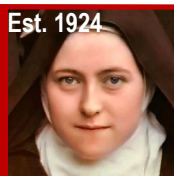


Est. 1924



St. Therese Catholic Church



November 9, 2025 1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 (Office: 510 North El Molino Street) | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



The Cleansing of the Temple

MASSSES | 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 | cathycforlife@gmail.com

ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X 1 + 661

principal@saintthersecarmeliteschool.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,

Saturday of this weekend is the **Feast day of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity**. She is another great French Carmelite saint, almost contemporary with St. Therese. She was very influenced by St. Therese after reading *Story of a Soul* in 1899, two years before she entered the Carmelite monastery in Dijon in 1901. After reading it, she knew that she *needed* to become a Carmelite.

When Fr. Robert and I led our Parish Pilgrimage to France in September, we stopped at Dijon and saw her relics, had Mass with the nuns at the Carmelite monastery, and also saw and venerated her principal relics at the Church of St. Michael, which was her parish growing up in Dijon. One of the great blessings of our trip to Dijon was acquiring a first-class relic of St. Elizabeth for our Parish from the nuns in Dijon! **The pictures below show St. Elizabeth's parish of St. Michael, her relics inside, and Fr. Robert and me with the Carmelite nun who spoke to us at Dijon.**

I invite you to get to know St. Elizabeth, a very kindred spirit to St. Therese, yet very unique in her spirituality. As she approached her own death, her Mother Prioress asked Elizabeth how she would

spend her eternity and if, like St. Therese, she would come back down to earth for the good of souls. And Elizabeth responded: *"Oh! No, indeed! As soon as I reach the threshold of Paradise, I will rush like a little rocket into the bosom of my Three. However, if God grants my request, I think that in Heaven my mission will be to draw souls into interior recollection."* In another letter, she states: *"I think that in Heaven, my mission will be to draw souls by helping them go out of themselves to cling to God by a wholly simple and loving movement, and, to keep them in this great silence within which allows God to communicate Himself to them and transform them into Himself."*

May you all be drawn into this "great silence" and "interior recollection" of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity so that you may know the peace of God and, as Elizabeth says, that you will be "uncommonly loved" by Him!



Fr. Peter Mary Vecellio, OCD





Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith  Academics  Virtue

RUMMAGE SALE!

Come find treasures for low prices!
The school will be hosting their Fall
rummage sale in the Parish Hall!
Come one, come all, and snatch
things up before they sell out!

**Today from
8am-3pm!**



1106 East Alhambra Road
Alhambra, California 91801

(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

FEAST OF ST. MARTIN OF TOURS | Fiesta de San Martín

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2025

FR. ROBERT ELIAS BARCELOS, O.C.D

Sponsored by the Holy
Face of Jesus Apostolate



"You did well to clothe that
Beggar, in that you clothed me."

-Jesus to St. Martin of Tours,
Apostle of the Holy Face

7:15 PM BILINGUAL MASS
+ Consecration to
the Holy Face

MISA BILINGÜE
+ Consagración al
Santo Rostro

8:30 PM EXPOSITION
ROSARY &
REPARATION
PRAYERS

EXPOSICIÓN
ROSARIO Y
ORACIONES DE
REPARACIÓN

9:45 PM BENEDICTION

BENDICIÓN

MOVIE NIGHT! "Going My Way"



Fr. Peter Mary invites everyone to the **Parish Hall** for our next movie night **NEXT Saturday, November 15, immediately following the vigil Mass.** We will show the classic movie from 1944, **GOING MY WAY**, starring Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald. This film—which won **EIGHT** Academy Awards—is about Fr. Chuck O'Malley's assignment in a parish with an Irish priest. He connects with a gang of kids looking for direction, handles the details of the building fund, and ends up winning over his aging, conventional superior, Father Fitzgibbon.

FREE "MEDICARE INFO" MEETING

Deacon Rex Owens has again arranged for this free informational meeting to be held here at St. Therese **NEXT Sunday, November 16, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.** We had it here last June, and it was very well attended.

Jim Aust, a volunteer and parishioner of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, will present this session about **Medicare in 2025**, your choices, and what counseling resources are available. The presentation will be held in the **Parish Meeting Room** (upstairs, Parish Center).

If you are on Medicare, or soon to be, it's good to think about your secondary health and/or prescription drug insurance plans. Plans change every year, so it's important to review them to keep yourself in the best coverage at the lowest price. **Note:** This is **not** a sales pitch for insurance companies or plans; **there is no fee.** It is open to anyone, including family members.

Please register by **THIS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12,** at <https://forms.gle/2Ufp4vRuMKMrEhts6> or email Deacon Rex at deaconrex@outlook.com.

Cor Jesu "Family Feud" Night

**WE ASKED 100 CATHOLICS,
"NAME SOMEWHERE FUN FOR THE WHOLE
FAMILY TO GO ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14..**

And the Survey Says:



NIGHT!

Come Together for *Cor Jesu's Catholic Family Feud Night!*

Join us at Cor Jesu to cheer on the families as they team up and compete against each other for a night of friendly competition, laughs and fun! Fr. Robert Barcelos will re-create the popular game show and leave everyone smiling.

WHEN: Friday, November 14, 2025
WHERE: St. Therese Parish Hall
TIME: 6:15 pm



DON'T MISS: Pizza and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish or side to share for about 8 people. Also, bring a picture of your deceased loved ones so we can honor and pray for the souls of the faithful departed.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive (for those in our community who are in need) will be **after the Sunday, Masses on November 23;** and **distribution will be on Monday, November 24.** Please donate **TURKEYS** and **non-perishable food items** (especially related to Thanksgiving dinner, e.g., cans of green beans, cranberries, sweet potatoes, corn, carrots, pumpkin puree, boxes of stuffing, mashed potatoes, jars of turkey gravy, etc.), by bringing them **to the Parish Hall** on that Sunday only.

ALSO, if you can volunteer to help package and/or distribute the groceries, email Deacon Gil at deacongilv@gmail.com





FAMILY PAINT Night

Spend a joyful evening with loved ones while creating memories through art and fellowship. Enjoy step-by-step painting instruction from Alicia Salazar Marcela Alcala.

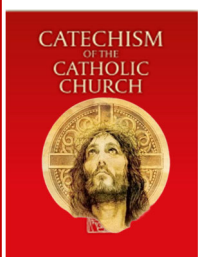
Advent is almost here, so we will be painting a picture of the **NATIVITY OF JESUS!** Appetizers and wine will be served to make the evening even more special.

Date: Saturday, November 22
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: St. Therese School Art Studio (2nd Floor, Parish Center)
Donation: \$25 per adult or child 8+
RSVP: Text Marcela Figueroa de Alcala at (626) 940-4899 with your name and the number of tickets you would like.

FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN AGE 8 AND OVER

FREE CHILD CARE FOR CHILDREN 7 AND UNDER

Fr. Stephen's Series on "The Catechism of the Catholic Church"



These classes are normally held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. However, Fr. Stephen will be on retreat this week; so, instead of November 11, the second Tuesday, his first November class will be **Tuesday, November 18** (the third Tuesday) AND the second November class will be held on its normal day of the fourth **Tuesday, November 25**. He will continue to speak about Jesus.

Each class in this series can stand on its own, so you may join at any time (**class time/place:** 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., upstairs in the Parish Center).

A Step-by-Step Walk Through the Mass

Do This in Remembrance of Me,

Part 36: Bread and Wine

Why do we use bread and wine and not something else?

The Church has stayed consistent with what Jesus used at the Last Supper.

Obviously, Jews at the time of Christ consumed other food and drink besides bread and wine... But Christ made a choice of bread and wine, and "the Church has scrupulously conformed to what He instituted, using only bread from wheat and wine from grapes" (The Mass, p. 78). This has been true as the Church spread to places where different grains as well as other drinks were common. In many places, missionaries brought with them wheat seeds and grape seedlings so that what was needed for the wine and hosts could be grown locally.



Why do we use unleavened bread? "On the eve of Passover, unleavened breads were prepared to commemorate what had happened when the Hebrews fled from Egypt: in their haste they could not have their dough leavened... At the Last Supper (according to the Synoptic Gospels, but not in John), Jesus observed the Passover ritual, which called for unleavened bread" (The Mass, p. 80). We should note that in some places in the early Latin Church, as well as still currently in Eastern Rite and Eastern Orthodox Churches, leavened bread is used for the Eucharist. Each Rite within our Church is able to determine certain details for the celebration of the Mass. However, the core elements of the Mass will always be present and consistent. Lastly . . .

Why do we call the bread we use at Mass "hosts?" Charles Belmonte teaches that "originally, 'host' (from Latin *hostire*, to strike) referred to any animal about to be sacrificed" (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 112). Since the bread is the offering made for the sacrifice of the Mass, it is fittingly called by the name, *host*. To be proper and reverent, after the bread has been changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus, hosts should be called "Consecrated Hosts" or "Sacred Hosts," out of honor for Jesus Christ, who is now truly present.

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

Financial Offerings



November 1 / 2, 2025

Unrestricted..... \$24,322.00
 Restricted \$ 2,285.00
T O T A L.....\$26,607.00

October 4 / 5 \$20,608.00
 October 11 / 12 \$38,057.00
 October 18 / 19 \$18,445.00
 October 24 / 25 \$24,957.00

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

"Facing East": Celebrating the Novus Ordo Mass Ad Orientem



In recent years, a quiet but meaningful movement has emerged within the Church: the celebration of the Novus Ordo Mass “Ad Orientem”—Latin for “toward the East.” **This posture, in which the priest and people face the same direction during the Liturgy of the Eucharist, is not a return to the past, but a rediscovery of a posture deeply rooted in Christian tradition.**

What Is Ad Orientem? “Ad Orientem” refers to the ancient liturgical orientation in which the celebrant and congregation together face “liturgical east,” symbolizing the direction of Christ’s return (even if the church actually faces a different direction). While often associated with the pre-Vatican II Mass, this posture is fully permitted in the current Roman Missal. In fact, the Missal presumes this orientation being used as it instructs the priest to “*turn toward the people*” at specific moments—implying that he has been facing away from the faithful before that instruction is given.

Why Celebrate This Way? Celebrating Mass Ad Orientem emphasizes that the priest is not performing for the congregation, but leading them in worship toward God. It visually reinforces that the liturgy is a common turning toward

the Lord. As Pope Benedict XVI wrote, “**Looking at the priest has no importance. What matters is looking together at the Lord.**” This orientation also deepens the sense of mystery and reverence. When the priest faces the altar with the people, the focus shifts from personality to presence—from the celebrant to the sacrifice. The sanctuary becomes less a stage and more a sacred space, drawing hearts and minds Heavenward.

Is This Allowed in the Novus Ordo? Yes. The rubrics of the Roman Missal allow for either orientation. While ***Versus Populum* (facing the people)** has become common, Ad Orientem remains a legitimate and often enriching option. Many parishes have reintroduced this posture, especially during Advent and Lent—seasons of expectation and repentance—as a way to highlight the eschatological dimension of the liturgy.

How Does It Affect the Faithful? For many, the experience of Ad Orientem Mass is quietly transformative. It invites interior participation, fosters silence, and re-centers the liturgy on Christ. This posture also connects us with centuries of Christian worship. From the early Church through the Middle Ages and beyond, facing east was the norm. **To recover this orientation is not to reject the reforms of Vatican II, but to embrace them more fully—drawing from the Church’s rich treasury to deepen our encounter with the sacred.**

A Living Witness: Rooted in the Carmelite charism of contemplative prayer and deep reverence for the sacred mysteries, it invites the faithful into a more profound encounter with Christ. Whether in daily Mass or solemn feast days, this orientation draws worshipers into a shared gaze toward the Eucharistic Lord.

A Posture of Hope: Ultimately, Ad Orientem is not about nostalgia or aesthetics. It is about hope—turning together toward the rising sun, the Risen Son who comes to meet us in every Eucharist. This simple gesture reorients our hearts to the One who is our true East. May this ancient yet ever-new posture lead us not backward, but forward—toward deeper reverence, unity, and joy in the mystery we celebrate.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT AD ORIENTEM, go to the home page of our website and look for this article. Under it you will find two links: 1) a more expansive article and 2) an eight-minute video.

Mass Intentions

November 8—November 15, 2025

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Sofia, Linda, & Isabella Lopez, INT

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: Maria Tran Nguyen, INT

7:30 a.m.: All Souls Novena 7

9:00 a.m.: Parishioners

11:00 a.m.: Makayla Torres, INT

1:00 p.m.: (Latin): James Arakawa, B-Day INT

5:00 p.m.: Virgilio Lopez, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Florencio Sia, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Thompson Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Martha Perez & Family, INT

7:15 p.m.: All Souls Novena 8

Tuesday (7:15 p.m. in Spanish):

6:00 a.m.: Robert John Hopkins, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Elizabeth, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: All Souls Novena 9

7:15 p.m.: Helen & Joseph Raney, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Robert John Hopkins, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Mark Perez, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Gonzalo & Daisy Torres, RIP

Thursday:

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

*7:30 a.m.: Susan Morgan, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Angelo Catania, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Bonnie Lourdes Uy, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Daniel Hummel, INT

8:00 a.m.: Leah Lapidario, Birthday INT

Saturday Morning

*7:30 a.m.: Alhambra Cloistered Carm. Nuns

8:00 a.m.: Michael Alexander Cheah, INT

***Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel (215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra. Open to the public except 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"!

Pilgrimages

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, for \$5,450 per person.

For more information, see the itinerary on the home

page of our website or contact the Tour Leader, Beth Maddatu, by emailing her at maddatubeth2@gmail.com or calling 408-903-6305.

