



# The Little Flower Weekly

A Weekly Addition to the St. Therese Parish Bulletin



"If every tiny flower wanted to be a rose, spring would lose its loveliness."

ST. THERESE, PRAY FOR US

### SOME WORDS FROM OUR PATRONESS:

"...I was working in the laundry, and the Sister opposite, while washing handkerchiefs, repeatedly splashed me with dirty water. My first impulse was to draw back and wipe my face, to show the offender I should be glad if she would behave more quietly; but the next minute I thought how foolish it was to refuse the treasures God offered me so generously, and I refrained from betraying my annoyance. On the contrary, I made such efforts to welcome the shower of dirty water, that at the end of half an hour I had taken quite a fancy to this novel kind of aspersion, and I resolved to come as often as I could to the happy spot where such treasures were freely bestowed."

~St. Therese of Lisieux (*Story of A Soul*)



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# A Poem From Our Patroness



(Written in February of 1897—seven months before her death)

## *"To My Angel Guardian"*

In Heaven's high courts thou shinest bright,  
As some most pure and holy flame,  
Before the Lord of endless light.  
Yet for my sake thou com'st to earth,

To be my brother, Angel dear:  
My friend and keeper from my birth,  
By day and night to me most near.

Knowing how weak a child am I,  
By thy strong hand thou guidest me,  
The stones that in my pathway lie,  
I see thee move them carefully.

Ever thy heavenly tones invite  
My soul to look to God alone;  
And ever grows thy face more bright,  
When I more meek and kind have grown.

O thou who speedest through all space  
More swiftly than the lightnings fly!  
Go very often, in my place,  
To those I love most tenderly.

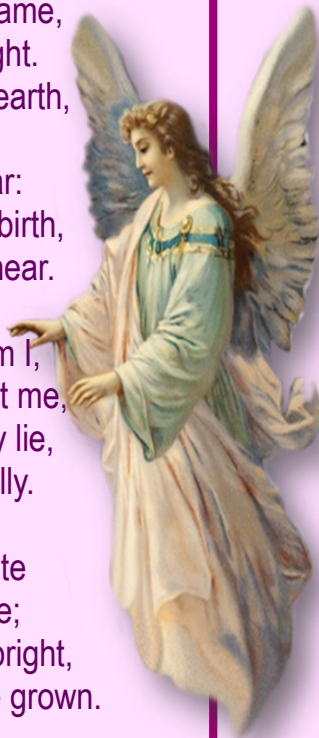
With thy soft touch, oh! dry their tears;  
Tell them the Cross is sweet to bear;  
Speak my name softly in their ears,  
And Jesus name, supremely fair.

Through all my life, though brief it be,  
I fain would succor souls from sin.  
Dear Angel, sent from Heaven to me,  
Kindle thy zeal my heart within!

Naught but my holy poverty,  
And daily cross to give have I;  
O join them to thine ecstasy,  
And offer them to God on high.

Thine are Heaven's glory and delight,  
The riches of the King of kings;  
The Host in our ciboriums bright  
Is mine, and all the wealth pain brings.

So with the Cross, and with the Host,  
And with thine aid, dear Angel Friend,  
I wait in peace, on time's dark coast,  
Heaven's happiness that knows no end.



# St. Padre Pio on Speaking to Your Angel

By  
Oleada  
Jovan

Padre Pio had encounters with angels throughout his life and got to know them very well. He also received interior locutions; he had to discern from whom they came and how he ought to react to them. In a letter he wrote on July 15, 1913, to a woman named Annita Rodote, one of his spiritual children, he gives her (and us) invaluable advice regarding how to act in relation to our guardian angels:



Dear daughter of Jesus, May your heart always be a temple of the Holy Spirit. May Jesus increase the fire of His love in your soul and may He always smile upon you, as He does on all the souls that He loves. May Mary, Most Holy, smile upon you during all the events of your life. May your good guardian angel always watch over you and be your guide on the rough path of life. May he always keep you in the grace of Jesus and hold you up with his hands so that you may not hurt your foot on a stone. May he protect you under his wings from all the deceits of the world, the devil, and the flesh. Have great devotion to this beneficent angel. How consoling it is to know that we each have a spirit who, from the womb to the tomb, never leaves us even for an instant, not even when we dare to sin. And this heavenly spirit guides and protects us like a friend, a brother. But it is very consoling to know that this angel prays unceasingly for us, and offers God all of our good actions, our thoughts, and our desires—if they are pure.

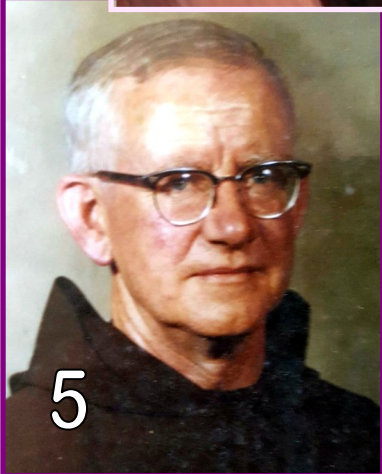
Oh! For goodness' sake, don't forget this invisible companion, ever present, ever disposed to listen to you and even more ready to console you. Oh, wonderful intimacy! Oh, blessed companionship! If only we could understand it! Keep him always before your mind's eye. Remember this angel's presence often, thank him, pray to him, always keep up a good relationship. Open yourself up to him and confide your suffering to him. Be always afraid of offending the purity of his gaze. Know this, and keep it well present in your mind. He is easily offended, very sensitive. Turn to him in moments of supreme anguish and you will experience his beneficent help. Never say that you are alone in the battle against your enemies; never say that you have no one to whom you can open your heart and confide. It would be a grave injustice to this heavenly messenger.

Humble yourself before the Lord and trust in Him; spend your energy, with the help of divine grace, in the practice of the virtues, and then let grace work in you as God desires. The virtues are what sanctify the soul—not supernatural phenomena. Jesus loves you very much. Try to correspond to this love by progressing more and more in holiness before God and men. Pray out loud as well. Support the difficulties you experience with patience and humility. Be ready to suffer distractions and dryness and, under no circumstances, do not abandon prayer and meditation. It is the Lord who wants to treat you this way for your spiritual advantage.

Forgive me if I end here. Only God knows how difficult it has been for me to write this letter as I am very sick. \*Pray much that the Lord may desire to free me from this body soon. I bless you. May you live and die in the arms of Jesus. ~Fra. Pio, Capuchin

(\*Note: Padre Pio did not die until 1968—55 years after he wrote this letter; however, he already had the Stigmata—since 1910.)

# Do You Recognize These Friars?



1. Fr. Matthias; 2. Fr. Phillip (and his Big Wheel); 3. Fr. Albert in the 70's; 4. Fr. Phillip with the Cloistered Nuns; 5. Fr. Jerome Lantry, circa 1985; 6. Fr. Robert Barcelos, Good Friday re-enactment in Tucson, Arizona, 2012

# "Jesus Is In Our Boat!"

By Fr. David  
Guzman OCD

Never! Never have I heard of anyone being able to command the weather to settle down and for it then to do so—except for Jesus. I firmly believe it. Even though it may be hard to imagine, I believe it.



"Does a lion roar in the forest when it has no prey?," the prophet Amos asks. No. Is a bird brought to earth by a snare when there is no lure? No. Does a snare spring up without catching anything? No. Do two walk together unless they have

agreed? No. Have faith. Do not lose it. Fear the Lord. Love the Lord. Trust in Him. Walk with Him, be in agreement.

Today, the Church remembers in celebration the first Holy Martyrs of Rome. Thousands were martyred for their faith in Rome in many ways, and throughout the Empire. These holy martyrs believed in the Gospel and gave their lives for what they believed. They followed Jesus—they WALKED with Him, and He, with them.

Martyrdom. Would that terrify you, O ye of little faith? With Jesus in our Boat, why are you terrified? "Lord, I am a sinful man!" Maybe that's why I am fearful. "Lord, I am not worthy!" Brothers and sisters, we can be at least a little concerned that we would have enough faith to not want to offend the Lord—and follow through with it. We need to be just a little concerned in not becoming upset, complaining, judging, holding on to anger, thinking about or—worse—viewing impurities. We must be concerned with any bit of lying or profanity. Actually, if we should die for our Faith, I think that would erase most of those sins; but could we?—or would we?

Put your trust in Jesus—and be worthy of it. He is just asking us to live our lives as we are placed, and to follow Him. I think I'm going to try a little bit harder, by the help of His grace, to do better today. Or should I wait for July 1<sup>st</sup>? No, if not today, when? Jesus is here to help. He is in our Boat! God will love you for it. It's what He's looking for: Faith in a good YOU.

# "La Bruna": Icon of Our Lady of Mount Carmel



This Icon of Mary, "La Bruna," is the oldest image of Mary adopted by the Carmelites. Here are some details about it:

**Name:** "La Bruna" means "The Brown One," because of the dark color of Mary's complexion.

**Origin:** Traditionally, it is said to have been painted by one of the Carmelite Friars who lived on Mt. Carmel—where the Carmelite order was founded.

**Date of composition:** First half of the 13th century.

**Size:** Approximately 2.5 by 3 feet

**Type of iconography:** Eleusa—"Of Tenderness"

**Current Location:** Basilica of Carmine Maggiore, Naples, Italy

**Spread of its Devotion:** Apart from the Carmelite Order, devotion to "La Bruna," which was crowned by decree of the Vatican Council of July 11, 1875, has spread to many other places and parishes, especially in Europe and in Latin America. There are now many modern reproductions inspired by this icon.

**Explanation of the Icon:** The composition of the picture contains a number of interesting details which help to illustrate the values of Mary, values which should inspire our lives and our Marian devotion. We can discover in this painting the following symbolic elements and details:

1. The golden haloes and the golden background (gold being the color of the sun) of the picture denote the holiness of the Mother and Child, infused always by the presence of God.
2. The blue color (the color of water, symbol of fertility) of Mary's cloak proclaims her divine Motherhood.



3. The red color (the color of blood, symbolizing love) of her dress underneath her cloak, part of which covers the Child, shows the strong love of the Mother towards her Son Jesus.
4. The star with a tail, attached to Mary's cloak, is the sign of her virginity before, during and after the birth of Jesus.
5. The color of the Child's sleeve (lambskin) proclaims: "Behold, the Lamb of God!".
6. The Child's face is not "babyish," to indicate the eternal existence of the Word-Made-Flesh.
7. Mary's left hand, which holds her Son safely in her arms, is a sign of her loving care. The right hand indicates the words, "Behold, the way, the truth and the life!".
8. The faces of the Mother and the Son are close to each other to show Jesus' deep union with His Blessed Mother.
9. The eyes of Mary and of Jesus are turned towards us, thus expressing the redemptive mission of Jesus and the co-redemptive participation of Mary.

## NOVENA IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL

From July 7 through July 15, in preparation for the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on July 16, we will pray a Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel:

After our Monday through Saturday  
Masses at Noon  
AND

After the Saturday Vigil on July 11 and  
After all the Sunday Masses on July 12.

## Novena Prayer

**Oh, Dear Lady of Mount Carmel!**

Our most Merciful Mother, we turn to you in confidence and ask you to hold us within your Immaculate Heart, along with all the sorrowful and suffering souls in this world. Please present all of our petitions to your Son Jesus and ask Him to grant them according to His Holy Will. May your love enlighten us to realize ever more that we are God's children, blessed to live in His continual Presence. We beg of you to plead to the Father to show us His mercy, through your most pure Heart. O Mother, who has gifted us with the Brown Scapular as a sign of your nurturing love, wrap us within your protective mantle. We love you and promise to be faithful to Our Lord Jesus Christ, now and throughout every moment of our lives. Amen.

# Miscellaneous

## FR. JUSTIN RAMOS' JUBILEE MASS IS **CANCELLED!**



Fr. Justin has had to **CANCEL** his 25th Anniversary Jubilee Mass that had been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 4, at St. Andrew's in Pasadena. Stay tuned for information about its being rescheduled.

For now, please notify anyone who you think was planning to attend but who may not have received notice of the cancellation.

Fr. Justin apologizes for any inconvenience.

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FIREWORKS SALE

Smart & Final Parking Lot  
725 East Main Street, Alhambra



### SALE DAYS/TIMES

FRIDAY, JULY 3: Open until 10:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 4: Open from 10:00 a.m.  
Until 10:00 p.m.

Parishioners who show a St. Therese bulletin will receive a 10% discount.

## DEVOTIONAL CANDLES AVAILABLE

Because we are not yet allowed to have candles in the church (due to the pandemic), we are selling them for your home use. They last 5 to 7 days and are \$5 each.

### TO PLACE A CANDLE ORDER:

Send an E-mail [DeniseKay@hotmail.com](mailto:DeniseKay@hotmail.com)  
or [CailanNocds@gmail.com](mailto:CailanNocds@gmail.com)

Include in your email the **number you want** to order (there is a **MAXIMUM OF FIVE** per household, per month), and **what day and approximate time you want to pick them up**. We will then leave them on the table on the office porch (510 North El Molino Street—at the end of the west side of the church). **You may drop the money in the mail slot to the right of the door** (please include your name on the envelope or a sticky note).



# Eucharistic Adoration



We now have a  
**NEW ONLINE  
SIGN-UP SITE!**  
(See below)

If you signed up on the  
other site, you must re-  
sign up on the new

“Jesus waits for us in the  
Sacrament of love. Let us  
be generous with our time  
in going to meet Him in  
adoration and in  
contemplation that is full  
of faith and ready to make  
reparation for the great  
faults and crimes of the  
world. May our adoration  
never cease.”

-St. John Paul II

Since we are not allowed  
to open our Adoration  
Chapel at the present  
time, we are offering  
Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament in the main  
body of the Church as  
follows:

**Monday through Friday  
from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm;  
Saturdays from  
6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

(Note: The Blessed  
Sacrament will be  
reposed during any  
Mass, including funerals,  
weddings, etc.)

**“CAN YOU NOT STAY WITH ME FOR ONE HOUR?”** Our new Adoration online sign-up sheet is ready and can be accessed at <https://adorationpro.org/ThereseCA>. Once there, click on Weekly Commitment to view the schedule and then sign up for a weekly time slot (the other site is now CLOSED!). It's unlimited as to how many can sign up for each hour. We have transitioned to a **WEEKLY COMMITMENT SCHEDULE**, so if you sign up for a time slot, **it means you are COMMITTING to serve at that same time on the same day every week.** It's unlimited as to how many can sign up for each hour. You will be sent automatic reminders beforehand.

Once you've arrived to the church, check-in by using **your Smartphone (or use the kiosk once it's installed in the church)** by visiting the site and then clicking Adorer Sign In. Then click Scheduled Adorer Sign In, select your name, and confirm sign in (if your name does not appear that means you are either not scheduled for that hour or you arrived too late/too early).

**Finding substitute adorers** to take your place is super easy. If you cannot attend a particular week, you can go to this website to find a sub or invite a friend to take your place. **The current "Find a Sub" password is subpass.** If your schedule changes and you can no longer commit weekly to a time slot, email [247adorationchapel@gmail.com](mailto:247adorationchapel@gmail.com) to be removed.

After you've signed up for a Weekly Commitment(s), please consider joining the Substitute Adorers list to support your fellow Dedicated Adorers. Please share this new Adoration Sign-up site with your friends so we can have trusted adorers watch with Jesus every hour. Thank you again for your willingness to serve St Therese Church and keep God's people safe. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions. Blessings be upon you, -Richard and Gabriel, Coordinators

**PS... If a funeral or a wedding, etc., is being celebrated, the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed.** If one of those events takes place during your hour, you obviously will not be able to make your commitment at that time. You may “make it up” by adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament at another time that week.