

Saturday Morning Series on John of the Cross with Fr. Stephen Francis of the Cross on April 25, 2026, (from the 8:00 a.m. Mass through Benediction at 11:30 a.m.)



- 8:00 a.m. Mass followed by:
- Exposition of the Eucharist
 - Led Prayer & Silent Adoration
 - Conference by Fr. Stephen
 - 11:30 a.m. Benediction

Join us for the second event for **St Therese Church's Saturday Morning Retreat Series for the Centennial of St. John of the Cross**. Fr. Stephen's talk will compare **the spiritualities of John of the Cross and Francis of Assisi**.

Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a **Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi (January 10, 2026, through January 10, 2027)**, marking the **800th anniversary of his death**.. Providentially coinciding with this celebration, the **Discalced Carmelite friars** are observing the **Jubilee Year of St. John of the Cross (December 13, 2025, to December 26, 2026)**, honoring one of the Church's greatest mystics and Doctors. This overlap uniquely highlights the **deep spiritual harmony between these two saints, who, though belonging to different traditions, bear a strikingly similar evangelical and contemplative vision**.

In light of these twin jubilees, **Fr. Stephen Francis of the Cross** will offer a special reflection on the spiritual relationship between these two saints, exploring the remarkable parallels in their doctrine—particularly their shared emphasis on **detachment, poverty of spirit, and total surrender to God**—and how their teachings continue to illuminate the path to authentic Christian freedom and union with Christ.