, Dorothy Taylor (cousin of Pauline Barnes), Robert Taylor (husband of Sandra Taylor), Yolanda Thomas, Bernadette Trowell, Carol Walker, Sharree Walls, Denise Washington, John Whiteside and Alice Wingate. **How can we pray for you and your family? You can send your request directly to stachurchcommunications@gmail.com or contact the PLC.**



HIGHWAY TO HEAVEN



IN MEMORIUM

Please keep the families of our beloved parishioners and families who have gone home this month lifted in prayers.

George Dugué

(Father of Jennifer Tilghman and father-in-law of Deacon Timothy)

Funeral services on Wednesday, July 7, 2021
St. Luke's Catholic Church
4925 E. Capitol Street, SE
Washington, DC 20019

Viewing starts at 10:00 am

Mass/Service starts at 11:00 am

The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all their STA family who prayed for Dad during his illness and transition. He went home to the Lord on Tuesday morning and is now at peace -- joining his lovely wife.



While we cannot personally wish you Happy Birthday, we wanted you to know that we did not forget! Below is the list of birthdays for the fourth last week in second week in July:

(7/4) Wanda Garrett & Alda Ottley

(7/5) Pamela Council & Antonio Simpson

(7/6) Donna Bell

(7/9) Darnelle Sneed

We thank God for the life He has given us in each of you!

If we have not listed your birthday, we don't have it!
PLEASE CONTACT the Parish Life Center IMMEDIATELY!





HEALTH MINISTRY

Apple of the Week

God gifted us with healthy bodies. Taking care of your body is honoring God, try your best to nurture and sustain your temple. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church.

_____ *Ephesians 5:29*

Fruits are an abundance during the summer; try a few or more daily. 🍏

CONGRATULATIONS **STA Class of 2021** **Blessings for Your Future Plans**

Truth Martin
Pre-K

Starting Kindergarten in the Fall at Reid Temple Academy.

Sylvia Metz
Kindergarten

Starting 1st Grade at St. Peter's in the Fall.

Taylor Imes
Kindergarten

Starting 1st Grade at Mary McCloud Bethune Day Academy Public Charter School in Washington, DC.

Eliza Vivienne Basterrechea Jones
The Field School in Washington, DC
Attending Emory University in Atlanta, GA, in the Fall.

Dashone Muse
Central High School

Attending Prince George's Community College in the Fall.

Julian Lancaster
Bowie High School in Bowie, MD
Attending Morgan University in the Fall
Majoring in Computer Science.

Josephine Crittenden
School Without Walls
Attending University of Iowa in the Fall.

Aaron D. Coates
Howard University
B.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering
Employed with Johnson, Mirmiran, & Thompson (JMT) in Washington, DC as a Roadway Design Engineer.

Laura Kelly-Bryant
Smith College
B.A. in Education, pursuing a Master of Science Degree in Education from Johns Hopkins this Fall and a teaching E.L. Haynes Public Charter School in Washington, DC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS & JOB OPENINGS WITH THE ARCHDIOCESE

The National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry is looking to hire a Digital Content Coordinator. More information can be found at <https://nfcym.org/nfcym-is-hiring-digital-content-specialist/>. **The Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Campus Ministry** position is available at George Washington University. **The job posting can be found at:**

<https://recruiting.ultipro.com/ARC1012AR/CHW/JobBoard/a6c08282-64df-408a-a35b-yld=eaca23d9-a267-4249-a62d-abfd5bf632c3>.



Join the Sodality in praying the Rosary each Sunday, at 11:00 a.m. via free conference. The dial-in number is **1-602-580-9273**. The access code is **5360845**. When dialing in, **please mute your phone** after announcing your name.



Youth Faith Formation sessions are held **every 1st and 3rd Sunday at 11:30 a.m.** It is our prayer that parents will partner with catechists in this faith journey in living out the scripture, ***Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it."*** Should you have any questions, please contact the PLC at (202) 678-9068 to reach a member of the ***Faith, Formation Team: Ann Batiste, Pat Waddell, or Bernadette Catalan.***

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.



Wisdom Wednesdays

Join us **every week at 11:00 a.m.** as Shirli Hughes, STA Director of Worship and Arts guides us through the origin of another beloved hymn, praise and worship chorus, or Gospel song, followed by time for discussion and prayer. **Check the Calendar of Events on the website for dial in information.**

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

**DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN &
ANNOUNCEMENT
SUBMISSIONS
WEDNESDAYS BY 5:00PM
SUBMIT TO:**

stachurchcommunications@gmail.com



Sodality Scholarship Application

ATTENTION!!! STA High School and College students!!! The Sodality 2021 Scholarship Application is now available on the website at:

www.stachurchdc.org\sodality-2021-scholarship

Submission **deadline date is August 29, 2021.** Committee contact information is listed on the application.

Join us on our Pilgrimage to where Heaven meets Earth

Medjugorje



October 04 -14, 2021

\$2,879 from Washington DC & New York

**ADDITIONAL DEPARTURE CITIES AVAILABLE **



Join us on our Pilgrimage to where Heaven meets Earth.



Group Director: Deacon Leo Flynn
Spiritual Leader: Msgr. Raymond G. East



For Additional Information Contact:

Deacon Leo Flynn at 703-328-4762 Email: leo@theflynnteam.com



To Register Please Visit:

www.pilgrimages.com/dcnflynn

THE KIMMY DUONG FOUNDATION

KDF Hardship Grant Program



**THE AMOUNT OF AID FOR EACH FAMILY:
\$500 OR \$1,000**

MAXIMUM 20 GRANTS PER MONTH

Application Conditions:

- The head of household must have an income under 150% of the federal poverty line and are experiencing economic hardship. Use our website to check for eligibility.
- Resides and works in the Virginia, Maryland, and/or DC area.
- Limit of one grant per family per year.

Application Process:

1. Apply now on the KDF website. Application periods start on the 16th of the month and go through the 15th of the next month.
2. Provide a letter explaining the hardship and the requested grant amount.
3. Provide the tax return (Form 1040) from the last year to show that your income is under the federal poverty line.
4. Provide proof of economic hardship due to loss of income source, medical, and/or natural disaster(s); this could be a letter of dismissal, medical bills, or other bills.
5. Provide an affidavit attesting the true facts of the application.
6. Provide two reference letters from persons/organizations who can attest for the applicant.

Notes:

- The KDF Hardship Grant program operates throughout the year
- The KDF Hardship Grant program offers rolling application periods where applications are accepted before the 15th day of a calendar month.
- The KDF will notify approved applicants by email/phone. Approved grants are provided by the last day of the month in which the application was reviewed.

Contact Info@TheKimmyDuongFoundation.org for any questions/concerns.