



*From the bright court of heaven,
O Lord[God the Father],
send Jesus into our lands. Amen.*

-Qui regis sceptrum, Chant for the Advent Season,
translated by James Monti



St. Theresa
MEMORIAL PARK

all are welcome

ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

DECEMBER 15, 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A TIME FOR LONGING



Advent is a time of longing. It is a time to recognize that in all our hopes and dreams we are reaching out for the “one who is to come.” To use the words of St. Augustine, Advent is a time to “exercise our desire” for God.

In this Sunday’s Gospel, John the Baptist and his disciples express their longing for a Messiah when they ask Jesus if he is the “one who is to come”. How does Jesus respond? He simply recounts to them what they have seen. The sick are healed, the blind are given their sight, and the poor have the Good News preached to them. Jesus was the one Isaiah had foretold would come and the one John had prepared the way for. He was the one who would bring an eternal kingdom.

Over 2,000 years after the birth of Jesus, many in our world still await a Messiah. They are imprisoned in ignorance, abusive situations, poverty, or their own sinful choices. They are looking to us to answer this question for them: “Is Jesus the one we are waiting for? Is Jesus the one who can save us?”

How are we to answer them? What can we point to in our lives to show that God is at work in the world, freeing us from sin, changing lives, and bringing peace?

They know that the world cannot offer them what they truly desire, but they are also not yet convinced that Jesus is the answer. They want to see what difference a life lived in relationship with God makes. Will they be able to see that by looking at us?

Each of us, through Baptism and Confirmation, has received the Holy Spirit. This same Spirit empowered Jesus to preach the Good News to the poor and to perform miracles. This same Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. Because the Holy Spirit dwells within us, Jesus can say in today's Gospel that the least in his kingdom is greater than John the Baptist. John the Baptist probably never understood that Jesus would die for his sins. He never read the New Testament. He never received the Eucharist as we do. And so, we have a power at work in our lives that even he could not understand.

Like the priests, prophets, and kings of the Old Testament, we have received an anointing. It is now time for us to put that power of God to work serving others so that the world can see for itself what difference a life lived for Jesus makes. Only by seeing our lives transformed by the peace which only God can give will the world come to know that Jesus alone provides the answers that the people of today are seeking.

Where do we begin? We begin right here and right now with the people around us. It is by showing kindness every day to the people we bump into that the transformation can start. If I can hold a door open for someone or say a kind word to a teenager, then I will have an open heart for the beggar who asks me for change or the hitchhiker who needs a lift to the gas station. Our acts of mercy will leave people wondering what motivates us to be so kind. Through our goodness, they will come to know Jesus who is the source of all goodness. And knowing him, they will have grasped the answer to the longing of their hearts.

Douglas Sousa, S.T.L.

Sousa, Douglas "Connect! Sunday Reflection: A Time for Longing." *LPi*, 15 Dec. 2019 .



Holiday Mass Schedule

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

Christmas Eve (Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord)

5:30 p.m. Mass

9:15 p.m. Live Nativity and Carols

10:00 p.m. Mass

Wednesday, December 25, 2019

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

10:00 a.m. Mass

Saturday, December 28, 2019

Vigil of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 29, 2019

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass

12:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish) | 5:30 p.m. Mass

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

12:10 p.m. Mass

Sunday, January 5, 2020

The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass

12:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish) | 5:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday, January 12, 2020

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Mass | 10:00 a.m. Mass

12:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish) | 5:30 p.m. Mass

Church Office

Closed from Monday, December 23rd to Thursday, January 2nd.

Returning to the regular schedule on Friday, Jan. 3, 2020.



SIGN UP TO GIVE A RECURRING GIFT ONLINE!

If you have already signed up to give a recurring gift online, thank you.
If not, please sign up today. Your participation in supporting our ministries matters!

1 Visit www.sttheresa.cc and click **Online Giving.**

2 Select the collection of your choice.

3 Set up your donation amount, payment type, and frequency.

Once your account information is added, donations will automatically deduct from your account. It's that easy!



QUESTIONS? Contact the parish office or WeShare support at
(800) 950-9952, *Select Option 1* **HOURS: 7:00am-7:00pm (Mon-Fri)**

Parish Monthly Financial Information

November Weekly Collections Total	\$113,641
Monthly Goal	\$126,795
Online Giving Included in Total	\$48,700
Online Participants	214

Diocesan Services Fund (as of 12/9/19)

2019 Parish Goal	\$117,000
Total Amount Pledged	\$162,584
Total Amount Paid	\$158,721
Participants	288

Capital Campaign (as of 12/9/19)

Campaign Goal	\$14,100,000
Total Amount Pledged	\$11,640,798
Total Amount Received	\$9,094,168
Participants	797

As we approach Christmas and in the spirit of giving we would like to thank you for your continuous support. We are also thankful for those who have increased their stewardship donations which help with the shortfall. Your ongoing support is needed to help our parish ministries flourish. Please prayerfully assess your stewardship participation.

If you are transitioning to electronic recurring giving or would like to increase your electronic contributions, we can help. Please call **713-869-3783** or email **Suzi Tuety** to s.tuety@sttheresa.cc

CHILDCARE SERVICE DURING MASS

(6 weeks old to 4-year-olds)

Please visit: www.sttheresa.cc/sunday-child-care

Service is provided for the
10:00 a.m. Mass.

For more information please
contact: **Melanie Leadingham**
at
melanie.leadingham@sttheresa.cc
or call
713-869-3783.



Did you know the Flower Guild does not have a budget?

Flowers for the altar entirely
depend on the sponsorship
from your dedications.

Schedule a dedication today!

Please place your request **two
weeks in advance** of your
dedication date.

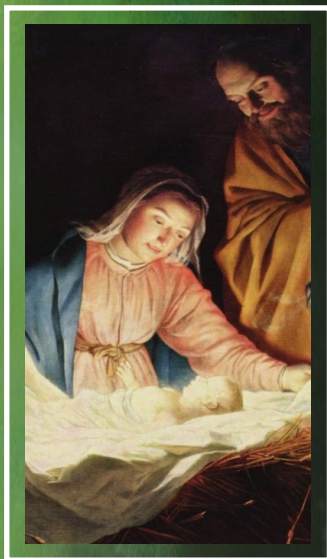
For more information
please contact
Mary-Ann Virgilio at
maryann.virgilio@sttheresa.cc
or
call **713-869-3783.**

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Christ is Born

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH
7:15 - 8:00 PM
IN THE CHURCH**

**Join members of the
St Theresa Praise Team for
an evening of Christmas
carols in both traditional and
contemporary settings
accompanied by readings
and reflections centered
around the birth of Jesus.**



ST. THERESA CHURCH LIBRARY MINISTRY

**The library is not just a place, it is also a ministry that
requires dedicated volunteers with a heart for people,
not just a love of reading. Please consider dedicating a couple
of hours a week organizing the Fellowship Hall library for all
our parishioners our ministries, and groups.**

**Please contact Veronica Benitez at v.benitez@sttheresa.cc or
713-869-3783 ext. 1809.**

Precautions during Flu Season

It is prudent to be careful so that we don't accidentally spread sickness to others especially during the crowded Christmas season. These are cautions that you can take during this time:



- 1.** Vaccinating anyone in the home who has not been vaccinated;
- 2.** Being careful and cautious about active coughing when it comes to public gatherings; and
- 3.** If you have sick relatives at home or have been around sick people consider voluntarily abstaining from receiving communion from the chalice.



St. Theresa
MEMORIAL PARK

SCRIPTURE
STORY
&
MUSIC

THE NATIVITY LIVE

JOIN US ON
CHRISTMAS EVE
AT 9:15 P.M.

AN HOUR BEFORE OUR
10:00 P.M. MASS

BE SURE TO GET HERE EARLY FOR A GOOD SPOT!

A JOINT PRODUCTION
BY ST. THERESA'S
YOUTH MINISTRY &
MUSIC MINISTRY



FRIDAY
APRIL 24, 2020
OMNI HOUSTON HOTEL

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promo code **TENOFF**.

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ST. THERESA'S YOUTH MINISTRY PRESENTS

THE

Flower Power

RAFFLE 2019-2020
IT'S WINNER TAKE ALL!

New Iphone 11 Pro Max
New Apple Watch Series 5
Ipad Pro | Apple Pencil
Apple HomePod | Apple TV 4K
Beats Powerbeats Wireless Headphones

**Tickets on Sale Every Weekend in the Narthex
and Every Week in the Office!**

Casa Juan Diego

NEEDS PANTRY ITEMS:

- sugar
- coffee
- canned tomatoes
- size 4-6 children's diapers
- Cooking oil
- maseca
- rice
- pinto beans

Please bring all donations to the church office
713-869-3783

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES COMMITTEE



**Come and join us this
Wednesday,
December 18th,
in the Blue Room
at 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.**
For more information, please
contact **Larry Payne**
at **LJPayne06@aol.com**

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

"For I was ill and you cared for me".
-Matthew 25-36

If you would like to serve in this
ministry, or if you would like
someone to bring
Holy Communion to you,
please contact the Church Office
at 713-869-3783 or
Kelly Glanding Woelfel at
kelly.glandingwoelfel@gmail.com.



St. Theresa 8th Graders Present Parents Day Out!

When: Saturday, December 21, 2019
12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Where: St. Theresa Fellowship Hall
Why: Fundraising event for 2020
Class trip to Washington D.C.



- DETAILS -

8th grade students and their CMG (formally Virtus) trained parents will
provide care and supervision for your child(ren).
Activities and snacks will be provided.
A donation of \$40.00 per child, plus \$10.00 for each additional child
from the same family, is suggested.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Congratulations to our candidates and catechumens as they participated in the Rite of Welcome.

They are on their journey to becoming Catholic.

Katy Blackwell

Ryan Blalock

Daphnee and Valentin Chandor

Julia Desideno

Lionel Flores

Jordan Francis

Paul Lee

Liza Chapman

Debbie Lopez

Jose Penalzoa

Taryn Roberts

Malorie Salem

Elizabeth Stauffer

Manuel Villegas

Zachary Wolfe



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) Christmas Availability

Please scan the code below or go to bit.ly/stcc-xmas-em to indicate which Christmas Mass you are going to attend.

Please look for the Christmas EMHC schedule that I will send out in the coming week.

God bless you.

John Knowles

Director of Liturgy

713-869-3783 ext. 1812

j.knowles@sttheresa.cc



Gracias a todos nuestros feligreses, voluntarios y visitantes que llenaron de amor a nuestra comunidad al celebrar el aniversario de la aparición de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe a San Juan Diego. Gracias a todas las personas que ayudaron con las oraciones, la procesión por el campus, los mariachis, la comida, las bebidas, las decoraciones, la limpieza y el compañerismo.

Esperamos verlos en nuestro próximo desayuno mexicano, el cual patrocina las fes-



Bondad. Verdad. Belleza **Presenta:** **Siete Pecados Capitaes, Siete Virtudes Vivaces**

Comience el viaje del pecado a la santidad

con el programa del Obispo Barron.
Este programa usa recursos para revisar en su casa antes de cada sesión y el grupo se reúne una vez por semana para discutir cada tema. Las reuniones son los martes en el cuarto azul de 7:00 p.m. a 8:30 p.m. durante 9 semanas en las fechas que se encuentran a mano derecha.

***Puede todavía registrarse a este curso.**
Aproveche la oportunidad de recibir las palabras del Obispo Barron para crecer en la fé.

Registro y material por todo el curso: \$10.

Para registrarse o para más información por favor contacte a **Veronica Benitez al 713-869-3783 ext. 1809**

2019
Dic. 17

2020
Ene. 7 Feb. 4
Ene. 14 Feb. 11
Ene. 21 Feb. 18
Ene. 28

Horario de Misas **(en inglés)**

Nochebuena
5:30 p.m. y
10:00 p.m.

Navidad
10:00 a.m.

CONFESIONES



Las confesiones en español serán el segundo domingo de cada mes antes y/o después de la misa de español de las 12:00 p.m. con el padre Davila.

PARISH AND SCHOOL DIRECTORY

www.StTheresa.cc

www.facebook.com/StTheresaMemorialPark

6622 Haskell, Houston, TX 77007

Phone: 713-869-3783 Fax: 713-869-3784

Pastor: Fr. Phil Lloyd, ext. 1803 britishbulldog@sttheresa.cc

Deacon Larry Vaclavik,
deaconlarry@sttheresa.cc

Deacon Dwight Coles,
deacondwight@sttheresa.cc

Deacon Juan de Dios Perez
juandedios0308@yahoo.com

Receptionist/Clerical Assistant, Parish

Deandra Mackey, ext. 1801
d.mackey@sttheresa.cc

Mary Ann Virgilio, ext. 1802
maryann.virgilio@sttheresa.cc

Parish Manager

Enrique Benitez, ext. 1804
e.benitez@sttheresa.cc

Capital Campaign

Johanna Bransford, ext. 1805
j.bransford@sttheresa.cc

Development Director

Cynthia Garza, ext. 1810
cynthia.garza@sttheresa.cc

Accounting

Patrick Flaherty, ext. 1806
p.flaherty@sttheresa.cc
Jeanette B. Deciderio, ext. 1807
j.deciderio@sttheresa.cc
Tedd Archabal ext. 1820
t.archabal@sttheresa.cc

Pastoral Associate

Matrimony/Annulment App./Funerals
Patrick Miral, ext. 1811
p.miral@sttheresa.cc

Director of Liturgy

John Knowles, ext. 1812
j.knowles@sttheresa.cc

Director of Adult Education / Hospitality

Ginger Tamborello, ext. 1815
g.tamborello@sttheresa.cc

Faith Formation

Janice Berger, ext. 1816
j.berger@sttheresa.cc

Youth Ministry

Joseph Blanco, ext. 1813
j.blanco@sttheresa.cc

Community Engagement

Larry Payne

ljpayne06@aol.com

Director of Maintenance

Andras Bandi, ext. 1814
andras.bandi@sttheresa.cc

Director of Technology

Zach Wilson ext. 1715
zach.wilson@sttheresa.cc

10:00 a.m. Mass Choir Director

Stephen Schad

s.schad@sttheresa.cc

Bulletin Info and Sacramental Records

Veronica Benitez ext. 1809
v.benitez@sttheresa.cc

St. Theresa School

[www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/StTheresaCatholicSchool)

StTheresaCatholicSchool

Principal—Melissa Iliski

melissa.ilski@sttheresa.cc

Director of Admissions, School & ECC

Kelly McCarty, ext. 1706

k.mccarty@sttheresa.cc

School Accountant

Kathy Wedgeworth, ext. 1705
kathy.wedgeworth@sttheresa.cc

School Administrative Assistant

Rhonda Lastovica, ext. 1704
r.lastovica@sttheresa.cc

Early Childhood Center

www.facebook.com/sttheresaecc

Director—Melanie Leadingham, ext. 1817

melanie.leadingham@sttheresa.cc

Director of Admissions, School & ECC

Kelly McCarty, ext. 1706

k.mccarty@sttheresa.cc

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, December 15

Second Collection: St. Theresa School

8:00 am Mass, *Church*

8:30 am RCIA, *Office*

10:00 am Mass, *Church*

11:00 am Pictures with Santa, *Gym*

11:15 am Sunday by Sunday, **CR*

12:00 pm Spanish Mass, *Church*

5:30 pm Mass, *Church*

Monday, December 16

7:00 am Mass, *Church*

6:30 pm Meditation Group, *Office*

7:00 pm Grupo de Oración, **CR*

Tuesday, December 17

7:00 am Mass, *Church*

7:30 am-10:00 pm Adoration, *Chapel*

7:00 pm Obispo Barron Session I, Blue Room

Wednesday, December 18

7:00 am Communion Service, *Church*

6:00 pm Bishop Barron Session, *Office*

6:00 pm Contemporary Issues Committee,

Blue Room

6:30 pm 10 a.m.-Choir, *Church*

7:00 pm Legión de María, **CR*

8:15 pm Men's AA, *Blue Room*

Thursday, December 19

6:30 am Women's AA, *Office*

7:00 am Communion Service *Church*

7:30 am-10:00 pm Adoration, *Chapel*

5:30 pm-6:15 pm Reconciliation, *Narthex*

6:30 pm Mass, *Church*

6:30 pm Women's Group, **CR*

7:00 pm AA, *Blue Room*

7:30 pm Men's Encounter, **CR*

7:30 pm Praise and Worship, *Church*

Friday, December 20

6:45 am Rosary for Peace, *Church*

7:00 am Communion Service, *Church*

5:00 pm Advent Lock In, **FH and Red Room*

6:00 pm Spanish Class, *Office*

Saturday, December 21

12:00 pm Rosary, *Chapel*

12:00 pm Parents Day Out, **FH*

3:30 pm-4:30 pm Reconciliation, *Narthex*

5:00 pm Mass, *Church*

* **CR: Conference Room**

* **FH: Fellowship Hall**

* Blue Room classroom next to the Fellowship Hall

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers for the altar entirely depend on the sponsorship from your dedications.

Schedule a dedication today!

For more information

please contact Mary-Ann Virgilio at

maryann.virgilio@sttheresa.cc or

call 713-869-3783.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 14

5:00 PM Wil Dalferes †

Lana Marie Eakin †

Leonard Clarence Bryan Jr. †

Lisa Russo †

Sunday, December 15

8:00 AM Father Phil (L)

Pamela Slade †

10:00 AM Pro-Populo (Parishioners)

12:00 PM All Souls

5:30 PM Jody Tusa †

Teresa Vale De Moreno †

Monday, December 16

7:00 AM Hazel, Harold, Eve, Deborah &

William Vicknair (L)

Maria David †

Raul Caffesse (L)

Tuesday, December 17

7:00 AM Phillip & Christine Tusa †

All Priests & Religious Leaders (L)

Wednesday, December 18

7:00 AM Communion Service

Thursday, December 19

7:00 AM Communion Service

6:30 PM Tony Sustaita †

Anthony & Natalie Adams †

Joseph & Louis Kristoff †

Dorothea Kristoff †

Michelle Marks †

Friday, December 20

7:00 AM Communion Service

Saturday, December 21

5:00 PM Nunzie & Jeanette Loria †

Wil Dalferes †

Maggie Majewski †

Maria Lynes †

Fred Lero †

Sunday, December 22

8:00 AM Father Ryan Stawaisz (L)

10:00 AM Pro-Populo (Parishioners)

12:00 PM All Souls

5:30 PM Fr. Juan Carlos "Juancho"

Castaneda Rojas, SCJ †

Teresa Vale De Moreno †

Maria Cristina Telleria †

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS AND WEBSITES

HOUSTON POLICE: 911
HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
NON-EMERGENCY CALLS:
713- 884-3131— www.houstonpolice.org
HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT: 311
NATIONAL EMERGENCY CHILD LOCATOR
CENTER: 1-866-908-9570
AMERICAN RED CROSS:
1-800-RED-CROSS
Volunteer at redcross.org.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:
The Bridge Over Troubled Waters
24 Hour Hotline: 713-473-2801
www.thebridgeovertroubledwaters.org
UNITED WAY OF GREATER HOUSTON: 211
Texas/United Way Helpline
Available 24/7
www.unitedwayhouston.org
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER:
713-961-3993 | www.ccschouston.org
NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
CENTER: 1-800-273-8255 | Available 24
hours everyday | Online Chat: [https://
suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat)
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (NA):
713-661-4200 — www.na.org
SEX ADDICTS ANONYMOUS (SAA):
713- 405-1142 — www.houstonaaa.org
COUNSELING (GRIEF, FAMILY, ETC.):
Catholic Charities | 713-526-4611
www.catholiccharities.org
FAMILIES OF ADDICTS:
Al-Anon Family Groups
713-683-7227
www.al-anon.alateen.org
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (AA):
713-686-6300 — www.aa.org
OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS (OA):
713-973-6633 — www.oahouston.org



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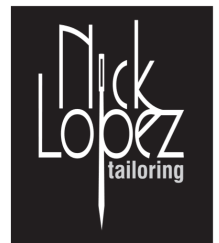
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