# St. Therese Catholic Church

March 23, 2025 1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



And He told them this parable: "There once was a man who had a fig tree... when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down.' He replied, 'Sir, leave it for this year also. I shall cultivate the ground and fertilize it so it may bear fruit. If not, then you can cut it down'" (Luke 13:6-9).

#### 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: 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|stcreligioused7@gmail.com Music Director: Charlotte Lansberg X 1+222|credochoir1@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, I want to share with you St. John Paul II's

reflections on the three practices of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

He gave these at his Wednesday general audiences during his first Lent as

Pope in 1979. The first one below is on prayer.

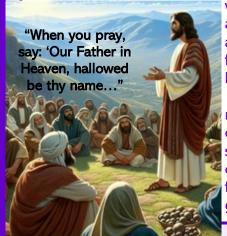
—Fr. Peter

"First, then, the way of prayer. I say 'first,' because I wish to speak of it before the others. But saying 'first,' I want to add that in the complete work of our conversion—that is, of our spiritual development—prayer is not isolated from the other two ways which the Church defines with the evangelical term of 'fasting and almsdeeds.' The way of prayer is perhaps more familiar to us. We understand more easily, perhaps, that, without it, it is not possible to be converted to God, to remain in union with Him, in that communion which makes us mature spiritually. There are certainly among you, who are now listening to me, a great many who have their own experience of prayer, who know its various aspects, and can make others share it.

"We learn to pray, in fact, by praying. The Lord Jesus taught us to pray first of all by Himself praying: 'all night He continued in prayer' (Luke 6:12); another day, as St Matthew writes, 'He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone' (Matthew 14:23). Before His passion and death, He went to the Mount of Olives and encouraged the Apostles to pray, and He Himself knelt down and prayed. A prey to anguish, he prayed more intensely (Luke 22:39-46). Only once, when requested by the disciples: 'Lord, teach us to pray' (Luke 11:1), He gave them the simplest and the deepest content of His prayer: the 'Our Father.'

"Since it is impossible to include in a short speech all that can be said or that has been written on the subject of prayer, I would like to stress only one thing. All of us, when we pray, are disciples of Christ, not because we repeat the words that He once taught us—sublime words, the complete content of prayer—we are disciples of Christ even when we do not use these words. We are His disciples only because we pray: 'Listen to the Master praying; learn to pray. He prayed, in fact, for this reason, to teach people to pray,' St. Augustine affirms (Enarrationes in Psalm 56, 5).

"And a modern author writes: 'Since the end of the way of prayer is lost in God, and no one knows the way but the One who comes from God, Jesus Christ, it is necessary (...) to fix our eyes on Him only. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Only He has traveled along the way in both directions. We must put our hand in His and start out' (Y. Raguin, Chemins de La contemplation, Desclée de Brower, 1969, p. 179). To pray means speaking to God—I



would venture to say even more—to pray means finding oneself again in that One eternal Word through which the Father speaks, and which the Word speaks to the Father. This Word became flesh, so that it would be easier for us to find ourselves again in Him even with our human word of prayer.

"This word may sometimes be very imperfect, sometimes we may even lack it, but this incapacity of our human words is continually completed in the Word that became flesh in order to speak to the Father with the fullness of that mystical union which every man who prays forms with Him, which all those who pray form with Him. In this particular union with the Word lies the greatness of prayer, its dignity and, in some way, its definition."

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## 24 HOURS FOR THE LORD Adoration, Prayer, and Confessions

From FRIDAY morning, March 28, to SATURDAY morning, March 29, this special devotion will be held in St. Therese Church. It will begin immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Friday, March 28. At that time, we will expose the Blessed Sacrament and begin Adoration and Confessions—non-stop—until the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, March 29. It will be taking place at churches throughout

PILGRIMS of HOPE

24 Hours for the Lord
FRIDAY, MARCH 28 - SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025

St. Therese Church was chosen as the church for Deanery 10 of the Archdiocese of L.A. Parishioners from the other 18 churches in our deanery will be joining us throughout that 24-hour period on the above days.

Priests from the other churches will also be here to hear confessions. Again, please welcome all of the priests and people!

#### **Soup Nights / Stations**



Our next Soup Night will be this Friday, March 28, and will be sponsored by the FLAME OF LOVE. (Soup Night is EVERY Friday of Lent from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the Hall). Soup Night is followed by

Stations of the Cross in the Church at 7:00 p.m.

Thank you to these upcoming sponsors: 40 Days / Deus Vocat / Vox Vitae, and Retrouvaille (in order of the Fridays being sponsored).

Join us at Pasadena Planned Parenthood at 1045 North Lake Avenue in Pasadena and discover the power of your prayers! Parking is available on the streets—just read the signs carefully and be courteous not to block driveways! To learn more—and get involved—please visit us at www.40daysforlife.com/pasadena. Volunteers are needed now more than ever!

To help or for more information, contact: Rose Curiel at indigorose40daysforlife.com | or (323)528-8094.

#### LENTEN VESPERS EVERY SUNDAY

Join the Carmelite Friars and the St. Therese **Church Choir** in praying Vespers every Sunday of Lent at 4:00 p.m., in the church. **SAVE THE** DATE: On Wednesday, April 16, there will be a special sung **Tenebrae service** during confessions. (7:00 to 9:00. p.m.).

Plainchant

## **VESPERS**

Evening Prayer

Every Sunday of Lent at 4:00 p.m.

Tonight's Vespers will be led by Schola Carmeli

## TENEBRAE

The Liturgy of the Shadows

Wednesday of Holy Week April 16 at 7:00 p.m.

## Financial



March 15 / 16, 2025

## Offerings

February 15 16 ...... \$13,169.00 February 22 / 23 ..... \$18,147.00 March 1 / 2 ..... \$15,773.00 March 8 / 9 ..... \$27,116.00 CHECK USERS:
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donation envelope in
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credit your account.

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## LENTEN PARISH MISSION BY FR. RAYMOND BUENO, OCD

Theme: St. Therese -- The Centennial of Her Canonization in 2025



Fr. Raymond Bueno will be giving this year's Lenten Parish Mission. It will take place from Monday, March 31, through Thursday, April 3.

On each of those four evenings, Fr. Raymond will celebrate Mass at 7:00 p.m., give his talk at 7:45 p.m., and have a Holy Hour from 8:30 to 9:30



p.m. On Wednesday of that week, CONFESSIONS will be heard during the talk at 7:45. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity of grace.

## SHOWER OF ROSES FOR THE CARMELITE NUNS

The Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary invites you to their annual Shower of Roses Benefit Luncheon on Wednesday, April 9. It will begin with a social hour at 10:30 a.m.—including raffle drawings, opportunity prizes, and a silent auction. At Noon we will have lunch and listen to our guest speaker, Jackie Halpin, who will tell us of her family's journey of faith after losing their home in the Eaton fire.

This event will be held at the San Gabriel Country Club, 350 East Hermosa Drive, San Gabriel. Please RSVP by March 26 to Kathy Cardoza at (626) 570-9012. Admission is \$80 per person. Please make your check payable to Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary and mail it to Kathy at 710 Lindaraxa Park South, Alhambra 91801.



## Saint Therese Carmelite School

Deeply rooted in Carmelite spirituality, Saint Therese Carmelite School, united with our parents who are the primary educators of their children, seeks to form students in faith, academics, and virtue through a Classical education.



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#### "FR. JEROME APPEAL" FOR THE NUNS



If you missed March 8/9's special collection, you may still make a donation using the pink envelopes found in the pews or drop it off at the

church office or at the nuns' monastery, or mail it in. All proceeds help provide for their daily needs and the upkeep of their Monastery.

The Carmelite Monastery was instrumental in the establishment of St. Therese Parish, and there has always been a special closeness and loving support between the Parish and the Monastery.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

# St. Therese, saint of the Little Way, pray for us!

#### "MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH" CLASS

Fr. Stephen's next class in this series will be THIS Tuesday, March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation. The topic will be "MARY, MOTHER OF

THE CHURCH."

"By reason of the gift and role of divine maternity, by which she is united with her



Son, the Redeemer, and with His singular graces and functions, the Blessed Virgin is also intimately united with the Church. As St. Ambrose taught, the Mother of God is a type of the Church in the order of faith, charity and perfect union with Christ. For, in the mystery of the Church, which is itself rightly called mother and virgin, the Blessed Virgin stands out in eminent and singular fashion as exemplar both of virgin and mother" (Lumen Gentium 63).

## Parish Groups Meeting Every Week or Every Month

- —COR JESU YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY: For youth and their families. Meets on the 2nd Friday evening.
- —DEUS VOCAT: A Parish Apostolate established to pray for vocations (See Page Six for more info).
- —EnCOURAGE: Standing fully by the teachings of the Church, faithful Catholic parents support one another and their loved ones with same sex attraction. Meets monthly. For parents: EnCourage.LosAngeles@gmail.com; for those with same sex attraction: CourageCA. LosAngeles@gmail.com.).
- —FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION: Meets after the 8:00 a.m. Mass every first Saturday to pray the Rosary and meditate for 15 minutes. Calll Maria Alejandra at (626) 993-4236.
- —FLAME OF LOVE: ...about the Blessed Mother's messages to seer Elizabeth Kindelmann. Two sessions meet every Monday. Contact Maru Lazatin at (626) 675-3080.
- —**HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY**: Teams of trained lay people pray for your healing after our Monday evening Mass. For more info, send an email to: HpmStc1@gmail.com.
- —KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: For Catholic men 18 over looking to strengthen their faith through serving the Church and community. Call (888) 869-3124.
- —LAY MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY: An international association of lay people—married and single—whose members make private vows of chastity, poverty, obedience, and wholehearted service to the poorest of the poor. Meets every 3rd Saturday (9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.); prays the Rosary daily at 6:00 p.m. Contact Alejandra at (626) 630-8760.
- —**REPARATION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS**: A devotion for the purpose of making reparation to the Sacred Heart. It is held every Friday from 5:00 to 6:15 p.m. in the church.
- —**RETROUVAILLE LOS ANGELES**: A Program to help couples in troubled marriages learn about the tools needed to get their marriages back on track through a combination of one weekend, follow-up sessions, and fellowship/enrichment presentations (held at St Therese). For more info, call (909) 900-5465 or go to www.HelpOurMarriage.org.
- —ROSARY MAKERS: This group makes rosaries to be sent to Catholics in third-world countries. Sessions are held on Mondays from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Avila Room of the Parish Offices. All are welcome to join!
- —ST. JOSEPH PRAYER GROUP: Meets in the church every Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. to pray for our parish community and for increase in vocations. For more info, call Lucy Marikian at (626) 281-3706.
- —ZELIE'S CIRCLE CHILDREN'S HOLY HOUR: For moms of children from birth to 5 years old. Meets in the church every First Thursday of each month from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. for adoration and prayer with Fr. Peter Mary.

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## Deus Vocat (God is Calling)



Vocation Apostolate invites you to help us in supporting TWELVE CANDIDATES who are discerning God's call to a religious vocation. It is such as these our Apostolate supports.

You are invited to join Deus Vocat every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in the Lisieux Room (in the Parish Office building, 510 North El Molino Street) to pray for vocations. For more info, please contact:

Francisco Alcala at (323) 497-4951 or Marcela Alcala at (626) 940-4899 | marcelafigalcala@gmail.com

God Bless You!

## **BEWARE OF SCAMMERS!**

As reported before, beware of scammers who send emails/texts pretending to be clergy and ask you to purchase gift cards or wire money. They get parishioners'



names from the websites and online bulletins of churches throughout the world—including ours! They then set up fake emails under the names of priests and deacons and send emails to the names they've gotten, pretending to be those persons. They will ask you to contact them when it is "convenient" for you. They also hack into phone companies and create temporary, untraceable fake cell phone numbers. If you respond, they'll ask you to buy gift cards, saying they're for hospital patients, etc.

Be assured, <u>NONE of our priests</u>, <u>deacons</u>, <u>etc.</u>, <u>will EVER asking anyone to purchase anything or to send money</u>. Just block, delete, and otherwise ignore these people. They are most times working for sham companies from foreign countries to try to steal money.

Because anyone can create fake emails in other people's names (there is no real process used to prove one's identification for gmail, yahoo, etc.), there is nothing we can do other than to warn you.

## National Eucharistic Revival

Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 29:
The Creed as Statement of Faith in the Trinity
"The Creed is divided into three parts: 'the first part

"The Creed is divided into three parts: 'the first part speaks of the first divine Person and the wonderful work of creation; the next speaks of the second divine

Person and the mystery of his redemption of men; the final part speaks of the third divine Person, the origin and source of our sanctification' " (Catechism, no. 190).

Charles Belmonte expands this introduction to the three parts of the Creed:

- A confession of faith in God, the Father, our Creator, maker of Heaven and earth...
- A confession of faith in Christ, our Lord. He is God, who by the power of the Spirit became incarnate [of] the Virgin Mary and was made man. Then we focus on Christ's Passion and Death on the Cross; His Resurrection, Ascension, and participation in the judgment to reign forever, as it was announced by the angel to the Virgin Mary (Luke 1:33).
- A confession of faith is the means of salvation, supplied by God, the Holy Spirit, the giver of supernatural life. We declare how he works through the Church (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 100-101).

Continuing through the last part of the Creed, Belmonte writes, "[I] believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. [The word] catholic means 'universal' (and is not capitalized in this instance)—a reminder that the Church exists throughout the world and embraces the entire revelation of God... The Church is apostolic because she traces her origins back to Christ through the apostles and always teaches the message the apostles received from Him" (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 101). The Church is one and holy because it is founded by Christ and led by the Holy Spirit toward the unity and holiness that Jesus calls all Christians to live. We call this list the 'Four Marks of the Church.' These characteristics are like landmarks or distinguishing features that help us to know the one true Church of Jesus.

Source: Fr. Luke Spannagel's blog athttps://www.stphils.com/church/Eucharistic-revival-walk-through-the-Mass/

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## Mass Intentions

#### March 22—March 29, 2025

#### **Saturday Evening:**

5:00 p.m.: Jeanette Escobedo, RIP Sunday

\*7:30 a.m.: Deacon Joe Mizerski, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners
9:00 a.m.: Rebecca Escobedo, RIP
11:00 a.m.: Suzanne Jarvis, RIP
1:00 p.m. (Latin): Evangeline Holman, RIP
5:00 p.m.: Alicia Gamboa, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Peter Brundige, INT \*7:30 a.m.: Fr. Stephen Watson, OCD, INT 8:00 a.m.: Fidelina Adan, INT 7:15 p.m.: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD, INT

**Tuesday:** 

6:00 a.m.: Souls in Purgatory
\*7:30 a.m.: Joseph Moses Goh, Birthday INT
8:00 a.m.: Frankie Sandoval, INT
7:15 p.m.: Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Melinda Gonzales, INT 7:30 a.m.: Deacon Joe Mizerski, RIP 8:00 a.m.: Sandra Caldwell, RIP

**Thursday:** 

6:00 am: Ron & Angie Sandoval, 43rd Anniv. INT
\*7:30 a.m.: Ebner Sobalvarro, INT
8:00 a.m.: Kayla Grimm Murphy, Birthday INT
Friday:

6:00 a.m.: John Paul Baquiran, Birthday INT \*7:30 a.m.: Otto & Martha Lacayo, Anniv INT 8:00 a.m.: Lucy Tittmann, 22nd Birthday INT Saturday (Morning):

\*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns' Community 8:00 a.m.: Angela Baquiran, Birthday INT

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

Open to the public except on Sundays and some holidays.

#### **LIVE STREAMED MASSES:**

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

## <u>Pilgrimages</u>

#### MARIAN JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE

- To Jesus Through Mary -Rome (Holy Doors), France, Spain, & Portugal June 16—July 1, 2025 14 Days—\$4,700 (double occupancy)



Led by Fr. Philip Sullivan, OCD https://peregrinacionesguadalupanas.org/For an itinerary and more info, contact Cecilia at (323) 721-0021 or gpilgrimages@yahoo.com.

15TH Annual 8-day Pilgrimage from July 15 to 23, 2025, to THE SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT & EWTN, home of Mother Angelica. Daily Mass with the Poor Claire Cloistered Nuns, a visit to the Pope St John Paul Eucharistic Museum, a Rosary procession to a replica of Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, prayer before Jesus in the 2nd largest monstrance in the world, the Stations of the Eucharist, etc. Enjoy peace and tranquility, along with fun, laughter, great food, and Southern hospitality. Families are welcome. For more info about the shrine, visit www.OLAM shrine.com. Note: This trip fills up quickly. Contact Albert and Mary Helen Estrada for details at (626) 533-4839.

PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN, FRANCE, AND ITALY with Fr. Julius Ntalo, OCD: Join this 14-day pilgrimage from July 11 to 24, 2025, to all four countries listed in the title. For more info and to receive an itinerary, contact ABM Tours at 310-514-3323 or 408-903-6305 or maddatubeth2@gmail.com. See more info at abmtours.com.

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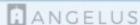
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