

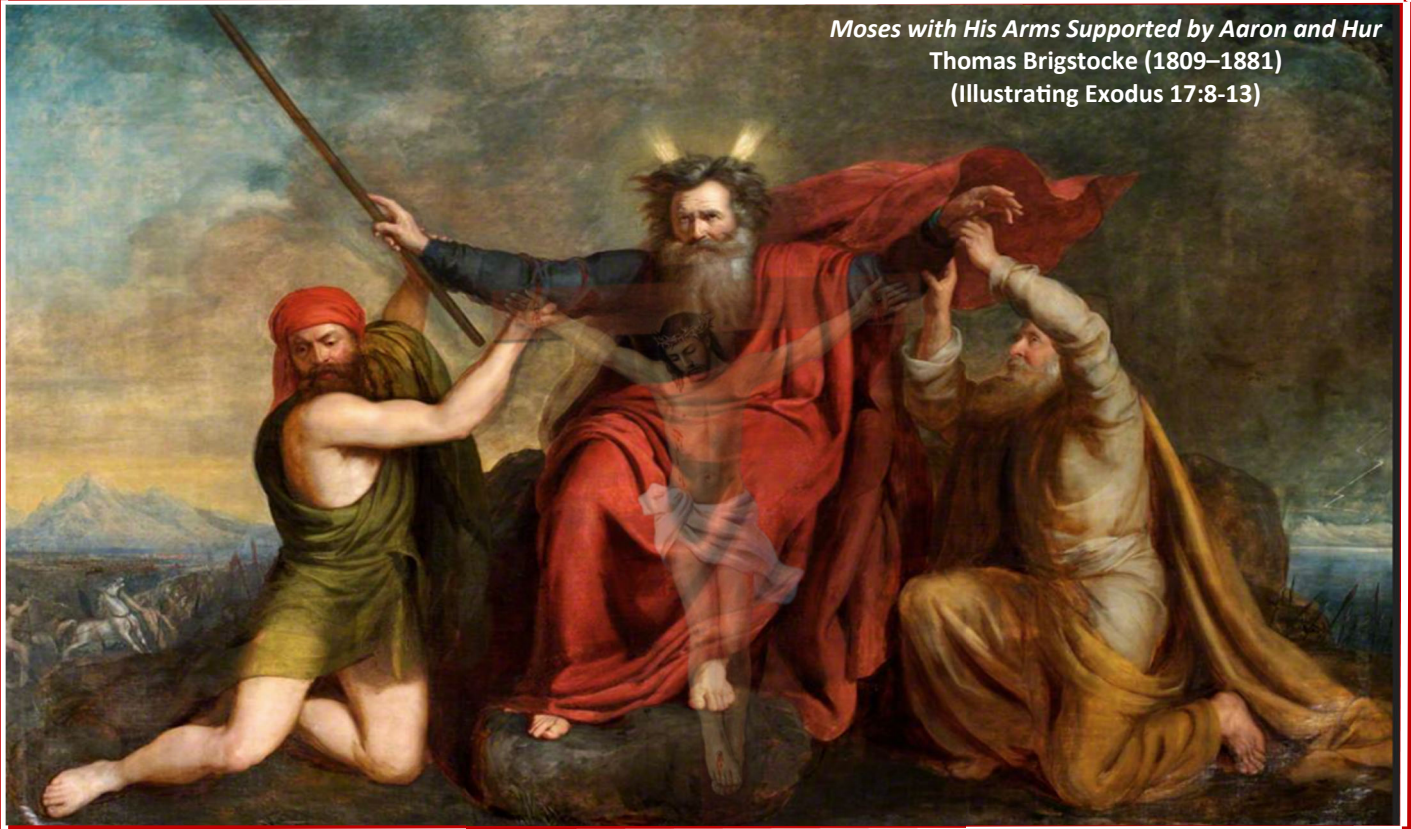
Est. 1924



St. Therese Catholic Church



October 19, 2025 1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 (Office: 510 North El Molino Street) | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



Moses with His Arms Supported by Aaron and Hur
Thomas Brigstocke (1809–1881)
(Illustrating Exodus 17:8-13)

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|stcreligiouslyed7@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@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.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,

Thank you to all who made the visit of St. Therese's relics a smooth and prayerful experience for all! I especially want to thank all of our volunteers from the Parish, our coordinator, Amber Cantong, and Fr. Donald and his team for making this historic and grace-filled moment a reality! St. Therese came to our Parish as a missionary and co-patron of the missions!

This weekend, we celebrate World Mission Sunday throughout the Church. Before our late Holy Father, **Pope Francis**, passed, he gave us a direction for this Mission Sunday. **Below is an excerpt from his message.**

Fr. Peter Mary Vecellio, O.C.D.



“Missionaries of hope are men and women of prayer, for ‘the person who hopes is a person who prays,’ in the words of Venerable Cardinal François-Xavier Van Thuan, who was himself sustained in hope throughout his lengthy imprisonment, thanks to the strength he received from faithful prayer and the Eucharist (*The Road of Hope*, Boston, 2001, 963). Let us not forget that prayer is the primary missionary activity and at the same time ‘the first strength of hope’ (Catechesis, 20 May 2020).

“So, let us renew the mission of hope, starting from prayer, especially prayer based on the word of God and particularly the Psalms, that great symphony of prayer whose composer is the Holy Spirit (*Catechesis*, June 19, 2024). The Psalms train us to hope amid adversity, to discern the signs of hope around us, and to have the constant ‘missionary’ desire that God be praised by all peoples (Psalm 41:12; 67:4). By praying, we keep alive the spark of hope lit by God within us, so that it can become a great fire, enlightening and warming everyone around us, and also by those concrete actions and gestures that prayer itself inspires.

“To conclude, evangelization is always a communitarian process, like Christian hope itself (Benedict XVI, *Spe Salvi*, 14). That process does not end with the initial preaching of the Gospel and with Baptism, but continues with the building up of Christian communities through the accompaniment of each of the baptized along the path of the Gospel. In modern society, membership in the Church is never something achieved once and for all. That is why the missionary activity of handing down and shaping a mature faith in Christ is ‘paradigmatic for all the Church’s activity’ (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 15), a work that requires communion of prayer and action. Here, I would emphasize once more the importance of this missionary synodality of the Church, as well as the service rendered by the Pontifical Mission Societies in promoting the missionary responsibility of the baptized and supporting new particular churches.

“I urge all of you—children, young people, adults, and the elderly—to participate actively in the common evangelizing mission of the Church by your witness of life and prayer, by your sacrifices and by your generosity. Thank you for this!”

Lifted Hands and Unshaken Faith: A Journey Through Scripture

In today's reading from Exodus (17:8–13), we witness a powerful moment of intercession and perseverance. As Israel battles Amalek, Moses stands on a hill with the staff of God in his hands. When his hands are raised, Israel prevails; when they fall, Amalek gains ground. Eventually, Aaron and Hur support Moses' arms, ensuring victory through steadfast support and divine intervention.

This image of uplifted hands is more than a military strategy—it's a symbol of surrender, prayer, and divine partnership. It foreshadows a moment centuries later on another hill, where Jesus, arms outstretched on the cross, secured eternal victory not through battle, but through sacrifice. Just as Moses' raised hands brought triumph to Israel, Christ's crucified posture brought salvation to all who believe.

Psalms 121 echoes this theme of divine help. "I lift up my eyes to the hills—whence my help comes from. My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of Heaven and Earth." The psalmist reminds us that our strength is not in our own hands, but in the One who never sleeps, who watches over our comings and goings. In both Moses' battle and Christ's crucifixion, we see the Lord as our keeper—faithful, present, and powerful.

Paul's words in 2 Timothy (3:14–17) urge believers to remain anchored in Scripture, which equips us for every good work. Though today's passage ends at verse 17, the broader chapter warns of hardship and deception, calling us to hold fast to truth. Just as Moses relied on God's instruction and Jesus fulfilled prophecy, we too are called to live by the Word, especially when the world feels like a battlefield.

Luke (18:1–8) brings the message home with a parable of persistent prayer. A widow pleads with an unjust judge until he relents—not because he is righteous, but because she refuses to give up. Jesus uses this story to encourage unwavering faith: "Will not God bring about justice for His chosen ones who cry out to Him day and night?" This persistence mirrors Moses' endurance and Christ's obedience unto death.

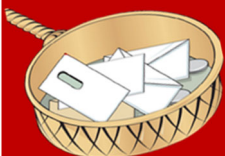
Together, these passages form a tapestry of trust, perseverance, and divine faithfulness. Moses' lifted hands point to Jesus' outstretched arms. The psalmist's gaze toward the hills finds its answer in Calvary. Paul's call to Scripture roots us in truth, and Jesus' parable reminds us that prayer is our lifeline.

In seasons of struggle, may we lift our hands like Moses, fix our eyes like the psalmist, hold fast like Timothy, and pray like the widow. For in Christ, our victory is already won.



The Unjust Judge and the Persistent Widow

Financial Offerings



October 11 / 12, 2025

Unrestricted..... \$37,822.00
 Restricted \$235.00
T O T A L.....\$38,057.00

Septemer 13 / 14 \$20,925.00
 September 20 / 21 .. \$24,716.00
 September 27 / 28... \$15,297.00
 October 4 / 5 \$20,608.00

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



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 three weeks! Come one, come all, and snatch things up before they sell out!

November 8-9th



Interested in donating items?

We accept the following items in good condition:
Clothes, accessories, household decor, small household appliances (blenders, pressure cookers, slow cookers, etc.), books, toys, furniture

We do NOT accept the following:
Large electronics, (printers, fax machines, computers, TVs, etc) car parts

Due to space constraints, items only accepted between November 4 and 6. Thank you!

1106 East Alhambra Road
Alhambra, California 91801

(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

A Step-by-Step Walk Through the Mass



Do This in Remembrance of Me, Part 35: Offertory Water and Wine

As we continue through the Offertory, this time we take a closer look at some of the prayers at the altar as the bread and wine are placed there. After the bread and wine are brought forward, they are placed on the altar by the priest or a deacon. Then the priest, speaking either silently or aloud, says the prayers over the bread and wine. These are the prayers that begin, **"Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life."**

You may also recognize the prayer as the priest holds the chalice: **"Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink."** As the Diocese of Peoria reminds us, "If there is no music playing, [the priest] may do this out loud. In this case, we would respond to these prayers by saying, **'Blessed be God forever!'** These prayers are ancient and have profound meaning. We ... admit that while they are 'work of human hands' they are still ultimately from God. For this reason, we bless God for his goodness" (A Study of the Mass, p. 11).

As the priest is preparing the wine, the Diocese of Peoria continues, "notice that he places a small amount of water into the chalice with the wine. As he does this he says: **'By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.'** The Church maintains this very ancient custom of mixing water and wine as it uniquely symbolizes what we pray for. At the Mass, we offer our lives in union with Christ. In all our weakness, in all our smallness, we pray to be inseparably united to the divine. The small drops of water symbolize us. As the water becomes inseparably united to the wine, we pray we may become inseparably united to Jesus Christ" ("A Study of the Mass," p. 11-12).

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

Why Latin is Important in the Novus Ordo Mass

For centuries, Catholics around the world prayed the Mass in Latin—a language that might sound unfamiliar to the ear, yet feels deeply familiar to the heart. Some may wonder: *Why keep using a language most of us don't speak every day?* The reasons are both practical and profoundly spiritual.



A Language Rooted in Our Origins: Latin has been intertwined with Catholic worship since the earliest centuries, reaching back to the days of the Church in hiding, offering Mass in the dim, quiet safety of the catacombs. Its history is woven into the very beginnings of our liturgy.

A Sense of Sacred Mystery: Latin is no longer a spoken, everyday language, and that very fact helps convey the sense that something extraordinary is happening at the altar—something beyond ordinary human conversation. It reminds us we are present at a holy mystery, not merely a familiar gathering.

Following the Pattern of Sacred Worship: Throughout history, both Jews and pagans used a special language for worship that was not widely understood by the people. The Jewish use of Hebrew in Temple worship, even in Jesus' day, is one example—and notably, Our Lord never criticized the practice. Latin serves this role for Catholics, setting worship apart from the ordinary.

"Latin reminds us that the Mass is not merely a human gathering—it is heaven touching earth. In a changing world, Latin is the Church's timeless voice of worship."

"Ad maiorem Dei gloriam..."
For the greater glory of God...

A Bond of Unity: The same Latin prayers are offered in Catholic churches across the globe, linking believers to Rome and to each other, no matter their native language or culture. This shared language of worship helps preserve the unity of the Church's worship throughout the world.

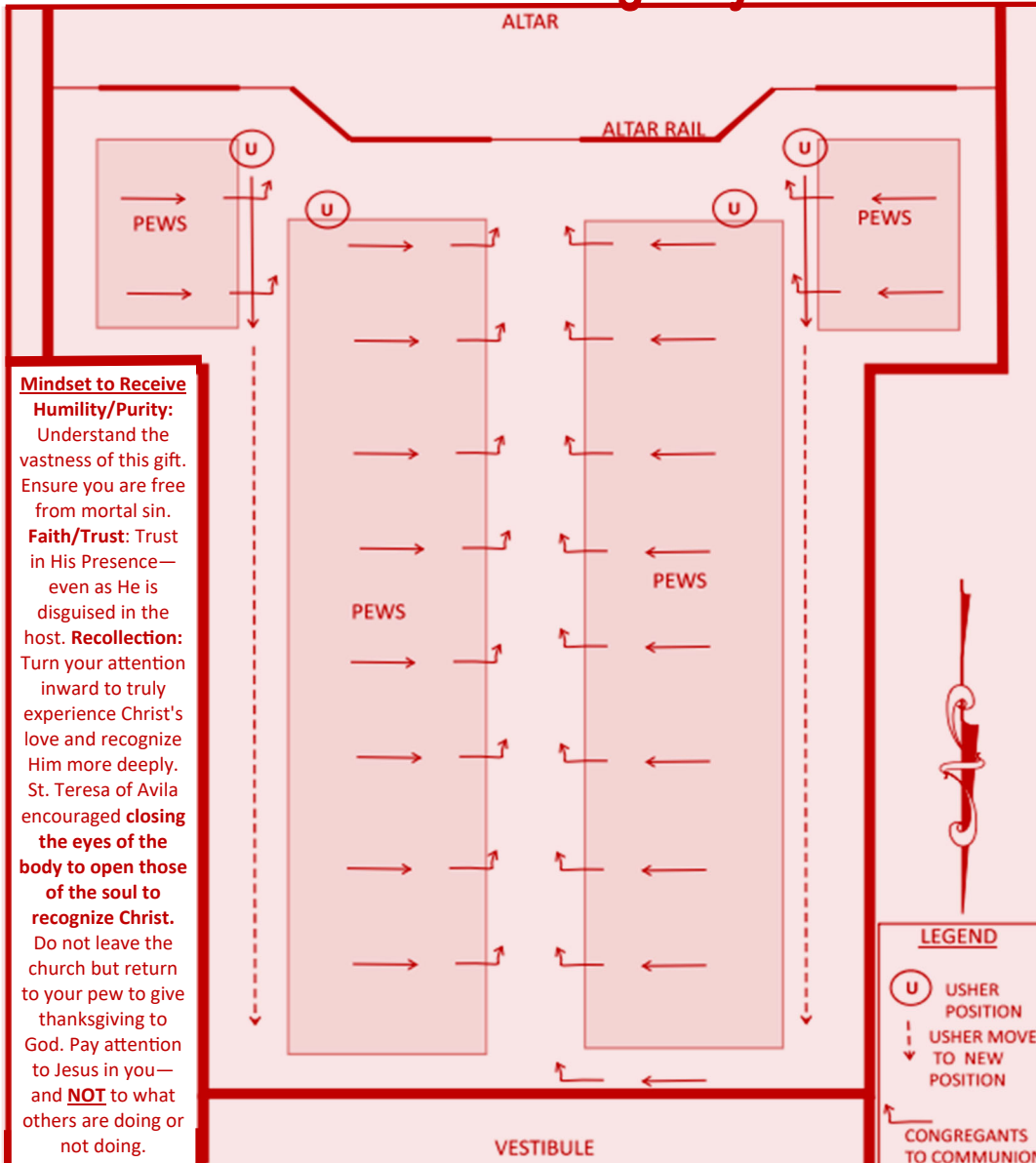
A Shield for the Faith: Because Latin is unchanging, it protects the prayers of the Church from the gradual shifts in meaning that can occur in living languages. Certain truths of the faith are expressed with precision in Latin in ways that cannot be perfectly translated, helping safeguard Catholic teaching and devotion.

Devotion Beyond Words: For centuries, countless Catholics have worshiped devoutly at Mass without understanding every word spoken. The prayers and actions of the liturgy themselves nourish the soul, and Latin has never been an obstacle to deep participation in the sacrifice of the Mass.

The Language of Sacrifice: The Mass is not primarily a lecture or an instruction, but the re-presentation of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross, offered to the Father by the priest in the person of Christ. As Pope St. John XXIII wrote in *Veterum Sapientia*, the Church's liturgical language should be "noble, majestic, and non-vernacular." Latin reinforces the sacred action and solemn mystery of the Holy Sacrifice.

A Constant Echo: While the Church allows the use of the vernacular, the enduring presence of Latin in the liturgy reminds us that the Mass is not simply a human gathering—it is Heaven touching earth. In a world where so much changes, Latin remains a constant, echoing the timeless worship of the Church through the ages.

New Procedure for Receiving Holy Communion



Fr. Peter Mary has asked the ushers to guide parishioners to **proceed in an orderly manner with the following instructions:**

Parishioners on the side pews, i.e., in front of St. Joseph and the Blessed Mother: Proceed pew by pew down the side aisle only, and to the side communion rails. **Please do NOT cross over to the center pews.**

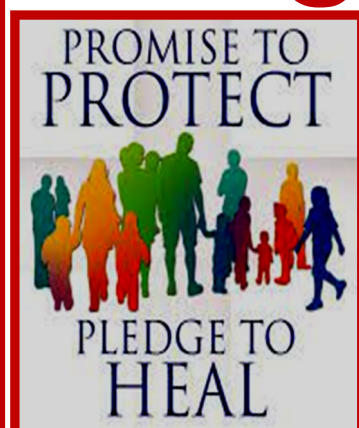
For those in the center pews: Proceed pew by pew **down the center aisle only—NOT** down the side aisles.

When parishioners on the side aisles have finished receiving Holy Communion, then those from the center pews may proceed to fill up the entire communion rails.

Again, ushers will assist with directions.

Fr. Peter Mary thanks you for your full support. God bless you!

Safeguard the Children



DID YOU KNOW? Our mission to protect vulnerable adults—Nearly one in four U.S. adults report living with some kind of disability, ranging from physical limitations to diminished mental capabilities. Misunderstandings and misconceptions about a person's individual disabilities can put that person at risk for abuse. By adopting practices that aim to understand a person's unique circumstances, abilities, and challenges, we can work to protect those who are vulnerable in our communities. Some examples which can help foster safety and community include: asking questions instead of making assumptions, focusing on a person's abilities and using positive language. **For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Our Mission to Protect Vulnerable Adults" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.**

Mass Intentions

October 18—October 25, 2025

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Lauryl McGrath, INT

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: Deceased Religious, Relatives, and Benefactors of the Carmel of St. Teresa

7:30 a.m.: Robert Hopkins, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Robert Vincent Viramontes, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Mary Ruiz Sanchez, RIP

1:00 p.m.: (Latin): Parishioners

5:00 p.m.: Mary DeSantis, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Gerro Batallo Sia, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Arlen Sandico, RIP

7:15 p.m.: All Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Lily Cheng Erieta, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Mother Teresa, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Victor Miñoza, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Carlota Saavedra, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Pacifico Del Mundo, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Lauren Cheah, INT

8:00 a.m.: Armando S. Cano, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Georgina Pecache, INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Aaron Avalos, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Victor Miñoza, RIP

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

8:00 a.m.: Antonio Holguin, RIP

Saturday Morning

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

8:00 a.m.: Florence Goh, 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

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 Ads

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.

FOR SALE: Burial Plot (for two) at Live Oak Cemetery in Monrovia (husband decided to buy a plot in Los Angeles instead). \$12,000 obo. Call Maria Barraza at (323) 712-5912.

