

# St. Therese Catholic Church

1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | [www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org](http://www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org)

August 22, 2021 **Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars** Est. 1924

## 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;

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

Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD

**Deacons:** Deacon Joseph Mizerski X333;

Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

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

For the Carmelites: [www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com](http://www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com)

**Parish Secretary:**

Denise McMaster-Holguin X223 [denisekay@hotmail.com](mailto:denisekay@hotmail.com)

**Finance:** Noralyn Cailan X228 / [cailannocds@gmail.com](mailto:cailannocds@gmail.com)

**Organist:** Ethan Williams / [ethanFwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:ethanFwilliams@gmail.com)

**Respect Life Ministry / Vox Vitae:**

## MASSES | CONFESSIONS

**Masses—Saturday:** 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 and 8:00 a.m.

(the 8:00 a.m. daily and the Sunday 11:00 a.m. Masses are

LIVE STREAMED on our Facebook

page AND on our YouTube channel).

**Masses on Monday, \*Tuesday (in \*Spanish) & Thursday EVENINGS** at 7:15 p.m.—preceded by a showing of The Chosen, Season 2, from 7:00 to 7:15 pm;

**Mass on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.**

**CONFESSIONS (OUTSIDE)**-Wednesdays from 8:00

to 9:00 p.m.; Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m.

and Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.



## SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

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**Principal: Alma Cornejo X661**

[www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com](http://www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com)

[principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com](mailto:principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com)

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

## SACRAMENTS:

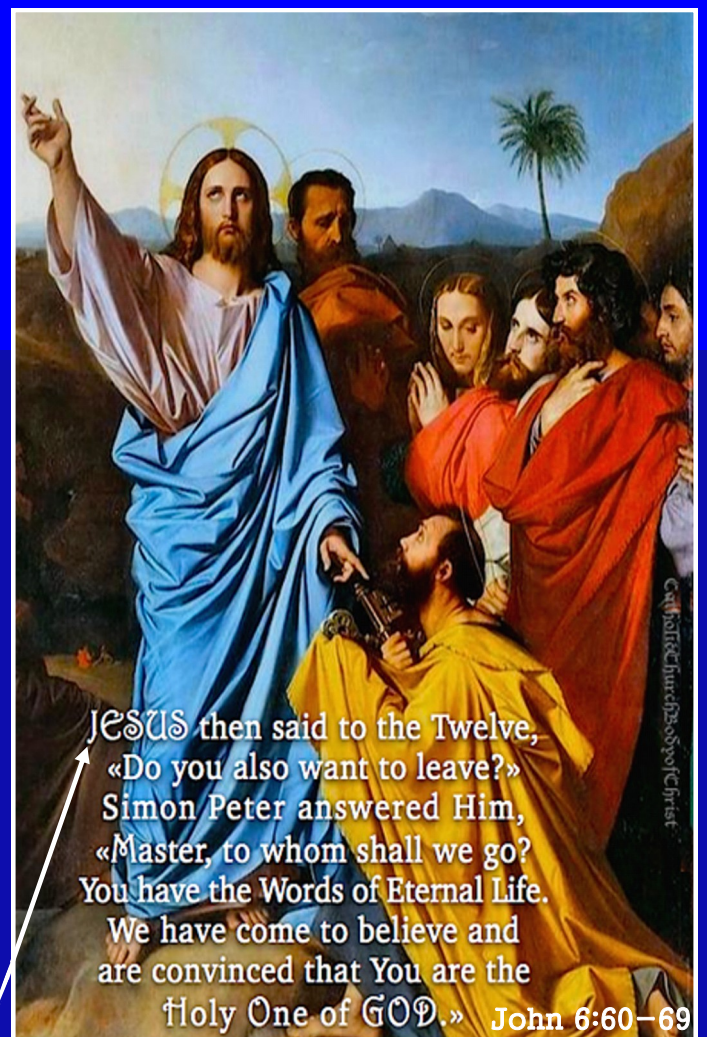
**Baptisms: Register online**

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

**Anointing of the Sick: Call the office.**



Then many of His disciples who were listening said, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" He said to them, "Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe." Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray Him. And He said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father." As a result of this, many of His disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied Him.



JESUS then said to the Twelve, «Do you also want to leave?» Simon Peter answered Him, «Master, to whom shall we go? You have the Words of Eternal Life. We have come to believe and are convinced that You are the Holy One of GOD.» John 6:60-69

# THE PASTOR'S LETTER

Greetings on this 21st Sunday of the Year—also the Octave Day of our Heavenly Mom's Birthday into Heaven, otherwise known as the Queenship of Mary (there is a cemetery in Rowland Heights called Queen of Heaven Cemetery). **Below is a brief meditation by Fr. Ken Roberts on the Fifth Glorious Mystery of the Rosary, the Crowning of the Blessed Virgin, Queen of Heaven and Earth, to help us engage in a live encounter with our invisible Mother:**

**"A great sign appeared in the heavens..." "A woman clothed with the sun..." No banquet, no inaugural ball was ever more resplendent. The woman takes her place beside her Son. HOW DID IT FEEL? "With the moon under her feet..." Her work is done. She awaits her award. No woman was ever so honored. HOW DID IT FEEL? "And upon her head, a crown of twelve stars." The moment has come, and she is crowned the First Lady, the Queen of Heaven. HOW DID IT FEEL? Think of your last day on earth. How will it be? Think of your first day in paradise. It will last forever. Think of the reward that Christ has promised you. An eternity of happiness. Do you know how it will be after you die? Close your eyes and try to imagine it. THE EARLY CHRISTIANS DID. \*Revelation 12:1**

I do hope that you were able to see Fr. Philip Sullivan this weekend before he leaves this Monday morning, August 23rd, to attend some meetings in Rome. How did you like the Paint 'N Pinot evening with him on Friday? Wasn't that great fun, hanging out with Father, as well as great training for prayer? Iconographers speak of how their form of art is literally a form of prayer as they follow their inner inspiration. (So, too, by the way, do surfers speak of their art/sport... but I digress. We'll leave that discussion for another beach...er....day.) Buon Viaggio, Padrino Filippo!!!

On a somber note, if you get out your Bible and look up today's Gospel, you will find the verse, "**As a result of *this* [*this being Jesus telling them they must eat His flesh and drink His blood*], many of His disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied Him" (John 6:66—the number of the anti-Christ!). The Eucharist is indeed a hard saying/teaching and a scandal for so many Catholic and non-Catholic Christians. And yet so many of us disciples have no problem believing that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead simply by saying, "Lazarus, come out [of the tomb]!" Why should it be so hard to believe that He could say to a piece of bread, "This is My Body," and it happens! It becomes His Body! And for any corporal creature, wherever your body is, there is where the whole of YOU is present/existing. You don't just *have* a body, you *are* your body!!!**



Here, again, from an earlier bulletin, are the main things Catholics believe about the Eucharist. **Which of these statements about Holy Communion best reflects your belief?**

1. When receiving Holy Communion, you are receiving bread and wine, which symbolize the spirit and teachings of Jesus. By receiving, you are expressing your attachment to His Person and words.
2. When receiving Holy Communion, you are receiving bread and wine, in which Jesus is really and truly present.
3. When receiving Holy Communion, you are receiving the Body of Christ, which has become that because of your personal belief.
4. When receiving Holy Communion, you are really and truly receiving the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ, under the appearance of bread and wine.
5. It's all a bunch of hocus pocus.



Of the previous five statements, only ONE is correct: Number Four! Here are the statements again, each followed by an explanation:

1. When receiving Holy Communion, you are receiving bread and wine, which symbolize the spirit and teachings of Jesus. By receiving, you are expressing your attachment to His Person and words. If He really meant to give us His Body under the appearance of Bread, who are we to tell Him what He did and didn't mean.
2. When receiving Holy Communion, you are receiving bread and wine, in which Jesus is really and truly present. It is impossible for something to be a thing (bread and wine) and at the same time and in the same way to be a Person (Jesus)—it's either bread and wine OR it's Jesus Himself!
3. When receiving Holy Communion, you are receiving the Body of Christ, which has become that because of your personal belief. No, it's not because of your belief, but because of the power of the ministerial Priesthood, that it transubstantiates into bread, and the same for the wine.
4. When receiving Holy Communion, you are really and truly receiving the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ, under the *appearance* of bread and wine. This is what the Church teaches, and is the ONLY correct response of the five given.
5. It's all a bunch of hocus pocus. No it's not hocus pocus! It's not a bunch of magic! The term "hocus pocus" was originally an anti-Catholic slur on the Latin words of institution: "Hoc est Corpus meum" or "This is My Body". People in the past used it to mock Catholics.



A Gallup Poll of 1992, taken by church-going Catholics, showed the following statistics:

- Three out of ten (30%) Catholics believe that when they receive Holy Communion they are "really and truly receiving the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ, *under the appearance* of bread and wine." Older Catholics are the most likely to believe this. Among those 50 or older, 50% say the above statement best reflects their belief about Holy Communion compared with 21% of those under 50 years of age.
- Three out of ten (30%) Catholics believe that "when receiving Holy Communion, they are receiving bread and wine, which *symbolize* the spirit and teachings of Jesus and, in so doing, are expressing their attachment to His Person and words." Younger Catholics tend to believe this statement. Among those under the age of 50, 36% say this statement best reflects their own views compared with 13% of those 50 or older.
- One-quarter (25%) of Catholics think, "when receiving Holy Communion, they are receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, which has become that because of their personal beliefs." In addition, one out of ten (10%) think, "when receiving Holy Communion, they are receiving bread and wine, in which Jesus is really and truly *present*."

If you didn't choose Number Four above and you're one of the 85% of Catholics who don't understand what the Church teaches about the Holy Eucharist, I'd like to suggest that you read a good Catholic book about it—maybe *Calvary and the Mass* by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen—and ask Jesus to reveal Himself to you more clearly during your thanksgiving prayer after receiving Holy Communion.

**Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD**  
**Pastor**



# "DO YOU ALSO WANT TO LEAVE?"

There is an axiom that states, "Not to decide is to decide." This saying was popular in the turbulent times of the Vietnam War. It urged us not to allow others to answer the moral questions raised by our nation's involvement in that terrible conflict, but to decide for ourselves. Jesus, for His part, was not only a gallant risk-taker, but also a clear decision-maker. He worked hard to lay out a scenario that would enable others to make good choices. Never did He make decisions for others or force others into decisions—even decisions that had eternal ramifications. Jesus is inviting us to make such decisions today. Take the risk! Decide!

In today's First Reading (Joshua 24:1-2, 15,17,18), Joshua and the Israelites are preparing to enter the Promised Land, and Joshua asks the people to decide which god they will follow, the Lord their God, or the gods of neighboring peoples. He is asking them for a commitment and proclaims, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Our Responsorial Psalm features Psalm 34, the "taste and see" psalm that reflects the kinds of struggles the Israelites faced during their sojourn in the wilderness. In the Second Reading (Ephesians 5:21-32), Paul gives counsel for maintaining domestic peace and happiness. In John's Gospel (6:60-69), we hear the conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse. Sometimes in life we find ourselves at a crossroads, faced with an existential choice that will alter the course of our life. We are aware, at these moments, just how significant our choice will be and that there will be no going back.

If you want to start an argument, try telling your wife that St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians says she should agree with everything you say. I'm sure that many people have taken out of context the line about wives being submissive to their husbands. In fact, the first sentence says both parties should be subordinate to one another (Eph 5:21). And even more important is the last verse: Paul says he is actually talking about Christ and the Church and mentions the main example: Christ handing Himself over for her (the Church) refers to His death on the Cross. He made it even clearer for them the night before He died: He washed the feet of His disciples and told them to do the same for each other (John 13:14-15). If you ever had your feet washed on Holy Thursday and were humbled by the experience, imagine having the Son of God wash your feet! Paul explains that marriage is the best example of "love your neighbor as yourself." He quotes Genesis 2:24 about two people becoming one body. So your love for yourself now becomes love for your spouse. Paul's conclusion is that marriage is a sign of what the Church should be. If you ever want to know what the love of Christ for His Church is, look at how a couple in a strong marriage love each other. And if you want to have a good marriage, love each other as Christ loves you.

The people who were following Jesus, crossing the lake twice to pursue Him, eating the bread He miraculously provided, are now puzzled by Jesus proclaiming Himself as "the Bread of Life," and they are incredulous. They refuse to go with Him any further and they drift away. Jesus—with NO attempt to soften His words ("**Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, you do not have life within you.**" -John 6:53)—turns to the Twelve and asks them, "**DO YOU ALSO WANT TO LEAVE?**" He is willing to allow His Chosen ones—including us!—to leave Him and His Church rather than to water down anything that He said about His Living Presence in the Eucharist. The apostles, of course, stayed with Jesus. What else could they do? Who else offers such a profound vision of human life? Peter expresses it well: "**Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**"

Not all of life's crossroads involve our faith, but many do. Perhaps there is someone in your parish who chose to become Catholic and is now alienated from their family; someone who is unhappy with a new pastor and wondering about looking for a different parish; someone who was especially distressed by the clergy sex abuse and prayed long and hard before deciding that she needed her Church to get through it. There may be many in our parishes facing such choices, and they need our support and our prayers. In the meantime, we can hope that someday they will again experience Jesus as the Holy One of God, offering them words of eternal life.





# Dinner & Auction Evening Masses



**Modern Cocktail Society**

The Discalced Carmelite Friars of St. Therese invite everyone to attend Saint Therese School's annual event, **The Little Way Dinner and Benefit Auction**, on **Friday, October 1**, at Almansor Court in Alhambra. **This year's recipients of the Lantry Award will be parishioners Dr. Bernhard and Mrs. Kay Tittmann.**

The event includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, a three-course dinner, both silent and live auctions, and dancing to the **live band, Modern Cocktail Society**. To purchase a ticket or make a donation, go to <https://one.bidpal.net/stcsauction/welcome>.

Please note that the evening Masses on **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday will not begin until 7:15 p.m.**, as each will be preceded by a showing of a portion of Season Two of *The Chosen*.



## DO YOU LIKE TO SING? REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS ED



**Then consider joining our 11:00 a.m. Mass Choir!**

Choir Rehearsals will begin again on Wednesday, **September 1**, and continue **every FIRST and THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH** from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

These rehearsals are held in the choir room in the church basement (enter through the side door on the parking lot side of the church—near the Adoration Chapel—and go DOWN the stairs. Turn right at the bottom of the steps).

**An interview is required for new members. For more information, email the choir director, Paula Grimm, at [pgrimm.dir@gmail.com](mailto:pgrimm.dir@gmail.com).**

### RELIGIOUS ED FOR YOUR CHILD!

Registration will take place at the picnic tables in front of the Hall N E X T **SUNDAY, August 29, and Sunday, September 5 (after the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses)**—for both Elementary Grades 1—8 AND for Confirmation classes for High School students. Registration forms will be available then; but you can **download one from our website** (find it under the link, **Religious Ed**). **Please also bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate (and a First Communion certificate for those who have already received AND your checkbook to pay the fees).**

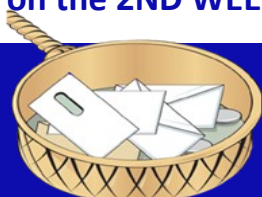


**The first session will be Sunday, September 12, which will include attendance at the 9:00 a.m. Mass, followed by class until 11:45 a.m. You will receive the full schedule at registration.**

Confirmation classes will be held on **Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** Volunteer teachers will be Joe Campbell and Mary Rose and Florence Goh.

## 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.**



August 14 / 15, 2021  
 Unrestricted..... \$20,824.00  
 Restricted .....\$ 4,117.00  
**T O T A L .....\$24,941.00**

July 17 / 18.....\$10,736.00  
 July 24 / 25.....\$16,878.00  
 July 31 / Aug 1.....\$27,753.00  
 August 7 / 8 .....\$12,277.00

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

# Mass Intentions

August 21 through August 28, 2021

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Fidel L. Mariano, RIP

Sunday

\*7:30 am: Mary DeSantis, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Gyzelle Badre B-Day INT

11 am: McAllister Family, INT

1:00 p.m.: Tony Holguin, RIP

5 pm: John and Jackie Tran, 23rd Anniv., INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Lumen Adan, INT

7:00 p.m.: Uriel Guijarro, INT

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Margie Weiner, B-Day INT

7:00 pm (Span): Mary Rose Go/Patrick Rosal INT

Wednesday:

6:00 am: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD, INT

\*7:30 am: Mary DeSantis, RIP

8:00 am: Lisa Losorelli, B-Day INT

7:00 pm: Florence Schroeder, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD, INT

\*7:30 a.m.:Dec'd Relig, Relatives, and Benefactors of the Disc. Carm. Order RIP

8:00 a.m.: Mary Jo Dowling, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Sandra Arakawa, B-Day INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD, INT

\*7:30 am: Mary Ana Arenas Ogaz, B-Day INT

8:00 a.m.: Daisy Thompson, INT

Saturday:

\*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Bradley Thompson, INT

\*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite

Chapel, 215 E Alhambra Rd

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC Mon.-Sat.

## LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday), and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube (for those unable to attend due to illness, etc.).

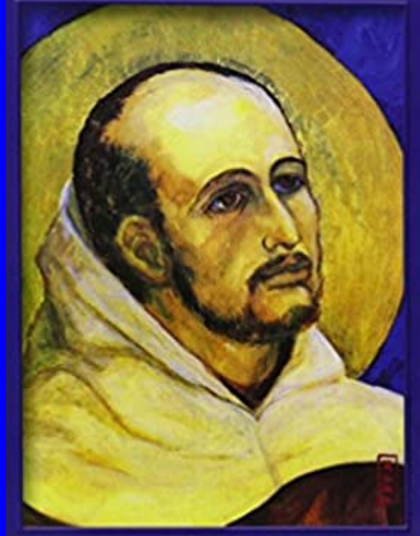
Links to those two sites are on our website's home page (in the top left column).

# Quiet Listening Prayer

FROM ASCENT OF MOUNT CARMEL

By St. John the Cross

Actually, at the beginning of this state the loving knowledge is almost unnoticeable. There are two reasons for this: First, the loving knowledge initially is likely



to be extremely subtle and delicate, almost imperceptible; second, a person who is habituated to the exercise of meditation, which is wholly sensible, hardly perceives or feels this new insensible, purely spiritual experience. This is especially so when through failure to understand it one does not permit oneself to rest in it but strives after the other, more sensory experience. Although the interior peace is more abundant, the individual allows no room to experience and enjoy it. But the more habituated persons become to this calm, the more their experience of this general loving knowledge of God will increase. This knowledge is more enjoyable than all other things because without the soul's labor it affords peace, rest, savor, and delight.

(Book II, Chapter 13, No. 7)



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