

St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



April 28, 2024 | 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



**"I am the Vine,
you are the
branches.
Whoever
remains in Me
and I in him will
bear much fruit,
because
without Me you
can do nothing.
If you remain in
Me and my
words remain
in you, ask for
whatever you
want and
it will be done
for you."
(John 15:5,7)**

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 X 1+225
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 Joseph Mizerski | Deacon Gilbert Vargas |
Deacon Otto Lacayo: All at X 1+333;

Annulments: Deacon Gilbert Vargas X 1+333

Carmelite Vocations: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

Parish Secretary: Denise McMaster-Holguin X 1+223
denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X 1+228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

Religious Ed: Florence Goh X 1+ 235

Music Director: Andrew Coyne | Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras X 1+112

ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X 1 + 661

principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com

See our **VIDEOS** on the School's Facebook page
or on the Church's website >Our School > Videos



SACRAMENTS

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

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

NOTE: Next week's bulletin will be a special issue focusing on the School.

After the beautiful and precious experience of witnessing our First Communicants receive Holy Communion last Sunday, let us deepen our Eucharistic Revival as both First Communicants and adults together, as we read about **St. Therese's experiences after her First Communion:**

—Fr. Peter Mary, O.C.D.



Above: Photo of actual First Holy Communion dress/cape/veil worn by St. Therese on May 8, 1884, when she was eleven years old (bluish color due to room lighting)

The day after my First Communion was still beautiful, but it was tinged with a certain melancholy. The beautiful dress Marie had bought me, all the gifts I had received, did not satisfy my heart. Only Jesus could do this, and I longed for the moment when I could receive Him a second time. About a month after my First Communion, I went to confession for the Ascension and I dared ask permission to receive Holy Communion. Against all hope, the priest permitted it and so I had the happiness of kneeling at the communion railing between Papa and Marie. What a sweet memory I have of this second visit of Jesus! My tears flowed again with an ineffable sweetness, and I repeated to myself these words of St. Paul: *"It is no longer I that live, it is Jesus who lives in me!"*

Since that Communion, my desire to receive grew more and more, and I obtained permission to go to Holy Communion on all the principal feasts. On the eve of each of these happy days, Marie took me on her knees and prepared me as she did for my First Communion. I remember how once she was speaking to me about suffering, and she told me that I would probably not walk that way, that God would always carry me as a child.

The day after my Communion, the words of Marie came to my mind. I felt born within my heart a great desire to suffer, and at the same time the interior assurance that Jesus reserved a great number of crosses for me. I felt myself flooded with consolations so great that I look upon them as one of the greatest graces of my life. Suffering became my attraction; it had charms about it which ravished me without my understanding them very well. Up until this time, I had suffered without loving suffering, but since this day I felt a real love for it. I also felt the desire of loving only God, of finding my joy only in Him.

Often during my Communions, I repeated these words from *The Imitation (of Christ)*: **"O Jesus, unspeakable sweetness, change all the consolations of this earth into bitterness for me."** This prayer fell from my lips without effort, without constraint; it seemed I repeated it not with my will but like a child who repeats the words a person he loves has inspired in him. Later, I will tell you, dear Mother, how Jesus was pleased to realize my desire, and how He was always my ineffable

sweetness. Were I to speak of this right now, I would be anticipating the time of my life as a young girl, and there are many details about my life as a child that I have to give you.



Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith ✦ Academics ✦ Virtue

RUMMAGE SALE THIS WEEKEND!

**TIMES FOR BOTH DAYS:
7:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.**

*Saturday, April 27
Sunday, April 28*

Come find us in the Parish Hall!

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



1106 East Alhambra Road
Alhambra, California 91801

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www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com



Upcoming! May Crowning and Two Eucharistic Processions!

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 5: May Crowning at the end of the 9:00 a.m. Mass

SUNDAY, MAY 12: Eucharistic Procession following the 9:00 a.m. Mass, in honor of Our Lady of Fatima (Feast Day is the next day, Monday, May 13).

SUNDAY, JUNE 2: Eucharistic Procession following the 9:00 a.m. Mass for **the Feast of Corpus Christi**

"100th Anniversary of St. Therese Parish" Pilgrimage To Visit Her Basilica in France (and more!) 12 days (October 3rd to 14th, 2024)

St. Therese Parish's Fr. David will be the chaplain for a Special France Pilgrimage. The Pilgrimage explores where the Little Flower lived, as well as other holy sites in France (Lisieux, Dijon, Lourdes, Mont St. Michel and others), as part of St. Therese Parish's Celebration of our 100th Jubilee Year.

This 12-day Pilgrimage price is \$3,985.00, L.A. to L.A., which includes round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations, breakfasts and lunches, and admission prices. Mass will be celebrated daily.

Itineraries, both for this Anniversary Pilgrimage to France and Fr. David's Marian Shrine Tour in Wisconsin this August (see Page Seven), can be found in the church vestibule by the Baptistry... OR email our Parish Secretary (denisekay@hotmail.com), to **receive a copy of either or both by email.** May God Bless You!



BABY BOTTLE DRIVE | BABY SHOWER



Volunteers for Guadalupe Pregnancy Services (GPS) will be outside the church at all the Masses **NEXT WEEKEND, May 4 and 5**, to distribute baby bottles. Fill them with coins, bills, or checks and bring them back with you when you come to Mass on either May 18 or 19.

Baby Bottle Distribution: Sat., May 4, & Sun., May 5

Baby Bottle Collection: Sat., May 18, & Sun., May 19

Mother's Day Baby Shower Outreach: Baby Shower gifts for baby and moms are greatly needed. We will have a **Pac n' Play crib** set up in front of the church on both May 4 & 5 and May 18 & 19) for parishioners to **place their donations of baby and mom items:** blankets, diapers (sizes newborn, 3, 4, 5 & 6), sippy cups, baby bottles, pacifiers, bibs, socks, teething toys, hard cover books, new clothes (sizes newborn to size 3T—boys & girls), toiletries (shampoo, lotion, powder, thermometers, nail clippers), and other baby essentials.

You are also welcome to bring **essentials for the moms:** feminine hygiene products, gently used or new maternity clothes, nursing pads, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.

Thank your for participating in this important Pro-life Outreach.

"THANK YOU!"



Dear Friends of the Cloistered Carmelite Nuns:

The Nuns and the Auxiliary are so thankful for the wonderful help you provide to the Carmel of St. Teresa through the Fr. Jerome Appeal. A building that is 100 years old always has "aches and pains" that arise and needs special care and repairs. Please continue to help the Nuns with your prayers; if you have not donated yet to the Fr. Jerome Appeal, you may do so by using any envelope and simply writing "Fr. Jerome Appeal" on it. In gratitude, the Nuns offer one Mass each week for the intentions of their benefactors. Thank you so very much.

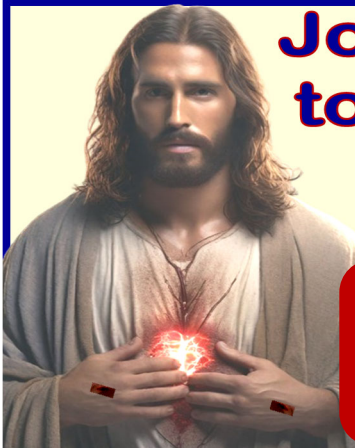
The Cloistered Carmelite Nuns and their Auxiliary

Join Us in Making Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

You are invited to come to the church for a weekly Holy Hour of Reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus **EVERY FRIDAY** from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

"O Heart of Jesus...You are my happiness, my only hope." -St Therese

"My Divine Heart is so passionately in love with humanity that it can no longer contain within itself the flames of its ardent love. It must pour them out...and manifest itself to them with its precious treasures, which contain all the graces which they need to be saved."



Financial Offerings

April 20 / 21, 2024

Unrestricted..... \$17,842.00
 Restricted \$ 515.00
T O T A L.....\$18,357.00

March 23 / 24 \$23,075.00
 March 30 / 31 \$25,692.00
 April 6 / 7 \$31,399.00
 April 13 / 14 \$20,641.00

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



"LET ME INTRODUCE YOU..." By Fr. Stephen F. Watson, OCD



The **Discalced Carmelite Nuns of the Alhambra Carmel** celebrate their foundation day every year on April 19. The annual *Shower of Roses* luncheon fundraiser, put on by the Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary, was last Wednesday, April 24. What do **you** know about the Carmelite nuns? This is their story.

The Carmel of St. Teresa, named after the foundress of the Discalced Carmelite Order, has been a singular blessing for the Parish of St. Therese. It is owing to the presence of the Alhambra Carmel (built in 1913) that St. Therese Parish was established. The first Parish Mass was offered in the nuns' chapel on Christmas morning 1924, there being no Parish church at the time. This arrangement continued for nearly two years until our first church was built in 1926.

The nuns live a life of prayer in seclusion. They pray that the grace of Christ may heal souls that are scarred by sin and that all may be blessed with heavenly wisdom, helping them direct their lives to God. You can read more about the life and vocation of a Carmelite nun online.

Who are the nuns presently living this blessed vocation in our Alhambra Carmel? **There are thirteen nuns**, a number which St. Teresa considered an ideal number for a Discalced Carmelite community of nuns. The dates below refer to what is called "*First Profession of Vows.*" In no particular order, other than the Prioress and the sub-Prioress being listed first and the last three to enter Carmel being listed at the end, **meet the thirteen Sisters:**

- **Mother Teresa** is the prioress, the superior. She received her vocation through the intercession of St. Padre Pio after a pilgrimage to Italy. She professed her vows February 2, 1974.
- **Sister Anna** is the sub-Prioress. She grew up in Oceanside and made her profession of vows on May 13, 2013.
- **Sister Maria Cecilia** is from Sinaloa, Mexico. She originally entered the Carmel of Culiacan, but—after having gone with some other nuns to make a foundation in Cameroon, Africa—she was reassigned to Alhambra to recover her health. She stayed in the Alhambra Carmel, becoming a U.S. citizen in 2008. She professed on July 16, 1984.
- **Sister Therese Marie** grew up in Inglewood and has been a professed Carmelite nun since December 8, 1976.
- **Sister Frances Immaculata** is from Los Angeles. She was a librarian before she entered and now makes habits for the community. She professed on May 19, 1991.
- **Sister Regina** is the senior nun, having made her profession May 15, 1956. She loves horses and dogs. Although the nuns *do* have dogs—beautiful German shepherds—they do *not* keep horses at the monastery, ha, ha! However, years ago, when this writer was Pastor of St. Therese, Sister Regina insisted that he bring his horse from Tucson and paid the first three months for boarding at the Arroyo Seco stables.
- **Sister Mary** follows Sister Regina in seniority. She tried to enter Carmel at the age of fifteen, like St. Therese, but had to wait until she finished high school. She has been professed since July 16, 1961. She is the artist of the community and likes to play the Irish harp.
- **Sister Brenda Marie** is from the San Joaquin Valley. She enjoys taking care of the roses. If they are as beautiful as the ones on the outside of the cloister, the garden inside must be glorious. In fact, as I write this, the women of the Auxiliary are taking cuttings of the roses from the cloister to be used at the Shower of Roses luncheon.
- **Sister Teresita Maria** loves music. She has been playing the piano since she was five. Like St. Therese's sister Celine (Sister Genevieve), she is also the photographer for her community. She made her profession on October 1, 2006.
- **Sister Kim Marie** made her profession on May 9, 1991. She thanks God that she has been journeying with St. Therese Church and School in prayer. For many years, she was the Sister who answered the door of the Carmel.
- **Sister Elizabeth** grew up in Arizona and made her solemn profession just five months ago.
- **Sister Faustina** grew up in Pasadena. As a high school senior, she was selected for the court of the Rose Queen. She loves to bake, especially lemon crinkle cookies.
- **Sister Mariam**, who loves donkeys, is the newest member of the community. She set aside a doctoral program to join Carmel.

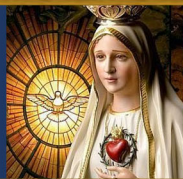
It can be said without any qualification that the Carmel of Alhambra is embedded in the Parish of St. Therese. I will go so far as to say that the Parish would *not* be the same without the Discalced Carmelite nuns. For a hundred years, the Parish has benefitted from their prayers. We are grateful that they are on our pilgrimage of faith!

The Community of the Discalced Carmelite Nuns is part of the rich 100-year history of St. Therese Parish.
Let us all walk with St. Therese as we journey together in faith during our Centennial year.

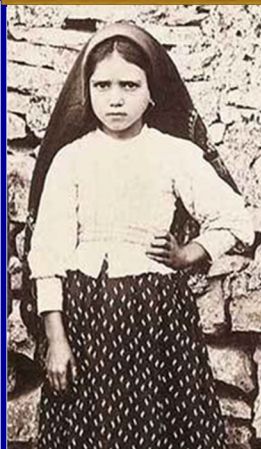
FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION

to honor & make reparation to the

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



Mark your calendar for our next First Saturdays devotion on **May 4, 2024**, and join us for the Rosary and a 15-minutes meditation after the 8:00 a.m. Mass!



Jacinta Marto (March 11, 1910 – February 20, 1920): Two years younger than Francisco, Jacinta had a marked love for Our Lord; at the age of five, she melted into tears on hearing the account of Jesus' Passion. Jacinta was riveted by the July 13th apparition, in which they were given a glimpse of Hell. After this vision, her every thought was of helping to save the souls of "poor sinners," and she spared no prayer or sacrifice for that end. Jacinta's natural sensitivity and affectionate disposition were sublimated into that burning charity that renders all sacrifice small and all effort easy. She once said: "I have a fire in my chest, but it doesn't burn me."

Also contracting the influenza of 1918, Jacinta suffered heroically. In a private apparition, Our Lady asked her if she would be willing to remain on earth a little longer to help save more sinners. The nine-year-old girl generously accepted, enduring a trip to Lisbon where she was admitted to two hospitals—finally dying alone, far from her family, as Our Lady had foretold to her.

For any questions, Call Maria Alejandra at (626) 993-4236.

Safeguard the Children



DID YOU KNOW? During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and on behalf of Archbishop José H. Gomez, we affirm our continued commitment to report allegations of sexual misconduct to law enforcement, support victim-survivors in their

healing journey, and protect children and the vulnerable. The Archdiocese has created a website (<https://lacatholics.org/protect/>) that serves as a comprehensive tool, containing resources, programs and services for protecting children and reporting abuse. If you, or someone you know, is a victim of sexual misconduct by someone affiliated with the Church, please contact law enforcement and the Archdiocese's Victims Assistance Coordinator at (213) 737-7650 or visit <https://lacatholics.org/reporting-child-abuse/> for help and support.

Cor Jesu Family Ministry

Fr. Robert and his team invite children, youth, and adults to be part of Cor Jesu Family Ministry!

Encourage the souls with whom you come in contact to trust in My infinite mercy. Oh, how I love those souls who have complete confidence in Me. I will do everything for them".

Jesus to Saint Faustina



Sign-up for a faith building evening beginning with a Social Potluck (pizza for the children and youth) at 6:30 p.m., followed by Catechesis and Eucharistic Adoration (date to be determined later).

To sign up or for more info, email Gabriel at anyanwu26@gmail.com.

"I am the vine, you are the branches."



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

We Bear Fruit

Mass Intentions

April 27—May 4, 2024

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Beatriz de Castro, RIP

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Jose Cruz Lopez, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Aurora Olivarez Relatores, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Mother Maria, OCD, INT

11:00 a.m.: Alex Villanueva, RIP

1:00 p.m. (Latin): Christopher Huling, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Rommel Protacio Karunungan, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Wang-Shih Lin, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Celia Makiewicz, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Angelina Brajkovich, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Catherine Contreras, INT

Tuesday

6:00 a.m.: Aurora Olivarez Relatores, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Leonel Salgado, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Damen Murphy, 3rd B-Day INT

7:15 p.m.: Parishioners of St. Therese

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Rommel Protacio Karunungan, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Elizabeth, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Carl Thompson, Birthday Intention

Thursday

6:00 a.m.: Carter & Fullenkamp Families, INT

*7:30 a.m.: McAllister Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Erick Gilberto Aurelio, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Emily Cheah, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Antonio Cailan, INT

8:00 a.m.: Damaris Shower, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Sr. Therese Marie, OCD, INT

Saturday (Morning):

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns' Community INT

8:00 a.m.: Mothers of the World, INT

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

Open to the public except on Sundays and holidays.

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

Our livestreaming service is back! We livestream the daily 8:00 a.m. Mass and the homilies at the Sunday 11:00 a.m. and the Monday 7:15 evening Masses. "Tune in"!

Pilgrimages

OUR LADY OF CHAMPION (approved Apparition) **PILGRIMAGE** with Saint Therese Parish's Father David: to visit the Shrines of Wisconsin, **AUGUST 10-16, 2024**. This is a Spiritual Retreat Pilgrimage including visits to Our Lady of Champion Shrine and our Carmelite Holy Hill Basilica. Two additional groups flying out of San Francisco and Tucson will be joining us on this fabulous journey. The per person/double occupancy total rate is \$2348 (from LAX). We will visit various Shrines of Our Lady, including Holy Hill Basilica and the Carmelite Nuns Cloister in Denmark, WI. Pick up a Pilgrimage Flyer for more information or email denisekay@hotmail.com.

CARMELITE PILGRIMAGE TO FRENCH CANADA: St. Joseph Oratory, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Anne Beaupre, Cathedral -Basilica of Notre-Dame, and more... **August 23-30, 2024**. LAX to Montreal, Cost: \$3250 double occupancy (\$150 off for early bird discount by April 15th). For more information contact Louisa Day at (323) 360-5186 Or go to: www.SacredHeartTours.com.



I will
praise you,
Lord,
in the
assembly of
your people.

Deaths

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

+Dick Ward (husband of Ann Ward)

+ Philip "Joe" Pape (STS Alumnus)

(Funeral Mass this Friday, May 3, at 11:00 a.m.)

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