

St. Therese Catholic Church

April 16, 2023

Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars

Est. 1924

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



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. and 7:00 p.m.
(Tuesday's evening Mass is in Spanish).

Carmelite Nuns' Chapel: 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.

Note: the daily 8:00 a.m., the Monday evening 7:00 p.m.,
and the Sunday 11:00 a.m., Masses are all **LIVE**

STREAMED on Facebook AND YouTube)

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

CONFESSIONS (INSIDE & OUTSIDE)-**Wednesdays**
from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.; **Saturdays** from 3:00 to 6:00 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. Thomas Koller, OCD X222

Associate Pastor: Fr. David Guzman, OCD X232

In Residence: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD, Bro. Jason Parrott,
OCD; and Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD

Deacons: Dcn Joseph Mizerski | Dcn Gilbert Vargas X333;

Annulments: Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Vocations: For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

For the Carmelites: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

Parish Secretary: Denise McMaster-Holguin X223

denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

Music Director: Andrew Coyne | Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras XI12

ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com

See our **VIDEOS** on the School's Facebook page



SACRAMENTS

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

Letter from Fr. Thomas, Pastor

Jesus is risen! He is risen indeed!!! Blessed Divine Mercy Sunday, everyone!



I'm hoping and praying that your Easter Octave is helping you to keep living from your renewed baptismal promises, and to experience the Divine Mercy over and over again as the Father's beloved daughter/son. Here are the ABCs of Divine Mercy: Ask for Mercy, Be Merciful, Completely Trust Jesus' Mercy. And here is St. Therese's insight from Scripture about the content and meaning of His Mercy: "Therese has left on record how much she would have liked to learn Hebrew, so as to understand the Gospel better. And this no doubt would have been a great joy to her. For few Hebrew words are etymologically more rewarding than those used to convey the concept 'mercy'. Four words are used to convey the reality: hanan, to lean over; hamalnoum, to suffer with, to spare since one feels pity [like the judge looking at a repentant sinner]; raham-rahamim, to be soft, like the mother's breast, the entrails, the womb; and naham, to relieve

someone, to stop his groans by helping him to breathe. What a program! Therese saw this as God's, with regard to man" (The Little Way, by Bernard Bro, O.P., p. 60).

Since Jesus' Mercy is offered to each of us constantly, and without Him we can do (literally!) nothing, I cannot overestimate the efficacy and value of learning to go through the whole day with the Jesus Prayer in our hearts and minds: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God" (while breathing in) "have mercy on me a sinner" (while breathing out), or simply "Jesus" (while breathing in) and "mercy" (while breathing out). Try this prayer especially after receiving Holy Communion, as a way of helping you to listen to His Voice as He speaks to you. **May this Caravaggio painting (above) of the *Incredulity of St. Thomas* encourage you to completely trust Jesus! And remember to mark your calendars for the special French Parisian Boys' Choir Concert on Thursday, April 27, at 7:00 p.m. in our church (more info to come!).** —+ Fr. Thomas

Divine Mercy Sunday Schedule

Today, Sunday, April 16, is Divine Mercy Sunday. To mark this feast, we will have a special celebration at St. Therese as follows:



3:00—4:00 p.m.: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | Holy Hour/Chaplet of Divine Mercy

3:00—5:00 p.m.: Confessions

4:45 p.m.: Benediction

5:00 p.m.: Holy Mass

"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, of your dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."



Plenary Indulgence

Our Lord promised St. Faustina that all those would attend Mass and receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday, as well as go to Confession and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father, would obtain a plenary indulgence, meaning "complete forgiveness of their sins and punishment." Alternatively, the promise extends to those who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. "Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!"), go to Confession, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father. **In 2002, St. John Paul extended the promise so that Confession can be made up to 20 days before or after Divine Mercy Sunday.**



Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith Academics Virtue



3rd Excerpt from Fr. Thomas' Letter in the Bulletin of March 12, 2023:

The right to choose a school which corresponds to your own convictions is fundamental. As far as possible, parents have the duty of choosing schools that will best help them in their task as Christian educators (CCC 2229). "But, but, but," you say. "Catholic schools are expensive. I can't afford to send my children." You can't afford **NOT** to send them. The cost to repair years of damage will be greater than the cost to properly educate them. "The School is too far," you say. Pick your battles. So many families report praying the Rosary on the way to school, listening to a Catholic podcast, singing hymns of praise, and simply having great conversations with their children. In my experience as a priest, I can tell you that you cannot outdo God in generosity. You have been faithful to God in having the children He has blessed you with. He will help you provide an education for your children. Come, talk to me! Go, speak to our Principal!

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE!

Now is the time to clean out your closets, the basement, the attic, and anywhere else you keep things you don't need or use any longer. **Bring your unwanted items (clean and in good condition and/or working order to the Parish Hall on the following days: Monday through Thursday, April 24–27, between 3:30 and 5:00 p.m. on those days.**

Then... come and see what you need and or want when **the sale is open on Saturday and Sunday, April 28 and 29!**



Parent Formation Nights

"Awake or Woke:

Care of Our Souls Amidst a Culture War"

With Fr. Robert Barcelos, O.C.D.

THIS Wednesday, April 19, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall



Due to fraudulent ticket purchases, this event is now **password-protected**. Please call the school office to obtain the password.

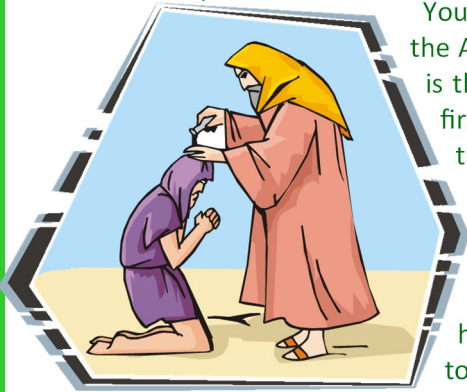
"Healing the Heart's Brokenness: Building an Intimate Relationship with Christ"

With Fr. Robert Barcelos, O.C.D.

Wednesday, May 3, 7:00 p.m., Parish Hall

Visit SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com/ParentFormation to RSVP.

POWER, PROPERTY, PRAYER



You may notice that the Acts of the Apostles is the source of all the first readings during the Easter season. This book of the Bible describes how Christianity grew from a handful of disciples to a major religion. Today's reading about

an ideal Christian community is meant to show ordinary believers how to be extraordinary, using three examples I call **power, property, and prayer**. **Power** means the "signs and wonders" (Acts 2:43) performed by the disciples through the power of the Holy Spirit. This should be named last, because it takes a lot of faith to heal the sick. If you had the same faith as the apostles, united with the power of the Holy Spirit, YOU might be able to cure the sick as well. Or you might study to become a doctor and cure them with medical skills. As long as you acknowledge that God gave you the brains and the talent to become a doctor, you are doing God's work.

By **property**, I mean sharing what you have with those in need. Many disciples were moved to sell their goods and share them with the poor, and word of that must have spread. If you are not called to sell all your goods and become a monk or a nun, you can still tithe to your church or the poor. You can donate time as well, perhaps tutoring disadvantaged kids, helping build or repair houses in poor areas, or bringing meals to shut-ins. The point is that followers of Christ are not just individual do-gooders. They are a community of believers who care about each other and also care about the non-believers who need help of any kind.

So, where did these first disciples get the faith to cure the sick and the love to help the needy? The answer is the third example—**prayer**. Twice in the first reading we hear how "they devoted themselves...to the Breaking of the Bread" (Acts 2:42, 46). Breaking Bread was their name for the Eucharist. They also went to the temple to pray, because at that time most disciples were Jewish Christians. As they heard the Hebrew scriptures, they saw how God's promises were fulfilled in Christ. Later, they added readings from the letters of Paul and preaching about Jesus' works and teachings. All of these practices helped unite them to Christ and to each other.

The Real St. Therese

Today, we understand better how the physical condition affects the moral condition, and vice versa. We are not competent to make a detailed study of the psychosomatic or psychological problems of patients suffering from tuberculosis. Yet, it is certain, for example, that Therese's extreme weakness had a part in the diverse moral and spiritual sufferings she experienced. We put forward this distinction because Therese herself made it, and it gives us a practical method of analysis. On August 3, 1897, she asked for a piece of paper and wrote these lines:

"O my God, how kind you are to the little victim of your merciful Love! Now, even when you add bodily suffering to my soul's anguish, I cannot say 'The sorrows of death surrounded me'; but I cry out in gratitude: 'I have gone down into the valley of the shadow of death, yet I fear no evil, for you, Lord, are with me!'"

She had desired "martyrdom of heart or of body, or rather both." Her prayer was heard, for her moral and spiritual sufferings were as numerous and varied as her bodily sufferings.

A. Terminal stages of the disease: When Therese became ill, she knew that she would soon die, but she suffered from a prolonged indefiniteness, which became harder to bear as the time passed concerning her real condition. She was convinced that she was terminally ill, yet she was aware that the nuns who did not know her well, and who were ignorant of the symptoms of her disease, would have difficulty in taking her for a dying person.

For a time, at least, she therefore suffered because she was not taken seriously. "They don't believe I'm as sick as I am. So, it makes it all much harder to be deprived of Holy Communion and the Divine Office." Fifteen days later, after certain comments had caused her pain, she returned to this subject: "I understand very well that they don't believe I'm sick, but it's God who allows this."

Already, in May, Therese had compared herself to a little child who is presented with a cake, which is then withdrawn each time the child tries to take it, to the child who misses the train, to a person who has a lottery ticket but whose number never comes up. She no longer relied on her illness for it was too slow a guide. After the alarm of the first days of June, she believed she had reached port. Then, suddenly, the situation changed. On the 10th, there was an improvement, and she could "no longer understand anything" about her sickness. She was disappointed, and on the last day of a Novena in honor of Our Lady of Victories, she said: **"I'm a cured little girl. The hope of death is all used up."** It was like some kind of game: **"Last week, I was up and around and some found me very sick. This week I can no longer stay up. I'm exhausted, and they think I am getting better!"** **Continues next week, space permitting.**



An installment from
The Passion of Thérèse of Lisieux by Guy Faucher

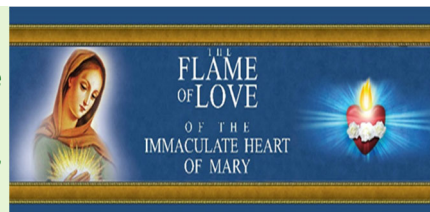
The Flame of Love: The Greatest Gift of Grace for Our Time

Essential Prayer #1: Make the Sign of the Cross Five Times

We offer ourselves to the Heavenly Father thru all the wounds of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We kiss the wound of your Sacred Left Hand, with sorrow deep and true. † (Make the Sign of the Cross.)

Repeat the Prayer for the Sacred Right Hand, the Sacred Left Foot, the Sacred Right Foot, and the Sacred Side.



Jesus told Elizabeth, **“A great battle awaits you, but you will conquer in the Sign of the Cross. When you make the Sign of the Cross, think of the three Divine Persons. Make the Sign of the Cross five times, while thinking of my Five Wounds. Always look at my eyes bathed in blood. Tell everyone all that I tell you.”**

Devotion to the Five Wounds of Jesus: Meditating on the five Wounds of Jesus stems from a medieval practice popular during the 12th and 13th centuries. The wounds of Christ are commemorated in the liturgy during the Easter Vigil when the priest places five grains of incense in the Paschal Candle in honor of the five wounds. It is a beautiful devotion, one that recognizes the great pain that Jesus suffered for each one of us and invokes His mercy to wash away our sins.

Join the Cenacle: For all those interested, we encourage you to attend our Cenacle session every Monday in the Avila Room of the Parish Offices. You can attend either the **Noon to 2:00 p.m.** session, or the **5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** session.

If you have any questions, please call Maria Alejandra at (626) 282-2744. When the recording comes on, enter 1 + 235.

FR. BROOM'S TALKS ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

MAY 4, 11, 18 & 25

4-WEEK PROGRAM

THURSDAYS
 MASS: 6:00 PM
 TALK: 7:15 PM
 GROUPS: 8:15 PM

FREE OF CHARGE

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

REGISTER: 2023ActsTherese@gmail.com

Fr. Ed Broom will return to St. Therese Church to give four (free) talks on the **ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.**

The talks will be held on **Thursday evenings, May 4, 11, 18, and 25**, beginning with Mass at 6:00 p.m., followed by the

talks at 7:15 p.m. each night (Small Groups will follow at 8:15 p.m.).

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! To do so, send an email to 2023ActsTherese@gmail.com.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST!



The Knights of Columbus invite all parishioners to the Hall on **Sunday, April 23**, after the 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. Masses, for a delicious breakfast of **PANCAKES, EGGS, AND SAUSAGE.** Admission is **\$7** for adults, **\$5** for teens (13-18), and **FREE** for kids (12 and under). All proceeds will go toward the Parish Building Renovation Fund. We hope to see YOU there!

Shower of Roses Annual Benefit Luncheon



The Cloistered Carmelite Nuns' Auxiliary invites you and your guests to attend this year's Shower of Roses, **"Nourish Your Heart's Garden."** It will feature a lecture by Mr. Randy Shulman, the Vice President of Advancement & External Relationships at Huntington Library & Gardens, entitled, **"Behind the Scenes at Huntington Library."**

The date of this event is **Wednesday, April 26**, beginning with a social hour at 10:30

a.m. (includes Raffle Drawings | Opportunity Prizes | Silent Auction), followed by the Luncheon at 12:00 p.m. It will be held at San Gabriel Country Club, 350 East Hermosa Drive, San Gabriel (hosted valet parking) The cost of admission is \$65 each. **To make your reservation, please call Kathy Cardoza at (626) 570-9012.**

Saint Therese Carmelite School

Raffle for Mother's Day!



Developing **STRONG** and **ENGAGING** Jesus-Centered Catholic children, one student at a time.

- Classical Education
- Traditional Values
- Carmelite Spirituality

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Take a chance on winning this beautiful **"Our Lady of Guadalupe"** apron! It's just \$3 per ticket or \$5 for two tickets. All proceeds will go to support St. Therese Church.



Get your tickets from the "gift shop" in the main vestibule of the church after the weekend Masses.

The winning ticket will be drawn on Mother's Day.

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

May God reward you for giving from your heart! Below you will find the total collection for last weekend, as well as for the previous four weekends. Note: There is a second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND OF EACH MONTH for our School.



April 8 / 9, 2023

Unrestricted..... \$23,864.00
 Restricted \$ 3,395.00
TOTAL.....\$27,259.00

March 11 / 12 \$17,798.00
 March 18 / 19 \$10,617.00
 March 25 / 26 \$16,885.00
 April 2 / 3 \$13,071.00

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

Mass Intentions

April 15—April 22, 2023

Saturday Evening:

8:15 p.m.: Easter Novena 6

Sunday:

- *7:30 am (Carm): Engracia Piol Vales, RIP
- 7:30am: Cheah & Goh Families, INT
- 9:00 am: Ciriaca Seguerra, RIP
- 11:00 a.m.: Michael Locasio, RIP
- 1:00 p.m.: Easter Novena 7
- 5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

Monday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Rachele Ailene Siy, INT
- *7:30 a.m.: Andrew (Chin-Hsing) Ren, INT
- 8:00 a.m.: Felipe Sia, Birthday Intention
- 7:00 p.m.: Easter Novena 8

Tuesday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Serena's Mother & Family, INT
- *7:30 a.m.: Ana Sun, INT
- 8:00 a.m.: Easter Novena 9
- 7 p.m.: John F. Shea, RIP

Wednesday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Minkee Sohn & Family, INT
- *7:30 a.m.: David, Ana, and Stephen Sun, INT
- 8:00 a.m.: John F. Shea, RIP
- 7:00 p.m.: Louise Jamila Sunga, RIP

Thursday:

- 6:00 a.m.: John F. Shea, RIP
- *7:30 a.m.: Nathan & Bessie Arne, INT
- 8:00 a.m.: Therese Hong Nguyen, RIP
- 7:00 p.m.: Irene Grimm, RIP

Friday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Irene Grimm, RIP
- *7:30 a.m.: Marie Ryan, RIP
- 8:00 a.m.: John F. Shea, RIP
- 7:00 p.m.: Louise Jamila Sunga, RIP

Saturday Morning:

- *7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns' Community INT
- 8:00 a.m.: John F. Shea, RIP

***Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel. The Carmel's Chapel is open to the public every day except Sundays and holidays.**

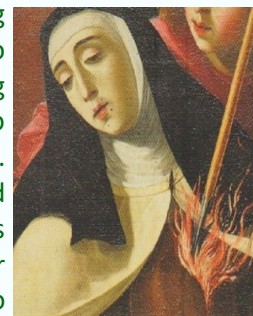
LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

The 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday), the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, and the 7:00 p.m. Monday evening Mass are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube. Links to those two sites are on our website's home page (in the top left column).

Quiet Listening Prayer

The Interior Castle: The Fourth Mansion
By St. Teresa of Avila

These persons feel nothing through their senses nor do they feel anything concerning God. One person happened to remain eight hours in this state. By sleeping and eating and avoiding so much penance, this person got rid of the stupor, for there was someone who understood her. She had misled both her confessor and other persons, as well as herself—for she hadn't intended to deceive. I truly believe that the devil was trying to gain ground, and in this instance indeed he was beginning to gain no small amount.



It must be understood that when something is truly from God there is no languishing in the soul, even though there may be an interior and exterior languishing, for the soul experiences deep feelings on seeing itself close to God. Nor does the experience last so long, but for a very short while—although one becomes absorbed again. In such prayer, if the cause of it is not weakness, as I said, the body is not worn down nor is any external feeling produced (3, 11-12).

Outside the Parish

Come join our amazing **Carmelite Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of St. Therese of Lisieux & St. Elizabeth of the Trinity"**. From September 28 through October 11, we will visit Paris, Lourdes, St. John Vianney of Ars, St. Margaret Alacoque (Sacred Heart of Jesus apparitions), etc. Our chaplains will be Fr. Mark Kissner, OCD, and Fr. Joseph Mary Tran, OCD (who was at St. Therese for two Summers). For more info, please contact Beth Maddatu, OCDS, at (408) 903-6305 | maddatubeth2@gmail.com.

Personal Ad

College Student is in NEED OF A CAR (auto was destroyed in the recent storms). Please call Maria at (818) 331-2160.