

SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

510 N. El Molino St., Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

January 6, 2019 **MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS** Estab. 1924

Pastor: Fr. Philip Sullivan, OCD X222

Associate Pastor: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD X224

In Residence: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD X335
Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD X324; Bro. John Cannon

Deacons: Deacon Joseph Mizerski X333;
Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Annulments: Lorraine Mizerski X333

Vocations: For the Carmelites: Fr. Matthias X224
For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

Parish Secretary:

Denise McMaster-Holguin X223 denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228
cailannocds@gmail.com

Music Director:
Charlotte Lansberg
cjlansberg@choochoorecords.com

Respect Life Ministry / Vox Vitae:
Catherine Contreras X112

Cor Jesu Youth Ministry:
Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD X224

Religious Education (Grade School, Confirmation for Youth & Adults, R C I A, and Liturgical Ministries):
Rhonda Storey, 284-0020 X1, rhondalstorey@gmail.com

MASSES AND SERVICES

Monday-Saturday: 6:00 & 8:00 a.m.

Carmelite Cloister: 7:30 a.m.

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., & 5:00 p.m.

Latin High Mass: 1:00 p.m.

Confessions: Wed: 7:00-8:30 p.m.; Sat: 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Daily Rosary: Mon-Sat after 8:00 a.m. Mass

Exposition/Benediction: Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

First Friday: Mass and Confessions: 7:30 p.m.

“On coming to the house, they saw the Child with His mother Mary and bowed down and worshipped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.”
~Matthew 2:11-12



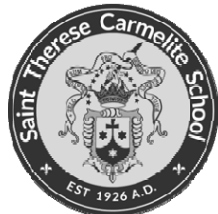
SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: Once a month on a Saturday

Weddings: Fill out an application (website or office) six months+ in advance

Holy Communion to the Sick:
Fred & Margaret Padilla, (626) 282-0943

Anointing of the Sick: Call one of the Fathers



SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL
(626) 289-3364

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com
principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com

See our new VIDEO on the School's Facebook page or on the Church's website > Our School > Videos

NEW PARISHIONERS: WELCOME TO ST. THERESE! PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE OR IN THE PARISH OFFICE

(510 N. El Molino St., Alhambra). Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm; 2:00 to 5:00 pm; 6:00 to 8:00 pm—closed from 1:00 to 2:00 pm & 5:00 to 6:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration: Continuous, day and night. Sign up for an hour of adoration and pray for vocations by calling the office at 282-2744.

Nine Things to Know About Epiphany

By Jimmy Akin

1. **What does the word "Epiphany" mean?** "Epiphany" means "manifestation." The word comes from Greek roots that means "to show, to display". An epiphany is thus a time when something is shown or manifested to an audience.
2. **What is the feast of the Epiphany about?** According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God, and Savior of the World. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (Magi) from the East. In the Magi, the Gospel sees the first-fruits of the nations who welcome the good news of salvation through the Incarnation. The Magi's coming to Jerusalem in order to pay homage to the King of the Jews shows that non-believers can discover Jesus and worship Him as Son of God and Savior of the world.
3. **When is Epiphany celebrated?** This varies from country to country. In some countries, Epiphany is a holy day of obligation. Where that is the case, it is celebrated on January 6th. In the United States, the Feast of the Epiphany is transferred to the first Sunday after January 1st. In 2019, it so happens that the first Sunday after January 1st is January 6th, so this year the U.S. celebration of Epiphany coincides with its universal celebration.
4. **Why is Epiphany connected with January 6th?** Emeritus Pope Benedict says that it is hard to say how far back the beginnings of the Christmas feast go. It assumed its definitive form in the third century. At about the same time the Feast of the Epiphany emerged in the East on January 6th, and the Feast of Christmas in the West, on December 25th.
5. **Who were the Magi?** Emeritus Pope Benedict believes that the Magi were probably of a Persian priestly caste, but most people believe they were Arabian. Most likely, they were advisers to Kings, but NOT kings themselves. In Hellenistic culture, they were regarded as "rulers of a distinctive religion," thought to be "strongly influenced by philosophy," and that the Greek philosophers were their pupils. Others say that were possibly possessors and users of supernatural knowledge or magicians. The truth is, no one really knows *exactly* who they were.
6. **Why did the Magi come to see Jesus?** They presumably had material of a prophetic nature that allowed them to identify the birth of the new "King of the Jews" astronomically. They may have been especially motivated to come see this King since there was an expectation at the time that a universal ruler would shortly come from Israel. *"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel"* (Micah 5:2-4).
7. **Why did they go to Herod first?** Probably, because they assumed the newborn king would be a son of Herod—the current "king of the Jews." Emeritus Pope Benedict comments that it is quite natural that their search for the newborn King of the Jews should take them to Israel's royal city and to the king's palace. This, of course, played into Herod's paranoia and led to the slaughter of the innocents.
8. **What was the star?** It is hard to know. Some question whether the star was a natural phenomenon at all, pointing out that it seems to lead the Magi to Jerusalem, disappear, and then reappear and hover over the house in Bethlehem. But Matthew does not say that the star *led* them to Jerusalem. The Magi merely said that they had seen the new king's star "in the East" (that is, in their homeland), which is why they came to Jerusalem. Matthew does say that they went their way and the star they had seen in the East went before them, until it came to rest over the place where the Child was [Matthew 2:9]. Departing from Jerusalem at night, they may have noted that the star was in front of them in the sky—a coincidence arranged by Divine Providence. Then they noticed it was directly over the house—again, Divine Providence.



9. **Does this mean astrology is okay?** No, all forms of divination are to be rejected, such as recourse to Satan or demons, conjuring up the dead, or other practices supposed to "unveil" the future. Consulting horoscopes and astrology contradict the honor, respect, and loving fear that we owe to God alone. Gregory Nazianzen says that "at the very moment when the Magi adored Jesus, astrology came to an end, as the stars from then on traced the orbit determined by Christ." What's important to remember is that it was not the star that determined the Child's destiny, it was **the Child that directed the star.**

Some Myths About Epiphany

The Magi are often called kings or wise men. However, wise men is more apt. They were, in all probability, the personal *advisors to kings* whose responsibilities would have included reading the stars, interpreting dreams, and a host of wisdom-seeking work. Some early Church traditions say there were twelve. Today, we choose to honor three, because three very significant gifts were offered. Over time, Church traditions have assigned them names: Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar.



The Magi came “from the East” which, based on the nature of their gifts and Old Testament prophecy, means they most likely came from the ancient Arabian kingdom of Sheba. Arabia was known for its vast wealth from gold mines of Africa, as well as the Boswellian and Commiphora trees—from which frankincense and myrrh are derived. Of course, men from Persia could have brought these gifts, but they signify a giving of the best commodities from their own country to a neighboring King.

Scripture tells us that the Magi gave gifts to Jesus of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, all things suited for a King. Matthew (2:11) tells us these gifts were great treasures given as worship, but they may have even greater significance. Gold was indeed associated with royalty, but it may also foreshadow Jesus’ purpose. In 1 Kings (6:20-22), the walls of the Most Holy Place and the altar are overlaid with gold. Frankincense was part of ceremonial worship of a deity. This gift underscores their belief that the Newborn King carried a claim of deity. Myrrh was used as a perfume, anointing oil, medicinal tonic, AND as a key ingredient in the mixture of spices used to prepare bodies for burial (John 19:39-40)—indicating that Jesus would die for His people.

Kings were in the habit of gathering the best and brightest into an advisory body of wise men, stargazers, and dreamers. Magi were consulted in the Book of Daniel and by Pharaoh in the time of Joseph. Truth is, our Faith allows a holy place for mysteries to persist. But if you’d like a bit more clarification of the myths surrounding these mystery men, here are some insights from author Dwight Longenecker:

MYTH #1: THERE WERE THREE WISE MEN. We have no idea how many there were, and the Bible does not tell. The number three was assumed because three gifts were given to Jesus: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. However, we don’t know the quantity of those gifts, or even if Jesus was only given one of each.

MYTH #2: THEY RODE CAMELS. This is a common misconception. Whenever you see movies from this time period, the actors are riding on camels. However, people in northern Arabia typically only rode Arabian horses. At the time of Christ’s birth, camels were used as pack animals, but wealthy travelers used the more comfortable and swift horse.

MYTH #3: THEY FOLLOWED A MIRACULOUS STAR. Matthew never says that they followed a star. He says they saw a star. The wise men were astrologers, and the star was an astronomical sign they saw that signified the prophecy of the Jewish king. That doesn’t mean a star led them from Arabia to Jesus.

MYTH #4: THEY WERE KINGS. It is unclear whether or not they were royalty, but they were not kings. They had royal *connections* though and were trusted by King Herod.

MYTH #5: THEY CAME FROM PERSIA, INDIA, AND AFRICA. This idea was added to tradition later. They likely came from Arabia, not these other countries or diverse backgrounds.

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

All parishioners are invited to attend the OPEN HOUSE for Saint Therese Carmelite School NEXT SUNDAY, January 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Our School is committed to a Classical Curriculum that develops the whole child.

We offer the following:



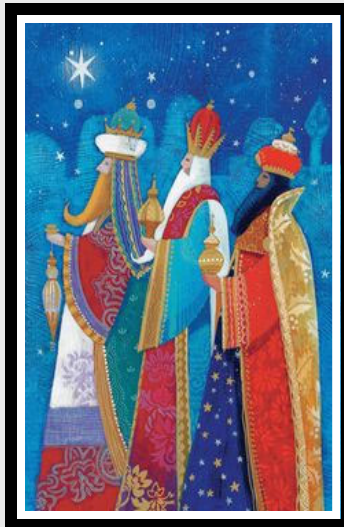
- TK–Grade 8, Small Class Sizes
- Euclidian Geometry & Latin
- Music, Art, P.E., CYO Sports
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
- Carmelite Friars Teaching in the Classroom
- Weekly Mass & Monthly Confession
- After-School Daycare Enrichment Program
- Affordable Tuition

Saint Therese Carmelite School

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

“Without love, deeds—even the most Brilliant—count as nothing.” -St. Therese

- January 7th (Monday): School resumes
- January 11th (Friday): Mass at 8:00 a.m.
- January 13th (Sunday): Family Mass at 9:00 a.m.; Open House from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- January 14th (Monday): PSO Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- January 18th (Friday): Mass at 8:00 a.m.
- January 21st, Monday: Martin Luther King Day - No School



Perpetual Adoration

“Where is the newborn King of the Jews?,” inquired the three Magi of Herod, king of Jerusalem. We have made so long a journey in order to become acquainted with Him!



“But now there is no need of traveling far or of making many inquiries to find Him. He is, as we know by faith, in our churches, not far from our homes. The Magi could find Him in one place only; we can find Him in every part of the world, wherever the Blessed Sacrament is kept. Are we then not happier than those who lived at the time of our Savior Himself?”
-Fr. Michael Muller, C.S.S.R.

We are accepting new student applications for the 3rd quarter.

(289-3364 or admin@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com)



FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

"...for God loves a cheerful giver"
(2 Corinthians 9:7)

May God reward you! Below you will find the total collections for the previous four weekends. **NOTE:** There is a second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND each month for our School (next is January 12 / 13.)

THANK YOU!



Due to the holidays, the bulletins have "gone to press" early. The totals for the weekends of December 22/23 and 29/30 will be shown in the January 13th issue.

November 24 / 25..... \$19,408.00
December 1 / 2.....\$17,315.00
December 8 / 9.....\$30,502.00
December 15 / 16..... \$11,787.00

Check Users:

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

RISE: MEN'S ONLINE MINISTRY



All men who have made the 30-day challenge are invited and encouraged to join us on Saturday mornings for the Rosary at 6:45 a.m., followed by a video and discussion from 7:00 to 7:30 a.m. in the Parish Meeting Room.

FOR More INFO, go to www.MenRiseUp.org or contact Andy Acosta at 703-8939 or A.Acosta2046@gmail.com.



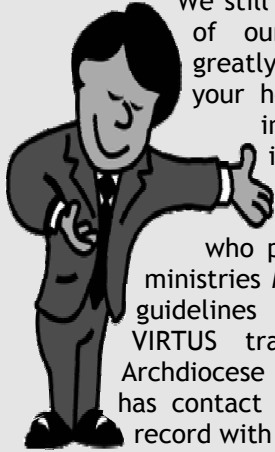
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (Feast Day: January 4)

Though her liturgical designation is "Religious," Elizabeth Seton (1774-1821) was also "wife, mother, educator, and foundress." Born into a wealthy Episcopalian family, Elizabeth married William Seton, whose untimely death in Italy where the young family sought healing for William's tuberculosis, left her, at twenty-nine, a widow with five children.

Inspired by the faith and charity of the Italian family with whom they stayed, Elizabeth embraced Catholicism, despite her family's disowning her and ceasing financial support. This woman of many firsts opened the first free Catholic school, beginning the American Catholic educational system, and founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. The tuberculosis that claimed her husband took also her oldest and youngest daughters and, finally, at just forty-seven, Elizabeth herself. Another first: In 1975 she was canonized the first native-born American saint. Once asked to summarize her spirituality, she replied: "Faith lifts the staggering soul on one side, hope supports it on the other, experience says it must be, and love says let it be!"



USHER INFO NEEDED

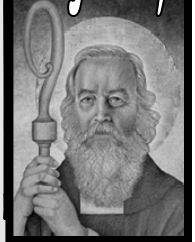


We still haven't heard from many of our ushers. Although we greatly need and appreciate your help volunteering as "fill-in" ushers, it is very important that the staff of St. Therese has your contact info! Everyone who participates in any of our ministries **MUST** follow Archdiocesan guidelines and have attended a VIRTUS training class. Also, the Archdiocese requires that anyone who has contact with money **MUST** be on record with the Parish.

To provide this information, please contact Damon Ayala, Head Usher, at dme4music@gmail.com.

ST. HILARY (Feast Day: January 13)

Born in Poitiers, France, whose populace would later elect him bishop, Hilary (315-367), married and a father, was converted from paganism to Christianity through his reading of Scripture. The focus of his prayerful study was the Prologue to the Gospel according to John, which portrays Jesus as the divine Logos. As a result, Hilary became, in the words of the Biblical scholar St. Jerome, "the Latin Trumpet against the Aryans,"—heretics who believed Jesus to be merely human, not divine. In defense of Christ's divinity, Hilary was not only eloquent in debate but utterly fearless in the face of relentless persecution and even exile. Thus, by the witness of his own discipleship, Hilary taught that faith in Jesus as the divine Son of God has consequences. Reflecting on Jesus' challenge to His disciples, "*You are the salt of the earth*" (Matt. 5:13), Hilary notes that as salt both preserves from corruption and adds flavor to food, so must the faithful disciple bear witness that, by word and example, leads others to immortality and virtuous living.



Ongoing Parish Meetings/Events

BIBLE STUDY: Classes meet at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesdays** in the Parish Meeting Room. For more information, e-mail Debbie Robles at debrobles@me.com or call or text her at 679-6370.

CHOIR REHEARSAL for the 11:00 a.m. Mass is every Wednesday (September-June) from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

CONSECRATION TO MARY: Follow-up group for those already consecrated to Jesus through His mother, the Mother of God. Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month. For more info, call Angela at (310) 701-8386.

DETENTION MINISTRY: If you're 21 or older, join us in visiting the youth (ages 8 to 18) in the Juvenile Detention Center in L.A. To sign up or for more info, call Sonia at (323) 724-6443.

EnCOURAGE: Standing fully by the teachings of the Church, we are a group of faithful Catholic parents who support one another and our loved ones with same sex attraction, through discussion, prayer, fellowship and sacrifice. Meet monthly in the LA Archdiocese with our chaplain in a safe confidential setting. For more info, contact your local chapter (EnCourage for **parents:** EnCourage.LosAngeles@gmail.com; OR Courage LA for **persons struggling with same sex attraction:** CourageCA.LosAngeles@gmail.com).

FIRST FRIDAY MASS: Every First Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (confessions are available during the Mass).

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: This group (originally formed in honor of Patricia Bordonaro) is for those grieving a loved one—no matter how long or for whom. We meet in the Parish Offices from **2:30 to 4:00 p.m. on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays** of each month. The next meeting will be **Wednesdays, January 9 and 23**.

INTERCESSORS FOR PRIESTS PRAYER GROUP: Join us in the Avila Room in the Parish Offices to pray for priests every **Thursday at 8:00 p.m.** (following Benediction in the church). For more info, call Blanca at 281-7070.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: For Catholic men (18 or over) looking to strengthen their faith through serving the Church & community. Call the Alhambra Grand Knight, Ramon Burce, at 695-2842 or the national line at (888) 869-3124.

LEGION OF MARY: The object of the Legion is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active cooperation. Meetings are **Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Parish Offices (Lisieux Room).

ROSARY MAKERS: Help make rosaries to be sent to Catholics in third-world countries. Sessions are held on **Mondays at 6:00 p.m.** in the Avila Room of the Parish Offices. For more info, call Magda at (213) 300-7776.

ST. JOSEPH PRAYER GROUP: Come to the church every **Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.** to pray for peace and justice issues in our community and around the world. For more info, call Lucy at 281-3706.

Mass Intentions

For the Week of
January 5 through 12, 2019

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Eulogio Diaz, RIP

Sunday

*7:30 am: Eugene Mushinskie, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: June Evans, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Nancy Tan, RIP

1:00 p.m.: (Latin): Charles Coulombe, INT

5:00 p.m.: Gilberto Gomez, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Anil Cyriac, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Archie Krejci, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Sherin Cyriac, INT

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Eugene Mushinskie, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Christine, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Vikki Ng, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Jose Diaz, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Faithful Priests/Bishops of the Church INT

8:00 a.m.: Sr. Rossella, OMFV, INT

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Alvin Cailan, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Bruce Anderson, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Eugene Mushinskie, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Jose Diaz, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Faithful Priests/Bishops of the Church INT

8:00 a.m.: Luis Figueroa, RIP

Saturday:

6:00 a.m.: Faithful Priests/Bishops of the Church INT

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Virgil Odonon, INT

*Held at the Carmelite Chapel, 215 East Alhambra Road. Open to the public every day except Sundays/holidays.

Floral Dedications

To arrange for a floral dedication (in someone's honor, for a special occasion, or in memory of loved ones), call **Giovanna at 281-9049.** Prices start at \$45.



Outside the Parish

Pasadena Community Orchestra presents its second **FREE** concert of the season **Friday, January 25, at 8 pm**, in the Sanctuary of First Church of the Nazarene, 3700 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena—1 block west of Michillinda Ave and La Salle High School. The concert will feature Mozart's Symphony No. 40, also known as the Great G Minor, Bach's G minor Fugue, Walton's Spitfire Prelude and Fugue, and Listz's Les Preludes. A light reception will follow the concert. Seating is comfortable (and wheelchair safe), and parking is **FREE**. For further info, please call 445-6708 or go to www.pcomusic.org.

ARE YOU HOMEBOUND? You can view the **Mass on TV on Channel 56 (KDOC) every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.** For a free copy of the Mass prayer book, call 1-800-430-0930.

The Calendar: Julius vs. Gregory

Monday of this week, January 7th, is Christmas Day in Russia and in much of the Orthodox world. This curious difference in schedule has a lot to do with how calendars have been developed and changed over the years. In the year 45 B.C. Julius Caesar gave the empire his Julian Calendar, with the winter solstice on January 6th. This put an end to a system in which officials, called "pontiffs," were able to tweak the calendar by adding extra days. He then created two new months, December and January; and in order to correct the mess the pontiffs made, forced a year of 445 days on the empire in what he named "The Last Year of Confusion." The new months varied in number of days according to a complex schedule, but the calendar lost a full day every 130 years. Pope Gregory XIII reformed the calendar in 1583, but not everyone appreciated his efforts. England held out for two hundred years! The year 1700 was a leap year in England, but not in France; they were eleven days apart! George Washington was really born on February 11; but when the Gregorian calendar was finally adopted in the English colonies shortly before the Revolution, he had to move his birthday to February 22. Now the calendars are thirteen days apart, which accounts for Russia's Julian calendar Christmas. And Caesar thought he had brought confusion to an end!