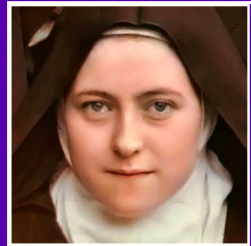
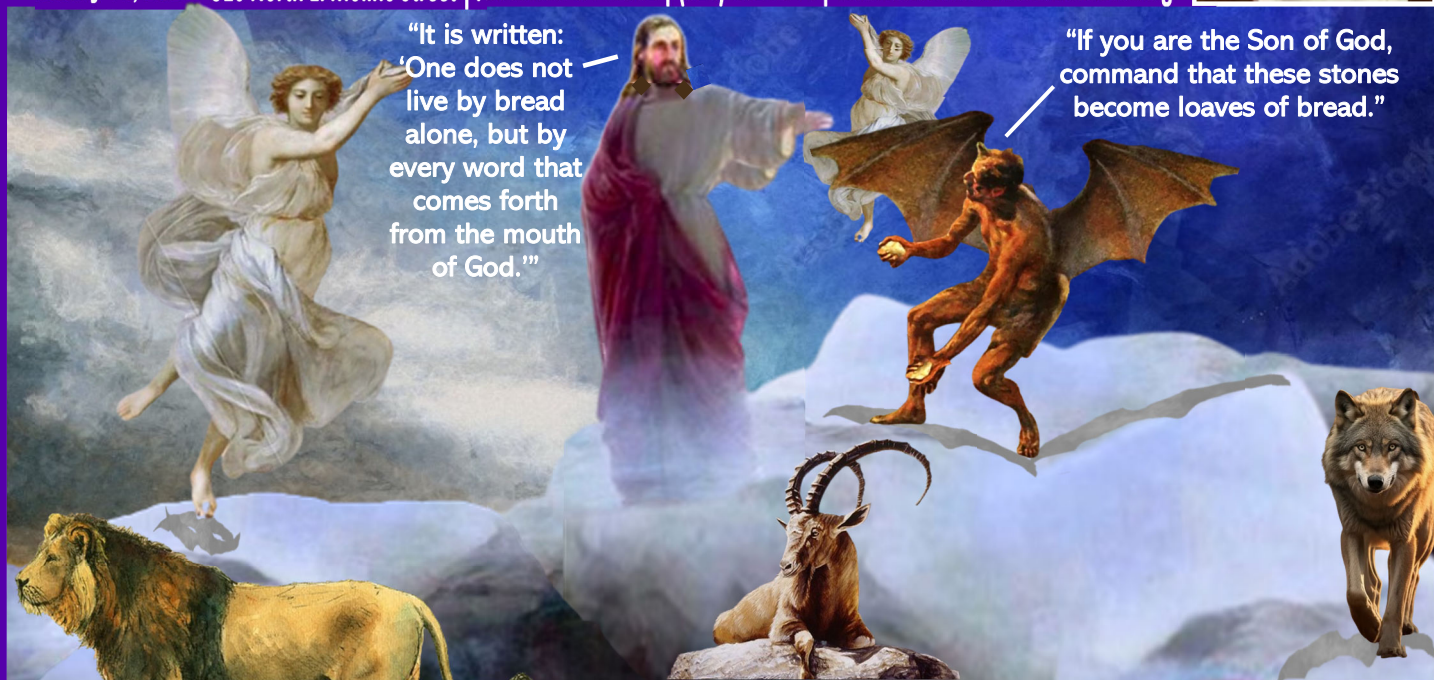


St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



February 18, 2024 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



"It is written: 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.'"

"If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread."

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and He remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to Him (Mark 1:13).

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

Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras X 1+112

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www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X 1 + 661

principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com

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SACRAMENTS

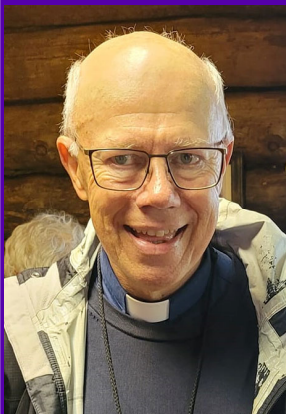
- Baptisms: Register online
- Weddings: Register online at least six months in advance
- Anointing of the Sick: Call the office

PASTOR'S COLUMN

My Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

As we begin our journey of Lent 2024, I want to share with you the below reflection by Fr. David May from Madonna House in Canada.

—Fr. Peter Mary, O.C.D.



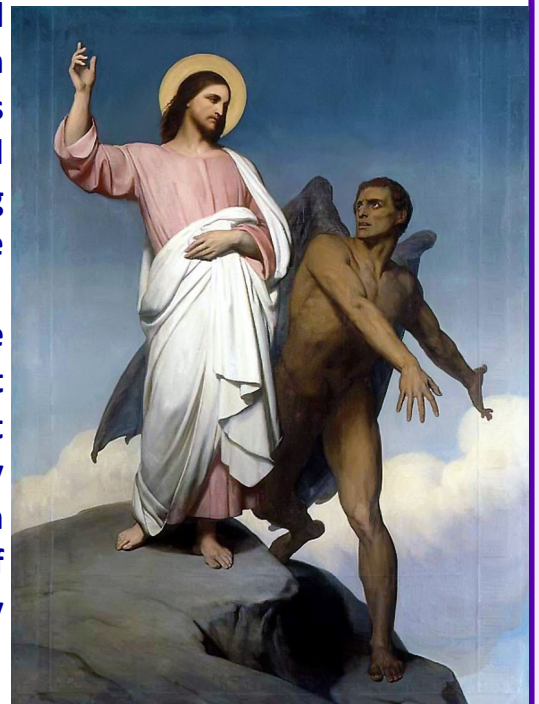
These days, we are thinking of Jesus going into the desert for forty days to be tempted by Satan and to win the battle against his wiles for our salvation. Lent means we also view this time as one in which we follow Our Lord into that desert, to overcome evil in ourselves, to be purified of sin and—in whatever way we are called to do so—to fight evil in this world.

Paradoxically, the season of Lenten deserts coincides with that of the coming of spring, that season of the first awakening to newness of life. Desert and springtime freshness, Christ and Satan, me and myself—the battle is on as we begin another Lenten journey.

St. Luke tells us that before Christ went into the desert, He was “filled with the Holy Spirit,” something which occurred at His baptism. He thus set us an example (of our need for spiritual renewal before we try much of anything), and He was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days to be tempted by the devil.

Yet, I can see Christ up ahead of me (as usual) beckoning me to follow Him into His desert, not the one of my imagining. I tend to forget that the desert is His now, along with the woodlands, the mountains, the oceans, all planets, things visible and invisible, Central Park in New York City and Dafoe Road in rural Ontario. Jesus knows what kind of desert I’m made for, where I need to do battle, and for how long. So, His Spirit is nudging me from within to follow my Lord into the thick of the Lenten spring.

So, I’m not worrying about details, as these will be revealed as they take place. What I do know is that every moment is preparation for the next moment and, all together, preparation for eternity. Every moment is a time for following Christ on the path marked out for each one of us, so that the reality of “eternal life” may be the fire which continually reshapes us and reforms us.



Carmelite Friars Away for Provincial Assembly

While the Carmelite Friars are at their Assembly in Redlands from February 20 to the afternoon of February 22, we will have some outside clergy assistance. Please note the following small changes to our regular weekly Mass and Confession schedule for these three days only:

- Tuesday evening, February 20: NO 7:15 p.m. Mass
- Wednesday evening, February 21: NO confessions (moved to Thursday)
- Thursday morning: 8:00 a.m. Mass will be delayed until 8:15 a.m.
- Thursday evening: Regular Exposition | Holy Hour | Adoration combined with **CONFESSIONS** from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

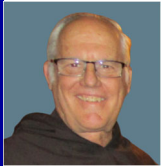
Other than the above changes, our Mass schedule will remain the same as usual.



Lenten Events at St. Therese

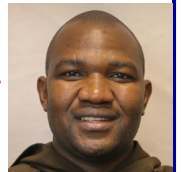
SOUP NIGHTS & STATIONS: All are invited to the Parish Hall for Soup Night every Friday of Lent through March 22nd (from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.). This coming Friday's sponsor (February 23) is the Knights of Columbus. Future sponsors are: March 1: Guadalupe Pregnancy Services; March 8: The Flame of Love Prayer group; March 15: (no sponsor to date); and March 22: Retrouvaille Ministry. All freewill offerings will benefit each sponsoring group.

Also, mark your calendars for the following **SPECIAL** Lenten events:

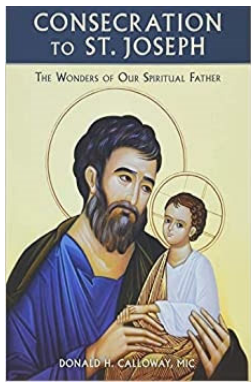


EVENING OF RECOLLECTION on Thursday, February 29, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m., **Fr. Stephen Watson, OCD**, will give a talk entitled *"Between Memory and Hope."* This will be followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m., Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:45 p.m. (including time for adoration); and will conclude with Benediction from 8:45 to 9:00 p.m.

LENTEN MISSION from Monday, March 11, through Thursday, March 14, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. each evening (including Mass each evening and Confession on Wednesday, March 13). **Fr. Julius Ntalo, OCD**, one of our Carmelite friars from our Ugandan Mission will be conducting the Mission. He will begin the Mission by speaking at each of the Sunday Masses on March 10th.



Consecration to St. Joseph



The next consecration to St. Joseph will be on **Tuesday, March 19th, the Feast of Saint Joseph**, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. If you would like to make this consecration, you are invited to join us at our preparation gatherings on **Wednesdays, February 21, 28, and March 6 and 13**—at your choice of time: either 12:30 or 5:30 p.m. Both times will be held in the Avila Room in the church office building. You will need the book, *Consecration to St. Joseph*, by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, which can be purchased in the office for \$15. For more info, call Maria Alejandra at (626) 993-4236 or email her at trinity1lord@yahoo.com.

Homebound Parishioners



If you are homebound or you know of a parishioner who is homebound, elderly, or sick, and would like to have a **pastoral visit**, please call the office at (626) 282-2744.

Financial Offerings



February 10 / 11, 2024

Unrestricted..... \$10,877.00
 Restricted \$ 250.00
T O T A L.....\$11,127.00

January 13 / 14 \$19,117.00
 January 20 / 21 \$29,526.00
 January 27 / 28 \$22,466.00
 February 3 / 4 \$15,677.00

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

FR. JEROME APPEAL FOR THE CARMELITE NUNS

THIS WEEKEND, February 17 and 18, is the collection weekend for the annual Fr. Jerome Appeal, which will be taken up to help our Cloistered Discalced Carmelite Nuns in the Carmel of St. Teresa here in Alhambra. **Special pink envelopes are in the pews.** Please help provide for their daily needs and the upkeep of the monastery. The Carmelite Monastery was instrumental in St. Therese Parish being established, and there has always been a special closeness and loving support between the parish and the monastery.



God bless and reward your generosity!



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

A Weekly Feature in the Bulletin for our Parish Centennial

"What a spectacular Saturday afternoon," I said to myself, as I drove east on Lorain Road. I was going to interview **Charbel and Su-Yin Simon** for my weekly bulletin column. When I arrived, snacks were on the coffee table in the living room, prepared just for my visit. Six young children were hunkered down, as if around a campfire ready to toast marshmallows. Were they eying the snacks or were they eying me? They did seem a bit curious about this man in his brown robe; but I knew they had seen the Carmelite habit before ... the friars from St. Therese had supped at their home some months before. **This is the story of the Simon family.**

Charbel and Su-Yin are both from California. Charbel grew up in Stockton. His Lebanese parents moved there from Australia, where his two older brothers were born. Charbel's parents are Catholics of the Maronite Rite, as are most Lebanese. However, since there was not a Maronite parish in Stockton, the family attended their local Roman Catholic Parish. Su-Yin was born in Hawaii, but her parents are from Singapore. When she was a year old, the family moved to Concord, California.

When Charbel was at Stanford, he became somewhat lax in his faith. However, after graduation, he began to earnestly practice his faith. At Our Lady of Peace Parish up north, he met then Bro. Mathias Lambrecht, OCD, and Bro. John Cannon, OCD (this meeting will have significance later in this story). Inspired by a young adults' group he had attended when visiting a friend in San Diego in 2011, Charbel started a similar group at St. Thomas Aquinas in Palo Alto called the Goretto Group. He sent announcements about the first meeting throughout the Bay Area. He was amazed when 200 young adults showed up, making him realize what a hunger young people have for the Truth.

Su-Yin was a neophyte, that is, a "baby Catholic," when she attended her first meeting of the Goretto Group. Even though her mother's brother was a Jesuit priest in Singapore, Su-Yin was not brought up as a Christian. She became a Catholic at U.C.L.A., thanks to her good friend and fellow student, Liz Goodwin. Liz brought Su-Yin to a center run by the priests of Opus Dei. She had been yearning for something more, "un no sé qué," because "our hearts are restless until they rest in God." She learned about the dignity of the human person and God's plan for our happiness. Was it love at first sight when Charbel met Su-Yin at the meeting? Something like that must have happened as they married the next year on November 3, 2012—in the very church where the Goretto Group met.

The newlyweds wanted to experience living outside of California. For a while they lived in Raleigh, North Carolina. But they soon longed for their home state of California. By then they had three boys. In 2019, wanting to find a school where the curriculum was classic and thoroughly Catholic, they discovered Saint Therese Carmelite School. When they saw that Fr. Matthias and Bro. Cannon were part of the community, they said, "This is the place!" They moved into a house on Almansor Street in Alhambra and enrolled their oldest son in our kindergarten.

Unfortunately, after the onslaught of Covid, Charbel's business was disrupted. The family had to move to Irving, Texas, where they remained for two and a half years. Last summer they were able to move back to Alhambra, thanks to one of Charbel's biggest clients, Formed.org (if you have not opened an account with this Catholic media site, St. Therese offers free membership!). Three girls followed the three boys, all six of whom are homeschooled by Su-Yin—for now anyway. The Simons love St. Therese Parish! As they say so enthusiastically in Uganda, "You are most welcome!" We're glad they're back, and we hope they will be around for a long time!

**The Simon family is part of the rich history of St. Therese Parish.
Let us all walk with St. Therese as we journey together in faith during this centennial year.**

National Eucharistic Revival



Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 3—Silence before Mass: The *General Instruction for the Roman Missal* says that there should be a quiet opportunity in the church for the faithful to prepare prayerfully for the Holy Mass (GIRM, No. 45).

Give yourself a goal of arriving at church a bit earlier, and take the challenge of spending a little time in prayer before Mass.

Before you next participate in Mass, pray with the invitation the Lord gives us in these verses: **“Be still and know that I am God!”** (Ps. 46:10) and **“Pour out your hearts to God our refuge!”** (Ps. 62:8). Keep these verses in mind as you bring the fruits of this time of prayer to your preparation before Mass in the church.

Source: Fr. Luke Spannagel's blog at <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/>

2023

St. Therese Church Donation Report



If you would like to receive an
end-of-year report showing your

donations for the year

2023, please send an email

requesting it to:

DonationStatement.2023

@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Join the women of St. Therese Church next month for our Lenten Women's Retreat weekend at El Carmelo Retreat House in



Redlands, California, on **March 15-17, 2024**. Registration forms can be found at the church entrances and in the church office. The rates are as follows:

Double room occupancy (2 per room): \$230 each person, includes two nights & six meals

Single room occupancy (private room): \$260 each person, includes two nights and six meals

A *deposit of \$75 (non-refundable) is required to reserve your room. **Make checks payable to: El Carmelo Retreat House** (make sure to write in the memo space on check: "Women's Silent Retreat, March 15-17, 2024"). [*Checks or money orders only.] Mail the deposit OR the full amount, along with a registration form (found on the tables by the entrances) to: **Louisa Day, Retreat Captain, 600 West Gleason Street, Monterey Park, CA 91754**. If a registration form is unavailable or you would like more information, please contact Louisa at louisaeday@yahoo.com | (323)360-5186.

Mass Intentions

February 17—February 24, 2024

Saturday Evening

5:00 p.m.: Merle Smith, RIP

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Mr. and Mrs. Ponet, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Michael Arakawa, INT

9:00 am: Grace Chan, INT

11:00 a.m.: Gilbert Holman, RIP

1:00 p.m. (Latin): Christopher Huling, INT

5:00 p.m.: Jesus & Catalina Gomez, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Carter & Fullenkamp Families, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Kay Fitzpatrick, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Mother Maria, OCD, INT

Tuesday

6:00 a.m.: Steven Jay Smuckler, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Mariam Joseph, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Rica and Daniel Yan, INT

7:15 p.m.: NO Mass (see Page Three)

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Aurora Olivarez Relatores, RIP

*7:30 am: Sr. Teresita, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Rogelio N. Vales, RIP

Thursday

6:00 a.m.: Rommel Protacio Karanuagan, RIP

*7:30 am: Irene Zacharias, INT

8:00 a.m.: Jess Escandon, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Silverio Reyes, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Theresa Lim, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Robert Earl Jeffers, INT

Saturday Morning:

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

8:00 a.m.: Eulalia McEntire, RIP

*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel located at 215 East Alhambra Road.

Open to the public except on holidays every day except Sundays and holidays.

*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel located at 215 East Alhambra Road.

Open to the public except on holidays

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

Our livestreaming service will not be available until later as we are working to put the wiring underground. When we return, we'll livestream the daily 8:00 a.m. Mass and the homilies for the Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass and the Monday 7:15 evening Mass.

Pro Life News



Join us in front of Pasadena Planned Parenthood (1045 North Lake Avenue, Pasadena) Monday through Saturday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. For more info, contact Rose Curiel at indigorose40daysforlife.com or (323) 528-8094.

Here are some other activities in which you may be interested:

- March 12: Midpoint Rally in front of Planned Parenthood at 3:00 p.m.
- Rosary with the Knights of Columbus every Saturday morning and Thursday evening
- Stations of the Cross every Friday at 12:10 p.m., with Fr. David Guzman
- Mysteries of the Rosary Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m., with Fr. Burgitt
- March 23: Prolife Movie Night (showing Bella) at St. Therese (time to be decided)
- March 24th at 3:00 p.m.: Final blessing and prayers in front of Planned Parenthood

Learn more by going to the 40 Days for Life website: www.40daysforlife.com/pasadena.

Outside the Parish

American Home Life International (AHLI), is seeking to hire a part-time, remote coordinator for the LA area. AHLI is a homestay company that places foreign students in Christian homes in America so that they can go to school in America. We are seeking a practicing Christian for this role. This person will have monthly meetings with students in the LA area and will interview new host families. For a complete job description, go to:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-c3sbWmTLh3xLBIHzT6maUosEyDc991B/view?usp=sharing>. For more info, contact David Nguyen at 717-560-2840 or Cell: (646) 831-8792.

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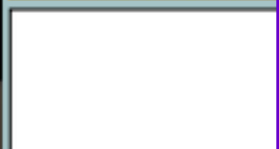
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