

Saint Therese Catholic Church

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

March 14, 2021

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

Saturday: 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: 6:00 and 8:00 a.m.—the 8:00 a.m. daily and the Sunday 11:00 a.m. Masses are LIVE STREAMED on our Facebook page AND on our YouTube channel.

Monday & Thursday evenings:

Mass at 7:00 p.m.

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.

SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: Register online

Weddings: Register online
at least six months in advance

Anointing: Call the office.

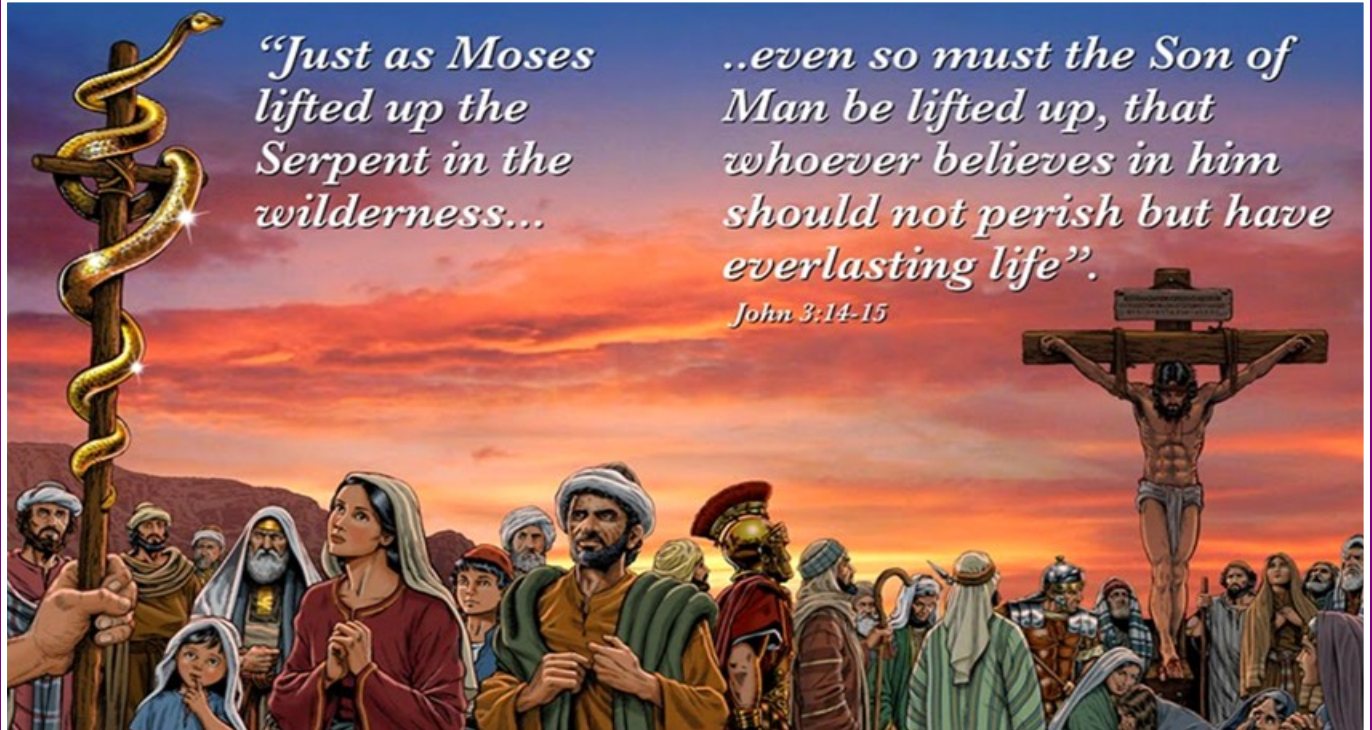


SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL
(626) 289-3364

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com
principal@saintthersecarmeliteschool.com

See our **VIDEOS** on the School's Facebook page
or on the Church's website > Our School > Videos



*“Just as Moses
lifted up the
Serpent in the
wilderness...*

*..even so must the Son of
Man be lifted up, that
whoever believes in him
should not perish but have
everlasting life”.*

John 3:14-15

All of our Masses are now celebrated **INSIDE** the church.
 Live Streamed Masses: Mon-Sat 8:00 a.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m.
 and Monday and Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Parishioners,

Continued Lenten blessings, everyone, and especially a Happy St. Joseph's Day this Friday!!! I'm guessing that our Archbishop will dispense us from no meat this Friday to help us celebrate St. Joseph wholeheartedly! In St. Joseph's honor, we will have a special Mass on Friday evening, March 19, at 6:00 p.m., followed (beginning around 7:00 p.m.) by Adoration with live worship music (Dr. Sean Tobin from Divine Mercy Clinic), Confessions, and healing prayer teams available for individualized prayer. For these last few days of the Novena to St. Joseph in Preparation for the Consecration to St. Joseph, here are some thoughts from Fr. Donald Calloway's book on Consecration to St. Joseph:

Sunday—St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick: St. Joseph offers hope in times of sickness. If you or someone you know is sick, go to St. Joseph. Jesus wants you to go to your spiritual father and ask him for help and healing. It's up to God whether or not a physical healing will be given, but it doesn't hurt to ask, as St. Zélie did for her little Thérèse. With the help of St. Andre Bessette's St. Joseph's Oil, you can pray with loved ones at home and use the oil while praying with them (see our past bulletin about St. Andre; we also invite you to stop by the office and ask for a vial of this oil, which comes from the sanctuary lamp at the Oratory of St. Joseph in Montreal, Canada). Here is a recent story from one of our parishioners: "The Holy Spirit keeps nudging me to email you regarding St. Joseph Oil. I've had severe upper arm pain for a couple months. You gave me the oil, and I put it oil on both my upper arms and the pain substantially decreased. I still have the pain; however, it is now tolerable."

Monday—St. Joseph, Patron of the Dying: St. Joseph died a holy and happy death. He died gazing upon Jesus and resting in the arms of Mary. What greater death could a person experience? God has designated St. Joseph as the Patron of the Dying because he wants us to experience a death similar to that of St. Joseph, a holy and happy death.

Tuesday—St. Joseph, Terror of Demons: Demons fear Jesus. Demons fear Mary. Did you know that demons fear St. Joseph as well? It's true. Demons are absolutely terrified of St. Joseph. Evil spirits are terrified of him because he alone is the spouse of the Immaculata and the father of Jesus Christ. St. Joseph is the gateway to Jesus and Mary.

Wednesday—St. Joseph, Protector of Holy Church: The Church needs the protection of St. Joseph. According to the designs of Providence, the Church has always needed his protection, but today it needs it more than ever. The Church is being assaulted by those outside it (Satan and the world) and by those inside it (many of her own children). Sadly, the Church also has to be protected from heterodoxy and spiritually weak priests and bishops.

Thursday—St. Joseph, Prince Over All of the Lord's Possessions: Decades ago, then-Cardinal Ratzinger (later Pope Benedict XVI) kept saying that there is a crisis of fatherhood. The crisis is even greater now. Let us go to St. Joseph as our greatest earthly father (without, of course, neglecting our biological fathers), trusting that he will give us his fatherly protection and love—which we all need in order not to forget our true identity and security as beloved children of our Heavenly Father. "We cannot become our true selves until another person affirms us. We become our true selves when we see our goodness reflected back to us in the eyes of another person who loves us" (Dennis Lynn, from *Belonging*, p. 90). St. Joseph will be that person for each one of us, if we keep asking him with gentle, persevering prayer.



The Holy Family with a Little Bird (1650 by Murillo, displayed in the Prado in Seville)

Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph,
 Fr. Thomas, OCD

CELEBRATION HONORING ST. JOSEPH!

Everyone is invited to attend a special Mass in honor of St. Joseph! During the Mass, all those who have been preparing—by reading a special book on Consecration to St. Joseph and/or attending preparation meetings—will make their Consecration to St. Joseph. The Mass will be held on his Feast Day this coming **Friday, March 19, at 6:00 p.m.**

As mentioned in Fr. Thomas' letter on the previous page, the Mass will be followed by Adoration with live worship music and Confessions. Healing prayer teams will also be available for individualized prayer.



YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH
December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

Here is the schedule:

6:00 p.m.: Holy Mass in Honor of St. Joseph

7:00 p.m.:

- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Live Worship Music (Dr. Sean Tobin from Divine Mercy Clinic)
- Confessions
- Individualized Prayer with Healing Prayer Teams

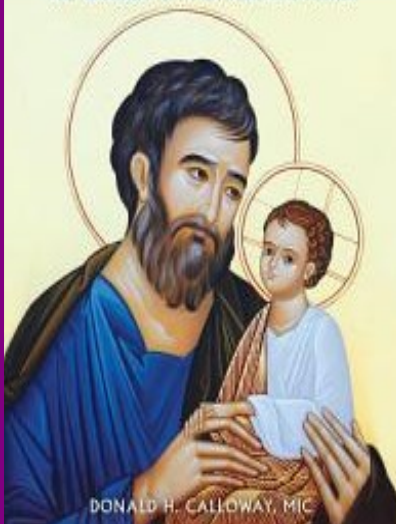


See you there!

Note: Please be sure to wear a mask and practice social distancing

CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

THE WONDERS OF OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER



CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

1) MARCH 19 CONSECRATION: This Wednesday afternoon and evening will be the last meetings before the consecration takes place at a special Mass at **6:00 p.m.** this **Friday, March 19 (see above).**

HAVE YOU BEEN PREPARING ON YOUR OWN WITH THE CONSECRATION BOOK? Then call Maria Alejandra (993-4236) if you plan to be consecrated this Wednesday evening.

2) THE NEXT PREPARATION SESSION will begin on **Wednesday, March 24**, at your choice of Noon or 6:00 p.m., in the Guadalupe Courtyard.

For those attending the preparation or preparing by reading the book, the Consecration Day will then take place on **May 1** (Feast of St. Joseph the Worker).

Books are still available for purchase in the office for \$15 each. You can also find the book on Kindle on Amazon.

Traditional St. Joseph's Table



Hosting a St. Joseph's Table (potluck-style) as part of our celebration for his feast day was discussed; nevertheless, as it's still not safe to be having a social and sharing food, that idea was nixed. However, you might think about having some sort of St. Joseph feast in your own homes! The St. Joseph Table is a tradition which originated in Sicily, Italy, where St. Joseph has been long-regarded as the island's Patron saint. March 19th is also Father's Day in Italy—which isn't at all surprising, as St. Joseph was, of course, the foster father of Jesus. This celebration is a symbolic "thank you" and a renewal of the Sicilian people's devotion to St. Joseph.

Origins: During a time of drought and famine, no rain fell on Medieval Sicily. Food crops for both people and livestock withered and died. The people prayed to St. Joseph for help and, when the clouds opened, the desperately-needed rain poured down, resulting in much rejoicing! After the harvest, to show their gratitude, they prepared a table with special foods to honor St. Joseph and to share with the poor. After thanking and honoring the saint, they distributed the food to the less fortunate. This celebration became an annual tradition. Each year, wealthy families prepared huge buffets to which the poor of the community were invited. Through the years, the tradition has remained throughout Italy, and is also prevalent in Poland, Malta, Spain, the Philippines, and here in our own country. The heart of this tradition can be found in these three aspects: *Veneration*—special recognition of St. Joseph during Mass and at the "table;" *The Table*—both a kind of "altar of reverence", and a communal celebration; *The Poor*—The original intention of all the gifts is to help those in need.

Breads, baked into symbolic shapes, are normally the centerpiece of the food table and the altar. The breads themselves are made from the same dough that forms traditional Italian bread and are often made into interesting and symbolic shapes for St. Joseph's Day (e.g., his staff). Other foods that are often present at more elaborate St. Joseph's Table "feasts" include soups made of lentils, favas, and other types of beans, together with escarole, broccoli, or cauliflower. Blessed fava beans are often given out at St. Joseph's Tables. Once considered cattle feed, fava beans were the one food which survived the Sicilian drought, sustained the people, and saved them from starvation. Other vegetables—celery, fennel stalks, boiled and stuffed artichokes—are also customary. Also served is *St. Joseph's Day Pasta*, also called Sawdust Pasta or Carpenter's Pasta, made with bread crumbs sautéed in butter to resemble wood sawdust to commemorate St. Joseph's work as a carpenter.

No St. Joseph's Table would be authentic without the flourish of sweet items. There is typically a plethora of cakes and cookies, many of which are embellished with almonds. Two particularly traditional desserts found at St. Joseph's tables are fried pieces of bread dough rolled in sugar and donuts filled with a sweet pastry crème.

St. Patrick: "That Other March Saint"

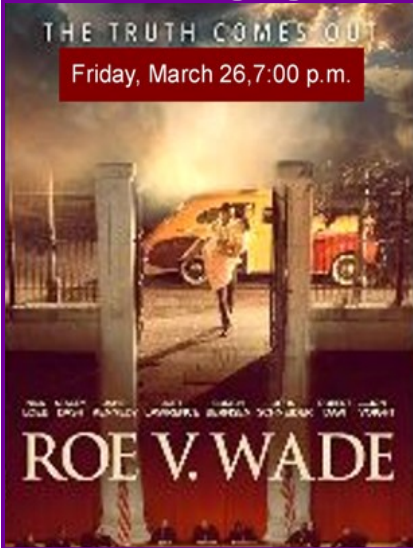
The Patron Saint of Ireland was born into either a Scottish or English family in the fourth century. He was captured as a teenager, sold into slavery in Ireland, and put to work as a shepherd. He worked in terrible conditions for six years drawing comfort in his Catholic Faith. Patrick had a dream that encouraged him to flee his captivity and to head South where a ship was to be waiting for him. He travelled over 200 miles from his Northern captivity to Wexford where, sure enough, a ship was waiting to enable his escape. Upon arrival in England he was captured and returned to slavery. He escaped after two months and spent the next seven years travelling Europe seeking his destiny. He ended up studying for the priesthood, returning to England as a priest. Again a dream convinced him that he should return to Ireland to convert the people. Patrick was made a Bishop by in the year 432 and, together with a small band of followers, travelled to Ireland to commence the conversion.



Trying to convince the King of the truth of his Faith, Patrick grasped at some Shamrock growing on the ground. He explained that there was but one stem on the plant, but three branches of the leaf, representing the Blessed Trinity. The King was impressed with his sincerity and granted him permission to spread the Faith, although he did not convert to Christianity himself. Patrick and his followers were free to spread their faith throughout Ireland and did so to great effect. He drove paganism (symbolized by the snake) from the lands of Eireann.

Patrick died on March 17th in the year 461 at the age of 76. It is not known for sure where his remains were laid, although Downpatrick in County Down in the North of Ireland is thought to be his final resting place. His influence is still felt to this day as Nations the world over commemorate him on March 17th of every year.

PRE-SCREENING OF A NEW MOVIE!



Vox Vitae invites you to a PRE-SCREENING OF A NEW MOVIE!

If you want to know the true story of how abortion was legalized in our country, COME TO THIS PRE-SCREENING of **ROE V. WADE**. It reveals how the case was really decided. Filmmaker Nick Loeb, actor and director of *Roe v. Wade*, says the film tells the truth of the case. **This top-of-the-line movie stars Jon Voight, Corbin Bernsen, John Schneider, Stacy Dash, and more.**

It will be held in the church parking lot on **FRIDAY, MARCH 26, beginning at 7:00 p.m.**, and will include a vegetarian pizza dinner. Dress warm and bring your own chair or chair pad! For more info, go to www.roevwademovie.com (includes a movie trailer). For questions about logistics, contact Catherine at cathycforlife@gmail.com. There is no charge to attend, although free-will offerings will be accepted.

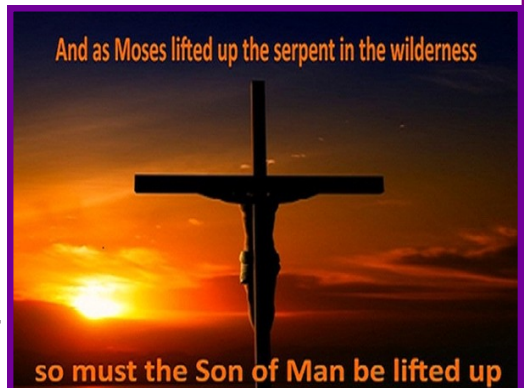
REFLECTION ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

Today's First Reading from the second book of Chronicles contains a sort of "mini-history" of Israel. It highlights God's mercies in choosing Cyrus the Persian to be an instrument of deliverance when the people were in captivity in Babylon. Despite their sinfulness and the deserved punishment they were undergoing, God's mercy was lavished on the people in the form of a miraculous act of liberation.

In the Letter to the Ephesians (2:4-10), St. Paul is lyrical in praising God "who is rich in mercy" and who "brought us to life" with Christ. He stresses that it was when we were "dead in our transgressions" that God saved us, an act of pure grace; it is not our own efforts that freed us from sin; rather, "it is the gift of God." This, of course, is the heart of the entire Pauline corpus, that salvation comes to us by faith in God's mercy, revealed in the death of Jesus. St. Paul tells us that we are saved through grace: God's actions of sending His Son to die for us, and raising Jesus from the dead show the love God has for us. It comes entirely from God. When Paul says that no one can boast about being saved, he means that we can't add up our good deeds like reward points for Heaven. He also means that we can't brag about our faith just because we can recite the Creed or respond to a Mass prayer. So, if being saved is not a matter of saying the right things or doing good deeds, what is it?

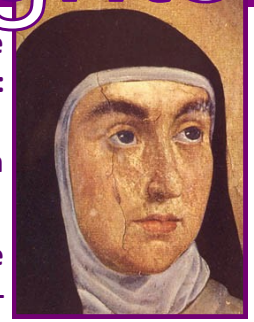
The answer comes from the Gospel (John 3:14-21), wherein John includes the oft-memorized line: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life..." Jesus tells us that He will be lifted up, or crucified, so that we can believe in Him and have eternal life. When we "believe in" someone, we put our love and trust in that person. We know that we are loved and so respond by giving love. Our response of love inspires us to stop being selfish and start noticing that others need our help. Jesus describes it as living in the light: we are not ashamed to help someone, forgive someone, or comfort someone. That brings us back to the question about salvation: it is not something we do or say. It is what God does for us. Our response of faith is also His gift. So when we recognize all that God has done for us and believe in His Son, the Spirit will guide us to live that faith and share it with others. All three readings emphasize God's desire to rescue—or redeem—humanity from pain and suffering.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called "Laetare Sunday," or "Rejoice! Sunday." Even if we feel overwhelmed by the darkness of sin (our own and others'), wondering whether God really is working on our behalf, we can put our faith in today's Word that it is so. **For this, we can truly rejoice—we are more than halfway to Easter!**



Mass & Prayer Nights

- **MONDAY NIGHTS:** Join us every **MONDAY** evening to strengthen your faith! The schedule is as follows: 7:00 p.m.: Mass; 7:30-8:00 p.m.: Adoration; 8:00-8:30 p.m.: Teaching (indoors!)
- **TUESDAY NIGHTS:** For those wishing to celebrate Mass in Spanish, join us on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m.
- **THURSDAY NIGHTS:** Join us every **THURSDAY** evening to refresh your soul! The schedule is: 6:30 p.m.: Viewing of an Episode of The Chosen; 7:00 p.m.: Mass; 7:30-8:30 p.m.: Adoration
- **SATURDAY NIGHT HEALING PRAYER:** Join us **LIVE** (outside) OR via **ZOOM** for Fr. Thomas' **HEALING PRAYER TRAINING**. Training is held on **Saturday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.** (join anytime during that time slot). Here is the link:
<https://zoom.us/j/91328296798?pwd=QzllQ3lSMG5aK3k3ZFJLN0gzaHVOdz09>



MOST HEARTFELT THANKS FROM THE CARMELITE NUNS!

The Nuns at the Carmel of St. Teresa are deeply grateful for all of your donations to the Fr. Jerome Appeal. These contributions will certainly help them with their ongoing expenses. Unlike our household bills, when their bills arrive they, are in the thousands of dollars.

If you have not yet sent in your donation, you can use any envelope as long as you indicate it is for the Nuns or the Fr. Jerome Appeal. You can put it in the collection, bring it to the church office or the Monastery, or mail it to: Carmel of St. Teresa, 215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra, CA 91801. God bless each of you!



FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

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!



March 7 / 8, 2020
 Unrestricted.... \$13,144.00
 Restricted \$ 1,445.00
T O T A L \$14,589.00

February 6 / 7.....\$13,344.00
 February 13 / 14.....\$24,223.00
 February 20 / 21.....\$19,038.00
 February 27 / 28.....\$ 8,247.00

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

Mass Intentions

For the Week of
March 13 through 20, 2021

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Hazel Lessard McGrath, RIP

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Michael Le, RIP

7:30 am: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Soledad Ruiz, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD, INT

1:00 p.m.: To Save the Unborn

5:00 p.m.: Genaro & Adelaida's 65th Anniv, INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Guadalupe Cuellas, B-day INT

*7:30 a.m.: Josefina Banda, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Leonel Salgado, Rip

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Priscilla Catalan, B-day INT

*7:30 a.m.: Michael Le, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Mary Frances Magana, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: John, Helen, and Patrick Hummel, RIP

*7:30 am: Sr. Kim Marie, OCD, B-day INT

8:00 a.m.: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD, INT

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Adelaida Hernandez, B-day INT

*7:30 a.m.: Michael Le, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Leonel Salgado, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Archbishop Jose Gomez, INT

7:30 a.m.: Josefina Rosales, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Jose & Julia Munoz, RIP

Saturday:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: 1) Peter Grimm, B-day INT

2) Ricardo Alfonso, RIP

*Held at the Carmelite Chapel,
215 East Alhambra Road

***NOW OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC! (Mon-Sat.)**

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday–
Saturday) and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass
are both live streamed on Facebook
AND YouTube (for those not attending).

STATIONS

Please join us every Friday evening of Lent at **7:00 p.m. in the church** for the **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**.

This sacred tradition of meditating upon the events of Christ's suffering and passion is so important for getting closer to Our Lord.



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The annual **SPRING CAMPAIGN** is taking place now through **March 28**. Join Vox Vitae in praying



and witnessing for life in front of at Planned Parenthood in Pasadena (1045 North Lake Avenue) on **Fridays**

(Noon to 5:00 p.m.) and **Saturdays (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)** For more info, email pg Grimm@righttolifeleague.org or call (626) 398-6100 or go to <https://www.40daysforlife.com/>

EASTER FLOWERS

In order to decorate the church (and the outside worship area) for Easter, we are in need of donations for Easter Flowers. Please help by picking up



one of the **f l o w e r** envelopes, which are available on the tables at the entrances to the church and under the tent outside.

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WHY IS IT?



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