

St. Therese Catholic Church

May 28, 2023

Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars

Est. 1924

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



"Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit..."

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 XI 12



ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

principal@saintthersecarmeliteschool.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

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world! Come, let us worship Him! Alleluia!



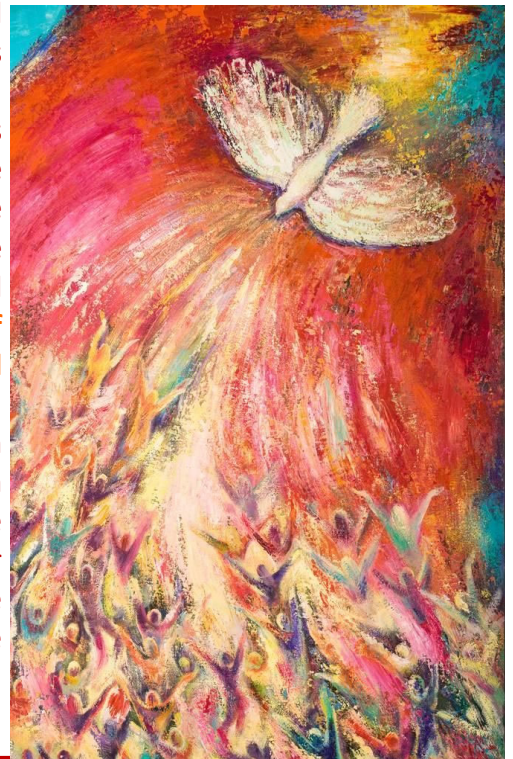
Blessed Pentecost Sunday, everyone! Today, eighteen of our young and older disciples of the Lord Jesus and His Catholic Church will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation—which the Catechism says "in a certain way perpetuates the grace of Pentecost in the Church," and is our personal Pentecost (CCC 1288, 1302). The rest of us will be asking the Holy Spirit to renew the grace of our personal Pentecost.

If anyone reading this has not been confirmed, please consider joining our next RCIA class this September. Why? Because "Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation (i.e., it helps us experience more deeply that we are beloved sons/daughters of our Heavenly Father), incorporates us more firmly into Christ, strengthens our bond with the Church, associates us more closely with her mission, and gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and to never be ashamed of the Cross (CCC 1316, 1303).

Isn't it amazing that we get extra strength from the Holy Spirit with the help of signs and wonders such as various healings right here at St. Therese Church every week, to help us confess Jesus boldly?!?! And because "we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes with groanings beyond words," He is also the Teacher of prayer (Romans 8:26). Since His preferred prayer language is silent love, quiet listening, I encourage everyone to keep hanging in there by carving out some quiet time somewhere in the day and taking your Bible to hear a few words from Him (like Romans 8) and talk to Him in the silence and listen to Him talking to you—even if it's just a few minutes to start with.

Practically every week now someone comes up to me and thanks me for the silent time at Mass, especially after Holy Communion. Here is a recent story from a mom: her son recently heard about the value of praying just one Hail Mary from the heart before acting, and she says he has started putting it into practice when playing sports and being on stage, "and he's loving how it works!" **Come, Holy Spirit of wisdom and understanding, counsel and strength, knowledge and fear of the Lord and holy piety!!!** 🔥🔥🔥🔥🔥🔥

"Do you want to know yourself better? Then discover silence... In the world in which we live, it is almost a necessity to be able to regain one's strength of body and spirit, especially for those who live in the city, where the conditions of life, often feverish, leave little room for silence, reflection, and relaxed contact with nature... Friends, do not be afraid of silence or stillness. Listen to God. Adore Him in the Eucharist" (Pope Benedict XVI).



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



Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith  Academics  Virtue



**EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS
THROUGH A CLASSICAL EDUCATION**

- Catholic, Carmelite, Classical
- Students formed in faith, academics, and virtues
- Small class sizes; student-to-teacher ratio 1:12
- Formal Latin studies in 3rd - 8th grade
- Advanced math classes through Algebra I and Euclidean geometry
- All-School Choir
- Iconography taught by a Carmelite friar
- Saint Therese Carmelite School students have been admitted to all the local high schools. Many are admitted with high commendations, honors at entrance, and merit-based scholarships
- Standardized test scores are above the 75th percentile in math and above the 65th percentile in reading



Graduation | Last Day of School!

The last day of School for ALL students is this coming Friday, June 2. Well done, students!

The Graduation Mass, ceremony, and celebration of our 8th Grade Students will take place that day at 5:00 p.m.

Congratulations,
Class of 2023!

We are
PROUD of you!



Open Enrollment

We are now accepting applications for Grades TK through 8th. Call the School for a tour! (See the contact info at the bottom of this page.)

A Spiritual Bouquet to Our Lady of Fatima

FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION

to honor & make reparation to the

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



Mark your calendar for our next First Saturdays Devotion on June 3, and join us for the Rosary and a 15-minute meditation after the 8:00 a.m. Mass that day! For any questions, please contact Maria Alejandra at (626) 282-2744, Ext 1 + 235.

Apparitions in Fatima by Our Lady (June 13, 1917 | The Second Apparition): At the Cova da Iria, Our Lady told the children to add the following prayer to the end of each decade of the Rosary, "Oh, my Jesus, forgive us our sins. Save us from the fires of Hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy." The children asked Our Lady to take them to Heaven. She answered, "Soon I will take Jacinta and Francisco, but Lucia is to stay a while longer." She gave the mission of establishing devotion to Her Immaculate Heart to Lucia. She told Lucia: "My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God." Our Lady then asked Lucia to learn to read and write. Our Lady also gave the children another vision of God and revealed to them Her Immaculate Heart, surrounded by thorns, outraged by the sins of humanity, and seeking reparation for them.

If you have any questions, please call Maria Alejandra at (626) 282-2744. When the recording comes on, enter 1 + 235.

Baby Bottle Drive

GPS-Guadalupe Pregnancy Services' annual Mother's Day Baby Bottle & Baby Shower is going on now!

This weekend, May 27 & 28, please turn in your filled baby bottles to the GPS volunteers outside the church. If you forgot to bring yours, you may drop it off this week at the parish offices. Thank you!

If you brought any Baby Shower Gifts for babies and moms, please place them in the Pac n' Play crib available in front of the church.



Thank you for thinking of others! God will surely bless you for your kindness and generosity!



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your Love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray. O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

QUIET LISTENING PRAYER THE INTERIOR CASTLE By St Teresa of Avila

This recollection is a preparation for being able to listen, as is counseled in some books, so that the soul— instead of striving to engage in discourse—strives to remain attentive and aware of what the Lord is working in it. If His Majesty has not begun to absorb us, I cannot understand how the mind can be stopped. There's no way of doing so without bringing about more harm than good (3, 4).

(In other words, St. Teresa is saying that if you are not noticing an interior absorption or desire for more silence and being alone with Him, then by all means gently pray a decade of the Rosary, or the Jesus Prayer ("Jesus" while breathing in, and "mercy" while breathing out) or talk to Him about your real day/life, your hopes and dreams and joys and sorrows, or take the Pew Missal out and read some Scripture and try to follow anything that attracts you with a child-like heart.

-FTK)



Saint Therese Carmelite School



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

7 GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



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.

May 20 / 21, 2023

Unrestricted.....	\$14,006.00
Restricted	\$ 345.00
T O T A L.....	\$14,351.00

April 22 / 23	\$15,808.00
April 29 / 30	\$13,752.00
May 6 / 7	\$16,229.00
May 13 / 14	\$17,735.00

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



Come, Holy Spirit!



This weekend, the Church celebrates Pentecost, one of the most important feast days of the year that concludes the Easter season and celebrates the beginning of the Church. It is considered the "Birthday of the Church." Here's what you need to know about the

feast day: Pentecost always occurs fifty days after the death and resurrection of Jesus, and ten days after His ascension into Heaven. Because Easter is a moveable feast without a fixed date, and Pentecost depends on the timing of Easter, Pentecost can fall anywhere between May 10 and June 13.

The timing of these feasts is also where Catholics get the concept of the Novena—nine days of prayer—because in Acts 1, Mary and the Apostles prayed together "continuously" for nine days after the Ascension leading up to Pentecost. Traditionally, the Church prays the Novena to the Holy Spirit in the days before Pentecost.

The name of the day itself is derived from the Greek word "pentecoste," meaning fiftieth. In the Christian tradition, Pentecost is the celebration of the person of the Holy Spirit coming upon the Apostles, Mary, and the first followers of Jesus, who were gathered together in the Upper Room. A "strong, driving" wind filled the room where they were gathered, and tongues of fire came to rest on their heads, allowing them to speak in different languages so that they could understand each other. It was such a strange phenomenon that some people thought the Christians were just drunk—but Peter pointed out that it was only the morning, and said the phenomenon was caused by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit also gave the apostles the other gifts and fruits necessary to fulfill the great commission: to go out and preach the Gospel to all nations. It fulfills the New Testament promise from Christ (Luke 24:46-49) that the Apostles would be "clothed with power" before they would be sent out to spread the Gospel.



The Real St. Therese

Therese's state of physical weakness gave rise to different kinds of temptations.

First, there were thoughts of gluttony, which were a further humiliation. Therese who never liked very many foods and who, strangely, had never understood "the

custom of inviting one's friends to meals," found herself, when dying of hunger, experiencing all sorts of fancies for food. She was unexpectedly assailed by a real temptation of gluttony. Her imagination put before her all sorts of choice foods and she was obsessed by the desire to have them. The Yellow Note-Book gives us more precise information: "It's quite incredible! Now that I can no longer eat, I have a desire for all sorts of things; for example, chicken cutlets, rice, tuna, fish!" These may not appear to us today to be "choice" dishes, but for a Carmelite, accustomed to a meatless diet and monastic frugality, they were a feast! Therese accepted moreover, with simplicity, the little dishes of food her aunt made for her as a humiliation for having been thought lacking in mortification.

Of a much more serious nature were the temptations against faith that tormented Therese. Concerning this spiritual trial "that is impossible to understand," Therese was much more reserved. If we did not have the confidence given to Mother Marie de Gonzague in Manuscript C, the fifteen or so words in the Yellow Note-Book about this trial would have been drowned in a sea of pleasantries and smiles.

If we are not to rely on appearances, then it is all the more necessary that we do not do so in this case. The insufficient data contained in the *Derniers Entretiens* needs to be clarified by Therese's writings. Situated in the medical context as we now know it, the trial of faith appears even more terrible. Many know what it is like to be crushed by physical suffering. Countless sick people experience the anguish of being overwhelmed by the obsession of annihilation, the temptation to despair; but to endure both at the same time, especially when one is Sister Therese, that is to say, when one is very sensitive and intensely receptive, it must be even worse.



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

Mass Intentions

Mary in the Upper Room

May 27—June 3, 2023

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: The Ukranian People, INT

Sunday:

- *7:30 a.m.: (Carm): Sr. Elizabeth, OCD, INT
- 7:30 a.m.: Alex, Lauren, & Ellena Cheah, INT
- 9:00 a.m.: Soledad Ruiz, RIP
- 11:00 a.m.: Augustin Juarez, RIP
- 1:00 p.m.: Ursulina Aquino, RIP
- 5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

Monday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Valentino Marcos Alvero, RIP
- *7:30 a.m.: Sr. Elizabeth, OCD, INT
- 8:00 a.m.: Jose Vicente Aragon, RIP
- 7:00 p.m.: Flame of Love Apostolate

Tuesday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Ramon Curameng, RIP
- *7:30 a.m.: Sr. Elizabeth, OCD, INT
- 8:00 a.m.: Ronaldo Cuarto, RIP
- 7:00 p.m.: Ester Galvez Aragon, INT

Wednesday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Ramon Curameng, RIP
- *7:30 a.m.: Maria & Zoilo Mauriz, RIP
- 8:00 a.m.: All Souls in Purgatory
- 7:00 p.m.: Flame of Love Apostolate

Thursday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Joseph Lim, INT
- *7:30 a.m.: Noralyn Cailan, Birthday Intention
- 8:00 a.m.: Noralyn Cailan, Birthday Intention
- 7:00 p.m.: Gracie Holman, Birthday Intention

Friday:

- 6:00 a.m.: Otto Lopez, Birthday Intention
- *7:30 a.m.: McAllister Family, INT
- 8:00 a.m.: Mariano Aguilar, Birthday Intention
- 7:00 p.m.: Erick Lopez, Birthday Intention

Saturday Morning:

- *7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns' Community INT
- 8:00 a.m.: Tiburcio T. Buenavente, RIP

***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).

By St. John Paul II

"All these with one accord devoted themselves to prayer, together with the women and the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren" (Acts 1:14). In these simple words the author of Acts records the presence of Christ's mother in the upper



room during the days of preparation for Pentecost. In the Acts of the Apostles, Mary is as one of those taking part in the preparation for Pentecost as a member of the first community of the Church which was coming into being. On the basis of Luke's Gospel and of other New Testament texts, a Christian tradition on Mary's presence in the Church was formed, which the Second Vatican Council summed up by hailing her as a preeminent and wholly unique member of the Church (cf. LG 53), inasmuch as she is the mother of Christ, and therefore the Mother of God. The Council Fathers recalled in the introductory message the words of the Acts of the Apostles, as forementioned. It was as though they wished to emphasize that just as Mary was present at the beginning of the Church, so likewise they desired her presence in the assembly of the apostles' successors gathered together in the second half of the twentieth century in continuity with the community of the upper room. In coming together for the work of the Council, the Fathers also wished "to devote themselves with one accord to prayer with Mary the mother of Jesus" (cf. Acts 1:14). [Excerpted from a homily given by St. John Paul II on June 28, 1989]

Outside the Parish

5-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO! OCTOBER 9 -13, 2023. Join us as we fly American Airlines direct to Mexico City where we will pray at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, walk to Tepeyac Hill to the Old Cathedral, site of the apparition, and have daily Mass in and around colonial Mexico! (Priest TBA). Enjoy famous Talavera tiles and the amazing Rosary Chapel in Puebla. Visit Coyoacan and Ocotlan, site of many miracles! Enjoy a boatripe on Xochimilco's floating gardens! \$1,499 4-Star Hotel, Breakfasts/Dinners incl. Deadline 7/25/23. Contact Albert and Mary Helen Estrada (626) 533-4839.

Come join the Carmelite Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of St. Therese of Lisieux & St. Elizabeth of the Trinity," from Sept 28-Oct 11, incl Paris, Lourdes, Ars, etc. Chaplains are Fr. Mark Kissner, OCD, and Fr. Joseph Mary Tran, OCD. Contact Beth Maddatu at (408) 903-6305 | maddatubeth2@gmail.com.