

St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



Now Celebrating the Centennial of Our Founding (1924-2024)

August 11, 2024 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



I am the Bread of Life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; This is the Bread that comes down from Heaven, so that one may eat It and not die. I am the Living Bread that came down from Heaven; whoever eats this Bread will live forever; and the Bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world" (John 6:48-51).

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 | Deacon Rex Owens: 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: Charlotte Lansberg | cjlansberg@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

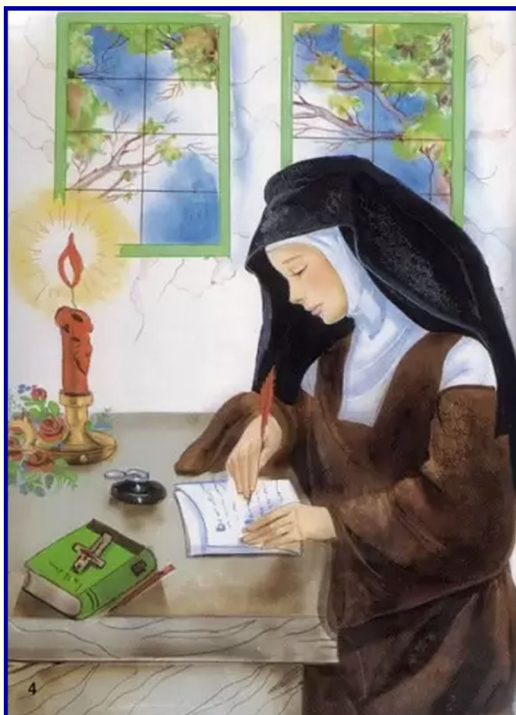
PASTOR'S COLUMN

Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

As we enter into these hot days of August, let us “cool off” with St. Therese’s *“On the Waves of Confidence and Love.”* Herein she discovers the basis for one of the principal doctrines of her *Little Way*.

Please remember that this **Thursday, August 15th, is the Assumption of Our Lady**, a holy day of obligation. See Page Four for the Mass schedule.

—Fr. Peter Mary, OCD



Introduction to the Text:

“During my retreat...” (MS A, 80r): These are the Spiritual Exercises preached from the 8th to the 15th of October, 1891, by Father Alexis Prou, a forty-seven-year-old Franciscan recollect from Caen. This renowned preacher had given over one hundred retreats to men and women religious of all the Orders in the West of France.

“Ordinarily, the retreats that are preached are more painful to me.” (MS A, 80r): Let us keep in mind that starting from Father Alexis’ retreat, Thérèse was freed from her worries, but until her death she kept a strict eye on herself, avoiding the slightest fault.

“On the waves of confidence and love...” (MS A, 80v): Mother Agnes recounted that “although she felt attracted to the path of love and abandonment, Thérèse took it with total confidence only after Father Alexis had confirmed that she was on the right path, something that several previous directors had not said” (from the Apostolic Process).

“Since the blessed day of your election...” (MS A, 80v): Sister Agnes of Jesus was elected prioress on February 20, 1893. Manuscript A gives very little indication of Thérèse’s spiritual evolution during her novitiate, from September 1890 to February 1893, apart from the Spiritual Exercises of Father Alexis Prou. To find out more, consult the correspondence. The time her sister (Mother Agnes) was prioress was, for Thérèse, a period of undeniable growth and maturing, but she will not let herself be chained by family-belonging, especially when the two prioresses, Marie de Gonzague and Agnes of Jesus, clashed, sometimes violently.

“How happy I would be if I were able to paint.” (MS A, 81r): At the end of her office as sacristan, Thérèse received the task of painting on the occasion of the election of Mother Agnes. Among other things, she painted the fresco in the chapel in June 1893. Then, probably in September, she was appointed assistant turn-sister.

“He willed also that I write poems and compose little pieces that were considered beautiful.” (MS A, 81v): Her first poem, *The Divine Dew*, is from February 2nd, 1893—18 days before the election. Previously, it was Mother Agnes who composed poems, hymns, and recreations for the community. For these works, Thérèse could have only the hours from Noon to 1:00 p.m., and from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Funeral and Reception for Deacon Joseph Mizerski



The funeral for Deacon Joe, who passed from this earth at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 3, will be celebrated on **Saturday, August 17th**. The services will begin with the **Rosary at 10:30 a.m., followed by the Funeral Mass at 11:00 a.m.** After the burial, there will be a catered luncheon reception in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

Deacon Joe was ordained at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral on Saturday, June 10, 2000, and assisted at his first Mass here at St. Therese the next morning. He has faithfully served at St. Therese the last twenty-four years until his final illness made it impossible. He has assisted at countless Masses, delivered hundreds of sermons, and helped with numberless funerals by leading the Rosary, along with his loving wife, Lorraine, as well as presiding at the burials. He has also celebrated the baptisms of many of the babies born to our parish families.

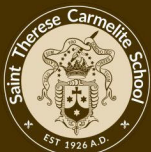
Deacon Joe—one of the kindest, humblest, most good-natured persons you could ever hope to meet—will be greatly missed. Prayers for the repose of his soul are requested, along with prayers for the comfort and strength of his wife, Lorraine.

Scripture Meditation

Sustenance from God: Today's readings weave together a beautiful tapestry of God's provision and our call to live in His love. In **1 Kings 19:4-8**, **Elijah is ready to give up, but an angel provides him with bread and water, sustaining him for a journey of forty days and forty nights.** This is a foreshadowing of the spiritual nourishment we receive from God, echoed in **Psalm 34**, where we are invited to "taste and see that the Lord is good." The Psalmist assures us of God's constant care and deliverance, reinforcing our trust in Him.

In the Gospel of **John 6:41-51**, Jesus reveals Himself as the Bread of Life and challenges the crowd to move beyond their physical needs and recognize Him as the source of eternal life. This profound teaching is mirrored in Paul's letter to the **Ephesians (4:30-5:2)**, where we are called to live a life of love, imitating Christ who gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering.

Together, these passages remind us that just as Elijah was strengthened for his journey by the bread from Heaven, we too are strengthened by Jesus, the true Bread of Life, to live lives of love and holiness, supported by His loving presence and nourished by His Body and Blood through the Eucharist.



Saint Therese Carmelite School Faith ✦ Academics ✦ Virtue

Welcome Back, Saints!



We are excited to welcome our teachers and students back to campus on **Wednesday, August 21**. Please keep us all in your prayers as we begin an exciting new school year! Each year, we choose a special patronage to dedicate our school year to. During this National Eucharistic Revival, we have chosen to dedicate the year to **Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament**. We invite you to join us in praying for His grace and protection for this school year.

FUN DAY AT THE PARK

*Saturday, August 24
12-5 pm*

Let's have a great time gathering among friends to enjoy the scenery and nature of the beautiful park. We hope this will be a safe, fun, and memorable experience for teachers, staff, families of Saint Therese Carmelite School, and parishioners of Saint Therese Roman Catholic Church. This fellowship reunion is a great start to begin the **2024-2025 school year!**

We will be hosting a lakeside barbecue at Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park in San Dimas, serving carne asada tacos and drinks at no cost to the invitees. Both the carne asada and drinks will be provided by school fundraising. We ask that each family bring a potluck side dish to share among all invitees.

The park offers various activities, such as biking trails, kayaking, boating, fishing, and more. Please see the Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park website for exact policies and fees for these activities.



To RSVP, go to bit.ly/STCSpicnic2024 or scan the QR code from your phone!

1106 East Alhambra Road
Alhambra, California 91801

(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION



WHAT IS THE ASSUMPTION?

The Assumption of Mary into Heaven is a dogma of the Catholic Church which teaches that at the end of her earthly life, the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory. This belief emphasizes Mary's special role as the Mother of Jesus Christ as well as her purity and holiness, as she was free from original sin.

The Assumption, celebrated on August 15th, signifies that Mary, having completed her earthly mission, was honored by God with this extraordinary grace, serving as a sign of hope and the promise of eternal life for all faithful Christians. This event highlights the belief in the resurrection of the body and the eternal life promised to all who follow Christ.

The Feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven—body and soul—is on **Thursday, August 15th**. It is a holy day of obligation for Catholics to attend Mass.

We will celebrate a vigil Mass the night before (**Wednesday, August 14**) at 7:15 p.m., followed by Confessions from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.; the Masses on the holy day will be at 6:00 a.m. & 8:00 a.m., and *7:15 p.m., (*followed by Adoration and Benediction). There will also be a 7:30 a.m. Mass at the Cloistered Nuns' Chapel.

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



THE
FLAME
OF LOVE
OF THE
IMMACULATE HEART
OF MARY



Understanding Love

God IS LOVE - Love as self-sacrifice
as opposed to love as self-fulfillment.

If we get love wrong, we get everything wrong because God IS Love. Without realizing it, we often try to live our Christianity without Christ, with just our human love and goodness.

From *The Dialogue of Saint Catherine of Siena* (God speaking in sections 48 & 51): "Now you have seen how deluded these souls are, and how painfully they make their way to Hell—like martyrs of the devil! You have seen what it is that blinds them: the cloud of selfish love plastered over the pupil that is the light of faith."

"You know that every evil is grounded in selfish love of oneself. This love is a cloud that blots out the light of reason. It is in reason that the light of faith is held, and one cannot lose the one without losing the other."

Reference: *Building on Solid Rock*, Flame of Love Retreats, Session 2 @ <https://flameoflove.us/building-on-solid-rock/>

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 7:00 p.m. For more info, please contact Maru Lazatin at (626) 675-3080.

Religious Ed Registration

We are now taking online registrations for Religious Education classes (classes begin in September). Registration is for: Elementary grades, First Holy Communion, High School Confirmation, and Adult OCIA (formerly RCIA)—for those seeking to become Catholic OR to complete their Sacraments of Initiation.



We will begin taking **in-person registrations** after the **9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses on Sunday, August 25, and Sunday, September 1st.** You may also register online by clicking on the links found on the home page of our website OR by picking up a form in the office.

If you register online, you will need to bring the baptism certificate and the fee (cash or check only) by the first day of class (amount of the fees can be seen on the registration forms on the website).

PARISH MOVIE NIGHT!

YOU are invited to join us for our next Parish Movie Night—shown on the ST. THERESE BIG SCREEN in our parking lot on **Saturday, August 24, starting with a potluck dinner at 7:00 p.m. (please bring a dish to share).** Regular folding chairs will be available, but you're encouraged to bring your own comfortable seating. There will be lots of food, so come hungry!

We will present the 1964 Disney film, **MARY POPPINS**, starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke (both actors are still living!).



Pilgrimage to France with Fr. David For Our 100th Anniversary (Oct 2024)



St. Therese Parish's Fr. David will be the chaplain for a Special Pilgrimage to France. The Pilgrimage will explore **where the Little Flower lived, as well as other holy sites in France** (Lisieux, Dijon, Lourdes, Mont St. Michel and others), as part of St. Therese Parish's Celebration of our 100th Jubilee Year. The price of this 12-day Pilgrimage is \$3,985.00, L.A to L.A., which includes round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations, breakfasts and lunches, and admission prices. Mass will be celebrated daily.

The complete itinerary can be found in the church vestibule by the Baptistry... If they're all taken, email our Parish Secretary (denisekay@hotmail.com), using **PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE** in the subject line, to request one.

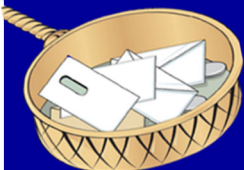
Want to Coordinate Our Women's Retreat?



El Carmelo Retreat House is still in need of a captain (coordinator) for St. Therese Church's annual Women's Retreat in Redlands. The retreat usually takes place in the Spring during Lent on the second weekend of March. Training can be arranged.

If you feel called to this important ministry, please contact Fr. Philip Sullivan at El Carmelo Retreat House: (909) 792-1047 or elcarmeloh@gmail.com.

Financial Offerings



August 3 / 4, 2024

Unrestricted..... \$13,462.00
 Restricted \$ 1,000.00
T O T A L.....\$14,462.00

July 6 / 7 \$23,906.00
 July 13 / 14 \$14,177.00
 July 20 / 21 \$16,694.00
 July 27 / 28 \$15,760.00

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

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



When I paid a visit to **Michael Bevelaqua** at his home on Grand Avenue, he was holding a prayer book that belonged to his wife. "I use it every day," he said. It was a prayer book like the one I have from my mother, which was given to her on her First Holy Communion day. You can't find these kinds of prayer books anymore. They are no bigger than the palm of your hand. Michael's wife, Jennie Ann, died in 1998. After she died, Michael, who is now ninety-six, moved to his present home on Grand. This is his story.

Michael grew up in Lincoln Heights. He still remembers the address: 639 Clover Street. His father was an immigrant from southern Italy (Calabria), and his mother was from Sicily. His parents were married in 1919 at St. Peter, the Italian church on North Broadway. His father worked at Southern Pacific as a riveter.

One of the ways Michael earned money as a teenager was by shining the shoes of the truck drivers who worked at the Eastside Brewery Company. (Today it is the site of the Brewery Art Colony.) After graduating from Abraham Lincoln High School in 1945, Michael joined the Navy and served aboard the USS Bugara—beginning his service less than a month after the end of World War II. The Bugara was a submarine built for the U.S. Navy by the Electric Boat Company. Michael spent two of his three years in the Navy on this submarine. He was honorably discharged in September of 1948.

Soon after Michael was discharged, he married Jennie Ann Skropeta, the sister of his best friend. Since Jennie was Croatian, the marriage took place at St. Anthony, the Croatian church on North Grand in Los Angeles. It was St. Stephen's Day, 1948. The couple bought their first house in La Puente for \$10,600. It was a three-bedroom house with a detached garage on a lot sixty by 138. (Michael has an excellent memory for these details.) They had four children: Nancy, Michael, Mark, and Joanne Louise. After a few years, the family moved to another house in Rosemead so Jennie could be closer to her parents. After working in a machine shop for several years, Michael got a job as a traffic officer when he was forty-five. He used to have a beat until he got behind a desk; he really enjoyed his desk job. After seventeen years, Michael retired in 1989.

Michael will be 98 in September, but he is fit for his venerable age. He used to exercise at Mark Keppel School in Alhambra after getting off work. After his wife died and he moved to his present home, he started going to Mass several times a week. When he could no longer go to Mass, Fr. Bernard and Fr. Donald used to visit him. Michael stays connected with them. The Missionaries of Charity also used to visit him when they were still on Granada Avenue.

Michael is a friendly neighbor. The mailman came onto the porch while I was speaking with Michael, and Michael greeted him like an old friend. I have the impression he is like that with everyone. He knows his neighbors and they know him. His mind is clear and his memory sharp. While I was there, one of his two daughters called to check on him. His son, Mark, lives close by on Story Place. Michael has eleven grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. Even so, he misses his wife, who is buried with her parents at Holy Cross Cemetery in West Los Angeles.

We have been blessed to have Michael Bevelaqua's congenial presence in our Parish these last twenty-five years—a quarter of the time we have been a parish.

The Bevelaqua 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 our Centennial year.

Mass Intentions

August 10—August 17, 2024

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Cherry Lou Sia, Birthday INT

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: All Families, INT

7:30 a.m.: McAllister Family, INT

9:00 a.m.: Parishioners

11:00 a.m.: Theresa Schroeffer, INT

1 pm (Latin): Angelle Laigo, INT

5:00 p.m.: Travis Frei, INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Richard Louis Sia, RIP

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

8:00 a.m.: Gonzalo & Daisy Torres, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Mark Holman, Birthday INT

Tuesday

6:00 a.m.: Juan Padilla, RIP

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

8:00 a.m.: Easter Flower Memorial, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Omar Cervantes & Family, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Richard Louis Sia, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Kin Cheah & Florence Goh, INT

8:00 a.m.: Charlie Tittmann, 17th Birthday INT

7:15 p.m. Vigil: Rosie and Felix Zamora, RIP

Thursday—Feast of the Assumption

6:00 a.m.: Archbishop Jose Gomez, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Miriam Lopez, INT

7:15 p.m.: Amauro Robles, RIP

Friday

6:00 a.m.: Eduardo Geronimo, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Asayama Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Rhony and Ruth Laigo, Anniv. INT

Saturday (Morning):

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

8:00 a.m.: Genaro Hernandez, RIP

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

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

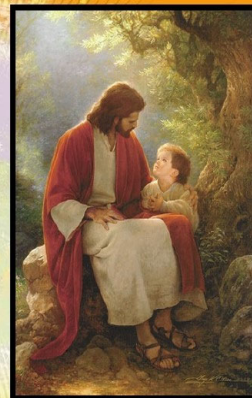
We livestream the daily 8:00 a.m. Mass and the HOMILIES at the Sunday 11:00 a.m. and the Monday 7:15 p.m. Masses. Be sure to "tune in"!

Outside the Parish

"IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. JUAN DIEGO AND OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE," a Pilgrimage from **Sunday, December 8, to Friday, December 13, 2024...** Join us for this inspiring tour to Guadalupe, Mexico, and more! The chaplain will be Fr. Jan Lundberg and the fee is \$2125 double occupancy. To receive a detailed itinerary, call Beth Maddatu at 408-903-6305 or email her at maddatubeth2@gmail.com.

SEEKING ITEMS FOR THE CLOISTERED CARMELITE NUNS' AUXILIARY'S BOUTIQUE in October: Please take a look around your house (in drawers, cabinets, closets, etc.) for items you no longer use or display. These will be sold at the Fall Boutique for the benefit of our Nuns. We need items in good condition: decorative items, small appliances, jewelry, nice dishes, teapots. etc. **NO FURNITURE OR CLOTHING!!** (not a rummage sale). For more info and a drop-off location, please contact Rosemary Moreno at (626) 281-9211. Thank you!

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord



Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.
Ephesians 5:1

