

St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



(Now Celebrating the Centennial of Our Founding (1924-2024))

September 22, 2024 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



Taking a child, He placed him in their midst, and putting His arms around him, He said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me" (Mark 9:36-37).

MASSES | 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 X 1+225

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|stcreligiouslyed7@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

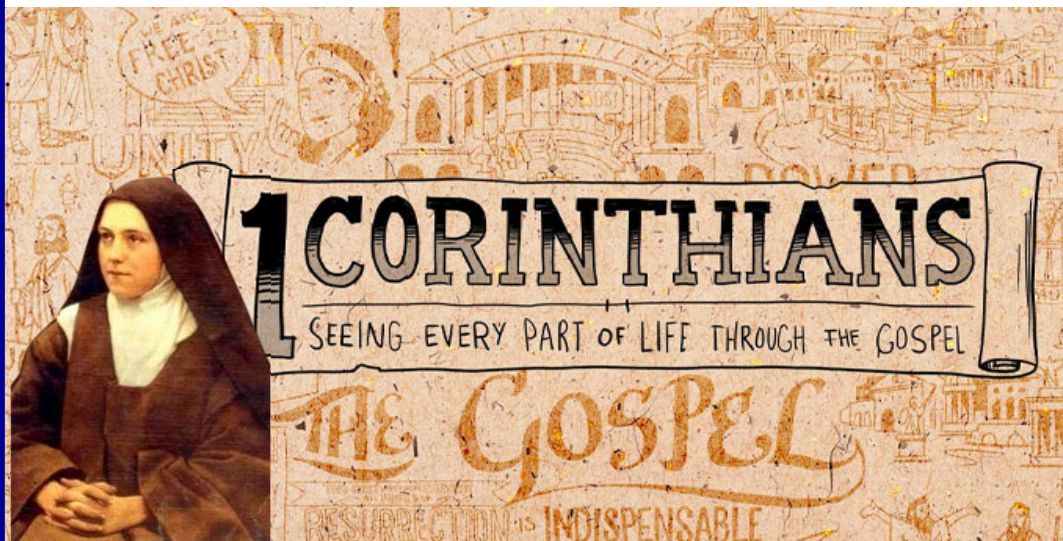
Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

Let us continue with the second part of "My Vocation is Love" from St. Therese.

—Fr. Peter Mary



Manuscript B, 2V-3V—(Part II)



Ah! in spite of my littleness, I would like to enlighten souls, as did the Prophets and the Doctors. I have the vocation of the Apostle. I would like to travel over the whole earth to preach your name and to plant your glorious Cross on infidel soil. But, O my Beloved, one mission alone would not be sufficient for me, I would want to preach

the Gospel on all the five continents simultaneously and even to the most remote isles. I would be a missionary, not for a few years only but from the beginning of creation until the consummation of the ages. But above all, O my Beloved Savior, I would shed my blood for you even to the very last drop.

Martyrdom was the dream of my youth and this dream has grown with me within Carmel's cloisters. But here again, I feel that my dream is a folly, for I cannot confine myself to desiring one kind of martyrdom. To satisfy me, I need all. Like you, my Adorable Spouse, I would be scourged and crucified. I would die flayed like St. Bartholomew. I would be plunged into boiling oil like St. John; I would undergo all the tortures inflicted upon the martyrs. With St. Agnes and St. Cecilia, I would present my neck to the sword and, like Joan of Arc, my dear sister, I would whisper at the stake your name, O JESUS.

When thinking of the torments which will be the lot of Christians at the time of the Anti-Christ, I feel my heart leap with joy and I would that these torments be reserved for me. Jesus, Jesus, if I wanted to write all my desires, I would have to borrow your Book of Life, for in it are reported all the actions of all the saints, and I would accomplish all of them for you. O my Jesus! what is your answer to all my follies? Is there a soul more little, more powerless than mine? Nevertheless, even because of my weakness, it has pleased you, O Lord, to grant my little childish desires and you desire, today, to grant other desires that are greater than the universe.

During my meditation, my desires caused me a veritable martyrdom, and I opened the Epistles of St. Paul to find some kind of answer. Chapters 12 and 13 of the First Epistle to the Corinthians fell under my eyes. I read there, in the first of these chapters, that all cannot be apostles, prophets, doctors, etc., that the Church is composed of different members, and that the eye cannot be the hand at one and the same time. The answer was clear, but it did not fulfill my desires and gave me no peace. But just as Mary Magdalene found what she was seeking by always stooping down and looking into the empty tomb, so I, abasing myself to the very depths of my nothingness, raised myself so high that I was able to attain my end. Without becoming discouraged, I continued my reading, and this sentence consoled me: "Yet strive after THE BETTER GIFTS, and I point out to you a yet more excellent way." And the Apostle explains how all the most PERFECT gifts are nothing without LOVE. That Charity is the EXCELLENT WAY that leads most surely to God.

Novena to St. Therese with Fr. Donald Kinney, OCD

During this 100th anniversary year of our Parish, the Novena to St. Therese (**September 22-30**) and her feast day on October 1 will be especially joyful. Fr. Donald Kinney, OCD, is here to offer the Mass and preach each evening beginning tonight (at Sunday's 5:00 p.m. Mass). Fr. Donald, who was ordained here on October 1, 1988, owes his vocation to St. Therese. He is now assigned to the Carmelite House of Prayer in Oakville (in the Napa Valley).



Also during the Novena, Fr. Donald will be promoting **the visit of the reliquary of St. Therese, which will be coming to Alhambra and our Parish from October 11 to 13, 2025.** The year 2025 is also the 100th anniversary of the Canonization of St. Therese and a Jubilee Year in the entire Church.

On Saturdays and Sundays (September 22, 28, and 29), the Novena Mass will be at 5:00 p.m. On the weekdays, the Mass will be at 7:15 p.m. During this Novena, the Tuesday evening Mass will be in English. On October 1, the Feast of St. Therese, the Mass will also be at 7:15 p.m.



**These will be days of great grace!
Plan to attend, and invite others to come with you!**



COR JESUS YOUTH | FAMILY NIGHT



YOUTH! FAMILIES! FR. ROBERT INVITES YOU TO JOIN him at the next event **THIS COMING Friday, September 27th.** See the schedule below:

6:15 PIZZA SOCIAL—Meet in the Hall for pizza!

6:45 PM BREAK OUT INTO CENACLES/GROUPS (1. High School-ers, 2. Middle School-ers (6th, 7th, 8th Grades), 3. *Parents, and 4. *Children)

8:15 PM: HOLY HOUR/CONFESSIONS (ALL are welcome!): Helping youth and their families encounter Jesus (traditional benediction, chants, soft praise, music, Gospel reflection, compline).

*Children from three years through 5th Grade will have the "Virtues in Practice" Program, while their parents will be in their own cenacles for reflections on the Sunday Gospels, intercessory prayer, etc. Bring a Bible and a Rosary!

PARISH MOVIE NIGHT STAR WARS

Our next PARISH MOVIE NIGHT will be on Saturday, **October 5, beginning at 6:30 p.m.** We will show the **original Star Wars from 1977!**

Dinner will be provided by our Parish Ministries! Both adults and children are invited to **come dressed in a STAR WARS COSTUME!**

The best costume overall will win a prize of \$100, with a runner-up prize of \$50.



The "Mystery of the Church"



Fr. Stephen Watson, OCD, invites everyone to attend a new series of classes he will conduct on the Mystery of the Church. These lectures also serve as a catechetical mystagogy for the newly baptized. Mystagogy is a term that comes from the Greek word meaning, "to lead through the mysteries." The Catechism describes mystagogy as a "liturgical catechesis that aims to initiate people into the mystery of Christ" (CCC 1075). Mystagogy is the form of catechesis that expounds on the spiritual treasures contained in the sacraments. St. Augustine refers to the Church as the "wondrous sacrament born from Christ's side."

The Acts of the Apostles serves as a primary reference for these classes. Fr. Stephen will also lead the class in a close reading of *Lumen Gentium*, which is the dogmatic constitution on the Church of the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II). The hymn, *The Church's One Foundation*, embodies the theme and content of these classes.

These classes are presented twice a month—on the **second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., in the Parish Meeting Room** (upstairs in the Parish Center building). The next sessions will be **October 8 and 22. ALL ARE INVITED!**

Snack Sale October 6 to Benefit Our School

Stop by the tables in front of the church after the **9:00 and 11:00 a.m. morning Masses and the 1:00 p.m. Latin Mass on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6**, to purchase your choice of:

- Nachos
- Lemonade
- Candy

All proceeds will benefit our School.



NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL



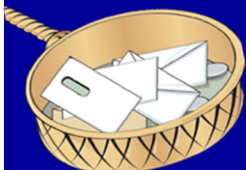
Do This in Remembrance of Me—Part 15: The First Reading

The First Reading at Mass is generally from the Old Testament. We might hear the lector proclaim, "A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. In the days of Ahaz, king of Judah, son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, Rezin, king of Aram, and Pekah, king of Israel, son of Remaliah..." (Isaiah 7:1-9). With all these names, which many of us may not even know how to pronounce, we might wonder: Why do we use the Old Testament at Mass, anyway?

Just like we remember the names of our grandparents and great-grandparents because they are part of our family tree, so too do we remember the names of these people who in some way had (and still have) an important part to play in God's family tree. As the Church teaches, "Christians should accept with veneration these writings which give expression to a lively sense of God, which are a storehouse of sublime teaching on God and of sound wisdom on human life, as well as a wonderful treasury of prayers; in them, too, the mystery of our salvation is present in a hidden way" (Dei Verbum, no. 15).

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

Financial Offerings



September 14 / 15, 2024

Unrestricted..... \$17,258.00
 Restricted \$ 370.00
T O T A L.....\$17,628.00

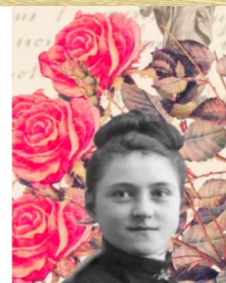
August 17 / 18 \$16,485.00
 August 24 / 25 \$21,459.00
 Aug 31 / Sept. 1 \$16,325.00
 September 7 / 8 \$14,977.00

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

100 Years of Walking with St. Therese

We will conclude the celebration of our centennial year with a **GALA at Brookside Country Club** in Pasadena on **Sat., January 11**. More details to come but—for now—please put the date in your calendar!

If you'd like to help plan and organize that special day, come to a meeting with Fr. Steve on **Wednesday, October 2, at 7:00 p.m., in the Avila Room** in the Parish Offices at 510 North El Molino Street.



The Little Way Dinner & Benefit Auction

benefitting the
SAINT THERESE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Friday, October 18, 2024
6:00 PM

RSVP by Friday, October 4

Please **visit onecau.se/stcs**
or text STCS to 44834
for online registration and
more information

Want to sit with your favorite friar?

NEW THIS YEAR!

You can purchase a table for you and eight guests to sit with Fr. Peter Mary, Fr. Stephen, Fr. Robert, or Fr. David.

Purchase now before they sell out!

SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN

PROMISE TO
PROTECT

PLEDGE TO
HEAL

DID YOU KNOW? Shop safely with your children: When you are with your children in a crowded area—think mall, grocery store, amusement park, farmer's market—it is important to have a plan of action to keep your group together and your children safe. Keep your children as close as possible, ideally either in a cart/stroller or holding hands. Always go as a group to the bathroom, or at least in pairs, and have a designated spot to meet back up. For more tips, visit the site, missingchildrensnetwork.ngo.

"LET ME INTRODUCE YOU..." By Fr. Stephen F. Watson OCD



Our Pastor, Fr. Peter Mary, OCD, had recently arrived for his new assignment here at St. Therese when a young woman entreated him to please come bless her home. She was newly married, and she and her husband had just rented a place on North Story Place. This was August of 2023. A full year has gone by and now **Anne Marie Vu and Andrew Lee** are preparing to have their newborn son, Noah, baptized here at St. Therese. This is their story.

I met Anne Marie and Andrew on a recent Sunday after the evening Mass. They wanted to know how to go about arranging a baptism for their baby who was born August 19. Always looking for a story, I asked if they would mind if I interviewed them. Last week Anne Marie met with me in the Parish office while Andrew stayed home with their three-week old baby.

Anne Marie is a first-generation Vietnamese. She was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, a town about 90 minutes west of Boston. Her mom, whose name is Therese, came to the United States with her family as a refugee after the fall of Saigon. Therese did her undergraduate studies at Mt. Holyoke College and then went to the dental school of the University of Pennsylvania, i.e., Penn Dental. Anne Marie's father, who was also born in Vietnam, came to the United States to study at the University of Delaware. He is an engineer. Anne Marie has an older brother stationed in Japan who is both a naval officer and a dentist, and a younger brother in pharmacy school in Colorado. Anne Marie is a pediatric dentist. She did her residency (optional for a dentist) at the University of Connecticut Health Center. She remembers the struggles her mother had running her own dental office. (The family lived above the office.) Anne Marie is content to "freelance" for now. Besides, she has a newborn to take care of.

Andrew is a first-generation Taiwanese. He was born in Arizona because his father, who worked for the government of Taiwan as an engineer, had a job in Scottsdale. The family moved back to Taiwan and Andrew did his elementary education there. Later, the family moved back to this country, settling in Cerritos. Andrew graduated from Whitney High School in Cerritos. He went to college at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburg where he eventually earned a doctorate in biochemistry. Today he is a bioengineer for a start-up based in Boston. Fortunately, he can work from home.

Andrew and Anne Marie met through a dating app. Anne Marie said she always dated with a view to marriage. She made it clear from the get-go that she was a Catholic and wanted to have children and raise them in the Catholic faith. She joked that her FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) friends have a thing in their dating language that they tease each other about called the "6-6-9 plan": six months dating, six-month engagement until marriage, and a baby nine months after marriage. Andrew and Anne-Marie's engagement was only three months. That is what you call living intentionally! They were married at a Catholic Church in Westborough, Massachusetts, on July 28, 2023, and moved to their place on North Story a few weeks later. I doubt they had time to unpack their things before Fr. Peter Mary blessed their home. By the time you read this, baby Noah will be newly baptized.

Anne Marie describes Andrew as "classic Californian." I think she means he is "laid back" or "chill." Is this an East Coast meets West Coast marriage? Whatever, we welcome our newest parishioners to St. Therese Parish. Let us give the Lee-Vu family our support as they makes their way in their adventure of faith and family.

The Lee-Vu Family is part of the rich 100-year history of St. Therese Parish.
Let us all walk with St. Therese as we journey together in faith during our Centennial year.

Mass Intentions

September 21—September 28, 2024

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Benny Smaldino, RIP

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: John and Teresa Velasquez, INT

7:30 a.m.: Amanda Meras, INT

9:00 a.m.: Parishioners

11:00 a.m.: Gerardo Adan, RIP

1 p.m. (Latin): Angelle Laigo, INT

5:00 p.m.: Gloria Adair, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Ramon Aquino, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Victoria Limon, Birthday INT

8:00 a.m.: Serra Grimm, 9th Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Virgil Motta, INT

Tuesday

6:00 a.m.: Matthew Hansen, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Kitty Ellis, INT

8:00 a.m.: Basilio Aquino, RIP

7:15 p.m.: David Grajeda, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Dick Ward, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: George Rossy, Birthday INT

8:00 a.m.: Miriam Motta, Birthday INT

Thursday

6:00 a.m.: Ophelia Dy, Birthday INT

*7:30 a.m.: Amy Louise Johnston, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Sean Cox, Birthday INT

Friday

6:00 a.m.: Gertrude Sajulga, Birthday INT

*7:30 am: St. Therese Church & School, INT

8:00 a.m.: Eulalia McEntire, RIP

Saturday (Morning):

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns' Community

8:00 a.m.: Brigit Grimm, Birthday INT

***Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel (located at 215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra).**

+

***Open to the public except on 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"!

Outside the Parish

SEEKING ITEMS FOR THE CLOISTERED CARMELITE NUNS' AUXILIARY'S BOUTIQUE

on November 15: Please

take a look around your house (in drawers, cabinets, closets, etc.) for items you no longer use or display and are able to donate.

These will be sold at

the Fall Boutique for the

benefit of our Nuns. We need items in good condition: decorative items, small appliances, figurines, photo frames, jewelry, vases, nice dishes, teapots, etc. **NO FURNITURE OR CLOTHING!!**—it's

not a rummage sale! For more info and a drop-off location, please contact Rosemary Moreno at (626) 281-9211. Thank you!



For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

- James 3:16

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