

St. Therese Catholic Church

July 2, 2023

Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars

Est. 1924

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



“Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were indeed buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life” (Romans 6:3-4).

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 7:00 p.m.,
and the Sunday 11:00 a.m., Masses are all **LIVE**

STREAMED on Facebook AND YouTube)

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

CONFESSIONS (INSIDE & OUTSIDE)-**Wednesdays**
from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.; **Saturdays** 3:00 to 6:00 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. Thomas Koller, OCD X 1+222

Associate Pastors: Fr. Robert Elias Barcelos, OCD XTBA
Fr. David Guzman, OCD X 1+232

In Residence: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD, Bro. Jason Parrott,
OCD; and Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD

Deacons: Deacon Joseph Mizerski | Deacon Gilbert Vargas,
And Deacon Otto Lacayo: 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

Music Director: Andrew Coyne | Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com

Ministry: Catherine Contreras X 1+112

ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

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



Letter from Fr. Thomas, Pastor

Blessed 13th Sunday of the Year, everyone!

As we settle in for another wonderful Fourth of July celebration on Tuesday, and with the backdrop of today's Gospel ("Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it"), **let us consider some thoughts by John Betz on freedom, from an article he wrote entitled, "We Hold These Freedoms: Modern, Postmodern, Christian":**

"Some years ago, as I was walking to Notre Dame with my then three-year-old daughter, she exclaimed that she wanted to see Jesus. She was no doubt thinking of the Word of Life mural popularly known as "Touchdown Jesus," which towers above the entrance to Hesburgh Library. And that, as it happens, was where we were heading. A few minutes later, however, she was diverted by a three-foot-tall replica of the Statue of Liberty covered in glittery fake gold and standing—for what earthly reason I do not know—in the backyard of a residence a stone's throw away. When she began to run to it, I said, "No, that's something else." She promptly returned to the path, and we resumed our journey. For her part, my daughter was too young to appreciate the little allegory our lives became in that moment; but the point of it has stuck with me over the years, and every Fourth of July is a poignant reminder: that Christ is not Lady Liberty, that Lady Liberty is not Our Lady, and that American freedom is not the same thing as the freedom of the children of God.

So then, let us celebrate the Fourth of July, but let us not forget what freedom really means. Better yet, let us take the opportunity this day affords to speak about real freedom to a nation that is in free fall and evidently falling apart because it has blithely disregarded not just revelation and the testimony of the saints—which are automatically thrown out of court, while various ideologies, which have the form of religions, are given free rein—but increasingly even what support reason and common sense can afford, and, as a consequence, is immuring itself more and more in its own madness. After all, madness is nothing more than the state of a soul trapped in itself without any outside; and it is a sign of madness that a madman may think he is free—as free as a bird—even though he may be living in an asylum.

If American freedom is not real freedom, but at best a symbol of real freedom, a symbol, moreover, that can easily become our national idol—the American idol—what then is real freedom? This question is not easily answered because it is something that can be understood only by those who have some experience of it; and even such experience as we may have of it is only a pointer to the freedom of the saints, which is found atop Mount Carmel, as John of the Cross says in his eponymous work. But, from a Christian standpoint, this much is clear: it is a freedom that is found along the Way that Christ, the Logos, is: a freedom that is found not by following one's own will, wherever it may lead, but by binding oneself to God's holy will, wherever it may lead; a freedom that is found not by buying at will but by selling at will, indeed, ultimately by selling all that one has (Matthew 13:44-46); a freedom that is found not along commercial highways and by satisfying ever more desires elicited by ever more products, but along a rugged path of ever-narrowing desires (Matt 7:13-14), which leads to a single-minded desire for the one thing necessary (Luke 10:42)." **(Note: You can read the whole article and its companion piece on our St. Therese Church website.)**

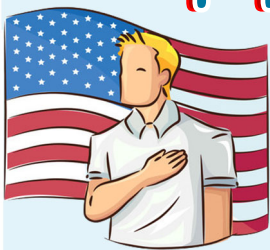
Just a reminder that the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Novena will begin on Friday, July 7th, at the evening Mass at 7:15 p.m., and continue each evening through July 15th. Various Carmelite friars will share reflections, with extra time devoted after Holy Communion to each person personally hearing from Our Lady and Our Lord.

Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph, —Fr. Thomas, OCD



As posted last week, all Monday through Friday evening Masses will now begin at 7:15 p.m., instead of at 7:00 p.m., in order to make it easier for those coming from work to arrive on time for Mass with (hopefully) less rushing.

Happy Independence Day!

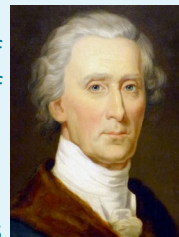


TRUE PATRIOTISM: July 4th, Independence Day, is an American national holiday—one which gives us time to thank God for the birth of our nation and petition Him to preserve our country and rid it of its evils. The Fourth is a perfect opportunity to teach our children about patriotism, authentic patriotism as a Catholic virtue. Patriotism can be a tricky topic to understand. In our culture, many people define it in different ways. And in years past, there have been Catholic thinkers who have seen patriotism as a vice, and others who have seen it as a virtue. So, which is it, and how can we properly express it?

Patriotism is generally understood as a virtue, as a particular expression of piety, which stems from the cardinal virtue of justice. The word “patriotism” comes from the Latin “patria,” which means “father.” Patriotism, then, is a love of one’s fatherland, and the fellow children of that land. That last point is important. Patriotism is meaningless unless it is directed primarily toward persons. For this reason, patriotism is connected to love of neighbor, and even more particularly, to love of one’s family.

Independence Day reminds us all of those who have sacrificed for our freedom, following the example of Jesus Christ. Let us not take our freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May we always remember that our freedom was purchased at a very high price. Our freedom cost others their very lives.

A CATHOLIC AMERICAN: Here’s a good Fourth of July trivia question: Were any of the signatories of the Declaration of Independence Catholic? The answer is yes, but only one: **Charles Carroll**. Born September 1737 to a wealthy Maryland family, he was educated in Jesuit colleges before studying law in Paris and London. His education in Catholic social principles prepared him to embrace the ideals of freedom and liberty. (He even had his home, Doughoregan Manor, built with an attached chapel).

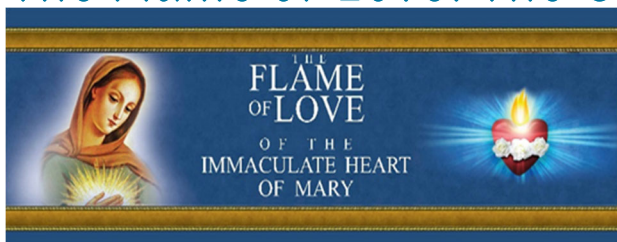


Catholics were prohibited from participating in Maryland politics before the revolution, but that did not stop Carroll from becoming a champion in the fight for independence. He was allowed to serve in the Maryland delegation as the only Catholic (from 1776 to 1778) and then returned to Maryland to help form a state government there. He was elected to the Maryland state senate in 1781 and served there continuously until 1800.

After both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on July 4, 1826, Carroll became the last living signatory of the Declaration until his death on Nov. 14, 1832. He’s buried (near his home) at St. Mary Chapel at Doughoregan Manor, Maryland, where he often prayed for our country.

On Nov. 22, 2013, Archbishop William E. Lori celebrated a Mass at St. Mary’s for the repose of Carroll’s soul. He said, “This is the chapel and this is the tomb of the only son of the Catholic Church who risked his life, freedom, and property so that he and his descendants would be free to practice their faith in peace.”

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



Living in the Flame – Night Vigil—Letter from St Cyprian to Pope St Cornelius (ca. 253 AD): (We) give ourselves unceasingly to fasting, vigils and prayers in common. These are the heavenly weapons which give us the strength to stand firm and endure; they are the spiritual defenses, the God-given armaments that protect us.

A Night Vigil is a spiritual exercise practiced since ancient times by early Christians, and now in many monasteries. One enters into contemplative prayer at night for a few hours, or all night. Because our defenses and distractions are minimal in the middle of the night, we can devote ourselves more fully to the voice of God. Night Vigils are very effective, especially when we pray to save the dying from damnation. In the Spiritual Diary of Elizabeth Kindelmann, Jesus told Elizabeth: **“IN THE QUIET OF THE NIGHT, I SEEK SOULS.”**

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. The Flame of Love books are available for sale in the parish offices. If you have any questions, please contact Maru Lazatin at (626) 675-3080.

Missionary to Visit July 8/9



Next weekend is the annual Archdiocesan Mission Cooperative Appeal. Fr. **Kondayya Mocherla, HGN**, will be with us at each of the weekend's Masses to tell us about the **Catholic Diocese of Aitape, Papua, New Guinea**, and to ask for donations for their support.

Their diocese has more than 160,000 Catholics (75% of the population) living in 32 parishes that are distributed among three deaneries. They have a Pastoral Center to train catechists and lay ministers, as well as for continuing formation of the faithful.

The diocese also runs health facilities, schools, vocational centers, a center for the disabled, and a school that gives second chances. They have a lot of opportunities for evangelization and care of their people; however, the diocese is short of money for all fields of pastoral works.

Aitape has few resources and little infrastructure. The parishes—many of them located in the mountains—are poor and have dilapidated facilities. Many of their young men are willing to discern their vocation to the priesthood, so the formation of local seminaries is a priority.

Envelopes will be in the pews next weekend to use to make donations. God bless you!



The Real St. Therese

The fact that Therese could not—because of her health—receive Communion from then on until her death scandalized some of the nuns. A Carmelite dying without the sacraments!



An installment from *The Passion of Thérèse of Lisieux* by Guy Faucher

Therese had heard of the many comments made about this subject on that day of intense agony, and they only increased her martyrdom. On June 6, 1897, she said: “Undoubtedly, it’s a great grace to receive the Sacraments, but when God doesn’t allow it, it’s good just the same. Everything is grace.” Six weeks later, this conviction did not stop her suffering and shedding tears at her absolute destitution: her doubts about the next life and her abandonment by the God she could not receive while heads were shaking around her.

August 20, 1897, was the day she hit rock bottom. Mother Agnes said, “That day was a day of intense agony for her and of temptations which I imagine were terrible.” Therese spoke of the temptation to discouragement: “How easy it is to become discouraged when you are very sick.” The temptation to despair that prowled round her in these times of great crisis, and especially during the hours of her last agony, was immense.

“The Devil is around me, I do not see him, but I feel his presence... He torments me, he is holding me, as it were, in an iron grip to prevent me from taking the smallest relief, he increases my pains in order to make me despair... And I cannot pray!” This is a most enlightening confidence, since confidences of this kind were rarely given: the devil seems to have taken Therese’s destiny in hand; prayer appeared impossible.

QUIET LISTENING PRAYER THE INTERIOR CASTLE By St Teresa of Avila

It seems to me I have explained the nature of consolations in the spiritual life. Since they are sometimes mixed with our own passions, they are the occasion of loud sobbing; and I have heard some persons say they experience a tightening in the chest and even external bodily movements that they cannot restrain. The force of these passions can cause nosebleeds and other things just as painful. I don't know how to explain anything about these experiences because I haven't had any. But they must nonetheless be consoling, for, as I'm saying, the whole experience ends in the desire to please God and enjoy His Majesty's company. The experiences that I call "spiritual delight in God," that I termed elsewhere the prayer of quiet, are of a very different kind, as those of you who by the mercy of God have experienced them will know. Let's consider, for a better understanding, that we see two fountains with two water troughs. These two troughs are filled with water in different ways; with one, the water comes from far away through many aqueducts and the use of much ingenuity; with the other, the source of the water is right there, and the trough fills without any noise. If the spring is abundant, as is this one we are speaking about, the water overflows once the trough is filled, forming a large stream. There is no need of any skill, nor does the building of aqueducts have to continue; but water is always flowing from the spring (IV,2,1-3).



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Help for Marriages



Are you or someone you know in need of marriage help? Divorce or separation is not always the answer. There is hope.

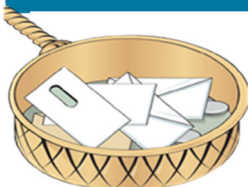
Retrouvaille (retro-vai) is a program that teaches struggling marriages a method of communication designed to help a husband and wife rediscover the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. ALL marriages are worth the effort!

The next weekend will be
July 7 through 9, 2023.

For more info, call 909-900-5465
or go to www.helpourmarriage.org.

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.



June 24 / 25, 2023

Unrestricted.....	\$17,089.00
Restricted	\$ 728.00
T O T A L.....	\$17,817.00

May 27 / 28	\$12,891.00
June 3 / 4	\$12,736.00
June 10 / 11	\$17,382.00
June 17 / 18	\$13,900.00

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



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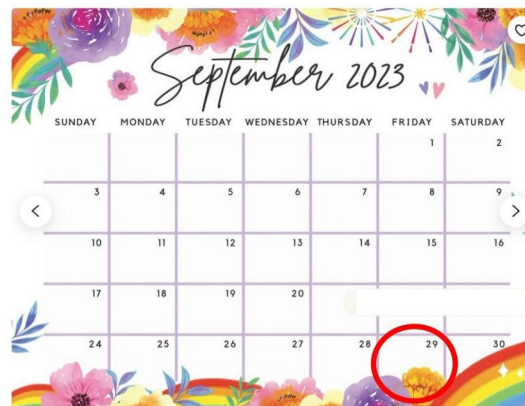
Save the Date

The Little Way
Dinner & Benefit Auction

Friday, September 29, 2023

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Details to follow.

For information on underwriting or sponsoring
our event, please contact the school office.

Open Enrollment

TK-8th Grade

Contact us today!



1106 East Alhambra Road
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Mass Intentions

Pilgrimages

July 1—July 8, 2023

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Genaro A. Hernandez, RIP

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: (Carm): All Humanity

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Nora Rojas, RIP

11:00 a.m.: McAllister Family, INT

1:00 p.m.: Martinez Family, INT

5:00 p.m.: Irene Grimm, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Marie Ryan, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Dec'd Relatives of Ana Aguilar Mancao

8:00 a.m.: Irene Grimm, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Flame of Love Apostolate

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Marie Ryan, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Dec'd Relatives of Crispino Mancao

8:00 a.m.: Irene Grimm, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Rosario Pérez Sáinz, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Marie Ryan, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Dec'd Relatives of Ana Aguilar Mancao

8:00 a.m.: Martha Lacayo, Birthday INT

7:00 p.m.: Maria del Refugio Pérez Sáinz, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Marie Ryan, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Nida Vales Nazarino, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Irene Grimm, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Maria Guadalupe Pérez Sáinz, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Marie Ryan, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Dec'd Relatives of Ana Aguilar Mancao

8:00 a.m.: Irene Grimm, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Raymond Reyes, RIP

Saturday Morning:

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

8:00 a.m.: Helmut Tittmann, RIP

***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 7:00 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



5-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO, OCTOBER 9 -13, 2023: A pilgrimage is more than a vacation or a trip! Join us as we fly American Airlines direct to Mexico City. Take time to pray at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, walk to Tepeyac Hill to the Old Cathedral, site of the apparition, and have daily Mass in and around colonial Mexico! (Priest TBA). Enjoy famous Talavera tiles and the amazing Rosary Chapel in Puebla. Visit Coyoacan and Ocotlan, site of many miracles! Enjoy a boat ride on Xochimilco's floating gardens! \$1,499 includes 4-Star Hotel, breakfasts and dinners. Deadline to register is July 25, 2023. **Contact Albert and Mary Helen Estrada (626) 533-4839.**

French Canada Pilgrimage September 14-21, 2023: Discover Quebec's Shrines honoring the Mother of God and the Guardians of the Holy Family, St. Joseph Oratory, and St. Anne Beaupre. Cost is \$3350 (double room occupancy | add \$395 for single room occupancy), which includes roundtrip flights from LAX and land travel by motorcoach, guesthouses/hotels with private bath, daily breakfast & dinner, all touring, and daily Mass.

For more info, call Louisa & Jack Day at (323) 360-5186 / (323) 403-8768 or Sacred Heart Tours at (845) 594-2222 | www.sacredhearttours.com

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 A ROOM TO RENT: A former long-time Alhambra resident and alumnus of St Therese School would like to move back to the area. If you have a spare room, call Dennis at (626) 703-3780.

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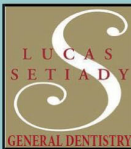
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