



# St. Therese Catholic Church

August 27, 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.  
(Tuesday's evening Mass 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: Monday-Saturday after 8:00 a.m. Mass**

**CONFESSIONS: Wednesdays** from 8:00 to 9:00  
p.m.; **Saturdays** 3:00 to **5:00 p.m.**  
and **Sundays** from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

*And so I say to you, you are Peter, and  
upon this Rock I will build my Church...*

## 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+222

**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, Fr. Raymond Bueno, OCD, 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](mailto: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 went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and He asked His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven." Then He strictly ordered His disciples to tell no one that He was the Christ.

—Matthew 16:13-20

## 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



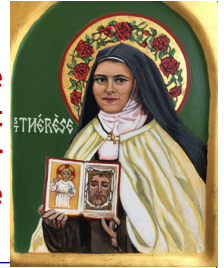
## SACRAMENTS

- Baptisms: Register online
- Weddings: Register online at least six months in advance
- Anointing of the Sick: Call the office

# The Pastor's Letter

Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

We continue our journey in learning more about our patroness. We now come to the famous story from her childhood about the “Virgin of the Smile.” This was a very significant moment in her life that healed her and shaped her maturation and faith development for the rest of her life. The actual statue of Our Lady of the Smile stands to this day at the Carmelite monastery in Lisieux where St. Therese lived. —Fr. Peter Mary, O.C.D.



## MANUSCRIPT A, 29v-31v (Introduction)

### “The Smile of the Virgin”

Introduction to the text:

Let us repeat what we already said in the first work sheet about the “miraculous statue of the Blessed Virgin”—the “Virgin of the Smile.” The Martin-Guérin spouses had a particular devotion to this image, which plays an essential role in Therese’s life, curing her of her serious childhood nervous disease and accompanying her in her agony in the infirmary (beginning July 8, 1897). In January 1895, it was in the antechamber of Therese’s cell.

This statue had been offered to the young Louis Martin by a very pious old woman from Alençon who was confident that she had found in him a person worthy of receiving such a gift. As a bachelor, Louis placed the statue in his gazebo, where he used to retire to read and pray. After he married, the statue became the center of family prayer and, during Mary’s month, she was surrounded by flowers. Often, Zèlie Martin, Louie’s wife, turned to the Blessed Virgin, confessing that she had received “favors that only I know.” In Les Buissonnets (the name of the Martins’ house in Lisieux where the family moved after Zèlie’s death when Therese was four years old), the statue continued to occupy a prominent place.

Therese also prayed to Our Lady under the title of our Lady of Victories: a devotion and sanctuary much loved by the Martins. A novena of Masses was celebrated at the sanctuary in Paris for the healing of Therese as a child. On her journey to Rome, Therese visited this church on November 4, 1887, along with her father and sister Celine, and received a calming grace.

“Marie obtained what she wanted”: This is how Marie of the Sacred Heart (her sister Marie) recalled this scene: “The most terrible crisis was the one that most counted in her Life. I thought she was going to succumb to her illness. Seeing her exhausted, I wanted to give her a drink, but she screamed in terror,

‘They want to poison me!’ It was then that I threw myself with my sisters at the feet of the Blessed Virgin. Three times I repeated the same prayer. The third time, I saw Therese staring fixedly at the statue of the Blessed Virgin... The Virgin’s Ray did not act all at once, but sweetly and gently it raised the little flower and strengthened her....” Therese’s sisters have confirmed that this serious nervous disease left no after-effects, apart from two small alerts, reported by her sister Leonie.

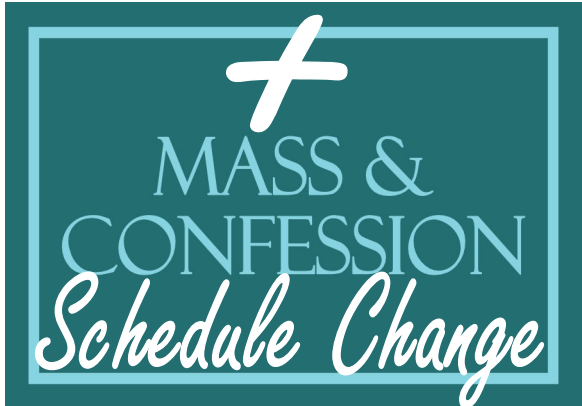
“My happiness was going to disappear and change into bitterness”: a strong word for Therese, who uses the word “bitterness” thirty-two times in her Manuscripts and letters. It evokes in transparency the bitterness of Christ’s chalice.

“Humiliation is becoming my lot”: Therese’s particularly strong expression shows that the humiliation she experienced was without compensation, perhaps more harshly than at other times in her life, and at a tender age (ten years old).



# Small Change to Mass and Confession Schedule

After discernment, discussion and agreement in our community of friars here at St. Therese, we have decided to restore **Wednesday Confession hours from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**, and to **no longer offer a Mass on Wednesday evenings.** The first Wednesday that this will be implemented will be **September 6th.** For the Mass intentions which have already been scheduled for the evening Mass on Wednesdays (September 6 and after), be assured that these intentions will be offered at Mass, albeit privately by one of our priests in residence.



Also, as published last week, **confessions times on Saturday are now from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.,** (NOT until 6:00 p.m.) so that the focus will be on the celebration of the Mass at 5:00 p.m. Also, all confessions will be heard **inside** the confessionals in the church. **Thank you! —Fr. Peter Mary**

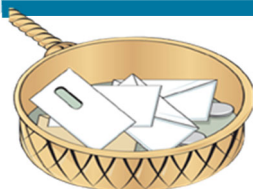
## Cloistered Nuns' Auxiliary Seeks Young Adult Volunteers

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 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).



# 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.



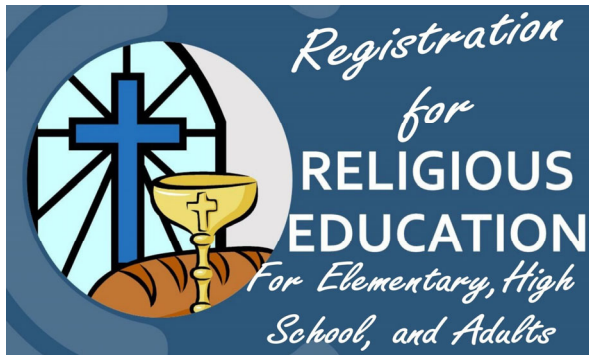
August 19 / 20, 2023

Unrestricted..... \$16,692.00  
Restricted ..... \$ 750.00  
**T O T A L.....\$17,442.00**

July 22 / 23 .....\$17,168.00  
July 29 / 30 .....\$12,753.00  
August 5 / 6 .....\$16,172.00  
August 12 / 13 .....\$20,129.00

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

# REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS ED!



It's that time of year again! CLASSES WILL START THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10! To register, download the appropriate registration form from the website (Rel. Educ.) and then bring it to the office with the registration fee (cash or check) and, if applicable, a copy of each student's baptism certificate. The schedule is also on our website.

Registration is for non-sacramental and Sacramental classes (First Holy Communion 1 & 2 and Confirmation 1 & 2), as well as for RCIA for Adults.

## Safeguard the Children - Did You Know?

Safeguarding God's Children

**The NCMEC CyberTipline:** Online exploitation and enticement of young people is an ongoing problem, across social media, gaming platforms, and other websites. Victims can range in age and background, making it harder to prevent exploitation. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) operates the CyberTipline, a centralized system for reporting suspected cases of technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation. Reports can be filed online at [report.cybertip.org](http://report.cybertip.org) or via a 24-hour hotline at 1-800-843-5678. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Online Child Sexual Exploitation and the NCMEC CyberTipline" at [lacatholics.org/did-you-know/](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/).



# Five First Saturdays Devotion



Mark your calendar for our next First Saturdays Devotion for September 2, 2023, and join us for the Rosary and a 15-minute meditation after the 8:00 a.m. Mass! For any questions, please contact Maria Alejandra at (626) 282-2744, Ext 235.

**Apparitions in Fatima by Our Lady—July 18, 1917 ~ The fourth apparition:** The children were imprisoned in the house of the local Administrator and not released until August 16, three days after the apparition date. On August 13, there was a crowd of 18,000 at the Cova da Iria and, though the children were not there, the sun grew pale and the atmosphere became a sickly yellow color. A cloud appeared and hovered over the holm oak where Our Lady had appeared to the children. On August 19, after the children were released, Our Lady appeared to the children in a pasture, away from the usual site of the apparitions. She asked them to, "Pray, pray very much, and make sacrifices for sinners. For many souls go to Hell because there is no one to pray for them."



**September 13, 1917 ~ The fifth apparition:** A luminous globe appeared before the crowd at the Cova while the three children remained hidden in a cloud. White rose petals fell from the sky and reached almost to the ground and then disappeared. Lucy asked Our Lady to cure the sick. She replied, "Some will be cured, but not all because Our Lord has no confidence in them." Our Lady told them that St. Joseph and the Child Jesus would be with her on October 13th.



**Attention:** Fr. Robert Barcelos invites **ALL BOYS FROM 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE AND UP** to join him for the next **Altar Server Training Seminar**, presented over three Saturdays—**September 9, 16, and 23**—from **10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day**. PARENTS, ESPECIALLY DADS, ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND WITH THEIR SONS. **The third session will conclude with lunch and basketball—starting at 12:30 p.m.**

This seminar is for **ALL new & continuing** Altar Servers! **Servers must be in the Third Grade or above and have made their First Holy Communion.** Registration forms will be available at the training. We hope to see a big group there! **For more information or questions, please contact Fr. Robert at [fremercy@gmail.com](mailto:fremercy@gmail.com).**

# Catechists Needed!

Our Religious Education program is seeking catechists (religion teachers) for its non-Sacramental elementary grades.



Catechists must be practicing Catholics who enjoy working with children. Must be willing to be fingerprinted and attend a Virtus training session.

**If you are interested, please email the coordinator, Florence Goh, at [stcreligioused7@gmail.com](mailto:stcreligioused7@gmail.com).**

# The Real St. Therese

The *Last Conversations* reveal that simplicity and frankness that Bernanos describes so well in *Les Enfants Humilies*: “There are saints who absolutely cannot speak of the other side without lifting their voices. These saints, I suppose, one day must have given up a part of themselves that they did not think was so precious, that they probably thought was too human, and which they were not able to regain, even at the price of countless sacrifices...”

Therese belongs with those saints who have never lost that fundamental part of themselves—their childhood, their zest for life. The love of nature has always been a characteristic trait of Therese's personality: “I loved the countryside, the flowers and the birds so much.” We must not forget that she spent the first twelve months of her life at Semalle, nourished by the milk of the quick-witted Rose Mille, and that her early years had been profoundly influenced by that sojourn in the country.

In the infirmary, this side of Therese's character was thrown into relief. When her bed was still in the corner, she leant over to admire the sunset. She rejoiced to see the stars and the sky. On Saturday, August 28, her bed was turned round so that she could see the garden. “Oh! how happy I am!” She was able to admire the red Virginia creeper. When she saw the fruit that she loved, she showed a childlike joy. She liked especially grapes, plums, and peaches because of their soft skin: “I get so much pleasure out of touching fruit, especially peaches, and I like to see them near me.”



An installment from *The Passion of Thérèse of Lisieux* by Guy Gaucher, OCD

# Carmelite Mission, Uganda



For all parishioners wishing to support our Carmelite Mission in Uganda, we ask that you no longer write|send checks to St. Therese but to our Carmelite Mission. You can directly mail checks to our Mission office in Redlands at Carmelite Mission Office, PO Box 8700, Redlands, CA 92375 (make checks payable to "Carmelite Mission"). You can contact Noralyn for the Tax ID # for tax purposes.

# 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!



Saint Therese Carmelite School  
Faith ✦ Academics ✦ Virtue

THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS OF  
SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
request your presence at

## The Little Way Dinner & Benefit Auction

DATE CHANGE: Friday, October 13, 2023

ALMANSOR COURT  
700 South Almansor Street  
Alhambra, California 91801

**Purchase your tickets and  
advertisements today!**



Our 8th grade class will be selling treats after the 7:30, 9:00, 11:00, and 1:00 Masses this Sunday. Funds will support their upcoming 8th grade retreat.

We appreciate your generosity!

# Mass Intentions

# Pilgrimage

August 26—September 2, 2023

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Alicia Maria Guadalupe Ortega, RIP

Sunday:

\*7:30 a.m.: (Carm): Luke Jaeger, INT

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Jason and Sarah Hayward, Anniv INT

11:00 a.m.: Steven Wilkes, INT

1:00 p.m.: Mary Ana Arenas-Ogaz, B-Day INT

5:00 p.m.: Jose Jesús & Gonzalez Family, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Kim Ki Chul, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Jaeger Family, INT

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

7:15 p.m.: Abud Casavi, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Mary DeSantis, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Heather Brajkovich, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Raul P. Buenavente, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Flame of Love Apostolate

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Park Ho Soon Maria, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Jaeger Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Abril Rose Sia, Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Ed Mahood, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Teddy Yang, INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Ruth Serrato, INT

8:00 a.m.: Engracia Vales, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Lorraine Bertonneau, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Theodore Ng, Birthday INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Abigail Cox, Birthday INT

8:00 a.m.: Peter Kretschmer, 27th B-Day INT

7:15 p.m.: Mary Rose & Patrick, INT

Saturday Morning:

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

8:00 a.m.: The McAllister Family, 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:**

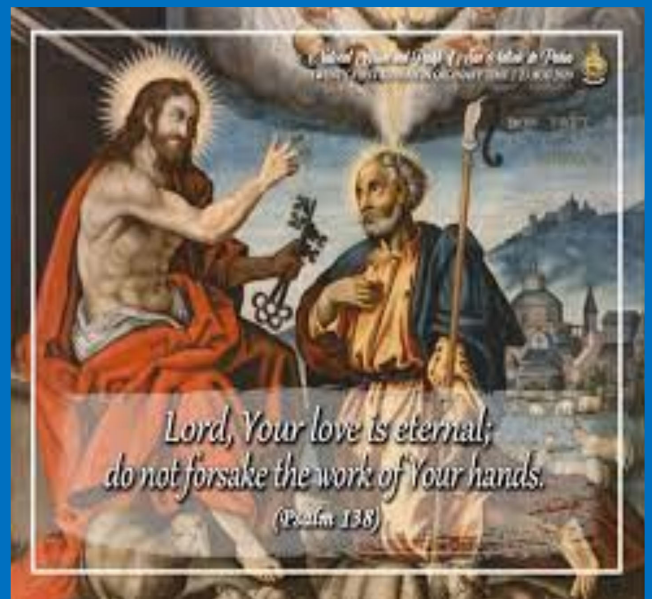
The 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday), the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, and the 7:15 p.m. Monday evening Mass are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube. Links to those two sites are on our website's home page (in the top left column).

## Pilgrimage



Join the Carmelite Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of St. Therese of Lisieux & St. Elizabeth of the Trinity," from Sept 28-Oct 11, incl. Paris, Lourdes, Ars, etc. Chaplains are Fr. Mark Kissner, OCD, and Fr. Joseph Mary Tran, OCD.

Contact Beth Maddatu at (408) 903-6305 | maddatubeth2@gmail.com.



## Personal Ad

SEEKING AN EXPERIENCED CAREGIVER to care for my mom in El Sereno (Spanish-speaking preferred). Contact Martha by phone or text at (310) 877-2201 or by email at hallvasquez@aol.com.