

Saint Therese Catholic Church

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

April 4, 2021 / Easter **MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS** Estab. 1924

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Associate Pastor: Fr. David Guzman, OCD X232

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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@saintthersecarmeliteschool.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.



FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Christ is risen! He is truly risen!!!

Blessed Easter Sunday and Easter Week, everyone!

The darkness is over, and the real Light has begun to shine, as of Easter Sunday, over 2000 years ago—and especially shining for us in these days of the Easter Octave of the Year of Grace 2021! The words below of St. John Chrysostom (John the Golden Mouth!)—originally given in 387 AD—capture perfectly my prayer for each and every one of you and your family and loved ones.

—Fr. Thomas of the Trinity, OCD

(Note: St. John Chrysostom, who lived from 349 to 407, was one of the Church Fathers and considered to be one of the greatest preachers of the early Church. As you read his Easter sermon from 387 AD (below), it will

help to keep in the back of your mind the parable of the workers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16):

WHOEVER YOU ARE, come, celebrate this shining happening, this festival of light! You, the devout, God's unshakable lover, and you, the servant brimming with thanks. Come, walk into the joy of your Lord. You, who began before sunrise, come for your stipend. You, who waited 'til nine in the morning: the feast is for you. And you, the not-till-noonday starter, do not hesitate; you shall not lose a thing. You who began at only three in the afternoon, have no scruples, come! And you who arrived just before sunset, forget you were late. Do not be bashful.

Our Master is magnanimous and welcomes the very latest with the first. He will not entertain you less, you of the eleventh hour, than you, the dawn toiler. No, not at all! To this one He gives, and on that one, He showers rewards. Whether you were a success or whether you only tried, He will greet you, make much of your effort, extol your intention.

Let everybody, therefore, crowd into the exhilaration of our Savior. You, the first, and you, the last: equally heaped with blessings. You, the rich, and you, the poor: celebrate together. You, the careful, and you, the careless: enjoy this day of days. You, that have kept the fast, and you who has broken it: be happy today! The table is loaded. Feast on it like princes. The milk-fed veal is fat. Let no one go hungry.

And drink, all of you: drink the Cup. The vintage is faith. Feed sumptuously, all: feed on His goodness, His sheer abundance. No one need think he is poor, for the universal empire is emblazoned, wide open for all. No one need mourn uncountable falls, be they over and over. For Forgiveness itself has reared from the tomb. No one need fear death; for our Savior Himself has died and set us free. He confronted death in His own person, and blasted it to nothing. He made it defunct by the very taste of His flesh. This is exactly what Isaiah foretold when he declared: "Hell is harrowed by encounter with Him."

Of course, it is harrowed! For now, Hell is a joke, finished, done with. Harrowed, because now taken prisoner. It snatched at a body and—incredible!—lit upon God. It gulped down the earth, and gagged on Heaven. It seized what it saw, and was crushed by what it failed to see.

Poor death, where is your sting? Poor Hell, where is your triumph? Christ steps out of the tomb and you are reduced to nothing. Christ rises and the angels are wild with delight. Christ rises and life is set free. Christ rises and the graves are emptied of dead. Oh, yes, for He broke from the tomb like a flower, a beautiful fruit: the first fruit of those already gone. All glory be His, all success and power, forever and ever!

HAPPY EASTER!

ST. JOSEPH PRAYER GROUP



The St. Joseph Prayer Group—which, through the intercession of St. Joseph, prays for peace and justice issues in our community and around the world—will resume



St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Family, Patron of the Church, The People of God, Hear Our Prayer for Peace

.....

Saint Joseph, a man of peace and wisdom, Teach us the way of peace.

Protect us from the hatred and the 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 care for 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 this peace.

1ST COMMUNION CLASSES

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 **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!

The first St. Joseph Prayer meeting will be **THIS WEDNESDAY, April 7** (and every Wednesday after), at the new time of **3:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited to join us! 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.

CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

THE WONDERS OF OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER

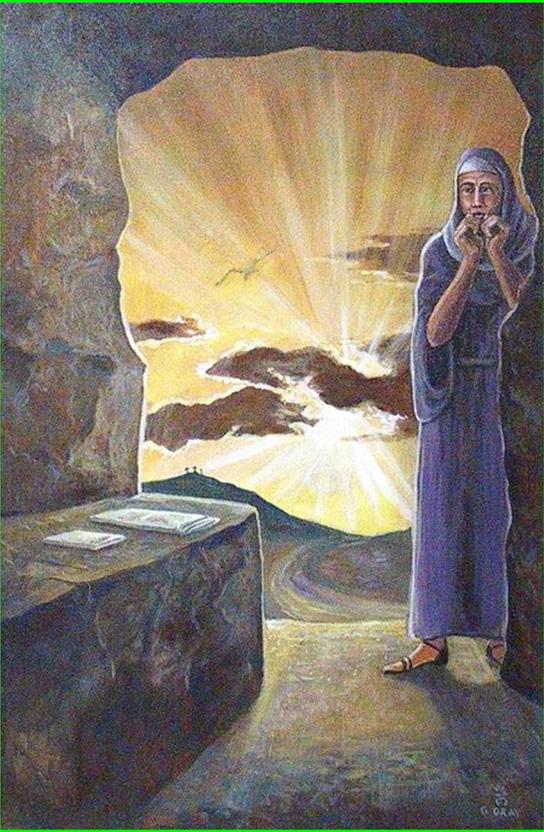


CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH

PREPARATION SESSIONS began last Wednesday for those wishing to be consecrated to St. Joseph on May 1st. You may still join the group on future **Wednesdays**—at your **choice of Noon or 6:00 p.m.**—in the Guadalupe Courtyard (enter on the parking lot side—near Adoration Chapel entrance). For more info, contact Maria Alejandra at 993-4236 or ale3767@yahoo.com.

You may also prepare on your own by reading and praying through the book by Fr. Donald Calloway (shown to the left), which is available for purchase in the office for \$15 each. You can also find the book on Kindle (sold on Amazon, etc.).

REFLECTION ON THE SUNDAY READINGS



Today is Easter, the Feast of Feasts! During the first three or four centuries of Christianity, if you asked a Christian to name the feast days of the Church, your answer would have been a puzzled stare, for there was only ONE feast: **the Resurrection of the Lord**. Every Sunday was a feast celebrating the one great feast. Even though our calendar now has many beautiful and holy feasts, we must continually be called back to the fact that all these other feasts exist because of the feast of Christ's Passover from death to life. The Psalm (118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23) we hear today proclaims this message well: "This is the day." It is not one of many days, but it is THE day of all days, the one that gives all the others their origin, purpose, meaning, and destiny.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Listen carefully to Peter's speech in Acts (10:34, 37-43)—with its recollection of the Passion—to the words of the apostle Paul, and to the account of Mary Magdalene, John, and Peter finding the empty tomb. As you listen, you will hear the many wonderful works that God has done for us through Christ. Rejoice and be glad!

Imagine the flood of emotions that Mary of Magdala must have experienced on that first Easter morning (John 20:1-9). **Grieving and yet determined to visit the place where Jesus' body had been laid, Mary was stunned to find the tomb empty.** She then ran to tell Simon Peter and the other disciples what she had seen. Imagine Simon Peter and John—after hearing Mary's announcement and feeling confused and concerned—running to see for themselves.

We, too, have come to believe through their faithful witness. We are called to seek what is above, turn away from sin, and live as people who are forever transformed by the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection. Like them, we do not always understand God's ways. We, too, are confused at times; our lives are marked by moments of uncertainty, and at times we are afraid. We can learn from Mary, Simon Peter, and the other disciple and step out in faith, trusting that we will find the Lord in the midst of the circumstances of our lives. When life gets complicated, as it often does, the best thing to do is step out, perhaps even run to the Lord!

We may not have opportunities to address crowds of people and share the Gospel with them. Still, we are called to bear witness to our Faith in the ways that we are able, in word and in deed. However, we cannot share what we have not fully embraced ourselves. The Easter season is the perfect time to reflect on Christ's Paschal Mystery, the unfathomable love of Jesus who shows and shares God's love perfectly. Our Lord gave His life so that we might have life, and have it to the full. Christ's victory over sin and death is our victory, our promise of eternal life with God in the fullness of time. See in Christ's Life, Passion, Death, and Resurrection the sign of God's mercy.

Let this Easter day be a moment in which you allow yourself to be touched by Christ's incredible, undying love. Then, renewed in faith, look for ways to bear witness to others about the mercy, forgiveness, compassion, and love of the Lord.

BAPTISM: A GOOD DAY TO DIE

Do you remember your own baptism? Most likely not—as most of us are baptized as infants. I envy the adults I have seen baptized at the Easter Vigil. Hopefully, they experience what St. Paul says, that **Baptism is a sign of dying and rising to new life** (Colossians 3:1-4). **Sounds like Easter to me!** So, when Jesus died, He rose from the dead. Is Paul telling us that we will rise from the dead, too?



Yes, but that is not his main point. If all we think about is our physical death, and hope we go to Heaven afterwards, we're missing the point. The new life starts with our baptism, not just our physical death. That's why St. Paul says things like, "our old self was crucified" or "our sinful body might be done away with..." (Rom 6:6). Baptism gives us a new life NOW. The water is both cleansing and a sign of dying (symbolic drowning) that help us see we are free from sin. We are dead to sin when we begin to live in Christ. Star Trek's fictional Klingons have a saying, "**Today is a good day to die,**" to express courage in battle. But real Christians might say that **Easter is a good day to die, since we have died to sin and have begun a new life in Christ.**

How do we experience this dying to sin? First, we identify the sinful areas of our life. Do I watch movies, video games, or TV shows that encourage promiscuity, lying, revenge, hatred, or selfishness? What sins do I confess repeatedly and what can I do to avoid them? Next, we



"Whoever wishes to come after Me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me" (Matthew 16:24).

look for ways to act differently: Can I spend more time with friends/relatives who are examples of love? Can I spend less time entertaining myself and more time in prayer? Instead of complaining about what is wrong with the world, can I find ways to make it better? (If not the world, then my community or family.) These are a few of the ways we begin our new life in Christ.

—Tom Schmidt, Catholic Author

Mass & Prayer Nights

- **MONDAY 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 (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 to refresh your soul! 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
- **SATURDAY NIGHT HEALING PRAYER:** Join us **LIVE** (outside) 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=QzlllQ3lSMG5aK3k3_ZFJLN0gzaHV0dz09 .The Meeting ID is **913 2829 6798**, and the Passcode is **UC3YxA**.



GOD BLESS YOU!



The Nuns at the Carmel of St. Teresa are **d e e p l y** grateful for all of your donations to the Fr. Jerome Appeal. These

contributions will certainly help them with their ongoing expenses. Unlike our household bills, when their bills arrive they, are in the thousands of dollars. **If you have not yet sent in your donation, you can use any envelope as long as you indicate it is for the Nuns or the Fr. Jerome Appeal.** Just drop it into the collection basket OR bring it to the church office or Monastery OR mail it to: Carmel of St. Teresa, 215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra, CA 91801.

G o d b l e s s e a c h o f y o u !

AUCTION RESULTS!

Thanks to your generous help, **SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL'S** virtual Silent Auction on March 19th raised **\$34,052!**

We would also like to extend a big **CONGRATULATIONS** to the following Winter Drawing winners:

FIRST PRIZE WINNER: **Anonymous**—A BIG thank you to this generous benefactor who, after winning, donated the 1st prize to our Adopt-A-Saint scholarship program!

SECOND PRIZE WINNER: **Julia Perez**, who won the Our Lady of Guadalupe Garden Mosaic!

THIRD PRIZE WINNER: **Andrew Pribe**, who won a wine basket.

GOD BLESS EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED!

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!

Due to the printing schedule of the bulletin publishing company, this issue was submitted on March 26, so it does not contain the totals for the weekend of March 27/28.

February 27 / 28.....\$ 8,247.00
 March 7 / 8..... \$14,589.00
 March 13 / 14..... \$22,832.00
 March 20 / 21..... \$22,385.00

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

Mass Intentions

April 3 through April 10, 2021

Holy Saturday:

8:00 pm: Arenas Ortega Family, INT

Easter Sunday

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

7:30 am: Carmelite Friars of CA-AZ, INT

9:00 a.m.: Parishioners

11:00 a.m.: Maria Lazatin, INT

1:00 p.m.: Archbishop Jose Gomez, INT

5:00 p.m.: Fr. William Fenton, OCD, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Novena

*7:30 a.m.: Abby Cano, B-day INT

8:00 a.m.: Lazatin Family, INT

7:00 p.m. Maymie Donell, INT

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Novena

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

8:00 a.m.: Raquel Sobalvarro, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Novena

*7:30 am: Mother Brenda Marie, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: John Kienker, Sr., RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Novena

*7:30 am: Sr. Elizabeth Cristina, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Albert Estrada, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Easter Novena

*7:30 am: Sr. Elizabeth Cristina, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Mary Rose Go & Patrick Rosal INT

Saturday:

*7:30 am: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Students, Parents, & Teachers

*Held at the Carmelite Chapel,
215 East Alhambra Road

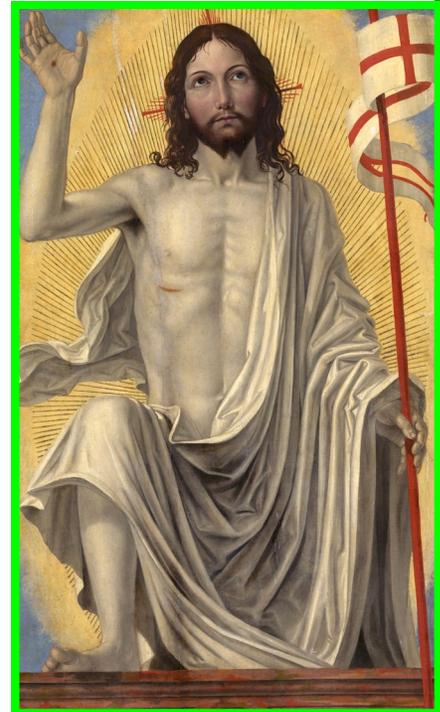
***OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! (Mon-Sat.)
LIVE STREAMED MASSES:**

8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday) and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass and 7:00 p.m. Monday and Thursday evening Masses (and any other special evening Masses) are all live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube (for those not attending).

FEAST OF FAITH

The Eucharist: Food for Resurrection

How do we celebrate Easter, the greatest of our Christian feasts? By doing what we do every Sunday and every day: celebrating the Mass.



On the first Easter, as the heartbroken disciples walked the road to

Emmaus, the Lord was with them but they did not realize it. They only recognized Him “in the breaking of the bread” (Luke 22:35).

It is the same for us. In the Mass—the Breaking of the Bread—we meet the Risen Lord together. We meet Him in each other—for by our baptism into His death and resurrection, we have become members of one Body, the Body of Christ. We meet Him in His word—in the liturgy the Scriptures are proclaimed to us, that they might take root and grow in us.

And we meet Him in a special way in the Eucharist, the Sacrament of His Body and Blood, which is food for resurrection: “whoever eats this Bread will live forever” (John 6:51). The Lord is risen indeed, and it is the Risen One who truly presides at this and every Eucharist



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Parishioner

WHY IS IT

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WHY IS IT?



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For further information, please call the Parish Office.

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