

SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 22, 2019 **MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS** Estab. 1924



Pastor: Fr. Philip Sullivan, OCD X222;
Associate Pastor: Fr. David Guzman, OCD X232;
Carmelite Vocation Director: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD X224

In Residence:
Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD X335;
Fr. Donald Kinney, OCD (Chaplain for the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles);
Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD (7th Grade Teacher)

Deacons: Deacon Joseph Mizerski X333;
Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

NEW PARISHIONERS,

Register in the office at 510 N. El Molino Street, Alhambra.

Office Hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm; from 2:00 to 5:00 pm; and from 6:00 to 8:00 pm (closed from 1:00 to 2:00 pm and from 5:00 to 6:00 pm).

The Eucharistic Adoration Chapel is open 24/7. An electronic key is needed from 5:00 pm to 6:00 am (available in the office for \$20).

SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL (626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

Principal @sainttheresecarmelite.school.com

Chaplain: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD X224

See our VIDEOS on the School's Facebook page or on the Church's Website: > Our School > Videos



MASSES AND SERVICES

Monday-Saturday: 6:00 & 8:00 a.m.
Carmelite Cloister: 7:30 a.m.

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., & 5:00 p.m.
Latin High Mass: 1:00 p.m.

Confessions: Wed: 7:00-8:30 p.m.; Sat: 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Daily Rosary: Mon-Sat after the 8:00 a.m. Mass

Exposition/Benediction: Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

First Friday: Mass and Confessions: 7:30 p.m.

Baptisms: Once a month on a Saturday

Weddings: Fill out an application (website or office) six months+ in advance

Holy Communion to the Sick: Fred & Margaret Padilla, (626) 282-0943

Anointing of the Sick: Call the office to schedule an appointment.

Parish Secretary:

Denise McMaster-Holguin X223
denisekay@hotmail.com

Annulments: Lorraine Mizerski X333
lmizerski@sbcglobal.net

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228
cailannocds@gmail.com

Music Director:

Charlotte Lansberg
cjlansberg@choochoorecords.com

Respect Life Ministry / Vox Vitae:

Catherine Contreras X112;
cathycforlife@gmail.com

Cor Jesu Youth Ministry:

Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD X224
frmatthias@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

(Grade School, Confirmation

for Youth & Adults, RCIA, and Liturgical Ministries): Call the main office



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULES

Have a Blessed Christmas! Masses for the Solemnity of Christmas



Christmas Eve:

5:00 p.m. (Family Mass); 7:30 p.m. (Simple Mass);
and Midnight, at which the Traditional Choir will sing

CHRISTMAS CAROLS beginning at 11:20 p.m.



Christmas Day:

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.,
and 1:00 p.m. Latin High Mass
(NO 5:00 p.m. Mass!)



New Year's Eve

Mass at Midnight



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday, January 1

Masses at 6:00, 8:00, 10:00 a.m., and 7:30 p.m.



REJOICE! TODAY IS GAUDETE SUNDAY!



The third Sunday of Advent is known as “Gaudete Sunday,” which we heard in the entrance antiphon of today’s Mass: “**Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.**” In this quotation from Philippians, the first word (in Latin) is “Gaudete,” which means rejoice. In the readings, we hear about miracles associated with the Messianic age, its coming, and what we need to do to prepare. We also learn about the doubts of John the Baptist, how he dealt with them, and the blessing that makes us even more fortunate than John was. By the third Sunday of Advent, we are most of the way through the season. Thus, it is appropriate to rejoice as we see the goal of the season approaching: “The Lord is near.” To reflect that joy, the liturgical color of the day is violet or rose. The first reading (Isaiah 35:1-6,10) opens with a prophecy that the desert region will rejoice and sing and bloom with abundant flowers. It says, “Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing.” It concludes, “Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.” This prophecy uses nature imagery to convey the sense of joy that the Jewish people would experience upon their return from exile. It depicts God’s coming with vindication to save

His people after their exile, and it urges patience until it arrives.

The responsorial Psalm contains a series of praises of God, stressing the good things that He does: keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry, sets captives free, etc. The Psalm gives voice to the worship of God’s faithful on behalf of His wondrous deeds, including miracles, such as the restoration of sight to blind people. The conclusion of the reading—the statement that God will reign forever—gives voice to our confidence in God and His ever-present providence in our lives. On a Christological level, it also points to the eternal reign of the Son, which has been inaugurated with the first coming and which will be consummated at the Second Coming. The second reading (James 5:7-10) contains an exhortation to be patient until the coming of the Lord. James compares the patience the reader must have to that of a farmer, who must wait until his crop “receives the early and the late rains.” James tells them not to complain about each other, that they may not be judged. Finally, he tells them that the Judge is standing before the gates and that they should follow the prophets as an example of hardship and patience. Rain did not fall year-round in Israel, but only at certain times. Farmers were thus dependent on the arrival of these rains for the success of their crops and had to wait patiently for the rains to come and the crops to ripen. The prophets, likewise, had to endure hardship and patience, particularly because their prophetic mission caused opposition—just as the Christian message did (and does). Ultimately, God will reward our faith and patience, but we must be prepared to wait and to endure hardship.

The Gospel reading (Matthew 11:2-11) contains two parts. In the first, John the Baptist, who is in prison, sends messengers to Jesus to ask, “Are you the one who is to come or should we look for another?” Jesus replies by telling them to report to John what they have seen: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. He adds: And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me. In the second part of the reading, as the messengers are preparing to leave, Jesus pays tribute to John the Baptist by asking a series of rhetorical questions about why they went out into the desert to see John when he was ministering. At this point Jesus affirms that they went out to see a prophet, “and more than a prophet.” He says that John is the fulfillment of Malachi 3:1, in which it is said, “Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you.” Finally, Jesus states, “Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.” The Jewish people in Jesus’ day had certain ideas about what the Messiah would be like and that He would deliver Israel from the dominion of the Romans by violent revolution. John the Baptist may have shared some of this expectation, even though he had received a revelation pointing to Jesus as the Lamb of God (John 1:30-34). Despite this revelation, Jesus’ subsequent actions caused John to question whether Jesus was the Messiah. Rather than let his doubts eat away at him, John decided to confront the issue directly, and so he sent his disciples to talk with Jesus.

(This article concludes on the bottom of Page Six.)

Update on Fr. Albert After His Car Accident



You may have heard that our dear Father Albert had a car accident in Arizona while on the way to visit his twin brother. We are happy to report that he wasn’t injured in the accident and is now home safe. His car? Unfortunately, the car didn’t make it; it was **TOTALED!**

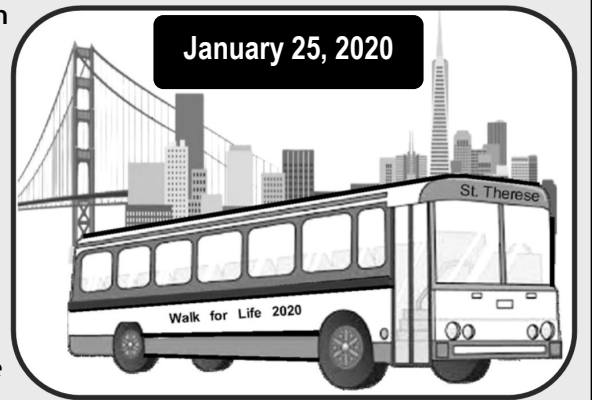
Which brings us to our question: Do you have an **unused extra car** in your garage or driveway that is in good condition and which you would be **willing to give to Fr. Albert** as an early Christmas gift? If so, please contact Fr. Philip either at 282-2744, ext. 222, or at philolupe@yahoo.com.

Your consideration of giving such a car would be very appreciated! God bless you!

BUS TO WEST COAST "WALK FOR LIFE"

Vox Vitae invites YOU to join them for the Walk for Life in San Francisco on January 25th!—two months from now! The Walk and its counterpart, the March for Life in Washington, DC, commemorate the anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade*, the Supreme Court decision that stripped legal protection from unborn children on January 22, 1973. Since then, more than 60 million babies have been aborted in the United States. The Walk for Life is not a party. Rather, over 60,000 people gather together to remember the dead and resolve anew to work to end abortion. We remember also the wounded mothers, fathers, and other family members of the babies.

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN to go to the 2020 Walk for Life (we'll have TWO buses!). Join us! You can register at VoxVitae.org at the Events page. Our tentative schedule on **Saturday, January 25, is:**



Please be a VOICE FOR LIFE! Register today!

Midnight - Check-in at St. Therese Church; **1:00 a.m.**—Depart; **7:00 a.m.**—Arrive in San Francisco; **7:30 a.m.**—Continental breakfast; **9:30 a.m.**—Mass at Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption; **11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**—Info Faire (Lunch can be purchased; bring your own lunch money!); **12:30-1:30 p.m.**—Speakers and rally; **1:30 p.m.**—Walk for Life; **4:30 p.m.**—Bus pick-up at Pier 1; **5:00 p.m.**—Protest at UCSF, the nation's abortion training headquarters and where they harvest organs from late-term babies; **5:30 p.m.**—Bus pick-up at UCSF; **6:00 p.m.**—FREE BBQ dinner at Our Lady Star of the Sea; **7:30 p.m.**—Bus pick-up at Our Lady Star of the Sea; **1:30 a.m.**—Arrive back at St. Therese Church on January 26.

The anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade* is an especially important time to demand legal protection for unborn babies.

FOOD DRIVE TODAY!



Please bring food & turkeys and hams
TODAY, Sunday,
December 22!

Our next food drive will be for those in need for Christmas. Please help us by donating non-perishable food items (boxes, bags, cans) AND turkeys and/or hams! Please bring these items to the Parish Hall TODAY, **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22**, between the hours of **8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.**, and **4:30 and 6:30 p.m.**

We have freezers available in the Hall to place the turkeys and hams until we distribute them the next evening, December 23rd.

Remember...
God will not be
outdone in generosity!



Each Saturday morning, volunteer Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion bring Our Lord to the Catholic residents of Brookdale Assisted Living facility in Alhambra. We are in need of additional volunteers to serve the Sick at this location. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Coordinator, Larry Regalado, at 788-6085.

PERPETUAL ADORATION

You cannot find peace on the outside, but you can find it on the inside, by letting God do to your soul what Mary let Him do to her body: let Christ be formed in you. As He was physically formed in her, so He wills to be spiritually formed in you. If you knew He was seeing through your eyes, you would see in every person a child of God. If you knew He spoke through your lips, then your speech, like Peter's, would betray that you had been with the Galilean. If you knew that He wants to use your mind, your will, and your heart, how different you would be. If half the world did this there would be no war! Get to know Jesus by spending time with Him before the Blessed Sacrament.

—Archbishop Fulton Sheen

Our Adoration Chapel is open 24/7 (you need to buy a \$20 key from the office to enter between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.)

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

"...for God loves a cheerful giver"
(2 Corinthians 9:7)

May God reward you! Below you will find the total collections for the last few weekends.

NOTE: The second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND each month is for our School (that's THIS weekend!).



Due to the holidays, this bulletin was printed before the weekend of December 14/15; therefore, those collection totals were not available at the time of publication.

November 16 / 17..... \$23,358.00
November 23 / 24..... \$11,110.00
Nov. 30 / Dec. 1..... \$14,591.00
December 7 / 8.....\$33,519.00

Check Users:
Please use a donation envelope in order to more easily credit your account.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

STRE (Kindergarten through 8th Grade, including Eucharist Preparation): The next classes will be in session on **Sunday, January 5th. Have a wonderful Christmas!**

CONFIRMATION (High School): Classes for First Year (C1) are **Sunday, January 5, at 9:00 a.m., and Tuesday, January 7, at 7:00 p.m.** Classes for **Second Year (C2)** are **Sunday, January 26, at 9:00 a.m., and Tuesday, January 28, at 7:00 p.m.**

RCIA: For those wishing to become Catholic or to complete your Sacraments, join us! Classes are held in the Parish Meeting Room on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Upcoming dates are January 9, 16, 23, and 30.

ST. VITUS DANCE ACADEMY

Attention: Students in Grades 5 through 12! Want to learn to dance? This class is perfect for beginners and experienced dancers alike! Ballroom styles will be covered, with a primary focus on East Coast Swing. In addition, students will be introduced to folk styles, such as Square, Contra, and English Country dancing. Through interactive lessons, students will learn how to connect rhythms from the music to their steps. At the completion of the classes, students will have learned a wide variety of dance steps, preparing them to confidently approach the dance floor on any occasion. As this class is cumulative, weekly attendance is recommended for the best class experience. **Classes will be held in the Parish Hall from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., on the following Fridays: January 10, 17, 24, and 31.** Cost is \$5 per lesson (*paid monthly*). That's four lessons for \$20! Questions? Contact Jessica Standage at jcpianjo@yahoo.com or Michelle Sandberg at (323) 346-5012 (call or text).



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St. Therese Church has **RENEWED ITS SUBSCRIPTION** to the Catholic media website, **FORMED.ORG**, and is continuing to make it available for **FREE** to ALL our parishioners! Discover all the best Catholic content in one place: Movies, talks, audio dramas, and a great selection of e-books. To register, go to the home page of our website (www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org) and click on the picture shown to the left. Then, simply enter your name, e-mail address, and zip code (**NO PASSWORD NEEDED!**) and get started enjoying all they have to offer.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECEMBER

Read: "The World's First Love," by Venerable Bishop Fulton Sheen

Listen: "Lectio: Mary, The New Eve," with Dr. Brant Pitre (Eight 35-minute sessions from which to choose).

Watch: 1531: A Story Not Finished Yet," a great movie/documentary (only 75 minutes long) about Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Ongoing Events/Meetings

BIBLE STUDY: Classes meet at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesdays** in the Parish Meeting Room **between September and June**. For more info, contact Debbie Robles at debrobles@me.com or at 679-6370.

CATHOLIC KARATE is for boys, girls, and men from 7 to 60. Learn self-defense, increased self-control, and confidence. For more info, contact John at SenseiJohnWrot@gmail.com.

CHOIR REHEARSAL for the 11:00 a.m. Mass is every Wednesday from September to June (from 7:30-9:00 p.m.).

CONSECRATION TO MARY: Follow-up group for those already consecrated to Jesus through His mother, the Mother of God. Meet at 6:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month. For more info, call Angela at (310) 701-8386.

DETENTION MINISTRY: If you're 21 or older, join us in visiting the youth (ages 8 to 18) in the Juvenile Detention Center in L.A. To sign up or for more info, call Sonia at (323) 724-6443.

EnCOURAGE: Standing fully by the teachings of the Church, we are a group of faithful Catholic parents who support one another and our loved ones with same sex attraction, through discussion, prayer, fellowship and sacrifice. Meet monthly in the LA Archdiocese with our chaplain in a safe confidential setting. For more info, contact your local chapter (EnCourage for **parents**: EnCourage.LosAngeles@gmail.com; OR Courage LA for **persons struggling with same sex attraction**: CourageCA.LosAngeles@gmail.com.)

FIRST FRIDAY MASS: Held every First Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

"FORMED" CATHOLIC MEDIA is available for **FREE** to ALL our parishioners! Discover all the best Catholic content in one place: movies, talks, audio dramas, and a great selection of popular e-books. To register, go to FORMED.ORG on our website, click on the icon, enter your name, email address, a password, and your zip code--and get started!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: This group (originally formed in honor of Patricia Bordonaro) is for those grieving a loved one—no matter how long or for whom. We meet in the Parish Offices from **2:30 to 4:00 p.m. on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month. The next meetings will be January 8 and 22.**

INTERCESSORS FOR PRIESTS PRAYER GROUP: Join us in the Avila Room in the Parish Offices to pray for priests every **Thursday at 8:00 p.m.** (following Benediction in the church). For more info, call Blanca at 281-7070.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: For Catholic men (18 or over) looking to strengthen their faith through serving the Church & community. Call the Alhambra Grand Knight, Frank Bodeman, at (888) 869-3124.

LEGION OF MARY: The object of the Legion is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active cooperation. Meetings are Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m., in the Parish Offices (Lisieux Room).

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING: For info on Church teaching about openness to life, contact Jack & Katrina Crow at 292 -1906 or katrina.fcp@gmail.com for **English** OR Martha Lacayo for **Spanish** at 372-0808 or Martha.fcp@gmail.com. Introductory sessions to the Creighton Model FertilityCare System/NaproTechnology are normally on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Please contact one of them to register for the classes.

RISE MEN'S MINISTRY: All men who have made the challenge at www.MenRiseUp.org are encouraged to join us on **Saturday mornings for the Rosary at 6:45 a.m., followed by a video and discussion from 7:00 to 7:30 a.m.** in the Parish Meeting Room. For questions, contact Greg Keller at greglks@yahoo.com.

ROSARY MAKERS: Help make rosaries to be sent to Catholics in third-world countries. Sessions are held on Mondays at 6:00 p.m. in the Avila Room of the Parish Offices. For more info, call Magda at (213) 300-7776.

ST. JOSEPH PRAYER GROUP: Come to the church every **Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.** to pray for peace and justice issues in our community and around the world. For more info, call Lucy at 281-3706.

(The following is the conclusion to the article on Page Three)

Jesus indicated to them that He was the Messiah, pointing to the fact that He had been fulfilling the predicted miracles and the preaching of the Good News proper to the Messianic age. One of these miracles was the recovery of sight to the blind (already mentioned in the first reading and the responsorial Psalm). Jesus then states that those who do not take offense at him (i.e., who do not reject him) are blessed. In the original context, it applies to John the Baptist (he will be blessed for maintaining faith in Jesus, despite his doubts). As John's messengers depart, Jesus pays tribute to their master, stating that he was the messenger prophesied in Malachi. This makes him the greatest prophet of all, which is why Jesus says that among those born of women, none has been greater than John. Despite this, Jesus states that "the least in the kingdom of heaven" is even greater. In this context, the Kingdom of Heaven is understood in its earthly manifestation as the Church, in the Christian age, which John did not live to see. Every Christian—man, woman, and child—is more blessed than John because we don't just get to herald Him; we get to be part of His mystical Body.

Mass Intentions

Floral Dedications

**For the Week of
December 21 through December 28, 2019**

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Robert Lessard & Daughters, INT

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Cloistered Nuns Christmas Novena 6

7:30 a.m.: Augustine Goh, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Fr. Bernard Perkins, OCD, INT

11:00 a.m.: Parishioners

1:00 p.m.: (Latin): Edna Mancao & Mary Rose Go, INT

5:00 p.m.: Deputy Joseph Solano, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Engracia P. Vales, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Cloistered Nuns Christmas Novena 7

8:00 a.m.: Joseph Kalapura, INT

Tuesday Morning:

6:00 a.m.: Estrella Roque Jao, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Cloistered Nuns Christmas Novena 8

8:00 a.m.: Alvin & Anthony Cailan, INT

Christmas Eve:

5:00 p.m.: Lilian V. & Elle Ruth Arevala, INT

7:30 p.m.: Mary Anne Dasmarinae & Gulia Gutierrez, INT

Midnight: Michael Alexander, Lauren, & Ellena Cheah, INT

Christmas Day:

7:30 a.m.: Manuel Tuan, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Cloistered Nuns Christmas Novena 9

9:00 a.m.: Rodolfo Aguilar, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Cailan Family, INT

1:00 p.m.: Therese Hong Nguyen, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena 1

*7:30 a.m.: Dean & Cecelia Tweedy & Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Dean & Cecelia Tweedy & Family, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Elizabeth Morris, Birthday Intention

*7:30 a.m.: Christmas Novena 2

8:00 a.m.: Linnet Joseph, INT

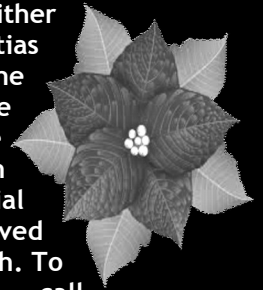
Saturday:

6:00 a.m.: Tim Chang & Susan Chao, and Zion and Dion, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Raymond & Nicole Tittmann, 23rd Anniv. INT

For the Advent and Christmas seasons, we will have either greenery (Advent) or poinsettias (Christmas season) on the altar. Call today to schedule your dedication (for a time after the Christmas season) in someone's honor, for a special occasion, or in memory of loved ones! Bouquets are \$50+ each. To arrange for a dedication, call Giovanna at 281-9049.



Outside the Parish

HELP FOR MARRIAGES: 82% of marriages that complete the nine-month *Retrouvaille* (REH-tro-v-eye) program are still together five years later? For questions or registration, call 909-900-5465 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com. Confidential!

You are invited to join Fr. Joe Joseph's Pilgrimage to SWITZERLAND, GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS BELGIUM, including the OBERAMMERGAU-PASSION PLAY from SEPT. 2-14. Contact Bernadette at bcorp1114@gmail.com or 323-547-6618 / 323-344-1548.

ARE YOU HOMEBOUND? You can view the Mass on TV on Channel 56 (KDOC) every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. For a free copy of the Mass prayer book, call 1-800-430-0930.

Personal Ads

FREE REFRIGERATOR! Whirlpool side-by-side in working condition. Call 483-9116 if interested. Must pick-up Mon-Fri between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

ROOM FOR RENT in Rosemead apartment to clean, quiet person. Shared bathroom, kitchen privileges. \$630/mo., incl. utilities. Prefer woman but must be non-smoker/non-drug user. Call Rosa at 756-2072.

SEEKING TO RENT a private room with a non-sharing bath. Clean, quiet, non-smoking/-drinking lady always pays on time. Can afford up to \$700/ mo., plus security. Call Valerie at 626-353-7648.

Lectors

Saturday

5:00 p.m. Rebeca Willis / Larry Dumont

Sunday

7:30 a.m. Jackie Johnson / Flora Santoso

9:00 a.m. Lucas Setiady

11:00 a.m. Jeff Storey / Jason Perez

5:00 p.m. Peter Chiu