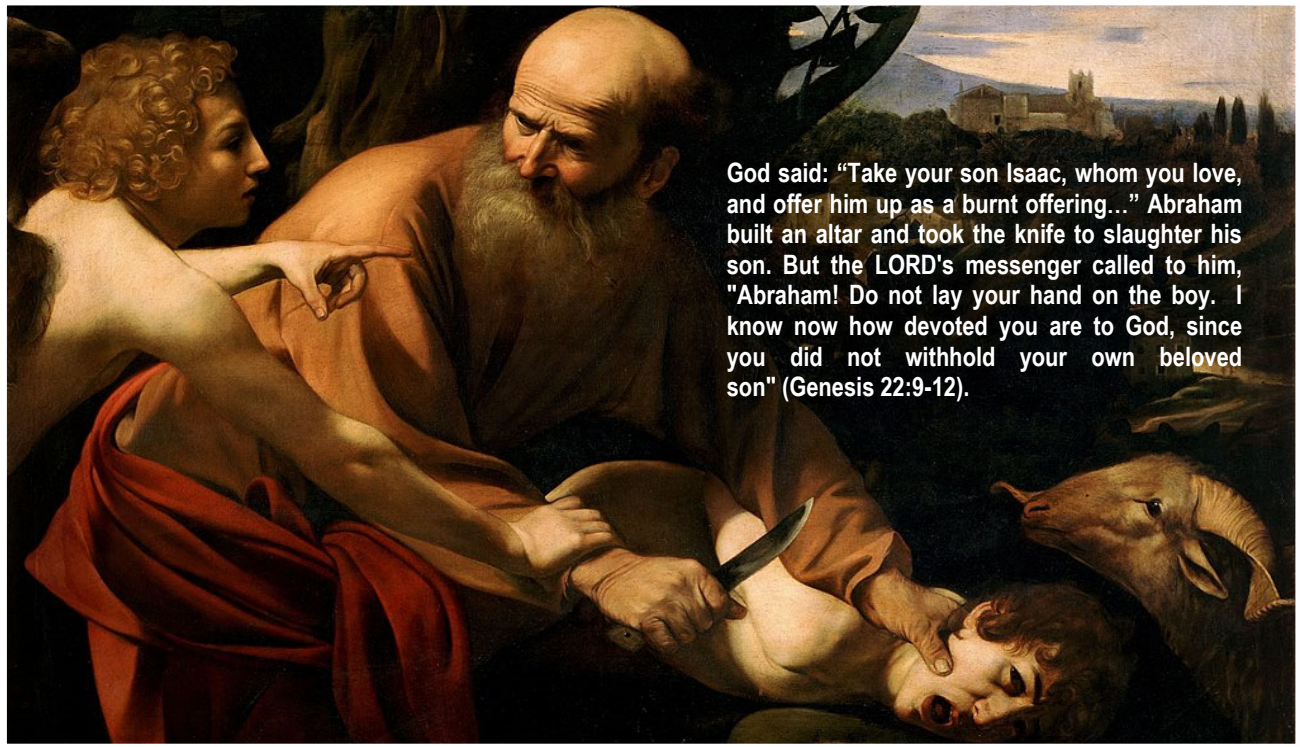


St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



February 25, 2024 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



God said: "Take your son Isaac, whom you love, and offer him up as a burnt offering..." Abraham built an altar and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him, "Abraham! Do not lay your hand on the boy. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold your own beloved son" (Genesis 22:9-12).

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,

Below is an excerpt from a 2009 document written by Pope Benedict on **the value of fasting**.
(The link to the full document is at the end.) —Fr. Peter Mary, O.C.D.



In our own day, fasting seems to have lost something of its spiritual meaning and has taken on, in a culture characterized by the search for material well-being, a therapeutic value for the care of one's body. It certainly brings benefits to physical well-being, but for believers, **fasting is, in the first place, a "therapy" to heal all that prevents them from conformity to the will of God.** In the Apostolic Constitution *Pænitèmini* of 1966, the Servant of God Paul VI saw the need to present fasting within the call of every Christian to **"no longer live for himself, but for Him who loves him and gave Himself for him ... he will also have to live for his brethren"** (cf. Ch. I). Lent could be a propitious time to present again the norms contained in this Apostolic Constitution, so that the authentic and perennial significance of this long held practice may be rediscovered, and thus assist us to mortify our egoism and open our heart to love of God and neighbor, the first and greatest Commandment of the new Law and compendium of the entire Gospel (Matt. 22, 34-40).

The faithful practice of fasting contributes, moreover, to conferring unity to the whole person, body and soul, helping to avoid sin and grow in intimacy with the Lord. St. Augustine, who knew all too well his own negative impulses, defining them as "twisted and tangled knottiness" (*Confessions*, II, 10.18), writes: "I will certainly impose privation, but it is so that He will forgive me, to be pleasing in His eyes, that I may enjoy His delightfulness" (*Sermo* 400, 3, 3: PL 40, 708). Denying material food, which nourishes our body, nurtures an interior disposition to listen to Christ and be fed by His saving word. Through fasting and praying, we allow Him to come and satisfy the deepest hunger that we experience in the depths of our being: the hunger and thirst for God.

At the same time, fasting is an aid to open our eyes to the situation in which so many of our brothers and sisters live. In his *First Letter*, St. John admonishes: "If anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet shuts up his bowels of compassion from him, how does the love of God abide in him?" (3,17). Voluntary fasting enables us to grow in the spirit of the Good Samaritan, who bends low and goes to the help of his suffering brother (*Encyclical Deus Caritas est*, 15). By freely embracing an act of self-denial for the sake of another, we make a statement that our brother or sister in need is not a stranger.

It is precisely to keep alive this welcoming and attentive attitude towards our brothers and sisters that I encourage the parishes and every other community to intensify in Lent the custom of private and communal fasts, joined to the reading of the Word of God, prayer, and almsgiving. From the beginning, this has been the hallmark of the Christian community, in which special collections were taken up (2 Corinthians 8, 9; Romans 15:25-27), the faithful being invited to give to the poor what had been set aside from their fast (*Didascalia Apostolorum*, V, 20,18). This practice needs to be rediscovered and encouraged again in our day, especially during the liturgical season of Lent.

LENT
FASTING

Lenten Events at St. Therese

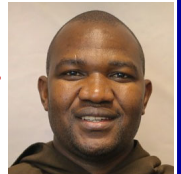


EVENING OF RECOLLECTION THIS Thursday, February 29, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m., Fr. Stephen Watson, OCD, will give a talk entitled *"Between Memory and Hope."* This will be followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m., Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:45 p.m. (including time for adoration); and will conclude with Benediction from 8:45 to 9:00 p.m. Don't miss it!

SOUP NIGHTS & STATIONS: All are invited to the Parish Hall for Soup Night every Friday of Lent through March 22nd (from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. each of those nights). This coming Friday's sponsor (March 1) is Guadalupe Pregnancy Services, followed by: March 8: The Flame of Love Prayer group; March 15: (*no sponsor to date); and March 22: Retrouvaille Ministry. All freewill offerings will benefit each sponsoring group. **(*CALL US TO SPONSOR!)**

Also, mark your calendars for a very special Lenten event:

LENTEN MISSION from Monday, March 11, through Thursday, March 14, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. each evening (including Mass each evening and Confession on Wednesday, March 13). Fr. Julius Ntalo, OCD, one of our Carmelite friars from our Ugandan Mission will be conducting the Mission. He will begin the Mission by speaking at each of the Sunday Masses on March 10th.



Pro Life News: 40 Days for Life

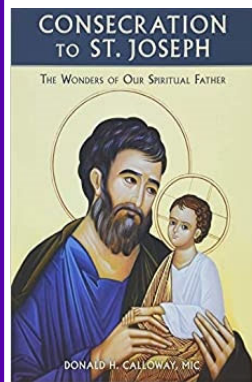
Join us in front of Pasadena Planned Parenthood (1045 North Lake Avenue, Pasadena) Monday through Saturday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. For more info, contact Rose Curiel at indigoro40daysforlife.com or (323) 528-8094. Here are some other activities in which you may be interested:

- March 12: Midpoint Rally in front of Planned Parenthood at 3:00 p.m.
- Rosary with the Knights of Columbus every Saturday morning and Thursday evening
- Stations of the Cross every Friday at 12:10 p.m., with Fr. David Guzman
- Mysteries of the Rosary Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m., with Fr. Burgitt
- March 23: Prolife Movie Night (showing Bella) at St. Therese (time to be decided)
- March 24th at 3:00 p.m.: Final blessing and prayers in front of Planned Parenthood



Learn more by going to the 40 Days for Life website: www.40daysforlife.com/pasadena.

Consecration to St. Joseph



The next consecration to St. Joseph will be on Tuesday, March 19th, the Feast of Saint Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. If you would like to make this consecration, you are invited to join us at our preparation gatherings on Wednesdays, February 28 and March 6 and 13—at your choice of time: either 12:30 or 5:30 p.m. Both times will be held in the Avila Room in the church office building. You will need the book, *Consecration to St. Joseph*, by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, which can be purchased in the office for \$15. For more info, call Maria Alejandra at (626) 993-4236 or email her at trinity1lord@gmail.com.

Homebound Parishioners



If you are homebound or you know of a parishioner who is homebound, elderly, or sick, and would like to have a pastoral visit, please call the office at (626) 282-2744.

Financial Offerings



February 17 / 18, 2024

Unrestricted..... \$16,702.00
 Restricted \$ 140.00
T O T A L.....\$16,842.00

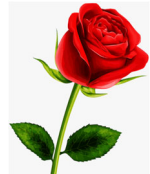
January 20 / 21 \$29,526.00
 January 27 / 28 \$22,466.00
 February 3 / 4 \$15,677.00
 February 10 / 11 \$11,127.00

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

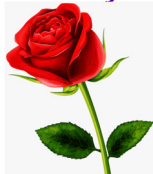
FR. JEROME APPEAL FOR THE CARMELITE NUNS

Special pink envelopes are still in the pews for making contributions to the annual Fr. Jerome Appeal. All donations will go to our Cloistered Discalced Carmelite here in Alhambra—to help provide for their daily needs and the upkeep of their monastery.

The Carmelite Monastery was instrumental in St. Therese Parish being established, and there has always been a special closeness and loving support between the parish and the monastery.

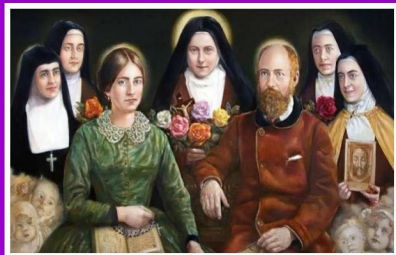


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and reward
your generosity!



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Becoming Like the Martin Family: STCS Parent Formation Nights

Christina Escovar

“Advocating for Your Struggling Child”

All adults are welcome to join us as Christina speaks on advocating for your child’s needs with doctors, teachers, and more.



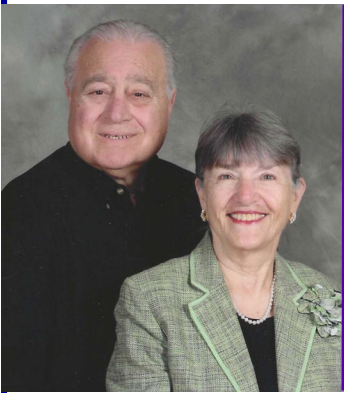
Thursday, March 7, 6:00 pm, Parish Hall

1106 East Alhambra Road
Alhambra, California 91801

(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

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

A Weekly Feature in the Bulletin for our Parish Centennial



Lucy Marikian was kind enough to come to the Parish Office so I could interview her for this bulletin article. At least she did not have to travel far, since she lives on Hidalgo Avenue. **Lucy and Charles (Chuck) Marikian** bought their home on Hidalgo Avenue in 1965. This is their story.

Lucy Macedonio was born in Brooklyn, New York, to Italian immigrants. The family moved to Alhambra after World War II, arriving by train on Easter Sunday 1947. Her father owned a shoe repair shop in the days before flip-flops, slip-ons, and sneakers. Nevertheless, he lamented that Californians did not wear good shoes like the people back in New York. Lucy went to All Souls Parochial School and then to Alhambra High School. It was in high school that she met her future husband, Chuck.

Chuck Marikian was born in East Los Angeles to Armenian immigrants. Lucy remarked that he was the first native-born Californian she had ever met. (So many people moved to Southern California in the years following World War II that it may have been one of the largest movements of human beings in history. In the five years after 1940, California's population grew by 2.5 million or 30%.)

Although they "went steady" in high school, Lucy wasn't going to rush into marriage after high school like so many of her classmates. Instead, she went to San Jose State College (now University) and majored in Art. She encouraged Chuck to continue studying as well, so he went to Cal State LA and majored in Public Relations. While still in college, they announced their engagement. In 1962, they were married at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Armenian Church in L.A. (*Chuck E's in Love* by Rickie Lee Jones is playing in my head ;-). Within a few years they were able to buy their house on Hidalgo Avenue. (Would that it were so easy to buy a house like that now!)

Although Lucy began teaching Art at Wilson High School, she took a break when their first daughter, Stacy, was born. Stacy was followed by two more daughters, Holly and Kelly. When the girls were older, Lucy eased back into teaching as a substitute teacher. Later, she taught Drivers Ed, for which she first had to go back to school to earn a Designated Subject credential; at the same time, she also earned her certification to teach behind the wheel. This change actually led to her becoming a Career Advisor—something which she did for the last six years of her 30 years with the L.A.U.S.D.—before ultimately retiring in 2003.

Chuck owned a store on Huntington Drive called Lantern Beverages. However, through a friend who worked at Santa Anita, he became interested in training Thoroughbreds, a horse breed developed for horse racing. After proving himself by successfully training a winning horse, he sold the store in 1971 and became a full-time horse trainer. Over the years, he won many more big races—once he even had three wins in one day! Unfortunately, this love of Lucy's life died five years ago this past January. Their three daughters are married. Stacy, the oldest, has her father's passion for horses. She lives in Southern California, as does the second born, Holly. The youngest, Kelly, lives in Portland, Oregon. Lucy also has three grandchildren.

Her involvement at St. Therese includes a few years of teaching Religious Education to third graders and serving for many years as an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister. These days, however, her focus is on the Discalced Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary. She helps out at their events and chronicles them with her picture taking. She also leads the St. Joseph Prayer Group which meets every Wednesday at 3:00 p.m., in front of the altar of St. Joseph in our church. Let me take this opportunity to encourage you to join this group on Wednesdays during the month of March, a month dedicated to St. Joseph. Devotion to St. Joseph will enhance your Lenten observance and bring many blessings, I assure you.

Lucy has seen priests and parishioners come and go over her 59 years in the Parish. She says she comes most of all for the Mass and intends to stay in her Parish.

**The Marikian 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.**

FIRST SATURDAYS' DEVOTION

FIRST SATURDAYS' DEVOTION
to honor & make reparation to the
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



Mark your calendar for our next First Saturdays' Devotion on **March 2, 2024**, and join us for the Rosary and a 15-minutes meditation after the 8:00 a.m. Mass! For any questions, contact the office at (626) 282-2744.

Three Fatima Seers—Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto (Feast: February 20): Francisco and Jacinta Marto, brother and sister, were born in the tiny town of Aljustrel, Portugal. Their parents, Manuel Marto and Olimpia de Jesus, had ten children, of which the little seers were the eighth and ninth. At the time of the apparitions, they were nine and seven years old, respectively. With their cousin, Lucia dos Santos, they pastured their families' sheep. Lucia was ten years old.

During the second apparition of June 13, 1917, when the children asked about going to Heaven, Our Lady told them that Francisco and Jacinta would be going soon, while Lucia was to stay on earth a while. Francisco and Jacinta, convinced that they were not long for this world, and interiorly transformed by great mystical graces as well as a terrifying vision of Hell, accepted a type of "spiritual victimhood" for the sake of offering reparation to God and saving the souls of sinners. They were declared "blessed" on May 13, 2000, by Pope John Paul II.

HelpOurMarriage.org

*"No matter how hard the past,
You can always begin again."*



A LIFE LINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Attention: Couples! Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue constantly or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse?

RETROUVAILLE (retro-vai) may be just what your marriage needs! It's for married couples facing difficult challenges in their relationships. It is primarily a practical program to improve communication, help rebuild trust, and provide tools to build stronger marriages and help couples reconnect.

The next weekend is on April 5-7 in Los Angeles. Register early to reserve your spot!. Call 909-900-5465 or www.HelpOurMarriage.org.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Join the women of St. Therese Church next month for our Lenten Women's Retreat weekend at El Carmelo Retreat House in



Redlands, California, on **March 15-17, 2024**. Registration forms can be found at the church entrances and in the church office. The rates are as follows:

Double room occupancy (2 per room): \$230 each person, includes two nights & six meals

Single room occupancy (private room): \$260 each person, includes two nights and six meals

A *deposit of \$75 (non-refundable) is required to reserve your room. **Make checks payable to: El Carmelo Retreat House** (make sure to write in the memo space on check: "Women's Silent Retreat, March 15-17, 2024"). [*Checks or money orders only.] Mail the deposit OR the full amount, along with a registration form (found on the tables by the entrances) to: **Louisa Day, Retreat Captain, 600 West Gleason Street, Monterey Park, CA 91754**. If a registration form is unavailable or you would like more information, please contact Louisa at louisaeday@yahoo.com | (323)360-5186.

Mass Intentions

February 24—March 2, 2024

Saturday Evening

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

Sunday

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

7:30 a.m.: Ernesto Bueno, RIP

9:00 am: Emma Villa, OCDS, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Luis Armando Arenas, Birthday INT

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

5:00 p.m.: Rogelio Vales, RIP

Monday:

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

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

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

7:15 p.m.: Kay Fitzpatrick, RIP

Tuesday

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

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

8:00 a.m.: Gen Cervantes, 92nd Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Jose Cruz Lopez, RIP

Wednesday:

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

*7:30 am: Sr. Therese Marie, OCD, INT

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

Thursday

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

*7:30 am: Sr. Anna, OCD, INT

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

First Friday:

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

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

8:00 a.m.: Geri Holman, Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Julius & Carmina Doria, INT

Saturday Morning:

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

8:00 a.m.: Carlos Maramag, Birthday INT

***Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel located at 215 East Alhambra Road. Open to the public except on Sundays and holidays.**

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

Our livestreaming service will not be available until later as we are working to put the wiring underground. When we return, we'll livestream the daily 8:00 a.m. Mass and the homilies for the Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass and the Monday 7:15 evening Mass.

Safeguard the Children

PROMISE TO PROTECT  PLEDGE TO HEAL

DID YOU KNOW? Understanding “sexting”:

“Sexting” is the sending of sexually explicit messages or images via text. Sexting commonly happens in conversations between teens and tweens, and usually involves nude “selfies.” When these images are shared or distributed on social media platforms like TikTok, Instagram, and Snapchat, the problem is made worse. Some states have laws against sexting that could have criminal ramifications for teens.

To learn more, read the VIRTUS® article “Responding to the Crime of Child Sexual Abuse Materials” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

Outside the Parish

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP OF CALIFORNIA: “The Prayer of A Righteous Man” Men's Conference on **Sat., March 9, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, at St. Philip's, 151 S. Hill Ave., Pasadena. **\$30 each** includes breakfast and pizza lunch (**FREE for men 18 to 25 years of age**). Come hear inspiring talks by Bishop Nunes, Fr. Larry Richards, Fr. John Hopkins, Deacon Steve Greco—with Bud Macfarlane as the MC. To register, go to www.catholicmen.org/events.

CHAMPIONS FOR LIFE: The Live Action Young Leaders Summit will be a transformative event, propelling leaders into the forefront of the battle for cultural change on issues of sex, relationships, and abortion. This one-day summit is a rallying cry for champions of life. Hear from Live Action President Lila Rose and other dynamic speakers, including Allie Stuckey, Seth Dillon of the Babylon Bee, pro-life apologist and author Trent Horn, and many more! It will be on Saturday, March 16, from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, at 16500 Scientific, Irvine 92618. \$20 per person, but use the code YLSGROUP for 50% off. Register at www.lifelinks.io/YLS.

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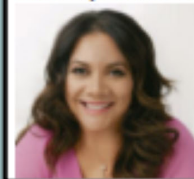
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