

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 4, 2018

St. Therese Chinese Catholic Church and School Archdiocesan Center for Chinese Apostolate

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Young Adult Ministry:

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Religious Education Program: Mrs. Christine Delfin

RCIA: Mr. & Mrs. Perry & Rose Lau

Mandarin RCIA: Mrs. Joyce Hsieh

Spiritual Formation/Outreach:

Sr. Mary Caritas Wehrman

Parish Pastoral Council Co-Chairs

Mr. George Lee and Mrs. Sharon Wong

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A 2010-2011 National Blue Ribbon School

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Assistant Principal: Ms. Deborah Oi

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Director of Religious Education:

Mr. Thomas Howard

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Mass Schedule 彌撒時間

English Mass 英語彌撒

Daily Mass 平日彌撒:

Monday - Saturday at 8:00am 每日 上午八時

Sunday Mass 主日彌撒:

Saturday: 5:00pm 星期六 下午五時正

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am (Except 1st Sunday of the Month) 主日上午8:00 & 10:30 (首主日除外)

Cantonese 粵語:

1st Sunday of each month at 10:30am

每月第一主日 上午十時三十分

Indonesian 印尼語:

2nd Sunday of each month at 12:00 noon

每月第二主日 中午十二時

Mandarin 國語:

4th Sunday of each month at 12:00noon

每月第四主日 中午十二時

Sacraments

Baptisms: Parents and Godparents must attend a baptismal preparation session before a baptism will be scheduled.

Weddings: Church arrangements must be made at least six months in advance, before booking a reception hall.

Confessions: Saturdays, 4:30-5:00 pm or by appointment.

The **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** and **Communion Calls** are available to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

Please contact the church office for additional information.



From the Desk of Fr. Francis

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

Thanks

Thanks to all who participated in the Overseas Chinese Students Gathering and the Young Adults Game Night, and to all who helped to organize them. I attended both of the events and I know that all participants had fun getting to know Catholicism a little more and to socialize with each other.



2018 Annual Catholic Appeal—Commitment Weekend Homily - Cardinal Blase J. Cupich

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The gospel just proclaimed gives us a snapshot of a typical day in the public ministry of Jesus—He cures diseases, He casts out demons, He teaches, He goes off to pray. Notice that He stays in Simon Peter's house, is concerned about the people who live there and in response to hearing of her ailment, heals the mother-in-law of Peter. Saint Mark also tells us that, "The whole town was gathered at the door." The townspeople may not have fully known who Jesus was, but they did know that the hand of God worked in Him and through Him to bring healing and wholeness to everyone.

Today, the Church as the community of Jesus' disciples who responds to his call: **Come, Follow Me** continues His mission and ministry in our time and in the world where we live. He, the Risen One, continues to reach out to the poor and the afflicted through us, His disciples gathered together as Church. Through our hands and hearts, He brings healing and hope to homes and families, just as He did on that day He crossed the threshold of Peter's home.

That is the precise privilege that is ours as those who responded to His call **Come, Follow Me**. This means that we are not just followers, disciples, but missionary disciples, whom Jesus sends into the world to make Him present. For us to do this together as the Church of Chicago, we need the personal commitment of each person through prayerful support and financial contribution.



Friends, having just completed three years as your archbishop, I want to tell you that I love what I do, I love being in Chicago. Every day, I am inspired and encouraged by the talent, commitment, and generosity of people I meet in our parishes and agencies. Together, we are pioneering new ways to be missionary disciples of Jesus in a world that is so desperately in need of healing and hope. The renewed spirit of collaboration and cooperation taking place among the parishes in the process of Renew My Church is opening new possibilities to extend our reach and call people to faith, especially a new generation of young people.

More than ever, we are civic and social contributing to the good of society through our anti-violence initiatives, school choice for all parents, and our advocacy on behalf of human dignity from conception to natural death. We are redoubling our efforts to do even more and fulfill the call of Pope Francis to go to the margins of society and be a field hospital that brings the healing of Christ to a world in need of hope. All of this is possible because of the support we all give to the Annual Catholic Appeal.

You have come to Mass today, as you do other days, because Christ has touched your lives with hope and healing. He now asks you to share what you have received with others. That is why I am asking each of you on this Commitment Weekend to help once again in making the Annual Catholic Appeal a success. If we all do our part, inspired by gratitude for how Christ has changed our lives, we can continue his ministry and change the lives of others and our world. I need your help and I am grateful for your sacrifice.

Your pastor will now walk you through the partnership process of the Annual Catholic Appeal.

Peace ~ Fr. Francis

Hospitality Schedule for February 11, 2018:

GREETERS: Daniel Rak, Jen Sin, Tim Tie

RECEPTION: Ellen, Emily, Kim

Today's Liturgy - February 4, 2018

**Readings: GATHER 1105– 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time/B
Cantonese Mass - Chinese Hymnal**

PROCESSIONAL: #308 - 普天地頌揚上主 All the Earth

OFFERTORY: #210 – 上主萬有天主 Lord Almighty

COMMUNION: #442 - 耶穌臨我心中 Jesus, Enter My Heart

RECESSIONAL: #417 - 與基督同行 Walking with Jesus

News and Events

Blessing of the Throat takes place at the end of the masses today.

St. James Food Pantry

Volunteers are needed Saturday, Feb. 10th from 8:30am to 11:00am. Please consider sharing your time and talents to serve others and sign up at the church entrance table.

2017 Tax Letter for Church Donations

If you would like to have a 2017 donation letter for tax purposes, please contact the parish office.

Lenten Regulations

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. The special Paschal fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.

Ash Wednesday announcement from Archdiocese

This year, the largely secular celebration of Valentine's Day (Feb. 14th) coincides with Ash Wednesday and some have inquired if a dispensation from the obligations to fast and abstain from meat will be given.

Catholics throughout the world recognize Ash Wednesday as the solemn beginning of a period of prayerful reflection and penance, as is evident by the large number of church-goers on this day.

In view of the significance of Ash Wednesday the obligation of fast and abstinence must naturally be the priority in

the Catholic community. Valentine's Day can appropriately be celebrated the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, which also happens to be Mardi Gras, a traditionally festive time before beginning our Lenten observance.

SAVE THE DATE! Our Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

will be on Sunday, Feb. 25th. The regular 10:30am mass and the 12 noon Mandarin mass will be combined to a **10:00am Mass**. All are welcome!



Please pray for the following Mercy Hospital patients:

Viola, Trinetta, Cynthia, Shanta, Carolyn, Bill, Mary, Carolyn, William, River, Mildred, Tammy, Enriqueta, Juliana, Estella, Howard, Catherine, Julie, Mary, Carmen, Linda

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



A Prayer for "Renew My Church"

*Lord Jesus, you speak to us today,
as you spoke to holy men and women
who have gone before us.*

*In every age and in our own time,
you call to us and say: Renew My Church.
Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us,
and so enable us*

*to hear you clearly
to listen to each other attentively
to imagine our future boldly
to discern your direction wisely
to persevere in your holy will courageously
to stay together in charity
to surrender our own plans readily
to embrace the greater good
to hand on your gifts to future generations.*

*May we remain in the holy company of
the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and all the saints.
May their example and presence
inspire us with patient confidence
in the work of your grace.*

*We ask this of you who live and reign
with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen*

LEN  2018

Renew My Church

Ash Wednesday Feb. 14th (Fast and Abstinence)

Distribution of ashes at 8:00A.M Mass and 7:00P.M. Mass in Church

Stations of the Cross

Fridays at 7:00P.M. in Church; *NO FISH FRY this year!*

Holy Hour and Benediction

Takes place on 1st Friday of March (2) immediately following the Stations of the Cross

RCIA---the Rite of Election

*Sending Rite for Election will take place at the 10:30A.M. Mass on Feb. 18th.

*The Rite of Election will be on Feb. 18th, 2:30P.M. at Holy Name Cathedral.

First Sunday of Lent---Feb. 18th

*Parent Formation on *Eucharist* from 9A.M. to 10A.M. in the Community Room

***1st Parish Conversation on Renew My Church from 11:45am to 1:15pm in the Community Room. All are welcome!**

March 18th---2nd Parish Conversation on Renew My Church from 11:45am to 1:15pm in the Community Room. All are welcome!

CRS Rice Bowl

Distribution on Feb. 17th and 18th and Returning on March 17th and 18th, 24th and 25th

Lunar New Year Celebration

Sunday Feb. 25th, 10A.M. Mass

Service

We will help out at St. James Food Pantry on Saturday March 10th.

RCIA---Scrutiny Rites

will be celebrated on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent.

First Reconciliation

For School and R. E. students will take place on March 17th at 10:00A.M..

Parish Religious Program

Reconciliation will take place on Sunday, March 11th after the 10:30A.M. Mass.

Students will lead the 10:30A.M. Mass on Sunday March 18th.

Indonesian Mass

March 11th at noon

March Mandarin Retreat and Mass

On Saturday March 24th from 10am to 7pm; **NO Mandarin Mass on Sunday March 25th.**

Living Stations of the Cross by St. Therese School

Sunday March 25th at 12:30P.M. in Church

“Making Disciples, Building Communities, and Inspiring Witness.”

EUCHARIST: SOURCE AND SUMMIT

CATHOLIC FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN PREPARING FOR SACRAMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND.



What: Information on the sacrament of the Eucharist.

Where: St. Therese Parish Community Room
218 W. Alexander Ave.

When: Feb 18th, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Who: Religious Education, Parish, and School parents

A WORKSHOP LED BY THOMAS HOWARD, D.MIN

We invite you to stay for
10:30 Mass at St. Therese Church

Christmas Donations as of January 29, 2018

Thomas & Pauline Wong \$20

Grand Total as of January 29, 2018: \$29,799

Thank you to All who contributed!

Weekly Offering

Collection for January 28, 2018

Sunday Envelopes	\$1,252		
GiveCentral	287	July 1-To-Present (Actual):	\$60,962
Sunday Loose	346	July 1-To -Present (Budget):	\$66,000
<hr/> Total Collection	<hr/> \$1,885		

Weekly Budget: \$2,200 % of Budget Attained: 92%

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



Renew My Church: **Invitation to First Parish Session**

Jesus Christ calls us to constantly renew His Church. *Renew My Church* is the Archdiocese of Chicago's response to His call and our invitation for renewal.

Through a multitude of *Renew My Church* initiatives, the Archdiocese will re-commit our local Church to our gospel commission to make disciples, build vital communities of faith and inspire witness to bring the light and hope of Christ to a world in need.

Today, we face a trending crisis of faith. Fewer people than ever are connected with organized religion. Many who identify as Catholic do not attend weekly Mass. Overall, we see an increase in signs of a broken world. As a result of this crisis, we find ourselves with less people and financial resources for ministry. However, we are a strong and committed Church that will work together to overcome the challenges we face today and in the centuries to come.

One initiative of *Renew My Church* is focused on increasing the vitality of our local communities. Cardinal Cupich has asked our parish to come together with the other parishes in our grouping to start a process of reflection, discernment, and planning to consider how we can collaborate and combine resources so that we are better equipped to bring Jesus Christ to the world today.

Our journey from now through May will entail collaborating with our neighbors to:

- Assess current realities in our community,
- Understand the criteria and principles for our planning efforts,
- Discuss possible scenarios for how our grouping's parishes and schools could be structured in the future, and
- Compile our feedback to share with the Archdiocese as we move to the discernment and decision phase of this important process

We Invite You

As a first step, we invite you to join parish leadership for our first *Renew My Church* parish session **on Sunday Feb. 18th at 11:45am in the Community Room.**

During this session we will:

- Discuss *Renew My Church* and the process we are beginning together,
- Review important information and questions about our community such as the strengths and challenges that exist in our grouping, and
- Answer any questions you may have.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Let us hold each other and the other parish and school communities in our grouping in prayer as we enter this time of rededication to our faith in Jesus Christ and planning for the future.

Visit archchicago.org/renew to learn more.



Please remember in your prayers those who are ill, hospitalized, and homebound...

Lois Payton
Rosetta Roti
Katherine Culen
Amelia Lorraine Schroeder
Karl Schroeder
Phil Maraldi
Jerry Ecklund
Vincent Thome
Barbara McElroy
Ramona Zavala
Michael Howley
Betsy Young
Fr. Walter Johnson, MM
Rose Perez
Phyllis Robinson
Bai Xue
John Palenik
Luz Whitehead
Jade Yee
Anthony Scuito
Rev. Anthony Adducci
James Gemkow
Frank Karagianes

Gerard Phillips
Cita Orendain
Joey L.
Joel Rivers
Shane O'Connell
Nathaniel Hicks
Sr. Barbara Walenty
Nicholas Tobar
Sister Noel Devine
Ken Barber
Kay Siani
Ruth Barone
Joey Nardi
Richard Tobar
John Galvin
James Longo III
David Leung
Luke Williamson
Richard Shew
Brian Cook
Robert Cheong
Angelo Iasillo
Frank M. Nardi
Kim D'Amico

Anne Pataka
Cookie Jarzyna
Benjamin N. Lucas
Lai I Fan
Xue Ying Mou
Suzanne Lynch
Rosemary Moy
Joseph Rubin
Cecila Zastro
Soledad Magay
Dorothy Pascente
Mina Preysler Munoz
Mark Donato
James Rak
Lan Ying Yee
Ching Shiu Yau
Henry F. Wong
Matthew Mantia
Phyllis Centofanti
Susan Zibricky
Barbara Metzinger
Victor Roa
Gyna Gazzi

"Faithful to Jesus' Words" ~Sister Caritas

Sometimes the challenge of a job or ministry is to just keep doing it. We can do our jobs very well and we may find the work very interesting and fulfilling. The longer we do a job, sometimes the sameness of each day wears us down. We would wish for a change. Yet the important thing is to continue to do the job to the best of our ability and to do it every day. Those of us who have a job doing what we love, are lucky. In spite of everything, we are called to be faithful to what we are being paid to do.

In the Gospel today, we see Jesus in the early days of His ministry. He is preaching and healing and the crowds are starting to follow Him and seek His healing and listen to His preaching. Even in the story today Jesus goes off to pray and Peter comes seeking Him saying the people are looking for Him. Jesus knows where His strength lies. It is in doing the "will of my Father." His strength lies in prayer to His Father, communicating with His Father. We see that no matter how He is treated in His ministry whether He is scorned by the Scribes and Pharisees or followed everywhere by the sick, poor, and those seeking the Kingdom of God, Jesus is always true to His ministry. Jesus always seeks God's will, always does what He is here to do and in the end, gives His very life for our salvation and redemption. Jesus loves the people and cares for those who come to Him. He never sends them away without helping them and preaching to them. He had His enemies and opponents. The people crowded around Him. He was faithful to His call from the Father.

Because of our Baptism, we have also been given a call by God. We are called to preach the Word of God especially by the way we live. Even when we are treated as if no one wants to know Jesus, we are still called to imitate Jesus' fidelity to the mission. We, as the Catholic Community, are called to be witnesses to the Catholic faith especially among the people of Chinatown. We are called to copy the method of Jesus. He reached out with love, with compassion, with fidelity. We are called to pass on the value of knowing and following Jesus, of teaching His message. We are called to pass on our love for the Mass and the sacraments and to teach this and share it by our example and words to the younger people among us. As those who have gone ahead of us have done, so are we called to do. Be Jesus everyday wherever you are and whenever you can. The younger people among us are watching and waiting for us to be Jesus among them.

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