

SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

January 17, 2021 MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS Estab. 1924

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD X222

Associate Pastor: Fr. David Guzman, OCD X232

In Residence: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD;

Fr. Bernard Perkins, OCD X225; Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD;

Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD

Deacons: Deacon Joseph Mizerski X333;

Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Annulments: Lorraine Mizerski X333

Vocations:

For the Carmelites: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

Parish Secretary:

Denise McMaster-Holguin X223 denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

Music Director:

Charlotte Lansberg X226 / cjlansberg@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry / Vox Vitae:

Catherine Contreras X112

MASSES AND SERVICES

ALL SERVICES ARE OUTDOORS

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. & Sunday Vigil: 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: 6:00 and 9:00 a.m.—the 9:00

a.m. Mass is live streamed on our Facebook

page AND on our YouTube channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnvT2tTus](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnvT2tTus0wnxlypGOeuf0g)

0wnxlypGOeuf0g

Confessions under the red umbrellas on

Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. and on

Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: Register online

**Weddings: Register online
at least six months in advance**

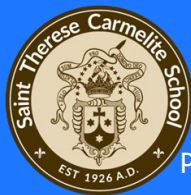
Anointing: Call the office.



SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661



www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com

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

Andrew...found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah"—which is translated "Christ." Then he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas," which is translated Peter.

(John 1:40-42)



New Parishioners: Welcome to St. Therese! Please register online: www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

We have a mail drop in front of the office at 510 North El Molino Street. It is located on the right side of the door.

FROM THE PASTOR

Blessed Epiphanytide, everyone!

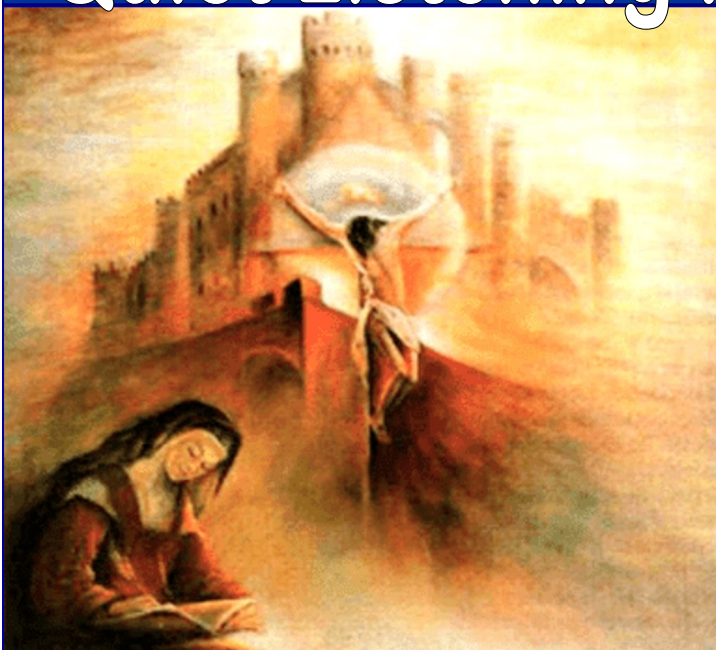
How can you tell that someone *really* loves you? By how often they say, “I love you!”? Well, how about this for a way to get a real sense of how much someone loves you: See how much of his or her FREE TIME that person gives you, when he or she could be doing something else. That’s how the first disciples in today’s Gospel begin to realize how much this new Person in the neighborhood loves them and cares about them, resulting in their entering into a deep, loving friendship with Him. They ask Him, “Where do you stay/abide/remain/hang out?” So He says, “Come and see!” “And they saw where He stayed and they stayed with Him that day.” All three times, it is the same word in the original Greek! So what did they all actually DO together??? It doesn’t matter! What matters is that they spent TIME together, that they hung out together!

Let us also spend extra time this week with Jesus, with the Father, with the Holy Spirit, as well as with our most cherished family members and friends—especially after we receive Him in Holy Communion (spiritual or sacramental Communion).

-Fr. Thomas of the Trinity

You define what is important to you by what you dedicate your time to.

Quiet Listening Prayer Formation



They say that the soul enters within itself and, at other times, that it rises above itself (2). With such terminology, I wouldn't know how to clarify anything. This is what's wrong with me: that I think you will understand by my way of explaining, while perhaps I'm the only one who will actually understand myself.

Let us suppose that these senses and faculties—for

I have already mentioned that these powers are the people of this castle (3), which is the image I have taken for my explanation—have gone outside and have walked for days and years with strangers—enemies of the well-being of the castle. Having seen their perdition, they've already begun to approach the castle even though they may not manage to remain inside because the habit of doing so is difficult to acquire.

But still they are not traitors and they walk in the environs of the castle. Once the great King, who is in the center dwelling place of this castle, sees their good will, He desires in His wonderful mercy to bring them back to Him. Like a good shepherd, with a whistle so gentle that even they themselves almost fail to hear it, He makes them recognize His voice and stops them from going so far astray, so that they will return to their dwelling place.

And this shepherd's whistle has such power that they abandon the exterior things in which they were estranged from Him and enter the castle (St. Teresa, *Interior Castle*, Mansion IV, Chapter 3, No. 2)

Healing-Prayer Ministry

In the afterglow of the celebration of the Lord's Baptism last Sunday, and while the various kinds of suffering around us and within us continue, I encourage you to **ask your Heavenly Father to renew His relationship with you as His beloved son or daughter** baptized into His very own Family. Here are some prayers that can help deepen that relationship:

PRAYER TO HEAL SEPARATION FROM GOD

Heavenly Father, I realize I have not embraced your perfect love, and I am separated from you and your love in many areas of my life. I am not at peace and rest with you. It has been hard to trust you in every area of my life. I want to be able to hold my heart open and trust again. I release my earthly father from the prison of unforgiveness where I have held Him in my heart. I have felt like He should pay for the pain he caused but he owes me nothing. Jesus paid in full his debt on the cross. I ask you, Heavenly Father, to forgive me for seeing you the same way as I saw my earthly father. I realize I have projected my childish picture of my earthly parent onto you. Cleanse my heart and renew my mind with the correct picture of you. Help me now to receive your perfect love. I want to hear you say, "I love you." Help me to feel the peace of knowing I am your child. In Jesus' name, Amen.

PRAYER TO HEAL SEPARATION FROM SELF

Heavenly Father, I now realize I have been separated from myself by accepting only part of myself as pleasing to you and others. The undesirable parts I have kept hidden. I have not seen myself as a unique creation, shaped and fashioned by you. I have rejected your creation and, therefore, have refused to enter fully into life. I have not been grateful for the way you have created me (my body, size, shape, etc.) or my birth parents or my birth place. I now see I have also been turning away from life by withdrawing from my family and friends. In many ways I have felt angry for _____. I ask for forgiveness for this anger. I renounce the lies that I am a mistake, a burden, or _____. I choose to accept myself as being one-of-a-kind, fearfully- and uniquely-made by you as a gift to my family and friends. I choose to turn toward life and to have gratitude for the fullness of life you have given me in Jesus Christ. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

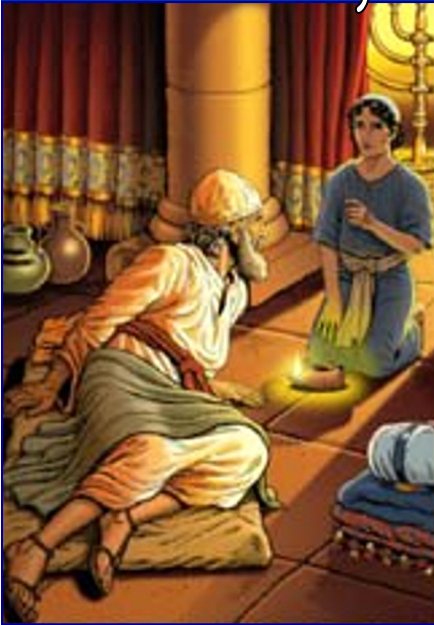
PRAYER TO FORGIVE OTHERS

Heavenly Father, I don't know how to make forgiveness happen. I can't cleanse my heart or change my feelings. I confess it is hard for me to trust, and it is hard to hold my heart open. But today I choose to forgive with my will and not my emotions. I know I'll have to choose again and again until you make forgiveness complete in me.

I CHOOSE TO FORGIVE _____ FOR _____.

Father, I choose to release _____ from the prison of my heart. Forgive me for subconsciously demanding they pay me for the harm they have done. I pronounce today that they owe me nothing. Cleanse me also of the sinful responses of bitterness and resentment that I have stored in my heart. Wash me clean. Forgive me for all condemning judgments I have made about _____. Renew me with a new and right spirit toward _____. I ask now for your blessings upon _____. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

"SPEAK, LORD..." - A MEDITATION



God's voice is always with us, awake or asleep. It swirls around us like fog on a waterfront, enveloping us, gently urging us to wake up, to listen. Awareness of the voice comes first; then willingness to listen; then, in time, the decision to act, to live according to God's word. The stories in today's readings about God's call to Samuel and Jesus' call to the first disciples help us begin to understand the nature of God's call. It is not a work order from a distant God to carry out a specific task, but an invitation to participate in what God is already doing. The journey begins with God's intentions and activity. After the initial moment of the call, God is shown to be actively leading these ordinary people to partner in His work. For ourselves, we might not experience a single or dramatic moment of call. God's call can take many forms.

In today's first reading (1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19), God keeps calling out in the night to a sleeping boy. Twice, the boy Samuel hears the call of God but goes to Eli and says, "Here I am". Neither the boy, Samuel, nor his teacher, Eli, understands who is calling. But God's persistence convinces them. At last Eli recognizes that it is God who is calling Samuel. When Samuel hears God a third time, Samuel does not say "Here I am," but "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." Samuel is then ready—not ready yet to do anything, but ready to listen. We can see a subtle shift as Samuel moves away from announcing his intention to serve and more clearly opens himself to God's voice. Samuel allows God to take the initiative, and attends first to God's intentions rather than his own.

Samuel's story helps us to remember that accepting God's call is not only about a new chapter in our personal story. Our acceptance is, more profoundly, a new moment in God's story. Even in our smallest "yes," God celebrates our partnership in God's great work. Through our openness and acceptance, God has new opportunities to bring all of us into loving unity with Him.

In the Gospel (John 1:35-42), Jesus is out teaching. Various people notice Him and begin to gather around. They soon become disciples and, like the young Samuel, are ready—not ready yet to do anything, but ready to listen. "Speak," they say, "we are listening." Jesus' first spoken words in the Gospel of John are: "What are you looking for?" This penetrating question reverberates throughout John's Gospel. The disciples who form Jesus' first community, and many others who meet Jesus

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

May God reward you! Below you will find the total collections for the previous four weekends.

NOTE: There is a second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND each month for our School.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



January 2 / 3, 2020
 Unrestricted.....\$23,943.00
 Restricted\$ 555.00
T O T A L \$24,498.00

December 12 / 13..... \$30,255.00
December 19 / 20..... \$16,230.00
Christmas Eve/Day.... \$22,596.00
December 26 / 27..... \$21,067.00

Check Users:
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ON TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

during His life, are drawn to Him, seeking something they can't quite name. As Jesus called and formed His community of disciples, He probed their hearts and allowed them to probe His heart. They shared their deepest needs, hopes, and commitments.

Jesus' words are also directed to us, here and now. Like Samuel and Jesus' disciples, we are invited into a relationship of trust and friendship with God. We are also invited to employ the gifts God has given us, always in dialogue with our God, in our daily lives. We learn to share our dreams and also to open our hearts to know God's dreams. In time, with lots of practice, with many successes and failures, we learn to trust God to shape and to fulfill our deepest desires. Sometimes we struggle to name what we really want.

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Just before our first reading it says that "the word of the Lord was rare; there were not many visions" (1 Samuel 3:1). I imagine most people today would think that was true. Haven't you ever wished you lived in biblical times, to see some of the miracles you read about? Wouldn't it be cool to hear the Lord speaking to you in a vision? Do you think God has stopped talking? People apparently felt that way in Samuel's time, too.

Let's look again at the first reading to see what Samuel's experience can teach us. It is not unusual for people to miss a sign from God. If you have a talent that you are proud of, perhaps it is a sign that God wants you to use that talent to help others. Or if a friend tells you she is concerned about your health, it could be God's way of telling you to get help. Try to see God speaking in whatever happens to you and you may hear a lot more than you think. Just as Eli began to recognize that God was speaking to Samuel, sometimes we too need help to discern what the Lord is telling us. A good spiritual director can lead you to understand what God is saying to you—just like Eli helped Samuel to listen to God. (Warning: Be prepared for any spiritual director to ask how often you pray!) Try spending more time in prayer with Him to know what He wants of you. Don't be like the man who complains he never knows what his wife wants from him. When asked what she tells him, he says, "I don't know; we never talk."

I bet we have all had times where we didn't know if we are doing God's will because we didn't take time to pray. But don't do all the talking! Give God some quiet time to hear His response. For God hasn't stopped talking; we just stopped listening. Today, ask God for the ability to keep your ears open so you don't miss His voice and His message!



THURSDAY NIGHTS FOR YOUR SOUL!

VIEWING OF AN EPISODE OF THE CHOSEN, CANDLELIGHT MASS, ADORATION

Join your Parish Community every Thursday evening to refresh your soul!
The schedule is as follows:

- 6:30 p.m.: Viewing of an Episode of The Chosen
- 7:00 p.m.: Mass
- 7:30 p.m.: Adoration

DRESS WARM!
BRING A BLANKET!



You can also watch *The Chosen* on YouTube.com.

The Way of Beauty



The deepest desire of the human
heart is to see another
and be seen by
that other's loving look."

—St Augustine

"Love to be real,
it must cost—
it must hurt—
it must empty
us of self."

-St. Teresa of Calcutta

*"Don't search for
true Love,
But try your best
to make your
Love true"*

Mass Intentions

Feast of Faith

For the Week of January 16 through 23, 2021

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Ron Lessard, RIP

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Fr. Adam Gonzales, OCD, INT

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Thomas Anaya & John Torres, RIP

11:00 am: Victor San Lucas, RIP

1:00 p.m.: (Latin): Ines Sarmiento, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Eleanor Rejuso, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Victor San Lucas, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Paul Phan & Otto Lacayo, INT

9:00 a.m.: Rosie Francisco, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: DeDe Baumann, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Stephen C. Schmidt, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Cynthia Diep & Family, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Rolando & Ramon Samson, RIP

*7:30 am: Marilyn Phan, INT

9:00 a.m.: Anita Catalano, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Rolando & Ramon Samson, RIP

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

9:00 a.m.: Rolando Samson, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Shari Petrik, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Fr. Kieran Kavanaugh, OCD, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Susan Aguilar, RIP

Saturday:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

9:00 a.m.: 1) Donald Dietz, RIP

2) Charlie Aguilar, RIP

*Held at the Carmelite Chapel,

215 East Alhambra Road

(CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC)

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

9:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday–Saturday) and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass are both live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube (for those not attending).

The Greeting:

At several points during the liturgy, the presider greets us with the words, “The Lord be with you.” These simple words are not like the



greetings that we exchange all day long—our “good mornings,” our “hellos” and “how are yous.” This liturgical greeting has roots deep in the Old Testament. In the book of Ruth, the words “the Lord be with you” are spoken by Boaz to the harvesters who are laboring in his fields (2:4); in the book of Judges, an angel speaks similar words to Gideon (6:12), where they are words of promise: for soon Gideon will lead his oppressed people to victory and freedom.

For us, the words become a greeting of peace, a prayer that the Lord will indeed be with us, and a reminder of His promise to be with us always, to the end of the world (Matthew 28:20). Our response—“And with your spirit”—returns to the presider this prayer for the Lord’s presence. As we know from the Scriptures, a prayer for the Lord’s presence is no small thing, for when God comes in our midst, God brings healing, grace, and challenge. God’s presence transforms us.

DEATHS

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

† **Leo Vioria**
(former parishioner and sacristan)



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Parishioner

WHY IS IT
 A man wakes up after sleeping
 under an ADVERTISED blanket
 on an ADVERTISED mattress
 and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas
 bathes in an ADVERTISED shower
 shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
 brushes his teeth
 with ADVERTISED toothpaste
 washes with ADVERTISED soap
 puts on ADVERTISED clothes
 drinks a cup
 of ADVERTISED coffee
 drives to work
 in an ADVERTISED car
 and then . . .
 refuses to ADVERTISE
 believing it doesn't pay.
 Later if business is poor
 he ADVERTISES it for sale.

WHY IS IT?



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 Remembering
 Your Parish in
 Your Will.**

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 please call the Parish Office.

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 M-F 6:30 am-9 pm, Sat 7 am-9 pm
 Sun 8 am-5 pm; Take out Orders
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