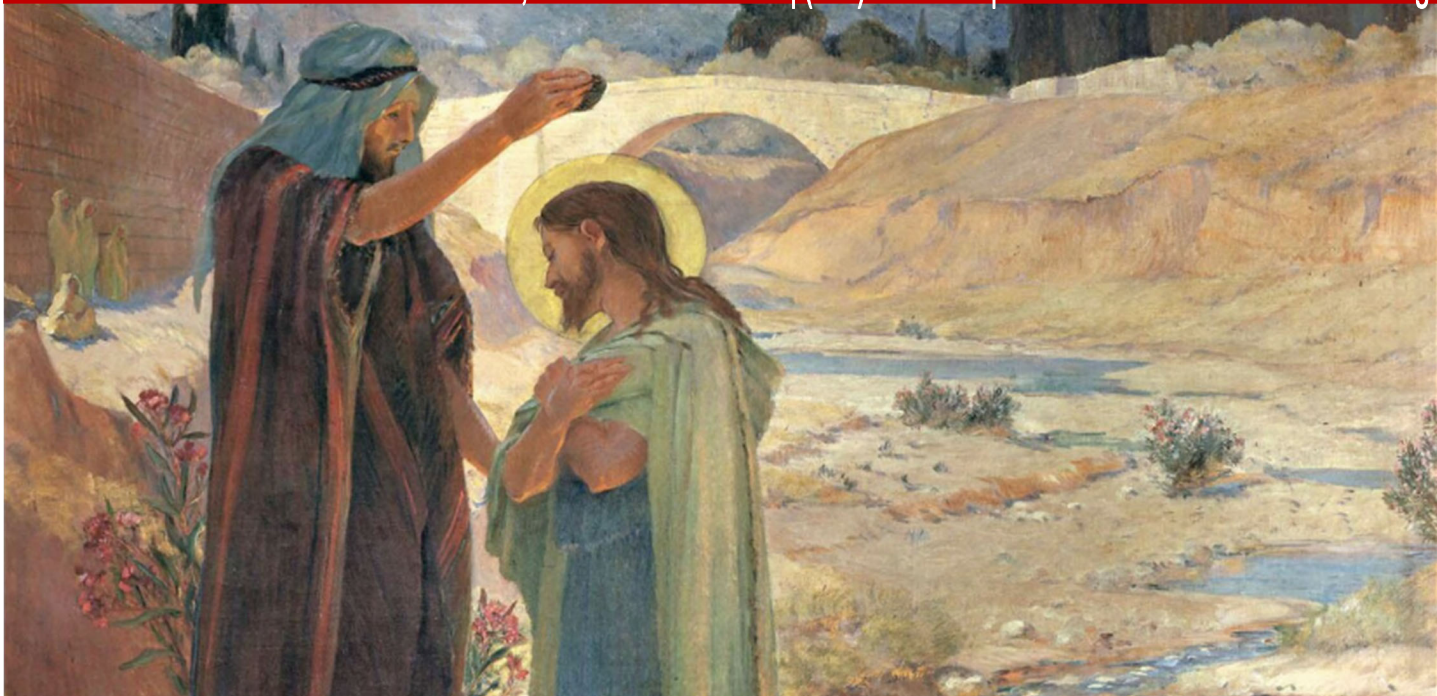


Est. 1924

St. Therese Catholic Church

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

January 12, 2025 1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, Heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove. And a Voice came from Heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:21-22).

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
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 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|stcreligious7@gmail.com

Music Director: Charlotte Lansberg X 1+222|credochoir1@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 come to the close of our Parish Centennial Year, I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who made this year memorable, especially Fr. Stephen Watson and the Centennial Committee! It was wonderful to see the 230 people at our Gala of Roses last night. I look forward to seeing more of you at the Organ Concert tonight (Sunday) at 7:30 p.m.

We now enter a new centenary celebration. Along with the Universal Church's Jubilee Year of 2025, this coming year we Carmelites are also celebrating 100 years since St. Therese's canonization! So, to begin this special year, let us begin with Therese herself and her famous "Act of Oblation to Merciful Love."

Fr. Peter Mary



Introduction to the Text:

We are starting this new cycle with a prayer that you probably know well; it is long and also full of rich teachings. We know that in October, 1894, St. Therese discovered the key elements that were essential to her "Little Way": childhood and mercy. At the end of 1895, in her Manuscript A, St. Therese returns to the illumination of June 9th, 1895 (which—according to her sister Geneviève—occurred during the Eucharist). She abandoned herself in the secret of her heart during the Mass of June 9th, but she already knew that this grace was not for her alone.

Shortly after her Oblation to Merciful Love, St. Therese was to draw in her sister, Marie of the Sacred Heart. Some months later, it was to be "her" novice, Sister Marie of the Trinity, who would make her Oblation, on December 1st, 1895. Questions and objections from the first disciples, and particularly her own spiritual experience, which was constantly evolving, led Therese to clarify the content and meaning of her offering. For that, it would be interesting to reread her dialogue of September, 1896, with Sister Marie of the Sacred Heart. Spiritual childhood and oblation to Merciful Love are henceforth inextricably linked in her doctrine.

This Act of Oblation, pronounced on Sunday, June 9th, the Feast of the Holy Trinity that year, certainly accentuated the strongly Trinitarian nature of the prayer. Concerning the term "Victim of Holocaust," Therese had received extensive religious instruction and knew the different forms of sacrifice in the Old Testament. This term comes from Wisdom 3:6, found in Celine's scripture notebook, copied for Therese.

Concerning the term "Merciful Love," this is the first time Therese uses it. It refers each time to the merciful love of Jesus. Therese's oblation, however personal for her, was made as part of the Church, in that communion of saints which delighted her with joy and hope. In 1896-1897, Therese had to incorporate into her Oblation to Merciful Love a dimension of pain that was not foreseen at the start. The morning of June 9th, 1895, she was carried by joy alone. We know how, at first, Sister Marie of the Sacred Heart refused the Oblation as a victim of love out of fear of suffering.



New Centennial Statue!

Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,
You've probably noticed the bare front corner at Alhambra Road and El Molino Street. This area has been cleared to prepare for a glorious five-foot tall marble statue of St. Therese, which was donated by a generous benefactor in honor of our Centennial Year as a parish.

It is a **replica of the statue outside of the Carmelite Monastery in Lisieux, France**; it will stand atop a three-foot high granite pedestal. Surrounding the statue will be a new rose garden complete with a bench for meditation. Let us remember to thank God and pray for our benefactors! —Fr. Peter Mary

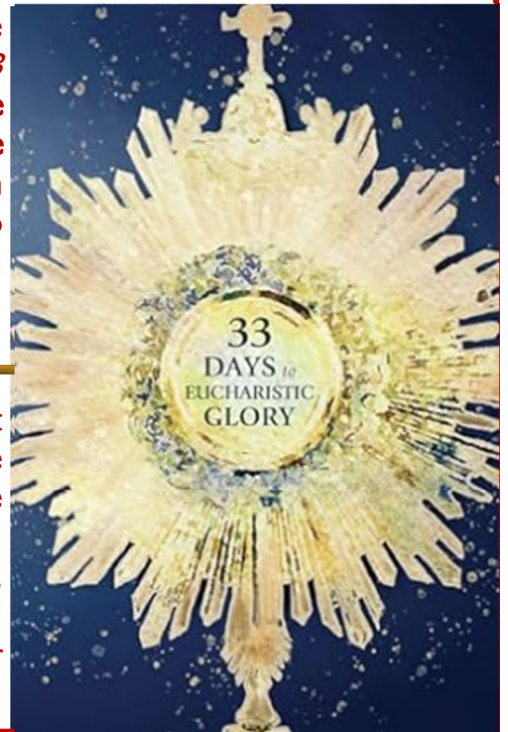
"Mystery of the Church" Classes with Fr. Stephen

Fr. Stephen will be "back in class" this **Tuesdays, January 14, and on Tuesday, January 28 (7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the Parish Center)**. The theme for January 14 will be **"The Church of the Saints and the Saints of the Church: The Universal Call to Holiness."**

"The Lord Jesus, the divine Teacher and Model of all perfection, preached holiness of life to each and every one of His disciples of every condition. Thus, all the faithful of Christ, of whatever rank or status, are called to the fullness of the Christian life and to the perfection of charity. By this holiness, a more human manner of living is promoted in this earthly society" (Lumen Gentium, chapter 5, No. 40).

PARISH CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY EUCHARIST

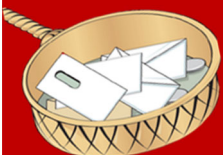
On the last weekend of December, St. Therese Parish gave away free copies of Matthew Kelly's award-winning book, **"33 Days to Eucharistic Glory."** **If you didn't receive a copy of the book, stop by the office during our open hours and pick one up.** If you have one of the books, we hope you have been reading and discussing one chapter each day (just two to three pages). The goal is for each person to grow in faith and get closer to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.



After each of the Masses on **Sunday, February 2**, the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus, the priests will invite all those who would like to consecrate themselves to Jesus in the Eucharist to come forward and pray the consecration prayer.

Together we will invite Jesus to help us love Him more, encourage others to love Him more, and become empowered to share the truth about the "Source and Summit" of our Faith.

Financial Offerings



January 4 / 5, 2025

Unrestricted.....	\$51,903.00
Restricted	\$ 2,370.00
T O T A L.....	\$54,273.00

December 14 / 15	\$18,470.00
Christmas Eve/Day...	\$30,066.00
December 21 22	\$24,852.00
December 28 / 29	\$28,935.00

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



Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith Academics Virtue

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.



Open House

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

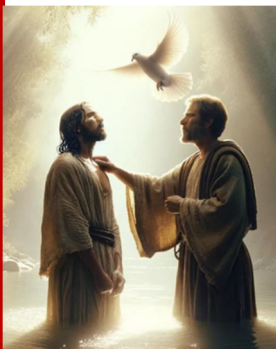
10 AM-3 PM

TK-8TH GRADE



1106 EAST ALHAMBRA ROAD, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91801

Claimed as Beloved: The Baptism of Jesus



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the conclusion of the Christmas season and the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. This Sunday's readings highlight the identity and mission of Christ as the beloved Son of God and the servant who brings justice and salvation to the world.

In Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7, we hear of the servant chosen by God, upon whom the Spirit rests. This servant is called to bring justice with gentleness and to be a light for the nations, opening the eyes of the blind and setting captives free. This prophecy points to Jesus, whose baptism reveals Him as the fulfillment of these promises. The psalm echoes this revelation, proclaiming the majesty of God's voice over the waters, affirming His glory and power.

The second reading from Acts (10:34-38) reminds us that Jesus' mission is universal. St. Peter declares that God shows no partiality, and that Jesus, anointed by the Holy Spirit, went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil. This underscores the inclusivity of Christ's message and the baptism that invites all into His family.

Finally, in the Gospel of Luke (3:15-16, 21-22), we witness the powerful moment of Jesus' baptism. As He emerges from the waters, the heavens open, the Spirit descends like a dove, and the Father's voice proclaims, "You are my beloved Son; with You I am well pleased." This divine affirmation reveals Jesus' identity and mission, and it serves as an invitation for us to reflect on our own baptism. Through our baptism, we are claimed as beloved children of God and called to participate in Christ's mission to bring justice, healing, and hope to the world.

As we celebrate this feast, let us renew our baptismal promises and ask for the grace to live out our calling as children of God, empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the light and love of Christ with all.

CENTENNIAL FINALE: ORGAN CONCERT TONIGHT!

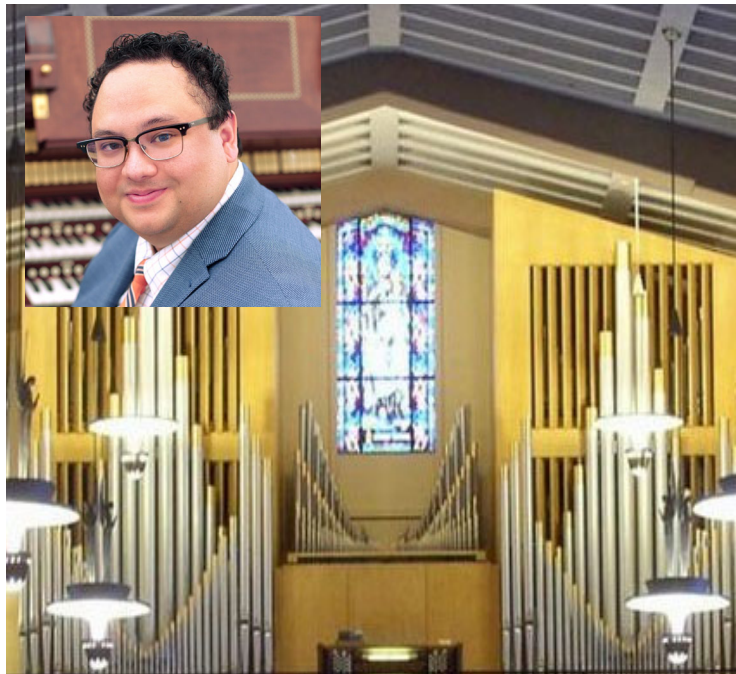
Join us as we conclude our 100th anniversary year and the Christmas season with an ORGAN CONCERT performed on our 72-rank Wicks/Schantz Pipe Organ!

DAVID BALL, Julliard-trained organist and the head of music ministry at Christ Cathedral in Garden Grove, will perform.

This free concert will be held **TONIGHT, SUNDAY, JANUARY 12**, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, at 7:30 p.m. in the church.

Join us after the concert for a . . .

**A Cheese and Wine Reception
in the Guadalupe Courtyard!**



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



“The grace from the Flame of Love of My Mother’s Immaculate Heart will be to your generation what Noah’s Ark was to his generation.”

—Jesus to Elizabeth
Kindelmann,
Third Order Carmelite

Unity Prayer

May Our Hands Gather In Unity

September 15, 1962: Jesus: United Hands Gather In Unity

“You know that you must always gather with Me. Now, here in this silence, you can gather with Me; also, in the quiet of the night, while you are watching. I teach you so you learn and teach others how to gather souls. The will of the soul is love, and love can do everything. You must just desire with all your strength.”

On another occasion: Jesus: “Do you know how much My Soul suffers because souls are lost? May our hands gather in unity.”

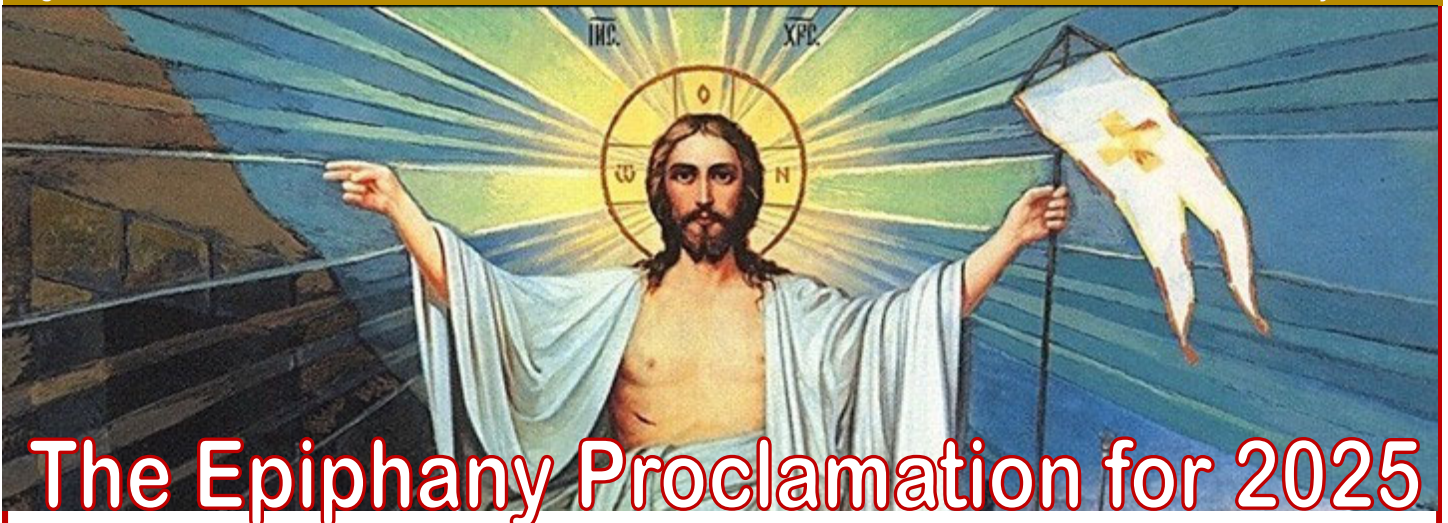
– Elizabeth: “Lord, I am only able to gather so few.”

– Jesus: “Make up for this by your desires and your ardent yearnings, My little one, and take refuge in Me with all trust.”

Reference: Building on Solid Rock Flame of Love Retreats Session 3 at <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.



The Epiphany Proclamation for 2025

While Christmas Day and other important feast days are fixed in the liturgical calendar each year, many of the important feasts of the Church year, such as Easter, are moveable, based upon the cycle of the lunar calendar each year. Therefore, the date for the celebration of Easter changes every year. As established by the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD, Easter Sunday falls on the first Sunday after the “Paschal Full Moon,” which varies between March 22 and April 25 (the “Paschal Full Moon” is the first full moon after the Autumn equinox (southern hemisphere)).

In ancient times, before calendars were common, most people did not know the dates for the upcoming liturgical year and their associated sacred holidays. In those times, on Epiphany Sunday each year, the moveable dates for the approaching year were “proclaimed” to the gathered assembly after the Gospel in this way:

“Dear brothers and sisters, the glory of the Lord has shone upon us, and shall ever be manifest among us, until the day of His return. Through the rhythms of times and seasons, let us celebrate the mysteries of salvation. Let us recall the year’s culmination, the Easter Triduum of the Lord: His last supper, His crucifixion, His burial, and His rising celebrated between the evening of the 17th Day of April and the evening of the 19th Day of April—Easter Sunday being on the 20th Day of April this year.

“Each Easter—as on each Sunday—the Holy Church makes present the great and saving deed by which Christ has forever conquered sin and death. From Easter are reckoned all the days we keep holy. Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, will occur on the 5th Day of March, thus making March 4th the last day of Ordinary Time before Lent.

“The Ascension of the Lord will be commemorated on Sunday, the 1st Day of June. Pentecost, the joyful conclusion of the season of Easter, will be celebrated on the 8th Day of June. And this year, the First Sunday of Advent will be on the 30th Day of November. Likewise, the pilgrim Church proclaims the passover of Christ in the feasts of the Holy Mother of God, in the feasts of the Apostles and Saints, and in the commemoration of the faithful departed.”

To Jesus Christ, who was, who is, and who is to come, Lord of time and history, be endless praise, for ever and ever. Amen.

Mass Intentions

January 11—18, 2025

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Charles "Chuck" Marikian, RIP

Sunday

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

7:30 a.m.: Michael Alexander, Lauren, and Ellena Cheah, INT

9:00 a.m.: Juphil Sia, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Gonzalo & Daisy Torres, RIP

1:00 p.m. (Latin): Emill Kim, Birthday INT

5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Nicolas & Christina Yang, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Therese H. Nguyen, Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Deacon Joseph Mizerski, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Deacon Joseph Mizerski, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Donald and Debbie Dominguez, INT

8:00 a.m.: Clare Kjolsrud, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Linda Mitchell, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Birel Ann Sia, Birthday INT

7:30 a.m.: Sr. Therese Marie, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Sisi Shum, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Germinio Gungon, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Mr. and Mrs. Marc Giambalvo, INT

8:00 a.m.: Edgar Lopez, RIP

Friday:

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

*7:30 a.m.: Richard Peter Macedonio, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Bonifacio Estrada, INT

Saturday (Morning):

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

8:00 a.m.: Stephen Grimm, 3rd Birthday INT

***Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel (215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra).**

***Open to the public except on Sundays and some holidays.**

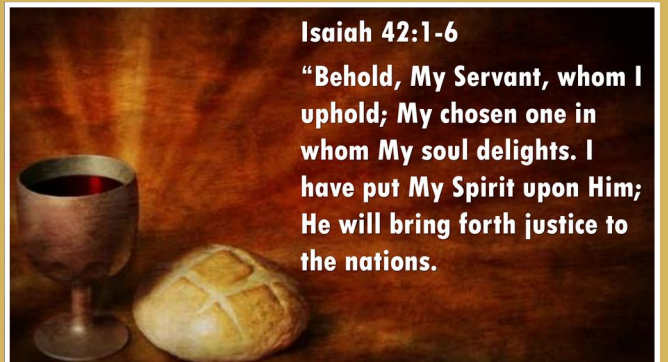
LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

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"!

Pilgrimages

SPECIAL PILGRIMAGE FOR THOSE WHO ATTEND THE LATIN MASS! Fr. James O'Reilly FSSP, of St. Vitus Catholic Church in Northridge, will lead a Footsteps of St. Paul Pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey from May 9th to May 20th, 2025. This will be an opportunity to visit the places to which St. Paul journeyed. There will be a guided tour, and Fr. O'Reilly will offer the Traditional Latin Mass each day. **DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS JANUARY 9** (STC just received this info). For more info, go to www.stcharlespilgrimages.com/oreilly

PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN, FRANCE, AND ITALY with Fr. Julius Ntalo, OCD: Join this 14-day pilgrimage from July 11 to 24, 2025, to all four countries listed above. For more info and to receive an itinerary, contact ABM Tours at 310-514-3323 or 408-903-6305 or maddatubeth2@gmail.com. See more info at abmtours.com.



Isaiah 42:1-6

"Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations."



Deaths

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

+ Doris Lazzara