

ST. THERESA'S PARISH

St. Theresa Catholic Church invites all to follow Jesus Christ by celebrating the sacraments and building a community of compassion



**3939 S.W. 331st Street •
Federal Way, WA 98023
253-838-5924 / FAX 253-838-0300**
Website: sttheresafw.org
Archdiocese of Seattle - <http://www.seattlearch.org>
Vatican - <http://www.vatican.va>
National Conference of Bishops
<http://www.usccb.org>

**Linda DeMarce, Pastoral Coordinator
Fr. Jean Pierre Kasonga, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Gilberto Mora-Tapia, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Tom O'Loughlin**

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 PM (English), 7:00 PM (Spanish)
Sunday Masses: 8:30 & 11:00 AM
Weekdays/Holy Days: As Announced
Chapel is open from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM daily

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 PM (English); 6:00 pm Spanish
Weekdays: **5:30PM Wed, 8:30AM Thurs/Fri (English)**
Tuesday & Thursday 6:30PM (Spanish)

Pastoral Coordinator- Linda DeMarce Ext. 307
linda.DeMarce@sttheresafw.org
Fr. Jean Pierre Kasonga, Parochial Vicar Ext. 0
frjp.kasonga@sttheresafw.org
Fr. Gilberto Mora-Tapia, Parochial Vicar Ext. 308
frgiberto.moratapia@sttheresafw.org
Deacon Tom O'Loughlin
tom.oloughlin@sttheresafw.org
Faith Formation - Loreen Bell Ext. 304
Loreen.bell@sttheresafw.org
Hispanic Faith Formation - Jose Ramirez Ext. 315
jose.ramirez@sttheresafw.org
Finance - Chelsea Bjorkman Ext. 309
chelsea.bjorkman@sttheresafw.org
Music - Frank Lewis Ext. 400
Youth - Matt Bittle Ext. 314
Matt.Bittle@sttheresafw.org
Admin. Assistant - Nadia Melo Ext. 301
Nadia.Melo@sttheresafw.org
Custodian- Stephen Flavin

Consultative Structures Pastoral Council

Cynthia Kadoshima 253-927-8178

Finance Council

Brad Masterson (253) 927-4341

Christian Formation Commission

Mary Morrison (253) 927-6838

Faith in Action

Rita Keough (253) 344-1146

Spiritual Life & Worship

Deacon Tom O'Loughlin (253) 307-797

Sacrament of Baptism

If you are expecting a baby or have an infant to be baptized, contact Loreen Bell at (253) 838-5924, ext. 304 to make an appointment at least three months prior to the next scheduled session. Infant Baptism classes are held six times a year.

Marriage Preparation

For those who have not been married before, at least 6 months notice is required. For those who have been married, a longer period is required for annulment purposes.

Call Linda DeMarce, (253)838-5924, ext#307.

Committees

Christian Formation

Women's Fellowship	Stacey Sherburne	(206) 304-9617
Faith Sharing Comm.	Mary Ann Bartholomew	(253) 927-4527
RCIA	Loreen Bell	(253) 838-5924

Faith in Action

Eucharist For Sick	Bob Toohey	(206)-240-9351
Grief Ministry	Bernie Jacobs	(253) 927-2766
Fusion/ Joseph Foundation	Peggy LaPorte	(253) 927-1904
Sandwich Ministry	Laurie Fiorito	(206) 817-6327
Nativity House	Bill Michaud	(253) 719-8550
SVDP Assistance Line	St. Vincent de Paul	(206) 767-6449
SVDP Membership	Virginia/Joe Roni	(253) 838-8919
Prayer Line	Mary Schindler	(253) 952-8585

sttheresaprayertime@hotmail.com

Reach Out	Angela Watson	(910) 691-4606
Designs for Life	Diane Kellar	(253) 874-0537

Spiritual Life and Worship

Altar Servers	Patti White	(253) 678-7026
Altar Commission	Brenda Connors	(253) 334-7573
Art and Environment	Teresa Tillman	(253) 924-0729
Coffee and Donuts	Tom Smith	(253) 381-9314
Eucharistic Ministers	Liz McFarland	(253) 344-1058
	Vicky Parong	(253) 250-7158
Hospitality	Angel Quant	(253) 661-2355
Lectors	Cynthia Kadoshima	(253) 927-8178
	Ernest King	(253) 874-4045
Sacristans	Ron McNerney	(206) 478-2782

Other

Facility	Bob Dahl	(253)927-1907
Knights of Columbus	Ken Burns	(253)952-3713
Senior Group	Bernie Jacobs	(253)927-2766

Gethsemane Catholic Cemetery (253)927-3350

Fourth Sunday of Advent

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, December 23rd

- Masses 8:30 AM, 11 AM ; Flower/Decoration 2nd Collection (All Masses); Faith Formation (between the Masses)
- NO Faith Formation
- NO Life Teen

Monday, December 24th

****Parish Office Closed for the Christmas Holidays****

- Christmas Eve Masses 5PM (English), 7:30PM (English), 9:30PM (Spanish)

Tuesday, December 25th

MERRY CHRISTMAS

- ****Parish Office Closed for the Christmas Holidays****
- Christmas Day Mass 10 AM (English); No Spanish Mass, Fr. Gilberto is away on vacation

Wednesday, December 26th

****Parish Office Closed for the Christmas Holidays****

- NO Reconciliation 5:30pm; NO 6PM Mass (Fr. Gilberto, Fr. Jean Pierre, Linda away on vacation)
- NO Sandwich Drop 10AM-3PM (Parish Office)
- NO RCIA (English) 7PM (Parish Office)

Thursday, December 27th

****Parish Office Reopens****

- NO Sacrament of Reconciliation 8:30 AM (English) NO 9 AM Mass (English); NO Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:30PM (Spanish); NO 7PM Mass (Spanish); Sandwich Drop Off 8:30 AM -9:30 AM (Church)
- NO Choir Practice 7:30PM (8:30 English Choir); 8PM (Hispanic Choir); Prayer Group 8PM (Main Church)

Friday, December 28th

- NO Sacrament of Reconciliation 8:30 AM (English); NO 9 AM (English)
- NO Edge 6PM (Parish Hall)

Saturday, December 29th

- NO Reconciliation 4PM (English); 6PM (Spanish); Mass 5PM (English); 7PM (Spanish); Sandwich Drop Off 4PM-8PM (Church)
- NO Hispanic Faith Formation

Sunday, December 30th

- Masses 8:30 AM, 11 AM
- NO Faith Formation
- NO Life Teen

WEEKLY READINGS

- Monday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
- Tuesday:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
- Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
- Dawn:** s 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
- Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
- Wednesday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Friday:** 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
- Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
- Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Lk 2:41-52

December 23, 2018



FAITH FORMATION
*Children *** Adults** and Family ***

Children's Faith Formation

Dearest Parishioners,

The other weekend, as we were gathered with the children who are practicing for our children's program, I was struck by the beauty of these precious faces. There are many colors of the rainbow represented in our little choir, and it came so natural to them to talk and laugh and sing together, paying no mind to color or status, or any such thing. It was so beautiful in its simplicity. This is something that is right and true about our parish – that our children can come together and sing about Jesus, regardless of race and background. I hope that when you come to our program and hear them sing that it will be a lesson for us all – to cherish the dignity of each person we come across by simply being present to them. I wish all of you a beautiful Christmas season.

Loreen

PS: Don't forget to join us for our Children's Christmas concert at 4:30pm on December 24th! (right before mass)

Children's Faith Formation

Faith Formation Schedule for Advent and Christmas

- **December 23rd and 30th** there is NO Faith formation.
- Classes resume on **January 6th, 2019**

Sacramental Prep- Our next Sacrament Preparation class is on **Tuesday, Jan 15.**

Infant Baptism- Please contact Loreen for more information

ADULT Faith Formation

For Survivors of Abuse – The Maria Goretti Network offers support to survivors of any kind of abuse – physical, sexual, emotional or verbal from every walk of life. It is A peer to peer support group for women and men focusing on healing and forgiveness in Jesus Christ, through the intercession of its Patroness, St. Maria Goretti. For information on monthly meetings please e-mail Debbie@mgoretti.org or 253-307-4526



YOUTH MINISTRY

Edge: Edge will resume **Friday, January 4th, 6 - 8 P.M.**

Life Teen: Life Teen will resume **Sunday, January 6th, 3:30 - 5:30 P.M.**

Confirmation: Class 4 will be on **Sunday, January 6th, immediately following Life Teen.**

Sacramental Prep: Our next class will be on **Sunday, January 13th, 9:45 - 10:45, at the parish office.**





Your SVDP Food Bank is in need of canned meats of all kinds.

Your St. Vincent de Paul Society in Action

Sharing the Hope of Christ. A home visit during Advent is a time to deepen our participation in the presence of the Divine being, born into the world right now. During December two of our Vincentians made a home visit to a family of five, a single mother with four boys, ranging in ages from 12 years old to one month. The mother was on maternity leave without pay, and as a result was not able to pay her rent for December. During their visit, our Vincentians also learned that due to a lack of funds the children would not be able to receive gifts for Christmas. When they shared with the mother that they could bring her a Christmas basket of food and gifts for all the children, she radiated with joy. It is due to your generosity that your St. Vincent de Paul Society was able to help this family with their rent and give them a Christmas celebration.

Your donations of money as well as Giving Tree presents allowed us to help many other families in our community too. On behalf of the families we serve, "Thank you!"

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Next meetings: Wednesdays January 9th & 23rd
Narthex Room from 9:30am – 11:30 am**

All women are welcome to join us as we continue our study: "Philippians: A letter to Friends" by Loyola Press. We meet twice a month, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. We keep extra books, so drop in any time and join us for fellowship, scripture reflection & prayer. For any questions, call Stacey Sherburne at 206-304-9617.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**Meeting schedule: January 19th
February 2nd & 16th
March 2nd, 16th, 30th
April 13th & 27th**

**Where: Poverty Bay Cafe in Federal Way from
7:00 - 8:30 a.m.**

All men over 18 are welcome to join us. We are currently exploring the book of Acts in a casual fashion. Come join us for good food, fellowship, and a little learning.

If you have any questions please email or call Matt Bittle at matt.bittle@sttheresafw.org / 206-556-5038.

DESIGNS FOR LIFE

Designs for Life will meet **Wednesday, December 12th at noon in the parish office.** We will be finalizing things for the **December 14th** meeting at 9:00 am in the church where we will help wrap and distribute the gifts for the giving tree. Please join us either day or both if you can. If you have any medium size gift bags (12" tall or so) or tissue please leave them in our box or bring them along to either meeting. If you know someone in need or have questions please call **Diane Kellar (253) 874-0537** or email kellar@centurylink.net

KNIGHTS KNOTES



● **Sun Dec 23** - Seahawks Vs Kansas City Chiefs
5:20 PM

● **Sun Dec 30** - Seahawks Vs Arizona Cardinals
1:25 PM

● **Fri Jan 11** - Culture of Life Spaghetti Dinner 5 to 7 PM

● **Mon Jan 14** - Business Meeting 7:30 PM

● **Tues Jan 22** - Blood Drive 1 to 7PM

Coffee Hour, each Wednesday, 6:30 AM, Starbucks on Hoyt Rd

WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT



Thank you to all who contribute to the support of our Parish. A weekly goal of \$11,827 is needed to keep us on budget for the year

Sunday Collection Summary

Collection 12/9/2018	\$	18,403
Year to Date Actual	\$	249,134
Year to Date Budget	\$	283,848
Deficit	\$	34,714

*****Due to early sending of the bulletin, figures will not be updated until after the holidays*****

Consider EFT. Questions call Linda in the parish office (253) 838-5924, ext. 307

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

Campus Pointe Dental Care

Complete Dental Care for Children and Adults

Brian K. Filbert, DDS

253-838-5474

50+ CLUB

Friday, Jan 4th—First Friday Mass and Adoration with breakfast to follow at the Brown's Point Diner. Hope you can join us! Friday

Saturday Jan 19th- The First pot luck of the New Year. Mass at 5:00Pm pot luck after Mass. Please come and join us for fellowship and great food.

OUR SISTER PARISH—ST. VINCENT de PAUL

Mark your calendars! Fr. Tom Vandenberg will address *The Surprising Sacrament of Marriage* three Wednesday evenings beginning January 9th. What difference does the sacrament of marriage make? What makes it so valuable that the health of the Church depends on it.

AN INVITATION FROM OUR ART & ENVIRONMENT GROUP

We will begin decorating for our Christmas celebration on Dec 23rd at 1pm following the last Mass. We have a sign up sheet in the Narthex with specific tasks that we know will need to be done. You don't even have to be creative. You just have to be willing to give an hour or so to help us make our sacred space glitter for this special time. We invite families, teens, everyone. Please consider donating some of your time this year."

FROM THE DESK OF LINDA DEMARCEADVANCED NOTICE

Christmas Eve, December 24th—Masses will be at 5PM (English), 7:30PM (English), 9:30 PM (Spanish)

Christmas Day, December 25th—Mass will be at 10 AM (English). There will be no Spanish Mass on Christmas Day due to Father Gilberto being away on his normal vacation.

New Year's Day-Solemnity of Mary—January 1st— Mass at 10 AM (English). No Spanish Mass as Fr. Gilberto is away.

Parish Office Closures— The parish office will be closed on Monday, December 24th, Tuesday, December 25th, and Wednesday, December 26th. We will reopen on Thursday, December 27th. We will also be closed on Tuesday, January 1st, reopening on Wednesday, January 2nd. If there is an emergency such as a serious illness, or a death has occurred, please call 253-204-2335 and our after hours emergency line will be able to contact Linda. Please do not call this number for routine office matters, or for assistance from the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

If you are a baptized Catholic 19 years or older, who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, 1st Reconciliation, 1st Communion and wish to reaffirm your faith through preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact me at the parish office. An appointment will need to be made with me so that we can discuss your spiritual life and journey to this point. If you are interested, please contact me at linda.demarce@sttheresafw.org, or 253-838-5924, extension #307. Classes will begin Wednesday, January 16th at 6:30PM at the parish office.

JOSE RAMIREZ

Jose Ramirez who is our Hispanic Ministry Coordinator who has been with the parish for almost 5 years will be leaving the parish. Jose has been responsible for our Faith Formation for K-5th grade, RCIA (Adults and Children), and Sacramental Prep. We wish Jose well in his new journey, and thank him for all he has done for our Faith Formation Programs.

FAITH FORMATION POSITION OPEN

With Jose leaving, we are now seeking a 15-25 hour per week PA for Faith Formation for our Hispanic Community. Spanish speaking is a must. Must be certified in Faith Formation with a bachelor's degree preferred but not required. Must be well versed in Children's Faith Formation and Sacramental Prep. Well organized, able to communicate to a variety of people. If interested, please contact me at the parish office. Position is open until filled.

AWAY FROM THE PARISH

I will be away from the parish December 22th-January 2nd for winter break. However, I will be at the Christmas Eve Masses.

Fr. Jean Pierre will be away from the parish December 26th—December 4th for winter break.

Fr. Gilberto will be leaving for his month vacation to Columbia on December 26th. He will return on February 5th. In his absence, Fr. Bill Peterson and Fr. Steve Woodland will be filling in.



Our families at St. Theresa Parish have currently raised \$257,366 toward our goal of \$775,515 with 74 families committing. As you know, for every dollar raised, our parish will receive 15% back to the parish in a form of a parish share. Payments will begin on a quarterly basis to the parish for the parish share. -

We will be having Commitment Weekend on January 26th/27th at all Masses. A second follow up will be mailed prior to commitment weekend to all of those that have not yet made their financial commitment to the parish.

Thank you to all of you who have answered the invitation to give to this historic campaign! **With the Thanksgiving and the Christmas season approaching, now is a perfect time to consider participating in this campaign out of thanksgiving and gratitude for all that priests and women religious have given to the Church.** As your Pastoral Coordinator, I am asking that you give serious consideration to making a financial gift to this important effort. **EVERY** pledge is important and **EVERY** gift makes a difference.

*Yours in Christ,
Linda M. DeMarce*

If you would like more information or to make a gift, please visit the campaign website at calledtoserveaschrist.org.

TIME FOR PEACE AND JOY

Christmas time for us can be somewhat like children rehearsing for a school play. We all have roles, lines to say and activities to perform. On occasion, we may feel that we are only "play acting". The more things that we are doing to prepare for Christmas, the less personal they become. Sometimes, it takes a great effort to step back from the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparations to reach a personal space where we can be in tune with the true meaning of Christmas. The things that we are doing can be seen as the beautiful wrapping paper that goes around the gift of God's love for us. The wrapping paper is not more important than the gift! We learned this beautiful truth the first time we were introduced to the Christmas Story: Mary giving birth to her son, Jesus, in a stable with only Joseph present. Joseph and Mary did not become superstars, and Jesus was not born in a beautiful home. The simplicity of this story remains year after year. And, will be reenacted this Christmas Eve by the children of our Faith Formation program.

This season calls us to be grateful to God and generous to those around us. We do our best to shower our family and friends with gifts and expressions of love. But, the true meaning is to just love those that we are close to. That is all. As we enter into the time of Christmas and the birth of Jesus, may all of us be filled with the Peace and Joy of Christmas.

From all of us at St. Theresa Parish, we wish each of every one of you and your family the most blessed and happy Christmas Season filled with peace, love and joy. And, a prosperous and happy new year. We thank you all for being a part of our parish family, and for your continued support as we enter into 2019.

*Blessings to one and all,
Linda, Fr. Jean Pierre, Fr. Gilberto, Deacon Tom, Loreen, Matt, Chelsea, Nadia, Jose, Stephen, Pam, and Frank.*