



SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

April 26, 2020 MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS Estab. 1924

(3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER)

"Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and enter into His glory?"
Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He interpreted to them what referred to Him in all
the Scriptures (Luke 24:26-27).



STAY WITH US, LORD! Walk with us, Lord, along the Road of Resurrection! Explain for us, so slow to believe, the things that Scripture says of you. Break the Bread of the Holy Eucharist with us and help us to recognize you there and in one another. Stay with us each time night approaches and the daylight fades in our hearts! We love you and we need you! STAY WITH US, LORD! Amen.

"...He was made known to them in the Breaking of the Bread."

"MIXED EMOTIONS," A Homily by



“Mixed emotions...” We can all think of times in our lives when we experienced mixed emotions. The fearful and joyful proposal of marriage, the angry and sad loss of a loved one, the exhaustion, jubilation, and pride of one of our Olympic athletes who stands in front of the whole world representing our country. Well, those are just a few examples to get you started. **Can you think of some mixed emotions from the Gospel readings from the first week of Easter?**

Sunday, April 12 (John 20:1): *Excitement and Worry.* Mary, Peter, and John all ran to and then from the tomb. Did He really rise? Or was His body removed by an enemy? *“For they did not yet understand the Scripture that He had to rise from the dead.”*

Monday, April 13 (Matthew 28:8): *Fear and Joy.* Mary immediately ran to tell the apostles what she had seen. Then the Lord met them on the way and said, *“Do not be afraid”.*

Tuesday, April 14 (John 20:11): *Sadness followed by Relief.* Mary Magdalene wept for our Lord, whom she did not recognize when she saw Him; but was quickly comforted by Him and felt relief from her sorrow when our Lord called her by name: *“Mary!”*

Wednesday, April 15 (Luke 24:13): *Confusion and Feeling Downcast.* Jesus encounters two men on the way to Emmaus, a small, insignificant town, seven miles outside of Jerusalem. They were confused that our Lord allowed Himself to suffer and die. They had thought Jesus was going to liberate Israel from their oppressors. Again, like Mary, these two confused and downcast wanderers did not recognize Jesus in their midst, until our Lord made Himself known—not by saying their names but in the Breaking of the Bread, an obvious reference to Jesus’ invisible Presence in the Holy Eucharist.

Thursday, April 16 (Luke 24:35): *Shock and Terror.* The ironic humor from this scene of the Lord suddenly appearing before the disciples is that Jesus appears to them out of “nowhere,” and says, “Peace be with you.” It does not appear to me that the disciples are feeling peace but that they are terrified. Jesus humbly shows them His wounds as proof to satisfy their doubt which is “questioning” within their hearts, but also the doubt they have of there actually being *LIFE AFTER DEATH!*

As your pastor, I want you all to take some time to try to meditate on what life after death might look like. Are you “giving it your ALL” to become a saint? We must always have in our thoughts and be pondering in our hearts: LIFE, DEATH, HEAVEN, and HELL. When we doubt our Lord’s Divine Presence, albeit invisible, and His obvious love for us, we will inevitably begin trusting and loving *things* that lead us away from Christ and from our ultimate destination/goal of Heaven. We remember that Our Lady of Fatima, on August 19, 1917, showed the three child seers a vision of Hell, after which she said, *“You have seen Hell, where the souls of poor sinners go. It is to save them that God wants to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. Pray, pray very much, and make sacrifices for sinners. Many souls go to Hell because they have no one to pray and make sacrifices for them.”* She also taught them the Fatima prayer that we all pray during the Rosary: *“O my Jesus, forgive us our sins; save us from the fires of Hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of thy mercy.”*

Fr. Philip Sullivan, O.C.D., Pastor

Friday, April 17 (John 21:1): *Liberation, Exhaustion, Disappointment, Joy, Embarrassment, Amazement, Childlike Excitement.* There were seven apostles in the boat in Friday's Gospel; was this a coincidental image of the Church? Bishop Robert Barron does not think so. He says that the boat symbolizes the Church; the seven Apostles symbolize the Sacramental grace entrusted to all the Apostles; the water symbolizes the rough, uncertain, and even mysterious work that is before all who claim to be Christian, but most especially before those of us who are Catholic and are able to offer our sacrifices through the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Then, of course, working according to God's will; now, that's a catch, isn't it! We are, after all, the Bride of Christ; should we not do the will of the Bridegroom? Jesus will tell us what to do and how to do it if we listen (obedire) and then to do whatever He tells us to do (as Our Lady tells us at the wedding feast at Cana when she tells the servants, *"Do whatever He tells you"* (John 2:5).

The mixed emotions in this account in the Gospel show us a liberated Church. The apostles are not in hiding anymore! But are they proclaiming the Good News that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead? No! They are fishing, without a catch. They are experiencing the mixed emotions of being liberated from hiding, tired from working all night, disappointed at their failure to make a catch, joyful that Jesus had returned, embarrassed at not recognizing Him, excited in a childlike manner by suddenly jumping out of the boat to swim to Jesus and, let us not forget, amazed at their sudden and almost effortless catch of 153 large fish! This Gospel is packed with emotion!

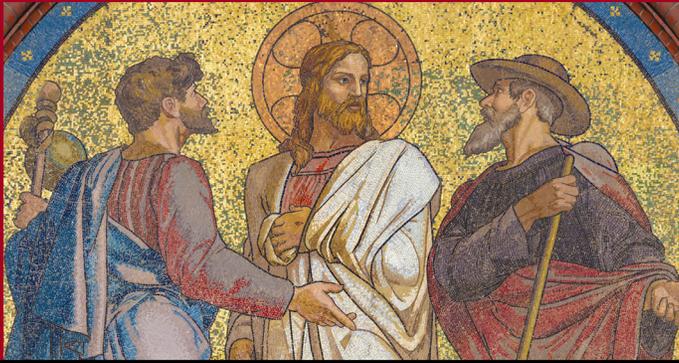
Incidentally, St. Augustine and St. Jerome teach us, in case you are curious why the Scriptures give us such a precise number of fish caught, that the number 153 represented the number of fish species that were known of at that time, St. Augustine also claims that this subtle detail from John's Gospel **symbolized the Universality of the Church**. Peter caught in his net the whole world! Christ is giving us **ALL** the charge to, *"Go out to all the world and make disciples!"* Clearly, this is what Christ wants from His disciples; after all, He did die once and for **ALL** on the Cross for the salvation of souls. So...what are we waiting for?

Saturday, April 18 (Mark 16:9): *Courage, Fear, and Grief.* On Saturday of the first week of Easter, we heard about the courageous lay woman named Mary Magdalene, who had seven demons driven from her by the power of Christ. We heard about her going to the "companions" of the Lord who are hiding, afraid, mourning, and weeping. When she told them about Jesus, they did not believe her! What an outrageous scene! We would *never* do that! Right? Could you even imagine the "companions" of Christ—the "brothers," as our Lord referred to them, the Apostles who walked with Jesus and witnessed His miracles, the first Bishops of Christ—hiding, mourning, and weeping like children? Well, I'm glad this would never happen today! That would be scandalous! Can you imagine Mary of Magdalene's outrage? Her frustration with these dissenters must have been exploding in her tone of voice; her disbelief at witnessing such cowardice among the apostles of Christ must have been distressing. It's a good thing our Lord showed up when He did. Who knows what Mary of Magdalene would have said or done if He hadn't!

Christ then appears NOT as a gentle gardener, or as a passerby on the road, or as some hungry guy standing on the seashore. No, Jesus is angry and He rebukes His apostles for not doing what He commanded them to do. He rebukes them for their disbelief and because they are hiding and afraid. He rebukes them because of their LACK OF FAITH.

The Gospel for that day concluded with these words: *"Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature!"* The bishops and the priests of the Church need to come out of hiding and get back to work. We priests cannot afford to act like cowards. We need to get in touch with the real needs of the Church and to stop acting like CEOs. We cannot be afraid of these political elites who continue to enact laws contrary to Christ's teaching. We ARE the Apostles of Christ, and we need to get back to work!





THIRD SUNDAY OF

Easter

APRIL 26, 2020

Were not our hearts burning within us
while he spoke to us on the way
and opened the Scriptures to us?

Luke 24:32

LOOKING BACK AND LOOKING FORWARD

Today's readings look back at both the Crucifixion and the Resurrection, remembering the promise given to David that Jesus would be raised from the dead. The Psalm and First Peter look forward to our lives as we await our resurrection and consider the sacrifice made by Jesus. Luke tells us the story of another experience of the risen Jesus. The disciples unknowingly walk with Jesus and tell him of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. Jesus himself looks back with them to the promises made to Moses and all the prophets about his death and resurrection. Still they do not know who he is. It is only when he blesses and breaks bread and shares it with them that they realize it is Jesus. Then they race back to Jerusalem to tell the others.

SLOW OF HEART

After the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, two of the disciples hit the road and try to escape all the uncertainty, fear, remorse, and guilt they feel. They feel the same regret that the disciples feel in Acts and First Peter. They meet another man traveling the same road and are astonished when he seems to know nothing about the events that so occupy their thoughts. These events have consumed them, have broken their hearts, have left them downcast and blind to the very person who joins them on their journey. Their companion, Jesus, takes them through their own tradition, through the Old Testament promise that someone just like him would come, be killed, and would rise from the dead. Though they do not recognize him by the words alone, they do not want him to leave. Lucky for them he stays.

IN THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

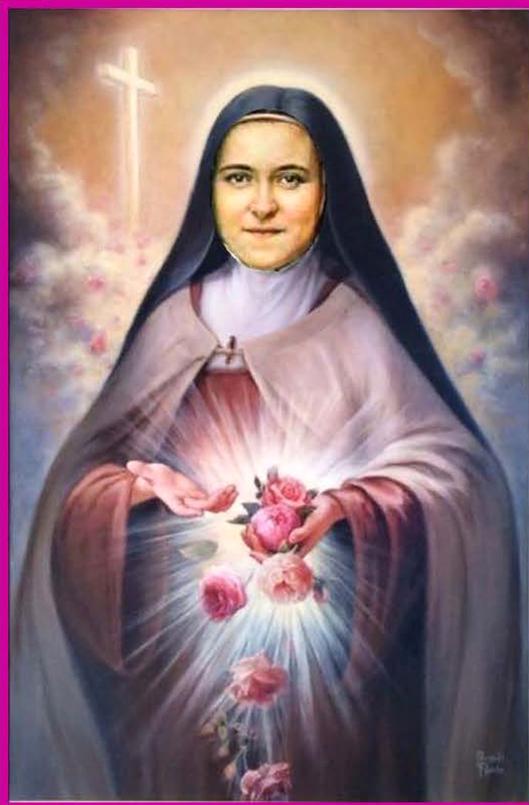
Despite all the hints, the disciples do not recognize Jesus. They remain consumed with their own confusion and fear and they cannot see who is right in front of them. It is only with the blessing, breaking, and sharing of the bread that they suddenly recognize Jesus. No words, however insightful, can penetrate the confusion and fear the disciples feel. Through the simple act of breaking and blessing bread they recognize Jesus. Even as their "hearts were burning," their minds did not know. How often do we not see what is right before us because we are so consumed with our own worries, regrets, concerns? Like the disciples it takes an action like the breaking of the bread, a reminder of the death of Jesus, his sacrifice, to get us to understand what our hearts already know.

TODAY'S READINGS

Acts 2:14, 22-33
Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-11
1 Peter 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-35



To receive the Sunday bulletin, etc., via a weekly E-Blast, please send your email address to the Parish Secretary, Denise McMaster-Holguin, at denisekay@hotmail.com



PRAYER TO ST. THERESE TO END THE PANDEMIC

Dear St. Therese of the Little Way, You bore so patiently the disappointments and troubles allowed by God, thus preserving in your soul an unchanging peace because you sought only God's Will.

Since your life began in Heaven, you have showered down countless blessings on this poor world and have been an instrument used by Our Divine Lord to work innumerable miracles.

With this in mind, we ask you to pray for us during this deadly pandemic so that, through you, God will heal those who are suffering from the virus, protect the healthy from contracting it, and end its scourge upon the world so that we will be able to once again worship Our Lord in the Mass and receive Him in Holy Communion.

We ask for complete conformity to God's will in this and in all the trials of life. Amen.

CORONAVIRUS PLENARY INDULGENCE

The Vatican's Apostolic Penitentiary has granted a plenary indulgence for people with COVID-19, for those who care for them, **and for those who pray for them.** So all of us can all take part in this new plenary indulgence. Plenary indulgences are a dogma of the Church and an ancient practice of the faithful. Plenary indulgences remit all temporal punishment due to sin, either for oneself or for a soul in purgatory. They must be accompanied by full detachment from sin. **The conditions of an indulgence are: sacramental confession, reception of the Eucharist, and prayer for the intentions of the Pope, such as the recitation of the Creed, the Our Father, and the Hail Mary.** What is unusual about this CVP Indulgence is the statement that the person praying for it "**satisfies these conditions as soon as possible,**" since it may awhile before we can confess and receive the Eucharist.

A person can receive one Plenary Indulgence a day. **It would be beautiful to offer this Indulgence every day for a different deceased person!**

WORDS OF ST. THERESE: *"I do not fear the trials of this earthly life, for even in the most bitter suffering, we can see that it is His loving hand which allows them. When we are expecting nothing but suffering, we are quite surprised at the least joy; and then suffering itself becomes the greatest of joys when we see it as a precious treasure."*

"I do not intend to remain inactive in Heaven. I want to work for the Church and for souls. I have asked this of God and I am certain that He will grant my request. I will spend my Heaven doing good upon earth. This is not impossible since the Angels, though always enjoying the Beatific Vision, watch over us. No, I cannot be at rest until the end of the world."

MAKING A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Pope Francis, Archbishop Gomez, and many bishops are encouraging us to deepen our love for the Eucharist during these difficult times when we are deprived of it. There is an ancient tradition in the Church of making a "Spiritual Communion." This began centuries ago when daily reception of the Eucharist was not allowed, and when some people could receive Holy Communion only once a year!

St. Alphonsus de Ligouri (1696-1787) wrote a very beautiful prayer for "**Spiritual Communion**" which you could pray every day:



"My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to possess You within my soul. Since I am unable now to receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You by sin. Amen."

LIVE STREAMED MASS FROM ST. THERESE CHURCH!

WE ARE NOW LIVE STREAMING THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS!

The Holy Sacrifice of Mass is the central act of worship in the Church, one which we, as practicing Catholics, have an obligation to attend on Sundays. Now, however, through no fault of our own, we have been deprived of that privilege of attending.

Since March 25, we have been **LIVE STREAMING Mass** every day of the week: **Mondays through Saturdays at Noon from the Adoration Chapel, and Sundays at 11:00 a.m. from the church** (this will continue throughout the quarantine).

Just go to our **Facebook page** at <https://www.facebook.com/stthereseoflisieuxalhambra> and scroll down until you see the most recent live streamed Mass. These Masses are being celebrated privately by our Carmelite Fathers at St. Therese Church (after the Mass airs, they are also posted on our website under **LIVE STREAMED MASSES**).

You can also "attend" the Mass with our neighbors, the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles. They have a daily Mass **Monday through Saturday, which streams at 6:15 a.m. and Sundays at 11:15 a.m.**—at either <https://www.Facebook.com/CarmeliteSisters> OR at <https://www.instagram.com/carmelitesistersocd>.



P r a i s e G o d f o r H i s g o o d n e s s !

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS *"...for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

May God reward you!

Below you will find the total collections for the last few weekends.

April 11 / 12, 2020 (Easter)

Unrestricted.....	\$44,514.00
Restricted.....	\$ 5,506.00
TOTAL.....	\$50,020.00

February 29 / Mar. 1.....	\$20,392.00
March 7 / 8.....	\$14,115.00
March 14 / 15.....	\$15,809.00
March 21 / 22.....	\$ 362.00

Check Users:
Please use a donation envelope in order to more easily credit your account.

Dear Parishioners, We are **OVERWHELMED** by your generosity! Thank you! And thank God for you! Thank you for your sacrifices and your goodness. May He continue to bless, protect, and guide you in every moment of your lives. Until we meet again, we love you and we pray for you always!

-Fr. Philip and All Your Carmelites Friars



"In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort we must help the weak, and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'" (Acts: 20:35—St. Paul to the Ephesian presbyters at Miletus—about thirty miles from Ephesus). Interesting note: Nowhere in Scripture is Jesus found saying these words, but St. Paul says he is quoting Jesus; we do know from Scripture that Jesus spoke to him in visions. St. Paul said, "Now I want you to know, brothers, that the Gospel preached by me is not of human origin. For I did not receive it from a human being, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ" (Galatians 1:11-12).

Mass Intentions

April 25 through May 2, 2020

Saturday:

7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

Noon: 1) Kuo-Shang, Yu-Mei, Tai-Seng, RIP;
2) Javier Uribe, RIP; 3) John Michael C. Luciano, RIP

Sunday:

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

11:00 a.m.: 1) Parishioners

2) Alexander, Lauren, Ellena Cheah, INT;

3) Richard & Patricia LaHood, INT;

4) Rodolfo Claparols, RIP; 5) Fr. Matthias, OCD, INT

Monday:

***7:30 a.m.:** Elliot & Jeannie Zino, Anniv INT

Noon: 1) Mary Sheridan, RIP

2) Shenly Lopez, B-day INT

Tuesday:

***7:30 a.m.:** Angie Young, RIP

Noon: 1) Richard & Nelda Putman, RIP;

2) Anthony Steven, INT

Wednesday

***7:30 a.m.:** Fr. Bernard Perkins, OCD, INT

Noon: 1) George & Joan McDonald, RIP;

2) Angelina Brajkovich, RIP

Thursday:

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

Noon: 1) Jeff Stephen, INT;

2) Mary Sheridan, RIP

Friday:

***7:30 a.m.:** Carl Thompson, INT

Noon: 1) Angelle Francisce & Karina Therese Laigo, INT;

2) Disc. Carm. Friars of Calif-AZ, INT

Saturday:

***7:30 a.m.:** Carmelite Community

Noon: 1) Wendy Lu & Family, INT

2) Sr. Mary Anna Larkin, OCD, RIP

3) Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD, INT

*All Masses, including the Masses at the Cloistered Nuns' Chapel, are **CLOSED** to the public during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

NOTICE RE MASS INTENTIONS:

Rest assured that, although Mass is currently not being celebrated publicly, the Carmelite Fathers are celebrating private Masses for all the above Mass intentions. When Mass is concelebrated, each priest offers the Mass for a separate intention. Thus you see that each of the Masses offered in the church has more than one Mass intention (one for each priest present).

Outside the Parish

Carmelite Pilgrimage for the 20th Anniversary of the liturgical feast of Divine Mercy on **September 6 - 18, 2020**, to Lithuania, Poland & Prague, Czech Republic, led by a Carmelite Friar (TBA). Includes: Medieval Vilnius: Ostra Brama, Hill of Crosses, Our Lady of Siluva, Poland: Sokolka-2008 Eucharistic Miracle, Lichen Stary-Largest Basilica in Poland, Glogowiec-Birthplace of St. Faustina, Czestochowa, Kracow; Wadowice -birthplace of Pope St. John Paul II, Lagiewniki-Divine Mercy Shrine, Convent of Sisters of Mercy & Sanctuary of Divine Mercy, Tatra Mountains in Zakopane-Fatima Shrine, Old World Prague: City Tour, Church of Our Lady Victorious, Infant Jesus of Prague. Cost: \$3995 from LAX (based on double room occupancy). Includes: R/T air from LAX w/airport taxes. Land travel by Luxury Coach, 3 & 4 Star Hotels, Breakfast/Dinner Daily, Guided Tours, All Entrance Fees, Daily Holy Mass. For more information contact: Louisa (323) 360-5186 or Jack (323) 403-8768 - St. Olav Travel - <https://stolavtravel.com>.

HELP FOR MARRIAGES: 82% of marriages that complete the nine-month *Retrouvaille* (REH-tro-v-eye) program are still together five years later? For questions or registration, call 909-900-5465 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com. Confidential!

You are invited to join Fr. Joe Joseph's Pilgrimage to SWITZERLAND, GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS BELGIUM, including the OBERAMMERGAU-PASSION PLAY from **SEPT. 2-14, 2020** Contact Bernadette at bcorp1114@gmail.com or 323-547-6618 /323-344-1548.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT, HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA, AND EWTN (JULY 23-30). Mother Angelica answered the call to build Nino Divino a temple. Enjoy talks, a healing service, and daily Mass with the friars and cloistered nuns; spend a day at EWTN and more! Space is limited. SIGN UP by contacting Albert and Mary Helen Estrada at remembertopt@sbcglobal.net.