



# St. Therese Catholic Church

September 24, 2023 | 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | [www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org](http://www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org) Est. 1924

## 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 \*7:15 p.m.  
(\***NO** 7:15 p.m. on Wed.; Tues's 7:15 p.m. is in **Spanish**).  
**Carmelite Nuns' Chapel:** 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.

Note: the daily 8:00 a.m., the Monday evening 7:15 p.m.,  
and the Sunday 11:00 a.m., Masses are all **LIVE  
STREAMED** on Facebook AND YouTube)  
**Rosary: Mon-Sat after 8:00 a.m. Mass**

**CONFESSIONS: Wednesdays** from **7:00** to 9:00 p.m.;  
**Saturdays** 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+235  
**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), Fr. Raymond Bueno, OCD (X 1+222),  
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

**Finance:** Noralyn Cailan X 1+228 / [cailannocds@gmail.com](mailto:cailannocds@gmail.com)  
**Music Director:** Andrew Coyne | [Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com)

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



Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard . . . (Matthew 20:1-16) . . . the last will be first, and the first will be last."

## ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

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

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

[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



# The Pastor's Letter

## Blessed Novena of St. Therese!

Please join us friars every day for Mass and learning more about our great patroness!

Here is Part One of St. Therese's "Christmas miracle." Let us all, like her, seek the necessary healing in our lives so that we too can be more disposed to become the "little" saints that God is calling us to be!  
—Fr. Peter Mary, O.C.D.

### The Grace of Christmas MANUSCRIPT A (44r-45v)

#### STORY OF A SOUL (Part I)

When Marie entered Carmel, I was still very scrupulous. No longer able to confide in her, I turned toward Heaven. I addressed myself to the four angels who had preceded me there, for I thought that these innocent souls, having never known troubles or fear, would have pity on their poor little sister who was suffering on earth. I spoke to them with the simplicity of a child, pointing out that being the youngest of the family, I was always the most loved, the most covered with my sisters' tender cares, that if they had remained on earth they, too, would have given me proofs of their affection. Their departure for Heaven did not appear to me as a reason for forgetting me; on the contrary, finding themselves in a position to draw from the divine treasures, they had to take peace for me from these treasures and thus show me that in Heaven they still knew how to love! The answer was not long in coming, for soon peace came to inundate my soul with its delightful waves, and I knew then that if I was loved on earth, I was also loved in Heaven. Since that moment, my devotion for my little brothers and sisters has grown and I love to hold dialogues with them frequently, to speak with them about the sadness of our exile, about my desire to join them soon in the Fatherland!

Although God showered His graces upon me, it wasn't because I merited them, because I was still very imperfect. I had a great desire, it is true, to practice virtue, but I went about it in a strange way. Being the youngest in the family, I wasn't accustomed to doing things for myself. Céline tidied up the room in which we slept, and I myself didn't do any housework whatsoever. After Marie's entrance into Carmel, it sometimes happened that I tried to make up the bed to please God, or else in the evening, when Céline was away, I'd bring in her plants. But as I already said, it was for God alone I was doing these things and should not have expected any thanks from creatures. Alas, it was just the opposite. If Céline was unfortunate enough not to seem happy or surprised because of these little services, I became unhappy and proved it by my tears.

I was really unbearable because of my extreme touchiness; if I happened to cause anyone I loved some little trouble, even unwittingly, instead of forgetting about it and not crying, which made matters worse, I cried like a Magdalene and then, when I began to cheer up, I'd begin to cry again for having cried. All arguments were useless; I was quite unable to correct this terrible fault. I really don't know how I could entertain the thought of entering Carmel when I was still in the swaddling clothes of a child! God would have to work a little miracle to make me grow up in an instant, and this miracle He performed on that unforgettable Christmas day. On that luminous night which sheds such light on the delights of the Holy Trinity, Jesus, the gentle, little Child of only one hour, changed the night of my soul into rays of light. On that night, when He made Himself subject to weakness and suffering for love of me, He made me strong and courageous, arming me with His weapons. Since that night I have never been defeated in any combat, but rather walked from victory to victory, beginning, so to speak, "to run as a giant"!

The source of my tears was dried up and has since reopened rarely and with great difficulty. This justified what was often said to me: "You cry so much during your childhood, you'll no longer have tears to shed later on!"



# Novena of Masses in Honor of Our Patroness St. Therese

Join us for a **preached Novena (nine days) of Masses.**

**The Novena began this past Friday, September 22nd, and will continue through Saturday, September 30, followed by the Feast Day Mass next Sunday, October 1, at 11:00 a.m.**

**The Mass times for each of those days is:**

**Weeknights: 7:15 p.m.**

**Saturday (September 30): 8:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday (October 1): 11:00 a.m.**



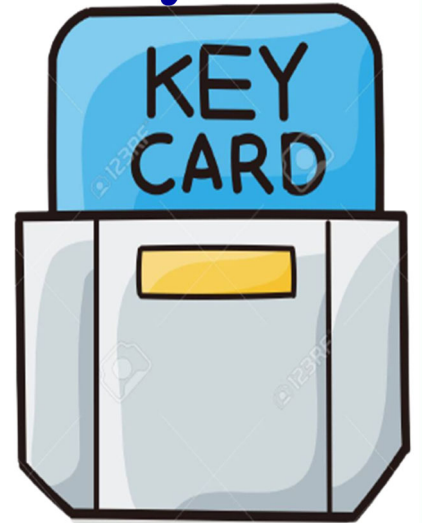
## Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary Seeks Young Adult Volunteers



The Alhambra Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary is seeking **YOUNG ADULTS TO JOIN AS AUXILIARY ASSOCIATES.** Volunteers will be called to assist in fundraising events for the benefit of the Carmelite Nuns. Your help will be needed twice a year—in the Spring and Fall—as well as with other special projects throughout the year. Volunteers need not attend the monthly meetings but will receive the minutes via email. Your time commitment would be flexible. For more info, please contact Jessica Morgan at [jessica.morgan@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.morgan@gmail.com).

## Adoration Key Cards

For all adorers who have lost or are no longer using their electronic key, please notify the parish office so that we can update our records. Thank you!



# 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.



September 16 / 17, 2023  
 Unrestricted..... \$14,777.00  
 Restricted ..... \$ 335.00  
**T O T A L.....\$15,112.00**

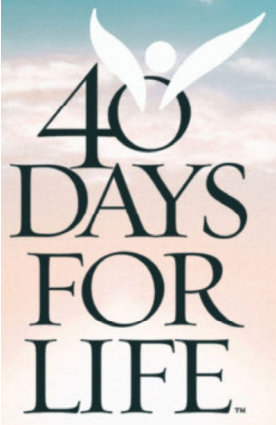
August 19 / 20 .....\$17,442.00  
 August 26 / 27 .....\$16,658.00  
 September 3 / 4 .....\$18,090.00  
 September 10 / 17...\$15,691.00

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

# VIRTUS TRAININGS AT ST. THERESE

See all the details on Page Six of this bulletin (the top right section on the School's page). These two sessions (first time and recertification) are open to all parishioners of St. Therese.

## 40 Days for Life



Pasadena's Forty Days of Life will start their peaceful prayer and fasting vigil on Wednesday, September 27, and it will continue through November 5th. Try to spend some time at the Pasadena

Planned Parenthood facility and pray to end abortions there. Their busiest day for abortions is Tuesday.

We will be there weekly from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The location is 1045 North Lake Avenue, Pasadena, and the vigil hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday. You may also go on your own (with a friend!) on Saturdays.

For more info, contact Rose Curiel at 323-528-8094 or [indigoroze40daysforlife@gmail.com](mailto:indigoroze40daysforlife@gmail.com)

## "That's NOT Fair!"

By Father John Muir

Once I gave my three-year-old niece a certain toy for Christmas. When she opened it, she was very happy. Shortly thereafter, her five-year old sister opened another present from me: the same toy as her sister received, but along with some play jewelry. The three-year-old cried out: "That's not fair! Why'd she get the jewelry, too?!"

Let's face it: There's something about God's grace in our religion which bugs us. We love to look at others' blessings and cry out: "That's not fair!" Catholicism is not fair in the sense that it is a religion founded on God's grace, which is unmerited favor. God pours His mercy, love, and divine life upon us not because we're good but because He is infinitely good.

If you think the "not fair" quality of grace is easy to accept, consider how typically angry we get when we hear the parable of the workers who get paid way more than they deserve. The hyper-generous landowner says to the indignant hard workers, "Are you envious because I am generous?" Well, yes, they are, and so are we!

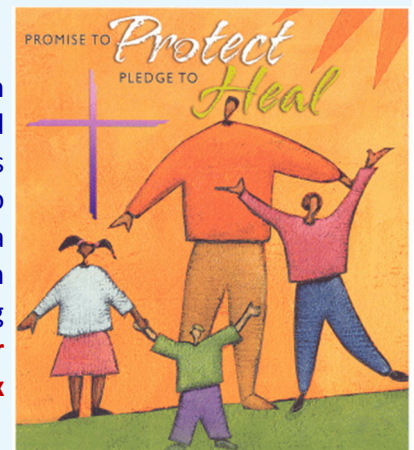
Therefore, we have to reckon with this painful truth in order to move into the divine sphere of gifts, which is the world of Christ and His Church. Then we are able to move beyond a tit-for-tat world and into one where gifts are poured forth on those who don't deserve it—namely, upon us.



## Safeguard the Children - Did You Know?

### Why it is important not to dismiss a child's everyday emotions?

A key part of creating a safe environment is being a trusted adult to the children in your care. Children who have been abused are more likely to confide in a trusted adult whom they know will listen to and believe them. For this reason, it is important to affirm a child's everyday emotions, including anger or fear. Far too often, adults tell children "you're fine," or "get over it," in response to what a child perceives as a true emotional problem, but an adult may see as an inconvenience or insignificant event. Affirming a child's feelings while still helping them work through their issue productively will help create a bond of trust. **For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Overcoming the confusing paradox we teach children about emotions and safety" at [lacatholics.org/did-you-know](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know).**





# DEADLINE TO REGISTER

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



**LAST CALL  
TO REGISTER**

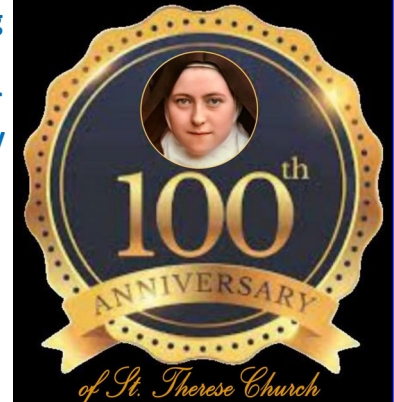
TODAY,  
SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 24,  
IS YOUR **LAST  
CHANCE TO  
REGISTER** for  
any of our  
classes (First  
Communion,  
High School  
Confirmation,  
and RCIA/Adult  
Confirmation).

To do so, download the appropriate registration form from the website (Rel. Educ.) and then drop the completed form in the mail slot to the right of the office door, along with the registration fee (cash or check) and, if applicable, a copy of each student's Baptism and First Communion certificates.

The schedule for the year is also on our website.

# Centenary Committee!

We are beginning to plan for the celebration of our 100th Anniversary in 2024 (St. Therese Church was founded in 1924 by the Disalced Carmelite Friars from the Irish Province).



If you would like to join the Committee for the Parish Centenary Year, chaired by Fr. Stephen Watson, please call the Parish Office at (626) 282-2744, ext. 0, and leave your name, phone number, and email address.

The **FIRST MEETING** will be **Wednesday, October 4, at 7:15 p.m.**, in the Avila Room in the office building on El Molino Street.

# The Flame of Love: The Greatest Gift of Grace for Our Time

Living in the Flame

Weekly Agenda

Thursday: Reparation to the Blessed Sacrament  
+ Fasting and Holy Hour

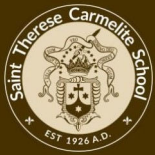


Jesus said: "On that day, you will spend hours in My sacred Presence. Adore Me with great fervor making reparation for the many offenses inflicted upon Me... Immerse yourself into My sorrowful agony as I was sweating blood. You will draw great spiritual strength from it." Mary later added: "On Thursday and Friday, I ask you, my daughter, to offer a very special reparation to my Divine Son. This will be an hour for the family to make reparation. Begin this hour with a spiritual reading, followed by the Rosary or other prayers in an atmosphere of recollection and fervor. For those families observing a holy hour of reparation on Thursday or Friday, if someone happens to die in the family, the deceased is freed from Purgatory after a single day of strict fasting observed by anyone member of the family."

Join the Cenacle: Two cenacle sessions are available in the Avila Room every Monday. One from Noon to 2:00 p.m., the other one from 5:00 to 6:45 p.m.

The Flame of Love books are available for sale in the parish offices.

If you have any questions, please contact Maru Lazatin at (626) 675-3080.



# Saint Therese Carmelite School

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2023



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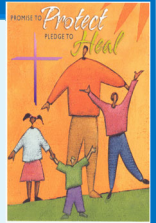
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### VIRTUS Trainings at St. Therese

#### VIRTUS: Protecting God's Children

*This class is for adults who have  
**NEVER** been certified before.*

**Friday, September 29, 5:30-8:30 PM**



#### VIRTUS: Keeping the Promise Alive

*This class is for adults who were **last certified 4 years ago** and are due for **RECERTIFICATION**.*

**Saturday, September 30, 9:30-11 AM**

To register for these trainings,  
please email Megan Duncan at  
[mduncan@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com](mailto:mduncan@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com)

### Support our school at Rubio's Coastal Grill!



On September 29,  
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enjoying Rubio's for lunch OR dinner!

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### Support our School with RaiseRight!

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start earning for our  
school today!





# Mass Intentions

September 23—September 30, 2023

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Stella Rodriguez, RIP

Sunday:

\*7:30 a.m.: (Carm): Engracia Vales, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Alexander, Lauren, & Emily Cheah INT

9:00 a.m.: Gregory Pulido, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Engracia Vales, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Basilio Aquino, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Hilda Salas, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Engracia Vales, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Noel Edusma, INT

7:15 p.m.: Engracia Vales, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Michael Solichin, Birthday INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Addison Lowenberg, INT

8:00 a.m.: Sean Cox, Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: (Spanish): Engracia Vales, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Cindy, INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Stephan Michael Sanchez, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Hilda V. Salas, RIP

**7:15 p.m.: NO MASS—Confessions 7-9 p.m.**

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Diana Tharp, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Addison Lowenberg, INT

8:00 a.m.: Brigit Grimm, 24th Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Jassmine Ren, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Roberto Martinez, Birthday INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Karina Laigo, INT

8:00 a.m.: Atlas Chambliss, INT

7:15 p.m.: Ashaun & Angelle Chambliss, INT

Saturday Morning:

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

8:00 a.m.: Christina Pasinato, Birthday INT

**\*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel. The Carmel's Chapel is open to the public every day except Sundays and holidays.**

**LIVE STREAMED MASSES:**

The 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday), the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, and the 7:15 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).

# Free Covid Tests

We have FREE Covid tests in the Parish Office (they expire 10/31/23). Just come during our regular hours and pick up as many as you need.

## The Vineyard Workers



The Parable of the Vineyard Workers is a beautiful lesson in God's justice and righteousness, but its logic conflicts with our human thinking. When God gives grace and blessings to others, it is a kindness to them, not an injustice to us. God is fair and merciful. His sovereignty is above all else.

Human nature is to compare and feel slighted if we feel we've been given "less than." But God's nature doesn't work the same way as ours. In His divinity, He chooses the blessings and mercy we receive in ways that we might not understand. He gives to each of us according to His divine insight, so it will be different for each of us. If we perceive that we work harder or longer than someone else, it doesn't necessarily mean that our reward will be more than theirs. Our challenge as humans is not to focus on what we perceive to be "fair" but instead focus on developing a personal relationship with God that makes us thankful for every gift we receive without envy of others. Trust that He knows what's best for you.

God has a right to do what He wants. He's the Almighty Creator! He knows what's best and He is true to His Word. If He makes a promise, He will do it. If He withholds something you pray for, He has a reason. Trust His will. Accept His decisions. Be thankful for His blessings.

He also says there will be a "first" and there will be a "last". This indicates a ranking or an order, not given equally. Even with these "inequalities," those in Heaven will all enjoy the beautiful reward of eternal salvation without being jealous about what God gave to someone else instead of us.



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