

Est. 1924

# St. Therese Catholic Church

Now Celebrating the Centennial of Our Founding (1924-2024)

December 22, 2024 1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

## Fourth Sunday of Advent



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And how does this happen that the mother of my Lord should come to me? At the moment your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.

—Luke 1:41-44

### 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 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

**Parish Secretary:** Denise McMaster-Holguin X 1+223  
denisekay@hotmail.com

**Finance:** Noralyn Cailan X 1+228 | cailannocds@gmail.com

**Religious Ed:** Florence Goh X 1+ 235|stcreligiously7@gmail.com

**Music Director:** Charlotte Lansberg X 1+222|credochoir1@gmail.com

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

## ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X 1 + 661

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,

I wish you a blessed remainder of the Advent season and a truly Blessed Christmas as we approach the last of our centennial celebrations as a parish! As we draw near to the great mystery of the Incarnation and Our Savior's birth in this last year of Eucharistic Revival in our country, I want to share with you **from the Carmelite Sisters' Las Posadas Novena booklet on the real connection between Our Lord's Nativity and the Holy Eucharist:**

"In the quiet of that sacred night, as Mary and Joseph cradled Jesus for the first time, they adored God—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity: all power and glory, hidden in the tiny, vulnerable Baby entrusted to their care. The God of Glory, who revealed Himself on Sinai, now revealed Himself in obscurity, need, and weakness. Filled with wonder, Mary pondered her unique vocation as the mother of her God, who made Himself entirely dependent upon her as her Son. Joseph, filled with awe, took in the scene before him, struck by the weight of his responsibility as protector of the Holy Family.

"In that moment, the first Christmas dawned upon the world, the union of the divine with the human, the sacred and the ordinary. The adoration of Jesus in the manger foreshadowed the adoration of Christ in the Eucharist, where we also gaze upon the mystery of God manifested in the flesh.

"Let us pray for one another as we enter into the Christmas season, approaching the Christ Child with hearts aflame with love, allowing His presence to renew us as we encounter Him in the Eucharist."

May you and your families have a truly Blessed Christmas in the coming days! And I ask that you please remember your beloved parish in your end-of-the-year giving! Thank you and may God Bless and keep you!

—Fr. Peter Mary



## New Centennial Statue of St. Therese Arriving Soon!

Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

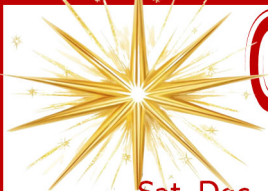
You've probably noticed the bare front corner of Alhambra Road and El Molino Street. This area has been cleared to prepare for a glorious **five-foot tall marble statue of St. Therese which was donated by a generous benefactor in honor of our Centennial Year as a parish. It is a replica of the statue outside of the Carmelite Monastery in Lisieux, France;** it will stand atop a three-foot high granite pedestal. Surrounding the statue will be a new rose garden complete with a bench for meditation.

Let us remember to thank God and pray for our benefactors!

- Fr. Peter Mary







# CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S

## Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Sat, Dec. 21: 3:00–5:00 p.m. | Monday, December 23: 7:00—9:00 p.m. (just added!)

### Masses for the Solemnity of Christmas

\*Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24: 5:00 p.m. and \*Midnight

Note: \*Choral and Brass Prelude at 11:30 p.m.

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25:

7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., \*11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. Latin High Mass (NO 5:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day; \*Choral & Brass Prelude)

### Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Eve Vigil Mass

\*Tuesday, December 31: 7:15 p.m.

\*Solemnity on Wednesday, January 1

10:00 a.m. and \*7:15 p.m. (\*Confessions will follow at 8:00 p.m.)

\*No 6:00 or 8:00 a.m. Masses on New Year's Day



Thank you to everyone who bought tickets! We are now **SOLD OUT!**



If you made a reservation but haven't paid, you need to do so in order to stay on the list as we have people on a "wait list"

## ST. THERESE CHURCH 100TH ANNIVERSARY

1924-2024

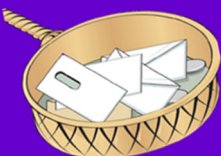
# "Gala of Roses"



# We Wish ALL of you a VERY Merry Christmas Day and a Joyous 12 Days of Christmas!



# Financial Offerings



December 7 / 8, 2024

Unrestricted.....	\$21,463.00
Restricted .....	\$ 355.00
<b>T O T A L.....</b>	<b>\$21,818.00</b>

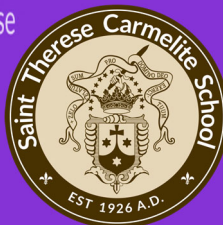
November 9/10 .....	\$19,987.00
November 16/17 .....	\$12,421.00
November 23/24 .....	\$17,177.00
Nov. 30 / Dec. 1 .....	\$26,715.00

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



Saint Theresse Carmelite School  
Faith ✦ Academics ✦ Virtue

Deeply rooted in Carmelite spirituality, Saint Theresse 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.



# EXTRA ADVENT CONFESSION

CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

If you were unable to go to confession last week, we have added an extra confessional time to our schedule before Christmas. It will be this **Monday, December 23rd, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** We will still have our regular Monday evening **7:15 p.m. Mass.**

## Open House

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

10 AM-3 PM

TK-8TH GRADE

1106 EAST ALHAMBRA ROAD, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91801

**COME AND  
SEE WHAT  
MAKES US  
SPECIAL!**



**The Open House  
will begin in the  
Parish Hall.**



# National Eucharistic Revival



Do This in Remembrance of Me—Part 18: Response After Readings & Part 19: Alleluia—  
“The Word of the Lord.” “Thanks be to God!” After the First and Second Readings at Mass, we have this familiar statement and response from the congregation. The lector says, “The Word of the Lord,” as if to say, “In case you forgot or didn’t notice, the Lord God of heaven and earth was just speaking to you.” Our response, “Thanks be to God,” acknowledges that God is truly speaking to his people through the Bible reading we just heard and that we recognize we are blessed to hear those words!

**Alleluia!** According to the Catechism, “Alleluia” is a word that means, “Praise the Lord!” (CCC, no. 2589). While we use the word “Alleluia” for the Gospel Acclamation most of the time, as Charles Belmonte notes, “During Lent, instead of Alleluia, an acclamation is made before and after the verse before the Gospel” (Understanding the Mass, p. 90). For example, the people might acclaim, “Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ!” or “Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!”

**Have you ever noticed** that before going to proclaim the Gospel, the priest stops at the altar, bows in reverence, and then seems to be saying something? .... As he bows, the priest says silently, “Cleanse my heart and my lips, almighty God, that I may worthily proclaim your holy Gospel.” If a deacon proclaims the Gospel, the celebrant gives him a blessing with similar words.

**The Gospel Acclamation** is an acclamation of praise and excitement for Jesus truly present. We are overjoyed if we realize the significance of what is taking place: Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Son of God, the One who came to save the world, the One who walked on this earth nearly 2000 years ago, is speaking to all of us together as his family. No wonder the Church asks us to stand and praise God. No wonder the Church asks us to sing together in joy and praise: Alleluia!

Source: Fr. Luke Spannagel’s blog at <https://www.stphils.com/church/eucharistic-revival-walk-through-the-mass/>



# BUY A RAFFLE TICKET FOR A CHANCE TO WIN!



The Parish Office is selling the Raffle Tickets during regular hours. Get yours and take a chance to win the 15"x22" framed and matted print of the original oil painting hanging in the main vestibule of our church—shown here.

The winning name will be drawn at the Gala of Roses dinner. You CAN'T win if you don't take a chance and buy a ticket! They are **\$5 each OR \$20 for FIVE tickets** (a \$5 discount).

# FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

The ALTAR SOCIETY asks for your help in purchasing Christmas Flowers to decorate the church for the Christmas holidays. Flower offering envelopes can be found in your envelope packets OR you can pick them up from the pews.



# HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY

The Healing Prayer Ministry, normally available after the 7:15 p.m. Mass on Monday evenings, after the 7:15 p.m. Mass, will NOT be present on Monday, December 23, or Monday, December 30th. HPM will return on Monday, January 6, 2025. Thank you for your understanding! God bless you!



# The Flame of Love: The Greatest Gift of Grace for Our Time



THE FLAME OF LOVE OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



Unity Prayer . . .

May our feet journey together!

Journey where? To Calvary for the salvation of others!

– Oct 1, 1962: Jesus: "You suffer, do you not? Suffer for Me. This is My gift. You can only receive suffering like this from Me. Whether the suffering is spiritual or bodily, accept it from pure love for Me. You know what I told you: We must go up to Calvary. May our feet journey together. And if you are feeling alone, I permit it only so that you receive merits that you can offer for your faults and for souls consecrated to Me. . . ."

– Oct 2, 1962: Jesus: "My little Carmelite, your continual sacrifices give witness to your continual fidelity to Me and to My work of Salvation. These make you walk on the path of martyrdom. Do not fear, our feet journey together, and even though you grieve, let us continue walking together."

Reference: Building on Solid Rock Flame of Love Retreats Session 3 @ <https://flameoflove.us/building-on-solid-rock/>

Join the Cenacle: Two cenacle sessions are available in the Avila Room every Monday. One from noon to 2:00 p.m., the other one from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. For more info, please contact Maru Lazatin at (626) 675-3080.

## The Unity Prayer

MY ADORABLE JESUS,  
MAY OUR FEET JOURNEY TOGETHER.  
MAY OUR HANDS GATHER IN UNITY.  
MAY OUR HEARTS BEAT IN UNISON.  
MAY OUR SOULS BE IN HARMONY.  
MAY OUR THOUGHTS BE AS ONE.  
MAY OUR EARS LISTEN TO THE SILENCE TOGETHER.  
MAY OUR GLANCES PROFOUNDLY PENETRATE EACH OTHER.  
MAY OUR LIPS PRAY TOGETHER TO GAIN MERCY FROM THE ETERNAL FATHER.  
AMEN

# "Let Me Introduce You..." By Fr. Stephen F. Watson OCD



My first recollection of Greg Keller was when I attended the Knights of Columbus' regular monthly meeting in September of 2023. At that time, Greg was the Grand Knight of the Alhambra Council. This Council regularly meets at St. Therese Parish, although it also encompasses the parishes of All Souls and St. Thomas More. I was impressed by how Greg conducted the meeting. A month or so later, a new Grand Knight and other officers were installed. Greg continued to attend all the meetings faithfully. A couple of weeks ago,

I asked if I could feature his family in our bulletin. This is the Story of the **Greg and Lori Keller** family.

The Keller Family consists of Greg and Lori and their daughters Abigail and Sarah. They have been members of St. Therese Parish for the past ten years. Greg and Lori can be described as "cradle Catholics." Greg grew up in Diamond Bar and Lori grew up in Buena Park, and both attended Catholic parochial schools through the 12th grade. Greg and his five brothers all went to Bosco Tech, while his sister went to Rosary High School in Fullerton, which is also where Greg's future wife, Lori, attended. Greg and Lori's first date was a talk at St. Joseph's Retreat Center. They were married at St. Andrew Parish in Pasadena and have now been married for eighteen years.

In the summer of 2015, the Keller family moved to La Crescenta from the South Bay in order to be closer St. Monica Academy where Abby was beginning her schooling. (The South Bay is the traditional home of Southern California's aerospace industry.) Greg and Lori visited different parishes every weekend but could not find one that they felt would be a good fit for their family. The Keller family was not familiar with St. Therese, aside from having attended the Latin Mass for the baptisms and First Holy Communions of their nephews. As Lori continued to research parishes in the San Gabriel Valley, St. Therese kept showing up in the search engine results. Since St. Therese of Lisieux is Lori's patron saint, she suggested giving the Parish a try by attending a summer evening theology series. During that series, the Kellers felt called to make St. Therese their new parish and began attending Mass there immediately.

The Kellers happily commuted to Sunday Mass each week for a period of two years, until the family relocated to a house on Vega. This was a dream come true, as they always wanted to live close enough to walk to Mass on Sunday or make a visit to the Eucharistic Chapel. Another perk of living in the neighborhood was living so close to Sacred Heart Retreat House, where Abby's godmother, Sr. Meredith, OCD, had entered religious life.

As a high school student at Don Bosco Tech, Greg started working in the aerospace industry and continues today at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, i.e. JPL, in Pasadena. Lori changed her career as a successful visual merchandiser to a stay-at-home mother to Abigail and Sarah. She still finds time to manage her online store selling the handcrafted greeting cards, stationery, and gifts she makes herself. Abigail and Sarah are both attending school at St. Monica Academy, where they enjoy playing volleyball and basketball. They are especially fond of the classical curriculum that our own Parish School is modeled after.

Greg is very active with the Knights of Columbus Council at St. Therese. Although he became a Knight while still living in the South Bay, it was the Alhambra Council's involvement with activities at St. Therese Church and the church's strong devotion to the pro-life movement that spurred his greater commitment as a Knight. Greg is also active with the St. Therese Men's group. I marvel that these men come to the Parish on Saturday mornings to meet and discuss their faith. Greg also devotes time to the Pregnancy Help Center (PHC) of San Gabriel Valley.

After the passing of her parents, Lori became a caregiver for her disabled brother, who is especially fond of St. Therese and the choir—often singing along, enraptured by the sound of the pipe organ. They have since moved to San Gabriel to accommodate their family's needs but are still close enough for a short drive back to the neighborhood. Wherever their *house* may be, we are happy that they have found a *home* here at St. Therese.

The Keller 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.



# Mass Intentions

**December 21—December 28, 2024**

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Joy Shaw, RIP

Sunday

\*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns' Christmas Novena 7

7:30 a.m.: Fr. Bernard Perkins, Birthday INT

9:00 a.m.: Esther Aldana Ruiz, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Peter Meier, INT

1:00 p.m. (Latin): Solomon and Rhody Laigo, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Ronaldo Cuarto, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns' Christmas Novena 8

8:00 a.m.: Nilda B. Lacangan, Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Pudgi Aliwarga, INT

Tuesday—Christmas Eve:

6:00 a.m.: George & Yolanda Rossy, INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Nuns' Christmas Novena 9

8:00 a.m.: Mary DeSantis, RIP

5:00 p.m.: McAllister Family

\*6 pm (PRIV.): Pacifico | Flavin | Lim Families INT

Midnight: Thompson Family, INT

Wednesday—Christmas Day:

7:30 a.m.: Goh & Cheah Families, INT

9:00 a.m.: Julius & Carmina Doria, INT

\*9:30 am (CARMEL PRIVATE): Reyes Family, INT

11:00 a.m.: Ethel Mae "Boots," RIP

1:00 p.m.: Cailan Family, INT

**NO 5:00 PM MASS**

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Archbishop Jose Gomez, INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Manuel Tuan, INT

8:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena 1

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Gabriella Guangga, Birthday INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Discalced Carmelite Order, INT

8:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena 2

Saturday (Morning):

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

8:00 a.m.: Ray & Nicole Tittmann, 27th Anniv.

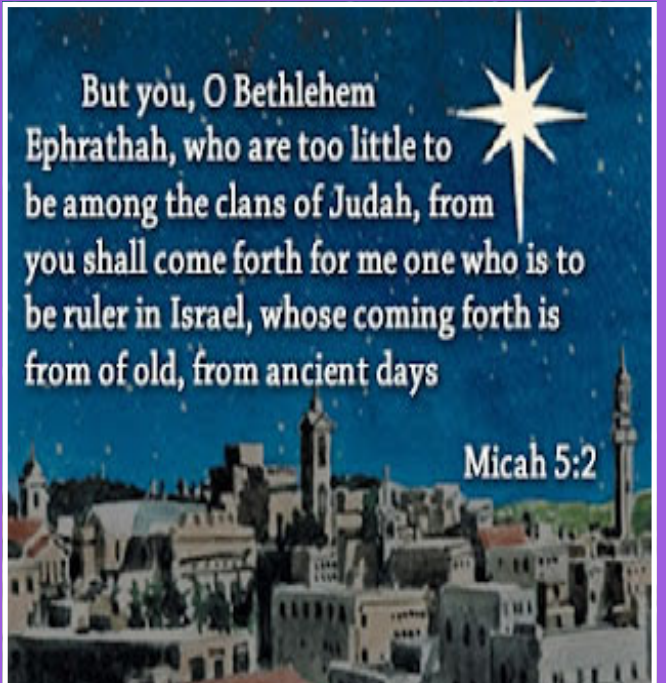
\*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel (215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra).

## 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

**PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL, SPAIN, FRANCE, AND ITALY** with Fr. Julius Ntalo, OCD: Join this 14-day pilgrimage from July 11 to 24, 2025, to all four countries listed above. For more info and to receive an itinerary, contact ABM Tours at 310-514-3323 or 408-903-6305 or maddatubeth2@gmail.com. See more info at abmtours.com.



# Personal Ads

**FOR RENT:** Alhambra studio with bathroom, small kitchen, priv. entrance. Furnished, ac/heating, laundry privileges, secure parking. Woman preferred. Non-smoker. Inquire at (626) 416-1331.

**FOR SALE:** 1) LG 50" LED TV with mounting bracket. Excellent condition. 2) Insignia 32" LED TV (new in box). Money will be donated to St. Therese School. Call (626) 416-1331.

# Deaths

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

+ Maria Martiniello

Mother of Sonia Roselli (former STS student)

+ Juan Carlos Zavala Rodriguez



**catholicmatch**  
California



CatholicMatch.com/CA

**PIERCE BROTHERS**  
FUNERAL HOME



**PIERCE BROTHERS TURNER & STEVENS MORTUARY**  
1136 E. Las Tunas Dr. • San Gabriel, CA 91776  
626-287-0595 • Fax: 626-287-3393 • www.PBTurnerStevens.com

Caring and Compassionate Staff • Quality Service That Meets Your Needs  
Preplanning Available • Se Habla Español • Call Us Now 970-910

**Barbara M. Perez**  
REALTOR® | DRE# 02009165  
323-547-9963  
bmperez23@gmail.com  
barbaramperez.kw.com



Let me help you get where you  
like to go. Call me for a free  
home evaluation.

Parishioner and parent of Saint  
Therese Carmelite School. When I  
close your transaction from this ad,  
I will donate a portion of my net  
commission back to the school.

**kw PASADENA**  
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

*Each office is independently owned and operated.*

STATE LICENSED FD 041



**Traditional Funerals • Cremation Service  
Chapel and Reception Center**  
Family Owned & Operated Since 1921  
27 Chestnut St. • Pasadena, CA  
626-793-7159 • www.cabotandsonscfh.com • Se Habla Español

**FLAT ROOFING SPECIALIST**



- Save up to 60% vs a full re-roof
- Diocese Approved Contractor
- Up to 50 year warranty
- Cool your building/home up to 30%
- Flat / Low-Sloped / Barrel Roofs
- Over 40 Years In Business

(626) 281-2555  
**WWW.CANDDCOATINGS.COM**

**Singles Luncheon Mixer  
at The Proud Bird (Near LAX)**  
**October 5, 2024**  
Register at  
**CatholicSinglesNetwork.com**

**SHORT STAFFED?**  
Place an ad here to find new  
local talent for your business.



**CALL 800-477-4574**


**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION NEED  
A NEWSLETTER?**



Engaging, ad-supported  
print and digital newsletters  
to reach your community.

Visit [ipcommunities.com](http://ipcommunities.com)

**SC SOLAR SERVICES**  
SOLAR PANEL MAINTENANCE



- Troubleshooting
- Solar Panel Cleaning
- EV Charger Installation
- Driller Guard Installation
- Wiring and Connections Inspection

Call or text for a **FREE** quote  
URI: (626) 587-1056 (Se Habla Español)

**IF YOU LIVE ALONE**

**MDMedAlert!** Starting At **\$19<sup>99</sup>** inc.

- ✓ Ambulance ✓ Police/Fire
- ✓ Family/Friends ✓ GPS & Fall Alert

**CALL NOW! 800.809.3570** • [md-medalert.com](http://md-medalert.com)

Where LA Catholics Go to Stay Connected.

**ANGELUS**  
Subscribe today for just ~~\$30.00~~ **\$19.95**

Two easy ways to order: [AngelusNews.com/Bulletin](http://AngelusNews.com/Bulletin) | 844-245-6630

**NEVER MISS  
OUR BULLETIN!**

**SUBSCRIBE**

Have our bulletin emailed  
to you every week.

Visit [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)

**FREE  
AD DESIGN**  
with purchase  
of this space

**CALL  
800-950-9952**

**World Mission Sunday  
October 20th, 2024**

**GO AND INVITE  
EVERYONE  
to the banquet**

TEXT "MISSIONS" TO 44384  
[WWW.ONEFAMILYMISSION.ORG/WMS](http://WWW.ONEFAMILYMISSION.ORG/WMS)

**Place Your Ad Here and  
Support our Parish!**

Instantly create and  
purchase an ad with

**AD  
CREATOR  
STUDIO**



[4lpi.com/adcreator](http://4lpi.com/adcreator)

**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**

Place Your Ad Here  
and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME  
Tara Holley**

[tholley@4LPi.com](mailto:tholley@4LPi.com) • (800) 950-9952 x2134

**SUPPORT OUR  
ADVERTISERS!**

**CATHOLIC  
CEMETERIES  
& MORTUARIES**

EVERLASTING FAITH. EVERLASTING LIFE.

*A ministry of the Church  
serving the faithful.*

Learn about our 11 locations in  
Los Angeles, Ventura and  
Santa Barbara counties

**(213) 637-7801 CatholicCM.org**

