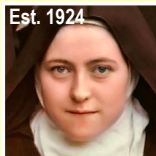


Est. 1924



# St. Therese Catholic Church



April 19, 2026 1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 (Office: 510 North El Molino Street) | (626) 282-2744 | [www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org](http://www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org)

“With (the breaking of the bread), their eyes were opened and they recognized Him, but He vanished from their sight” (Luke 24:31).



## MASSES | CONFESSIONS

**Masses: Saturdays:** 8:00 a.m. & Vigil at 5:00 p.m.

**Sundays** at 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

**And Traditional Latin High Mass at 1:00 p.m.**

**Monday-Friday Masses:** 6:00 & 8:00 a.m.

**Rosary:** Monday-Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass

**Monday and Tuesday evenings:** \*7:15 p.m. Mass  
(\*Monday evening Mass followed by Healing Service;  
Tuesday's 7:15 p.m. is in Spanish).

**Thursday evenings:** 7:00 pm Exposition & Adoration

**First Fridays:** 6:00 & 8:00 a.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Carmelite Nuns' Chapel: 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.

**CONFESSIONS:** Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.;

Saturdays from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and

Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

## OFFICE HOURS | CONTACTS

**Monday-Friday:** 9:00 am-1:00 pm | 2:00 pm-5:00 pm

**Pastor:** Fr. Peter Mary Vecellio, OCD: X 1+224

**Associate Pastors:** Fr. Robert Elias Barcelos, OCD

Fr. David Guzman, OCD X 1+232

**In Residence:** Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD;

Fr. Stephen Watson, OCD (X 1+226); Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD

**Deacons:** Deacon Gilbert Vargas | Deacon Otto Lacayo |  
Deacon Rex Owens: Cell #s under CONTACTS on the website

**Annulments:** Deacon Gilbert Vargas X 1+333

**Carmelite Vocations:** [www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com](http://www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com)

**Parish Secretary:** Denise McMaster-Holguin X 1+223 |

[denisekay@hotmail.com](mailto:denisekay@hotmail.com)

**Finance:** Noralyn Cailan X 1+228 | [cailannocds@gmail.com](mailto:cailannocds@gmail.com)

**Religious Ed:** Florence Goh X 1+ 235|[stcreligioused7@gmail.com](mailto:stcreligioused7@gmail.com)

**Music Director:** Charlotte Lansberg X 1+112 [credochoir1@gmail.com](mailto:credochoir1@gmail.com)

**Respect Life Ministry:** Catherine Contreras | [cathycforlife@gmail.com](mailto:cathycforlife@gmail.com)

## ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

[www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com](http://www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com)

Principal: Alma Cornejo X 1 + 661

[principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com](mailto:principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com)

## SACRAMENTS

- Baptisms: Register online
- Weddings: Register online at least six months in advance
- Anointing of the Sick:  Call the office

## ONLINE GIVING

Please consider a gift to St. Therese Church.

Open your banking app and scan this Zelle QR code. Use email [donateSTC@gmail.com](mailto:donateSTC@gmail.com). If asked, the recipient is THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF LA ST THERESE CHU.



# PASTOR'S COLUMN

Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

**I wish a continued blessed Easter Season to you all!**

In our Church, **April is especially dedicated to the Holy Eucharist**. I'd like to share **some excerpts from the great encyclical on the Eucharist by St. John Paul II called *Ecclesia de Eucharistia***. Let us continue to pray for those children in our parish who are about to receive their First Communion on April 26th!

—Fr. Peter Mary Vecellio, O.C.D.



**"(The Eucharist) unites Heaven and earth. It embraces and permeates all creation."**



When I think of the Eucharist, and look at my life as a priest, as a Bishop, and as the Successor of Peter, I naturally recall the many times and places in which I was able to celebrate Mass. I remember the parish church of Niegowic, the collegiate church of St Florian in Krakow, Wawel Cathedral, St Peter's Basilica, and so many basilicas and churches throughout the world. I have been able to celebrate Holy Mass in chapels built along mountain paths, on lakeshores, and seacoasts; I have celebrated it on altars built in stadiums and in city

squares. This varied scenario has given me a powerful experience of its universal and cosmic character. Yes, cosmic! Because even when celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always celebrated on the altar of the world. **It unites Heaven and earth. It embraces and permeates all creation.**

The Son of God became man in order to restore all creation, in one supreme act of praise, to the One who made it from nothing. He, the Eternal High Priest who, by the Blood of His Cross, entered the eternal sanctuary, thus gives back to the Father all creation redeemed. He does so through the priestly ministry of the Church, to the glory of the Most Holy Trinity. Truly, this is the *Mysterium Fidei* which is accomplished in the Eucharist: the world which came forth from the hands of God the Creator now returns to Him, redeemed by Christ.



The Eucharist, as Christ's saving presence in the community of the faithful and its spiritual food, is the most precious possession which the Church can have in her journey through history. How can we not admire the doctrinal expositions of the Decrees on the Most Holy Eucharist and on the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass promulgated by the Council of Trent? For centuries, those Decrees guided theology and catechesis, and they are still a dogmatic reference-point for the continual renewal and growth of God's People in faith and in love for the Eucharist. In times closer to our own, **three Encyclical Letters should be mentioned: the *Encyclical Mirae Caritatis* of Leo XIII (May 28, 1902), the *Encyclical Mediator Dei* of Pius XII (November 20, 1947), and the *Encyclical Mysterium Fidei* of Paul VI (September 3, 1965).**

The Magisterium's commitment to proclaiming the Eucharistic mystery has been matched by interior growth within the Christian community. Certainly the liturgical reform inaugurated by the Council has greatly contributed to a more conscious, active, and fruitful participation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Altar on the part of the faithful. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is also an important daily practice—becoming an inexhaustible source of holiness. The devout participation of the faithful in the Eucharistic procession on the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ is a grace from the Lord which yearly brings joy to those who take part in it.

Unfortunately, alongside these lights, there are also shadows. In some places the practice of Eucharistic adoration has been almost completely abandoned. In various parts of the Church, abuses have occurred, leading to confusion concerning this wonderful sacrament. At times, one encounters the Eucharistic mystery stripped of its sacrificial meaning—celebrated as if it were simply a fraternal banquet. Furthermore, the necessity of the ministerial priesthood is at times obscured and the sacramental nature of the Eucharist is reduced to a form of proclamation. This has led to ecumenical initiatives which, albeit well-intentioned, indulge in Eucharistic practices contrary to the discipline by which the Church expresses her faith. How can we not express profound grief at all this? The Eucharist is too great a gift to tolerate ambiguity and depreciation. It is my hope that this Encyclical Letter will effectively help to banish the dark clouds of unacceptable doctrine and practice, so that the Eucharist will continue to shine forth in all its radiant mystery.



# Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith  Academics  Virtue

## Spring Rummage Sale!

**Saturday, April 25: 8 am - 5 pm**  
**Sunday, April 26: 8 am - 3 pm**



Come find treasures for low prices. The school will be hosting their Spring Rummage Sale in **ONE WEEK!** Come one, come all, and snatch things up before they sell out!

### Donation Drop-Off

Interested in donating items?

We accept the following items in good and clean condition: Clothes, accessories, household decor, small household appliances (blenders, pressure cookers, slow cookers, etc.), books, toys, furniture. All fine jewelry and collectibles should be dropped off directly to the office.

### We do NOT accept the following:

Large electronics, (printers, fax machines, computers, TVs, etc.), car parts

We will accept donations at the Hall on Wednesday, April 22, through Friday, April 24, between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. only.

# GPS

# Guadalupe

Pregnancy Center Services

## Mother's Day Baby Bottle & Baby Shower Outreach



**Baby Bottle Distribution:** Saturday, May 2nd and Sunday, May 3th

**Baby Bottle Collection:** Saturday, May 30th and Sunday, May 31st.

GPS volunteers will be outside the church after all the Masses to distribute and collect baby bottles. Please take one and fill it with coins, bills, or checks, and return it when you come to Mass on the designated collection day.

**Mother's Day Month Baby Shower:** Gifts for moms and babies are greatly needed and very much appreciated. A Pac 'n Play crib will be available on both the Baby Bottle Drive weekends so that parishioners can place their donations of baby items.

**Items needed for babies include:** Blankets, diapers (sizes newborn, 3, 4, 5, & 6), Sippy cups, baby bottles, pacifiers, bibs, socks, teething toys, hardcover books, shoes, new clothing (especially sizes 2T and 3T for boys and girls), sleepers and T-shirts, etc.

**Toiletries:** shampoo, lotion, powder, thermometers, nail clippers, etc.

**Items needed for mothers include:** Feminine hygiene products, gently-used or new maternity clothes, nursing pads, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, household cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, dish soap, cleaning products, paper towels, etc.

Thank you for your generosity and for participating in this important Pro-Life outreach!



## SATURDAY MORNING RETREAT SERIES

### April 25 - 8:00 to 11:30 a.m.

#### Fr. Stephen Watson, Speaker



Join us for a morning of prayer, adoration, a talk by Fr. Stephen Watson—followed by Benediction at 11:30 a.m.

This is the second presentation in this series for **THE CENTENNIAL OF ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS**. Future dates will be June 27, August 22, and October 24.

For his talk, Fr. Stephen will compare the spiritualities of John of the Cross and Francis of Assisi—both of whom are being especially honored this year. He will explore the remarkable parallels in their doctrine—particularly their shared emphasis on detachment, poverty of spirit, and total surrender to God. The complete schedule is: Mass at 8:00 a.m., followed by Exposition, Led Prayer, Silent Adoration, Conference, and Benediction. **DON'T MISS IT!**



## THE CALL OF GOD SERIES

Is God calling you?

Come hear how God is working in these people's lives.

This **Tuesday, April 21**, join us in the Parish Hall from **7:00 to 8:30 p.m.**, to hear the faith testimonies of two of our parishioners, while enjoying fellowship and some light snacks.

**Ariel Esteban** and **Edward Earl** will share with you their personal faith journeys.

**COME HEAR HOW GOD IS WORKING IN THEIR LIVES!**

All are invited!

# DAUGHTERS OF THE MOST HIGH



Join us for a **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR ADULTS IN THEIR 20'S AND 30'S AT SACRED HEART RETREAT HOUSE IN ALHAMBRA ON SATURDAY, APRIL 25, FROM 4:30 to 8:15 P.M.:** Step into something meaningful as we join the Carmelite Sisters and FOCUS Missionaries for Salve and Vespers.

After the service, we'll lend a hand in the Retreat Center kitchen. **Spots are limited! Don't wait to sign up!**

To sign up or for more information, reach out to Ivonne Ruiz at [IvonneRG12@yahoo.com](mailto:IvonneRG12@yahoo.com) | (831) 435-6501

# Financial Offerings



April 11 / 12, 2026

Unrestricted..... \$15,150.00  
 Restricted ..... \$ 1,095.00  
**T O T A L.....\$16,245.00**

March 14 / 15 ..... \$19,260.00  
 March 21 / 22 ..... \$15,966.00  
 March 28 / 29 ..... \$21,015.00  
 April 4 / 5 ..... \$40,278.00

**CHECK USERS:**  
 Please use a donation envelope in order to more easily credit your account.

# Fr. Stephen's Next Class

CATECHISM  
OF THE  
CATHOLIC  
CHURCH



Fr. Stephen's next class will be **TUESDAY, APRIL 28—from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.** in the Parish Meeting Room.

He will continue to teach from Part IV of the Catechism, which is about **Prayer**. All adults are welcome to attend!

# World Day of Prayer for Vocations Good Shepherd Sunday

Next Sunday, April 26, is **Good Shepherd Sunday** and the **63rd anniversary of World Day of Prayer for Vocations**.

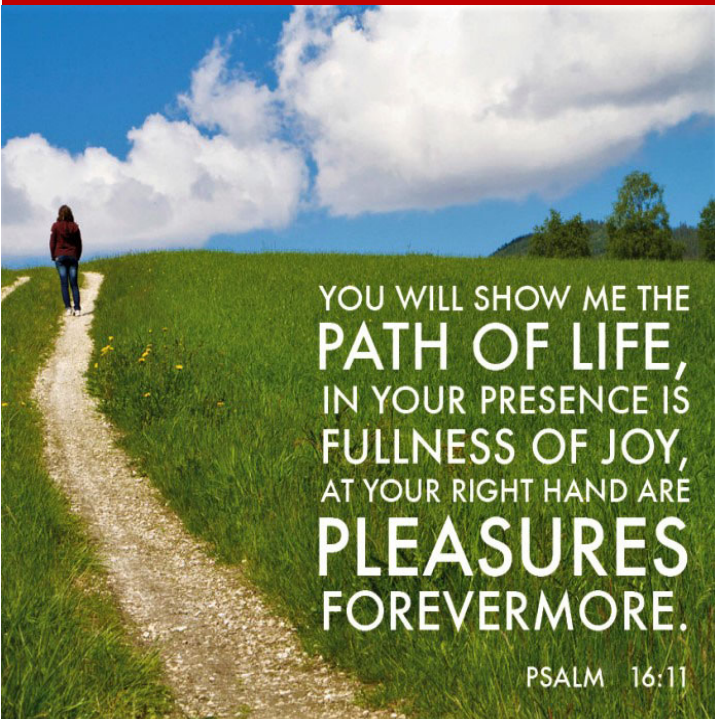
In response to the plea to *"pray the Lord to send out laborers for His harvest"* (Matthew 9:38), **DEUS VOCAT Vocation Ministry asks you to join them in**

**the church next Sunday from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.**, to pray

that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to join the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, Apostolic life societies, or secular institutes. Prayer that is continually offered throughout our holy Church affirms the primacy of faith and grace and all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life.



**Your presence will be greatly appreciated!**



YOU WILL SHOW ME THE  
**PATH OF LIFE,**  
IN YOUR PRESENCE IS  
FULLNESS OF JOY,  
AT YOUR RIGHT HAND ARE  
**PLEASURES**  
FOREVERMORE.

PSALM 16:11



## Eucharistic Adoration

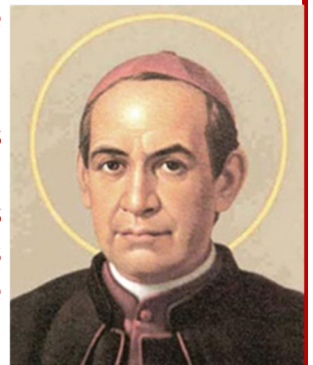
*"Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*  
-Matthew 11:28

"The faith I have when I am in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament is so strong that I find it impossible to express what I feel... When the time comes to leave, I must force myself to overcome the inclination to prolong my stay with Jesus."  
-St. Anthony Mary Claret, CMF, Claretian Archbishop and Founder of the Claretian Order of Priests (December 23, 1807 – October 24, 1870 | Feast Day October 24

St. Anthony Mary Claret was born in Spain, in 1807, the son of a weaver. He took up weaving but then studied for the priesthood, desiring to be a Jesuit. Ill health prevented his entering the Order, and he served as a secular priest. In 1849, he founded the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, known today as the Claretians, and the Apostolic Training Institute of the Immaculate Conception, Claretian Nuns.

From 1850 to 1857, Anthony served as the archbishop of Santiago de Cuba, Cuba. Anthony Mary Claret had the gift of prophecy and performed many miracles. He was opposed by the liberal forces of Spain and Cuba and endured many trials.

Claret had an extremely strong and miraculous devotion to the Eucharist. Jesus honored his desire and physically kept His Eucharistic Presence within him until his next reception of Communion. He models the reality that we all should become living tabernacles of Jesus' Presence when we receive Him in the sacrament.



# "The Road to Emmaus: One Journey, Two Voices"

## FROM THE TWO DISCIPLES:

We left Jerusalem because we couldn't bear to stay. Every street reminded us of Him. Every doorway felt like an echo of what might have been. We had believed He was the One—our hope, our future, the long-awaited redemption of Israel. But the Cross shattered everything. So, we walked away, trying to outrun our disappointment.

The road felt longer than usual. Our steps dragged. Our words came out in fragments—half-formed memories, half-buried fears. We kept asking each other the same questions, circling the same grief, trying to make sense of a story that no longer made sense at all.

Then a Stranger joined us. We didn't recognize Him. Maybe sorrow had dimmed our eyes. Maybe we were too wrapped in our own confusion to imagine that hope could walk beside us. But He listened—really listened—as we poured out the whole painful tale. He didn't rush us. He didn't correct us. He let us speak until our hearts were empty enough to receive something new.

Then He opened the Scriptures. Not like a teacher proving a point, but like Someone unlocking a door we had forgotten existed. Suddenly, the prophets weren't distant voices—they were threads woven into a single tapestry. Every promise pointed somewhere. Every covenant leaned forward. Every word seemed to whisper His name. As the Stranger spoke, something warm stirred inside us, like embers waking after a long night. When we reached the village, we couldn't let Him go. We didn't know why—we only knew that being near Him felt like remembering something we had lost. So, we urged Him to stay. He accepted with a gentleness that felt strangely familiar. **At the table, everything changed. He took the bread. He blessed it. He broke it. He gave it to us.**

And in that simple, sacred motion, our eyes opened. **The Stranger was no stranger. The Bread was not bread.** The One we mourned was the One sitting at our table. The One we thought gone forever was the One who had been walking with us the whole time. Joy hit us like a rush of wind. We didn't wait. We didn't rest. We ran—back through the night, back to Jerusalem, back to the others—carrying the news that changed everything: **He is alive. He found us on the road. He walked with us in our confusion. He revealed Himself in the Breaking of the Bread.**

And now our hearts burn with a Fire that will never go out.



**FROM JESUS:** I saw the two disciples walking away from Jerusalem towards Emmaus with their shoulders low and their hopes even lower. They spoke of Me with the heaviness of someone who once believed in light but now expects only shadows. They spoke of how they'd loved Me and thought they'd lost Me. I knew that ache. I stepped beside them quietly, but they didn't recognize Me. That never offends Me—grief can blur even the clearest vision; disappointment can make the familiar seem distant. So, I walked with them at their pace, not Mine. I let them tell the

story in their own words of my ministry and my final suffering and death—what they had hoped for, what they feared, what they could no longer make sense of.

As they spoke, I felt the weight they carried. They thought the Cross was the end. They thought death had the final word. They thought the silence of Saturday meant the Father had abandoned His promise. But I had already stepped out of the tomb. I was already alive beside them! Hope was already fulfilled, even before they could see it. So, I opened the Scriptures for them—not to lecture, but to heal.

Every prophecy, every covenant, every whispered promise of the Father had always been leading to my death and resurrection. Not to tragedy, but to triumph. Not to loss, but to life. As I spoke, their hearts began to warm again, though they didn't yet understand why. When we reached Emmaus, they asked Me to stay. They didn't know who I was, but something in them recognized the Presence that they thought they had lost. I never refuse an invitation. I accepted their welcome into their home the same way I accept an invitation to enter someone's heart—even if the welcome is not an enthusiastic one. **At their table, I took the bread. I blessed it. I broke it. I gave it to them. And in that moment, their eyes opened.**

They realized that it had been Me the entire time. They knew it was Me the moment the bread became My Body, the Holy Eucharist. Recognition flooded their souls. They realized that the One they mourned was the One who had been walking with them all along. When I vanished from their sight, I did not vanish from their lives. I left them with something better than seeing Me in the flesh: burning hearts, awakened faith, the certainty that resurrection is not a story—it is a Person. And, best of all, **I left them with My Most Holy Eucharist: My true Body and My true Blood—to nourish them spiritually throughout their earthly lives.**

Those two disciples both ran back to Jerusalem that night. Fear no longer slowed their steps. Sadness no longer bent their shoulders. They carried only joy, only fire, only the truth that changes everything: **I am alive. I walk with My followers. I stay with them.** And whenever one of My priests Breaks Bread in Memory of Me, My followers will recognize Me again.



# Mass Intentions

## April 18—April 25, 2026

### Saturday Evening Vigil Mass:

5:00 p.m.: Gonzalo & Daisy Torres, RIP

### Sunday:

\*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Brenda Marie, OCD, INT

7:30 a.m.: Patrick McAllister, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Robert Beaujean, INT

11:00 am: Dorothy Angelina Presthome, RIP

1:00 p.m. (Latin): Parishioners

5:00 p.m.: Gilberto Gomez, RIP

### Monday:

6 a.m.: Enrollees in Easter Flower Memorial

\*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Therese, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Therese Hong Nguyen, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Christina Nera, OCDS, RIP

### Tuesday (+7:15 p.m. in Spanish):

6:00 a.m.: Aaron Estrada & Family, INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Mark Andrew Perez, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Go Hang, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Janet Guzman, RIP

### Wednesday:

6 a.m.: Flaviano Simeon & Neison Sy Su, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Isaias Diokno, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Armando S. Cano, RIP

### Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Joseph Dampf, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Khouw Lip Hing, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Matthew Ng & Family, INT

### Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Kim Ki Chul, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Cecilia, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Fidelina Adan, RIP

### Saturday Morning

\*7:30 a.m.: Alhambra Cloistered Carm. Nuns

8:00 a.m.: Guillermo Yanowski, INT

\*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel  
(215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra)

Open to the public except  
Sundays and holidays.)

## LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

We livestream the daily 8:00 a.m. Mass and the HOMILIES at the Sunday 11:00 a.m. and the Monday 7:15 p.m. Masses. Be sure to "tune in"!

# Pilgrimages

The complete itineraries for the following pilgrimages are on the website (OUTSIDE THE PARISH section).

**HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE** with Fr. Philip Sullivan, OCD, from November 22—December 3, 2026. Walk in the footsteps of Jesus as we travel through Galilee, Tiberius, Caesarea, Cana, Capernaum, Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jericho, Mt. Carmel, Jerusalem, etc. Walk the Via Dolorosa, take a two-hour boat ride on the Sea of Galilee, float on the Dead Sea, and so much more! **REDUCED PRICE: \$4,599** each (from LAX). Contact: Albert or Mary Helen Estrada at (626) 533-4839.



**CARMELITE-INSPIRED PILGRIMAGE** to Italy from July 9-18, 2026: Land Tour cost: \$3880. Visit Assisi in this Year of Grace, the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis, the "Seraphic Father," with the friends of the Discalced Carmelites. Visit Siena, Loreto, San Giovanni Rotondo, Mont Sant' Angelo, Pompeii, Amalfi, Montecassino, and more. Off the beaten path and at a slower pace, this unique route offers opportunities to encounter the wondrous saints of Italy in the places where they lived and breathed. Join us and experience untold beauty! Includes 9 nights at 3-4 star hotels, private bath, breakfast & dinner, private motorcoach or van, all touring on program, entrance fees to all sites per itinerary, tour chaplain & daily Holy Mass. Additional Costs: Overseas flights (LAX round trip to Rome, Italy). As of now, the non-stop airfare varies from \$1300 (economy) to \$2400 (Premier) on Norse Atlantic. Sign-up deadline: April 30, 2026. Pilgrimage is with Sacred Heart Tours, (845) 594-2222, www.sacredhearttours.com. For more info, contact Louisa Day at (323) 360-5186.

**ALABAMA, HERE WE COME!** Pilgrimage to the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament and EWTN from July 29 to August 4, 2026. Come see what the Lord did through Mother Angelica and is still doing through the friars at EWTN and the cloistered nuns at the Shrine. A full six days of serenity, prayer, spiritual talks, tours, fellowship, and family fun. Space is limited. Approximately \$1,500 per person. For more info, call Albert and Mary Helen Estrada at (626) 533-4839.

## OUTSIDE THE PARISH

**GPS|GUADALUPE PREGNANCY CENTER SERVICES** invites you to their **OPEN HOUSE** celebrating 16 years. It will be on Sat., April 26, from **11:00 AM to 2:00 PM** at 1168 San Gabriel Blvd., Ste E, Rosemead. Learn about their services to support mothers and families through counseling, education, and resources. Meet their volunteers and tour their space. There will be a light lunch and refreshments. **RSVP by text to (626) 238-5476** or call (626) 872-2483 for more info.