

St. Therese Catholic Church

Est. 1924



February 11, 2024 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



A leper came to Jesus and, kneeling down, begged Him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, He stretched out His hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean (Mark 1:40-42).

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 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 Joseph Mizerski | Deacon Gilbert Vargas |

Deacon Otto Lacayo: 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

Music Director: Andrew Coyne | Andrew.Coyne1@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

My Dear Parishioners of St. Therese,

Today, Sunday, February 11, is the 32nd World Day of the Sick and also World Marriage Day. Below is a link and excerpt from **Our Holy Father's message for World Day of the Sick**. Below that is a statement from the **U.S. Catholic Bishops for World Marriage Day**. God Bless you all with a Blessed Lent!
—Fr. Peter Mary, O.C.D.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS XXXII WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/20240110-giornata-malato.html>

"It is not good that man should be alone."
Healing the Sick by Healing Relationships

11-02-2024

WORLD DAY
OF THE SICK



It is not good that
man should be alone

Brothers and sisters, the first form of care needed in any illness is compassionate and loving closeness. To care for the sick thus means above all to care for their relationships, all of them: with God, with others—family members, friends, healthcare workers—with creation, and with themselves. Can this be done? Yes, it can be done and all of us are called to ensure that it happens. Let us look to the icon of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), to His ability to slow down and draw near to another person, to the tender love with which He cares for the wounds of a suffering brother.

At this time of epochal change, we Christians in particular are called to adopt the compassion-filled gaze of Jesus. Let us care for those who suffer and are alone, perhaps marginalized and cast aside. With the love for one another that Christ the Lord bestows on us in prayer, especially in the Eucharist, let us tend the wounds of solitude and isolation. In this way, we will cooperate in combating the culture of individualism, indifference, and waste, and enable the growth of a culture of tenderness and compassion.

The sick, the vulnerable, and the poor are at the heart of the Church; they must also be at the heart of our human concern and pastoral attention. May we never forget this! And let us commend ourselves to Mary Most Holy, Health of the Sick, that she may intercede for us and help us to be artisans of closeness and fraternal relationships.

Pope Francis

Statement from the U.S. Catholic Bishops for World Marriage Day:

The observances of National Marriage Week (February 7-14, 2024) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 11, 2024) are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. This year's theme, "**Marriage...One Flesh, Given and Received**," highlights the one-flesh union of husband and wife that is willed by God. It also indicates the personal self-gift of each spouse, one to the other. These concepts point to Christ who gives Himself under the appearance of bread and wine—as real flesh and blood.



Add These Lenten Activities to Your Calendar!

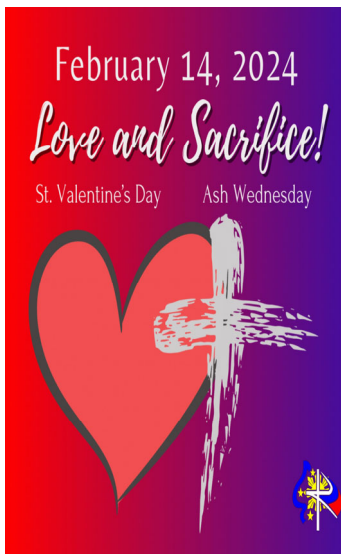
ASH WEDNESDAY is THIS WEDNESDAY, February 14 (yes, the same day as Valentine's Day... a day to give chocolates as well as to give up chocolate! ;-). Masses will be at **6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and *7:15 p.m.** (ashes will be distributed *during* the Masses). ***CONFESSION will follow the evening Mass.**

SOUP NIGHTS & STATIONS: Our Lenten schedule will then begin this coming Friday, February 16—with Soup Night from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., in the Hall, followed by Stations of the Cross in the Church at 7:00 p.m. The first Soup Night sponsor will be Saint Therese Carmelite School. All the freewill offerings will benefit the School.

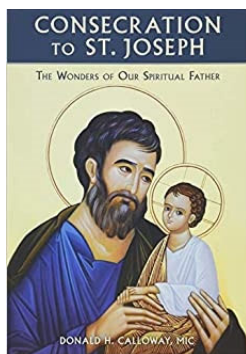
Also, mark your calendars for the following SPECIAL Lenten events:

EVENING OF RECOLLECTION on Thursday, February 29, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m., Fr. Stephen Watson, OCD, will give a talk entitled *"Between Memory and Hope."* This will be followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m., Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:45 p.m. (including time for adoration); and will conclude with Benediction from 8:45 to 9:00 p.m.

LENTEN MISSION from Monday, March 11, through Thursday, March 14, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. each evening (including Mass each evening and Confession on Wednesday, March 13). Fr. Julius Ntalo, OCD, one of our Carmelite friars from our Mission in Uganda, will be the Mission speaker. He will begin the Mission by speaking at each of the Sunday Masses on March 10th.



Consecration to St. Joseph



The next consecration to St. Joseph will be on **Tuesday, March 19th, the Feast of Saint Joseph**, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. If you would like to make this consecration, you are invited to join us at our next preparation gatherings on **Wednesdays, February 14, 21, 28, and March 6 and 13—at your choice of time: either 12:30 or 5:30 p.m.** Both times will be held in the Avila Room in the church office building. You will need the book, *Consecration to St. Joseph*, by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, which can be purchased in the office for \$15. For more info, call Maria Alejandra at (626) 993-4236 or email her at trinity1lord@yahoo.com.

Homebound Parishioners



If you are homebound or you know of a parishioner who is homebound, elderly, or sick, and would like to have a **pastoral visit**, please call the office at (626) 282-2744.

Financial Offerings



February 3 / 4, 2024

Unrestricted..... \$15,305.00
 Restricted \$ 372.00
T O T A L.....\$15,677.00

January 6 / 7 \$29,358.00
 January 13 / 14 \$19,117.00
 January 20 / 21 \$29,526.00
 January 27 / 28 \$22,466.00

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

FR. JEROME APPEAL FOR THE CARMELITE NUNS

NEXT WEEKEND, February 17 and 18, is the collection weekend for the annual Fr. Jerome Appeal, which will be taken to help our Cloistered Discalced Carmelite Nuns in the Carmel of St. Teresa here in Alhambra. This money will help provide for their daily needs and the upkeep of their monastery. The Carmelite Monastery was instrumental in St. Therese Parish being established, and there has always been a special closeness and loving support between the Parish and the Nuns.



God bless and reward your generosity!



Saint Therese Carmelite School

Faith  Academics  Virtue



STCS Soup Night

Friday, February 16, 5:30–7:00 pm

It is a Lenten custom of the Parish to hold a meatless meal on Fridays in Lent to promote fellowship in the School and Parish. These meals are hosted by the different ministries of the parish.

Our school Soup Night will be this Friday. All are invited and encouraged to attend Soup Night!
Soup Night is free for all to attend!

Immediately following Soup Night, Stations of the Cross will be held in the church beginning at 7:00 p.m.

1106 East Alhambra Road
Alhambra, California 91801

(626) 289-3364
www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

"LET ME INTRODUCE YOU..." By Fr. Stephen F. Watson, OCD

A Weekly Feature in the Bulletin for our Parish Centennial



"WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE FOR ME . . . I CANNOT TELL IT ALL."

As I pulled up to the residence of **Jeff and Erin Talbot** on West Roses Road—directly across from Church of Our Savior and the San Gabriel Cemetery—I saw a commercial van in the driveway on which was written: **Carpet & Turf 4 Less**. "That's interesting," I thought. "I wonder if you can put turf in your house and carpet in your yard?" The front door was wide open, and workmen were coming out with old carpet. It makes sense, doesn't it? Artificial turf is something like outdoor carpeting. Why not run a business that does both? The Talbots told me the company is owned by parishioners of SS Felicitas & Perpetua. Well, now on to our story about the Talbot family.

Jeff was born at the old St. Luke's Hospital in Pasadena on October 15, 1952—the oldest of five children born to Lou and Zita Talbot. When Jeff was five, the family moved to Alhambra and became parishioners at St. Therese Parish. (Lou and Zita remained parishioners for the next fifty-one years. In 2008, they passed away about a month apart and are now buried at the cemetery directly across from Jeff and Erin's home.) Jeff started attending St. Therese Parish School in the old school-church building. In those years,

the Sisters of Providence ran the School. In 1950 (the year the present church was built), the old church (two stories high) was "desacralized" to become classrooms for the school and a hall for the church. 1960 was Jeff's First Holy Communion, when Fr. Gerald Winters was the Pastor. He who oversaw the demolition of the old school and hall and the construction of the present School classrooms and Parish Hall—both completed in 1963.

After graduating from Alhambra High in 1971, Jeff got his bachelor's degree in cinematography at USC. Instead of going on to Hollywood, however, he has become famous in his local community as a husband and father and as a realtor with 45 years of experience. If you live in the area, he may have helped *you* find *your* dream home.

Erin (nee Stevens), Jeff's wife, was born in Faulkton, South Dakota, population 826—one of ten children whose father made his living as a farmer. She and her siblings attended a one-room school, with grades one through eight all learning in one classroom!. In 1985, 27-year-old Erin moved to San Gabriel to be near an aunt and she soon became a parishioner at SS Felicitas and Perpetua in San Marino. **"So, how did Jeff and Erin get together?,"** you ask. In 1988, Fr. David Costello, the Pastor at that time, started Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. His idea was for the adorers to pray for vocations. Although he had in mind vocations to the *priesthood and religious life*, Erin and Jeff found their vocation to *marriage* through their weekly hour praying together before the Blessed Sacrament from 2:00 to 3:00 a.m. **Yes, it is true, their vocation was discerned at their weekly appointment with the Lord!** They were married in November 1988 at Erin's then-parish of SS Felicitas and Perpetua. Erin currently volunteers on Sundays in St. Therese's Religious Education program, and Jeff serves on our Parish Finance Council. Outside of St. Therese Parish, they are both active members of *Opus Dei*, a Roman Catholic organization founded by Jose Marie Escriva with the intent for its members to "live a holy life in the middle of the world."

Jeff and Erin have two boys and five girls between the ages of 20 and 34. Erin home-schooled all seven of her children for several years. Then, in 2001, she and Jeff, along with some other parents, formed St. Monica Academy in Pasadena (now located in Montrose), which educates students from first grade through high school; its motto is: *"Faith + Reason + Virtue."* All seven of the Talbots' children completed high school at this private Catholic school run by lay Catholics, and Erin worked there from 2012 to 2023 as the admissions administrator. You can find out more about this School at www.stmonicaacademy.com.

The Talbots' oldest son, John Paul, is in his second year with the Norbertines at St. Michael's Abbey in Orange County. Three of their girls are married and a fourth will be married this coming May. All seven of their children are practicing Catholics who have—so far!—given Jeff and Erin *nine* grandchildren!

The Talbot family is part of the rich history of St. Therese Parish.
Let us all walk with St. Therese as we journey together in faith during this centennial year.

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



THE FLAME OF LOVE OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY



Now is the time to blind Satan. Now is the time to drive out Satan's influence once and for all, to bring about the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The Flame of Love Apostolate exists to strengthen the entire Church in grace to break Satan's influence. It is like an internal department in the family business of salvation. Not everyone works for the IT department, but everyone can do their job better because of it.

August 16, 1962 – **Jesus**: "Trust, My little one. No one can destroy God's plan. It is true, however, that I need your effort for My work of Redemption. I do not want to lose any of you. Satan is undertaking a battle against the human race like there has never been before."

November 27, 1963 – **Mary**: "You must dedicate yourselves to blind Satan. The coordinated forces of the entire world are necessary to accomplish this. Do not delay because someday you will be called to account for the work entrusted to you, for the fate of a multitude of souls."

Reference: "Building on Solid Rock" Flame of Love Retreats, Session 1, Part 1: <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 or mnlazatin@gmail.com.

2023

St. Therese Church Donation Report



If you would like to receive an end-of-year report showing your donations for the year 2023, please send an email requesting it to:

DonationStatement.2023@gmail.com

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Join the women of St. Therese Church in one month for our Lenten Retreat weekend at El Carmelo Retreat House in Redlands,



California, on **March 15-17, 2024**. Registration forms can be found at the church entrances and in the church office. The rates are as follows:

Double room occupancy (2 per room): \$230 each person, includes two nights & six meals

Single room occupancy (private room): \$260 each person, includes two nights and six meals

A *deposit of \$75 (non-refundable) is required to reserve your room. **Make checks payable to: El Carmelo Retreat House** (make sure to write in the memo space on check: "Women's Silent Retreat, March 15-17, 2024"). [*Checks or money orders only.] Mail the deposit OR the full amount, along with a registration form (found on the tables by the entrances) to: **Louisa Day, Retreat Captain, 600 West Gleason Street, Monterey Park, CA 91754**. If a registration form is unavailable or you would like more information, please contact Louisa at louisaeday@yahoo.com | (323)360-5186.

Mass Intentions

February 10—February 17, 2024

Saturday Evening

5:00 p.m.: Mary Rose Go & Patrick Rosal, INT

Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Antonio Marquez Bugarin, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Carter & Fullenkamp Families, INT

9:00 am: Michael Alexander & Lauren Cheah INT

11:00 a.m.: Grace Skaletski, RIP

1:00 p.m. (Latin): Jim Shay, INT

5:00 p.m.: Karina Martin, INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Ralph Sandoval, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Brenda Marie, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Heidi Tittmann, Birthday INT

7:15 p.m.: Karina Martin, INT

Tuesday

6:00 a.m.: Silverio Reyes, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Frances, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Amy Holmes, INT

7:15 p.m. (Spanish): Karina Martin, INT

Ash Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Mary Rose Go & Patrick Rosal, INT

*7:30 am: Maria Marquez Bugarin, INT

8:00 a.m.: Wang-Shih Lin, RIP

7:15 p.m.: Families of the World

Thursday

6:00 a.m.: Eulalia McEntire, RIP

*7:30 am: Sr. Faustina, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Noemy Onuigbo, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Ernesto Bueno, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Mary, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Jose Contreras, RIP

Saturday Morning:

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

8:00 a.m.: Ashley Torrecillas, Birthday INT

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

Open to the public except on holidays
every day except Sundays and holidays.

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

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

Our livestreaming service will not be available until later as we are working to put the wiring underground. We'll be back soon with the daily 8:00 a.m. Mass and the homilies for the Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass and the Monday 7:15 evening Mass.

Lent: A Time of Sacrifice

Lent has its origin in the early days of the Church. Converts seeking to become Christian, who at that time were mostly adults, spent several years in study and preparation. Under the threat of Roman persecution, becoming a Christian was serious business, so their process of preparation was intensive and scrutinized! Then they went through a final period of "purification and enlightenment" for the forty days before their baptism on Holy Saturday. This is still practiced today.

The rest of the Church began to observe the season of Lent in solidarity with these newest Catholics-to-be. It became an opportunity for all Catholics to recall and renew the commitment of their baptism and to lead better lives. Today we know Lent as a season of conversion: We acknowledge the ways we have turned away from God in our lives, and we focus on turning our hearts and minds back towards God. Hence the three pillars of Lent are PRAYER, FASTING, and ALMSGIVING. These observances help us to turn away from whatever has distracted or derailed us and to turn back to God.

Giving up something for Lent is ultimately a form of fasting. We can deprive ourselves of a pleasure or indulgence and offer that sacrifice up to God. Or we might "give up" a bad habit, such as cursing or missing Mass, as a way of positively turning our life back towards what God wants for us. The idea though, is that after the forty-day period, you continue to keep up the changes and become a "better version of yourself"! Or you can "do" something extra for forty days that falls in line with the corporal or spiritual works of mercy.

Outside the Parish

American Home Life International (AHLI), is seeking to hire a part-time, remote coordinator for the LA area. AHLI is a homestay company that places foreign students in Christian homes in America so that they can go to school in America. We are seeking a practicing Christian for this role. This person will have monthly meetings with students in the LA area and will interview new host families. For a complete job description, go to:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-c3sbWmTLh3xLBIHzT6maUosEyDc991B/view?usp=sharing>. For more info, contact David Nguyen at 717-560-2840 or Cell: (646) 831-8792.

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