

# Saint Therese Parish

December 10, 2023

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

**Limited Office Hours Best to Contact staff via email**

### **Parish Office**

3416 East Marion Street, Seattle, WA 98122  
206-325-2711 [office@st-therese.cc](mailto:office@st-therese.cc)

**Pastor** Fr. Woody McCallister  
206-720-7275 [woody@st-therese.cc](mailto:woody@st-therese.cc)

**Pastoral Asst. for Administration/Facilities**  
**M-Th: 9-4** Diane Figaro [paa@st-therese.cc](mailto:paa@st-therese.cc)  
206-720-7270

**Pastoral Assistant - Faith Formation**  
**Liturgy & Parish Life** Nicole St. Hilaire  
206-720-7277 [nicoles@st-therese.cc](mailto:nicoles@st-therese.cc)

**Bookkeeper** Lauren Schulz  
206-720-7272 [bookkeeper@st-therese.cc](mailto:bookkeeper@st-therese.cc)

**Deacon Greg McNabb** 206-601-2653  
[deaconmcnabb@gmail.com](mailto:deaconmcnabb@gmail.com)

**Director, Spirit Choir, Diane Figaro,**  
**SunAM/WedPM** [diane.cornell.figaro@gmail.com](mailto:diane.cornell.figaro@gmail.com)

**Director, Shades of Praise Choir**  
Kent Stevenson 206-519-4575  
[kentstevensoncasablanca@gmail.com](mailto:kentstevensoncasablanca@gmail.com)

**St. Mary Facilities** David Mead  
[stmarymaintenance@st-therese.cc](mailto:stmarymaintenance@st-therese.cc)

**Calendar** Deborah Tinsley - text only 206-909-1727  
[calendar@st-therese.cc](mailto:calendar@st-therese.cc)

**Bulletin** Nancy Buckland [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:** Malcolm X. Nelson  
[mnelson@stcaseattle.org](mailto:mnelson@stcaseattle.org) 206-995-8100

**Vice Principal - Academics & School Culture:**  
Madeleine E. Tomich  
[mtomich@stcaseattle.org](mailto:mtomich@stcaseattle.org) 206-995-8104

**St. Vincent de Paul** Emergency Financial Help  
206-767-6449

**Website:** [www.st-therese.cc](http://www.st-therese.cc)



### **Parish Leadership**

#### **Pastoral Council:**

**Chair:** Rose Hesselbrock...[rose.hesselbrock@gmail.com](mailto:rose.hesselbrock@gmail.com)  
**Vice Chair:** Marty Koenigs.....[mka@seanet.com](mailto:mka@seanet.com)  
**Secretary:** Evan Oakes.....[oakes.emo24@gmail.com](mailto:oakes.emo24@gmail.com)

Anthony Barr-Jeffrey	<a href="mailto:aebjeffrey@spu.edu">aebjeffrey@spu.edu</a>
Gary Edwards	<a href="mailto:garyedwards41@gmail.com">garyedwards41@gmail.com</a>
Joan McNabb	<a href="mailto:joanmcnabb5@gmail.com">joanmcnabb5@gmail.com</a>
Mercy Lazo	<a href="mailto:mercymlazo8@gmail.com">mercymlazo8@gmail.com</a>
Jenny Lobo	<a href="mailto:jennyvengalil@yahoo.com">jennyvengalil@yahoo.com</a>
Orlando Morales	<a href="mailto:orlando@refugeechoir.org">orlando@refugeechoir.org</a>
Sharon Spence-Wilcox	<a href="mailto:spencewilcox@icloud.com">spencewilcox@icloud.com</a>
Steve Wittman-Todd	<a href="mailto:steve.wt@earthlink.net">steve.wt@earthlink.net</a>

#### **Finance Council:**

Carol Wood.....[2cdwood@gmail.com](mailto:2cdwood@gmail.com)

#### **Stewardship Commission:**

(contact Diane Figaro..... [paa@st-therese.cc](mailto:paa@st-therese.cc))

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

Bernard Koontz .....[bernard.koontz@gmail.com](mailto:bernard.koontz@gmail.com)

#### **Liturgy Commission:**

Deacon Greg McNabb.....[deaconmcnabb@gmail.com](mailto:deaconmcnabb@gmail.com)

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

Sam Lawrence.....[sam.lawrence@cytoviva.com](mailto:sam.lawrence@cytoviva.com)

#### **School Commission:**

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

## Parish Events

- Thu Dec 7 Mass at Immaculate 8am  
Mass at St. Therese 5:30pm  
Pastoral Council Meeting 7pm
- Fri Dec 8 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
**School Mass at St. Therese 9am**  
**Mass at Park Shore 11am**  
**Mass at Immaculate Conception 7pm**
- Sat Dec 9 Reconciliation Service at Immaculate Conception 11am**
- Sun Dec 10 2nd Sunday of Advent \*8:30am & Noon**  
STCA Library Book Fair between Masses
- Tue Dec 12 Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe  
"Silence and Voice" gathering  
in the Church and Social Hall 6:30pm
- Wed Dec 13 Spirit Choir Rehearsal 5pm  
Mass at Immaculate 6pm
- Thu Dec 14 Mass at Immaculate 8am  
Mass at St. Therese 5:30pm
- Fri Dec 15 Wise Ones Holiday Tea See pg. 6, 12-3pm**
- Sat Dec 16 Simbang Gabi Mass at St. Therese \*4pm**
- Sun Dec 17 3rd Sunday of Advent 8:30am & \*Noon**
- Wed Dec 20 **No** Staff Meeting  
Spirit Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm  
Mass at Immaculate 6pm

\*This Mass will be Livestreamed

**Come celebrate with Immaculate Conception Parishioners for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

A Multicultural Celebration

Friday, December 8, Mass at 7pm

Potluck following Mass – Bring your favorite dish

Ethnic Attire encouraged

**Come and Prepare** Reconciliation Service

Saturday, December 9, 11am

Prepare for the Coming of Christ

**Parol Lantern Workshop at Noon, Dec. 9**

**December 10, 2023**

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

READING 1 IS 40:1-5, 9-11

RESP. PSALM PS 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14

READING 2 2 PT 3:8-14

GOSPEL MK 1:1-8

8:30am Fr. Woody McCallister  
*Spirit Choir*

Noon Fr. Woody McCallister  
*Shades of Praise Choir*  
*(CCS Annual Appeal for the Poor will take place at both Masses)*

*Mass at Park Shore December 8 11am*

*Reconciliation for St. Therese Parishioners by Appointment*

We Livestream Noon Mass on 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month and 8:30am Mass on 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays. Livestreamed at: <https://www.facebook.com/StThereseParishSeattle/>

The Parish Office will be closed  
December 22, 25, 26 and 27.

## Our Common Home Work Party

We will once again meet on **December 16** to praise God and rake the leaves!

This is our third and last heavy leaf session. We will rake and mulch at the playground/ parking lot, the Big Leaf Maple, behind the Parish Center and at the dumpsters. Bring rakes.



There are also shrubs and invasives to cut and litter to pick up. I will arrive by 9:30. Lunch at 12:30. Come late! Leave early!

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

## Liturgical Ministry Schedule Second Sunday in Advent

### Deacon or Lay President

8:30am Rose Hesselbrock  
Noon Deacon Greg McNabb

### Eucharistic Ministers

8:30am Kim Dawson, Marty Koenigs  
Noon Sue Jackels, James Willis

### Lectors

8:30am Carol Wood, Julie Barber  
Noon Malcolm Nelson, Carla Orlando

### Greeters

8:30am Bob Penhale, Evan Oakes  
Noon Chuck Jackels, Lucita & Jim Valiere

### Hospitality

8:30am Tim & Marie Allen  
Noon Patti James

Livestream Host 8:30am Mass Greg McNabb

Bread Baker Patrick King

## Christmas Mass Schedule

**Sunday, December 24th**

4th Sunday of Advent at St. Therese

8:30 am  
*note: no 12 pm Mass*

Christmas Eve Vigil, Children's at St. Therese

*caroling at 4 pm  
Mass at 4:30pm*

Christmas Eve at Night at Immaculate

*caroling at 8:30 pm  
Mass at 9 pm*

**Monday, December 25th**

Christmas Morning at St. Therese

*caroling and Mass 9 am*

Christmas Day at Immaculate

*Mass at 11:30 am*

Announcements for the combined Bulletin of Dec. 24 and Dec. 31 must be submitted to the Bulletin at [bulletin@st-therese.cc](mailto:bulletin@st-therese.cc) by Dec. 20. The next Bulletin will be for the week of Jan. 7, 2024.

## Tiny Home Project 2024



We have a January 29, 2024 date to volunteer in building another Tiny Home, and helping hands are welcome.

Contact Sam Lawrence

[sam.lawrence@cytoviva.com](mailto:sam.lawrence@cytoviva.com)

or Rosemary Adamski

[radamski22@gmail.com](mailto:radamski22@gmail.com) with your interest.

Barb Oliver, Director of Operations with Sound Foundations NW, will visit our community to speak about the Tiny Homes that are being built and shared in our City. Please plan to join us between the Masses on Sunday, January 7, 2024.

Thank you!

## YOUTH ADVENT PROJECT



Middle School and High School youth are invited to come together between masses from 10-11:30 on December 10 in the Parish Center to prepare for Advent through art, fellowship, and giving to others.



## An Advent Message from Fr. Woody

Dear friends,

Am I the only one who's looking forward to celebrating Advent? This year, because Christmas falls on a Monday, we will have the shortest Advent possible: three weeks plus about ½ of a day. (On Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, we will have morning Masses to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, then QUICKLY redecorate our churches in time for the first Christmas Mass, the Vigil, at 4:30 PM.) Advent is one of the richest, most beautiful seasons in our worship calendar, and it's the one that's hardest for folks who aren't steeped in Catholic sensibility and culture to understand and appreciate, especially here in North America. It's a season of joyful expectation and hope-filled WAITING as we prepare for the BEGINNING of the Christmas season at sundown on December 24<sup>th</sup>. Think of it as the darkness right before dawn, or like the gift-wrapped box sitting under your tree with a big "Do Not Open Until Christmas" sticker taunting and tantalizing you with expectant mystery. In some ways, it's the most Jewish season of our Catholic prayer life, as we pray with them in hope and longing for the coming of the Messiah. Most of all, and this is the hard part, it's decidedly and emphatically **NOT CHRISTMAS YET!** This is almost impossible to pull off when we're surrounded by institutions that don't have or celebrate Advent, and who therefore swamp the entire season with a premature celebration of Christmas. (Christmas-themed decorations and music everywhere, Christmas specials on radio and TV, office and home Christmas parties, and even Christmas-themed programming in other churches, even, I'm embarrassed to acknowledge, some "Catholic" institutions. It's as if even WE don't understand or embrace the spirit of Advent!)

I'm not just on a rant here. There ARE some things we can do to try to build up, nurture and sustain an Advent spirit in our lives and homes. Home Advent wreaths are a great place to start. They make fabulous dinner-table centerpieces, and can serve as the focus for family prayer during this holy season. A home Advent wreath doesn't have to be very complicated. Just set a few evergreen twigs or branches in the middle of your table, more-or-less in a circle, and set 4 pillar candles around that circle. They don't even HAVE to be purple. If you do this, then it's pretty simple to light the appropriate number of candles on that wreath during December on those likely-rare occasions when your whole family is gathered for a meal, as a seasonally special way of praying before meals. Another custom I saw down at my Catholic parish school in Vancouver was called "straws in the manger". A simple crib-like basket is set in your living room or den. Throughout Advent, family members, especially little ones, can write an act of kindness or prayer or service down on a narrow strip of yellow paper, then lay it in the basket when it's accomplished. The idea is that the baby Jesus is on the way, and we want to make his manger bed soft and comfortable for him in time for Christmas by filling it up with "straw".

I'm pretty hard core about Advent. It really IS my favorite season of the Church year. So . . . I'd like to ask you in advance for your understanding when I turn down most of the invitations I get to come and participate in "Christmas" events that happen DURING Advent. In December, my whole spiritual life revolves around WAITING for Christmas, so if I choose to avoid your concert, party or other "Christmas" stuff during December, try to remember that I still love you, and we can get together some other time.

Peace, with love,  
(Fr.) Woody

## Monthly Financial Statement for St. Therese Parish

	July thru October' 23	July thru October' 22
Collections and Gifts Income	\$128,500	\$116,100
Net Income	(\$ 42,000)	(\$ 51,300)
Savings Reserve	\$ 81,300	\$ 85,500

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

#### ANOTHER WONDERFUL CONCERT- THANK YOU SHADES OF PRAISE

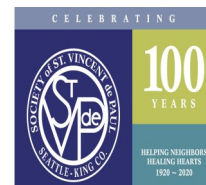
Kent Stevenson, Michael Allen, the Choir and Musicians presented a beautiful blend of spiritual and Christmas classics to a spirited clapping and singing full church last Sunday afternoon. A special feature was a tribute to several past and present choir members. The concert was just another example of how music from our Shades of Praise, and also Spirit Choir, creates an atmosphere of spiritual joy and generosity.

Congratulations Parish, with special donations from our great school STCA, the concert also gave us the largest donations of the year for the Food Bank at St. Mary's.

If you would like to continue to assist us, especially in helping with rents to avoid homelessness, you can do so by contributing, at the north and south entrances of the church and on our collection day, the third Sunday of the month. You can also donate by mailing your gift to St. Therese Parish, 3416 E. Marion St., Seattle, WA 98122 or online via the parish website [www.st-therese.cc](http://www.st-therese.cc) where you will find specific information about donating to the conference. For food donations which continue to be important, please see below. For help for your family or friends as noted above please call 206-767-6449.

God Bless and We Will Be There.

Robert Mackin [rmackinatty@yahoo.com](mailto:rmackinatty@yahoo.com)



#### Drop OFF TIME FOR SVdP FOOD DONATIONS

The pickup of nonperishable food every Sunday is at 1:00pm for food donations left outside the church after 8:30am that morning. All food should be left at the south entrance of the church for St. Mary's Food Bank.



#### Food Bank Delivery Volunteers Needed

The Food Bank at St. Mary's is always in need of volunteers to help deliver groceries to people who are not mobile enough to come to the Food Bank themselves. St. Therese delivers bags of groceries to about 30 people at 4 locations each Thursday morning from 9-11 a.m. If you are seeking an opportunity to help those in need and are available during our delivery window, please contact Rose Hesselbrock at [rose.hesselbrock@gmail.com](mailto:rose.hesselbrock@gmail.com) to sign up for training and to be added to the schedule. Most volunteers are only scheduled once a month so the time commitment is very manageable. We look forward to having you join our delivery team!



*Welcome St. Therese seniors to  
the*

Wise Ones'  
*Annual Holiday Tea*

Friday, December 15, 2023  
12:00noon to 3:00PM

At the  
*St. Therese Parish Center*  
3416 E. Marion St.  
Seattle, WA 98122

*RSVP:* Space limited, please reply by  
December 11, 2023.

Deborah Tinsley

[dmt0343@yahoo.com](mailto:dmt0343@yahoo.com)

Text or voice mail (206) 909-1727



# PARISH STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE.



Stewardship asks that we help each other recognize the gifts God has blessed us with and the ways in which we have been blessed through the gifts of others. And then return those gifts with increase to further the mission of our Church.

## How to Make Your Electronic Pledge

Updating Your Pledge for 2024: (Due by Jan. 1).

Please go to the PushPay app on your mobile device and choose St. Therese. Click on "recurring" and "edit." Also please update your "payment method" if needed.

## Become a New Giver Online

The quickest method is to use the PushPay app on your mobile device. Go to the app and choose St. Therese. Click on "recurring," "edit," and enter your "payment method."

You should have received a letter from Fr. Woody and a pledge card. Please return it in the mail or pledge on line. Thank you for your support of St. Therese!



## TAKE A STEP IN YOUR PLEDGE PARISH STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE.

### Stewardship Campaign 2024 Pledge Update:

Our goal is 103 participating households. As of 12/06/2023, we have received 84 pledges (82%). We have a goal of \$300,000. Pledges so far are at \$248,268 received (82%).

Thank you for your support of the 2024 Stewardship of Treasure campaign. Even if you are making a recurring gift, we ask you to please submit your pledge for next year. If you have not done so already, please send in your pledge card, use the QR code, or click on this [link](#) to open the Stewardship of Treasure form.

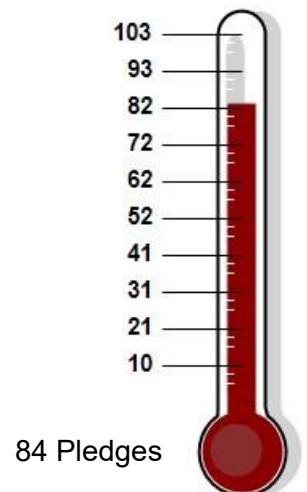
#### **List of those who have pledged through 11/30/23**

Tim & Marie Allen  
Julie Barber  
Robert Beers  
Yvonne Brandon  
Patrick & Julie Callahan  
Ernest Chatters  
Pat Cleary  
David Coffey  
Mary Lou Colasurdo  
Ayanna Colman  
Troy Courage  
Delores Davis  
Cheri Davis court  
Caitlin Day  
Eleana Del Rio  
Sharon Dobie  
Veronica Doyle  
Steve & Mary Elayne Dunphy  
Gary & Dinah  
Michele Edwards  
Molly Elberier  
Jai-Anana Elliott  
Tyra Elliott  
Terry Gallagher  
Cedra Garcia  
Vicky Ann Garner  
Elise Hebert  
Tom & Rose Hesselbrock  
Melva Hill  
Donald Hopps & Pam Piering  
Susan & Charles Jackels  
Martin & Patricia James  
Drucilla Keenan  
Patrick & Christine King  
Marty & Susan Koenigs  
Bernard Koontz & Amy Postel  
Louise LaDay  
Timothy & Susan Lavin  
Leo & Esperanza Lazo

Mercy Lazo  
John Lewis  
Ernie & Jenny Lobo  
Omar Lopez  
Meg Lucia  
Charles Manca  
Kathleen Manca  
Joe Martin  
Loretta McIver  
Deacon Greg & Joan McNabb  
David Mead  
Gary Melonson  
Roger & Josie Morales  
Marian Mullally  
Evan Oakes & Jinna Kim  
Robert Penhale  
Kit & Gina Purdy  
Chuck Ralston  
Kathleen Randall  
Susan Roberts  
Mat & Amy Rudolf  
John Russell & Ann Kuder  
Sarah Sausner  
John Searce & Nancy Buckland  
Gail Scott  
Michael & Melinda Sechrist  
Jerry & Darlene Stanton  
Alec & Helena Stephens  
Tina Stewart  
Dave & Jen Tawatao  
Jesse Thompson  
& Nicole St. Hilaire  
Regina Thornton  
Jim & Lucita Valiere  
Eric & Sharon Wilcox  
Randall Winter &  
Rosemary Adamski  
Sheila Wyckoff-Dickey  
Jim Yearby



Parish percent  
of Participation





# CCS/CHS 2023 APPEAL FOR THE POOR



**THANK YOU**  
**TO PARISHES AND SUPPORTERS WHO**  
**SHARE THE LIGHT OF HOPE**  
**WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NEIGHBORS SERVED**  
**BY 190 CCS/CHS PROGRAMS IN**  
**WESTERN WASHINGTON**

## 2023 CCS/CHS KING COUNTY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ This fall, CCS/CHS opened **St. Margaret's Place** in Shoreline, 100 new units of Permanent Supportive Housing with 24/7 onsite case-management services for residents transitioning from chronic homelessness to life in the community.
- ★ At our Federal Way and Kent Day Centers, the **Engage Health** program now addresses the crucial health needs of people living unsheltered in South King County thanks to a new partnership with Harborview Medical Center and Seattle/King County Public Health agencies.
- ★ In King County, **Volunteer (Chore) Services (VS)** volunteers provide more than 1,000 hours of service every month to low-income older adults and adults living with disabilities who need a little help from others to remain safe and independent in their own homes. VS coordinators do thorough background checks and interviews to ensure good partners for our vulnerable neighbors.
- ★ The **Kinship Program** will serve approximately 300 kinship families (family members raising family members) this year, with nearly 200 families receiving financial assistance with rent, utilities, and basic needs. Kinship caregivers offer children the chance to stay connected with their family, culture, neighborhood, and school in a home where they are loved and wanted.
- ★ **Junction Point** shelter moved to a 49-unit Pallet Shelter in North Seattle, offering safe, non-congregate shelter to individuals and couples over 50 years of age experiencing homelessness. Services include electricity, hot meals, showers, laundry facilities, and housing case management.
- ★ **KC Housing and Essential Needs (HEN)** program provides rent and utility assistance, hygiene and cleaning supplies, and ORCA Lift cards to 2,000 adults unable to work due to disability.
- ★ KC opened its new **Transportation and Essential Needs (TEN)** program, in Phoenix House (the former Lazarus Center) on Rainier Avenue, providing services that include ORCA Lift cards and essential needs for 1200+ low-income adults with disabilities.
- ★ **New Bethlehem Shelter and Day Programs** offer transitional housing and other services to families experiencing homelessness on the East Side. Last year, New Beth welcomed 56 families to their transitional shelter, and 38 are now in their own homes.
- ★ The **Josephinum**, CCS/CHS most extensive low-income housing program, welcomed guests from the Seattle Archdiocese and Providence Healthcare for Days of Caring, structured immersion experiences designed to bring staff into the worlds of the people we serve.



**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES**  
**CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES**  
OF WESTERN WASHINGTON  
CCSWW.ORG



### **Parol Workshop is Back!**

The Joint Simbang Gabi Committees of St. Therese and St. Joseph Parishes will be hosting a parol workshop this Sunday, **Dec. 10th** in between the Masses from 9:30am-11:30 in the social hall at St. Therese. Filipino *parols* (star lanterns) symbolize the victory of light over darkness, as well as hope and goodwill. In the Philippines, they can be seen hanging on windows of houses and along streets during the Advent and Christmas season to symbolize that they are waiting for the arrival of the Baby Jesus. At St. Therese, parols have been a part of our Simbang Gabi celebrations since 1998.

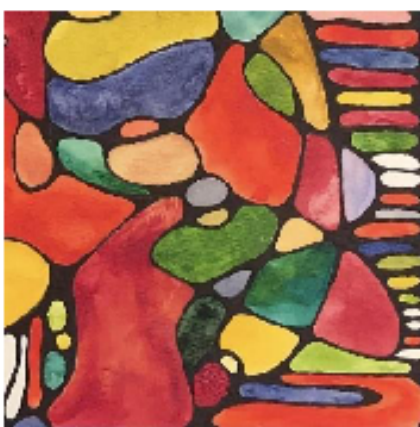
All are welcome – grown ups and kids alike – to come and make your own unique parol. Supplies will be provided, and friendly folks from both committees will be there to help and coach! Free will donation of \$5.00 is encouraged.

### **Simbang Gabi at St. Therese!**

Come one, come all! The joint committees of St. Therese and St. Joseph Parishes are excited to announce that we are celebrating the Simbang Gabi on **Saturday, December 16, at 4:00pm**. This Mass will be livestreamed. Please go to the link on the St. Therese web page to view the event. We hope you can join us for this significant and cherished Filipino tradition in anticipation of the birth of Jesus! We welcome our sisters and brothers from St. Mary, St. Joseph and St. Patrick parishes to this joint Advent celebration!

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Early Christmas tradition. It is a series of nine dawn Masses on the days leading up to Christmas. It begins on December 16th and ends at midnight on the 24th of December, when a Midnight Mass is held.

There will be a *sa/o sa/o* (Tagalog for reception) in the Social Hall at St. Therese following the Mass. Please bring a dessert to share.



# Silence and Voice:

*a gentle evening of creative expression, silent reflection, and conversation*

Tuesday, December 12, 6:30-9PM

St Therese Parish, Seattle

Facilitator: Cézanne Hardy

*Sponsored by Women Companions of Color & the Ignatian Spirituality Center.*

*Freewill offering. Space is limited. Please register by December 6<sup>th</sup> at <http://bit.ly/silencevoice1212>*

*Email questions to Carla Orlando at [carla@ignatiancenter.org](mailto:carla@ignatiancenter.org)*

*Cézanne is a certified Spiritual Director, Advance Practice Board Certified Chaplain, visual artist, educator, and member of St Therese Parish and Shades of Praise Choir.*

*Expressive arts, trauma-informed care, and transformational healing guide her work to inspire mind, body, soul, and spirit integration.*

*"...You use works of art to see your soul." George Bernard Shaw*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Women Companions of Color are ignited by the Spirit to offer a ministry model of shared leadership, compassionate witness and welcome to nontraditional voices and cultures, and facilitated community building experiences for all.*







# ST. THERESE CATHOLIC ACADEMY

*IGNITING FAITH, MINDS & DREAMS SINCE 1927*

## Reflection from the Principal

Advent Greetings, St. Therese Family! During this season of Advent, we are called to be people of HOPE, LOVE, JOY, and PEACE. These four weeks of preparation for Christmas – the coming of our God into our world – are a time to truly reflect on who we are, why we're here, and what we are called to do with the gift of our lives at this time and in this place in history.

As I reflect on the hope of this season, I can't help but think about the hope that our children bring to us this time of year. Their zeal for Christmas is captured in songs, letters, and wishes for this season of giving. As an educator, it can be a challenging time coming off the Thanksgiving Break and knowing there are only a few short weeks before Christmas arrives and another two week break emerges – children know it, teachers know it, and parents know it, so the dynamic is real, but the opportunities to share our faith and share the hope that this season invites us to are nothing short of abundant. As our days get shorter and nights longer, it can be challenging to be people of hope and light this time of year, but that is our call, and we are called to be light and hope for others.

We pray that we may pay close attention to our children this Advent season, that we may see the hope, love, joy, and peace flowing from them and welcome it into our hearts to share with the world. God chose to break into the world as a humble, poor, and innocent child – and this revolutionary act by our God altered the course of history forever, sparking a movement that has become our faith and produces extraordinary acts of love and generosity. Join us as we journey together through the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- Mr. Malcolm X. Nelson

## Welcoming Advent December 1st

## Book Fair Extended Hours

The school would love to keep the book fair in the library open on Sunday, December 10, between Masses, for the parish community to stop by and participate.

Malcom Nelson and Megan McMahon are more than happy to run the fair after both Mass times for an hour! 25% of sales from the book fair goes back directly to STCA.

We look forward to seeing you there.  
Megan McMahon  
STCA Librarian

..... ● ST. THERESE CATHOLIC ACADEMY ● .....

# WINTER BOOK FAIR

Find Your Next Great Read

**2023**

**December 4-8**

**STCA Library**

Save the date and explore what is to come! on our web page

[www.scholastic.com/bf/therese](http://www.scholastic.com/bf/therese) 🌐