

# Saint Therese Parish

September 6, 2020

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Therese is a Spiritual Home where together we  
Worship with Joy • Work for Justice • Grow in God's Love

### **Parish Office**

3416 East Marion Street, Seattle, WA 98122  
[www.st-therese.cc](http://www.st-therese.cc) ..... 206-325-2711

### **Priest Administrator**

Fr. Maurice Mamba ..... 206-720-7275  
..... [frmaurice@st-therese.cc](mailto:frmaurice@st-therese.cc)

### **Pastoral Assistant, Administration & Facilities**

Diane Figaro ..... 206-720-7270  
..... [diane.cornell.figaro@gmail.com](mailto:diane.cornell.figaro@gmail.com)

### **Pastoral Assistant, Faith Formation & Liturgy**

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### **Bookkeeper**.....Lauren Schulz...206-720-7272

..... [bookkeeper@st-therese.cc](mailto:bookkeeper@st-therese.cc)

### **Music Director "Spirit" Choir 8:30 AM**

Diane Figaro ..... 206-271-5117  
..... [dfigaro123@comcast.net](mailto:dfigaro123@comcast.net)

### **Music Director "Shades of Praise" and "Jubilation"**

### **Choirs**

Kent Stevenson ..... 206-675-8000  
..... [zzstevenson@hotmail.com](mailto:zzstevenson@hotmail.com)

### **Office Volunteers**..... 206-325-2711

General Volunteer email.....[office@st-therese.cc](mailto:office@st-therese.cc)

### **Calendar** (Deborah Tinsley) text 206-909-1727

..... [calendar@st-therese.cc](mailto:calendar@st-therese.cc)

### **Bulletin**....(Nancy Buckland) 206-325-2711x210

..... [bulletin@st-therese.cc](mailto:bulletin@st-therese.cc)

### **St. Therese Catholic Academy**

900 35th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122  
[www.stcaseattle.org](http://www.stcaseattle.org) ..... 206-324-0460

### **Principal - Admissions, Fundraising, & Operations:**

Matt DeBoer ..... 206-995-8100  
[mdeboer@stcaseattle.org](mailto:mdeboer@stcaseattle.org)

### **Vice Principal - Academics & School Culture:**

Teresa Day ..... 206-995-8104  
[tday@stcaseattle.org](mailto:tday@stcaseattle.org)

### **St. Vincent de Paul**

Emergency Financial Help ... 206-767-6449



### **Parish Leadership**

#### **Pastoral Council:**

*Chair:* Rose Hesselbrock...[rose.hesselbrock@gmail.com](mailto:rose.hesselbrock@gmail.com)

*Vice Chair:* Chuck Manca...[chuckmanca@gmail.com](mailto:chuckmanca@gmail.com)

*Secretary:* Dave Tawatao...[dave.tawatao@gmail.com](mailto:dave.tawatao@gmail.com)

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**Finance Council:** Steve Dunphy.....206-550-2979

#### **Stewardship Commission:**

John Russell ..... [jvrussell85@gmail.com](mailto:jvrussell85@gmail.com)

#### **Faith Formation & Evangelization**

Victoria Ries ..... [victoria.ries@comcast.net](mailto:victoria.ries@comcast.net)

#### **Liturgy Commission:**

Chauncey Boyle, S.P.....206-290-3942

#### **Social Justice Commission:**

Trisha Tinsley ..... [citizencoach@gmail.com](mailto:citizencoach@gmail.com)

#### **School Commission:**

BJ Montoya ..... [bjmontoya@mac.com](mailto:bjmontoya@mac.com)

Find us on

## **The Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Reading 1** [EZ 33:7-9](#)

Thus says the LORD: You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me. If I tell the wicked, “O wicked one, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death. But if you warn the wicked, trying to turn him from his way, and he refuses to turn from his way, he shall die for his guilt, but you shall save yourself.

### **Reading 2** [ROM 13:8-10](#)

Brothers and sisters: Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.

### **Gospel** [MT 18:15-20](#)

Jesus said to his disciples: “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that ‘every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

## **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

Our Atrium sessions will look different this year, but you can still sign your child up to participate in Virtual Atrium. Here is the link to register for our community’s faith formation program for children. (Please note your child must be enrolled in this program for 2 years in order to receive their First Eucharist.)

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdFcNrOCL1mkACPI4JZTPIP\\_wzo\\_tqp44WNOGPxFxn1v7Fncg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdFcNrOCL1mkACPI4JZTPIP_wzo_tqp44WNOGPxFxn1v7Fncg/viewform?usp=sf_link)



## Parish Re-Opening and Live Streaming

### Sun Sept 6

Every Sunday the church is open to all from 8:30 to 11:30 am for private prayer. **Mass with Fr. Negusse and Spirit Choir 11:30am Reserved seating only.** To attend, you must register ahead of time using your smart phone at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040549A9AE29A0FA7-sttherese>, or click on [Register now](#). Sign up also available on Parish web site [st-therese.cc](http://st-therese.cc). Please arrive 10 - 15 minutes early on Sunday. Ushers will seat you. Details below.

Mass & Prayer Vigil links: <https://www.facebook.com/StThereseParishSeattle/>

NOTE: The technical issue that prevented livestreaming our 11:30 am Mass last Sunday has been solved! We regret the interruptions the past two Sundays. Also a reminder, the Mass videos remain available on our website following the Masses.

### What You Need to Do & Changes at Mass to Keep Each Other Safe:

You must register ahead of time - BUT stay home if you are sick (temp over 100.4 degrees F)  
Wear a mask - Wear gloves  
Check in at entrance on the west side of the church  
Seating by ushers  
No kiss of peace  
No group singing - Cantor wears a mask  
No processions  
No passed baskets  
No incense or holy water  
No cup  
6-ft. physical distancing at all times & 12-ft. from priest while he celebrates Mass  
Communion in the hand during the Mass

### DROP OFF HOURS FOR SVdP FOOD DONATIONS:

The pickup of nonperishable food every Sunday now is 12:30pm for food donations left outside the church after 8:30am that morning. This allows those attending Mass at 11:30am to bring food with them. All food should be left at the south entrance of the church. Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference continues to support St. Mary's Food Bank every week with donations from Leschi Market and whatever parishioners are able to share. Thank you!



### Laudato Si' at St. Therese

At last! Another St. T work party next Saturday, Sept. 12. I'll be there at 9:30am. We've got lots of shrubs to clip, grass to mow, weeds to pull. We'll socially distance. Bring a mask! (And a water bottle!) Of course, no lunch (sigh). But lots of air hugs. Come late, leave early!



Contact John Russell: [jvrussell85@gmail.com](mailto:jvrussell85@gmail.com)

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** Bulletin articles must be submitted by Tuesday noon to be included in the next edition: [bulletin@st-therese.cc](mailto:bulletin@st-therese.cc). Thank you!

### Are You Registered to Vote?

**Do you know the deadline to be registered and to turn in your ballot?**

**Do you need to update your voter information?**

Go to [www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov) to register and find more information, including eligibility, voter status, deadlines, requirements and ability to vote for immigrants, people experiencing homelessness, and those with previous felony convictions in Washington or other states.



## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

September 6, 2020

John Russell, Stewardship Chair

Contact John Russell at [jvrussell85@gmail.com](mailto:jvrussell85@gmail.com)

*Do not conform yourselves to this age  
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,  
that you may discern what is the will of God,  
what is good and pleasing and perfect.*

*St. Paul in his Letter to the Romans 12:2*

OK. This isn't about this week's readings. It's the same reading I commented on last week in regards to materialism and the environment. But the current challenge to racism is also a challenge to not conform to our age.

The Black Lives Matter movement is sharply focused on police reform. Fortunately, a lot of good minds have given thought to this issue even before the current crisis. Unfortunately, these changes take time. Things that take time take commitment, and that commitment can only be reinforced by public pressure.

Check out Racism in Our Streets and Structures, noted above:

[https://catholicsocialthought.georgetown.edu/events/racism-in-our-streets-and-structures?fbclid=IwAR31hE2ZWkKm5YTz2iME3MHI4k1d3acMHV\\_oqBgTKnUqmbzRzCrK2hbZDK8](https://catholicsocialthought.georgetown.edu/events/racism-in-our-streets-and-structures?fbclid=IwAR31hE2ZWkKm5YTz2iME3MHI4k1d3acMHV_oqBgTKnUqmbzRzCrK2hbZDK8)

The US Conference of Catholic Bishops has suggested that the Feast of St. Peter Claver on September 9 be a day of fasting and prayer. See "A memorial of St. Peter Claver, September 9, 2020": <https://www.usccb.org/resources/2020%20St.%20Peter%20Claver.pdf>

Please take time to confront your own sin and renew your commitments to renewing your mind. Find a quiet spot, open your heart, and listen.

Father Maurice has announced that if attendance at the 11:00am Mass reaches 80, he will restart the 8:30am Mass. Currently attendance is a bit over 30. Masks are worn, social distancing is in force, there is no communal singing (sob!) and there is lots of ventilation. Use Sign Up! from the website or your phone to reserve a spot!

If you would like to use Sign Up! on your phone to register for Mass or for serving at Mass, you can find the button way down at the end of the scroll. The website refers to the Sign Up! button being on the right, where it appears on a computer. On a phone, however, the button appears at the bottom of the page. Keep scrolling!

Let us be generous with our financial resources:

- Woohoo! **We are within a little over \$1000 of meeting Our Annual Catholic Appeal goal!** Please support the work of the Church of Western Washington by clicking on this link: [Annual Catholic Appeal](#). Much of your contribution comes back to the parish in the form of central office services, such as facilities and personnel consultations, payroll servicing, and management of employee health insurance and retirement funds. If you have questions about the Appeal, please email me at [jvrussell85@gmail.com](mailto:jvrussell85@gmail.com)
- Give to the St. Vincent de Paul Society by going to our website at [st-therese.cc](http://st-therese.cc). Scroll down to the St. Vincent de Paul button near the bottom of the home page. If you prefer to write checks, please send them to Sr. Kathleen - SVdP, 3514 E. Marion St., Seattle, WA 98122. The St. Therese conference has been overwhelmed by requests in the St. Edward's area, which our conference is now also serving. Please be generous!
- Finally, you can make a contribution online at [st-therese.cc](http://st-therese.cc) and clicking on the "Donate Now" button or use the Push-Pay app on your phone.

Finally, join the Social Justice Commission! If there was ever a moment that St. Therese needs a Social Justice Commission, it is now! If you want to work for justice, email Trisha Tinsley at [citizencoach@gmail.com](mailto:citizencoach@gmail.com).

Collections Fiscal Year - July 1, 2020, through September 2, 2020: \$42,970

Previous Fiscal Year - July 1 - September 2, 2019: \$44,537

**ST. VINCENT de PAUL** "...WE'RE THE ONES GETTING KILLED, WE'RE THE ONES GETTING SHOT...IT'S AMAZING TO ME WHY WE KEEP LOVING THIS COUNTRY AND THE COUNTRY DOES NOT LOVE US BACK...."

It might sound like a tearful, frustrated young black teenager. No, this is Doc Rivers, among the elite of sports royalty. A great NBA player, coached the Boston Celtics to a world championship, has a son and son-in-law in the NBA and is current coach of the Los Angeles Clippers, one of the favorites to win the title. Those words were part of an emotional, passionate and beautiful speech wherein he expressed his hurt in response to Jacob Blake who was shot in the back seven times and now is paralyzed. Why Doc? Well, if Doc is fearful, what about that young black teenager? One of the answers to that is provided in a fine revealing article by Sara Jean Green in the August 29th Seattle Times where, among other things, it was noted that the leading cause of death for young black men was homicide.

At St. V we believe the best way we can "love us back," using Doc's words, is to do our best to help provide a stable and safe home environment for our Black and Brown neighbors by assisting them with their material needs that they may be lacking. Lately, for some time it has been giving partial rents to assist them and also folks of other creeds and colors caught in the vice of a pandemic and our poor economy. Food, of course, is life's essential and we will continue our food vouchers and also contributions to the Food Bank at St. Mary's. We also think it is important to assist when possible our awesome STCA parents to keep our students on their path of learning.

We mentioned the \$41.4 million County rental assistance program last week. While this shows great promise, it is first a lottery and then has a lot of qualifications so we cannot rely entirely on this. The gap between rent paid and rent owed is a chasm and widens monthly.

So maybe "We'll Be There" to "love us back" can be a new motto. If you want to help, you can donate by sending donations to Sr. Kathleen – SVdP, 3514 E. Marion St., Seattle, WA 98122 or donate online by accessing the parish website at [www.st-therese.cc](http://www.st-therese.cc) where you will find specific information about donating to the conference.

Please see page 3 for our ongoing food collection which is becoming quite successful.

God Bless. Thanks for Being There with us. **Robert Mackin** [rmackinatty@yahoo.com](mailto:rmackinatty@yahoo.com)

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

Are you someone or do you know someone who...

Has expressed interest in becoming a Catholic?

Has a child over 7 who has not been Baptized?

Was Baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

Is a Baptized Catholic but would like to return to the Church after a long time away?

St. Therese Parish community offers an opportunity to come together (*electronically, for now*) in a small group to learn about our beliefs, and explore our journey of faith to God. Sessions focus on our Christian roots revealed in the Bible and the teachings and experience of the Church. For those who choose, we also prepare individuals to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for children or youth. You are welcome to participate in this process with your questions, your insights, and your faith story in a warm accepting setting.

For information, please contact Tom Hesselbrock ([tomandrose2@mac.com](mailto:tomandrose2@mac.com) or 206-817-0084).

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Greetings, St. Therese Family!

As we hit the midway point in this beginning of the year Root Belief reflection series, we arrive at the root belief that truly holds the other root beliefs together. Our faith is the glue that builds the bridge connecting who we are, what we do, and how we do it. Our third root belief not only describes the faith that inspires our community and the radical hope that we approach each day with, but it is also rooted in Scripture. This root belief was also the theme of our 2014-15 school year, a year that forced us to look into our school's mirror and decide whether we were willing to do the work that was needed to keep our school viable for present and future students and families. The consensus was clear. It would take creativity, dedication, and hard work to overcome our challenges, but our faith told us that: **We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.** This root belief from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians (4:13) is recited daily in our community to conclude all communal gatherings. We say the words aloud often as an intentional effort to remind ourselves that we can accomplish our goals and truly become the saints, disciples, and servant-leaders that God created all of us to be.



Our faith and belief in a better future is palpable at St. Therese Catholic Academy. Despite our religious diversity (less than half of our families are Catholic, and about 10% identify with non-Christian faith traditions), there is a throughline of faith in our community that welcomes all and envisions a future in line with the beloved community and Kingdom of God we so often hear about in the Gospels. Last week I wrote about the ways in which our students have felt called to act with justice and put those calls to action. It is our faith and hope that inspires this action. We believe that things can change - and will change - and we believe this because of our faith in God. We do not always know the exact path to travel or even have the slightest clue about where to begin, but we do know that it is possible to join together - hand-in-hand (6-feet apart for now) - to do God's work on earth as it is envisioned in heaven. I truly believe that our 2020-21 theme from Micah 6:8 is fully aligned with this root belief. Our call to do justice, embrace and love mercy, and walk with humility before our God is what living out this root belief looks like. There is action - on collective and individual levels - rooted in relationships and an understanding that we cannot do this alone.

In the pre-COVID era when we'd gather in our church every Friday to praise God and break open the Word together as a St. Therese Family, there would be times when current events or life circumstances would force us to press pause and question the world around us and God's role in it. Our faith tells us that it is okay to question God and to share any and all of our many human emotions with and toward our God. Jesus did this throughout his life - he laughed, he cried, he showed anger, and he despaired in his final moments. However, he never gave up on faith, despite the evidence he was living through. Similarly, when we hit these hard times on our journeys - individually or communally - this root belief can call us back to center and inspire us. I distinctly remember a prayer service in recent years when rising 8th Grader, Curtis, offered all of us hope. We were down (though I confess I don't remember the context), and not sure how to proceed, but Curtis reminded all of us that no matter the circumstances, *we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.*

While this root belief might be perceived by outsiders as simply words or a quotation from Scripture, for us, it is a living statement of our faith and beliefs. We CAN do all things, but we cannot do them alone. It is not "I" who can do all things, but "WE." It is not of our own accord but "through Christ." We need this reminder early and often in our work of forming servant-leaders for a diverse world. It takes the collective village of our students, families, and Dream Team staff to bring our faith and life and potential alive to the fullest. However, we need not wait for the grandest of moments to offer up this reminder. We end every assembly and gathering with this reminder to offer hope.

Recently, a common "stress relief" practice I've embraced is a quick run around the block with my children. When I am not keeping up with my 3-year old daughter, Maria, she often says, "Come on, Daddy, you can do it!" When I respond, "But, how?" She smiles and yells, "THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS US!"

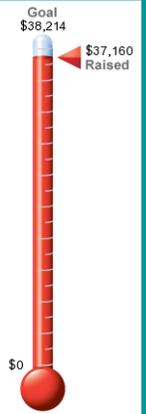
God bless,  
Mr. Matthew D. DeBoer, Principal

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL: A Future Full of Hope

Thanks to your great response this week, we have raised \$37,160 towards our goal of \$38,214, with 32% of parishioners responding! We have less than \$1,100 of the total to go.

At the time of publication, the ACA office at the Archdiocese and St. Therese are reconciling our current figures. The latest amount received will be published on our parish website and next week's Bulletin. Your gift can still help the Annual Catholic Appeal by its support of more than 60 ministries and services that are offered to thousands of individuals across Western Washington. In addition, this year, a 10% 'tithe' from ACA 2020 donations (excluding rebates) will be placed in a **Parish Solidarity Fund** for those parishes severely financially impacted as a result of the suspension of public Masses due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you haven't already made your gift, won't you please consider making a gift this year. Go online to <https://donate.seattlearchdiocese.org/aca> or use a pledge envelope. If you'd rather call in your gift to the Appeal Office, they can be reached at 800-809-4921. The list of donors to the ACA is provided to St. Therese on a weekly basis. We will update names weekly. Thank you!



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