

Est. 1924

St. Therese Catholic Church

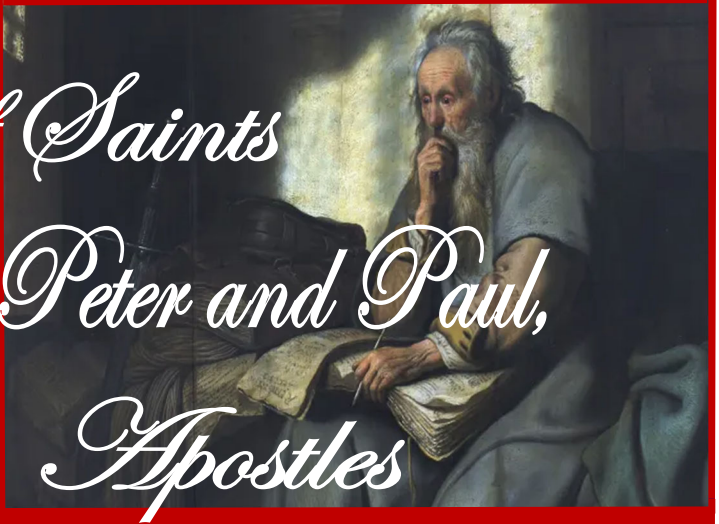
June 29, 2025 1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



Above: On the night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter, secured by double chains, was sleeping between two soldiers... **Suddenly, the angel of the Lord stood by him, saying, "Get up quickly."** The chains fell from his wrists. Then he said to him, "Put on your cloak and follow me." He did not realize the angel was real; he thought it was a vision. They emerged from the prison and suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter said, "Now I know for certain that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from Herod..." (Acts 10:6-11).

Below: St. Paul writes his second letter to Timothy from prison—knowing that his death is imminent:

"For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. **From now on, the crown of righteousness awaits me,** which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for His appearance" (2 Timothy 4:6-8).



The Solemnity of Saints

Peter and Paul, Apostles

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), 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+222 | credochoir1@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

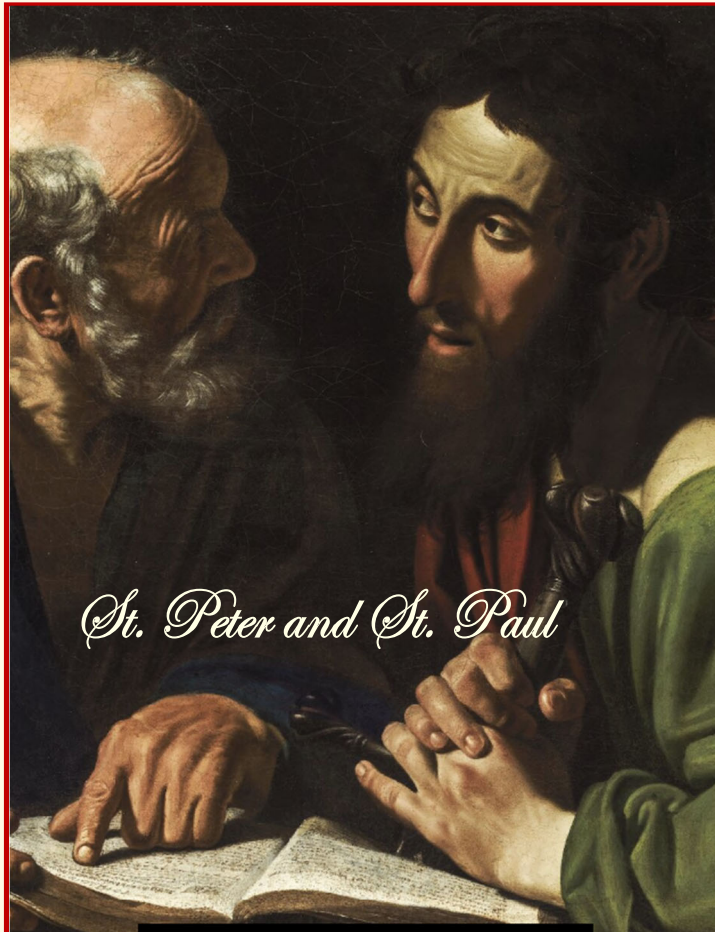
- Baptisms: Register online
- Weddings: Register online at least six months in advance
- Anointing of the Sick: Call the office

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

This year on this weekend, we have the great privilege to celebrate the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul on a Sunday! This feast day is so important in the Church's calendar that it takes the place of the usual Sunday Mass if it falls on a Sunday of Ordinary Time—which does not happen all that often. So, **below is a meditation on this important feast by Pope St. John Paul II.** ~ Fr. Peter Mary Vecellio, OCD

We wish everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July! **Masses will be at 9:00 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. in the evening (it's also First Friday). There will be no 6:00 a.m. Mass that morning).**



St. Peter and St. Paul

"The Church is called to deepen her own link with the witness of the Apostles Peter and Paul. In celebrating today's liturgical solemnity, the Christian communities of the whole world strengthen their bonds of unity based on profession of the same faith in Christ and on fraternal charity. The rite for the conferral of the sacred pallium on the new Metropolitan Archbishops from various countries by the Successor of Peter is an eloquent sign of this ecclesial communion.

"If the witness of faith and the arduous struggle which the Apostles Peter and Paul had to undertake for the cause of the Gospel are considered in merely human terms, they ended in defeat. In this too they faithfully followed Christ's example. Indeed, humanly speaking, the mission of Christ—who was condemned to death and crucified—ended in defeat.

"However, both the Apostles, with their gaze fixed on the paschal mystery, did not doubt that precisely what to the eyes of the world seemed a defeat, was in fact the beginning of the fulfillment of God's plan. It was the victory over the forces of evil won first by Christ and then by His disciples through faith. The entire community of believers relies on the firm foundation of the Apostolic Faith and gives

thanks to Christ for the solid rock on which its life and mission are built.

"The Fathers loved to compare them to two pillars supporting the Church as a visible construction. According to ancient tradition, the liturgy celebrates them together, commemorating their glorious martyrdom on the same day: Peter, whose tomb is on (this) Vatican Hill, and Paul, whose tomb is venerated in the vicinity of the Ostian Way. They both sealed with their blood the witness they bore to Christ by their preaching and ecclesial ministry.

"Peter and Paul, each with his own personal and ecclesial experience, testify that the Lord never abandoned them, even amid the harshest trials. He was with Peter to deliver him from the hands of his opponents in Jerusalem; he was with Paul in his constant apostolic labors to communicate to him the strength of His grace, to make him a fearless proclaimer of the Gospel for the benefit of the nations (2 Timothy 4:17).

"May the Lord, who today gladdens us with the glorious memory of the Apostles Peter and Paul, enable us to listen to their teaching with a docile heart, preserve it with devotion, and transmit it with fidelity, so that the Gospel message may reach to the ends of the earth."

Triduum, Novena, Vespers, & Feast of Our Lady of Mt Carmel

A Triduum will be celebrated by Fr. Stephen Watson to prepare for the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patroness of the Carmelite Order. The Triduum dates are:

- *Sunday, July 13: HOLY HOUR at 7:00 p.m., including a talk by Fr. Stephen
- *Monday, July 14: Mass at 7:00 p.m.
- *+Tuesday, July 15: *Solemn Vespers at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass (*See below for more info.)

(*Notes: Each night will begin at 7:00 p.m.—not 7:15 p.m.

+ The Mass on Tuesday, July 15, will NOT be in Spanish.)

The **Feast day Mass** (with choir) will be on **Wednesday, July 16, at 7:00 p.m.**, also celebrated by Fr. Stephen. **NO CONFESSIONS ON WED., JULY 16!**



Also in preparation for the Feast, we will pray a Novena to Our Lady after each of the Masses from July 7 through July 15. The Novena prayer will be published in the bulletin beginning the weekend of July 5 and 6.



Choral Vespers and Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Vespers July 15, 6:30 p.m.
Mass, July 16, 7:00 p.m.

Happy Fourth of July!



We wish you a safe and happy celebration with your family and/or your friends! Masses on that Friday will be at **9:00 a.m.** and **7:15 p.m.**, since it's also a **First Friday**. There will be **NO 6 or 8 a.m.** Mass that morning.

Saints Peter and Paul: Pillars of the Early Church

Today, June 29th, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul—two towering figures whose faith, courage, and sacrifice laid the foundation for Christianity. Though very different in background and temperament, both men were chosen and transformed by Christ to be instruments of the Gospel.

St. Peter, a humble fisherman, was called by Jesus to be the “rock” on which He would build His Church (Matthew 16:18). Impulsive and deeply human, Peter often stumbled, yet it was through his weakness that Christ revealed His strength. After denying Jesus three times, Peter was forgiven and commissioned to “feed My sheep.” He became the first pope, preaching boldly throughout Jerusalem and eventually in Rome, where, according to tradition, he was crucified upside down—feeling unworthy to die in the same manner as his Lord.

St. Paul, once a zealous persecutor of Christians, encountered the risen Christ on the road to Damascus. This dramatic conversion turned him into one of the greatest missionaries in Church history. Paul traveled across the Roman world proclaiming Christ, establishing communities of faith, and writing letters that continue to shape Christian theology. He was eventually arrested and beheaded in Rome.

Though their missions were distinct, Peter and Paul likely knew each other well. They met at the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15), where the early Church debated whether Gentile converts needed to follow Jewish customs. Later, Paul confronted Peter in Antioch (Galatians 2:11-14), challenging him over his inconsistent behavior toward Gentile believers. Paul’s rebuke—given in love—reminded Peter that the Gospel transcends all boundaries. That exchange reflects not division, but the growing pains of a young Church seeking unity in truth. Their mutual respect endured, and both apostles bore witness to Christ in the same city and died for the same faith.

The Church honors Peter and Paul together because their shared witness—Peter’s role in building up the Church and Paul’s mission to the Gentiles—represents the universality and unity of the Body of Christ. Their martyrdom in Rome sealed their testimony with blood and anchored the faith in the heart of the empire. St. John Chrysostom wrote of them: *“The apostles, though differing in personality, were as one soul in Christ.”*

Carmelite saints, too, have drawn strength from these apostles. St. Teresa of Ávila often urged her nuns to pray for “courage like St. Paul, and love like St. Peter,” calling them examples of how divine grace can triumph over human frailty. **St. Thérèse of Lisieux, reflecting on Peter’s repentance, found hope in God’s infinite mercy: “Even if I had committed all possible crimes, I would still have the same confidence.”**



Prayer to St. Peter and St. Paul

O holy apostles Peter and Paul, faithful servants and bold witnesses of Christ, intercede for us! Strengthen our faith, inspire our words, and guide our steps as we journey toward Heaven. Help us to follow your example of humility, courage, and total surrender to God’s will. Amen.

Financial Offerings

The Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor is out of the office until July 7. As all the bulletins from June 22 through July 6 had to be submitted by June 13 (her last day), there will be no updates to the offering stats until the July 13 bulletin. The figures to the right are the latest updates we have to report.

May 17 / 18	\$12,522.00
May 24 / 25	\$18,331.00
May 31 / June 1	\$15,339.00
June 7 / 8	\$15,209.00

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

The Passion of the Apostles Peter and Paul

Aurelius Prudentius Clemens (A.D. 348-413), better known simply as Prudentius, was a Roman Christian poet. Below is his poem, taken from his *Liber Peristephanon* (*Book of the Martyrs' Crowns*).

More than their wont do the people flock hither today; my friend, pray tell me, why do they hurry throughout Rome rejoicing?

Once more has come round the triumphal feast day of two apostles,
By blood of Peter and of Paul made sacred.

One and the same day with space of a year intervening was the witness of laurels won by glorious death in battle.

Well does the Tiberine marsh that is washed by the river flowing through it. Know that its soil by these twin crowns was hallowed.

For it was witness to victories by cross and by sword, which twice poured showers of crimson rain upon its grassy meadows.

Sentence fell first upon Peter, condemned by the laws of cruel Nero, to die, upon a lofty tree suspended.

Fearing, however, to rival the glory won by his Lord and Master by death upon a towering wooden gibbet,

He was resolved to be nailed with his feet in the air and head bent downward, so that the crown unto the base extended.

Straightaway his hands were then fastened below and his feet turned toward the summit, his soul more noble as his frame was humbled.

Mindful that Heaven is wont to be reached from a lowly place more quickly, he bowed his head in giving up his spirit.

When the bright orb of the sun had completed the journey round its orbit, and that day dawned again on earth's horizon,

Nero unleashed all his ire on the neck of the Doctor of the Gentiles and straightaway ordered Paul to be beheaded.

That his release from this life was at hand as the Apostle had predicted: "I long to be with Christ, my course is finished."

Without delay he was seized and to death by the sword was rudely sentenced. The hour and day were those of his foretelling.

Flowing between the blest tombs of the martyrs, the Tiber separates them, both banks made holy by their sacred ashes.

On the right bank in a golden basilica lie the bones of Peter, 'mid olives gray and near a purling fountain.

Water that trickles from the springs on the hilltop sustains this lively streamlet, forever fruitful of the holy chrism.

Now through a channel of marble it rushes and moistens all the hillside, At last emerging in a verdant basin.

Down in the lowermost part of the underground crypt, the stream falls loudly into a deep and icy pool of water.

Bright-hued mosaics above are reflected upon in glassy surface, the gold is tinged with green from shining mosses.

While in the shades of the water is mirrored the overhanging purple; the ceiling seems to dance upon the billows.

There the great Shepherd now laves in this icy cold spool of living waters, the sheep that thirst for Christ's eternal fountains.

Opposite, near the left bank of the Tiber, the Ostian Way now treasures the temple that to Paul is dedicated.

Regal in style in this shrine that our dutiful sovereign has embellished, and poured upon its walls his boundless riches.

Plates of bright gold affixed to the beams, and the light within is ruddy as is the morning sun at its first rising.

Columns of Parian marble upholding the rich gold-paneled ceiling, adorn the central aisle in fourfold order.

Then with mosaics of many bright hues inlaid in the vaulted arches, Which shine like meadows gay with flowers in springtime.

Lo, you behold the twin dowers of Faith by the Heavenly Father given to be revered by togaed Rome forever.

Mark how the people of Romulus surge through the streets in both directions, For two feasts on this day are celebrated.

Now with glad steps let us hasten to visit these holy sanctuaries, And there let us unite in hymns of joy.

First we shall go by the road that leads over the mighty bridge of Hadrian, And later we will seek the stream's left margin.

After the vigil the Pontiff officiates first across the Tiber, Then hither hastens to renew the offering.

Let it suffice that at Rome you have learned of these feasts; in your own country, Remember thus to keep this double feast day!



FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Mark your calendar for our next First Saturday Devotion on July 5, 2025, and join us for the Rosary and a 15-minutes meditation after the 8:00 a.m. Mass!

Sr. Lucia's Long Journey in Spreading the First Saturdays Devotion - Part 1 (Source: www.Bluearmy.com)

July 13, 1917: In the apparition at Fatima, Our Lady said to the children, **"You have seen Hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart...I shall come to ask for the Communion of Reparation on the first Saturdays."**

December 10, 1925: While staying at the House of the Dorothean Sister in Pontevedra, Spain, Sr. Lucia received a vision where the Blessed Mother appeared alongside the Child Jesus, who stood over a luminous cloud. Our Lady put Her hand on her shoulder and showed her, at the same time, a Heart surrounded by thorns which She held in the other hand. The Child said, **"Have pity on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother which is covered with thorns, with which ingrates pierce it at every moment with no one to make an act of reparation to pull them out."**

Our Lady expressed her request in the following words, **"See, my daughter, My Heart surrounded with thorns with which ingrates pierce me at every moment with blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, make sure to console me and announce that all those who, for five months, on the first Saturdays, (1) go to confession, (2) receive Holy Communion, (3) say five decades of the Rosary and (4) keep me company for 15 minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, with the purpose of making reparation to Me, I promise to assist them at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for the salvation of their souls."**



Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith Academics Virtue

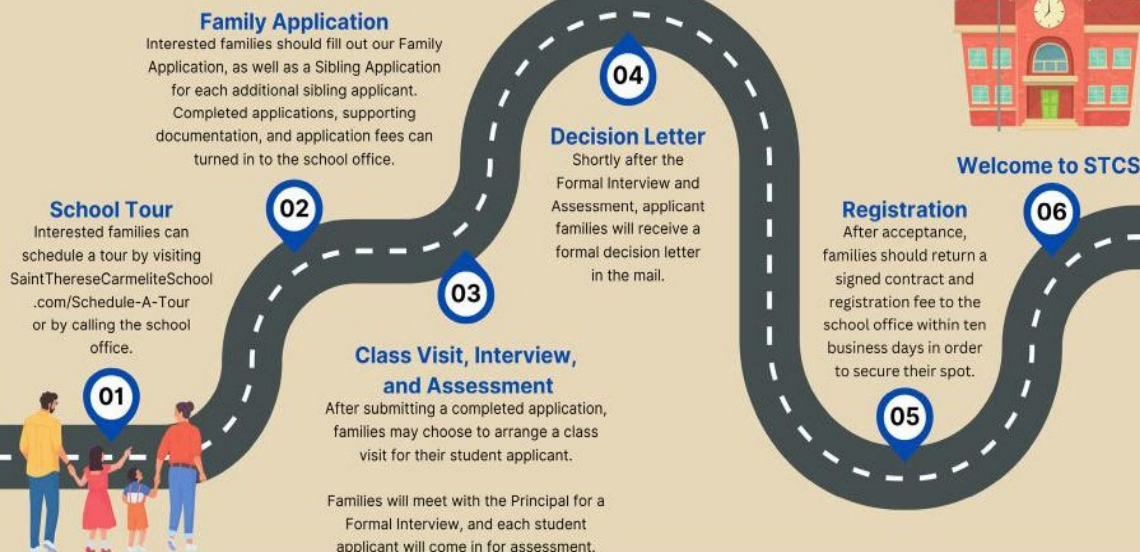
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Mass Intentions

June 28—July 5, 2025

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Richard P. Macedonio, RIP

Sunday:

*7:30 am: Carmelite Friars of St. Therese INT

7:30 a.m.: Pedro Jose Lacayo, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Matthew & Vikki Ng, 12th Anniv

11:00 a.m.: Doris Lazzara, RIP

1:00 p.m. (Latin): Ramon Aquino, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Discerners for Carmelite Vocations

& Fr. Matthias, Vocation Director, INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Cayo Villaba, RIP

*7:30 am: Sr. Mary, O.C.D., INT

8:00 a.m.: Gustav Tittmann, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Fe S. Ocampo, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Rylee Sy Su, INT

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

8:00 am: Yosef-Mari Ibarra & Family INT

7:15 p.m.: Doris Lazzara, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Richard Calagna, RIP

7:30 a.m.: All Humanity and Thanksgiving for
God's Creation

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

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Takashi Asayama, RIP

7:30 am: Fred Bunsic, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Elijah Chavez & Family, INT

First Friday—Fourth of July:

7:30 am: Uldarico Piow, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Takashi Asayama, RIP

7:15 p.m. Fely Bernardo Cruz, RIP

Saturday Morning

7:30 a.m.: Cloistered Carmelite Community

8 am: Martha Lacayo/Lucy Coyle Lacayo, B-day 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

"JUBILEE OF HOPE" PILGRIMAGE TO ALABAMA! SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT AND EWTN, home of Mother Angelica, July 15-23, 2025, with Fr. Huy Nguyen. Daily Mass with the Poor Claire cloistered nuns, a healing service and spiritual talks by the Franciscan friars, a visit to the Pope St. John Paul II Eucharistic Museum, a rosary procession to a replica of Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto and the Stations of the Eucharist. We'll attend a world-wide televised Mass at EWTN and so much more! Enjoy peace and tranquility along with fun, fellowship, and great southern hospitality. For more info please contact Albert and Mary Helen Estrada: (626) 533-4839. Limited spots available.

CARMELITE PILGRIMAGE (JUBILEE 2025) TO ITALY - Rome, Naples & Florence - AUGUST 25 - SEPTEMBER 2—Roundtrip non-stop flight from LA to Rome on Norse Atlantic Airways in Premium Classic, six nights at well-located historic and comfortable city-center accommodations with private bath and AC. Daily Holy Mass, breakfast & dinner. \$4280 (double rm. occupancy) from LAX / +\$395 single room supplement. For itinerary, contact: Louisa Day at (323) 360-5186 or call Sacred Heart Tours at 1-845-594-2222 (P.O. Box 384 - Burton, TX 77835).

**The angel of
the Lord will
rescue those
who fear him.**



PERSONAL AD

FREE loveseat (good condition). Must pick up.
Call (626) 376-3501 for address.