

St. Therese Catholic Church

September 5, 2021 **Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars** Est. 1924

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:

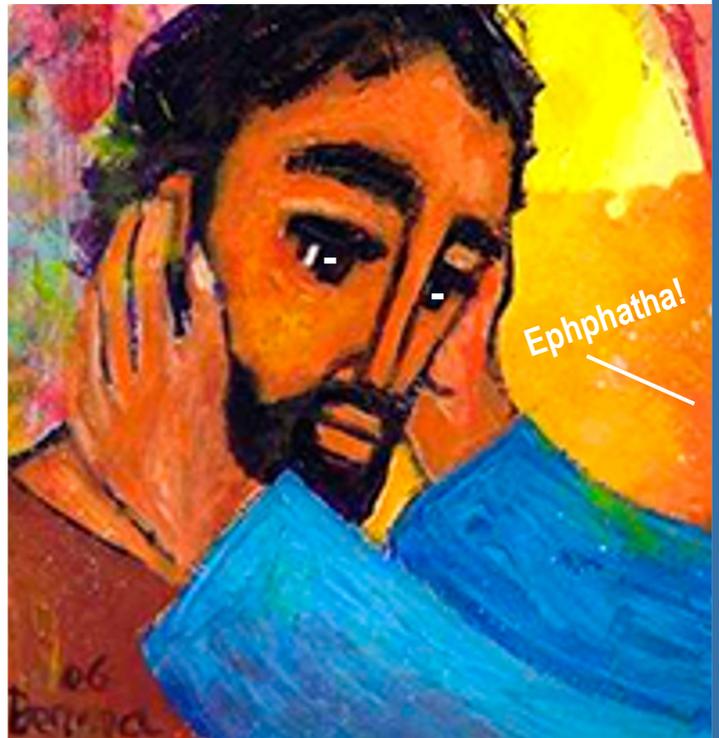
Denise McMaster-Holguin X223 denisekay@hotmail.com

Finance: Noralyn Cailan X228 / cailannocds@gmail.com

Organist: Ethan Williams / ethanfwilliams@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry / Vox Vitae:

Catherine Contreras X112



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 and the Sunday 11:00 a.m. 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.

And people brought to Him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged Him to lay His hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put His finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then He looked up to Heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!" (that is, "Be opened!") And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly (Mark 7:32-35).

They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak" (Mark 7:37).



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



Greetings and happy Labor Day weekend, everyone! I'm hoping and praying that today and tomorrow everyone will enjoy some extra Fine Food (especially the Eucharist!), as well as Fellowship with loved ones, Faith, and Fun! This week is also special because **Archbishop Gomez will open the Jubilee Year at the Cathedral this coming Saturday, September 11th.** The Archbishop writes, "A Jubilee marks a special time of the Lord's grace and mercy. And in the tradition of the Church, Jubilee Years or Holy Years are designated to commemorate important moments in the history of salvation. The foundation of Mission San Gabriel is one such important moment... [but it] is not about the past. It is about the present and the future. **'Forward in Mission' is our Jubilee theme,** and I am confident that

during this holy year God will pour out many graces on our local Church and on our families" (see our website's homepage and the link in the recent E-blast for his letter in its entirety).

Today's Gospel—which radiates out into our whole week—is about the Lord Jesus healing a deaf man with a speech impediment, and everyone marveling: **"He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak"** (Mark 7:37). Did you hear how Jesus was again at work recently, healing some people with hearing problems a couple of weeks ago here in our very own church? Yes, when John Cojanis came for a Healing Mission here on August 16 and 17, Jesus worked through John and through the trust and openness of others in the church and elsewhere, and numerous people were partially or completely cured of hearing problems. And even for the others whose hearing did not noticeably improve, the prayers for healing were not wasted, as Jesus drew them into a more trust-filled relationship with Himself. Remember, **there are five ways He answers our prayer requests: 1) He gives us what we ask for; 2) He gives us something better; 3) He takes away our desire for what we were asking; 4) He gives us the grace and strength to wait patiently; and 5) He gives it to us fully and finally in Heaven.**

With this Gospel and the recent happenings at our church in mind, I invite you to consider **at least trying the Encounter School of Ministry beginning on Monday, September 13,** from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., at St. Philip the Apostle Church in Pasadena. It will be held every Monday evening, and it will be divided into four quarters. The school draws from the richness of our Catholic heritage as it seeks to teach, equip, and activate disciples to demonstrate the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit in each person's spheres of influence. In conformity with the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church, it offer students a dynamic training program designed to take us to the next level in our relationship with the Lord and how we express that through ministry. The first quarter will focus on the foundation of ministry: identity and transformation. We do not live and work *for* a closer relationship with Him. Rather we live and work *from* a close relationship with Him as His beloved sons and daughters. When we are rooted in that true core identity, we are able to step out in greater faith to do the works Jesus did. Knowing who we are, and more importantly *whose* we are, opens the door for so much breakthrough in our lives and the lives of others.

You do not have to commit to the whole year. Just try one quarter, and if for some reason you cannot come in person, you can try the on-line version (www.encounterministries.us). If you need financial help, let us know and we can work it out together. You will also notice that we have added a second reader/psalmist to the weekday Masses, for the sake of increasing the sacred silence, and making it easier for everyone to hear the voice of the Lord whispering to us. "Shhhhh! Jesus has so much to tell you" (St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, OCD). This Wednesday, **September 8th, we celebrate our Heavenly Mom's Birthday!** Let us each ask her what she would like for a birthday present...

**Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph,
Fr. Thomas, OCD, Pastor**

WE ARE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Our readings today describe God's work of liberation for those who are vulnerable. Isaiah portrays the coming of God in terms of the healing of the blind, the deaf, and the lame. James notes that God chooses the poor to be rich in faith. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus heals a deaf person who has a speech impediment. These readings remind us of the acute struggles of the disabled, the excluded, and the poor. In the last year and a half, the pandemic has reminded us that we are all vulnerable, that illness and death are near us always. Today we hear that God's presence is revealed when God lifts us up and when we join God to lift each other up. Our care for others, especially those in greatest need, can be our grateful response to God's healing of us in our own vulnerability.

In the Second Reading, St. James is exaggerating a little when he describes how people might greet visitors in the Church. Hopefully, no one was that obvious at treating wealthy members better than poor ones; but for those who first heard the words from James' letter, it probably struck a nerve. It might strike a nerve for us too, because we live in a society where the wealthy are very much privileged, and the honoring of wealth is deeply ingrained in our cultural value system. James warns the Church not to imitate the class distinctions made in the broader society. Sadly, prejudice is a sin that is just as prevalent today as it was 2000 years ago. Today we have laws for business and government to prevent prejudice. But the subtler forms of judging people by their race, clothing, speech, religion, etc., sometimes hide behind patriotism, faith, or the desire to protect our families. So how can we stop it? One reason for prejudice is ignorance. Some people will believe anything they hear or read, especially if they see it on the internet. The only way to fight ignorance is with the truth. Jesus Himself said, "the truth will set you free" (John 8:32). He ignored the laws and traditions that said you cannot associate with unclean people, Gentiles, or sinners. He told us that God loves all people, even sinners, so what right do we have to judge someone just because they are different?

A second reason for prejudice is fear. We are told that certain neighborhoods are dangerous. Perhaps an older adult might see three teenage boys walking down the street and, because of fear, thinks they could be gang members. Sometimes fear stops us from helping the needy. But remember how many times Jesus tells us in the Gospels, "Do not be afraid." If we can learn to see Christ in all people, regardless of their race or lifestyle, we are beginning to leave prejudice behind. If we teach our children to respect the poor, the disabled, the homeless, etc., we can help them to understand what James meant about God choosing those whom the world sees as poor "to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom that He promised to those who love Him" (James 2:5).

Today's Gospel gives us the story of Jesus curing a deaf man with a speech impediment. It's a good example of how much is contained in a simple miracle story and is one of several descriptions of extraordinary healings in this part of Mark's Gospel. Mark leads readers to understand that in Jesus, God is fulfilling the divine promises prophesied by Isaiah: "the ears of the deaf will be cleared...the tongue of the mute will sing." When the deaf can hear and the mute can sing, this sign of the coming of God means that the gifts of sight and hearing are now available, not only for the individuals involved, but also for their families and the whole community around them. There is a "ripple effect" of blessing extending well beyond individual healing. Those isolated by deafness and speech impediments could now fully participate in common life. With their inclusion, the community itself receives healing. In the Gospels, salvation is always inclusive and holistic. God brings blessing to one small part of creation, so to extend blessing to all of creation.

The Greek word "mogilalos" appears only here in all of the New Testament. It is a technical term referring to someone with a stammer. It is also used only once in the entire Jewish Scriptures, and that is in the passage that we read today as our First Reading from Isaiah. Clearly, by his choice of this precise word, Mark wants us to recognize that what Jesus is doing is the fulfillment of what Isaiah had predicted centuries earlier. In fact, Mark wants us to recognize that Jesus is the Messiah foretold by Isaiah and the other Jewish prophets of old.

The word "ephphatha," used to describe the restoration of the man's speech, is another example of a subtle allusion to an earlier prophecy. The prophecy in question is from Ezekiel, when he foretells that in the messianic age, "your mouth shall be opened to speak" (24:26). The sophistication of Mark's narrative is further revealed when we realize that there are multiple levels within a single reference. Mark not only draws our attention back to Israel's prophetic past, he also points to the initiatory practice of his contemporaries mentioning spittle, touching of ears, and the use of the word ephphatha, all of which were practices incorporated into the early Church's baptismal ritual.



SALE OF OLIVE WOOD ITEMS

After each of the Masses on the weekend of **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.

✠ **Made in Holyland** ✠

*Handmade Olive wood carving
by Christian families in Bethlehem*



**Religious
Items**



MYSTERY OF THE ALTAR RE VACCINE EXEMPTIONS

The following poem was composed by St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (also known as Edith Stein). It is included in a book of Eucharistic meditations entitled, ***Mystery of the Altar***, compiled by Kenneth J. Howell & Joseph Crownwood.



This Heart, it beats for
us in a small tabernacle
Where it remains mysteriously
Hidden in that still, white host.

That is your royal throne
on earth, O Lord,
Which visibly you have
erected for us, and you are
pleased when I approach it.

Full of love, you sink your gaze into mine
And bend your ear to my quiet words
And deeply fill my heart with peace.

Yet your love is not satisfied
With this exchange that could still lead to separation:
Your heart requires more.

You come to me as early morning's meal each daybreak.
Your Flesh and Blood become food and drink for me,
And something wonderful happens.

Your Body mysteriously permeates mine
And your Soul unites with mine:
I am no longer what once I was.

You come and go, but the seed
That you sowed for future glory remains behind
Buried in this body of dust.

A luster of Heaven remains in the soul,
A deep glow remains in the eyes,
A soaring in the tone of voice.

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (1891—1942)

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles, in accordance with the Vatican and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), recommends that all members of the Catholic community, who are able to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, should do so. "Receiving one of the COVID-19 vaccines ought to be understood as an act of charity toward the other members of our community. In this way, being vaccinated safely against COVID-19 should be considered an act of love of our neighbor and part of our moral responsibility for the common good." -USCCB

Since the vaccinations for COVID-19 have been found morally acceptable to protect the lives and ensure the health of all in our communities, **the Archdiocese will not provide religious exemptions to receiving a vaccine against COVID-19. Parishes have also been instructed not to provide religious exemption letters regarding the COVID-19 vaccination.** The following links might be helpful in understanding the morality of receiving the vaccine:

- <https://www.usccb.org/news/2021/us-bishop-chairmen-doctrine-and-pro-life-address-usejohnson-johnson-covid-19-vaccine>
- <https://www.cacatholic.org/CCC-vaccine-moral-acceptability>

Let us continue to pray for all who have died from this terrible illness, for their loved ones who are experiencing the pain of loss, and for all who continue to work diligently to care for the sick and serve all in need during these challenging times.



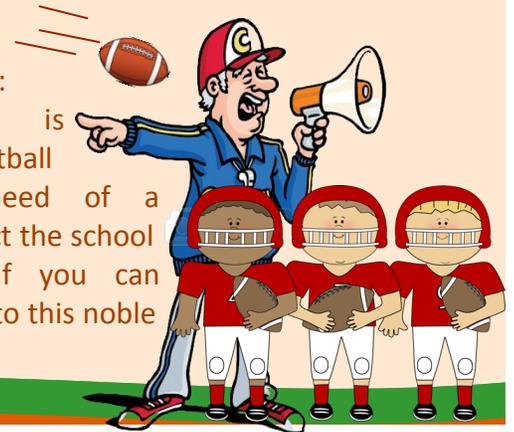
OUR SCHOOL IS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!



Do you have the time and the skills?

1) LIBRARIAN: The school is seeking a librarian to supervise the cataloging of the books currently in the library. If you are a librarian and can give an hour of your time per week or biweekly, please contact the school office (289-3364).

2) FOOTBALL COACH: Football season is here! Our young football players are in need of a coach. Please contact the school office (289-3364) if you can volunteer your time to this noble cause.



PRAY FOR UNBORN BABIES!

Join other committed Catholics in praying in front of the Planned Parenthood “clinic” at 1045 North Lake Avenue, Pasadena. There is always someone there on **Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.** praying the Rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet. Your witness and prayers could save an innocent life and/or change hearts! This is not a political issue; this is a human rights issue. Until



we protect the dignity of the most vulnerable, how can we stand up for other human right violations and injustices?

For more info, call Maria Alejandra at 993-4236.

THE REAL ST. THERESE

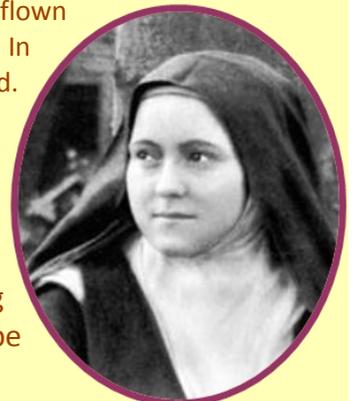
Last week we began this section for the purpose of helping you to know our patroness better. In it will be excerpts from a book titled, *The Passion of St. Therese of Lisieux*, by Bishop Guy Gaucher, a French Catholic Discalced Carmelite bishop and theologian (1930-2014), and translated by Carmelite Sister Anne Marie Brennan, OCD.

CHAPTER 1, ISSUE 1

In 1897, the year Therese died, Felix Favre was presiding over the destinies of the Third Republic in a France shaken by a continuing affair: for two years, the former Captain Dreyfus had been enduring his punishment on Devil's Island. Small-time French investors were sending their savings to Russia where a young man of twenty-seven, Vladimir Ilich Ulyanov, was soon to be spoken about as “Lenin”. Countless

fireworks were being set off to celebrate the Franco-Russian alliance. William II, the emperor of Germany, was making bellicose statements. Yet there was a feeling that conflicts between Europeans would come from elsewhere. Captain Marchant was making his way towards the Nile. A “strange flying-machine,” flown by Clement Ader, had risen some three hundred meters above the ground near Paris. In that city, the Lumiere brothers were operating a film projector they had invented. Parisians preferred to go and applaud Edmond Rostand's new play, *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

In the Holy Land, Viscount Charles de Foucauld arrived incognito. He would work as an odd-job man for the Poor Clare nuns at Nazareth. In Lisieux, a town of 16,200 inhabitants, Therese Martin had been living within the enclosure of the Carmel for nine years under the name of Sr. Therese of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face. The small monastery, with its poor red brick walls, situated on a piece of low-lying damp ground, had nothing to attract the attention of an age that would later be called “beautiful”.



Dinner & Auction Evening Masses



Modern Cocktail Society

The Discalced Carmelite Friars of St. Therese invite everyone to attend **The Little Way Dinner and Benefit Auction**, on **Friday, October 1**, at Almansor Court in Alhambra. **This year's Lantry Award recipients are parishioners Dr. Bernhard and Mrs. Kay Tittmann.** The event

Please note that the evening Masses on **Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday will not begin until 7:15 p.m.**, as each will be preceded by a showing of a portion of Season Two of *The Chosen*.

includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, a 3-course dinner, silent and live auctions, and dancing to **Modern Cocktail Society**. To purchase a ticket or make a donation, go to <https://one.bidpal.net/stcsauction/welcome>



DO YOU LIKE TO SING? REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS ED

Then consider joining our **11:00 a.m. Mass Choir!**

Choir Rehearsals began on Wednesday, **September 1** and continue every **FIRST and THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH** from **7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

These rehearsals are held in the choir room in the church basement (enter through the side door on the parking lot side of the church—near the Adoration Chapel—and go **DOWN** the stairs. Turn right at the bottom of the steps).

An interview is required for new members. For more information, email the choir director, **Paula Grimm**, at pgrimm.dir@gmail.com.



RELIGIOUS ED FOR YOUR CHILD!

Registration will take place at the picnic tables in front of the Hall **T O D A Y**, **Sunday, September 5 (after the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses)**—for both Elementary Grades 1—8 AND for Confirmation classes for High School students. Registration forms will be available then; but you can fill one out beforehand by **downloading it from our website** (find it under the link, **Religious Ed**). **Please also bring a copy of your child's baptism certificate (and a First Communion certificate for those who have already received) AND your checkbook to pay the fees.**



The first class session will be **Sunday, September 12**, which will include attendance at the **9:00 a.m. Mass**, followed by class until **11:45 a.m.** You will receive the full schedule at registration.

Confirmation classes will be held on **Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.** Volunteer teachers will be **Joe Campbell, Mary Rose Goh, and Florence Goh.**

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.**



August 28 / 29, 2021
 Unrestricted..... \$16,928.00
 Restricted\$ 1,955.00
T O T A L\$18,883.00

July 31 /Aug 1.....\$27,753.00
 August 7 / 8\$12,277.00
 August 14 / 15\$24,941.00
 August 21 / 22.....\$12,068.00

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

Mass Intentions

September 4—September 11, 2021

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.: Chris Holman, B-Day INT

Sunday

*7:30 am: Joseph Can & Maria Hai Dang, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Mary De Santis, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Leo Lacangan, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Tony Holguin, RIP

5:00 p.m.: David Bennett, RIP

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Rosalina Gramajo, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Leo Lacangan, RIP

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

7:00 p.m.: Esther & Jordan Davis, INT

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Rosalina Gramajo, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Paul Huu Toai Nguyen, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Th'gyg for 250th Anniv. of the
Founding of San Gabriel Mission

7:00 p.m.: (Span): Exuperto Tejero, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 am: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD, INT

*7:30 am: Kay Tittmann, B-Day INT

8 am: Therese Huyen-Duong Vu, B-Day INT

7:00 pm: Honor of St. Jude for Souls in Purg

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Poor Souls in Purgatory

*7:30 a.m.: Nina Cox, B-Day INT

8:00 a.m.: Elide Ayuso, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Daisy Thompson, INT

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Poor Souls in Purgatory

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

of Disc. Carmelite Religious Order, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Arturo Esteban, RIP

Saturday:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Cassandra Kim Q. Nguyen, INT

*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite

Chapel, 215 E Alhambra Rd

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.

weekdays 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).

Quiet Listening Prayer

FROM ASCENT OF MT CARMEL by St. John of the Cross:

The second reason [for requiring spiritual persons to give up the imaginative way, or sensory meditation, when they are unable to meditate or derive satisfaction from it, and enter the way of the spirit, which is the contemplative way] is that these persons have now acquired, substantially and habitually, the spirit of meditation. It should be known that the purpose of discursive meditation on divine subjects is the acquisition of some knowledge and love of God. Each time individuals procure, through meditation, some of this knowledge and love, they do so by an act. Many acts, no matter in what area, will engender a habit. Similarly, through many particular acts of this loving knowledge, a person reaches the point at which a habit is formed in the soul. God, too, is wont to effect this habit in many souls, placing them in contemplation without these acts as means, or at least without many of them.

What the soul, therefore, was gradually acquiring through the labor of meditation on particular ideas has now, as we said, been converted into habitual and substantial, general loving knowledge. This knowledge is neither distinct nor particular, as was the previous knowledge. Accordingly, the moment prayer begins, the soul, as one with a store of water, drinks peaceably without the labor and the need to fetch the water through the channels of past considerations, forms, and figures. The moment it recollects itself in the presence of God, it enters into an act of general, loving, peaceful, and tranquil knowledge, drinking wisdom and love and delight (Bk 2, Ch 14, No. 2).

OUTSIDE THE PARISH

Ignatians West is looking for mature adults with some free time. They will match your interests and talents with the needs of children, adults and seniors in a variety of non-profit settings (schools, food pantries, hospitals, social service centers) 1 or 2 days a week. In addition to service, Ignatians West volunteers meet monthly to reflect in the Ignatian tradition. Check us out at www.ignatianswest.org or on Facebook. You can make a difference in the life of another! For more information, contact Anne Hansen at (310) 338-2358 or ahansen@ignatianswest.org

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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Parishioner

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 shaves with an ADVERTISED razor
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 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
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 Your Parish in
 Your Will.**

For further information,
 please call the Parish Office.

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 OR SCHOOL IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST?**

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 email him at kjetton@la-archdiocese.org

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