

St. Therese Catholic Church

March 12, 2023

Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars

Est. 1924

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



FROM TODAY'S GOSPEL READING: Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and Who is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him and He would have given you Living Water" (Matthew 4:10).

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 7:00 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** from 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 X222

Associate Pastor: Fr. David Guzman, OCD X232

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

Deacons: Dcn Joseph Mizerski | Dcn Gilbert Vargas X333;

Annulments: Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Vocations: For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

For the Carmelites: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

Parish Secretary: Denise McMaster-Holguin X223

denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

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

Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras XI12

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
or on the Church's website >Our School > Videos



SACRAMENTS

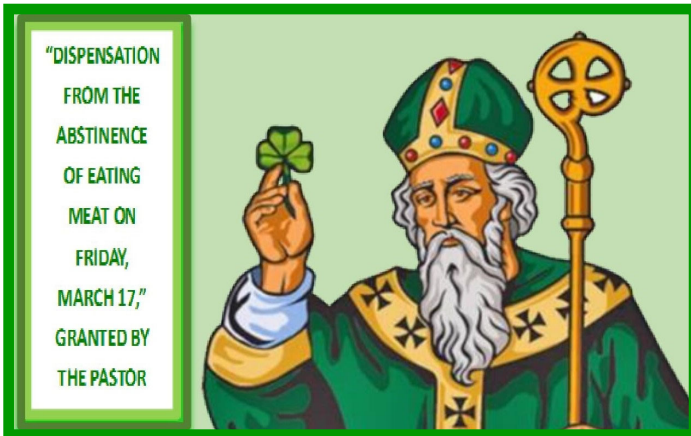
Baptisms: Register online

Weddings: Register online at least six
months in advance

• **Anointing of the Sick:** Call the office

Letter from the Pastor

Blessed Third Sunday of Lent, everyone!



Next Friday, March 17th, is St Patrick's Day. We have many native and "FBI" (foreign-born Irish) in our Parish, as well as Irish roots of our Discalced Carmelite Province and have had many Irish Carmelites who have served here, among them: Fr. Matthew McKeogh, Fr. William Fenton, Fr Jerome Lantry, Fr. Gerald Winters, Fr. Celsus Wren, Fr. David Costello, Fr. Joe Glynn, Bro. John O'Neill, etc. Thus, by my authority as Pastor of St. Thérèse Church, I am granting a

dispensation for this Friday, March 17, from the universal and archdiocesan abstinence from meat on the Fridays of Lent. May you have an extra special St. Patrick's Day celebration!!! I'm not sure what exactly our Knights of Columbus have in mind for this Friday Soup Night, but I'm sure it will be special....maybe with slabs of corned beef?!?!?!?

Today's Gospel about the encounter between Jesus and the woman at the well invites us to trust that Jesus knows each of us (after all, He created us!) and especially knows the various wounds our primary relationships have left in each of us. Notice how—without any hint of condemning her—Jesus says to the woman: "You are right in saying, 'I do not have a husband.' For you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true." He is loving her right where she is in her real-time life here and now, and He loves her too much to leave her there. He is offering to help her take the next little step towards a more abundant life, more truth and goodness and beauty.

What about you and me? Are we willing to fast from our fear, anger and hurt—and surrender our most personal relationships, possessions, and accompanying wounds to His healing presence? Are we willing to practice the spiritual works of mercy (counseling the doubtful, comforting the troubled, admonishing sinners, instructing the ignorant, pardoning all injuries, bearing wrongs patiently) by accepting others without condemning them, and listen to their story, their pain? + -Fr. Thomas





Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith Academics Virtue

The Education of Children – A letter from Fr. Thomas Koller, Pastor

As a Carmelite priest, I want to remind you of the duties of parents and how we at St. Therese Church and School can help you carry out those duties in these challenging times. Parents are the primary educators of their children (CCC 2223). The souls of your children have been entrusted to you. Therefore, you have a most important mission. The right and the duty of parents to educate their children are primordial and inalienable (CCC 2221).

Perhaps there was a time when families could trust that schools would educate their children without harming their souls and that society would respect family values. This is not the case at all. Families must be ever so vigilant, because the reality is that there are ideologies, policies, and agendas that are meant to directly harm the precious souls that have been entrusted to you, to us.

Parents should teach children to avoid the compromising and degrading influences which threaten human societies (CCC 2224). Where do we find these compromising and degrading influences? I ask myself the same question. For one minute, think how you could get to the souls of children and influence their minds, hearts, and souls! Which one institution would you infiltrate with compromising and degrading influences? It doesn't take more than one minute to figure out that this is easily accomplished through schools, particularly public schools and, sadly, many private schools. The souls of our children are at risk! We have an obligation to guard, protect, nourish, and properly form their souls. Parents, get your children out of the public schools now! Every minute they remain in a school where comprising and degrading influences exist, their souls, minds, and hearts are being poisoned. This kind of evil influence must be drowned with an abundance of good, with an abundance of the Good, the True, and the Beautiful that exists at Saint Therese Carmelite School.

As those first responsible for the education of their children, parents have the right to choose a school for them which corresponds to their own convictions (CCC 2229). Catholic parents have a right to choose a school that is faithful to the Magisterium, a school that will not teach or promote false ideologies, a school that cares and fights for the souls of its students. Parents, it is your right to choose a school that educates children without harming their minds, their hearts, or their souls with educational ideologies, materials, or classes. Please exercise that right before it's too late.

You have a God-given right to choose a school which corresponds to your convictions. Does such a school exist? It sure does. Thanks to my predecessor and thanks to the parishioners of our Church, our School is a Carmelite Catholic classical school dedicated to forming students in faith, academics, and virtue. At Saint Therese Carmelite School, we have Carmelite friars teaching in the classroom. All, 100%, of teachers and staff are practicing Catholics. We do not use any of the educational theories which harm children's minds and souls. Our School relies on classical education, which has been tried and tested for hundreds of years, to educate our students. We seek to incorporate within our students the wisdom of two thousand years of Catholic thought, history, culture, and the arts, so that they might understand themselves and their world in the light of that Truth, and acquire the character to live happy and integrated lives in the service of God and others.

The right to choose a school which corresponds to your own convictions is fundamental. As far as possible, parents have the duty of choosing schools that will best help them in their task as Christian educators (CCC 2229). "But, but, but, you say. Catholic schools are expensive. I can't afford to send my children." You can't afford *not* to send them. The cost to repair years of damage will be greater than the cost to properly educate them. "The School is too far," you say. Pick your battles. So many families report praying the Rosary on the way to school, listening to a Catholic podcast, singing hymns of praise, and simply having great conversations with their children. In my experience as a priest, I can tell you that you cannot outdo God in generosity. You have been faithful to God in having the children He has blessed you with. He will help you provide an education for your children. Come, talk to me. Go speak to our Principal.

Parents, do not endanger the souls of your children by enrolling them in public schools or in private schools which do not align with sound Catholic morals and convictions. The Carmelite friars remain committed to ensure that our School is faithful to the Truth, faithful to the Magisterium, faithful to God. The students at Saint Therese Carmelite School count on the daily prayers and sacrifices of the friars, the nuns, the sisters, and Church parishioners. The friars and the school administration are committed to excellence in Catholic education, to forming men and women of strong character, and to educating Saints! **If your child is not enrolled in our School, come talk to me or go see our Principal to get your child enrolled now!** With God, all things are possible.

The Real St. Therese



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

When Therese's coughing fits brought on crises of suffocation, she passed through some terrible moments. It was not, moreover, just a question of a few days. For in July we read: "She has chest pains and difficulty in breathing; at times she is positively choking. She has to inhale ether continually. At times, her breathing is so bad that the ether has no effect."

Then in August: "Her breathing difficulties also cause her the greatest fatigue." Again, in September: "She wanted to talk to me but was unable to do so." Nothing is more moving, in the reading, than those points of suspension which come between the words and phrases in the Yellow Notebook. Mother Agnes' transcription is as faithful as a record: "No, I mustn't talk ... but ... I believed ... I love you so much ... I'm going to be good ... Oh! little Mother! ... my God! . . . have pity on your little ... I ... can ... no longer ... even ... speak ... to you! Oh! If one only knew! — ... If I didn't love God!..." Sister Marie of the Eucharist has confirmed the accuracy of this transcription, saying, "She had to pause a minute between each word because she had such difficulty breathing."

As her lungs deteriorated, Therese had to try to find new ways to get some air. Sister Marie reported that, "She was having great difficulty with her breathing. For some time she found some sort of relief in these painful situations by making little cries like: 'Oh! la, la, or Agne! Agne!' She also made little involuntary cries and sometimes reproached herself for complaining." These crises of suffocation would appear to have been the cause of Therese's greatest suffering. She suffered as much from their intensity and duration, as from the distress which she knew she was communicating to those around her and who were powerless to do anything for her. Several times she manifested her fear of dying by suffocation: "I'll suffocate one night, I feel it... Oh! yes, I wish it. Yes, but it's good!" Mother Agnes asked, "What?" Therese replied, "I shall suffocate! When shall I be completely suffocated!" And that, in fact, was what would eventually happen to her.

D. Emaciation: For a long time, a rather strange phenomena baffled those around her. Normally the face of a person suffering from tuberculosis takes on certain characteristics, but Therese's face remained almost the same. Her voluminous Carmelite habit hid her thinness, but her face was full. Even when confined to bed, she continued to convey the impression of good health. This amazed the two doctors. Only her very thin hands betrayed her, and gave lie to her "healthy look." This emaciation, as we know, caused various afflictions.

Continues next week.

The Oil of the Holy Spirit

Jesus' inaugural sermon, given in the synagogue of His hometown of Nazareth, was when He read from the passage in Isaiah 61: "***The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.***" He then rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. ***And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing"*** (Luke 4;17-21).

Jesus understood this passage of Isaiah as a prophecy of Himself. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me" refers to His baptism a few days earlier, when the Holy Spirit had come upon Him. In the Old Testament, **the kings of Israel were anointed with oil (1 Samuel 16:13), but the oil with which Jesus was anointed for His mission was the Holy Spirit.** And His mission, as He describes it here, was to go into all the darkest places of human bondage—blindness, sickness, and oppression—to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom and visibly demonstrate it by setting people free. It was to evangelize not only in words, but in deeds of power.

By applying this passage to Himself, Jesus was attributing all the activity of His public ministry—His healings, miracles, exorcisms, preaching with authority, ushering in the Kingdom of God in power—to the anointing of the Holy Spirit imparted to Him in His human nature.

Just as Jesus' baptism in the Spirit was the foundation for His whole mission, so the baptism in the Spirit that His disciples would receive would be the foundation for their mission. As Theophilus of Antioch, a second-century father of the Church, wrote, "This is why we are called Christians: because we are anointed with the oil of God."



From *The Spiritual Gifts Handbook* (for sale in the office)

Annual Fr. Jerome Appeal for the Carmelite Nuns



Please help support our Cloistered Carmelite Nuns in Alhambra!

Just place your donation in

any envelope, write CARMELITE NUNS on it, and then drop it in the regular collection. All donations will help with the nuns' daily needs and with the maintenance of their monastery. You are invited to join them for their daily 7:30 a.m. Mass (Monday through Saturday). To **REQUEST PRAYERS** from them... Call: (626) 282-2387 | Visit: 215 East Alhambra Road | Email: TeresaCarm1913@gmail.com | Website: www.CarmelTeresa.org (Click "Contact Us" and then "Prayer Requests").

The Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary was founded to financially assist the Cloistered Carmelite Nuns. If you have thought about joining but don't feel you have the time, **consider becoming a Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary ASSOCIATE!** You will receive minutes from each meeting and act as a resource to the Auxiliary with fundraising and other special projects. The time commitment is flexible!

If you're interested in becoming an Associate, please email Jessica Morgan at jessica.morgan@gmail.com. Thank you and we look forward to a successful year!

Today's Music Schedule for Lent

OPENING HYMN: O Kind Creator, Bow Thine Ear (Pew Missal No. 209)

OFFERTORY HYMN: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (Worship II, No. 130)

11:00 a.m. Choir: God So Loved The Word (Stainer)

COMMUNION HYMN: The King Of Love My Shepherd Is (Worship II No. 268)

11:00 a.m. Choir: I Sat Down Under His Shadow (Bairstow)

MARIAN ANTIPHON: Ave Regina Caelorum (Pew Missal No. 96)

SOUP NIGHTS: Every Friday in Lent we have **Soup Nights** in the Parish Hall from **5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** (donations accepted). The next Soup Night on **March 17th** will be sponsored and hosted by the Knights of Columbus, followed by: **March 24th & 31st**, hosted and sponsored by Parishioner Margaret Blackwell & Family and Friends

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Also on the Fridays of Lent we pray the Stations. **The new time is 6:30 p.m.** Join us in the church!

THE DAILY CELEBRATION OF MASS: Mass is celebrated Monday through Friday at 6:00 and 8:00 a.m., and at 7:00 p.m. Consider making daily Mass a part of your Lenten observation.



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.



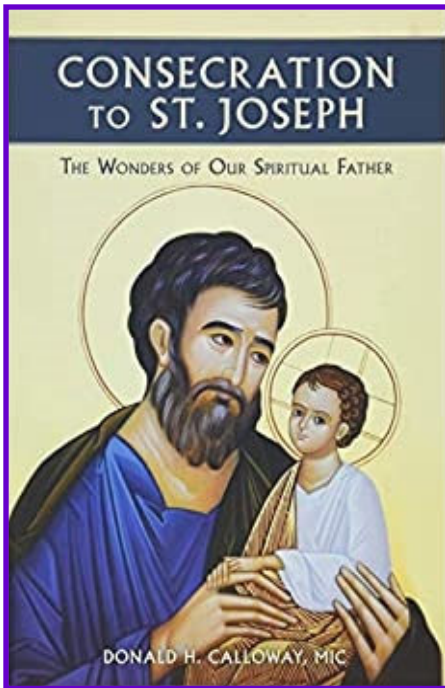
March 4 / 5, 2023

Unrestricted..... \$16,640.00
Restricted \$ 440.00
T O T A L.....\$17,080.00

February 4 / 5 \$15,488.00
February 11 / 12 \$21,737.00
February 18 / 19 \$10,509.00
February 25 / 26 \$19,701.00

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

Consecration to St. Joseph



The next consecration to St. Joseph will be on **Monday, March 20th.** If you'd like to make this consecration, you are invited to join us at our final preparation gathering this **Wednesday, March 15,** at your choice of either **Noon or 5:00 p.m.**

Both times will be held in the Guadalupe Courtyard/Avila Room (please enter through the adoration chapel doors). 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.

"The Flame of Love"



For all those interested—including those who have not attended any of our previous cenacles—we will continue to meet every Monday. You may attend either in the afternoon or in the evening.

Both cenacles are held in the Parish Offices—afternoons from

Noon to 1:30 p.m.; evenings from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. The Flame of Love books are available for sale in the parish offices for \$10 each.

If you have any questions or want more information, please call Maria Alejandra at (626) 282-2744. When the recording comes on, enter 1 + 235.

40 Days for Life

Pasadena's Forty Days of Life will continue through **Palm Sunday, April 2.** Please spend some time with us in front of the **Pasadena Planned Parenthood facility** (info below) and pray to end abortions there and everywhere (bring a buddy with you!). PPP's busiest day for abortions is Tuesday. The Vigil location is **Pasadena Planned Parenthood, 1045 North Lake Avenue, Pasadena.** Vigil hours are **Monday through Saturday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** (Rain or shine, come by and pray). For more info, contact Rose Curiel at (323) 528-8094 / indigoro40daysforlife@gmail.com.



Learn more at www.40daysforlife.com/pasadena.

Special dates during the 40-day vigil are:

- **TODAY, March 12:** Midpoint Rally in front of Planned Parenthood at **2:00 p.m.**
- **April 2:** Final Blessing and Procession at 2:00 p.m., at St. Elizabeth (St. Elizabeth's Palm Sunday Mass is at 12:00 p.m., for anyone who may be interested in attending).

Saint Therese Carmelite School



Developing **STRONG** and **ENGAGING** Jesus-Centered Catholic children, one student at a time.

- Classical Education
- Traditional Values
- Carmelite Spirituality

(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Mass Intentions

March 11—March 18, 2023

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Steven J. Smuckler, RIP

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m. (Carmel): Susan Myers, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Jose Munoz, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Parishioners

11:00 a.m.: Gonzalo & Daisy Torres, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Susan Myers, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Thelma Obfenda

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Kim Ki Chul, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Steven J. Smuckler, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, B-Day INT

7:00 p.m.: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, B-Day INT

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Park Ho Soon Maria, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Steven J. Smuckler, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Susan Myers, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Sr. Cecilia of the Child Jesus, OCD RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Teddy Yang, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Steven Jay Smuckler, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Yolanda Garza & Family, INT

7:00 p.m.: Sid Arias, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Nicolas & Christina Yang, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Steven J. Smuckler, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Martin G. Garza, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Norberta Lao Ballesteros, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: John, Helen, & Patrick Hummel, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Karen Papp, INT

8:00 a.m.: Steven J. Smuckler, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Celso Aquino, INT

Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Fr. Stephen Vasari, RIP

*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel.

The Carmel's Chapel is open to the public every day except Sundays and major 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).

Quiet Listening Prayer

The Interior Castle: The Fourth Mansion

By St. Teresa of Avila

What an expansion or dilation of the soul is may be understood from the example of a fount whose water doesn't overflow into a stream because the fount itself is constructed of such material that the more water there is flowing into it, the larger the trough becomes. So it seems is the case with this prayer that God grants to the soul, for He enables and prepares it so that it can keep everything within itself. Hence, this interior sweetness and expansion can be verified in the fact that the soul is not as tied down as it was before in things pertaining to the service of God, but has much more freedom. Thus, in not being constrained by the fear of Hell, this soul is left with great confidence that it will enjoy Him. The fear it used to have of doing penance and losing its health has disappeared, and it now thinks it will be able to do all things in God and has greater desire for penance. Its faith is more alive; it knows that if it suffers trials for God, His Majesty will give it the grace to suffer them with patience. Since its knowledge of God's grandeur grows, it considers itself to be more miserable. Because it has already experienced spiritual delight from God, it sees that worldly delights are like filth. It finds itself withdrawing from them little by little, and it is more master of itself for so doing. In sum, there is an improvement in all the virtues. It will continue to grow if it doesn't turn back now to offending God; because if it does, then everything will be lost however high on the summit the soul may be. Nor should it be understood that if God grants this favor once or twice to a soul all these good effects will be caused. It must persevere in receiving them, for in this perseverance lies all our good (IV, 3, 9).



Deaths

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

+ Guadalupe Maynez
(Mother of Susana Cervantes)