

SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

December 13, 2020 **MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS** Estab. 1924

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD X222

Associate Pastor: Fr. David Guzman, OCD X232

In Residence: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD;

Fr. Bernard Perkins, OCD X225; Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD;
Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD

Deacons: Deacon Joseph Mizerski X333;

Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Annulments: Lorraine Mizerski X333

Vocations:

For the Carmelites: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

Parish Secretary:

Denise McMaster-Holguin X223 denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

Music Director:

Charlotte Lansberg X226 / cjlansberg@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry / Vox Vitae:

Catherine Contreras X112

MASSES AND SERVICES

ALL OUTDOOR SERVICES

Saturday Vigil: 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—6:00 and 9:00 a.m.—the 9:00 a.m. Mass is live streamed on our Facebook page AND on our YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnvT2tTus0wnxlypGOeuf0g>

Confessions under the red umbrellas on Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. and on Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

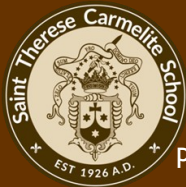
SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com



See our VIDEOS on the School's Facebook page or on the Church's

SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: Register online

Weddings: Register online
at least six months in advance

Anointing: Call the office.



*Shout and sing
for joy, city of Zion,
because the holy one
of Israel
is great among you.
—ISAIAH 12:6*

**“I baptize with water;
but there is one
among you whom you
do not recognize, the
One who is coming
after me, whose
sandal strap I am not
worthy to untie.”**

John 1:26-27



New Parishioners: Welcome to St. Therese! Please register online: www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

We have a mail drop in front of the office at 510 North El Molino Street. It is located on the right side of the door.

FROM FR. THOMAS: Our Lady of Guadalupe



Blessed Gaudete (Rejoice!) Sunday in Advent, 2021, everyone!!! By the time you read this, we will be in the afterglow of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. So allow me to share some details about her image.

Our Lady of Guadalupe: An Ongoing Miracle
To help us to take

seriously the apparition

of Our Lady to Juan Diego and to all her children, Heaven has seen fit to associate the image of Holy Mary of Guadalupe, located in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, with several scientifically unexplainable details that we can consider miraculous, since they fall outside the order of nature.

Scientists cannot explain how this image still exists. It is “painted” on Juan Diego’s mantle, which is a piece of cloth made out of maguay cactus fibers, which should normally decompose after—at the most—fifty years. Yet here is this mantle of organic material, still in great condition, still not having turned to dust and ashes, AFTER 480 YEARS!!!

Scientists cannot explain how an ordinary, human artist, even a very clever one, could on his own paint the stars on the mantle of the young maiden in the image in such a way that they “just happen” to be a scaled-down “photo” of the position of the stars above Mexico City during the night of December 9, 1531. And that is just on ONE side of the mantle. The stars on the other side of her mantle are a scaled-down “photo” of the position of the stars in the southern hemisphere! (Holy Mary of Guadalupe is called the Patroness of the Americas, plural, not singular, i.e., of ALL THE AMERICAS, NORTH AND SOUTH!

Scientists cannot explain how a mere human artist could “paint” the eyes in such a detailed way that, upon magnification, scientists have discovered the image of a man with a beard in one of the young maiden’s eyes. Remember that the human eye is shiny enough that whatever you are looking at is reflected on the surface of your eye. If someone took a photo of your eye and magnified it, we could see the object that you were looking at. And not only that, scientists have also discovered that, just as with a live human eye, this image of a man with a beard appears THREE TIMES in her eye: once right-side up on the front surface of the cornea; the second time, upside-down on the front surface of the lens; and the third time, on the back surface of the lens right-side up again. And remember also that these eyes are painted on cloth of such rough cactus fibers that in some places one can see air between one fiber and the next. “Ophthalmologists have testified that even though they are opaque, both eyes in the Image show depth and become filled with light when the ophthalmoscope’s light is trained onto them. They have asserted that it would be impossible to paint such perfectly-placed reflections in eyes offering so little space with the Virgin looking down and on such rough material as the tilma.” (*Handbook on Guadalupe*, p. 90)

Scientists cannot explain why, whenever they have measured the temperature immediately around the Image, it is always 98.6 degrees Fahrenheit, the temperature of a healthy, living human person.

Concerning the image, everything in it has meaning—for the Indians, for the Spaniards, and for us today. The Spaniards recognized that it was Mary, the woman of Revelation Chapter 12, clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and crowned with stars. They knew this because there was already a similar image of Mary as the Immaculate Conception at a Franciscan shrine in Extremadura, Spain. The Indians saw in the image a young maiden more powerful than their sun god, because she is standing in front of the sun rays and thereby blocking the sun. They also knew that this must be a very important person because there is someone

holding up the train of her garment. Thus there was a real danger that the Indians might begin to think that this young maiden is their new goddess. But no! Her whole being and way of standing there in the image communicate that "I am NOT your god!" We need only look at her posture of humility, her downcast eyes, her hands folded in prayer, her bent knee.

But above all, the Indians knew that she was not their god because the central symbol of their culture and society, that which captured the meaning of their life, namely the four-petaled quincunx flower, is represented on her gown, just below her black sash. And it is located right over the child in her womb. (The Indians knew right away that the woman in the image was pregnant with child because the black sash is located high up on her waist.) So this young maiden is saying, "I am not your God. Look at my Child! He is the One, Jesus!!!"

Yes, Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords, the Prince of Peace who heals the Indians and Spaniards of their mutual hatred, and who heals the Aztec society of its worship of bloodthirsty demons who demand live human sacrifice. And Jesus does this with the help of the perfect and ever-Virgin Mary of Guadalupe, Mother of the True God. In our own time Jesus and Mary will heal our society of hatred, violence, abortion, contraception, child sacrifice, and all the other ills, and bring us to true Joy and Peace. "Listen...put it into your heart...do not fear anything...am I not your Mother? Are you not in the crossing of my arms?"

Each of us is blessed to not only have a natural mother on earth, but also to have a supernatural Mother in Heaven, whom the Catholic Church calls Mary, the natural mother of Jesus and the spiritual Mother of all of Jesus' baptized, spiritual brothers and sisters!

**Fraternally in Jesus
and Mary and Joseph,
Fr. Thomas of the Trinity
Pastor**

WANT TO READ MORE ABOUT OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE?

- THE COMPLETE STORY OF OUR LADY'S APPEARANCE TO ST. JUAN DIEGO?
- THE LIFE OF ST. JUAN DIEGO?
- UNDERSTANDING THE SYMBOLISM OF THE IMAGE?

Then read **THE LITTLE FLOWER WEEKLY**, an addition to the St. Therese Church bulletin. The three subjects listed above can all be found in the issue dated December 11, 2020, and in attached links.

To subscribe, send your name and e-mail address to the Parish Secretary at denisekay@hotmail.com.



(Above icon painted by Fr. Philip Sullivan)

THURSDAY NIGHTS FOR YOUR SOUL!

CANDLELIGHT MASS, ADORATION, AND VIEWING OF AN EPISODE OF THE CHOSEN

Join your Parish Community every Thursday evening to refresh your soul! The schedule is as follows:

7:00 p.m.: Mass

7:30 p.m.: Adoration

8:00 p.m.: Viewing of Episode Four of *THE CHOSEN*

DRESS WARM!

BRING A LAP BLANKET!

Episode Four: "The Rock On Which It Is Built" (December 17)

With his life and family under threat from the Roman soldiers, Simon spends one last night fishing in a desperate attempt to square his debts. Andrew spots a familiar face waiting for them on the shores of Galilee.



You can also watch *The Chosen* on [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com).

Consecration to St. Joseph

Join other parishioners in preparing to make a CONSECRATION to St. Joseph! Come to the next two meeting dates: **December 15 and 22**, at either of the two times available: **10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** OR **2:00 to 3:00 p.m.** The meetings are held in the **GUADALUPE COURTYARD** in the offices (enter through the door by the Adoration Chapel on the parking lot side).

December 13 is the 19th day of the 33 days of preparation, but you can catch up by reading Days 1 through 18 first. **The CONSECRATION will take place on the Feast of the Holy Family, December 27, 2020** (time to be decided).

The book's title and author are:
CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH
The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father
 By Fr. Donald H. Calloway, MIC

Purchase it as either a Kindle or a paperback book from Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/Consecration-St-Joseph-Wonders-Spiritual/dp/1596144319/ref=sr_1_2?crd=140LHAHJUTHYO&dchild=1&keywords=consecration+to+st.+joseph+by+fr.+donald+calloway&qid=1606872800&sprefix=consecration+to+st.+joseph%2Caps%2C217&sr=8-2



You can also just do a search on Amazon for the above title and author.

**For any questions,
 please contact
 Maria Alejandra
 at 993-4236.**

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 previous four weekends.

NOTE: There is a second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND each month for our School.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



November 28 / 29, 2020		October 31 / Nov. 1...	\$18,892.00
Unrestricted.....	\$11,353.00	November 7 / 8.....	\$29,349.00
Restricted	\$ 705.00	November 14 / 15.....	\$11,536.00
T O T A L	\$12,058.00	November 21 / 22.....	\$19,595.00

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

SEEKING DONATIONS OF ANTI-COVID SUPPLIES

We still need more sanitizing wipes, paper towels, and masks (any brand). If you can help with donating some, it would be most appreciated! **A big THANK YOU to those who have sent us supplies via Amazon!!** Supplies can be left on the office porch (on the floor to the right of the table) or you can bring them to Mass with you and leave in the usual spot. God bless you for your help!



CHRISTMAS NOVENA OF MASSES

The Carmelite Friars will offer a Novena of Masses for Christmas, beginning on December 26 and continuing through January 3, for all those enrolled. To enroll, please send a check with the notation CHRISTMAS NOVENA, along with the names of

those you would like to enroll—living or deceased—written on an envelope or an enclosed piece of paper. If you are enrolling friends or family who are living, you may give them your own Christmas card with the message inside:



You have been enrolled in a Christmas Novena of Masses at St. Therese Church in Alhambra.

Mass Intentions

**For the Week of
December 12 through December 19, 2020**

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Lidia & Marco Roman, INT

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns Christmas Novena 3

7:30 a.m.: Alex, Lauren, and Baby Cheah INT

9:00 a.m.: Parishioners

11:00 am: Anna Morales, RIP

1:00 p.m.: (Latin): Gabriel Anyanwu & Family, INT

5:00 p.m.: Peter Arcaro, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: David Holman, B-Day INT

*7:30 a.m.: Disc. Carm. Friars of CA-AZ, INT

9:00 a.m.: Parents of Deacon Joe & Lorraine Mizerski

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Alex Cheah, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns Christmas Novena 4

9:00 a.m.: Virginia Hirst, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Edna Mancao, INT

*7:30 am: Carmelite Nuns Christmas Novena 5

9:00 a.m.: Virginia Hirst, INT

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Agnes Mancao, INT

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

9:00 a.m.: Bernie & Kay Tittmann, 54th Anniv. INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Diana Tharp, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Carm. Nuns' Christmas Novena 7

9:00 a.m.: Leigh Thack, INT

Saturday:

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

9:00 a.m.: 1) Carmelite Community

2) Cynthia Diep & Family, INT

*Held at the Carmelite Chapel,

215 East Alhambra Road

(CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC)

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

9:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday) and Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass are both live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube for those not attending.

John the Baptist's Mission



At a school open house, a woman could be overheard introducing her

husband to some of the other parents. “Oh, Bill, I’d like you to meet Johnny’s father. And over here, this is Marie’s mom; you know, the little girl from our Ellen’s soccer team.” With satisfied resignation Bill introduced himself not by name: “I’m Ellen’s Dad.”

It’s good to know who you are. Be it someone’s father or mother, son or daughter, husband or wife, it’s important to embrace the full meaning of our various roles.

We hear in today’s Gospel that John the Baptist knows who he is—AND who he is not. He is not the Christ. Nor Elijah. Nor like any other prophet God’s people had ever seen.

John the Baptist knows his mission is divine. He’s more than satisfied to be the one to announce the coming of God’s reign.

The Christ is near!

Make straight your paths.



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 Parishioner

WHY IS IT
 A man wakes up after sleeping
 under an ADVERTISED blanket
 on an ADVERTISED mattress
 and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas
 bathes in an ADVERTISED shower
 shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
 brushes his teeth
 with ADVERTISED toothpaste
 washes with ADVERTISED soap
 puts on ADVERTISED clothes
 drinks a cup
 of ADVERTISED coffee
 drives to work
 in an ADVERTISED car
 and then
 refuses to ADVERTISE
 believing it doesn't pay.
 Later if business is poor
 he ADVERTISES it for sale.
WHY IS IT?



Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.

For further information,
 please call the Parish Office.

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