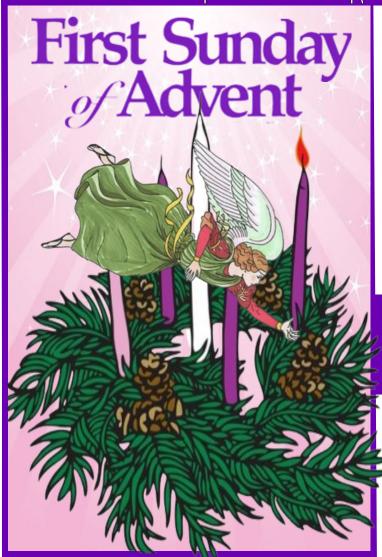
St. Therese Catholic Church

November 27, 2022 Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars Est. 1924 510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



"Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So, too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come" (Matthew 24:43-44).

MASSES | CONFESSIONS

Masses: Saturdays: 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. Carmelite Nuns' Chapel: 7:30 a.m., Mon.-Sat.

Monday-Friday Masses: 6:00 and 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (Tuesday's evening Mass is in Spanish). Note: the daily 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Masses and the Sunday 11:00 a.m., Mass are all LIVE STREAMED on Facebook AND YouTube)

Rosary: Monday—Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass

confessions (OUTSIDE)-Wednesdays from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. and Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Waiting for Jesus

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, Bro. Jason Parrott, OCD; and 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 X112

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

Happy New Year....of Grace 2023!!! Yes, the Church's New Year begins today. It is also a very sobering day because it begins the Advent Season of watching and waiting for the coming of Jesus—at any moment AND at the end of time! The Gospel today (as always for every First Sunday of Advent!) is about the end of the world and how we need to be ready for that: "Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Whew! Very simple and very hard words from Our Lord! But also very encouraging for

those who invite Jesus into their every-day and share their whole day with Him. (Someone once asked a famous holy man who was taking a little recreation and playing pool/billiards with some friends, "What would you do if Jesus came in 15 minutes??" His answer: "I would keep doing what I'm doing right now: playing pool." That was the response of a person who was used to sharing his whole day with his Lord and Savior!

That would be a good New Year's resolution for each of us, no? Or how about this resolution: "I will call the church I was baptized in and ask them to give me the date of my Baptism and send me a copy of the certificate so I can hang it up in my house to help me meditate on the huge gift of becoming a part of the Trinity's Family and all the inherited blessings that brings!"

Please notice the announcement in this bulletin, as well as the flyers posted in the church, regarding the special Encounter event this Saturday evening, beginning with the 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass and continuing with Praise and Worship and a talk on Spiritual Warfare, and concluding with healing prayer ministry—all in our church.

Come Lord Jesus, come soon! Come right now! I invite You, expect You, love You back, because You love me first!

Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph, Fr. Thomas

From Chapter Five of Be Transformed: The Healing Power of the Sacraments by Bob Schuchts | 6th installment

An experience of relying on God in the midst of my powerlessness occurred while teaching a Sexual Healing and Redemption course at the Theology of the Body Institute in Pennsylvania. As the title suggests, the material can be rather intense, dealing with sexual sins, wounds, and identity issues. In the months leading up to the course, our team met over the phone to pray for the participants and to prepare all of our hearts for what we sensed was going to be a very powerful encounter with the risen Lord. Throughout that time, Fr. Mark Toups, our chaplain for the course, kept hearing that we needed to pray for "spiritual poverty" (Matt. 5:3). He encouraged each of us to ask for that grace of docility to the Holy Spirit in preparation for the course. We had no idea at the time why this posture of spiritual poverty would prove to be so important.

Once the course began, Fr. Mark and I met privately every morning to pray together and prepare for the day. The first few days of the class, I remained docile to the Holy Spirit and the students seemed very receptive. But as the days progressed, their wounds and sins came bubbling to the surface. Frustration and anger (often symptoms of powerlessness) began to manifest by Tuesday afternoon. By Wednesday morning everyone seemed overwhelmed by the pain they were feeling. (Being overwhelmed is another symptom of powerlessness.) By the time I stood up in front of the class to teach, I could see that many had shut down mentally and emotionally and, as I began teaching, I felt I was speaking to a brick wall.

Without realizing it, seeing their lack of receptivity and their evident pain, I, too, began to feel powerless. I stopped the class to consult with Fr. Mark, and we discerned that we should dismiss the class and encourage everyone to go outside for recreation. That night, almost everyone in the class brought their pain and sin to the priests in the sacrament of Reconciliation. Afterwards, I could see some lifting of the spirit of oppression that was causing the powerlessness. The next morning I still felt oppressed and powerless and was reluctant to stand up in front of the class. I shared this with Fr. Mark and he said, "This is the moment we've been praying about; this is your spiritual poverty." I responded with, "That's easy for you to say; I'm the one who has to teach." He retorted, "No, you don't; that's up to God. Just stand up there and let Him do what He wants." Feeling extremely vulnerable, I stood up in front of the hundred or so students with nothing to offer. The subject that morning was healing, which is a topic I ordinarily love to discuss. But after asking them to open the workbook to those pages, I heard the inaudible voice of the Holy Spirit in my thoughts: "Don't teach. Just proclaim Isaiah 61 (the Scripture verses Jesus proclaimed) and allow Jesus to speak through you." Stepping out in faith, with some trepidation, I yielded to the leading. As soon as I did, the Holy Spirit came upon me with His strong presence, and I boldly proclaimed these words: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me . . . to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, to comfort all who mourn."

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT SUNDAY

November 27, 2022 Page Three



Saint Therese Carmelite School Faith & Academics & Virtue

What is the trivium? Excerpts from our 2022 WASC Self-Study, written by STCS teacher Miss Heidi Tittmann

(continued from last week) The Logic Stage follows for grades 6th – 9th approximately. The students learn the relation of language to thought, or 'how to talk sense' through *the study of arguments/proofs, reason, and interpretation*. They learn how to construct an intellectual argument and to dialog using the Socratic method. Last comes the Rhetoric Stage, which incorporates the use and manner of language, or 'how to talk with style.' The focus here is the study of expression, response, and application. When teaching according to these stages, the students become life-long learners; are able to come to know the good, true, and beautiful and can discuss them intellectually and eloquently with others.



2300 W Commonwealth Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803

Grab dinner and support our school! On Friday, December 9, 4-8pm, order online using the code FUND4U or show our flyer to the cashier and donate a

portion of the proceeds back to the school.

The flyer can be picked up from the table outside the rectory.

Breakfast Sale Sunday, December 11, 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Parishioners will be selling breakfast burritos on Sunday, December 11 to raise funds for a school playground. Burritos can be purchased on the front steps of the church. We appreciate your support of this fundraiser!

All School Christmas Concert

and Pageant

Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 pm St. Therese Church

Please join us for a night of carols, hymns, and Scripture readings. We hope that our performance will inspire you with hope and joy as we await the Christmas season together.

> 1106 East Alhambra Road Alhambra, California 91801

Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration & Advent Boutique Saturday, December 10, 12-5 pm

Come shop for Christmas gifts at our Advent Boutique! Artisans from all over will be there to sell their goods. It's a one-stop shop!

Hungry? Enjoy a delicious tamale or a wood-fired pizza! There will be drinks, desserts, and so much more!

To honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, we will have traditional folklorico dancing as well.

Looking for a good holiday picture? Santa will be stopping by! Be sure to wear your Christmas best!



We are looking for local artisans and merchants to sell their goods! We are looking for religious item booths, Christmas crafts, family-friendly goods, and popular Christmas gifts. If you or someone you know is interested in selling at our boutique, please contact the school office to inquire about renting a space: (626) 289-3364.

See's Candies Christmas Fundraiser

Last Week for Orders!

All Paper Orders due Tuesday, November 29

All Online Orders due Friday, December 2

(626) 289-3364 www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com Page Four November 27, 2022

Enter the Raffle to Win Disneyland Tickets!

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They are worth \$1,200—although the front-of-the-line privilege is truly priceless!!—but this is your chance to get all four for ONLY \$50.

Your odds will be relatively good as we will be selling <u>ONLY 150</u> tickets total.

The drawing for the winner will take place before Christmas (no need to be

Present to win). All proceeds will benefit Saint Therese Carmelite School. Raffle tickets can be purchased at either the School or the Parish Offices or after one of the Sunday Masses.

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL TICKET BUYERS!

This Sunday's Music

Opening Hymn:

"O Come Divine Messiah" (Worship II Hymnal #194)

Responsorial Psalm 122 (121:1–2, 3–4, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9)



Let us go re - joic - ing to the house___ of__ the Lord.

Music: T. Marier (1912-2001) Copyright © 2021, Boston Boy Choir,

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Offertory:

"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying (Pew Missal #276)

Communion:

o, He Comes With Clouds Descending"
(Pew Missal #186)

Closing Hymn:

"Savior of the Nations Come," Come" (Worship II Hymnal #241)

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Thursday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Mother and a holy day of obligation to attend Mass. It is the commemoration of the fact that Mary, alone of all humans, was conceived (in the womb of her mother, St. Anne) without having the stain of original sin on her soul. Unfortunately, many people still



think the Immaculate Conception is when Jesus was conceived in the womb of the Blessed Virgin. Mass times will be as follows: 6:00 and 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (you may also attend the Vigil Mass on Wednesday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m.).

Come join us in celebrating this special moment in the life of Mary, kept pure as she had been chosen before the world began to be the first "tabernacle" of her Divine Son.

Deeping Our Relationship with the Holy Spirit

ALL are invited to join Joe Campbell and Florence Goh for this interactive program series beginning THIS Tuesday, November 29 (the first week of Advent) and continuing every Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., via ZOOM. To register, click the link on the church website's homepage, which will take you to the registration site. After completing it, the ZOOM link will be emailed to you.



November 27, 2022 Page Five



ENCOUNTER



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TRANSFORMATION NIGHTS

When we encounter the glory of the Lord we are "transformed into his likeness from one glory to glory." (2 cor 3)

DECEMBER 3rd, 2022

"Effortless Deliverance: A Radical Shift In Our Approach to Spiritual Warfare"

HELD HERE AT ST. THERESE CHURCH!

Part 1: Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.; Praise and Worship from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Part 2: "Renewal of the Mind" Teaching from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Part 3: Prayer Ministry from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

ALL ARE INVITED!

EnCourage Welcomes You!

Standing fully by the teachings of the Catholic Church, EnCourage is a group of faithful Catholic parents who support one another and our loved ones who have same sex attraction (SSA), through discussion, prayer, fellowship, and sacrifice. Meetings with our chaplain are held monthly in a safe, confidential setting within the Los Angeles Archdiocese. You don't have to make this journey alone! Go to www.couragerc.org. For more information, contact your local chapter of EnCourage: For parents, send an e-mail to EnCourage.LosAngeles@Gmail.com; For persons struggling with SSA, send an e-mail to www.CourageCaLosAngeles@Gmail.com.



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.



November 19 / 20, 2022

Due to the Thanksgiving holidays, this bulletin was prepared before the above weekend. The collection totals will be in next week's bulletin. October 22 / 23\$16,228.00 October 29 / 30\$10,472.00 November 5 /6 \$34.518.00

November 5 /6\$34,518.00 November 12 / 13\$23,616.00 **CHECK USERS:**

Please use a donation envelope in order to more easily credit your account. Page Six November 27, 2022



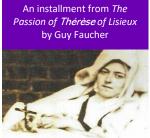
Walking in the Light of Christ

When we encounter the daily news, it can seem as though Isaiah's prophecy of swords turned into plowshares is running in reverse. Advent can be a time for each of us to deweaponize, even in the smallest of ways. As we head through Advent, the elevated focus we have can help us tune out the despair, so we might open our ears and hearts to Jesus and turn our backs on gloom. We are called to reflect the light of God's love through the ways in which we live our lives. Imagine the impact if each of us took this call to heart—every day—at home, work, school, etc. Yet, we must admit that much of the time we fail to be beacons of God's light, preferring to go the easy route, which often leads to darkness rather than the radiance of Christ's light. As we begin the season of Advent, St. Paul admonishes us to throw

off the works of darkness, to awaken to the call of light and love. In today's Gospel, Jesus too tells us to stay awake, to be prepared to greet the Lord of light as people of the light.

Jesus reminds His listeners today about how many people who lived at the time of Noah were caught off guard when the deluge came. Of course, we can end up being complete nervous wrecks if we spend each day in paranoia, looking for signs of impending doom. A healthy readiness is called for, one that keeps us alert so we can find signs of God's reign around us. In the coming days of holiday sensate bombardment and hours that fill up with busyness, this readiness can also serve to keep us focused on the coming gift of the Messiah, God's Anointed. Now is the time to take stock, to evaluate life, to make changes where necessary, preparing for God's holy reign to come.

The Real St. Therese



In April of 1896, overflowing with graces and joy, Therese entered suddenly into darkness to share the night of atheists. Tried to the very foundations of her hope, she accepted walking that unexpected road. She did not

doubt that her great desire to die of love would be granted. Far from waning, her desire to "save souls" intensified. The more she became aware of the approach of death, the more she wished to expand her activity. She went so far as to believe that when she was dead she would do more.

She is characterized by a reckless daring, a fighting spirit, an intrepid conviction based on experience and absolute trust in God. Without a director—except Jesus alone—this twenty-four year old Carmelite discovered a shortcut to the sanctity that had always been her objective. Eagerly, she made it her own. There remained then only to die doing God's will. During this whole period, her meditation became more profound: the Isaiahan texts on the Suffering Servant often occupied her thoughts. These themes recur in all her writings of this time.

The Wound of Self-Neglect

Today, I choose to fast from the wound of self-neglect. Do you constantly put yourself at the end of the line—physically, emotionally, and spiritually? Neglecting our own well-being is one of the ways that we keep ourselves powerless. We trap ourselves inside mottos such as "God first, family second, others third, self last." While it is true that we become our best self in giving ourselves to others, we can twist this into a kind of powerlessness, rather than a free gift of self. In self-neglect, we wear ourselves out to justify and excuse our own feelings of powerlessness. We say to ourselves, "You have to wait," "Everybody else ahead of you," or "You can't decide for yourself."

LISTEN TO GOD SPEAK: "But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides" (Matthew 6:33).

ASK YOURSELF: What part of my life (spiritual, emotional, physical) do I tend to neglect? Do I give myself to others from the greatness of who God has made me to be or as a way to be powerless?

PRAY: Heavenly Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I renounce self-neglect, and repent all the ways in which I have sinned because of it. I renounce any lies that I have come to believe, including lies such as "I always have to be last." 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.

Page Seven

Mass Intentions

November 26 to December 3, 2022

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Ofelia Ocampo, RIP

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: Concepcion Aguilar, RIP 7:30 a.m.: Stefan Hendra Rahardja, RIP 9:00 a.m.: Cecile Larino, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Ernest Eugene Nedd, Sr., and Eva Mae Nedd Wright, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Parishioners 5:00 p.m.: Peggy Centola, RIP Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Sunny Liawati Solichin, RIP *7:30 a.m.: Margaret Lowenberg, RIP 8 a.m.: Mike Marikian, RIP 7:00 p.m.: Arenas Ortega Family, INT

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Concepcion Aguilar, RIP *7:30 a.m.: Margaret Lowenberg, RIP 8:00 a.m.: Letty Sebastian, INT 7 p.m.: Shirley Sullivan, RIP Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Concepcion Aguilar, RIP *7:30 a.m.: Grace Lowenberg, INT 8:00 a.m.: Nicole Solaun, INT 7:00 p.m.: Christine Pleuss, INT Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Concepcion Aguilar, RIP
*7:30 a.m.: Jacqueline Marie Arenas, B-Day INT
8:00 a.m.: Julianna Torres, Birthday INT
7:00 p.m.: Stefan Hendra Rahardja, RIP

First Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Cecilia Hardjasamita, Birthday INT *7:30 a.m.: Stefan Hendra Rahardja, RIP 8:00 a.m.: Josie Villacorta, RIP 7:00 p.m.: Mary Rose Go & Patrick Rosal, INT First Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community 8:00 a.m.: Tingfang Wang, Birthday 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).

Quiet Listening Prayer

FROM THE WAY OF PERFECTION

By St. Teresa of Avila

If you speak, strive to remember that the One with whom you are speaking is present within. If you listen, remember that you are going to hear One who is very close to you



when He speaks. In sum, bear in mind that you can, if you want, avoid ever withdrawing from such good company; and be sorry that for a long time you left your Father alone, of whom you are so much in need. If you can, practice this recollection often during the day; if not, do so a few times. As you become accustomed to it, you will experience the benefit, either sooner or later. Once this recollection is given by the Lord, you will not exchange it for any treasure (Chapter 29, No. 7).

Outside the Parish

ADVENT MARKET: Shoppers! Come to the second annual Catholic Makers' Market at St. Monica's Church, 725 California Avenue, Santa Monica, on Saturday, December 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Vendors should contact them on their website at www.catholicmaker.com.

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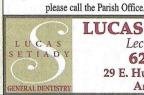
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