April 24, 2022 Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars Est. 1924 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."



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. <u>And</u> 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.

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

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: Paula Grimm | pgrimm.dir@gmail.com Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras X112

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: Register online

- Weddings: Register online at least six months in advance
- Anointing of the Sick: Call the office

Page Two



PASTOR'S MESSAGE Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!!!

Blessed Divine Mercy Sunday to everyone! In today's Gospel we see the ABCs of **Divine Mercy** being played out: A = Ask for Divine Mercy (Thomas asks/demands for the grace to be able to put his hands into Jesus' wounds); 2) B = Be merciful (after this encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, Thomas eventually goes off to India to share Jesus' Mission of Mercy with the people there); 3) C = Complete trust in Jesus' Mercy (Thomas cries out to Jesus: "My Lord and my God!"). We all struggle with lack of total trust in Jesus at times. Do we see ourselves in any of the following:

The Wound of Fear: "Bad things happen to me." "I cannot trust others." "If I allow myself to be vulnerable, then what?" In Joshua 1:9 (Revised Standard Version 2, Catholic Edition) we read: "Be strong and of good courage; be not frightened, neither be dismayed; for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Listen to what Psalm 23:4 (RSV2CE) says: "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

The Wound of Doubt: "What if I'm wrong?" "What if I make a mistake?" We hear this in 2 Timothy 1:7 (RSV2CE): "...for God did not give us a spirit of timidity but a spirit of power and love and self-control." In John 20:27 (RSV2CE), Jesus said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing."

The Wound of Unbelief: "Miracles are for others." "God won't come through for me." But we read in Mark 9:22–24 (RSV2CE): "...if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And in John 4:53 (RSV2CE) we read: "The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live"; and he himself believed, and all his household."

The Wound of Mistrust: "Everybody will eventually disappoint me." "God is smaller than my circumstances." "I knew that I would get hurt." "I knew it would end badly." Listen to the words in Matthew 6:30 (RSV2CE): "But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?" And Proverbs 3:5 (RSV2CE) says: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight."

The Wound of Insecurity: "I'm not welcome in this hostile world." "I'm not safe." "I'm not adequate." But God tells us in Exodus 19:5 (New American Bible Revised Edition): "Now, if you obey me completely and keep my covenant, you will be my treasured possession among all peoples, though all the earth is mine." And we are told in Romans 8:14–16 (NABRE): "For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God."

And so, let us pray, "Come Lord Jesus, Divine Mercy in Person, what do You want to say to each of us right now in the middle of any fear, insecurity, or mistrust that we might be holding on to? Lord, help each of us to remember—under Your guidance—any traumatic memory we might have around the issues of trust, mistrust, and/or fear, and reveal Yourself to each of us in the midst of that painful memory." Jesus answers us:

"Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them,

and we will come to them and make our home with them" (John 14:23).

A present-day example of Jesus' Mercy: a woman has been suffering from excruciating pain from the swelling of structures in the eye that help control eye movement (trochleitis) **FOR 22 YEARS!** A friend of hers recently prayed a brief prayer with her on the phone: "In the Name of Jesus, trochleitis be healed!" and after a couple of minutes had to hang up and go. This woman has been pain-free in that area of her head for a few days now, for the first time in 22 years! We praise and thank You for Your Divine Mercy, Jesus!!!

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

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

TODAY, Sunday, April 24, is Divine Mercy Sunday. To mark this feast, we will have a special celebration at St. Therese as shown in the box to the left.

3:00—4:00 p.m.: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament / Holy Hour / Chaplet of Divine Mercy

3:00-5:00 p.m.: Confessions

4:45 p.m.: Benediction

5:00 p.m.: Holy Mass



HISTORY OF THIS DEVOTION: Beginning in February of 1931, St. Faustina Kowalski, a Polish nun, reported receiving visitations from Jesus. One of the things He asked her for was that a painting be made of the vision of His Merciful Heart and that a Feast of Divine Mercy be established on the first Sunday after Easter. She also related that Jesus told her, "I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the Fountain of Mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: 'Jesus, I trust in You.'" When St. Pope John Paul canonized her in 2000, he proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would be known from then on as "Divine Mercy Sunday."

*PLENARY INDULGENCE: Our Lord promised St. Faustina that all those would attend Mass and receive Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday, as well as go to Confession and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father, would obtain a plenary indulgence, meaning "complete forgiveness of their sins and punishment."



Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and **Divinity, of your dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord** Christ. Jesus in for atonement our sins and those of the whole world.

Alternatively, the promise extends to those who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. "Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!"), go to Confession, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

*In 2002, St. Pope John Paul extended the promise so that Confession can be made up to 20 days *before or after* Divine Mercy Sunday.

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.



EASTER April 16 / 17, 2022 Unrestricted...... \$19,758.00 Restricted<u>\$</u> — T O T A L......\$19,758.00

March 19/20	\$18,364.00
March 25/26	\$10,004.00
April 2/3	\$16,234.00
April 9/10	\$19,007.00

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

Page Three



Come and support Saint Therese Carmelite School's Rummage Sale in the Parish Hall on Saturday, April 30, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Sunday, May 1, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. "Rummage" through classic treasures, gently-used appliances, furniture, clothing, toys, electronics, costume jewelry, knick-knacks, and more. Don't miss out! All proceeds will go to support our School.

WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS! We are seeking <u>gently-used/clean items only</u>! (clothing, furniture, household items, small appliances, knick-knacks, books, etc., etc., etc.) Bring your donations to the Hall beginning TUESDAY, APRIL 26 (please do NOT bring earlier or leave anywhere else on church property). Beginning on that date, the Vega gate will be open; please enter there to drop off your donations. Thank you!



Youth (Middle **School** High and School) and their families are invited to join us on Friday, 20, for this May event. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Church for Adoration. followed Social а including PIZZA—in the Hall, and then a concert at 7:30 p.m., with the Music Artist COMMUNION.

We hope to see many of you there!

A Spiritual Bouquet to Our Lady of Fatima



On May 7, the first Saturday in the month of Mary, St. Therese Parish will begin offering a Spiritual Bouquet to honor Our Lady's request of a Five First Saturdays Devotion. Please join us and make a commitment to make the Five First Saturdays in honor of Our Lady of Fatima!

Next weekend, April 30 / May 1, after all the Masses (outside the church), we will provide a Spiritual Bouquet offering form, as well as multiple devotional materials, to all those interested. If you have any questions, please contact Maria Alejandra at (626) 993-4236.

Five First Saturdays Devotion: In 1917 at Fatima, Our Lady asked us to make the Five First Saturdays Devotion as reparation to her Immaculate Heart. She told the Fatima seers: "I promise to assist at the moment of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."

Why Five Saturdays? Our Lord revealed to Sister Lucia that the Five First Saturdays correspond to the five kinds of offenses and blasphemies committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. They are:

- 1. Blasphemies against her Immaculate Conception ;
- 2. Blasphemies against her perpetual virginity ;
- 3. Blasphemies against her Divine Maternity, at the same time the refusal to accept her as the Mother of all men;
- 4. Instilling indifference, scorn, and even hatred towards this Immaculate Mother in the hearts of children; and
- 5. Direct insults against her sacred images

"Have Compassion on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to make an act of reparation to remove them." ~Our Lord to Sister Lucy at Fatima

Come Holy Spirit Fill the hearts of your faithful.



Fr. Ed Broom, OMV | www.Fatherbroom.com

Acts of the Apostles

FR. ED BROOM, OMV, will conduct this four -week course on the **Acts of the Apostles**

beginning THURSDAY, MAY 5, and continuing on the following three Thursdays: May 5, 12, 19, and 26.



Fr. Broom will first celebrate Mass at 6:00 p.m. on each of

those evenings, followed by his talk afterwards at **7:10 p.m.**

Thursdays @ 7:10 pm May 5, 12, 19, 26 Mass: 6:00 pm Class: 7:10 pm

Page Six **Baby Bottle Drive / Baby Shower**

GPS-Guadalupe Pregnancy Services ask for your help for their annual Mother's Day Baby Bottle Drive & Baby Shower Outreach.

Baby Bottle Distribution: Saturday and Sunday, *May 7th and 8th Baby Bottle Collection: Saturday and Sunday, *May 21st and 22nd

*GPS volunteers will be outside the church after each of the above-stated Masses to distribute/collect the baby bottles. Fill your baby bottle with coins, bills, or checks (like a piggy bank) and bring it back when you come to Mass on the collection day.

BRAND NEW BABY SHOWER GIFTS for baby and moms are also greatly needed. We will have a Pac n' Play crib out on Mother's Day weekend to collect your donations of baby items (blankets, diapers sized from newborn to 5 & 6, sippy cups, baby bottles, pacifiers, bibs, socks, teething toys, hard cover books, new clothes sized newborn to size 3T for boys/girls, toiletries; shampoo, lotion, powder, etc., and other baby essentials). You are welcome to also bring ESSENTIALS FOR MOMS: feminine hygiene products, gently used or new maternity clothes, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, etc.

Thank your for participating in this important Prolife Outreach!

Fasting from the Sin of Greed PAUSE TO HEAR GOD SPEAK:

"The covetous are never satisfied with money, nor lovers of wealth with their gain; so, this too is vanity. Where there are great riches, there are also many to devour them. Of what use are they to the owner except as a feast for the eyes alone?" -Ecclesiastes 5:9-10

"Those who want to be rich are falling into temptation and into a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge them into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is the root of all evils, and some people in their desire for it have strayed from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains." -1 Timothy 6:9-10

Today, I choose to fast from the sin of greed. For most of us, one name captures the image of greed: Scrooge. Ebenezer Scrooge, the central character in Charles Dickens's A Christmas *Carol*, shows us a lot about this deadly sin. In Scrooge, we see all the outward signs of greed: gain at the expense of others,



hoarding, cheating, and miserliness. We also see how the sin of greed grows in one's thoughts, beliefs, and emotions long before it is a sin on the outside. Scrooge's life is anchored in a deeply-held belief that there will never be enough or that he might go without. The thought that he might have little or nothing drives every decision in his life. Greed motivates us, too, to gain more and more possessions, even at the

expense of love and personal relationships. In greed, we often believe deep down that our dreams, wishes, and needs won't be fulfilled. Let's allow God to show us where greed has a hold in our own lives.



Take time to ask yourself . . .

- Do I ever feel like I will never have enough of something? What?
- In what am I willing to cut a corner to achieve an end?

Pray slowly... Heavenly Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I renounce greed and repent all the ways in which I have operated in it. I reject every form of greed in my life. I ask you, Father, to forgive me, and I forgive myself for my greedy heart and actions. Holy Spirit, fill me with generosity and make me aware of any greedy thoughts, feelings, and actions. Amen

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

April 23 to April 30, 2022

Saturday Evening: 5:00 p.m.: Beatriz de Castro, RIP Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: Xuan Long-Phue Lanh, RIP 7:30 a.m.: Parishioners 9:00 a.m.: Vilma Riera, RIP 11:00 a.m.: Easter Novena 7 1:00 p.m.: Ursulina Aquino, RIP 5:00 p.m.: Dennis Riera, INT **Monday:**

6:00 a.m.: Alicia Nava, RIP *7:30 a.m.: Easter Novena 8 8:00 a.m.: John Li, RIP 7:00 p.m.: Columbia Dagunan, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Santos Valiente, RIP *7:30 a.m.: Marietta Okamoto, RIP 8:00 a.m.: Kathy Dickens, RIP 7:00 p.m.: Easter Novena 9

<u>Wednesday:</u> 6:00 a.m.: John Li, RIP *7:30 a.m.: Joseph Sahu, RIP 8:00 a.m.: Sheny Lopez, Birthday INT 7:00 p.m.: Antonio Sulay, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Alicia Nava, RIP *7:30 a.m.: John Li, RIP 8:00 a.m.: Margaret Lambey, RIP 7:00 p.m.: Marietta Okamoto, RIP <u>Friday</u>:

6:00 a.m.: Marietta Okamoto, RIP *7:30 a.m.: Alcio Lood, RIP 8:00 a.m.: Marietta Okamoto, RIP

Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community 8:00 a.m.: Damien Peter Murphy, 1st B-Day INT

*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel, 215 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra, California.

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).

Quiet Listening Prayer

FROM THE WAY OF PERFECTION By St. Teresa of Jesus (of Avila)



If it pains you to not see Him with your bodily eyes, consider that seeing Him so is not fitting for us. To see Him in His glorified state is different from seeing Him as He was when He walked through this world. On account of our natural weakness, there is no person capable of enduring such a glorious sight, nor would anyone in the world want to continue in it. In seeing this Eternal Truth, one would see that all the things we pay attention to here below are lies and jokes. And in beholding such great Majesty, how would a little sinner like myself who has so much offended Him remain so close to Him? Beneath that Bread, He is easy to deal with. If a king were disguised, it wouldn't matter to us at all if we conversed with him without so many gestures of awe and respect. It seems he would be obliged to put up with this lack since he is the one who disguised himself. Who would otherwise dare approach so unworthily, with so much lukewarmness, and with so many imperfections! (Chapter 34).

Outside the Parish

Carmelite Pilgrimage with FR. RAYMOND BUENO, OCD, to the Marian Shrines of Wisconsin on October 5-12. \$3,295 (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. \$200 Early bird Discount by May 15th. Add \$450 for single room occupancy. For details, call Louisa & Jack Day at (323) 360-5186 or (323) 403-8768

SPIRITUAL RETREAT PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GOOD HELP SHRINE from September 29 through October 3, 2022 (\$1,349 from L.A—\$45 single supplement). This is the only approved Marian Apparition site in the US (2010 by Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI), which took place in 1859. Join us for this five-day spiritual retreat in Wisconsin–also the home of Holy Hill National Shrine of Mary.

