



F I R S T

SUNDAY

of **ADVENT**



*St. Theresa*

MEMORIAL PARK

*all are welcome.*

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016

The Church begins its new liturgical year with a season of hope. Advent time, when we look forward to the celebration of the birth of the world's Savior, has produced liturgies filled with joy and expectation. Advent's liturgies also look forward to Christ's 'Second Coming', to gather all things into the final Kingdom of God. The liturgy nourishes our faith in the Lord, risen and triumphant. His birth, which we look forward to celebrating, will not take place again. We remember it as the dawning of the final moment of God's eternal plan, a dawning full of promise for the whole of creation. This fundamental theme of Christian faith and hope - encouraging us to look forward to a 'new heaven and new earth' - has been obscured in recent centuries. For sincere believers, expectation of 'the end of the world' should convey far more than the uneasiness and dread it so often arouses.

The readings of today's liturgy show us something of the development of this theme in the faith of God's people. It is a reassuring message, indeed, for a people whose history had been presided over by rulers who were for the most part corrupt and selfish. We see this prophecy being fulfilled in the gospel reading from Luke. Jesus - knowing that that the final moment of God's designs for creation had come - made use in his teaching of the symbolic imagery of the prophets and the current ('apocalyptic') literature. But he also introduced a startling new dimension to these expectations by uniting them with the coming the 'Son of Man' foretold in the Book of Daniel - 'coming with power and great glory' to establish God's eternal reign. The first Christians, who recognized Jesus as the 'Son of Man' who had been foretold, and lived in wonder at what God had done in the Lord's Paschal Mystery, faced a perplexing question. They rejoiced that old Israel's hopes had been so wonderfully fulfilled in the coming of the Son of God and his victory over all evil. But what were they to make of the fact that the world seemed to go on as before? It is not surprising that they saw themselves living in brief time of waiting before the Risen Lord returned to inaugurate God's 'new heaven and new earth'. The Thessalonians to whom Paul is writing a friendly letter - the earliest Christian writing we possess, written about twenty years after the Resurrection - were wrestling with this problem. They looked forward, in the near future, to 'the Lord Jesus Christ coming with all his saints'; but, as the letter makes clear, they were confused as they tried to anticipate how this will happen (see 4:13-18; 5:1-11). Paul himself was still coming to terms with the problem we have described. His message to them, however, is reassuring and meaningful, even today: Trust in the Lord, as it becomes clear how this final moment of God's plan is to unfold; remember the gospel teaching of Jesus - be alert and prepared; above all, prepare for what lies ahead by living according to the Lord's commandment of love: 'Love one another, and the whole human race, as much as I love you'.

-by John Thornhill, SM

## Online Giving

Online Giving is an easy and flexible way to manage your donations to *St. Theresa* to make one-time or recurrent donations.

There are several ways to access our online giving page:

1

Download a free **QR code** reader to your phone such as “QR Scanner, QR Code Reader, Scan Barcode Pro” and scan the image on the right:



2

You can also go directly on your smart phone or tablet to:  
[www.sttheresa.cc/give](http://www.sttheresa.cc/give)

3

Use our electronic kiosk located in the Church Narthex, and swipe your credit or debit card directly.

4

Desktop users can login to our website [www.sttheresa.cc](http://www.sttheresa.cc), click on the “Giving” button on the top green navigation bar and select “Donations”.

### *St. Theresa Women's Club* Seafarer Box Drive

The Women's Club is asking for donations for their annual Seafarer Box Drive. Items are wrapped in shoe boxes and given to seamen who are visiting the Port of Houston through the Houston Seafarer's Center during Christmas.

Here are some suggestions of what to donate (travel size items are best):

- Band-Aids
- Q-Tips
- Toothbrush/Toothpaste
- Dental Floss
- Comb
- Lotion/Lip Balm
- Deoderant
- Shaving Cream
- Shampoo/Soap
- Disposable Razors
- Nail Clippers
- Socks
- T-Shirts
- Baseball Caps
- Needle & Thread
- Pens/Pencils
- Postcards/Paper
- Stamps
- Playing Cards
- Gum/Wrapped Hard Candy

Donations may be placed in the designated box found in the church.

For more information, contact Cristela Vera @ [myvera@hotmail.com](mailto:myvera@hotmail.com).

# Archdiocesan Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Sunday, December 11th, 2016

10 am Procession—1700 San Jacinto to Convention Center  
5 pm Mass—Archbishop Daniel Cardinal DiNardo presiding at  
George R. Brown Convention Center

## Archdiocesan Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe

All the faithful are invited to the Archdiocesan Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sunday, December 11th, 2016 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in downtown Houston.

It begins at 10 am with a procession from 1700 San Jacinto St. to the Convention Center with “matachines” and singing.

The Holy Mass will be celebrated at 5 pm presided by His Eminence Archbishop Daniel Cardinal DiNardo.

Please, make plans to join us at this grand celebration.

For more information call Pablo Guzman, 713-294-1022 or email [pablo123@yahoo.com](mailto:pablo123@yahoo.com)

## MISA GUADALUPANA



MISA DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE



MASS OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE — *PATRONESS OF THE AMERICAS*  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

MARIACHIS—6AM

SANTA MISA—7AM

ESTÁN CORDIALMENTE INVITADOS A FORMAR PARTE DE LA FESTIVIDAD A NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE. LA CELEBRACIÓN EMPEZARÁ DESDE EL SABADO, 3 DE DICIEMBRE, CON UNA NOVENA EN SU HONOR. NOS ESTAREMOS REUNIENDO EN LA IGLESIA A LAS 7 PM PARA REZAR CON DEVOCIÓN.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE. THE CELEBRATION BEGINS ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, AND CONTINUES EACH EVENING WITH A NOVENA IN HER HONOR.

WE WILL MEET IN THE CHURCH AT 7 PM TO PRAY THIS DEVOTION.



It is that time of the year for our annual Giving Tree! The Christmas tree in the Narthex is covered in ornaments that each include an invitation to give a particular gift to a person in need. We ask that you return the gifts unwrapped by the date determined on the ornament.

Through your generous donations, we are able to help the following charities:

**Magnificat House** offers help and hope to Houston's neediest by providing housing, food, meaningful work, spiritual and emotional support, while our residents of all races and creeds rebuild their lives in our community.

**Casa de Esperanza de los Niños**, the House of Hope for Children, is a safe place for children in crisis due to abuse, neglect or the effects of HIV. Casa de Esperanza provides residential care, and coordinates medical and psychological services according to the needs of each child.

The mission of the **Christian Community Service Center (CCSC)** is to serve the poor, hungry, disabled, and otherwise needy while respecting their religious, ethnic or cultural differences. CCSC was created out of faith, and founded in the belief that we are called to help all God's children heart to heart and hand in hand.

At **Catholic Charities**, their goal is to provide life-changing services that lead to productive, fulfilling and independent lives. Every day our impact is felt when the basic needs of the disadvantaged are met, when a mentor inspires a child to succeed against obstacles, and when a community comes together for the common good.

**Casa Juan Diego** was founded in 1980, following the Catholic Worker model of Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin, to serve immigrants and refugees and the poor. From one small house it has grown to ten houses. Casa Juan Diego publishes a newspaper, the *Houston Catholic Worker*, six times a year to share the values of the Catholic Worker movement and the stories of the immigrants and refugees uprooted by the realities of the global economy.

## Service to Others



The Faith Formation Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st Grade and 2nd Grade students participated in the Mitzvah/Mercy Day of Service making holiday cards for the military and birthday bags for Casa Esperanza.



*Our altar flowers this weekend were donated  
by Tony & Michele Catanese.*



**December 2**  
Cypresswood Golf Course

[www.StTheresa.cc/Golf](http://www.StTheresa.cc/Golf)



## News & Upcoming Events from around the Archdiocese

### Dec. 2

**Viking Cup Golf Tournament**  
Registration begins at 9 am with a  
shotgun start at 10:30 am

Join us at Cypresswood Golf Course,  
breakfast will be provided by Kolache  
Shoppe and lunch by El Tiempo  
Cantina. All proceeds will benefit  
St. Theresa Catholic School.

To register and more information  
please visit:  
[www.StTheresa.cc/Golf](http://www.StTheresa.cc/Golf).

### Dec. 6

**Overcome Pornography and Rebuild a  
Healthy Life**  
7:00 pm—8:30 pm

Examine your struggle with  
pornography, its deeper causes and the  
pathways out in this confidential  
program. Peter Hits guides attendee's  
in understanding triggers to relapse,  
obstacles of long term success and  
rebuilding a healthy life.

Contact Peter for more information:  
[peter@landmeetssky.com](mailto:peter@landmeetssky.com).

### Dec. 8

**Discover the Road Less Traveled**  
6:30 pm—9:30 pm

A monthly discernment gathering at St.  
Mary's Seminary for single young adult  
men ages 18 and older. Meets every  
month from Sept. to May. Join priests  
and seminarians for fellowship,  
prayer, music, dinner and talks about  
discernment process for priesthood and  
religious life. 9845 Memorial Dr,  
Houston, TX 77024.

Free event. For more information:  
[www.houstonvocation.com/discover](http://www.houstonvocation.com/discover).

### Dec. 8

**Women Seeking the  
Road Less Traveled**  
6:00 pm—9:00 pm

A monthly discernment gathering for  
women ages 18 and older who are  
discerning a vocation to religious life.  
Meet in different convents around the  
Archdiocese every second Thursday of  
the month from September to May.

Program includes supper, a brief  
presentation and time for sharing,  
followed by prayer. Sisters from several  
religious order who live and minister in  
the Archdiocese will be  
present. Free event.

For more information and registration  
visit: [www.houstonvocation.com/women-  
seeking](http://www.houstonvocation.com/women-seeking).

### Dec. 10

**A Cardinal's Christmas**  
12 noon—1:30 pm

*A Cardinal's Christmas*, at River Oaks Country Club  
(1600 River Oaks Blvd., Houston). 8th annual event where  
Daniel Cardinal DiNardo welcomes faith and family with children  
in this Christmas tradition that benefits Catholic Charities' children and family  
services and St. Michael's Home for Children.

For more information visit:  
[catholiccharities.org/acc](http://catholiccharities.org/acc).



# St. Theresa Catholic School

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or contact Kelly McCarty, Director of Admissions at [k.mccarty@sttheresa.cc](mailto:k.mccarty@sttheresa.cc)

## Helpful Numbers

### **Houston Police**

For Emergency/Life Threatening Calls:  
911

Non-Emergency Calls: 713- 884-3131  
[www.houstonpolice.org](http://www.houstonpolice.org)

### **Domestic Violence**

The Bridge Over Troubled Waters  
24 Hour Hotline: 713-473-2801  
[www.thebridgeovertroubledwaters.org](http://www.thebridgeovertroubledwaters.org)

### **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)**

713-661-4200  
[www.na.org](http://www.na.org)

### **Sex Addicts Anonymous (SAA)**

713- 405-1142  
[www.houstonsaa.org](http://www.houstonsaa.org)

### **Counseling (Grief, Family, etc.)**

Catholic Charities:  
713-526-4611  
[www.catholiccharities.org](http://www.catholiccharities.org)

### **Families of Addicts**

Al-Anon Family Groups  
713-683-7227  
[www.al-anon.alateen.org](http://www.al-anon.alateen.org)

### **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)**

713-686-6300  
[www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org)

### **Overeaters Anonymous (OA)**

713-973-6633  
[www.oahouston.org](http://www.oahouston.org)





**kw MEMORIAL**  
KELLER WILLIAMS, REALTY

**Joe Cano, Realtor**

950 Corbindale Rd., Ste. 100  
Houston, TX 77024  
m: 281-785-5132 o: 713-461-9393  
e: joe.cano@kw.com



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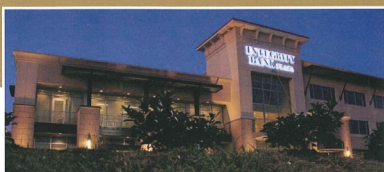
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Valerie Hernandez at [v.hernandez@sttheresa.cc](mailto:v.hernandez@sttheresa.cc)**

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## **Sacraments**

### **Baptism**

Contact Ginger Tamborello or visit our website for more information.

### **Confirmation**

Contact Deandra Mackey or visit our website for more information.

### **First Communion & Reconciliation**

Contact Deandra Mackey or visit our website for more information.

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday  
4 pm-5 pm  
Thursday  
5:30 pm-6:15 pm

### **Matrimony**

### **Application for Annulment**

Contact Patrick Miral or visit our website for more information.

## The Week Ahead...

### TODAY Sunday, November 27

8:00 am Mass  
10:00 am Mass  
10:00 am School Spirit Sunday  
11:15 am Sunday by Sunday, Brides Room  
11:30 am Spanish Mass  
5:30 pm Mass

### Monday, November 28

7:00 am Mass  
6:30 pm Meditation Prayer Group, Mary Chapel  
7:00 pm Book Club, Brides Room

### Tuesday, November 29

7:00 am Mass  
7:30 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
6:00 pm Cubs, Board Room

### Wednesday, November 30

7:00 am Mass  
6:30 pm Women's Encounter, FH Lounge  
7:00 pm Spanish Prayer Group, Brides Room  
7:00 pm Legión de María, Sacristy  
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, Church Choir Loft  
8:15 pm Men's AA, Fellowship Hall

### Thursday, December 1

7:00 am Mass  
7:30 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
5:30 pm Reconciliation & Mass  
6:00 pm 1st Reconciliation Meeting, Fellowship Hall  
7:30 pm Men's Encounter, Board Room

### Friday, December 2

6:45 am Rosary for Peace and Respect for Life  
7:00 am Mass

### Saturday, December 3

2:00 pm American Legion, Fellowship Hall  
4:00 pm Reconciliation  
5:30 pm Mass

### Sunday, December 4

8:00 am Mass  
8:30 am RCIA, Church Office  
10:00 am Mass  
11:15 am Marriage Orientation, Library  
11:15 am Sunday by Sunday, Bride's Room  
11:30 am Spanish Mass  
5:00 pm HS Faith Formation, Church Office  
5:30 pm Mass

**Rosary for Peace and  
Respect for Life**  
**Dec 2—Bob Shanley**  
**Dec 9 & Dec 16—Richard Flores**

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, November 26

5:30 PM Nunzie & Jeanette Loria †  
Lena Dichero †  
Dewey Leonard Coles, Jr. †  
Jack Chapman Minter †

### Sunday, November 27

8:00 AM Frank Dailing †  
10:00 AM Pro-Populo (Parishioners)  
11:30 AM All Souls Legion de Maria †  
Eva Villalobos †  
5:30 PM Josephine Carbone †

### Monday, November 28

7:00 AM Michelle Marks †

### Tuesday, November 29

7:00 AM Anthony & Natalie Adams †  
Louis & Joseph Adams †  
Dorothea Kristoff †

### Wednesday, November 30

7:00 AM Maria Tran Cuc †  
8:05 AM All Souls

### Thursday, December 1

7:00 AM Tony Goulden †  
6:30 PM Special Intention

### Friday, December 2

7:00 AM Josephine Carbone †  
Frances Seeberger †

### Saturday, December 3

5:30 PM Rose Ragusa †

### Sunday, December 4

8:00 AM Frank Dailing †  
10:00 AM Pro-Populo (Parishioners)  
11:30 AM Stevenson Family  
Mulvihill Family  
5:30 PM Rufina Collazo †

### **Next Week's Reader and EMHC Schedule**

#### **Saturday, December 3**

**5:30 pm (Team 4)**

Peg Patrick

Roy Hughes

#### **Sunday, December 4**

**8:00 am (Team 2)**

Cristela Flores

Richard Flores

**10:00 am (Team 1)**

Pete Musgrove

Katie Wilson

**5:30 pm (Team 1)**

Kirk Gentle

Austin Muck

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Deacon Bill Wilson  
[deaconbillwilson@gmail.com](mailto:deaconbillwilson@gmail.com)

Deacon Juan de Dios Perez

SCHOOL STAFF

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Early Childhood Center Director

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Receptionist/Clerical Assistant

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Bulletin/Clerical

Valerie Hernandez, ext. 307  
[v.hernandez@sttheresa.cc](mailto:v.hernandez@sttheresa.cc)

Maintenance Supervisor

Andras Bandi, ext. 302  
[andras.bandi@sttheresa.cc](mailto:andras.bandi@sttheresa.cc)

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am,  
11:30 am (*Spanish*), 5:30 pm

**Daily Mass:** Monday through Friday at 7 am,  
Thursday at 6:30 pm