

# St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



April 7, 2024 | 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | [www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org](http://www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org)



Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side (John 20:19-20).

## 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](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

**Music Director:** Andrew Coyne | [Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com)

**Respect Life Ministry:** Catherine Contreras X 1+112

## 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)

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,

## A Continued Blessed Easter to You All!



Today, Sunday, April 7th—the octave day of Easter—is now commonly known as “Divine Mercy Sunday.” I would like to encourage you to attend our **Divine Mercy devotion from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. today.** With all the evil and sin in our world, we as a parish need to call down God’s mercy upon us and on our world in this very critical time. And let us also call upon **the two great apostles of Divine Mercy, St. John Paul II and St. Faustina.**

Knowing our call to sanctify ourselves in whatever state of life we’re living, I would like to share an inspiring quote from St. Faustina’s now famous “*Diary*” in which are recorded the things Our Lord said to her:

“The firm resolution to become a saint is extremely pleasing to Me. I bless your efforts and will give you opportunities to sanctify yourself. Be watchful that you lose no opportunity that My providence offers you for sanctification. If you do not succeed in taking advantage of an opportunity, do not lose your peace, but humble yourself profoundly before Me and—with great trust—immerse yourself completely in My mercy. In that way, you gain more than you have lost because more favor is granted to a humble soul than the soul itself asks for...” (No. 1361).

So, let us, my brothers and sisters, become more aware of and seek those “opportunities” to sanctify ourselves because our loving and merciful God wants more than anything to give us the help we need to become the great saints He is calling each of us to be!

Fr. Peter Mary, O.C.D.

# TODAY IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY!



APRIL 7, 2024 — 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

- \* Holy Hour | \* Confessions
- \* Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- \* Talk on Jesus' Divine Mercy



**JESUS I TRUST IN YOU**

“I desire that the Feast of Divine Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on this day shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.”

—Our Lord to St. Faustina

## MORE QUOTES FROM OUR LORD (RECORDED BY ST. FAUSTINA)

- “Now, rest your head on My bosom, on My heart, and draw from it strength and power for these sufferings because you will find neither relief nor help nor comfort anywhere else.”
- “But as for you, fear nothing; I am always with you. And know this, too, My daughter: all creatures, whether they know it or not, and whether they want to or not, always fulfill My will.”
- “When you reflect upon what I tell you in the depths of your heart, you profit more than if you had read many books. Oh, if souls would only want to listen to My voice when I am speaking in the depths of their hearts, they would reach the peak of holiness in a short time.”
- “I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over [its] enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory.”

# Financial Offerings



March 30 / 31, 2024 (Easter)

Unrestricted.....	\$25,692.00
Restricted .....	\$ 0.00
<b>T O T A L.....</b>	<b>\$25,692.00</b>

March 2 / 3.....	\$15,484.00
March 9 / 10 .....	\$21,504.00
March 16 / 17 .....	\$12,718.00
March 23 / 24 .....	\$23,075.00

**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

## A Weekly Feature in the Bulletin for our Parish Centennial



If you have the 75th Anniversary St. Therese Parish Pictorial Directory (1924-1999), you'll see a picture of **Mei-lene Mak** and her two girls. Mei-lene joined the Parish when she was a young mother with a four-year old and one on the way. It was not hard to find Mei-lene for an interview as she attends our 8:00 a.m. daily Mass and stays afterward to lead the Rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet. This is her story.

Mei-lene—the second of seven children—is from Malaysia. She and her siblings grew up on Penang Island—known as the “Island of Pearls” (Malay-Pulau Mutiara)—located on the northwest coast along the Malacca Strait, some 220 miles from Kuala Lumpur. For many decades, Penang was part of the British Empire.

Mei-lene's father and mother were descendants of Chinese people who had settled in the Malay Peninsula a generation before. Her mother was Catholic but her father, a pharmacist, was a “free-thinker” who did not want his children to be baptized. They had to wait until they were 21 if they wanted to be baptized. Nonetheless, Mei-lene was sent to a Catholic school run by Irish Sisters and always went to Mass with her mother. A Chinese dialect (Toisan) was spoken at home, although English was also spoken. However, all students were required to learn Malay, the national language of Malaysia. Mei-lene says the Chinese people living in Malaysia often experienced discrimination.

After high school, Mei-lene (the name means “beautiful lotus”) came to Southern California in 1974 to study. She already had two uncles here which made things a little easier. She graduated from Cal State LA with a degree in Nutrition and Dietetics. Mei-lene was employed at St. Vincent Medical Center as a registered dietitian (R.D.). In the last few years before her retirement, she worked in the Center's transplant center as a transplant dietitian.

Mei-lene was introduced to her husband, Kin Mak, by her boss, who acted as a matchmaker. Kin is from Hong Kong where his parents had fled from Communist China. He was not raised in a Christian family. He was studying in Canada when he first met Mei-lene. They married in 1982 at St. Philip the Apostle in Pasadena, the church where Mei-lene was baptized at the age of 21. Her love for Jesus, she says, is a gift from God. Mei-lene was a member of the St. Philip's choir when it was directed by Frank Brownsted. She says that she has always loved to sing in choirs as it is a wonderful a way to express herself.

The newlyweds were able to buy a house on Curtis Avenue in Alhambra. Because of her love for singing and for other reasons, Mei-lene started attending St. Therese Church at the beginning of the 1990's, when Fr. Patrick Sugrue was the pastor (1990-1996). Her first born, Katrina, was five and her youngest, Annemarie, was a newborn. At that time, she joined our Contemporary Choir, directed by Bob Prichard. Eventually, the girls were enrolled in our Religious Education Program. When I was pastor in the late nineties, I remember seeing them come to Mass with their mother every Sunday; they even attended her choir practices. Kin, a non-Catholic, also came occasionally. The girls made their First Holy Communion at St. Therese and were confirmed here—Katrina in 2001 and Annemarie in 2006—and both graduated from Ramona High School. Katrina now works as a clinical lab scientist at Los Angeles General Medical Center. Annemarie, who studied at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore to become a Registered Nurse, works at Adventist Health in Glendale. They both live at home with Mei-lene.

A few years ago, Mei-lene asked the Blessed Virgin Mary to help her be more connected to the Rosary. She remembered how, many years before, she was moved by the recitation of the Rosary at her mother's wake in Penang. After her prayer, Mei-lene says she experienced an almost instantaneous tangible connection to the Rosary. She started going to daily Mass and eventually found herself leading the Rosary after the 8:00 a.m. weekday Mass. She even consecrated herself to the Blessed Virgin.

Mei-lene also teaches our Sunday School students their catechism but still finds time to sing in our 11:00 a.m. Choir, as well as in Charlotte Lansberg's *Credo Catholic Choir*. In addition, she is a member of the First Saturdays Fatima prayer group and a member of the *Living Flame of Love* devotion group held at St. Therese on Mondays.

Mei-lene is a poster-worthy member of St. Therese Parish—representing its last THREE decades!

The Mak Family 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 this centennial year.

# Pilgrimage to France with Fr. David Guzman



Join this Pilgrimage to France—including visiting St. Therese’s Basilica and her home in Lisieux—during our 100th St. Therese Parish Anniversary!

Fr. David Guzman will serve as the chaplain for the pilgrimage’s twelve days (**October 3rd to 14th, 2024**). As well as Lisieux, we will visit Dijon, Lourdes, Mont St. Michel, and other religious sites in France. This year’s 100th anniversary of the founding of St. Therese Parish connects with the 2023 100th Anniversary of St. Therese’s Beatification and her 2025 100th Anniversary of Canonization.

The package price for 12 days (from L.A. and back to L.A.) is \$3,985—which includes round trip airfare, hotel accommodations, breakfast/lunch, and admission fees. Mass will be celebrated daily. Detailed flyers will be available in the church soon!



## Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith Academics Virtue

Saint Therese Carmelite School



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 10AM  
ST. THERESE PARKING LOT

### SPONSOR A RUNNER TODAY!

STCS students will be outside all Masses this weekend collecting pledges for their run.

Sponsors can choose any (or all!) of the following options:

- 1) **Sponsor a Saint**- Sponsor a specific student you know
- 2) **Sponsor ALL the Saints**- Make a general donation to benefit all STCS runners
- 3) **Sponsor a Friar**- Sponsor one of the Friars participating in the Saint Run

Ask a student volunteer for more information.  
Thank you for your generous support of our school!

Scan here to donate via Zelle!



When submitting payment, please enter a note indicating, “Saint Run” and runner’s name, if applicable. If no name is included, the donation will go toward our general fundraising goal. Thank you!

1106 East Alhambra Road  
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# EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



"Without the constant presence of our Divine Master upon the altar in my poor chapels, I never could have persevered casting my lot with the lepers of Molokai." – St. Damien of Molokai, Apostle of the Lepers (January 3, 1840 – April 15, 1889 | Feast Day: May 10)



Father Damien, who ministered on the island of Molokai and was known the world over as the "Priest of the Lepers," was truly an Apostle of the Eucharist. This love he had for the Eucharist was transmitted to the lepers. He brought them to closer union with their Maker through the beautiful liturgies he organized, frequent Benediction, and Eucharistic Processions.

It was when he set up numerous adoration chapels that he experienced the depth of the lepers' faith and devotion. Related to the establishment of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration on the island, Father Damien wrote to his provincial in 1888, "This is the fifteenth year we observe night adoration...all of us lepers."

**Be a Committed Adorer:** Make a commitment to spend an hour or more every week with Our Lord in our Adoration Chapel! Go to <https://adorationpro.org/theresecca> to sign up.

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY MASS OF THE LAY MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

The Lay Missionaries of Charity (LMC) would like to invite all parishioners to join them at their 40th Anniversary Thanksgiving Mass on **Tuesday, April 16, at 6:00 p.m.**, here at St. Therese Church.

The LMC's was founded by Fr. Sebastian Vazhakala, M.C., in Rome on **April 16, 1984**, in the presence of St. Teresa of Calcutta.

The LMC movement is also affiliated with the Missionaries of Charity Brothers Contemplative as well as with the Missionaries of Charity Sisters Contemplative. Some of you may remember that the MC sisters lived on Granada in Alhambra and ministered in our parish boundaries for over thirty years before they moved to Santa Ana two years ago.

Please join us and help us to express our gratitude to God for the gift and the miracle of the LMC Movement. The LMC's local chaplain, Fr. John Hopkins, L.C., will be the celebrant.



**The Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary**  
Invites you and your guests to attend the

*Shower of Roses*  
Annual Benefit Luncheon

*Beautiful Memories*  
Celebrating 100 Years of Service

**Wednesday, April 24, 2024**  
10:30 a.m. - Social Hour  
RAFFLE DRAWINGS | OPPORTUNITY PRIZES | SILENT AUCTION  
12:00 p.m. - Luncheon & Fashion Show

*San Gabriel Country Club*  
350 East Hermosa Drive  
San Gabriel, California 91775  
Hosted Valet Parking

Kindly **RSVP by April 15** to Kathy Cardoza at (626) 570-9012. Send your check for \$75 per person (payable to Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary) to Kathy at 710 Lindaraxa Park South, Alhambra 91801.

# Mass Intentions

**April 6—April 13, 2024**

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Merle Smith, INT

Sunday

\*7:30 a.m.: Exupertor Tejero, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Alexander Balfour Wong, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Mary Rose Go and Patrick Rosal, INT

11 am: Dioscoro Mancao & Caridad Mancao, RIP

1:00 p.m. (Latin): Easter Novena 7

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

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Novena 8

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

8:00 a.m.: Rommel Protacio Karunungan, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Linda Manzano, RIP

Tuesday

6:00 a.m.: Robert Earl Jeffers, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Sophia Olomi, INT

7:15 p.m.: Easter Novena 9

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Sabrina Olomi, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Wang-Shih Lin, RIP

Thursday

6:00 a.m.: Kay Fitzpatrick, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Irene Zacharias, INT

8:00 a.m.: Steven Jay Smuckler, RIP

Friday:

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

\*7:30 a.m.: Mother Maria, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Aurora Olivarez Relatores, RIP

Saturday (Morning):

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

8:00 a.m.: Silverio Reyes, RIP

**\*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"!

# Outside the Parish

**THREE-DAY SILENT RETREAT FOR WOMEN (APRIL 19-21):** Hosted by the Legionaries of Christ and the Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra, this retreat focuses on the **Gospels and the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola**, opening the soul to the transforming power of grace. There are conferences led by Retreat Master Fr. John Hopkins, LC, as well as adoration, private reflection, Mass, and opportunities for confession and spiritual direction. **Sign up at [www.rb.gy/28jgcy](http://www.rb.gy/28jgcy) or call the Retreat House at (626) 289-1353. ONLY 21 SPOTS LEFT!**

**OUR LADY OF CHAMPION** (approved Apparition) **PILGRIMAGE with Saint Therese Parish's Father David:** Join Fr. David Guzman, O.C.D., to visit 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, Holy Hill Basilica, and the Carmelite Nuns Cloister in Denmark, WI. Pick up a Pilgrimage Flyer for more information.

**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 (323)360-5186 Or go to: [www.sacredhearttours.com](http://www.sacredhearttours.com).

*Give thanks to the Lord  
for he is good,  
his love is  
EVERLASTING.*

## Deaths

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:  
+ Maria Salinas  
(Funeral Mass on April 19 at 10:30 a.m.)

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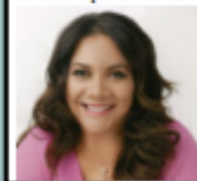
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