

# St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars

July 14, 2024 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | [www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org](http://www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org)



He summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over unclean spirits. He said to them, "Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them." So they went off and preached repentance. They drove out many demons, and they anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them (Mark 6:7-13).

## 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 Joseph Mizerski | 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](http://www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com)

**Parish Secretary:** Denise McMaster-Holguin X 1+223  
[denisekay@hotmail.com](mailto:denisekay@hotmail.com)

**Finance:** Noralyn Cailan X 1+228 / [cailannocds@gmail.com](mailto:cailannocds@gmail.com)

**Religious Ed:** Florence Goh X 1+ 235

**Music Director:** Andrew Coyne | [Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com)

**Respect Life Ministry:** Catherine Contreras X 1+112

## ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

[www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com](http://www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com)

Principal: Alma Cornejo X 1 + 661

[principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com](mailto: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,

**Blessed Solemnity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel this Tuesday!**

We now continue with St. Thérèse recounting both her father's illness and the day she entered Carmel:

—Fr. Peter Mary

## MANUSCRIPT A, 71r-73v (Part 1)

The little flower transplanted to Mount Carmel was to expand under the shadow of the cross. The tears and blood of Jesus were to be her dew, and her Sun was His adorable Face veiled with tears.

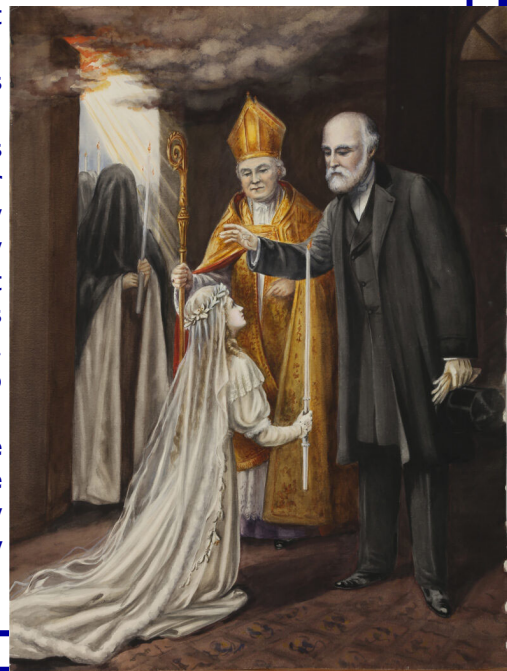
Until my coming to Carmel, I had never fathomed the depths of the treasures hidden in the Holy Face. It was through you, dear Mother, that I learned of these treasures. Just as formerly you had preceded us into Carmel, so also you were first to enter deeply into the mysteries of love hidden in the Face of our Spouse. You called me and I understood. I understood what real glory was. He whose Kingdom is not of this world showed me that true wisdom consists in "desiring to be unknown and counting as nothing," and in "placing one's joy in the contempt of self." Ah! I desired that, like the Face of Jesus, "my face be truly hidden, that no one on earth would know me." I thirsted after suffering and I longed to be forgotten. How merciful is the way God has guided me. Never has He given me the desire for anything which He has not given me, and even His bitter chalice seemed delightful to me.

After those beautiful festivities of the month of May, namely, the Profession and taking of the Veil of our dear Marie, the oldest in the family being crowned on her wedding day by the youngest, we had to be visited by trial. The preceding year, in May, Papa was seized with a paralytic stroke in his limbs, and we were greatly disturbed. But the strong character of my dear King soon took control and our fears disappeared.

However, more than once during the trip to Rome, we noticed that he easily grew tired and wasn't as cheerful as usual. What I noticed especially was the progress he was making in perfection. He had succeeded, like St. Francis de Sales, in overcoming his natural impetuosity to such an extent that he appeared to have the most gentle nature in the world. The things of earth seemed hardly to touch him, he easily surmounted contradictions, and God was flooding him with consolations. During his daily visits to the Blessed Sacrament, his eyes were often filled with tears and his face breathed forth a heavenly beatitude. When Léonie left the Visitation convent, he was not disturbed and made no reproaches to God for not having answered the prayers he offered up to obtain his daughter's vocation. It was even with joy that he left to go and bring her home.

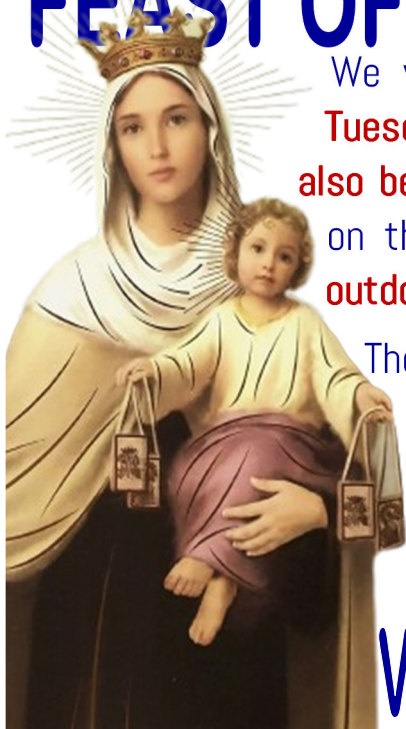
Here is the faith with which Papa accepted the separation of his little Queen, announcing it to his friends in these words: "My dear Friends, Thérèse, my little Queen, entered Carmel yesterday! Only God could demand such a sacrifice. Don't sympathize with me, for my heart is overflowing with joy." It was time that such a faithful servant receive the reward of his works, and it was right that his wages resemble those which God gave to the King of Heaven, His only Son. Papa had just made a donation to God of an altar, and it was he who was chosen as victim to be offered with the Lamb without spot.

You are aware, dear Mother, of our bitter sufferings during the month of June, and especially June 24, 1888. These memories are too deeply engraved in the bottom of our hearts to require any mention in writing. O Mother! how we suffered! And this was still only the beginning of the trial.





# FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL



We will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel this **Tuesday, July 16 (the 7:15 p.m. Mass the night before, July 15, will also be in her honor.)** Preceding the 7:15 p.m. Mass on the feast day on the 16th, join us in front of the church at **6:30 p.m., for an outdoor procession** that will culminate with the Mass.

There will be **ENROLLMENT IN THE BROWN SCAPULAR** for those who have never been enrolled. **Also, there will be a collection at the evening Mass on July 16 for the Carmelite Seminary Fund.**

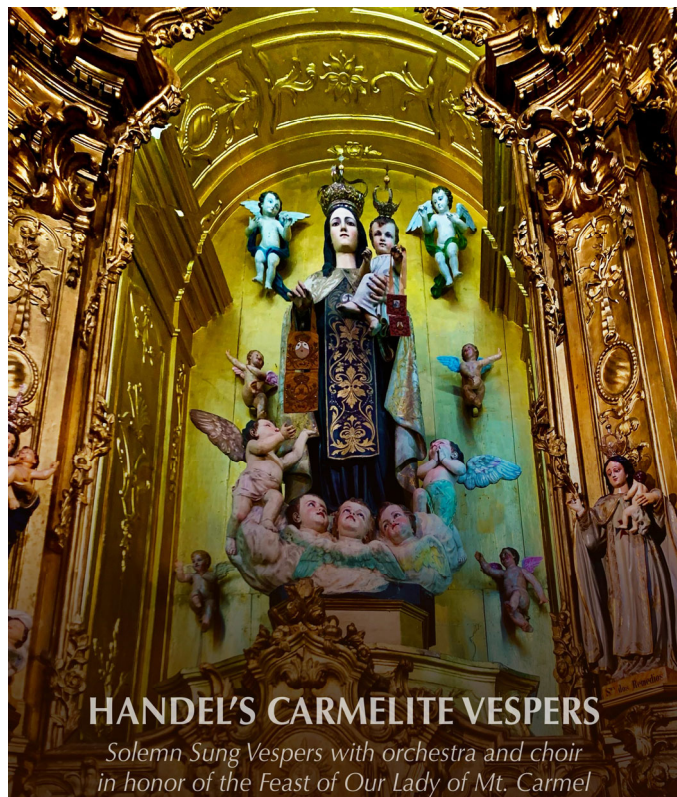


## VESPERS FOR OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL

Tonight, Sunday, July 14, at 7:30 p.m., in the church, there will be Vespers and adoration.

Credo Catholic Choir (with music director Charlotte Lansberg) and friends will sing the Solemn Vespers, incorporating portions of Handel's settings of three Vespers' psalms (Dixit Dominus, Laudate Pueri, and Nisi Dominus) commissioned in 1707 in Rome for the Carmelite Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The choir will be accompanied by a Baroque orchestra.

Don't miss these special days of celebration to honor Our Lady!



**HANDEL'S CARMELITE VESPERS**

*Solemn Sung Vespers with orchestra and choir in honor of the Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel*

## FREE WILL OFFERINGS ACCEPTED

As this is Vespers and adoration, there are no tickets required to attend. However, if you would like to make a donation to help pay for costs incurred, please scan the QR code to make a one-time donation to St. Therese. You will be taken to the Faith Direct site. God bless you for your consideration! Hope to see you there!



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# DEVOTION TO OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

The Carmelites consider the Blessed Virgin Mary to be a perfect model of the interior life of prayer and contemplation, as well as a model of virtue. She is seen as the one who points Christians to Christ. As she says to the servants at the wedding at Cana, "Do whatever He tells you."

Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, OCD, a revered authority on Carmelite spirituality, wrote what devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel truly means: A special call to the interior life, which is preeminently a Marian life. Our Lady wants us to resemble her not only in our outward vesture but also in heart and spirit. If we gaze into Mary's soul, we shall see a spiritual life of incalculable wealth: a life of recollection, prayer, uninterrupted oblation to God, continual contact, and intimate union with Him. Mary's soul is a sanctuary reserved for God alone, where no human creature has ever left its trace, where love and zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of mankind reign supreme. Those who want to live their devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel to the full must follow Mary into the depths of her interior life.

Carmel is the symbol of the contemplative life, the life wholly dedicated to the quest for God, wholly orientated towards intimacy with God; the one who has best realized this highest of ideals is Our Lady herself, "Queen and Splendor of Carmel."



# THE BROWN SCAPULAR OF OUR LADY

The Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is a sign of the Carmelite Order's dedication to Mary, the Mother of God, and their trust in her protection. It also symbolizes a commitment to follow Jesus, like Mary, and to live like her. The scapular can be worn by anyone to foster devotion to Mary, and some scholars say it's one of the most widely practiced Marian devotions. Here are some other things to know about the Brown Scapular:

**History:** The scapular originated as a practical garment, similar to a work apron, and was often worn by monks. In 1247, Fr. Simon Stock, the Prior General of the Carmelites, prayed to Mary for protection of the order in exchange for loyalty. He wrote the *Flos Carmeli* Prayer, which the monks prayed daily. The scapular became very popular in the Middle Ages and, by the Renaissance, "scapular brotherhoods" had formed.

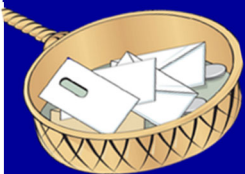
**Promises:** According to Mary, those who die wearing the scapular will not suffer eternal punishment and will be quickly released from Purgatory. The scapular also reminds wearers of the saving grace that Christ won on the cross.

**Miracles:** The scapular has been associated with many miracles. For example, one story tells of a great-grandfather who was struck by lightning but survived because his scapular protected him. Another story is about Blessed Pope Gregory X, who was buried with his scapular and when his tomb was opened 600 years later, the scapular was still intact.

**Apparitions:** The scapular has also been seen in apparitions. In 1917, Lucia, the visionary of Our Lady of Fatima, reported that Mary appeared to her wearing the Carmelite habit and holding the scapular. Mary said that her true children should wear it with reverence, and that those who consecrate themselves to her should wear it as a sign of that consecration.



# Financial Offerings



July 6 / 7, 2024

Unrestricted.....	\$23,016.00
Restricted .....	\$ 890.00
<b>T O T A L.....</b>	<b>\$23,906.00</b>

June 8 / 9 .....	\$19,124.00
June 15 / 16 .....	\$13,970.00
June 22 / 23 .....	\$19,061.00
June 29 / 30 .....	\$11,234.00

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



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



*"All right, all right, Elvis has left the building. You know that. He has left the building..."* (This phrase was first used by promoter Horace Logan on December 15, 1956, at the end of Elvis' last appearance on *The Louisiana Hayride* radio program.) Elvis was again in the building this past January 13 or, to put it more precisely, Elvis was in our Parish Hall. I saw him with my own eyes! He was invited to the Parish Sock Hop to "shake, rattle, and roll," as a fundraiser for our School. The event was organized by Mary Helen Estrada, and she is also the one who invited

Elvis. They hadn't seen each other since 1968 when Mary Helen attended the *"Elvis Presley '68 Comeback Special,"* which was filmed in Burbank. Google it if you don't believe me. This is a story about **Albert and Mary Helen Estrada**.

Albert Estrada and Mary Helen Tamez have been sweethearts since they went to Woodrow Wilson High School in Los Angeles. Albert was born on what is now Third Base at Dodger Stadium; that's right, in old Chavez Ravine. Mary Helen's family moved from Corpus Christi to Los Angeles, where she attended Little Flower Missionary School, which was run by the Carmelite Sisters.

Albert was drafted by the Army right out of high school and proudly served our country from 1967 to 1969 during the Vietnam War. Before he left, he proposed to Mary Helen at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in El Sereno. After living in Alhambra for four years, they bought their present home in Rosemead. The Estradas—who have two daughters, Vikki and Christina, and one son, Aaron—will celebrate 55 years of marriage on September 20, 2024.

Active in the Charismatic Renewal during the seventies and eighties, Albert and Mary led prayer meetings and helped bring the *Life Teen* program to San Gabriel Mission, where they stayed involved in the program for twelve years. More recently, when their grandchildren started coming to St. Therese School seven years ago, Albert and Mary Helen fell in love with St. Therese Church. It has since become "home" for the Estrada family. Their three adult children are all teachers. Vikki is a stay-at-home mom, but she is also a substitute teacher at our School and helps with the *Little Flowers* girls' program. Her husband, Matthew, heads our School's *Troops of St. George* for boys. Recently, the troop went on a camping trip near Big Bear. Christina is a teacher at nearby Coolidge Elementary School but is frequently seen helping at our Parish School. Their son, Aaron, teaches ESL in El Monte. He and his wife, Maria, live down the street on El Molino and have an 18-month-old girl named Viviana. Albert and Mary Helen have three grandchildren presently enrolled at Saint Therese Carmelite School: Katelynn who is going into eighth grade and Christian Joshua and Juliana who are both going into second grade. Makayla graduated from St. Therese School last year and is now at St. Monica Academy.

Albert retired after 37 years in the printing industry. After staying home with their children, Mary Helen went back to school at the age of forty-five and earned a BA with a teaching credential. She taught ESL for twenty years before retiring in 2020. Today, Albert continues to enjoy his passion for raising birds and gardening. But the couple's real passion is Eucharistic adoration, which they do after their daily Mass. They have also been extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion for over forty years. The Estradas also love coordinating and hosting pilgrimages. Since 1978, they've traveled to Lourdes, Fatima, Assisi, Rome, and the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico. But the pilgrimage closest to their hearts is the one to the Holy Land, which they have been blessed to have visited eleven times! At the end of this month, they will take fifty-six pilgrims to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Alabama, where they have gone every year since 2010.

The Estradas are a close family and get together often. We are blessed by their active presence in our Parish.

**The Estrada 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.**

# Saint Therese Carmelite School

Deeply rooted in Carmelite spirituality, Saint Therese Carmelite School, united with our parents who are the primary educators of their children, seeks to form students in faith, academics, and virtue through a Classical education.



## Open Enrollment

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## COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GIFT COUNTER AFTER MASSES



Item Design / Color	Sizes Available	Price Each
<u>Tee</u> - St. Therese Centennial – White or Black	S / M / L / XL / 2XL	\$15
<u>Tee</u> - 100 Years – White	S / M / L / XL	\$15
<u>Tee</u> - St. Therese Parish — Full Print	2XL	\$30
<u>Hoodie</u> – Carmelite Crest – White or Sand	S / M / L / XL	\$40



# Mass Intentions

**July 13—July 20, 2024**

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Silverio Reyes, RIP

Sunday

\*7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

7:30 a.m.: Romeo P. Buenavente, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Gonzalo and Daisy Torres, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Ernie Grimm, 23rd B-day, INT

1 pm (Latin): Jocelyn Apolinar, INT

5:00 p.m.: Salvador DeAnda, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Wang-Shih Lin, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Delia Lorenzo, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Wang Shih-Lin, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Aurora Olivarez Relatores, RIP

Tuesday

6:00 a.m.: Mary DeSantis, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Terri Fabbri, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Cathleen Thompson, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Bridget Frei, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Wang-Shih Lin, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Elizabeth Cristina, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Jeffrey & Diana Russell, RIP

Thursday

6:00 a.m.: Teddy Yang, INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Mother Maria, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Sylvia McIntosh, RIP

Friday

6:00 a.m.: Bien Benito Rebanco, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: David Steele, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Helen Mitropolous, INT

Saturday (Morning):

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

and Mary Frances Magana, INT

8:00 a.m.: Shirley Sullivan, RIP

**\*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"!

# Pilgrimages

**OUR LADY OF CHAMPION** (approved Apparition) **PILGRIMAGE** with Saint Therese Parish's **Father David**: to visit the Shrines of Wisconsin, **AUGUST 10-16, 2024**. This is a Spiritual Retreat Pilgrimage including visits to Our Lady of Champion Shrine and our Carmelite Holy Hill Basilica. Two additional groups flying out of San Francisco and Tucson will be joining us on this fabulous journey. The per person/double occupancy total rate is \$2348 (from LAX). We will visit various Shrines of Our Lady, including Holy Hill Basilica and the Carmelite Nuns Cloister in Denmark, WI. Pick up a Pilgrimage Flyer for more information or email [denisekay@hotmail.com](mailto:denisekay@hotmail.com).

**CARMELITE PILGRIMAGE TO FRENCH CANADA:** St. Joseph Oratory, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Anne Beaupre, Cathedral-Basilica of Notre-Dame, and more... **August 23-30, 2024**. LAX to Montreal, Cost: \$3250 double occupancy (\$150 off for early bird discount by April 15th). For more information contact Louisa Day at (323) 360-5186 Or go to: [www.SacredHeartTours.com](http://www.SacredHeartTours.com).

Lord, let us see Your kindness  
and grant us Your salvation.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

# Personal Ad

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