

St. Therese Catholic Church

May 1, 2022

Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars

Est. 1924

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

When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught" (John 21:9-10).



MASSES | CONFESSIONS

Masses—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 Masses: 6:00 and 8:00 a.m.

(the daily 8:00 a.m., the Sunday 11:00 a.m., and the weekday 7:00 p.m. Masses are **LIVE STREAMED** on Facebook AND YouTube);

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

**Masses on Monday, *Tuesday (*Spanish),
Wednesday & Thursday EVENINGS at 7:00 p.m.**

First Friday Mass: 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS (OUTSIDE)-Wednesdays from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:30 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;

Fr. Bernard Perkins, OCD X225; Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD;
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: Paula Grimm | pgrimm.dir@gmail.com

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 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 MESSAGE

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!!!



Happy Third Sunday of Easter, everyone! First of all, I want to thank all of you who worked such long hours and with a prayer-filled heart to get our church ready for Holy Week and especially for the Paschal Triduum: the church staff, the choir, the altar society, all the cleaning volunteers, the sacristans, lectors, extraordinary ministers, livestream team, all the Religious Education volunteers and RCIA helpers and sponsors, the Knights, the OCDS, and the Healing Prayer ministry!!! Thank You, Lord Jesus, for shepherding all of us, speaking to us Your healing

words in the middle of all of the intensified work load...*Whew* (exhaling slowly...).

"That I may know
Christ and the Power
of His Resurrection
and to have
communion with
Him in His
sufferings."

--St Paul to the
Philippians

Also, **CONGRATULATIONS** to all of the St Therese Carmelite School and Religious Education children who are making their First Holy Communion today and who made their First Penance yesterday, as well as to those making their Holy Family Consecration today for what (normally) would be the Feast of St Joseph the Worker!!! And I hope you will all be able to join Fr. Ed Broom for his four-week series on the Acts of the Apostles starting this Thursday at 6:00 p.m.! As we continue in this Easter Season to grow in awareness of our baptismal identity, we strive to more fully know Jesus and **want to have communion with Him in His sufferings**.

Here is a story of something that happened to one of our parishioners: He was coming back from a workout so intense that his leg muscles were cramping. As he got to his apartment, he realized he would have to wait before climbing the stairs to his door. So he told the 6-year-old girl of a friend that he was caring for that day, "We're going to have to wait for a while to go in, because I can't make it up these stairs right now." The girl (whom he had taught how to pray in the Name of Jesus) responded with something like, "Let's pray for that: Jesus, please heal these legs....in the Name of Jesus, legs be healed." He felt something like a release in his legs, moved around on them, and realized Jesus had just healed him of his leg cramps—with the help of a 6-year-old!

Ever since that First Easter 2000 years ago, we have in Jesus—Really and Truly Present—an Open Heaven. Heaven begins on earth. Here are some thoughts about Heaven (taken from **Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Heaven...But Never dreamed of Asking** by Peter Kreeft [First Edition, pp. 46–47] published by Ignatius Press):

Is There Music in Heaven? First of all, the Bible says so. Secondly, great earthly music is particularly Heavenly, a sign or pointer beyond itself to Heaven. What was dimly suggested in all earthly music that moved us so much that the ancients necessarily ascribed it not to men but to gods—goddesses, the nine Muses—is precisely Heavenly music. That is why we were moved here; it reminded us of There, which is our Home. Third, it may well be in music that the world was created, and that music is the original language. Spoken poetry is to music what prose is to poetry. Poetry is not ornamented prose, and music is not accompanied poetry. Prose is ossified poetry, and poetry is half of music. It is not that music is in Heaven; Heaven is in music. Heaven is "the region where there is only life, and therefore all that is not music is silence". Heaven is both silent, like the contemplative mystic, and full of sound, like a dance or a symphony.

How Big Is Heaven? The very nature of space, and therefore of size, changes in Heaven. Meaning determines size, rather than size, meaning. The New Jerusalem's measures are symbolic, not physical. Heaven is big enough so that billions of races of billions of saved people are never crowded, yet small enough so that no one gets lost or feels lonely. And we can travel anywhere in Heaven simply by will.

Finally, here is a helpful email I received about an objection sometimes voiced at our parish regarding lay people praying over other people, especially deliverance prayers over others:

"I am a parishioner at St. Therese and I've had a brief conversation with you regarding lay people praying over people for the purpose of casting out demons, and I just wanted to pass along this brief five-minute video from Catholic Answers for your consideration. Tim Staples discusses the difference between minor exorcism (which any baptized Catholic can do) and major exorcism (which only a priest with permission from his Bishop can do). I have also heard Patrick Madrid and Jesse Romero say similar things, and I know Jesse Romero has a lot of experience in this area."
(To watch this video, go to <https://www.catholic.com/video/who-can-cast-out-demons>).

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

QUIET LISTENING PRAYER

From *THE WAY OF PERFECTION* by St. Teresa of Jesus (of Avila)

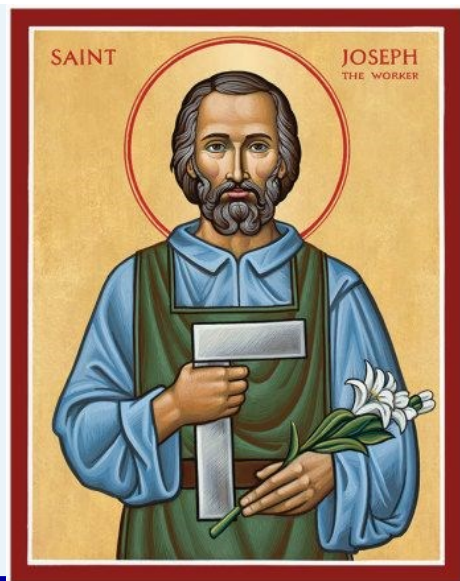
Oh, how we fail to know what we are asking for and how His wisdom provided in a better way! He reveals Himself to those who He sees will benefit by His presence. Even though they fail to see Him with their bodily eyes, He has many methods of showing Himself to the soul, through great interior feelings and through other different ways. Be with Him willingly; don't lose so good an occasion for conversing with Him as is the hour after having received Communion. If obedience should command something, strive to leave your soul with the Lord. If you immediately turn your thoughts to other things, if you pay no attention and take no account of the fact that He is within you, how will He be able to reveal Himself to you? This, then, is a good time for our Master to teach us, and for us to listen to Him, kiss His feet because He wanted to teach us, and beg Him not to leave.



If you have to pray to Him by looking at His picture, it would seem to me foolish. You would be leaving the Person Himself in order to look at a picture of Him. Wouldn't it be silly if a person we love very much and of whom we have a portrait came to see us and we stopped speaking with him so as to carry on a conversation with the portrait? Do you want to know when it is very good to have a picture of Christ and when it is a thing in which I find much delight? When He himself is absent, or when by means of a great dryness He wants to make us feel He is absent. It is then a wonderful comfort to see an image of One whom we have so much reason to love. Wherever I turn my eyes, I would want to see His image. With what better or more pleasing thing can our eyes be occupied than with One who loves so much and who has in Himself all goods. Unfortunate are those heretics who through their own fault have lost this consolation among others (Chapter 34, Nos. 10-11).

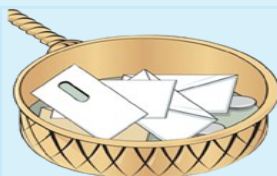
PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER (MAY 1ST IS HIS FEAST)

O God, the Creator of all things, you have imposed on all men the obligation of work. May the example and prayers of St. Joseph help us to accomplish the tasks you have commanded us to perform, so that we may attain the reward you have promised. Through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.



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 23 / 24, 2022
 Unrestricted..... \$19,116.00
 Restricted\$ 2,066.00
T O T A L.....\$21,182.00

March 26/27\$10,004.00
 April 2/3 \$16,234.00
 April 9/10 \$19,007.00
 April 16/17 \$19,758.00

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

RUMMAGE SALE TODAY!



The School's Rummage Sale will continue (and conclude) today, Sunday, May 1st, until 2:00 p.m. "Rummage" through classic treasures, gently-used appliances, furniture, clothing, toys, electronics, costume jewelry, knick-knacks, and more. Don't miss out! All proceeds will go to support our School.

YOUTH EVENT!

All Youth (Middle School and High School) and their families are invited to join us on Friday, May 20, for this event.

It will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Church with Adoration, followed by a Pizza Social in the Hall, and then a concert at 7:30 p.m., with the Music Artist *COMMUNION*.

We hope to see many of you there!



COR JESU PRESENTS



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Acts of the Apostles

FR. ED BROOM, OMV, will conduct this four-week course on the **Acts of the Apostles** beginning **THIS THURSDAY, MAY 5**, and continuing on the following three Thursdays: **May 12, 19, and 26**.



Fr. Broom will first celebrate **Mass at 6:00 p.m.** on each of those evenings, followed by his talk at **7:10 p.m.**

Thursdays @ 7:10 pm | Mass: 6:00 pm
May 5, 12, 19, 26 | Class: 7:10 pm

A Spiritual Bouquet to Our Lady of Fatima

On May 7, the first Saturday in the month of Mary, St. Therese Parish will begin offering a Spiritual Bouquet to honor Our Lady's request of the **Five First Saturdays Devotion**. Please join us by committing to make the Five First Saturdays in honor of Our Lady of Fatima.

This weekend, April 30 / May 1, after all the Masses (outside the church), we will provide a Spiritual Bouquet offering form, as well as multiple devotional materials, to all those who are interested. If you have any questions, please contact Maria Alejandra at (626) 993-4236.

Five First Saturdays Devotion:

In 1917 at Fatima, Our Lady asked us to make the Five First Saturdays Devotion (in five consecutive months) as reparation to her Immaculate Heart for the sins of blasphemy and ingratitude committed against her Immaculate Heart. Each of those Saturdays includes: **1) Going to Confession, 2) Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion, 3) Praying five decades of the Rosary, and 4) Meditating for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary.**

The first sin of five is blasphemy against the Immaculate Conception. The first stage of Satan's total war against Our Lady is blasphemy committed in the denial of her Immaculate Conception. *Did God really create the Holy Virgin from the first moment of her life fully immaculate, endowed with the all-encompassing graces of that most pure conception? Does He maintain these graces in her throughout human history?* If not, then all those truths which build on this one would collapse. Mary's sacred vocation is entirely dependent upon this truth. Allowing the first sin to weaken this belief in the hearts of the faithful and even to remove it completely is to ensure the loss of innumerable souls. The Immaculate Conception of Mary is a solemnly proclaimed dogma of our Catholic Faith. Without this gift from God, Our Lady could not have performed the role assigned to her as the "new Eve," meriting all those titles and prerogatives of her sacred mission. She would not have been chosen to be the Mother of Christ and of His Mystical Body.



The importance of this privilege will be further highlighted as we continue to assess the other sins. We should mark the fact that in this stage Our Lady was fully a recipient with no activity on her part. The next four phases, on the other hand, are the story of her acting upon the plenary graces of the Immaculate Conception, an ascending revelation of her sacred mission.

Baby Bottle Drive / Baby Shower



GPS-Guadalupe Pregnancy Services asks for your help for their annual Mother's Day Baby Bottle Drive & Baby Shower Outreach.

Baby Bottle Distribution: NEXT Saturday and Sunday, *May 7th and 8th

Baby Bottle Collection: Saturday and Sunday, *May 21st and 22nd

*GPS volunteers will be outside the church after each of the above-stated Masses to distribute/collect the baby bottles. Fill your baby bottle with coins, bills, or checks (like a piggy bank) and bring it back when you come to Mass on the collection day.

BRAND NEW BABY SHOWER GIFTS for baby and moms are also greatly needed. We will have a Pac n' Play crib out on Mother's Day weekend to collect your donations of baby items (blankets, diapers sized from newborn to 5 & 6, sippy cups, baby bottles, pacifiers, bibs, socks, teething toys, hard cover books, new clothes sized newborn to size 3T for boys/girls, toiletries; shampoo, lotion, powder, etc., and other baby essentials). You are welcome to also bring **ESSENTIALS FOR MOMS**: feminine hygiene products, gently used or new maternity clothes, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.

Thank you for participating in this important Pro-life Outreach!

Fasting from the Wound of Hopelessness

PAUSE TO HEAR GOD SPEAK:

"Consider how He endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart."

-Hebrews 12:3

"It is the Lord who goes before you; He will be with you and will never fail you nor forsake you."

-Deuteronomy 31:8

Today, I choose to fast from the wound of hopelessness. Hope has two ingredients: the *desire* for something and the *belief* that it might happen. Whenever we feel hopeless, desire and/or belief are missing. Without desire, we simply lack enthusiasm and zeal. If you have trouble getting motivated, a lack of desire may be the issue. We will spend more time with unbelief in a future meditation, but it is at work in your life if you think the future is bleak. When we are hopeless, we often think to ourselves, "What's the point?" "It'll never change," or "It won't get any better." As we look at our lives, we find that these



negative thoughts connect to negative emotions such as apathy. Go deep enough, and you might find a belief that God really doesn't care about you. Today, let's especially ask God to show us and heal us of our hopelessness.



Take time to ask yourself . . .

What are the things in my life that seem impossible? Why?

What are the things that make me feel enthused and motivated? Why?

Pray slowly... Heavenly Father, In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I renounce hopelessness and repent all the ways in which I have sinned because of it, particularly the ways in which I have despaired and given up. I reject hopelessness in every area of my life. I renounce any lies that I have come to believe, including lies such as "It will never get better," "I'll never have what I want," or "God doesn't care about the things I want." I renounce any companion emotions such as disappointment, discouragement, and worry. Send your Holy Spirit to transform my heart and mind, giving me supernatural hope. Amen.

The above is taken from the book, *Lenten Healing*, by Ken Kniepmann—available for sale in the parish office.

Mass Intentions

April 30 to May 7, 2022

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Franklin Teng, Birthday INT

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: Thu-Dung Hoang, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Emily Cheah, INT

9:00 a.m.: Parishioners

11:00 a.m.: Carl Thompson, INT

1:00 p.m.: Louis Nguyen Van-Huong, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Fritz Neumann, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Alicia Nava, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Rita Leathem, INT

8:00 a.m.: Lina Calara, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Erick Gilberto Arenas, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Rebecca Canonizardo, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Tony C. Cailan, Birthday INT

8:00 a.m.: Damaris Shower, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Irene Saucedo, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Alicia Nava, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: John Li, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Eliot Robinson, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Marietta Okamoto, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: John Hummel, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Norman Felong, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Augustin Ramos, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Alicia Nava, RIP

First Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Flower Enrollees

*7:30 a.m.: Marietta Okamoto, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Merle Smith & Family, INT

7:00 p.m.: Chun Tsai Yang, RIP

Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Josefina Villacorta, RIP

*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel,
215 East Alhambra Road,
Alhambra, California.

The Carmel Chapel is open to the public every day **except Sundays.**

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. weekday Masses are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube (for those unable to attend due to illness, etc.). Links to those two sites are on our website's home page (in the top left column).

Smiting...or Non-Smiting?

A line in today's first reading that says, the disciples were "rejoicing that they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name" (Acts 5:41). Imagine rejoicing over pain and suffering. These disciples had seen Jesus on the cross. When He rose from the dead, they began to see that His suffering was not a tragic loss, but a sign of His glory. And when they suffered because they believed in Him, as in today's reading, they saw that as a way to imitate Jesus on the cross. Those who had followed Him in life could also follow Him to the cross.



Most of us today find ourselves suffering because we have done wrong. God does not use special interventions to smite sinners. Think of the times we were punished as a child or the times we lost a friend because of our cruel remarks. These are the result of our actions. These are sufferings that we would rather avoid. Jesus, however, suffered for our sins though He was totally innocent. If He could do that, could we not accept suffering for our own sins when it comes? If we behave differently because of it, if we can grow to be better persons, then that suffering can be our way of accepting the cross.

Of course, not all suffering is caused by the sins of the person suffering. The suffering of the innocent is a great mystery, a cause for sorrow and a challenge to help where we can. But like growing pains, all suffering is a step to new life in Christ. And that is what Easter is about.

Outside the Parish

Carmelite Pilgrimage with FR. RAYMOND BUENO, OCD, to the Marian Shrines of Wisconsin on October 5-12. \$3,295 (double room occupancy) includes round-trip non-stop AA flights from LAX, land travel by deluxe coach, 3*/4* hotels with private bath/daily breakfast/dinner, all touring, daily Mass. \$200 Early bird Discount by May 15th. Add \$450 for single room occupancy. For details, call Louisa & Jack Day at (323) 360-5186 or (323) 403-8768

14-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land (September 28 to October 11, 2022, led by Fr. Darrin Merlino, CMF, for \$4,989). For more information, contact Parishioners Albert and Mary Helen Estrada at (626) 285-6687 or remembertoapl@sbcglobal.net.

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