

St. Therese Catholic Church

January 1, 2023

Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars

Est. 1924

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

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. and 7:00 p.m.
(Tuesday's evening Mass is in Spanish). Note: the daily 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Masses and the Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass are **LIVE STREAMED** on Facebook AND YouTube)

Rosary: Mon-Sat after 8:00 a.m. Mass

CONFESSIONS (OUTSIDE)-Wednesdays from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Carmelite Nuns: 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.

*Holy Mary,
Mother of God*

OFFICE HOURS | CONTACTS

Monday-Friday: 9:00 am-1:00 pm; 2:00 pm-5:00 pm

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD X222

Associate Pastor: Fr. David Guzman, OCD X232

In Residence: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD, Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD; and Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD

Deacons: Dcn Joseph Mizerski | Dcn Gilbert Vargas X333;

Annulments: Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Vocations: For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

For the Carmelites: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

Parish Secretary: Denise McMaster-Holguin X223
denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

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

Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras XI12

ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

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

A Letter from the Pastor

Blessed Solemnity of Mary Mother of God, the Octave Day of Christmas, and World Day of Peace!!!

I'm hoping and praying that Our Lord Jesus, the King of Peace, with His and our Mother Mary's help, is filling you and your family and loved ones with His Peace beyond all understanding! How are you doing with the birthday presents that Jesus has been giving to you? (He likes to give gifts for His birthday, as you have probably noticed. ☺ Remember how He gave St. Therese the gift of a healing from her oversensitivity on Christmas Eve when she was 13 years old? Remember how she overheard her father becoming impatient with her, and instead of bursting into tears, received the grace to acknowledge her hurt feelings while still hiding them from the others so as not to ruin the evening? And how are you doing with your birthday gift to Him for His birthday?

And how about this for a child's summary of the Christmas Mystery, to help us become more child-like?:

"She was five, sure of the facts, and recited them with slow solemnity, convinced every word was revelation. She said they were so poor they had only peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to eat and they went a long way from home without getting lost. The lady rode a donkey, the man walked, and the baby was inside the lady. They had to stay in a stable with an ox and an ass (hee-hee), but the Three Rich Men found them because a star lited the roof. Shepherds came and you could pet the sheep but not feed them. Then the baby was borned. And do you know who He was? Her quarter eyes inflated to silver dollars. The baby was God. And she jumped in the air, whirled round, dove into the sofa, and buried her head under the cushion, which is the only proper response to the Good News of the Incarnation (John Shea, as quoted in THE HOLY LONGING by Ronald Rohlheiser).

Mary Christ-Mass, everyone!!! Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph, —Fr. Thomas

From Chapter Seven of "Be Transformed: The Healing Power of the Sacraments" by Bob Schuchts (How Holy Matrimony Heals Wounds of Fear) Third Installment

Among the gravest of consequences of broken relationships is that individual family members internalize a distorted perception of God, of themselves, and of all human relationships. As a result, they lose touch with their true identities. Eventually, marriage is devalued, and relationships become transitory. Under these conditions, the secure love God intended for every human person seems unreachable, and thus we witness the destructive patterns of relationships that are rampant in our culture.

These realities of broken relationships and broken trust were driven home to me many years ago when I was teaching a marriage class at a local community college. It was difficult teaching these ideas about the Sacrament of Matrimony in a secular environment where God could not be mentioned and many of the students did not have an experience of a healthy marriage or stable family. So, I invited the students to search out the truth on their own and present what they discovered in class debates. Everyone in the class was required to research a topic and sign up for a debate. One particular class stands out in my memory because it involved a debate about marriage and cohabitation. A young man signed up to present the case for marriage, and a young woman presented the case for cohabitation.

During the debate, many ideas were presented back and forth with increasing intensity, but the closing words from the young woman remain emblazoned in my memory. Feeling as though she was losing the debate by the weakness of her arguments, she blurted out in exasperation, "I don't care what you say. I will never marry and put my children through what I experienced watching my parents each divorce three times." The other students gasped, realizing that this was no longer a debate about ideals, but the revelation of this young woman's broken heart.

Identifying with her pain, I also saw that her resolution was in actuality no solution at all, but an unconscious choice she made out of her deep wounds of fear and mistrust. She thought she could protect her heart from allowing it to be broken again and at the same time save her children from the same fate that she experienced growing up in a broken home. But in reality, she was tragically insulating herself from her pain and ensuring that it would be passed down to her children, inevitably forming their identities as a mirror of her own brokenness. To raise children and never marry would only reinforce the likelihood of her children becoming fearful and insecure and having difficulties making commitments, treading the same path forged by her parents and perhaps the preceding generations.



Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith Academics Virtue

How does a classical curriculum inspire a lifelong pursuit of wisdom? -Leigh Lowe, Memoria Press speaker and classical curriculum consultant

Borrowing from the wisdom of Socrates, the classically educated person achieves what Cheryl Lowe joyfully referred to as "Ignorance Awareness"—that is, the humility and gratitude that accompanies high academic achievement and the counter-cultural self-recognition that there is always a lot more to learn. Memoria Press believes the pursuit of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty is inexhaustible. We are committed to helping each student and teacher develop God-given talents so that he or she will be well-prepared to honor ongoing callings throughout life.

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.



Happy New Year!



Open House

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
10 AM-3 PM



1106 EAST ALHAMBRA ROAD, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91801

Saint Therese Carmelite School is first and foremost a Catholic school. Saint Therese Carmelite School educates students through the Catholic Classical model of education to equip our students with the logic, critical thinking, and language skills necessary to succeed throughout their lives.

- Classical curriculum
- Weekly Mass
- Monthly Confession
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- Latin for 3rd-8th grade
- Euclidean geometry
- All-school choir
- Fine arts
- CYO sports
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Give them the necessary skills for high school and beyond!

Our middle school program focuses on providing our students with the critical thinking, self-discipline, and independent drive necessary to succeed in a rigorous high school program.



Come and see what our program is about!

On this, her solemnity, may Mary, the Mother of God, shower you with blessings and watch over you and your family in the year to come.

1106 East Alhambra Road
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(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com



Happy New Year!

As we begin a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our Faith, our health, our families. and our friends. Let us release our grudges and our anger, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, conscious of God's presence every day. In any ways that we are able, let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth, and from wrong to right. May your year be filled with peace, prosperity, and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy, and peaceful new year.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD bless you and keep you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace! (Numbers 6:22-27).

Responsorial Psalm 67 (66): 2-3, 5,6,8: — May God be merciful and bless us.



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Second Reading — God sent the Spirit of the Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but an heir, through God (Galatians 4:4-7)

Gospel — The shepherds glorified and praised God for all they had heard and seen (Luke 2:16-21).

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FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

May God reward you for giving from your heart! Below you will find the total collection for last weekend, as well as for the previous four weekends. Note: There is a second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND OF EACH MONTH for our School.



Due to the Christmas holidays, this bulletin was prepared early. The totals for the weekends of December 17/18 and December 24/25 will be posted in the bulletin of January 8, 2023.

November 19 / 20\$13,076.00
November 26 / 27\$16,977.00
December 3 / 4 \$33,466.00
December 10 / 11 \$22,294.00

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

A Spiritual Bouquet to Our Lady of Fatima

The Five First Saturdays Devotion: Our last First Saturdays Devotion on December 3 was well attended. Afterwards, we had our first-ever reception in the Avila Room. Mark your calendar for our next First Saturdays Devotion on January 7, 2023, and join us in praying the Rosary prayer and making a 15-minutes meditation after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. This devotion is ongoing. To sign up or to ask questions, please contact Maria Alejandra at (626) 993-4236.

Five First Saturdays



How to Make the "Five First Saturdays" Devotion?

On the First Saturday of five consecutive months:

- Go to Confession,
- Receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion,
- Pray five decades of the Rosary,
- Meditate for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary.



Offer all of the above should be offered in REPARATION for the sins of Blasphemy and ingratitude committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



They returned home a new way. Matthew 2:12



SACRED HEART LEADERSHIP RETREAT

JAN 8, 2023 10AM-9PM

Young women ages 18-30 are invited to a day of prayer & renewal, spiritual presentations & small group discussions.

Sunday Mass is included in the day.

This retreat is hosted by the Sacred Heart Sisters.

RSVP BY JAN 5

WWW.SACREDHEARTSISTERS.COM



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How to Fulfill this Requirement?

Taking fifteen minutes to spend some time with Our Lady, while meditating on one or more mysteries of the Rosary, is intended to be in addition to the recitation of the Rosary itself. The Dominican Rosary Center suggests that it might be preferable to meditate on one mystery each month.

Most people may not know St. Peter of Alcantara (1499 – 1562), but he served as confessor to St. Teresa of Avila and was a great help in promoting the Carmelite reform. Teresa often referred to him as a saint even while he was still living. Here are two quotes attributed to him:



Quote #1: "It is as necessary to regulate the heart before prayer and meditation as to tune the guitar before playing it."

Quote #2: "In meditation we must act like a wise gardener who, when he waters a plot of ground, waits a while after the first sprinkling of water until it be soaked in, and then sprinkles again, so that the earth may be thoroughly wet and thus become more fruitful."

The Real St. Therese



An installment from
The Passion of Thérèse of Lisieux by Guy Faucher

Throughout June of 1897, Therese continued to write freely about topics suggested to her: fraternal charity, the novitiate, her spiritual brothers... She was still on her feet at the beginning of July, but was “at the end of her strength.” On the afternoon of July 2nd, the first Friday

of the month, she went for the last time to adore the Blessed Sacrament in the oratory. The doctor prescribed a kind of condensed milk diet that she found “a horror to take,” but she could keep it down when she could not digest ordinary milk. The fears of June (a month that was full, since Therese had written down what could be called her testament) suddenly became a reality, when a sharp decline in her condition threw the community into a state of consternation.

The period of hemoptysis (July 6 – August 5): While Therese was in the infirmary, her mental faculties were not affected, as can be seen by Manuscript C of her memoirs, but her weakness increased. After writing thirty-six pages, Therese had to give up using pen and ink and continue with a pencil. But even it became too heavy, and fell from her hand. This says much about her physical condition when we know her willpower. Beginning on July 6 and continuing until August 5—twenty-nine days—Therese lost blood day and night. It is difficult to give the exact number of these coughing-up of blood, but it was about twenty times. Sister Marie of the Eucharist said, “She was coughing up blood, or rather vomiting it, all through the remainder of the day. She'll cough up a generous glassful in a quarter of an hour.” According to a letter dated August 5, 1897: “Today is the first day since July 28 that our little patient has not coughed up blood.”

“To show the state the community is in,” wrote Sister Marie of the Eucharist, “there are tears, sobs and grief on all sides.” Therese was burning with fever and had to take ice continually. She also had to submit to mustard poultices. A state of extreme weakness followed: “She isn't able to raise her hand to her mouth, it just falls by her side.” The doctor found the right lung still congested. He said that in her state “only two percent ever recover.” Her condition was such that some thought the time had come to administer the Last Sacraments. The doctor and superior, however, did not think that death was imminent. It is true that, when they visited her, Therese made an effort and found the strength to joke with them. On Sunday evening, July 11, the doctor visited and said that she could still go on for some weeks if she could get some nourishment. He added, “She's lost to us, unless a great miracle takes place.”

Bring the Father Glory

The problem with the idea that every Christian has only one gift is that the Bible teaches that Christians can operate in more than one of the gifts. Perhaps it is because of the focus on Romans 12 instead of 1 Corinthians 12 that the wrong emphasis has developed. In the popular New International Version, Romans 12:6 speaks of “your gift.” The Greek does not say this, however, and it is not in most translations. In the same version, there are other verses that speak of the possibility of a Christian having more than one gift. For example, Paul says, “But earnestly desire the higher gifts,” and also, “Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy” (1 Corinthians 12:31; 14:1). These two verses state that we are to desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. This indicates that although God gives the gifts as He wills, we can receive them through earnestly desiring them. Paul also tells the Corinthians that he would like for them all to speak in tongues and to desire to interpret tongues (1 Corinthians 14:5, 13). This again indicates the possibility of having more than one gift.

When I first was exposed to the operation of the gifts of the Spirit in an experiential way, I was talking with my wife and a couple of our close friends. We were talking about what gift we each would like to have. We each named the gift we desired, but then my wife said, “I want them all!” Biblically speaking, she intuitively was more correct than the rest of us, who were still in the old paradigm of having only gift.

There are many people who have received a gift of the Holy Spirit that caused them to step into a powerful new realm of the activity of the Spirit. This experience enables them to see many more words of knowledge, healings, and miracles. For others, it is the release of a greater gift of prophecy, and for still others, the discerning of spirits. For some, it is tongues and interpretation of tongues; for others, there is a release into all these gifts.

According to the Bible, God is looking for people through whom He can show Himself strong (2 Chronicles 16:9). **God is looking for people through whom He will answer Jesus' prayer in John 15:8—people who will bring the Father glory by bearing supernatural fruit done by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Continues next week

From *Spiritual Gifts Handbook*—on sale in the office

Mass Intentions

December 31, 2022—January 7, 2023

Saturday evening (New Year's Eve):

5:00 p.m.: Christmas Novena 6

Sunday (New Year's Day | Mary, Mother of God):

*7:30 a.m. (Carmel): All Humanity & Peace on Earth

7:30 am: Christmas Novena 7

9:00 a.m.: Sofia Ruiz, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Grace Mercado Ouano, INT

1:00 p.m.: Molly Lynch, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Charles & Teresa Olivas, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Tom Johnson, RIP

*7:30 am: Christmas Novena 8

8:00 a.m.: McAllister Family, INT

7:00 p.m.: Shirley Sullivan, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Tom Johnson, RIP

*7:30 am: Christmas Novena 9

8:00 a.m.: Rose Agnes Nave, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Shirley Sullivan, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Claire Jones, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Paul Duyet Van Phan, RIP

8:00 am: Thelma Saddol, INT

7:00 p.m.: Camilla & Tom Lynch, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 am: Claire Jones, INT

*7:30 am: Mother Maria, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Christopher, Priscilla, and Isaiah, INT

7:00 p.m.: Donald Mah, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: David Connell, RIP

*7:30 am: Mother Maria, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Stefan Hendra Rahardja, RIP

7:00 p.m.: John Lynch, RIP

Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Stefan Hendra Rahardja, RIP

*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel.

The Carmel's Chapel is open to the public every day except Sundays and major holidays.

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

The 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday), the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, and the 7:00 p.m. Monday evening Mass are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube. Links to those two sites are on our website's home page (in the top left column).

Quiet Listening Prayer

By St. John of the Cross

80. Bridle your tongue and your thoughts very much, direct your affection habitually toward God, and your spirit will be divinely enkindled.

81. Feed not your spirit on anything but God. Cast off concern about things, and bear peace and recollection in your heart.

82. Keep spiritually tranquil in a loving attentiveness to God, and when it is necessary to speak, let it be with the same calm and peace.

83. Preserve a habitual remembrance of eternal life, recalling that those who hold themselves the lowest and poorest and least of all will enjoy the highest dominion and glory in God.

84. Rejoice habitually in God, who is your salvation [Lk. 1:47], and reflect that it is good to suffer in any way for him who is good.--St John of the Cross, Sayings of Light and Love

World Youth Day

Calling all young adults 18-35! Join fellow young adults and Pope Francis for a pilgrimage to Portugal for World Youth Day from July 30 to August 8, 2023. We're also visiting Fatima and the Eucharistic Miracle of Santarem. Cost will be approximately \$4,145 per person (includes roundtrip airfare, hotel, transportation, and more). To register or for more information, contact Amy Rodriguez at amyrodriguez01@gmail.com. To receive text or email updates, text "WYD2023" to 84576.

Personal Ad

ROOMS FOR RENT IN HOUSE: Shared bath, kitchen privileges. TEXT Miriam at (626) 590-0768 for details.

Funeral

You are invited to attend the funeral services for:

+ Marie Ryan (wife of Phil Ryan)

The funeral Mass will be held here at St. Therese Church next **Saturday, January 7, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.,**

followed by a **reception at Almansor Court**

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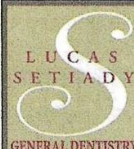


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