

St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



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

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



"I am the Living Bread that came down from Heaven; whoever eats this Bread will live forever; and the Bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world." The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us His flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, you do not have life within you" (John 6:51-53).

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 | 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

Music Director: Charlotte Lansberg | cjlansberg@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,

Let us now begin St. Therese's discovery of her way of "confidence and love."

—Fr. Peter Mary



MANUSCRIPT A, 80r-81v (Part 1)

The year that followed my Profession, that is, two months before Mother Geneviève's death, I received great graces during my retreat. Ordinarily, the retreats that are preached are more painful to me than the ones I make alone, but this year it was otherwise. I had made a preparatory novena with great fervor, in spite of the inner sentiment I had, for it seemed to me that the preacher would not be able to understand me since he was supposed to do good to great sinners but not to religious souls. God wanted to show me that He was the Director of my soul, and so He made use of this Father specifically, who was appreciated only by me in the community.

At the time I was having great interior trials of all kinds, even to the point of asking myself whether Heaven really existed. I felt disposed to say nothing of my interior dispositions, since I didn't know how to express them; but I had hardly entered the confessional when I felt my soul expand. After speaking only a few words, *I was understood* in a marvelous way and my soul was like a book, which this priest read better than I did myself. He launched me full sail *upon the waves of confidence and love* which so strongly attracted me, but upon which I dared not advance. He told me that my faults caused God no pain, and that holding as he did God's place, he was telling me in *His name* that God was very much pleased with me.

Oh! how happy I was to hear those consoling words! Never had I heard that our faults *could not cause God any pain*, and this assurance filled me with joy, helping me to bear patiently with life's exile. I felt at the bottom of my heart that this was really so, for God is more tender than a mother, and were you not, dear Mother, always ready to pardon the little offenses I committed against you involuntarily? How often I experienced this! No word of reproach touched me as much as did one of your caresses. My nature was such that fear made me recoil; with love not only did I advance, I actually *flew*.

O Mother, it was especially since the blessed day of your election that I have flown in the ways of love. On that day Pauline became my living Jesus.

PARISH MOVIE NIGHT NEXT WEEKEND!

YOU are invited to join us for our next Parish Movie Night—shown on the **ST. THERESE BIG SCREEN** in our parking lot on **Saturday, August 24, starting with a potluck dinner at 7:00 p.m.** (please bring something to share!) Our regular folding chairs will be available, but you're encouraged to bring your own comfortable seating. There will be lots of food, so come hungry!

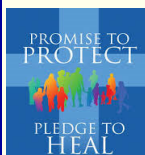
We will present the 1964 Disney film, *MARY POPPINS*, starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke (both actors are still living!). *Mary Poppins* was nominated for Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director and *won* for Best Actress, Best Original Song (*Chim Chim Cher-ee*), Best Score, and Best Special Effects.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Safeguard the Children

DID YOU KNOW?
What can you do to end human trafficking?



What do you do if you see a child who appears to be lost in a store? A missing child is everyone's responsibility. Adults who suspect a child may be lost or need help should get involved. Ask the child if he needs help. Keep the child in eyesight and enlist the help of store employees to locate a parent or guardian. Wait with the child until help arrives. Do not leave with or without the child. For more information, visit the missingchildrensnetwork.ngo.

The Eucharistic Mystery

In John 6:51-58, we encounter one of the most profound and challenging teachings of Jesus: "This bread is my Flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." Jesus' words in John 6 are central to Catholic theology, particularly the doctrine of the Eucharist, the Real Presence of Christ—His Body and Blood—in the consecrated bread and wine.

Jesus' declaration of Himself as the "Living Bread," follows the miraculous feeding of the five thousand, a sign that points beyond the physical to the spiritual nourishment that He provides. The crowd, still fixated on the miracle of the loaves, struggles to understand the deeper meaning of His words. The radical nature of Jesus' statement—"Unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, you have no life in you"—was a stumbling block for many. The Jews found the idea of consuming flesh and blood not only perplexing but abhorrent. In Levitical law, consuming blood was strictly

forbidden because blood was considered the life force of the being. Yet, Jesus insists on this radical act, highlighting that His Flesh and Blood are true food and true drink.

As Catholics, this passage is foundational for our understanding of the Eucharist. At the Last Supper, Jesus institutes the Eucharist, breaking the bread and sharing the wine with His disciples, saying, "This is my Body... this is my Blood." The Church teaches that during the Mass, through the words of consecration and the power of the Holy Spirit, the bread and wine become the actual Body and Blood of Christ. This transformation is known as "transubstantiation."

Catholics believe that in receiving the Eucharist, we are not merely symbolically partaking in Christ's Body and Blood but are truly receiving Him. This belief is rooted in Jesus' clear and unambiguous language in John 6. His use of the terms "eat" and "drink" is explicit, emphasizing a real, tangible act of consumption. The Eucharist is thus the "source and summit of Christian life," a profound mystery where we encounter Jesus intimately and receive the grace to live our faith.

The crowd's struggle to grasp Jesus' teaching in John 6 mirrors the challenges we often face in fully embracing His teaching. The Eucharist is a mystery that invites us into a deeper relationship with Christ. It demands a faith that trusts in Jesus' words and the Church's teaching authority. This Real Presence in the Eucharist sustains us spiritually, nourishing our souls and drawing us closer to God.

John 6:51-58 challenges us to fully embrace the mystery of the Eucharist, to believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the consecrated elements, and to live out this profound truth in our lives. As Catholics, we are called to receive the Eucharist with reverence and faith, recognizing it as the true Body and Blood of our Lord, a gift that nourishes and sustains us on our journey towards eternal life.



Time to Register for 2024-2025 Religious Ed Classes!



Religious Education Registration
Children, Teens, and Adults

We are now taking ONLINE registrations (click the links on the home page of our website) for Religious Education classes (classes begin in September). Registration is for: Elementary grades, First Holy Communion, High School Confirmation, and *Adult OCIA (formerly RCIA), [*for those seeking to become Catholic OR to complete their Sacraments].

In-person registration will be after the **9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses next Sunday, August 25, and the following Sunday, September 1st.** You may also register online by clicking on the links found on the **home page of our website** OR by picking up a form in the office.

You will need to submit a copy of each registrant's baptism certificate and the fee by the first day of class (cash or check only). The fees are on the registration forms.

Pilgrimage to France with Fr. David For Our 100th Anniversary (Oct 2024)

St. Therese Parish's Fr. David will be the chaplain for a Special Pilgrimage to France. The Pilgrimage will explore **where the Little Flower lived, as well as other holy sites in France** (Lisieux, Dijon, Lourdes, Mont St. Michel and others), as part of St. Therese Parish's Celebration of our 100th Jubilee Year. The price of this 12-day Pilgrimage is \$3,985.00, L.A. to L.A., which includes round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations, breakfasts and lunches, and admission prices. Mass will be celebrated daily.

The complete itinerary can be found in the church vestibule by the Baptistry... If they're all taken, email our Parish Secretary (denisekay@hotmail.com), using PILGRIMAGE TO FRANCE in the subject line, to request one.



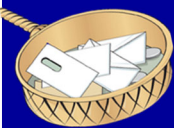
Want to Coordinate the Annual Women's Retreat?



El Carmelo Retreat House is still in need of a captain (coordinator) for St. Therese Church's annual Women's Retreat in Redlands. The retreat usually takes place in the Spring during Lent on the second weekend of March. Training can be arranged.

If you feel called to this important ministry, please contact Fr. Philip Sullivan at El Carmelo Retreat House: (909) 792-1047 or elcarmelorh@gmail.com.

Financial Offerings



Due to the bulletin editor being on vacation, the collection reports for August 10/11 and August 17/18 will not be available until the August 25th issue.

July 6 / 7	\$23,906.00
July 13 / 14	\$14,177.00
July 20 / 21	\$16,694.00
July 27 / 28	\$15,760.00

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

THE MANY FAMILIES OF OUR PARISH FAMILY By Fr. Stephen F. Watson OCD



We know that the summer is ending when the children go back to school. I hope you have had a good summer and a chance for a vacation; some of you may still be planning a late August vacation. With the change of seasons, there also comes a change of rhythm in our daily routines. As we make our transition to a new season, let us reflect on what we are doing with our time and where we are going with all our activity. This week **I want to pause to share with you why I am writing about our families for the bulletin.**

When I was the Pastor of St. Therese from 1996 to 1999, the Parish began preparing for its 75th anniversary, which occurred on December 25, 1999. Providentially, this anniversary occurred on the very eve of the great Jubilee Year 2000, and at the very time

of the visit of the relics of our patroness, St. Therese. In view of these blessed events, it was important to recall God's loving Providence in the lives of our families. Here we are, twenty-five years later, preparing for the 100th anniversary of the parish. And a little more than a year from now, we will also be blessed with a visit of the relics of our patroness. Once again, it has been a special grace for me to write about our parishioners in the weekly Parish bulletin. This is for the honor and glory of God.

Some of you have told me how much you enjoy these stories and thanked me for writing them. I hope you know that the families and persons I have written about were selected randomly. To be honest, my selections have often been determined by convenience and the need to meet a deadline. They are not a "Who's Who?" of Parish families. The stories are meant to be about God and our pathways to Him. The pathways of St. Therese Parish are the pathways of our families. We priests at St. Therese consider ourselves privileged to walk along with you during your journeys of life and faith. Sharing your stories in these pages is an encouragement to us all. We know that our families are beset by the profound and rapid changes that have affected society and culture. Many families are living this situation in fidelity to those values that constitute the foundation of the institution of the family. Others have become uncertain and bewildered over their role or even doubtful and almost unaware of the ultimate meaning and truth of conjugal and family life (cf. *The Family in the Modern World* by Pope St. John Paul II).

The Church's Code of Canon Law reminds us that the parish priest should strive to come to know the faithful who have been entrusted to his care. He is to visit families, sharing the cares, worries, and especially the griefs of the faithful, strengthening them in the Lord (cf. Canon 529. 1). For me, interviewing our families has been a gratifying experience of my own priestly vocation, while at the same time a pleasing experience of your vocation.

"We know that to them that love God, all things work together unto good, to such as, according to His purpose, are called to be saints" (Romans 8:28). Christ is knocking: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20).

Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. Let us journey together in faith.



National Eucharistic Revival

Do This in Remembrance of Me | Part 12: Collect



“Let us pray...” After the Gloria, the priest sings or says this invitation to pray. As the General Instruction of the Roman Missal describes, “Next the priest calls upon the people to pray and everyone, together with the priest, observes a brief silence so that they may become aware of being in God’s presence and may call to mind their intentions. Then the priest pronounces the prayer, usually called the ‘Collect,’ through which the character of the celebration finds expression” (GIRM, No. 54).

During the Collect and other prayers in the Mass, the priest extends his hands and arms outward in what is called the “orans” position, which means a position of prayer. This position was used by our Jewish ancestors and adapted for Christian prayer: the hands are held “so as to resemble those of our Lord on the cross” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 65). At the end of this prayer, the people respond by saying, “Amen,” a Hebrew word that means “so be it, without question.”

How should we pray during the Collect? We might benefit greatly from reading over the words of the Collect before the Mass. This mentality also prepares us to listen to the Liturgy of the Word, God’s Word spoken to His people.

Source: Fr. Luke Spannagel’s blog at <https://www.stphils.com/church/eucharistic-revival-walk-through-the-mass/>



Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith  Academics  Virtue

Welcome Back, Saints!



We are excited to welcome our teachers and students back to campus on **Wednesday, August 21**. Please keep us all in your prayers as we begin an exciting new school year! Each year, we choose a special patronage to dedicate our school year to. During this National Eucharistic Revival, we have chosen to dedicate the year to **Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament**. We invite you to join us in praying for His grace and protection for this school year.

FUN DAY AT THE PARK

Saturday, August 24
12-5 pm

Let’s have a great time gathering among friends to enjoy the scenery and nature of the beautiful park. We hope this will be a safe, fun, and memorable experience for teachers, staff, families of Saint Therese Carmelite School, and parishioners of Saint Therese Roman Catholic Church. This fellowship reunion is a great start to begin the 2024-2025 school year!

We will be hosting a lakeside barbecue at Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park in San Dimas, serving carne asada tacos and drinks at no cost to the invitees. Both the carne asada and drinks will be provided by school fundraising. We ask that each family bring a potluck side dish to share among all invitees.

The park offers various activities, such as biking trails, kayaking, boating, fishing, and more. Please see the Frank G. Bonelli Regional Park website for exact policies and fees for these activities.



To RSVP, go to bit.ly/STCSpicnic2024 or scan the QR code from your phone!

1106 East Alhambra Road
Alhambra, California 91801

(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Mass Intentions

August 17—August 24, 2024

Saturday Evening:

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

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Parishioners of St. Therese Church

7:30 a.m.: Silverio Reyes, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Rafael & Helen Mae Sebello, INT

11:00 a.m.: Heidi Halpin, INT

1 pm (Latin): Laigo & Chambliss Families, INT

5:00 p.m.: Aiden Arakawa and Family, INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Tito Sia, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Linda Zinsmeyer, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Takashi Asayama, INT

7:15 p.m.: Elvia Hernandez, INT

Tuesday

6:00 a.m.: Jessica & Rodolfo Valientes, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Heliodoro & Maria DeAvila, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Aiden Arakawa, Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Linda Zinsmeyer, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Tito Sia, Birthday INT

*7:30 a.m.: Gloria Adair, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Aiden Arakawa, INT

Thursday

6:00 a.m.: Pudgi & Family, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Jose & Engracia Vales, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Gricelda Santa Maria, INT

Friday

6 am: Abraham & Judith Casavi, 27th Anniv. INT

*7:30 a.m.: Marietta Okamoto, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Aiden Arakawa. INT

Saturday (Morning):

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

800 am: Virgilio & Martita Lopez, 71st Anniv INT

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

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Open to the public except on Sundays and 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"!

Outside the Parish

"IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. JUAN DIEGO AND OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE," a Pilgrimage from **Sunday, December 8, to Friday, December 13, 2024...** Join us for this inspiring tour to Guadalupe, Mexico, and more! The chaplain will be Fr. Jan Lundberg and the fee is \$2125 double occupancy. To receive a detailed itinerary, call Beth Maddatu at 408-903-6305 or email her at maddatubeth2@gmail.com.

SEEKING ITEMS FOR THE CLOISTERED CARMELITE NUNS' AUXILIARY'S BOUTIQUE in October: Please take a look around your house (in drawers, cabinets, closets, etc.) for items you no longer use or display. These will be sold at the Fall Boutique for the benefit of our Nuns. We need items in good condition: decorative items, small appliances, jewelry, nice dishes, teapots. etc. **NO FURNITURE OR CLOTHING!!** (not a rummage sale). For more info and a drop-off location, please contact Rosemary Moreno at (626) 281-9211. Thank you!

*I will bless the
LORD at all
times; His praise
will always be
on my lips.*

PSALM 34:1

WWW.CLOISTEREDCARMELITENUNS.COM