

St. Therese Catholic Church

April 9, 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



Christ is risen!!! He is risen indeed!!! Blessed Easter, everyone!!!

Today we renew our baptismal promises as the culmination of our Lenten prayer, fasting, and works of mercy. It is meant to help us experience anew and live more and more FROM the Father's and the Son's and the Holy Spirit's love for us. **What does that look like?** A woman walked into a room full of noise, confusion, and worry. As she began to speak to various people, things began to calm down. Another woman came up to her and remarked, "What is it about you?? You walk into a room and people settle down!" The woman answered, "It's because my Father does not tolerate chaos." She was referring to her Heavenly Father. **Tomorrow is Bright Monday**, a day for playing a joke on someone in honor of Jesus playing the greatest joke ever on the devil by rising from the dead.

And then on **Tuesday, April 11, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.**, we have a **broomball game scheduled at the Pasadena Ice Skating Center. No skates needed!** Just bring your tennis shoes and a helmet if you have one (not mandatory, but a good idea). Donations accepted (it costs a lot to rent the ice for an hour.)

And now here is Dr Peter Kreeft: Every sermon preached by every Christian in the New Testament centers on the resurrection. The Gospel, or "Good News," means essentially the news of Christ's resurrection. The message that flashed across the ancient world, set hearts on fire, changed lives, and turned the world upside down was not "love your neighbor." Every morally sane person already knew that; it was not news. The news was that a man who claimed to be the Son of God and the Savior of the world had risen from the dead. When Paul preached the Gospel to the Stoic and Epicurean philosophers in Athens, they thought he was preaching two new gods, Jesus and Anastasis (Greek for "resurrection"; Acts 17:18). That's how important the resurrection was. (And that's how muddled the philosophers and scholars were. Nothing changes.)

A reasonable challenge to the skeptic is this: If it can be proved that Jesus really rose from the dead, will you believe in Him? For if he really rose, that validates His claim to be divine and not merely human, for resurrection from death is beyond human power; and His divinity validates the truth of everything else He said, for God cannot lie.

(PETER KREEFT'S ARTICLE CONTINUES ON PAGE FOUR)

Divine Mercy Sunday Schedule

Next 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

*Happy
Easter!*

2nd Excerpt from Fr. Thomas' Letter in the Bulletin of March 12, 2023:

As those first responsible for the education of their children, parents have the right to choose a school for them which corresponds to their own convictions (CCC 2229). Catholic parents have a right to choose a school that will not teach or promote false ideologies, a school that cares and fights for the souls of its students. Parents, it is your right to choose a school that educates children without harming their minds, their hearts, or their souls with educational ideologies, materials, or classes. Please exercise that right before it's too late.

You have a God-given right to choose a school which corresponds to your convictions. Does such a school exist? It sure does. Thanks to my predecessor and thanks to the parishioners of our Church, our School is a Carmelite Catholic classical school dedicated to forming students in faith, academics, and virtue. At Saint Therese Carmelite School, we have Carmelite friars teaching in the classroom. All, 100%, of teachers and staff are practicing Catholics. We do not use any of the educational theories which harm children's minds and souls. Our School relies on classical education...

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.

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.

"The Resurrection," by Peter Kreeft

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)



Rudolf Bultmann, "the father of demythologizing," said that "if the bones of the dead Jesus were discovered tomorrow in a Palestinian tomb, all the essentials of Christianity would remain unchanged." Paul disagreed. He said that "if Christ has not been raised, then 1) Our proclamation has been in vain and 2) your faith has been in vain. 3) We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that He raised Christ—whom He did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. 4) If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and 5) you're still in your sins. 6) Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. 7) If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied" (1 Cor 15:14-19).

Now who is more likely to know what Christianity is, what its essentials are, and whether these essentials would remain unchanged if Christ's corpse were to turn up tomorrow—the apostle or the skeptic? One of Christianity's first-century founders or one of its twentieth-century subverters? A Jew who knew Christ or a German scholar who knew books? The resurrection is of crucial practical importance because it completes our salvation. Jesus came to save us from sin and its consequence, death (Rom 6:23). (Thus, points 5 and 6 in the above paragraph.) The resurrection also sharply distinguishes Jesus from all other religious founders. The bones of Abraham and Muhammad and Buddha and Confucius and Lao-tzu and Zoroaster are all still here on earth. **Jesus' tomb is empty.**

The existential consequences of the resurrection are incomparable. It is the concrete, factual, empirical proof that life has hope and meaning; "love is stronger than death;" goodness and power are ultimately allies, not enemies; life wins in the end; God has touched us right here where we are and has defeated our last enemy; and we are not cosmic orphans, as our modern secular worldview would make us. And these existential consequences of the resurrection can be seen by comparing the disciples before and after. Before, they ran away, denied their Master, and huddled behind locked doors in fear and confusion. After, they were transformed from scared rabbits into confident saints, world-changing missionaries, courageous martyrs, and joy-filled touring ambassadors for Christ. **The greatest importance of the resurrection is not in the past—"Christ rose"—but in the present—"Christ IS risen."**

The Real St. Therese

After hearing of all of St. Therese's physical sufferings, we are in a better position to appreciate the unconscious irony of Sister Saint-Vincent de Paul's remark: "Why do they speak of Sister Therese of the Child Jesus as if she were a saint? She has practiced virtue, that's true, but she has not acquired virtue at



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

the cost of humiliations, let alone through suffering." It was at the precise moment when Therese, in the infirmary, was suffering such cruel agony that she was told what had been said of her. She wrote in June, **"The more interior the suffering is and the less apparent to the eyes of creatures, the more it rejoices you, my God."** Others, who were closer to her during this period, have categorically contradicted this assertion of Sister Saint-Vincent de Paul, who was relying solely on appearances. We must be grateful to Mother Agnes for the discreet way in which she recorded her sister's words, for it makes her own very brief comments all the more eloquent. "I was coming to a point where I desired her death so that she wouldn't suffer any longer." Expressions such as these run like a refrain through the Yellow Notebook. To the Guerin family she poured out her own feelings more freely: "I wonder how one can go on living in her condition. I assure you, having seen her suffer so much, I'll be consoled by her death. She'll be so happy." Sister Marie of the Eucharist shared Mother Agnes' views: "And we have even come to desire her deliverance for she's suffering a martyrdom." In their brevity, the doctors' comments also carry great weight. Dr. de Corniere, on September 20, was amazed at her unshakable patience and said: "She's suffering terribly; don't wish to prolong her agony." And Dr. La Neele, after his visit of August 30, said: "Understand, Mother, that this little sister is suffering a veritable martyrdom." Therese herself has told very plainly of her sufferings. She did not act stoic but admitted quite simply what she was feeling. Over the four-month period, her words about her physical sufferings do not appear very numerous, but they provide ample proof of her ascent to Calvary. We shall quote only a few: **"I have suffered very much for several days now."** **"Ever since July 28, these are big sufferings."** **"For the last three days, it's true that I've suffered very much."** **"I feel at this moment that I couldn't suffer any more. Last night I couldn't take any more!"** **"Never would I have believed I could suffer so much, and yet believe I'm not at the end of my pains."** **"If only you knew what I am suffering,"** etc. She said that she was ground down through suffering, **"like a harassed traveller who falls, exhausted."** Let us listen finally to what one of the witnesses had to say on this subject: "Three days before she died, I saw her in such pain that I was heartbroken. When I drew close to her bed, she tried to smile, and, in a strangled sort of voice, she said: **"If I didn't have faith, I could never bear such suffering. I am surprised that there aren't more suicides among atheists."** **Continues next week, space permitting.**

Eucharistic Adoration

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

*"Could you not watch one hour
with me?" (Mark 14:37)*



What is Eucharistic Adoration? Eucharistic Adoration is the adoration of Jesus Christ, truly present in the Holy Eucharist as displayed in a special holder called a "monstrance." The first Holy Hour was in the Garden of Olives when Jesus asked the apostles to pray with Him. While it is true that you can pray to God anywhere, it

is especially powerful to adore Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. St. Augustine: "God in his omnipotence could not give more... in His wisdom He knew not how to give more... in His riches He had not more to give, than the Eucharist."

Our Adoration Chapel: Our current Adoration Chapel, named "The Presentation Chapel," was dedicated on February 2, 2015, the Feast of the Presentation. The former Adoration Chapel was restored back to the architect's intended purpose as a Baptistry.

Be a Committed Adorer: Make a commitment to spend an hour or more every week with Our Lord in our Adoration Chapel! To sign up, go to <https://adorationpro.org/thereseca>. Click "Weekly Commitment," find the hour you desire, click "Sign Up" and fill out the form, and click "Signup" to enter it.

Keys to the Chapel | Security: If you have an electronic key and use the chapel after dark, please make sure you engage the lock when you enter so that the door cannot be opened without a key. Please do not let anyone whom you do not know follow you into the chapel if he/she doesn't have a key. This is an extremely important security issue.

Scripture Meditation: Believing is Seeing

You've heard the saying "Seeing is believing." Today's first reading seems to say just the opposite. You might think that when Jesus rose from the dead, everyone would see Him. Then His friends would rejoice and those who had put Him to death would repent (or run as fast as they could!). Yet, Peter says that He was only visible to some of the disciples. Jesus did not appear to Herod or Pilate or Caiaphas. The Pharisees and scribes did not see Him, either. Even the disciples did not immediately see Him. The first thing they saw was the empty tomb, with burial cloths lying on the ground. They may have thought that if His enemies had stolen Jesus' body, they would not have removed the burial cloths; touching a corpse would have made them unclean.

So it seems the empty tomb helped them to believe, and believing enabled them to see the Lord. The exception to this was Thomas, who said he would not believe until he saw and touched Jesus' risen body. Yet when he does see the Lord, Jesus himself declares that believing is primary when He blesses those who have not seen but still believe (John 20:31). I used to think that Jesus was invisible to non-believers, but Mary of Magdala saw Him, thinking He was the gardener. Then she believed and recognized Him.

What does this mean for us? Jesus seems to be hidden again. Yet, we say that we believe He is present in the sacraments; Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation show that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit live in us. So perhaps we just need to believe in order to see him.

Mother Teresa could do it. She said she was amazed at the love she felt when she saw Jesus in the poor and the dying people of Calcutta. St. Francis saw Him not only in the poor but in all creation. Maybe we need to grow in faith so that we can see Jesus in the poor, the dying, the people who annoy us, even our enemies. That is why it is so important to spread the Faith; if we don't see Jesus in everyone, we may never have true peace.



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

Rejoice and Be Glad!



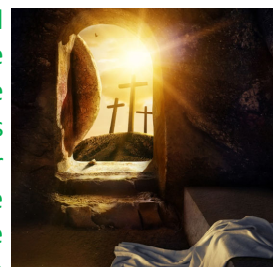
Developing **STRONG** and **ENGAGING** Jesus-Centered Catholic children, one student at a time.

- Classical Education
- Traditional Values
- Carmelite Spirituality

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

If Christmas is the "most wonderful time of the year," then Easter is the most joyous, glorious, awesome time of the year! Although today's readings don't exactly brim over with the kind of holiday cheer we find at Christmas—except for the Responsorial Psalm, which admittedly rings with gleeful joy. But otherwise, not so much. In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter gives a condensed rendering of the story of Jesus to a group of Gentiles in Caesarea. The Colossians reading actually does have us looking forward to glory.



Most underwhelming, though, is the Gospel proclamation of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we want to hear about angels and earthquakes and trumpets and glory, we hear about a dark, silent, empty tomb. However, like Peter, we must enter into this mystery.

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.

Collection of April 1 / 2, 2023: This bulletin had to be submitted for printing early—on March 30, 2023. Therefore, the totals for April 1 and 2 were not available at the time. The total collection for that weekend will be in next weekend's bulletin.

March 4 / 5	\$17,080.00
March 11 / 12	\$17,798.00
March 18 / 19	\$10,617.00
March 25 / 26	\$16,885.00

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

Mass Intentions

April 8—April 15, 2023

Holy Saturday Evening:

8:15 p.m.: Sarah Sandoval, INT

Easter Sunday:

7:30 am (Carm): Esther Pak's Mother & Family INT

7:30am: Brenda Millerd Fonseca, INT

9:00 am: In Th'gvg for God's creation and mercy

11:00 a.m.: Arenas Ortega Family, INT

1:00 p.m.: Jim Tierney, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: All Deceased Carmelite Friars

*7:30 a.m.: Joseph Can & Maria Hai Dang, RIP

8:00 a.m.: John F. Shea, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Easter Novena 1

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: John F. Shea, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Fr. Ed Broom, INT

8:00 a.m.: Easter Novena 2

7 p.m.: Leonila Huizar Ramos, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Novena 3

*7:30 a.m.: Eugenia Ji's Parents & Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Gonzalo & Daisy Torres, RIP

7:00 p.m.: John F. Shea, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Anita Lim, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Kristen Bang & Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Beth Lahoz, INT

7:00 p.m.: Easter Novena 4

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Novena 5

*7:30 a.m.: Thelma M. Piol, Birthday INT

8:00 a.m.: Discalced Carmelite Friars, INT

7:00 p.m.: Louise Jamila Sunga, RIP

Saturday Morning:

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

8:00 a.m.: Josephine Vasari, Birthday INT

***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

There is one danger I want to warn you about (although I may have mentioned it elsewhere), into which I have seen persons of prayer fall, especially women, for since we are weaker there is more occasion for what I'm about to say. It is that some have a weak constitution because of a great amount of penance, prayer, and keeping vigil, and even without these; in receiving some favor, their nature is overcome. Since they feel some consolation interiorly and a languishing and weakness exteriorly, they think they are experiencing a spiritual sleep (which is a prayer a little more intense than the prayer of quiet), and they let themselves become absorbed. The more they allow this, the more absorbed they become because their nature is further weakened, and they fancy that they are being carried away in rapture. I call it being carried away in foolishness, because it amounts to nothing more than wasting time and wearing down one's health (3, 11).



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.