

Saint Therese Catholic Church

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

April 18, 2021 **MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS** Estab. 1924

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: Deacon Joseph Mizerski X333;

Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Annulments: Lorraine Mizerski X333

Vocations:

For the Carmelites: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

Parish Secretary:

Denise McMaster-Holguin X223 denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

Music Director:

Charlotte Lansberg X226 / cjlansberg@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry / Vox Vitae:

Catherine Contreras X112

MASSES AND SERVICES

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: 6:00 and 8:00 a.m. (the 8:00 a.m. daily and the Sunday 11:00 a.m. Masses are LIVE STREAMED on our Facebook page AND on our YouTube channel).

Monday & Thursday evenings:
Mass at 7:00 p.m. (also LIVE STREAMED)
CONFESSIONS under the red umbrellas on
Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. and on
Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.



SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL
(626) 289-3364

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com
principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com

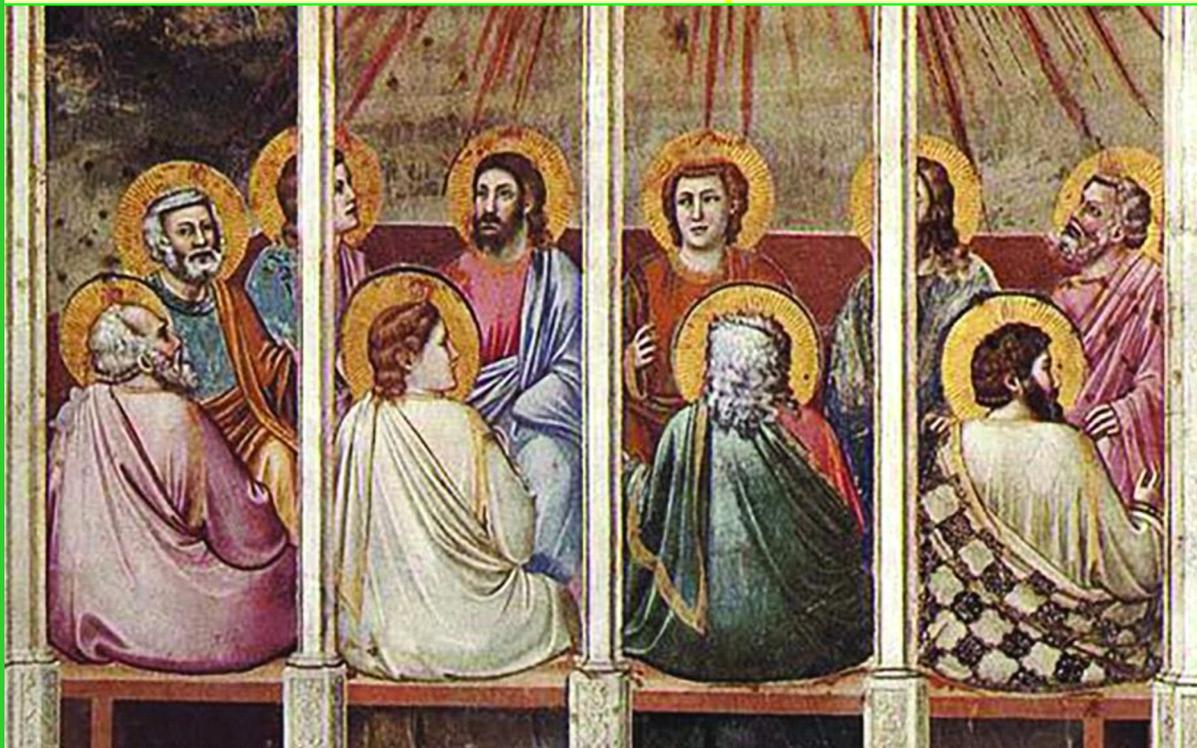
See our **VIDEOS** on the School's Facebook page
or on the Church's website > **Our School > Videos**

SACRAMENTS:

Baptisms: Register online

Weddings: Register online
at least six months in advance

Anointing: Call the office.



“Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things”
-Luke 24:46-48

FROM THE PASTOR

Christ is risen!!! He is risen indeed!!!

Dear Parishioners and Other Friends,

I hope you will have a chance to download *The Chosen* app (if you haven't done so already) and see the two new episodes from Season Two. They will stir up your heart with longing for a deeper relationship and intimacy with Our Lord Jesus, with the Holy Spirit, with our Heavenly Father, with our Mother Mary, and with the Apostles. We have been talking about how—even though we have barely begun the Easter Season—the Mass readings from the Acts of the Apostles are already talking about the Holy Spirit and the power of this new life in Christ that Sts.

Peter, James, John, Philip, and the others experience and share with those around them, even at the cost of persecution and suffering for the sake of the Name of Jesus. How can we grow in both intimacy with the Holy Spirit and also work with Him for the sake of comforting others in their suffering?



St. Teresa of Jesus gives us some help: "10. Oh, how we fail to know what we are asking for; [8] 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. [9] If obedience should command something, Sisters, 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" (*Way of Perfection*, Ch. 34, No. 10).

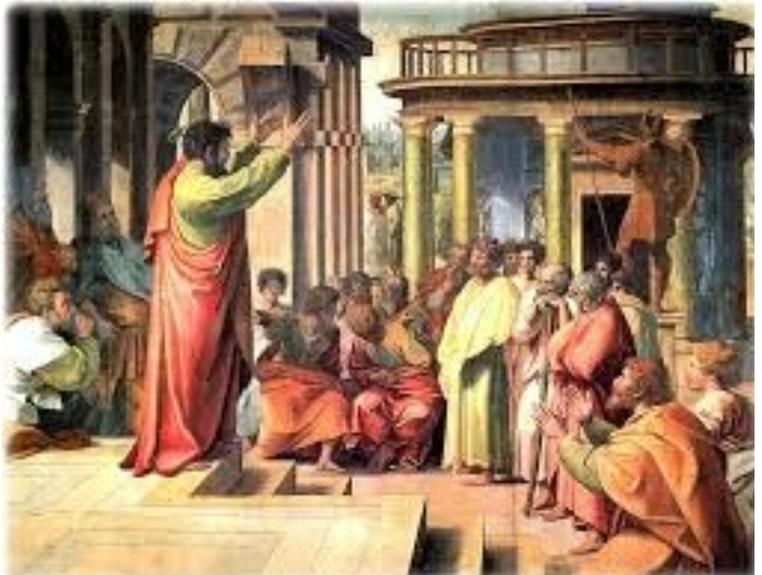
And Dr. Mary Healy says, "Jesus told His apostles, 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you'" (Acts 1:8). The gifts that supernaturally empower us to do God's work flow from receiving the Giver Himself, the Holy Spirit. As we mentioned in Chapter 1, the gifts are not like tools you can keep in your pocket to pull out whenever you feel like it. They are from God the Holy Spirit acting in and through you. So the first key to using the gifts is to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Even if you have already received the Holy Spirit through faith and Baptism (and for Catholics, Confirmation), there is always more. A traditional theological principle is that whatever is received is according to the capacity of the receiver. The Holy Spirit, being God, is infinite, but our capacity to receive Him is limited. There is always infinitely more of Him than we have received already, and our capacity for Him needs to expand continually. This is why many traditional prayers to the Holy Spirit include the verbs, "come" and "fill" (us). These prayers teach us to invite the Holy Spirit more fully into our lives.

One of the most powerful means of receiving more of the Holy Spirit and His gifts is by an impartation of the Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands (1). This is not referring to a Sacrament, but to the simple biblical gesture of laying on of hands, as Ananias did for Saul (see Acts 9:17). Many people who previously did not move in certain gifts begin to do so after they pray for and receive an impartation of the Spirit, some with the laying on of hands, and others without it. Even after receiving such an impartation, we have to remain radically surrendered to Him. Part of what makes the spiritual gifts so valuable is that they force us to be dependent on the Holy Spirit. We cannot manufacture even the tiniest genuine healing or prophecy or word of knowledge out of our own resources. We can only cooperate with what the Holy Spirit desires to do through us. (It is true that the gifts can be counterfeited, but the counterfeits are spiritually fruitless and usually easy to spot.) So we have to live in continuous reliance on the Spirit. "If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25). (From *The Spiritual Gifts Handbook*, p. 213).

Saying "high" in the Holy Spirit,
Fr. Thomas, OCD

SIN IS OUR FAULT..LOVE IS OUR FATE!

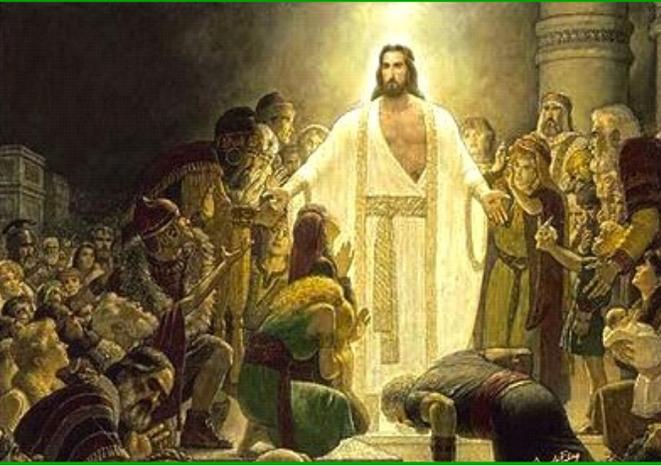
It is interesting how the Old Testament's readings become so important during the Easter season—especially since we do not actually hear any Old Testament readings! In today's First Reading, Peter's speech begins with a prayer formula familiar to Jews: "The God of Abraham..." (Acts 3:13). It likewise contains the potent phrases, "Holy and Righteous One" and "mouth of all the prophets" (3:14, 18). Peter was stating in no uncertain terms that the law, Psalms, and prophets had been fulfilled in Christ. This is reinforced by Jesus Himself in the Gospel passage, when He states that everything in the Scriptures (meaning the Old Testament) had to be fulfilled.



Peter seems to be pretty tough with his listeners in this reading. He says they handed Jesus over, denied Him before Pilate, asked for a murderer to be released in His place, and put Jesus to death. They must have thought they were doomed. Suddenly, he tells them they were just ignorant. And that God had planned all this long ago. **So is he saying Jesus' death is their fault or just fate?** The answer of course is that it's *everyone's* fault. Our sins are the reason for Jesus' death.

- **We deny knowing Jesus when we choose to be selfish instead of loving.**
- **We hand Him over when we tell ourselves we are too busy to take time to pray.**
- **We cry for Barabbas to be freed when we insist on doing things our own way.**
- **We crucify Jesus when we follow the crowd instead of following the Lord.**

Jesus' death is only "fate" in the sense that our sins needed to be forgiven and God plan for salvation was through Jesus' death and resurrection. Does that mean our sins cause something in the past to happen? There were sinners long before Jesus' time and God knew there would be sinners after that. God also planned to forgive anyone who repented their sins. In one sense, Jesus died for those who deserved to be punished for sin, but also for those who would deserve punishment in the future (including us!). He rose from the dead to show that God's forgiveness raises us up from guilt to a new life. Peter wasn't laying a guilt trip on the listeners. After all, this is Good News. God planned all this to show how much He loved us. Our response should be one of joy that we are forgiven because of that love. All we have to do is tell God we are sorry, mean it, and start living our response of love. Sin may be our fault, but Love is our fate.



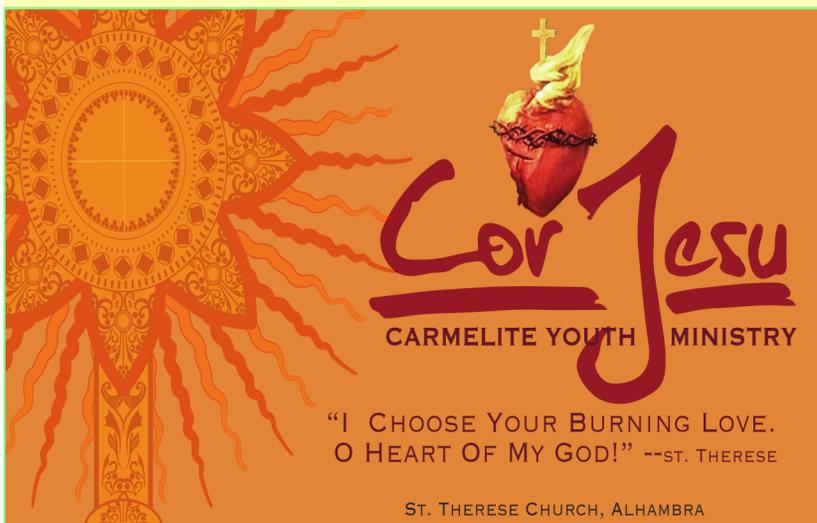
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Have you ever waited for something for so long you began to think it might never happen? Your graduation day, or the day of your marriage, or the birth of a child, perhaps. The Israelites had waited for centuries for fulfillment of the coming of the Messiah. Yet when Jesus, the long-awaited Anointed One came, many failed to believe in Him. He wasn't what they expected. The Messiah was supposed to be a strong, powerful commander of armies, not humble, compassionate, and suffering.

While the disciples themselves had come to believe that Jesus was the Messiah, His crucifixion and death had still left them fearful and confounded. The news of the empty tomb and His appearance to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus added to their confusion. After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to Peter and the other disciples. However, at first, Jesus' presence with them did not alleviate their uncertainty. They were "startled and terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost" (Luke 24:37). Jesus saw that they needed physical proof that it was He who stood among them—not a ghost. They needed to see the nail marks in His hands and feet, to see God's love in flesh and bone, in one who ate among them. It was there that He explained to them all that He had said in His time with them, opening their minds to what had been written in the Scriptures so that they could accept His suffering and death and rejoice in His resurrection.

Only after their fear and confusion had been quelled could they understand why the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. Only when they were filled with the peace of Christ would they be ready to witness, to share the sacred story with others. It is only after Jesus' appearances to them and His sending the Holy Spirit that we hear Peter sharing the Good News in the First Reading. All who hear and believe are offered new life, life in which God's love is perfected in them. Are YOU listening? Are YOU ready to share in this abundant new life? As you leave Mass today, remember to be a witness to all that has been fulfilled in the Risen Christ!

COR JESU YOUTH MINISTRY



Do you want to be involved in this very important ministry?

Then contact us at
ContactCorJesuSTCAhambra@gmail.com.

Also... SAVE THE DATE!
Friday, May 14, at 6:00 p.m.

More info to come!

ST. JOSEPH PRAYER GROUP

St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Family, Patron of the Church, the People of God, hear our Prayer for Peace.

St. Joseph, man of peace and wisdom, teach us the way of peace. Protect us from the hatred and evil that breed terrorism and justify it. Heal the brokenness that remains in many hearts. Release us from the bondage of fear and distrust of neighbor, especially the neighbor who is a stranger in our midst. Gentle St. Joseph, help us to be strong in defense of justice and the care of the poor. Help our Church to be a prophetic leader in the struggle for world peace. Help our parishioners to be generous and constant in praying for peace. Amen.



The St. Joseph Prayer Group has resumed meeting on **WEDNESDAYS** at the new time of **3:00 p.m.** Through the intercession of St. Joseph, the group prays for peace and justice issues in our

community and around the world.

Meet inside the church near the statue of St. Joseph (wear a mask and practice social distancing). For more info, call Lucy at 281-3706.

1ST COMMUNION

If your child (in First Grade+) has been baptized but **has not yet received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion**, and you'd like to enroll him or her in our **preparation classes**, please contact Denise Lopez at deniseclopez7@gmail.com.

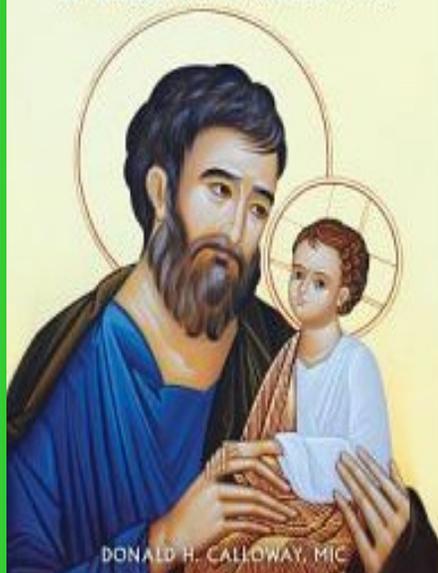


ALSO...

If anyone is able to volunteer to help with this program, please contact Denise as well!

CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

THE WONDERS OF OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER



CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

POPE FRANCIS HAS DECLARED THIS YEAR (through December 8, 2021) TO BE THE "YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH"!

As part of our observing this special year, we will continue to have **PREPARATION SESSIONS, followed by Consecration ceremonies.** The latest preparation session began on March 24th and will continue every Wednesday through April 28—at your **choice of Noon or 6:00 p.m.**—in the Guadalupe Courtyard (enter on the parking lot side—near Adoration Chapel entrance). The consecration will take place on **SATURDAY, MAY 1ST**, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker. For more info, contact Maria Alejandra at 993-4236 or ale3767@yahoo.com.

To prepare, we use the book by Fr. Donald Calloway (shown to the left). You may also prepare on your own by reading and praying through the book, available for purchase in the office for \$15 (English or Spanish). You can also buy the book from Amazon and other websites.

Mass & Prayer Nights

- **MONDAY MEDITATION NIGHTS:** Join us every **MONDAY** evening to strengthen your faith! The schedule is as follows: 7:00 p.m.: Mass; 7:30-8:00 p.m.: Adoration; 8:00-8:30 p.m.: Teaching/Meditation (indoors!)
- **TUESDAY NIGHTS:** For those wishing to celebrate Mass in Spanish, join us on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m.
- **THURSDAY NIGHTS:** Join us every **THURSDAY** evening in **HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH!** The schedule is: 6:30 p.m.: Viewing of an Episode of The Chosen; 7:00 p.m.: Mass; 7:30-8:30 p.m.: Adoration
- **FIRST FRIDAY MASS:** Come and honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus by attending Mass at 7:00 p.m. on the first Friday of each month. Next will be May 7th.
- **SATURDAY NIGHT HEALING PRAYER:** Join us **LIVE OR** via **ZOOM** for Fr. Thomas' **HEALING PRAYER TRAINING**. Training is held on **Saturday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.** (join anytime during that time slot). Here is the link: <https://zoom.us/j/91328296798?pwd=QzllQ3lSMG5aK3k3ZFJlN0gzaHV0dz09> . The Meeting ID is **913 2829 6798**, and the Passcode is **UC3YxA**.



MOTHER'S DAY BABY BOTTLE OUTREACH AND BABY SHOWER



GPS-Guadalupe Pregnancy Services Volunteers will be outside the church distributing **Baby Bottles on Mother's Day weekend (May 8 and 9)**. Please take a bottle and use it like a piggy bank to collect coins, cash, or checks. Your donations help support the life-affirming services of GPS: parenting, personal development, and spiritual enrichment programs for pregnant mothers and mothers with infants and toddlers. Every Bottle Counts! We will collect them on the weekend of May 22 and 23.

ALSO ON MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND: Please bring a **Baby Shower Gift for Baby and Mom!** We will have a crib outside the church on that weekend for you to place the gifts.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR BABIES: Baby shampoo and wash, baby lotion, diaper rash cream, cornstarch-based baby powder, Q-Tips, sippy cups, spoons/forks, socks for boys/girls (12-18 months), clothing, wash cloths and towels, diapers, sizes 3, 4, 5, 6 and pull-ups, sizes 2T/3T, wipes, formula, baby food jars, toys, books

ITEMS NEEDED FOR MOMS: Shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, lotion, facial moisturizer, bar soap, feminine hygiene products, dish soap, detergent, cleaning products

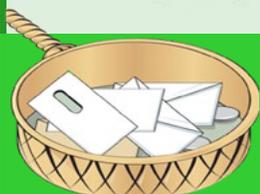
FOOD ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE MOMS' PANTRIES: Cereal/oatmeal, canned fruits and vegetables, rice/beans, snacks/cookies

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

May God reward you! Below you will find the total collections for the previous four weekends.

NOTE: There is a second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND each month for our School.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



	April 10 / 11, 2021	March 13 / 14.....	\$22,832.00
Unrestricted.....	\$30,157.00	March 20 / 21.....	\$22,385.00
Restricted	\$16,641.00	March 27 / 28.....	\$12,043.00
T O T A L	\$46,798.00	April 3 / 4	\$22,145.00

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

Mass Intentions

April 17 through April 24, 2021

Saturday:

5:00 pm: Sr. Carmela of the Bl. Sac'ment, OCD, INT

Sunday

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

7:30 am: Tony Gilbuena, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Therese Hong Nguyen, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Arturo Esteban, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Ursulina Aquino, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Agnes Szempruch, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Ana Sun, INT

8:00 a.m.: Boyd Johnson, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Gilbert Gomez, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Josie Castaneda, B-Day INT

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

8:00 a.m.: Maria Concepcion Aguilar, RIP

7:00 p.m. (Spanish): Evaristo & Guillermo Reyes RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Abigail Cano, INT

*7:30 am: Teresa Phi-Yen Nguyen, B-Day INT

8:00 a.m.: Richard & Jane Yang, INT

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Those who died w/o the Sac'ments RIP

*7:30 am: Ana Sun, INT

8:00 a.m.: Kim Ki Chul & Maria Kim, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Josephine Vasari, INT

*7:30 am: Cynthia Torres, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Vigil & Maria Odono, 18th Anniv INT

Saturday:

*7:30 am: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Grace Lowenberg, INT

*Held at the Carmelite Chapel,
215 East Alhambra Road

***OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! (Mon-Sat.)**

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday–Saturday),

11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass **and 7:00 p.m.**

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evening

Masses (and any other special evening

Masses) are all live streamed on

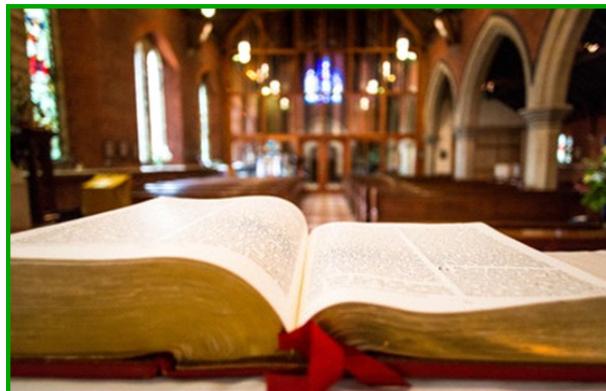
Facebook AND YouTube (for those

not attending)—links on our website's

home page (top left column).

FEAST OF FAITH

The Liturgy of the Word



The Liturgy of the Word generally follows a consistent pattern of three readings and a Psalm. The second reading is always taken from one of the New Testament epistles or the book of Revelation, and generally is not intentionally aligned with either the Gospel or the first reading.

Where would we be without these letters in which great saints and apostles like Paul, Peter, James, and John share their wisdom and pastoral good sense with the early Christian communities—and thus with us? It is in these letters, even more than in the Gospel narratives, that we learn what it means to be Church: to live with each other—in the world yet not of the world—in these days after the Lord's Resurrection.

Each New Testament letter was written by a particular leader for a particular community at a particular time. We are reminded of this at the beginning of the proclamation—"A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians," or ...to the Corinthians, or ...to the Thessalonians. These texts were shaped by their particular historical and cultural context, but at the same time, through the liturgy, these letters are written to us, here, today. They speak to the realities of Christian living no matter where—or when—we live. They are truly "the Word of the Lord" for us.

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 Parishioner

WHY IS IT
 A man wakes up after sleeping
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 and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas
 bathes in an ADVERTISED shower
 shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
 brushes his teeth
 with ADVERTISED toothpaste
 washes with ADVERTISED soap
 puts on ADVERTISED clothes
 drinks a cup
 of ADVERTISED coffee
 drives to work
 in an ADVERTISED car
 and then
 refuses to ADVERTISE
 believing it doesn't pay.
 Later if business is poor
 he ADVERTISES it for sale.
WHY IS IT?



Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.

For further information,
 please call the Parish Office.

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