**Mass Intentions**

***April 22, 2012 - Third Sunday of Easter***

**8:00A.M.** + Genevieve Vittori by Sons Bart, James, Louis & Families

**9:30A.M.** Speedy Recovery of Martin Feng by Andrew Feng

+ Wai Sun Lau by Gemma Wong

+ Yuke Sang Chan-Cheng by Lucy Wong & Family

***MON. April 23rd Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr***

**8:00A.M.** + Yuke Sang Chan-Cheng by Lucy Wong & Family

***TUE. April 24th Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr***

**8:00A.M.** Vocations to Priesthood and Religious Life

+ Yuke Sang Chan-Cheng by Lucy Wong & Family

***WED. April 25th Saint Mark, Evangelist***

**8:00 A.M.** + Arthur Eng by Patti Lee

**+** Yuke Sang Chan-Cheng by Lucy Wong & Family

+ Deceased Family Members of Dominic Barbaro

***THU. April 26th Easter Weekday***

**8:00 A.M.**  + Yuke Sang Chan-Cheng by Lucy Wong & Family

***FRI. April 27th Easter Weekday***

**8:00 A.M.** + Josephine Nudo by Son Tony

+ Yuke Sang Chan-Cheng by Lucy Wong & Family

***SAT. April 28th Saint Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr;***

***Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest***

**8:00 A.M.** + Yuke Sang Chan-Cheng by Lucy Wong & Family

+ Forgotten and Unknown Souls in Purgatory

**5:00 P.M.** Friends and Parishioners of St. Therese

+ Barry Yong by Mom June Moy

+ Ralph LoCoCo by SMI Club

+ Catherine Fratto by SMI Club

+ Mildred Urso by SMI Club

**From the Desk of Fr. Francis**

**Greetings of Christ’s Peace and Joy! Hope you all had a blessed week.**



**WELCOME**

We are very delighted that Br. Emmanuel is visiting our parish this Sunday. He is a member of the Taize community, France, which was founded by a young Swiss man named Roger Louis Schutz-Marsauche. Br. Roger traveled to France during World War II and opened a house in Taize to shelter refugees. In 1949, seven brothers committed to spending their lives together in celibacy and simplicity, and the community was founded. Shortly thereafter, the community's practices began to increase in popularity. Today, Taize prayer is known worldwide. “Taize has become synonymous with the style of prayer services that the community established, in which a group of people sing short songs over and over as a method of communing with God .” For more information on Taize, please visit: The Taize Community Website, <http://www.taize.fr/>

Br. Emmanuel and another brother of Taize are in Chicago to prepare for their upcoming “Pilgrimage of Trust in Chicago,” which will take place this May at DePaul University. A flyer is included in this bulletin. Today, Br. Emmanuel will offer a short presentation and a Taize prayer service from 12 noon to 1pm in our Church. Please plan to join this great opportunity of learning and experiencing more about Taize.

***Peace ~Fr. Francis***

***An Article From Cardinal George***

**In commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Vatican Council II, Cardinal George has planned to share six short articles on the Council with all parishes in the Archdiocese. The following is his first article.**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

This coming October 11, the Church will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the opening session of Vatican Council II.  This great Council was the most significant Catholic event of the last century, and its deliberations and decrees will continue to influence the Church, as have the acts of ecumenical councils before it.  The creed we say at Mass each Sunday, for example, comes from the earliest Councils of the Church in the fourth and fifth centuries.  Vatican II was the twenty first Ecumenical Council of the Catholic Church.

Why did Pope John XXIII call the Council?  In a letter dated December 25, 1961 (Humanae salutis), the Pope explained that he hoped the Council would change the relationship between the Church and the world.  He called the Council because the world of the twentieth century was so divided by racism, nationalism, communism, Nazism and wars and hatreds of all sorts that men and women had forgotten that the human race is a human family.  Who would tell the world that we are all brothers and sisters?  Pope John knew that the mission of the Catholic Church is to introduce the world to its savior in every age, and he believed that the unity of the Church should be a leaven to change the world.  The Second Vatican Council was called a pastoral council because its purpose was not to examine Church teaching directly but to see what could be changed in the Church in order to place her in better dialogue with a world headed for self-destruction.  The Council was missionary in its purpose; to save the world from itself, the Church would have to open dialogues on all fronts.

In order to enter into dialogue, elements of the Church’s life were examined and sometimes changed or adjusted.  The Council’s major documents examined the Church’s worship of God, the sources of God’s self-revelation, the nature of the Church herself and the Church in our times.  Each of these four topics will be discussed in future bulletin articles.  My hope is that recalling the purpose and the teaching of the Second Vatican Council will renew the sense of mission of the Archdiocese in the coming year.  We will continue to implement the Strategic Pastoral Plan for the Archdiocese and will do so now in light of the universal Church’s Year of Faith, recently called by Pope Benedict XVI, timed to begin on the very anniversary of the opening session of the Council.  May our hearts be opened anew as we commemorate this great event in the history of the Church.  God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, OMI

Archbishop of Chicago

**Easter 2012 Donations—Update: Total as of April 18, 2012: $16.474**

Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Briglio $25 Simon Dusan Condic $100

Mrs. Jack Lee $ 4 Raymond Lin $300

Pat Culen $10 Christian Shiu $100

Willis & Linda Weiler $50 David Wong & Sui Tse $50

Loose Cash $ 5

$644.00 (total of the above amounts) + $15,830(total reported in 4/15 bulletin) **= $16,474**

**♪♫ Choir Corner ♫♪**

**April 22, 2012 -- Third Sunday of Easter**

**PROCESSIONAL: #435 - SING TO THE MOUNTAINS**

**OFFERTORY: #430- I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES**

**COMMUNION: #828– I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE**

**RECESSIONAL: #434– THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE**



***News and Events***

**Finance Committee Meeting** will take place on Tuesday, April 24th at 7pm.

***“October Baby”*** *–* This PG-13 film offers an honest look at the ravages of abortion, a non-cynical view of college age chastity, an insider’s picture of real parental sacrifice, and a between the eyes depiction of the gut wrenching matter of **forgiveness**. It is a moving, powerful **celebration of life,** inspired by the true story of an abortion survivor, about how one should **care and love**. In support of the film’s life-affirming theme, the producers have assigned 10 percent of its profits to the Every Life Is Beautiful Fund. The money will be distributed to frontline organizations helping women facing crisis pregnancies, life-affirming adoption agencies and those caring for orphans. Movie trailer & previews at [OctoberBabyMovie.net](http://www.octoberbabymovie.net/); theaters list at [OctoberBabyMovie.net/theaterlist](http://www.octoberbabymovie.net/theaterlist).



***First Holy Communion***

**Please pray for the following children from our school and CCD program as they prepare to receive their First Communion on Sunday, May 6:**

**Armelle Balogun Gregory Kwan**

**Isabella Cabello Jodi Moy**

**Ethan Camacho Kaci Moy**

**Michael Costa Morgan Naylor**

**Solomon Duhon Tristan Novak**

**Maria Feng Alexis Ruelo**

**Kathryn Fong Leann Torrez**

**Ethan Gonzalez Andres Villalobos**

**Sunday, April 29th:**

**First Communion Rehearsal & Retreat for Communicants from 10:45am to 2:30 pm.**

**Sunday, May 6th:**

**There will be no Cantonese Mass.**

**First Holy Communion Mass at 9:30 am.**

**SMI May Crowning Mass at 11:30 am.**

**Catechist Needed!** The CCD program is looking for Catechists for the 2012-2013 school year.  If you are interested or know of anyone who would like to be a Catechist, please contact Christine Delfin, Darlene Chan, or any of our catechists.

**Prayers**

Please remember in your prayers, Mrs. Yuke Sang Chan-Cheng, mother of Lucy Wong who was buried this past Friday in our parish.

Congratulations to Cyrus Ho-Tin Lin, who is being baptized today!

**Annual Catholic Appeal Report**

Parish Name St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church  
Donor Count                   82  
2012 Goal                       $7817.64  
Amount Pledged             $6597.00  
Amount Paid                   $3817.00  
Balance Due:                  $2780.00

Thank you to all who contributed!

**Operation Rice Bowl Contributions**

St. Therese Church’s Rice Bowl collections totaled $603.52. The funds have been turned over to Catholic Relief Services. Thanks to everyone who contributed to make it a success!

***Hospitality Schedule for April 29, 2012***

**GREETERS: Carl DiFranco, Janet Fecteau, Jean Ng**

**RECEPTION VOLUNTEERS: Nancy, Eva Feng**

**Cause for Hope: *Forgiveness***



**Issue**:

The photo you see, taken by Massoud Hossaini, won the Pulitzer Prize for its harrowing depiction of a fear-stricken girl standing amidst the carnage perpetrated by a suicide bomber near a crowded shrine in Kabul, Afghanistan. In an act of senseless violence, this young girl's life was thrown into shambles. Wounded herself, along with her sisters, she continues to suffer from pain – both physically and emotionally – as she recalls the moment in which so many innocent lives were lost; among the dead: her own relatives (Bartlett, AFP). When asked about her feelings toward the bomber, she replied: “They did a bad thing. They should not have done it” (Bartlett, AFP). The name of this brave girl is Tarana Akbari. And our hearts go out to her, but still we wonder: will Tarana be able to forgive?

**Response**:

“They did a bad thing. They should not have done it.” Tarana’s gentle yet powerful words show great self-restraint and poise. Despite being harmed, despite being wounded, despite being devastated by the actions of an evildoer, Tarana nevertheless expresses a degree of pity towards the offender. Her words are limited to a simplistic view that the offender committed an unspeakable wrong. Yet she doesn’t go on to condemn or speak ill of him – which is often what we expect, especially in a world that generally clings to the adage of “an eye for an eye.” Of course, she could have said more, but perhaps hateful words wouldn’t bring her the closure and peace she ultimately desires. Last Sunday, we celebrated the Feast of Divine Mercy, and at the Contemporary Mass, Fr. Gerry Kelly made reference to the Auschwitz concentration camp commandant. During his homily, Fr. Kelly mentioned that, before the commandant was to be hung, he asked to receive reconciliation from a priest. Those who heard this request thought it was absurd. Why were they going to give such a horrible person – who committed and condoned so many monstrous acts – an opportunity to be pardoned? So, of course, they initially refused. However, after much persistence by the commandant, authorities finally decided to make contact with a priest. But to no surprise, even the priest, himself, didn’t want to hear the commandant’s confession. Yet after much prayer and reflection, especially on the Divine Mercy, the priest garnered up the courage to meet with the commandant and hear his confession. With this, Fr. Kelly reminds us that God’s mercy is truly abundant and unlimited. Although we will sometimes wrestle with the idea of forgiveness in our hearts – particularly whether one merits or deserves to be forgiven – we, ultimately, have to ask ourselves: do we want even the most wretched offenders to be forgiven? Fr. Kelly says, “Yes.” Because if God is willing to forgive someone like the commandant, then there’s definitely hope for my salvation and the salvation of the whole world! **- Christian Shiu**

***“I cannot punish even the greatest sinner if he makes an appeal to My compassion” (St. Faustina’s Diary*, 1146). “*No soul that has called upon My mercy has ever been disappointed” (Diary, 1541* *).***

**Weekly Offering:**

Collection for April 15, 2012

Sunday Envelopes $2,288

Sunday Loose $ 213 July 1-To-Present (Actual): $81,891

Total Collection $2,501 July1-To -Present (Budget): $79,950

Weekly Budget: $1,950 % of Budget Attained: 102%

Please consider giving one hour of your weekly salary as your contribution.

***May God bless your generosity! Thank You!***

***Pilgrimage Of Trust 2012***

# *We are Called to be Witnesses to Others about Jesus. Rejoice! He is Alive and Among Us!*

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# The word *witness* can be a little scary. Witnesses to an accident often have to see and talk about unpleasant or tragic happening. Serving as a witness in a court case can be intimidating as lawyers pose challenging questions and expect the full truth to be told. Even those who have given “witness talks” on a retreat or at the end of Mass would probably admit to some trepidation about speaking publicly about one’s faith and commitment to Christ.

# In today’s Gospel, Jesus calls those gathered around him *witnesses*. Imagine being that kind of witness—among the first people to experience Jesus after his resurrection. The Gospel first describes those gathered as startled, terrified, and doubting, but then later as incredulous with joy. Jesus showed them his wounds, ate in front of them, and explained the Scriptures to them. Perhaps the experience would have been slightly frightening at first, but imagine the exultation they felt as they witnessed Jesus real and alive among us. Quite a different experience than testifying as a court witness, for sure.

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# But though we weren’t among those privileged few, we still are witnesses to Jesus’ real presence alive among us today. Certainly we experience Jesus most profoundly in the Eucharist we celebrate together. But we also can recognize him when others reach out to touch our wounds or when forgiveness occurs between relatives or friends who have suffered a rift. He is present when we feed hungry people and give generously to those in much greater need than ourselves.

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# Jesus didn’t stop being real, alive, and present back in the times of the Gospel. He is present with us now — if we open our eyes to recognize him. Do we feel that same incredulous joy when we witness him in our midst? - Janel Esker

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# *Which Bible Stories are true?*

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# *It seems to me that Church teaching on biblical fundamentalism isn’t consistent. For example, the Church doesn’t teach that the world was created in seven days, but it does teach that the Last Supper happened exactly as written. How does the Church decide what in the Bible really happened and what is just a story?*

# *- Aidan*

# Dear Aidan,

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# The Catholic Church doesn’t divide the Bible into what “really happened” and what is “just a story.” We believe everything in the Bible is the inspired Word of God. And, as such, is all true.

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# The Bible isn’t only one book. It’s a *collection* of books written by different people in different times and with different purposes. Parts should be read like poetry, others like history, and others like the law. We don’t read, “Your teeth are like a flock of ewes to be shorn” (Song of Songs 4:2) the same way we read, “Be careful to observe my commandments. I am the Lord.” (Leviticus 22:31).

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# A Catholic study Bible will help you understand how the Church interprets the Bible. If your parish doesn’t have a Bible-study group, ask your pastor for one. Studying the Bible by yourself is a great thing, but you can learn even more through guided group discussion.

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# So no part of Scripture is “just a story.” It’s all the inspired Word of God, who reveals himself throughout the Bible in a variety of ways.

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# - Patrick Keyes, CSsR

**Please remember in your prayers those who are**

**ill, hospitalized, and homebound...**

Sarah Phillips Marie Balestri Carmella Scanlon

Natasha Chang Lucille Iasillo Carmen (Rails) Balestri

Baby Dominic Vittori Dominic Barbaro Winnie So

Barbara McElroy Barb Davis Rose Perez

Ramona Zavala Ken Barber Nicholas Tobar

Michael Howley Lauren Mandel Ruth Barone

Bernie Presto YoYo Damico Dolly Roti

Lina Andriacchi Baby Jessa Piotrowski Sister Noel Devine

Su Zhen Liao Fr. Walter Johnson, MM Michele Young

Sister Elizabeth Lee John Galvin Wu Wai Hing

Fr. Anthony Chen Barbara Maung Lan Ying Yee

Shirley A. Bills Roseann Gurgone Elaine Sin

If you wish to add a name or remove your name from this list, please call the parish office.

**“It is I Myself”**

Have you ever seen a “ghost?” We have seen movies like “Ghost Busters” or TV programs showing para- normal activity. Such things happen. Most of us will not experience these things. The disciples in our Sunday Gospel account, thought at first that they were seeing a ghost. They were “startled and terrified.” It is not the first time that they thought Jesus was a ghost. In the boat in the storm when Jesus comes walking on the water, they also thought at first that He was a ghost. There are many misconceptions around the mystery of the Incarnation (that Jesus is both human and divine, body and spirit). At the time of Jesus’ Resurrection and even today, there are many false stories told about Jesus being risen. An example is what the soldiers guarding the tomb were paid to say. ”His disciples came and secretly took the body away and said He was raised.”

So what do we believe? We hear St. Paul tell us in 1Cor:14-19, that “If there is no resurrection of the dead, Christ himself cannot have been raised, and if Christ has not been raised then our preaching is useless and your believing it is useless. For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins....” In today’s Gospel Jesus tells the disciples to touch him. He asked for something to eat and eats a piece of baked fish. As He says “a ghost does not have flesh and bones as I have.” He is Risen, alive in His resurrected Body, **NEVER TO DIE AGAIN. DEATH HAS NO POWER OVER HIM.**

Each time we profess the CREED we say, “We believe he rose again on the third day. We believe in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.” What Jesus has done we also will do. Our bodies will also come to life never to die again. We are “caught up” in the mystery of the Resurrection. **JESUS IS ALIVE!** Jesus has conquered death. **So Shall We! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**- Sr. Caritas**