St. Therese Catholic Church

September 21, 2025 1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 (Office: 510 North El Molino Street) | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

Jesus told a parable: "A rich man had a steward who was squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, now that my master is taking my position away from me? I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, his debtors may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another the steward said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.'The steward said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.'

And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently." (Luke 16:1-8)

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
Fr. David Guzman, OCD X 1+232
In Residence: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD, Fr. Stephen Watson, OCD (X 1+226), Fr. Raymond Bueno, OCD (X 1+222), Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD
Deacons: 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|stcreligioused7@gmail.com
Music Director: Charlotte Lansberg X 1+112 credochoir1@gmail.com
Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras

ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com
Principal: Alma Cornejo X 1 + 661
principal@saintthereseccarmeliteschool.com

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,

This week begins our preached Novena to St. Therese. Our guest preacher for the Novena is **Fr. Pier Giorgio from the Eastern Province of the Carmelite Friars**. He works at ICS, our publishing house in Washington, D.C.

Our Novena begins on Monday, September 22, and the schedule is as follows: Weekdays—Mass at 6:15 p.m. Mass, Conference at 7:00 p.m., Holy Hour at 8:00 p.m.; and one Weekend, Saturday and Sunday—Mass at 5:00 p.m., Conference at 6:00 p.m., Holy Hour at 7:00 p.m. (see Page Four). Please take advantage of learning more about our patroness during her centenary year of canonization!

We now continue with St. Therese's "Trial of Faith:" —Fr. Peter Mary Vecellio, OCD

THE TRIAL OF FAITH
(Manuscript C [4v-7v] - Part II)

"At this time, I was enjoying such a living faith, such a clear faith, that the thought of Heaven made up all my happiness, and I was unable to believe there were really impious people who had no faith. I believed they were actually speaking against their own inner convictions when they denied the existence of Heaven, that beautiful Heaven where God Himself wanted to be their Eternal Reward. During those very joyful days of the Easter season, Jesus made me realize that there were really souls who have no faith, and who, through the abuse of grace, lost this precious treasure, the source of the only real and pure joys. He permitted my soul to be invaded by the thickest darkness, and that the thought of Heaven, up until then so sweet to me, be no longer anything but the cause of struggle and torment. This trial was to last not a few days or a few weeks; it was not to be extinguished until the hour set by God Himself and this hour has not yet come. I would like to be able to express what I feel, but alas! I believe this is impossible. **One would have to travel through this dark tunnel to understand its darkness. I will try to explain it by a comparison.**

"I imagine I was born in a country that is covered in thick fog. *I never had the experience of contemplating the joyful appearance of nature flooded and transformed by the brilliance of the sun. It is true that from childhood, I heard people speak of these marvels, and I know the country I am living in is not really my true fatherland, and there is another I must long for without ceasing. This is not simply a story invented by someone living in the sad country where I am, but it is a reality, for the King of the Fatherland of the bright sun actually came and lived for thirty-three years in the land of darkness. Alas! the darkness did not understand that this Divine King was the Light of the World.*

"Your child, however, O Lord, has understood Your divine light, and she begs pardon for her brothers. She is resigned to eat the bread of sorrow as long as You desire it; she does not wish to rise up from this table filled with bitterness at which poor sinners are eating until the day set by You. Can she not say in her name and in the name of her brothers: Have pity on us, O Lord, for we are poor sinners! ... Oh! Lord, send us away justified... May all those who were not enlightened by the bright flame of faith one day see it shine... O Jesus! if it is needful that the table soiled by them be purified by a soul who loves You, then I desire to eat this bread of trial at this table, until it pleases You to bring me into Your bright Kingdom. The only grace I ask of You is that I never offend You!"

Preached Novena of Masses to Prepare for the Feast of St. Therese

Join us for a preached Novena of Masses **to prepare for the Feast of St. Therese on October 1.**

The Novena will be held in the evenings starting **tomorrow night, Monday, September 22, through next Tuesday, September 30**, followed by the **Feast Day Mass on Wednesday, October 1.**

Fr. Pier Giorgio Pacelli, OCD, a friar from the Discalced Carmelite Friars of the Eastern Province, will be the celebrant/preacher for the Novena Masses and for the Feast Day Mass. His conference talks will be about our patroness, St. Therese.

The SCHEDULE is in the boxes below:

WEEKDAYS (Monday—Friday)
Holy Mass: 6:15 p.m.
Conference: 7:00 p.m.
Holy Hour: 8:00 p.m.
(Confessions on Wednesday during Conference & Holy Hour).

WEEKENDS (Saturday and Sunday)
Holy Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Conference: 6:15 p.m.
Holy Hour: 7:15 p.m.

IMPORTANT USHERS' MEETING

Fr. Peter Mary has asked Jim Raney, our Usher Coordinator, to schedule a meeting for all our ushers in order to discuss **the implementation of a new procedure for the congregation to follow when processing up to receive Holy Communion at Mass.**

This meeting will be held this coming **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, in the Avila Conference Room** (within the Parish Office building, 510 North El Molino Street) beginning at **11:00 a.m.** Your attendance is mandatory. Thank you for your cooperation!

Financial Offerings

September 13 / 14, 2025

Unrestricted	$20,365.00
Restricted	$ 560.00
TOTAL	$20,925.00

August 16 / 17	$16,647.00
August 23 / 24	$25,600.00
August 30 / 31	$25,632.00
September 6 / 7	$16,853.00

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

The Little Way Dinner & Benefit Auction

Honoring Miss Suzi

benefitting the
SAINT THERESE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Friday, October 17, 2025
5:30 PM

RSVP by Friday, October 3

Please visit **onecau.se/stcs**
or text **STCS** to **44834**
for online registration and
more information

Want to sit with your favorite Friar?

You can purchase a table for you and eight guests to sit with Fr. Peter Mary, Fr. Stephen, Fr. Robert, Fr. Raymond, or Fr. David.

Purchase now before they sell out!

Because of our Novena to St. Therese from September 22 through 30, the Healing Prayer Ministry will **NOT** be available **Monday, September 22**, and **Monday September 29.**

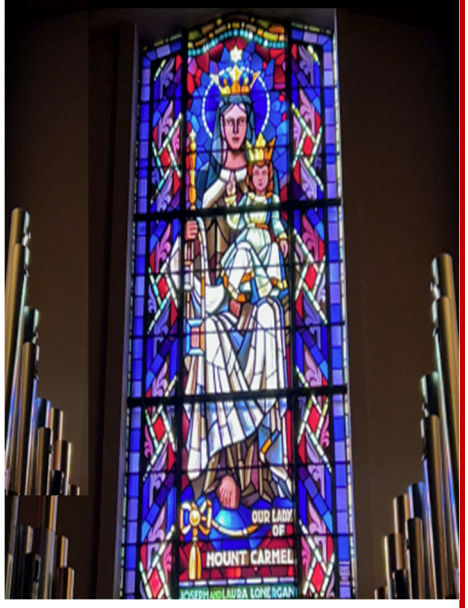
HPM will return after the 7:15 p.m. Mass on Monday, October 6.

COME AND SEE!

Contact Charlotte Lansberg
credochoir1@gmail.com
626-282-2744 ex 112

St. Therese Parish Choir resumes rehearsals for the 2025-2026 liturgical year on **Wednesdays, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., in the Choir Room** (in the church basement). Our first 11:00 a.m. Mass will be September 14, celebrating the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. On October 11 and 12, the Choir will sing for two of the Masses offered during the visitation of the relics of St. Therese.

On November 2, All Souls' Day, the Choir sings the Fauré Requiem at the 5:00 p.m. Mass. For the Midnight and 11:00 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day, the Choir performs a special program before Mass begins.



If you have sung in a high school, college, community, or parish choir before, consider offering your time and talent to this beautiful parish of St. Therese.

Expect Showers (of Roses) in Three Weeks!

In just under three weeks, the relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux will arrive to St. Therese Church—and she's ready to let rain down upon us a new "shower of roses" full of heavenly graces!

St. Thérèse is known for her powerful intercession, especially in bringing souls back to the Church, inspiring conversions, healing, vocations, and countless quiet miracles. Our world is in need of her "Little Way" now more than ever. Donations of any size are gratefully welcomed to help support this beautiful event. For the full national and local schedule, visit: https://StThereseUSA2025.com.

Large crowds are expected, and volunteers are needed, especially for hospitality and welcoming. **To sign up, please scan the QR code in the bottom right corner of this notice for the sign up form.** IF for some reason you cannot access it, then SEND A TEXT TO Amber at (626) 840-7250 (no calls please).

"God is all mercy and love."
"I will come down… I will let fall a shower of roses."

A Step-by-Step Walk Through the Mass

Do This in Remembrance of Me (Part 34): Collection and Procession

The Collection in the Early Church—The practical details of this part of the Mass have looked different at various points in history. In earlier times, the gifts would typically be things that people brought from their homes. People would bring all sorts of food, along with bread and wine, and gifts for the poor (money or otherwise). In our modern day, to simplify the offertory, the ushers collect money. This money still symbolizes our gift: what we give to God for the Mass (bread, wine, candles, etc., are purchased for the Mass), what we give to provide for the needs of the priest and the upkeep of the church, and what we give to provide for the needs of the poor and those less fortunate.

Along with the collection, the bread and wine (and water in some places) are brought forward, just as in the days of the early Church. Around the year 150 A.D., St. Justin Martyr describes this part of the Mass by saying simply: "bread, water, and wine are brought" (Understanding the Mass, page 109). The gifts are brought forward by members of the faithful.

An Offering of Spiritual Gifts—As we think about our practical or material gifts during this part of the Mass, we should not overlook the opportunity to also offer spiritual gifts. Mother Teresa of Calcutta was known for asking priests to leave room on the paten for her intentions. One priest also recalled her saying that she would place her heart on the paten so that it would be near Jesus in the Mass. If we think about this part of the Mass, offering the gifts we have in thanksgiving to God and in union with Jesus, it is true that one of the best offerings we can make is ourselves!

Source: Fr. Luke Spannagel's blog at https://www.stphils.com/church/Eucharistic-revival-walk-through-the-Mass/

CARMELITE AUXILIARY HOLIDAY LUNCHEON & BOUTIQUE

The Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary invites you to their annual Holiday Luncheon and Boutique on **Thursday, October 16 (10:30 a.m.: Boutique and Social Hour | Noon: Luncheon). This year's event will be at a new location: Church of Our Savior, 535 W. Roses Road, San Gabriel.**

The event includes a Treasure Sale, a 50/50 raffle, and a Silent Auction! Also available for purchase will be the Carmelite Nuns' specialty breads, candy, nuts, and handmade items, as well as a a variety of plants and holiday gift items.

Please **RSVP by October 6 by sending a check** (made payable to Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary) for **$45 per person** to Kathy Cardoza, 710 Lindaraxa Park South, Alhambra 91801. Include your name and any guests' names and your phone number.

Handicap Drop-Off at the Circular Driveway

AMPLE PARKING!

For questions, call Kathy at (626) 570-9012.

Deus Vocat Invites You to Meet Our Carmelite Postulants

Fr. Matthias Lambrecht invites you to the Parish Hall to meet our three Carmelite Postulants to hear their personal testimony about their call to Carmel. You will also learn more about the Carmelite Order, the necessary requirements to become a Carmelite Postulant, and the process for discerning a vocation to the brotherhood or the priesthood.

No need to RSVP

Date: October 5, 2025
Time: 3:00pm
Location: St. Therese Parish Hall

DEUS VOCAT DATE NIGHT

Celebrate the gift of marriage and rekindle the joy of your vocation together! Whether you are discerning marriage, engaged, newlyweds, or celebrating many years of wedded life, this evening is designed to help couples renew their love and commitment in the holy Sacrament of Marriage.

Date: Saturday, October 18, 2025
Time: 6:00 to 9:00 PM
Location: St. Therese Parish Hall
Donation: $50 per couple (includes dinner)
RSVP: Simply text Marcela Figueroa de Alcala at (626) 940-4899 with your name and the number of tickets you would like to purchase.

THE EVENING WILL FEATURE:

...romantic music, dinner, and a fun couples' activity. Come ready to laugh, pray, and celebrate your vocation together!

Mass Intentions

September 20—September 27, 2025

Saturday Evening:
5:00 p.m.: Virginia Hirst, 90th B-Day INT

Sunday:
*7:30 a.m.: Deceased Religious, Relatives, & Benefactors of the Carmel of St. Teresa, RIP
7:30 a.m.: Parishioners
9:00 a.m.: Mary De Santis, RIP
11:00 a.m.: Manuela Aldana Ruiz, RIP
1:00 p.m.: (Latin): All Souls in Purgatory
5:00 p.m.: Camille Macedonio, RIP

Monday:
6:00 a.m.: Robert Hopkins, RIP
*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Regina, OCD, INT
8:00 a.m.: Martha Galassi, RIP
6:15 p.m.: Isaias Diokno, RIP

Tuesday:
6:00 a.m.: Victoria Limon, INT
*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Mary, OCD, INT
8:00 a.m.: Serra Grimm, 10th Birthday INT
6:15 p.m.: Virgilio Motta, Birthday INT

Wednesday:
6:00 a.m.: Salvador Reyes & Family, INT
*7:30 a.m.: Harley Addison Cheah, INT
8:00 a.m.: Veronica Barnett, INT
6:15 p.m.: Special Intention

Thursday:
6:00 a.m.: Fr. John Hughes, OCD, RIP
*7:30 a.m.: Fred Bunsic, RIP
8:00 a.m.: Miriam Motta, Birthday INT
6:15 p.m.: Special Intention

Friday:
6:00 a.m.: Fr. Jose Miguel Sancho, RIP
*7:30 a.m.: Mark Perez, RIP
8:00 a.m.: Sean Cox, Birthday INT
6:15 p.m.: Special Intention

Saturday Morning
*7:30 a.m.: Alhambra Cloistered Carm. Nuns
8:00 a.m.: Romi Murphy, 3rd B-day INT
***Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel**

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

SAN GABRIEL MISSION CEMETERY: SALES OF NEW COLUMBARIUM NICHES! The sale of niches for the next phase of San Gabriel Mission Cemetery Columbarium continues to take place. If you would like to obtain detailed information or set up an appointment, please contact Gloria Reynoso at (626) 457-3035. The office is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. (closed between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m.).

Pilgrimages

PILGRIMAGE TO GUADALUPE, MEXICO, with Carmelite friar **Fr. Joseph Mary Tran, OCD**, from Monday, **December 8, through Saturday, December 13, 2025**. Cost is $2,250 per person, double occupancy. For more information, contact Beth Maddatu at maddatubeth2@gmail.com or 408-903-6305.

SEATS ARE FILLING FAST FOR THE PILGRIMAGE TO EASTERN EUROPE (Poland, Croatia, Medjugorje, etc.) with Carmelite friar **Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD, from September 3 to September 16, 2026.** Cost to be determined. For more information, contact Beth Maddatu at maddatubeth2@gmail.com or 408-903-6305.

Personal Ad

SEEKING A MATURE WOMAN to provide companionship and assistance for an elderly female parishioner (one to two days per week, up to four hours per day). Please call Frank at (626) 781-1092 to schedule an interview.

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

+ William Molina
(Father of Barbara Perez)

+ Christina Cantong (Mother of Amber Cantong)

+ Agnes Wang (Mother of Joan Chou)

- **Albert Grana**
(Husband of Anh Grana)

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