

St. Therese Catholic Church

September 19, 2021 **Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars** Est. 1924

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

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

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: Paula Grimm | pgrimm.dir@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras XI 12



...Once inside the house, He began to ask them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they remained silent. They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Then He sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, He placed it in the their midst and, putting His arms around it, He said to them: ↓

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

Masses on Monday, *Tuesday (in *Spanish) & Thursday EVENINGS at 7:15 p.m.—preceded by a showing of The Chosen, Season 2, from 7:00 to 7:15 pm;

Mass on Wednesday at 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.

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea" (Mark 9:42).



ST THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

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 of the Sick: Call the office.



FROM OUR PASTOR



Hello in the Holy Spirit, everyone! In the Gospel today, Jesus is sharing His Sacred Heart with His disciples, trying to get through to them about what it means to be a true disciple. And what are they doing? Arguing about who among them is the greatest! The Church really is a hospital, especially for inner healing. Instead of using a lot of words to try to heal them of their bitter jealousy, "Taking a child, Jesus placed it in the their midst, and putting His arms around it, He said to them, 'Whoever receives one child such as this in My name, receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but the One who sent Me.' "

What a great inspiration and preparation for us as we begin the Novena to St. Therese of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face this Wednesday, September 22nd. Also, please mark your calendars for our St. Therese Carmelite School fundraiser at Almansor Court on October 1st.

Since fear is probably the greatest obstacle to becoming more child-like, [here is some help for healing from fear](#) (taken from Day 24 [pages 100-102] of Ken Kniepmann's book, *Lenten Healing: 40 Days to Set You Free from Sin*, which is available for sale in the parish office).

Today, I choose to fast from the wound of fear. Our initial reactions to fear are always the same: fight, flee, or freeze. Our heart pounds inside our chest, we sweat, and we breathe rapidly. Our body and mind are on some kind of high alert to danger. If we are being stalked by a cougar while hiking in the mountains, this is the perfect response. It springs from an actual event. But when our fear is based on the perception that something bad might happen, we are experiencing the wound of fear. If you've ever been involved in a serious car accident, you probably experienced fear the first few times you got back in a car. If it became entrenched, you might experience fear every time you get in a car, even to the point of refusing to get in a car. We all have fears. Yours might be public speaking, death, or poverty. Our fears often become ingrained because of hurtful or traumatic events. Fear can keep us from living God's plan for us. We either rush ahead of God (fight), run away (flee), or stand still (freeze). I encourage you to take heart as fear will try to stop you. Do not be deterred!

Pause to hear God speak . . . **"I command you: be strong and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go"** (Joshua 1:9). **"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff comfort me"** (Psalm 23:4).

Take time to ask yourself: "What is going on in my life when I experience fear? How do I react when I feel afraid?" Then slowly pray, **"Heavenly Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I renounce fear and repent all the ways in which I have sinned because of it, particularly the ways in which I have not trusted you in the midst of my fear. I reject every form of fear in my life. I renounce any lies that I have come to believe, including lies such as 'bad things happen to me,' 'I cannot trust others,' or 'I'm vulnerable'. I renounce any companion emotions such as doubt, mistrust, and unbelief. Send your Holy Spirit to speak the truth to my heart that I am protected, cared for, and loved. Amen."**

Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph,
Fr. Thomas of the Trinity

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!

Dear St. Therese Community,



Thank you for your support of our School, especially during these past eighteen months. In these trying and confusing times, we remain committed to authentic Catholic education, which we need now more than ever. At Saint Therese Carmelite School, you will not find confusing theories, you will not find teachings contrary to the Faith, you will not find dissemination of inaccurate information. You will find happy students who can explain our Faith, students who can give you accurate historical perspectives, students who can reach their highest potential because they have been properly educated. In order to continue teaching the Truth, educating young minds, and fostering virtue, we request the help of our Parish Community.



**St. Joseph, Pillar of Families,
PRAY FOR US!**

The pandemic continues to challenge us in ways we could not have anticipated. We have entrusted this School year to St. Joseph, Pillar of Families. We trust that he will protect our School and our School families during these trying times. Many schools in our archdiocese have succumbed to current conditions. Quite frankly, small schools like ours need a miracle to stay alive! We have been very blessed thus far, and we continue to fight hard and to advocate for our School. This year, we will hold our Annual Dinner and Benefit Auction on the Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux, Patroness of both our Church and our School. **Our special Mass for her feast day will be at 5:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m., in order to allow our guests the opportunity to attend Mass and still participate in our event.**

You can help our School in multiple ways. First and foremost, we need prayers for its success. Second, please attend our Dinner and Auction and make a cash donation or bid on one of our prizes. Third, make monthly contributions to our School. Small sacrificial donations can go a long way—the little way to a BIG difference! The average price of a designer coffee is \$5. This means people who make weekday purchases spend \$25 per week or \$1,300 per year. If just ten people donated this same \$5 a day to our School, we could raise \$13,000 in just a year! If 100 people made the same commitment, a generous \$130,000 could be raised to help further our Catholic mission here!

We all face uncertain times, but we want to encourage you to remain prayerful and hopeful while we forge ahead and do God's will. Let us reassure you: the priorities for our School have not changed. More than ever, we remain committed to teaching the Faith, providing strong academics, and transmitting virtues to these precious souls in our care. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts and we ask for your prayers and support as we prepare to face the challenges of the 2021-2022 school year, which, again, we have placed under the protection of St. Joseph, Pillar of Families.

Fr. Thomas Koller, O.C.D.
Pastor

Mrs. Alma Cornejo
Principal

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Religious
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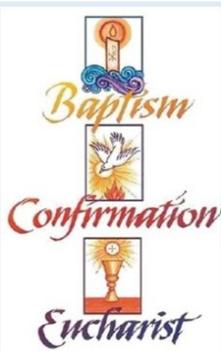
After each of the Masses **THIS WEEKEND, September 18 and 19**, you will have the opportunity to purchase religious items carved from olive wood by Christian artisans living in the Holy Land. All proceeds will go to support their families in the Holy Land.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

You still have time to register your child in our ***Sunday morning Religious Education Program for Elementary Grades** and in our ***Thursday evening Confirmation Program for High School Grades** (*Sundays from 9:00 a.m. Mass through 11:45 a.m. and *Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.). The fees are: 1st-year First Communion, \$90; 2nd-year First Communion, \$110; all other elementary grades, \$50; 1st-year Confirmation, \$140. You can find the registration forms on our website under the link "Religious Ed".

YOUR CONSCIENCE AND THE VACCINE

Last week we shared with you that the Archdiocese will not provide religious exemptions to receiving a vaccine against COVID-19 and also instructed all Archdiocesan Parishes to not provide religious exemption letters regarding the COVID-19 vaccination. **We want to emphasize, however, that the Church gives Catholics the right to exercise their individual consciences in all matters, including whether or not to get the vaccine. Practical reason makes evident that vaccination is not, as a rule, a moral obligation and that, therefore, it must be voluntary.** In any case, from the ethical point of view, the morality of vaccination depends not only on the duty to protect one's own health, but also on the duty to pursue the common good. In the absence of other means to stop or even prevent the epidemic, the common good may recommend vaccination, especially to protect the weakest and most exposed. **Those who, however, for reasons of conscience, refuse vaccines produced with cell lines from aborted fetuses, must do their utmost to avoid, by other prophylactic means and appropriate behavior, becoming vehicles for the transmission of the infectious agent. In particular, they must avoid any risk to the health of those who cannot be vaccinated for medical or other reasons, and who are the most vulnerable. (See the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on the morality of using some anti-Covid-19 vaccines—No. 5)**



R.C.I.A.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN
INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Any non-Catholics interested in becoming Catholic AND anyone baptized Catholic but who never received First Holy Communion or Confirmation, should attend RCIA.

The group will meet on Saturdays from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m., beginning on September 25th. The fee is \$150 for the year. You can find the Registration form on our website under the link "Religious Ed". Also on the form is information about choosing your sponsor.

St. Joseph,
Defender
of Life,
pray for
us!



OCTOBER IS . . .

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

The Kick-Off Mass for Respect Life Month will be on **Sunday, October 3, at 11:00 a.m.** On that day, after both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses, we will host a bake sale in front of the church. All proceeds will go toward the costs of our upcoming events. Please stop by and purchase something—for your enjoyment and for our needs. Stay tuned for more news on activities in October.

THE REAL ST. THERESE

A continuing bulletin feature, excerpted from *The Passion of St. Therese of Lisieux* by Bishop Guy Gaucher



St. Therese and Her Prioress: Therese's relationship with her prioress, Mother Marie de Gonzague, born as Marie de Ville, would on its own provide ample material for a book. She stood out without possible rival in the community. This was not only because a prioress had considerable powers at that time, but also because her undeniable human qualms made her a striking personality. Held in high esteem by the Guerrin family, consulted in the parlor by many priests, possessing sound judgment in the opinion of the prior of the nearby Abbey, she showed this quality in her judgment of Therese's worth and by entrusting her with important responsibilities. Her changing moods and fits of Jealousy do not change this fact: she had practically given charge of the novitiate to "this young religious" and, on May 30, 1896, she insisted that Therese become responsible for a second seminary brother. The objections of the twenty-three year old sister were in vain. The prioress, it is true, was responsible for this correspondence, but each time that she herself wrote to Fr. Roulland or the seminarian Belliere, she praised their spiritual sister, whom she called "Carmel's treasure".

Intuitively, Mother Marie de Gonzague must have sensed this young Carmelite nun had an unyielding purity. Before her, she felt that the depths of her soul were laid bare, like the novices who thought that Sr. Therese had the gift of reading souls. This was why, in June of 1896, the young sister could remonstrate to her prioress with tact and prudence about the painful elections a few months earlier. "In the end she had confidence in her alone," said Mother Agnes. Sr. Marie of the Trinity testified at the Apostolic Process that Mother Marie de Gonzague had said to her on several occasions: "If a prioress were to be chosen out of the whole community, I would not hesitate to choose Sr. Therese of the Child Jesus, in spite of her youth. She is perfect in everything. Her only drawback is having her three sisters with her." From the confidences contained in Manuscript C, which was addressed to Mother Marie de Gonzague, we see a clear expression of Therese's sentiments towards her prioress.

When as a child, this "would-be postulant," who used to visit her sister, Pauline, in the parlor, must have idealized this prioress whom she saw through the grille and who sent such affectionate little words to her "Teresita". Once in Carmel, Sr. Therese, like Sr. Marthe and some of the other nuns, must have had to struggle against succumbing to an all-too-human affection for the prioress. At fifteen, with a "heart thirsting for love," Therese could have become attached to Mother Marie de Gonzague, "like a dog attached to its master"; but, unfortunately, Therese was quickly to experience a cruel deception that resulted from the discovery of Mother's defects, her capricious way of governing the community and, later, the sufferings inflicted by Mother on her "little mother," Pauline, when the latter succeeded her in becoming prioress.

In 1897, still very clear-sighted and full of charity, Therese loved Marie de Gonzague with an almost maternal love. How could she not but suffer to see her often living on a level that was so earthly (hence her veiled remonstrances)? She loved her truly, not only with a love inspired by faith—for God spoke through her—but also with a purified affection.



NOVENA TO ST. THERESE

(We will pray this after every Mass from September 22 through 30)



O Glorious St. Therese, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind, I implore your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you in obtaining every need of body and soul that our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a prodigy of miracles, the greatest saint of modern times. I fervently pray to you to answer my petition (*pause for silent prayer*) and to fulfill your promise of spending Heaven doing good upon earth. Henceforth, dear Little Flower of Jesus, I will fulfill your plea "to be made known everywhere," and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.

(NOTE: On her feast day on October 1, all the Masses will be in her honor, including a special Mass at 5:00 p.m., moved from 7:00 p.m., so that you will be able to attend the School's benefit that night.



Mass Intentions

Scripture Reflection

September 18—September 25, 2021

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Lilian V. Arevalo, B-Day INT

Sunday

*7:30 am: Thanh Ha Vi Nguyen, INT

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Daisy Thompson, INT

11:00 a.m.: Gregoria Torres Palma, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Poor Souls in Purgatory

5:00 p.m.: Anthony Amezola, INT

Monday:

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

*7:30 a.m.: Thanh Ha Uyen Nguyen, INT

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

7:00 p.m.: Florence Schroeder, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Gracia Kang, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Basilia Cailan, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Benny Perez, RIP

7:00 p.m.: (Span): Hector Reyes, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Roseann & Mark Seiler, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Gabriel Esteban, B-Day INT

8:00 a.m.: Gerardo Adan, INT

7:00 pm: Doralyn Galian, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Teddy Yang, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Thanh Ha Nguyen, INT

8:00 a.m.: Serra Grimm, 6th B-Day INT

7:00 p.m.: Anthony Amezola, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Nicholas & Christina Yang, INT

*7:30 am: Dec'd Relig, Relatives, Benefactors

Of the Discalced Carmelite Order, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Daisy Thompson, INT

Saturday:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Leo Lacangan, RIP

***Held at the Cloistered Carmelite
Chapel, 215 E Alhambra Rd
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC Mon.-Sat.**

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).

WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY?

St. James' message of peace is as true now as it was two thousand years ago. Where else



do wars and terrorism come from, than from people holding on to wealth, power, or hatred? But the message James shares, and that of Jesus in the Gospel, is a simple call to be different. Neither of them condemns anyone. They call us to look at what we really want and what truly brings happiness.

Jesus' disciples argued about who was greatest. Instead of slapping them down for their selfish pride, He looks at what they could be and calls them to a different attitude. To be truly happy, they must let go of pride and arrogance; they must learn that serving others is the only way to experience love and joy. We are no different today. We have to learn that having the latest gadgets is at best a temporary delight. And that being admired by acquaintances is never as lasting as loving someone for themselves.

Jesus offers even more: the joy of being loved by God and helping others to know Him. Think about Jesus' words to the disciples: He is the Son of God, yet He wants to lead us not just to Himself, but to the Father. Can we learn to be more excited about what God has done for us than about what we did to improve our homes? Can we share our faith in God's mercy instead of bragging about our golf or bowling scores? Are we more interested in impressing members of the opposite sex, or treating all people with respect?

St. James ends our second reading with a challenging statement: He says we ask but don't receive because we ask wrongly. How often do we desire things that won't really make us happy? Do we pray for things we don't really need? Do we ask God to punish those who hurt us, or to help us forgive them? Let us ask God to show us His love and to help those around us to experience it too.

PERSONAL AD

Seeking part-time housekeeping help for a disabled senior near Alhambra. Location accessible by bus. Call Mary at 840-0955.

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