

St. Therese Catholic Church

September 11, 2022 Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars Est. 1924
510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

FROM THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL:

What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy and, upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in Heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance" (Luke 15:4-7).



MASSES | CONFESSIONS

Masses—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 Masses: 6:00 and 8:00 a.m.

(the daily 8:00 a.m., the Sunday 11:00 a.m., and the weekday 7:00 p.m. Masses are **LIVE STREAMED** on Facebook AND YouTube);

Rosary: Mon-Sat after 8:00 a.m. Mass

Masses on Monday, *Tuesday (*Spanish), Wednesday & Thursday EVENINGS at 7:00 p.m.

First Friday Mass: 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS (OUTSIDE)-Wednesdays from 8:00

to 9:00 p.m.; Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m.

and Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Carmelite Nuns: 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.

OFFICE HOURS | CONTACTS

Monday – Friday: 9:00 am-1:00 pm; 2:00 pm-5:00 pm

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: Dcn Joseph Mizerski | Dcn Gilbert Vargas X333;

Annulments: Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Vocations: For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

For the Carmelites: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

Parish Secretary: Denise McMaster-Holguin X223
denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

Music Director: Andrew Coyne | Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras XI 12

ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

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

A Letter from the Pastor

Blessed 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, everyone!



My apologies about any confusion regarding the celebration of the Masses last Wednesday and Thursday. We received a last-minute notice that our Carmelite meetings in Redlands were suddenly cancelled, and so we needed to let everyone know that we were back to the regular schedule for last week. I hope you were able to enjoy Our Lady's Birthday celebration on Thursday—by stopping by for some Adoration, for Mass, or for healing prayer after the 7:00 p.m. Mass, as well as to the potluck in the Hall afterwards.

Today's Gospel is one of the most well-known and most powerful Gospel passages ever. Notice how generous the father is to both sons, and how much healing each of them needs around the truth of their identity. Neither of them has a good awareness of who their father really is and who they really belong to: an amazing prodigal father who lavishes his love on both of his sons. Finally, the younger son wakes up and realizes that, under any conditions, it is still better to be part of his father's family than to be outside of that family. But his father won't even allow him to finish his rehearsed speech and be a servant in the family! Instead, he runs out and gives him three things: a ring, a robe, and sandals—symbols of the son's fundamental identity as king, priest, and prophet in his father's family.

You and I too share—by our Baptism—in that fundamental identity in Our Lord Jesus as Priest, Prophet, and King!!! That is your and my deepest identity, and it can't be earned but simply received from God! From that identity, then, flow the authority and power to represent our Heavenly Father well, to do signs and wonders ourselves in the Name of His Son, Jesus Christ. Let us now continue meditating on the transforming power of the Seven Sacraments (today's excerpt is on the healing power of the Holy Eucharist—see box below).

Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph, -Fr. Thomas, OCD

ABIDING PRESENCE: How Holy Communion Heals Wounds of Abandonment

(From Chapter Four of *Be Transformed: The Healing Power of the Sacraments* by Bob Schuchts) | 4th installment

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is a participation (koinonia) in heavenly worship (CCC, 1326). Are we cognizant of participating with the Hosts of Heaven when we worship together? It also calls this Sacrament "a bond of charity" and "a sign of unity" (CCC, 1323). Within ourselves and our communities, are we really operating in unity like the early Church; can most of us say we are experiencing authentic communion (koinonia)? Why then do we call this sacrament Holy Communion when these most essential elements are neglected in our worship and community life?

The problem is obviously not on Jesus' end. His real presence in the Eucharist truly does bring the reality of Heaven to earth. His Body and Blood are the source of our charity and unity. Giving Himself completely to us, He makes us one body with Him and with one another. Yet, how many of us daily embody this reality of Jesus' abiding presence? Our wounds of abandonment and sins of isolation and selfishness seem to get in the way of true fellowship (koinonia)—first in relationship with Jesus and then with one another.

The Scriptures and Church teaching, as well as our own experiences, confirm that there can be no genuine unity or communion without self-giving love. In the words of St. John Paul II, "To celebrate the Eucharist, 'to eat His Flesh and drink His Blood,' means to accept the wisdom of the cross and the path of service. It means that we signal our willingness to sacrifice ourselves for others, as Christ has done." In his insightful book, *Life of the Beloved*, Henri Nouwen offers a vision of what self-sacrificing love looks like as we actively practice the sacrament of Holy Communion in our daily lives. Just as Jesus took the bread (as his Body), blessed it, broke it, and gave it to His disciples at the Last Supper, He calls us to follow His example in Holy Communion (Matthew 26:26). When we offer ourselves as living sacrifices in worship (Romans 12:1), Jesus also "takes us," "blesses us," "breaks us," and "gives us" so that we can participate with Him in His holy self-offering.

Notice the sequence of events. First, Jesus takes us and makes us an eternal offering to the Father, with Himself. We are reminded that our lives do not belong to us (1 Corinthians 6:19, Romans 14:8). We were given to the Father in Baptism. Every time we celebrate Holy Communion, we are invited to reaffirm the reality that we are one with Jesus and an integral part of His Body, the Church. After taking us into His hands, Jesus then blesses us. Blessing, as we have already noted, is receiving the presence and grace of God in our lives. When we receive Him in Holy Communion, Jesus sanctifies us and makes us holy. We in turn bless Him with our praise and thanksgiving (CCC, 1078). In the Eucharist, which literally means "great thanksgiving," we become a thanksgiving offering in communion with Jesus. He blesses us so that we can share His presence with others. But first we need to be broken.

Following the blessing, Jesus breaks us. I can personally testify that this is the part most of us want to avoid. The breaking process is not always easy or fun, but neither was the cross for Jesus. Without the breaking of our pride and self-sufficiency, we cannot have unity or true communion (koinonia) with Jesus or one another.

(This excerpt will continue in next week's bulletin.)

THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS OF
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benefitting the
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Friday, September 30, 2022

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RSVP by Friday, September 16, 2022

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FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION.

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

May God reward you for giving from your heart! Below you will find the total collection for last weekend, as well as for the previous four weekends. Note: There is a second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND OF EACH MONTH for our School.



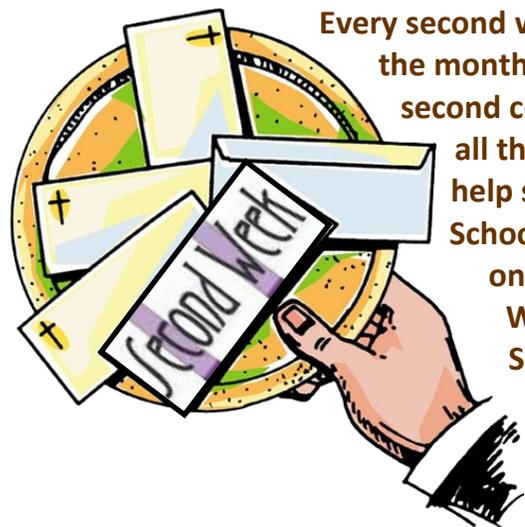
September 3 / 4, 2022

Unrestricted..... \$14,559.00
Restricted\$ 345.00
T O T A L.....\$14,904.00

August 6 / 7\$14,780.00
August 13 / 14\$28,263.00
August 20 / 21\$21,238.00
August 27 / 28\$12,357.00

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SCHOOL "SPECIAL COLLECTION"

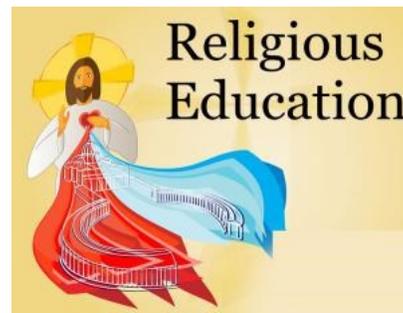


Every second weekend of the month, there is a second collection at all the Masses to help support the School. The next one is **THIS WEEKEND, September 10 and 11.**

All donations are greatly appreciated!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2022-2023 Religious Education classes will begin on **September 18** for elementary grades.... on **September 22 or 23** (1st or 2nd year)



for Youth Confirmation... and on **September 21 or 24** (your choice) for RCIA and Adult Confirmation.

Registration forms are on our website. Fill the appropriate form(s) out and bring to the office during our open hours. Also bring your checkbook to pay the fees and a copy of each enrollee's baptism certificate.

JOIN THE LAY PROFESSIONALS



All lay professionals are invited to join this group at their next meeting on **Saturday, September 10th, at 6:30 pm**, in the Avila Room in the Parish Office Building. For more information, send an email to khori19@yahoo.com.

HELP WOMEN IN NEED!

Please Support Options United to help women in need!
(www.wewerebornready.com/knights)

Catholics are called to support unborn children and their mothers so that no woman feels that she has to choose abortion. Do you know someone facing an unexpected or difficult pregnancy, in need of prenatal care, or who needs support with her young children? Share the **Options for Pregnancy helpline (877-398-7734), staffed by trained Options United call responders, or visit www.optionsforpregnancy.com**. This critical support service connects women and families to the 170+ pregnancy centers and other life-affirming resources across the state, but it can only be provided with your help. The bishops in all twelve of our California dioceses have endorsed this pioneering service and are united in asking you to prayerfully consider making a monthly donation of any size at www.optionsunited.com/one.

VOTE "NO" ON PROPOSITION 1: Sadly, California is presently one of the most permissive states in the nation for abortion. Proposition 1 promotes an unlimited expansion of abortion here, while its defeat would keep all abortion laws as they are, including our common-sense limits on late-term abortions. **Our bishops are calling us to unite in prayer and action to defeat Prop 1.** It is an expensive and misleading ballot measure that allows unlimited late-term abortions—for any reason, at any time, even moments before birth, paid for by tax dollars. Don't hand lawmakers a blank check to pay for abortions, and don't let them make California an "abortion sanctuary." Please visit www.Catholic.org/Prop1 to find answers to common questions and resources to help defeat this misleading, expensive, and unnecessary ballot initiative.

Options United is Hiring Call Responders: If you have a passion to unite in this fight and have good communication and computer skills, **please submit a short application online at www.optionsunited.com/take-action or email Denise Lopez at d.lopez@optionsunited.com for more info.**

The Real St. Therese



This is the latest installment from Guy Faucher's book, *The Passion of Therese of Lisieux*

Three days after writing the lyrical and passionate poem (included at the end of the September 4th bulletin installment), Therese received a great grace: "I was just beginning the Way of the Cross when suddenly I was seized with such a violent love for God that I can't explain it, except by saying it was as if I had been totally plunged into fire. Oh! What fire and what sweetness at the same time! I was on fire with love, and I felt that one moment, one second more, and I wouldn't have been able to sustain this ardor without dying. I understood, then, what the saints were saying about these states which they experience so often. As for me, I experienced it only once and for a single moment, then fell back immediately into my habitual state of dryness" (Last Conversations, 7.7.2). Let us note that it was while she was making the Way of the Cross that the seal of acceptance was seemingly placed on her Offering by this fire.

Therese was to live in hope. Death was going to come. She would die of love. But when? "Ever since I was young, God gave me the feeling that I would die young," Therese told Mother Agnes. Five days later, on July 18, 1897, she wrote to Abbe Belliere: "I have never asked God to let me die young. It would have seemed to me cowardice. But from my childhood, He has given me the deep conviction that my course here would be brief." We must not forget that it was about this time that she saw in the stem broken close to the roots a symbol of her life. She thought that the good God "seems to be saying by this that He'll soon break the bonds of His little flower; He will not allow her to fade away on this earth!" Presentiments? —or physical symptoms that we do not know about?

2. From the act of oblation to the entrance into "the tunnel" (June 1895-April 1896). On August 12, Therese gave Sister Marie of the Trinity a poem for her twenty-first birthday: *Mon Ciel ici-bas*, later published under the title *Cantique a la Sainte Face*:

**Oh! to console you I wish
To live unknown on this earth!
Your beauty that you know how to hide
Unveils all its mystery to me
To you I wish to soar aloft!**

Seven and Counting...

To classify the gifts of the Holy Spirit, this book follows a traditional division of the nine gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 into three categories. There are gifts of revelation: words of wisdom, word of knowledge, and discernment of spirits. There are gifts of power: faith, healings, and working of miracles. And there are gifts of speech: prophecy,



tongues, and interpretation of tongues. This is a classic and long-standing breakdown of the gifts. We recognize, however, that it is limited and somewhat artificial.

What we do we mean? Prophecy and interpretation of tongues are gifts of speech, but they also depend upon revelation; otherwise, they would be little different from some forms of teaching. The gift of faith involves revelation as well. The gifts of miracles and healing are power gifts, but they are in large part dependent on the gift of faith, and are often related to words of knowledge. The gifts frequently work in conjunction with one another. In addition, there are other spiritual gifts besides the ones St. Paul lists.

Among both Catholics and Protestants, there are some widespread misconceptions about the spiritual gifts that keep people from being open to them. We will address these misunderstandings on both sides.

For many Catholics, the phrase "gifts of the Holy Spirit" immediately brings to mind the seven gifts that Catholic tradition calls sanctifying gifts of the Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. These are listed in Isaiah 11:1-3, a passage that foretells the Spirit-filled Messiah who was to come. Since the Holy Spirit forms in Christians the character of Jesus the Messiah (Romans 8:29), Catholic tradition holds that these gifts are given to every Christian through the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Because of the strong emphasis on these seven, many Catholics are not aware that there are any other gifts of the Spirit; but Catholic teaching has never limited the Spirit's gifts to these seven. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote a long treatise on the spiritual gifts in his *Summa Theologica*, in which he explains several of the gifts St. Paul lists in 1 Corinthians 12—including prophecy, tongues, and miracles—and emphasizes their importance for evangelization.

Fasting from the Wound of Control & Manipulation

PAUSE TO HEAR GOD SPEAK:

"Finally, draw your strength from the Lord and from His mighty power."

-Ephesians 6:10

"I am the vine and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing."

-John 15:5

Today, I choose to fast from the wound of control and manipulation. When you were a baby and realized that someone would respond to your cries, you discovered your ability to influence your world. As we grow, we learn more and more sophisticated ways of influencing the world around us. The wound of control/manipulation is a distorted way to influence our world. We don't behave based on mutual goodness. Instead, we operate with our own safety as the primary concern. Our control and manipulation make our world more predictable and safe. But others see us as using or taking advantage of them. We might work very hard to manage circumstances behind the scenes and artfully influence people against their own wills. Let's be especially aware of the people and circumstances we manipulate or control.



TAKE TIME TO ASK YOURSELF:

**How do I control/manipulate others to get them to do what I want?
What happens if I don't control?**

Heavenly Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I renounce control/manipulation and repent all the ways in which I have sinned because of them. I reject control/manipulation in every area of my life. I renounce any lies that I have come to believe, including lies such as "I'm out of control; I'm not safe." Send your Holy Spirit to heal, restore, and transform me. I belong to you. I am loved by you. I am chosen by you. I am known to you. Amen.

The above is taken from the book, *Lenten Healing*, by Ken Kniepmann—available for sale in the parish office.

Quiet Listening Prayer

FROM WAY OF PERFECTION by St. Teresa of Avila



We must, then, disengage ourselves from everything so as to approach God interiorly and, even in the midst of occupations, withdraw within ourselves. Although it may be for only a moment that I remember I have that Company within myself, doing so is very beneficial. In sum, we must get used to delighting in the fact that it isn't necessary to shout in order to speak to Him, for His Majesty

will give the experience that He is present. With this method, we shall pray vocally with much calm, and any difficulty will be removed. For in the little amount of time we take to force ourselves to be close to this Lord, He will understand us as if through sign language. Thus, if we are about to say the Our Father many times, He will understand us after the first time. He is very fond of taking away our difficulty. Even though we may recite this prayer no more than once in an hour, we can be aware that we are with Him, of what we are asking Him, of His willingness to give us, and how eagerly He remains with us. If we have this awareness, He doesn't want us to be breaking our heads trying to speak a great deal to Him (Chapter 29, No. 5-6).

Non-Discrimination Policy for the School Year of 2022-2023

St. Therese Carmelite School, mindful of its mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students regardless of race, color or national and/or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. The school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, medical condition, sex or national and/or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs, although certain athletic leagues and other programs may limit participation and some archdiocesan schools operate as single sex schools. While the school does not discriminate against students with special needs, a full range of services may not always be available to them. Decisions concerning the admission and continued enrollment of a student in the school are based upon the student's emotional, academic and physical abilities and the resources available to the school in meeting the student's needs.



Mass Intentions

September 10 to 17, 2022

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Beatriz de Castro, RIP

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: Marti Ferrer, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Mary Strouse, Sr., RIP

11:00 a.m.: Tom Yuenger, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Delia Chavez Vargas, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Simon Choy, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Raymond Siy, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Gabriel Anyanwu & Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Gonzalo & Daisy Torres, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Juana Soliz Hernandez, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Kim Ki Chul, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Delia Chavez Vargas, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Gabriel Anyanwu & Family, INT

7:00 p.m.: Renato Martinez, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Delia Chavez Vargas, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Dec'd Religious, Relatives and

Benefactors of the Carmelite Order

8:00 a.m.: The McAllister Family, INT

7:00 p.m.: Juana Soliz Hernandez, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Marita E. Alfonso, RIP

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

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

7:00 p.m.: Fr. Robert Elias, OCD, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Anthony Cailan, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Prosperador Lim, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Doc Hart, RIP

Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Jose N. Vales, INT

***Held at the Cloistered
Carmelite Chapel**

**The Carmel Chapel is open to the
public every day except Sundays.**

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

The 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday), the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, and the 7:00 p.m. weekday Masses are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube (for those unable to attend due to illness, etc.). Links to those two sites are on our website's home page (in the top left column).

Outside the Parish

Sacred Heart Retreat House invites all women 18 to 35 to the first session of its Handmaidens series ("Unlocking the Feminine Genius with Carmel," by Sr. Teresa Margaret, O.C.D.). It will be held on Saturday, September 17, as follows: 4:45 p.m.: Meet in front of the Sacred Heart Chapel at 920 East Alhambra Rd.; 5:00 p.m.: Solemn Salve Regina with the Sisters; 5:30 p.m.: *Dinner together at St. Joseph Campus, 507 North Granada Ave., Alhambra (*PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN SACK DINNER); 6:30 p.m.: Spiritual Conference, Small Group Discussion, and Eucharistic Adoration; 8:50 p.m.: Wrap Up. For any questions, call (626) 787-5286.

Want to keep the romance alive? The Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience is for married couples to reconnect privately. The experience allows you to create a dialogue with each other and with God, to create a higher and broader understanding of what it means to be married. The next Encounter will be October 14-16 at Mater Dolorosa in Sierra Madre. To register, contact Cameron & Barbara Troxell at (909) 938-2682 and leave a message. For more info, go to www.SacramentalLove.com.

Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD, will lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and to Rome/Assisi on Oct. 3 to 14, 2022, for \$4000 each. Included are air, hotels, bus, tour guides, all meals in Jerusalem and breakfasts and dinners in Italy. Call or send a test via WhatsApp to 626-818-2937 or email ximegabella@yahoo.com.

Carmelite Pilgrimage to the Marian Shrines of Wisconsin on October 5-12. **NEW RATE:** \$2,995 (double room occupancy) includes round-trip non-stop AA flights from LAX, land travel by deluxe coach, 3*/4* hotels with private bath/daily breakfast/dinner, all touring, daily Mass. Add \$450 for single room occupancy. For details, call Louisa & Jack Day at (323) 360-5186 or (323) 403-8768

14-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land (September 28 to October 11, 2022, led by Fr. Darrin Merino, CMF, for \$4,989). For more information, contact Parishioners Albert and Mary Helen Estrada at (626) 285-6687 or remembertoapl@sbcglobal.net.

Deaths

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**+Steven Smuckler
(Husband of Josie)**

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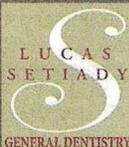
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Wendy.brown@compass.com



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LUCAS SETIADY, DDS

Lector & Parishioner

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