

# St. Therese Catholic Church

January 15, 2023

Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars

Est. 1924

510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | [www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org](http://www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org)



*"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!"*

## 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.

**Monday-Friday Masses:** 6:00 & 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
(Tuesday's evening Mass is in Spanish).

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

Note: the daily 8:00 a.m., the Monday evening 7:00 p.m.,  
and the Sunday 11:00 a.m., Masses are all **LIVE**

**STREAMED** on Facebook AND YouTube)

**Rosary: Mon-Sat after 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.

## 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](http://www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com)

**Parish Secretary:** Denise McMaster-Holguin X223

[denisekay@hotmail.com](mailto:denisekay@hotmail.com)

**Finance:** Noralyn Cailan X228 / [cailannocds@gmail.com](mailto:cailannocds@gmail.com)

**Music Director:** Andrew Coyne | [Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com)

**Respect Life Ministry:** Catherine Contreras XI12

## ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

[www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com](http://www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com)

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

[principal@sainttheresecarmeliteschool.com](mailto: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 Fr. Thomas, Pastor

**Blessed Epiphanytide, everyone!**

Officially, we are back to "Ordinary Time". Unofficially, we are smack in the middle of continuing to meditate on and enter more deeply into the three main mysteries of Epiphany, which we celebrated last Sunday: 1) the Magi coming to see the Holy Family and adore the Newborn King of the Jews; 2) the Baptism of Jesus

and our own Baptism into Him (see today's Readings and Gospel!); and 3) the Wedding Feast at Cana where our Lord worked His first sign and showed that Marriage is the Primordial Sacrament.

All this is summed up wonderfully in the Morning Prayer Antiphon from the celebration of the Feast of Epiphany last Sunday: **"Today, the Bridegroom claims His Bride, the Church, since Christ has washed her sins away in Jordan's waters; the Magi hasten with their gifts to the royal wedding; and the wedding guests rejoice, for Christ has changed water into wine, alleluia."** With the help of this antiphon, we are encouraged to consider ourselves as loved by Jesus Christ—not just as favorite, special daughters and sons, but even more so as beloved spouses of the Trinity!!! To keep asking the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit to heal our thinking about ourselves, and to help us to accept and believe that we are individually loved as spouses of the Divine Bridegroom, takes a lot of courage and hard work....and it's totally worth every second!!! And because it is such hard work, we need all the help we can get. That is why we are leaving all the Christmas decorations up until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd: by keeping it before our eyes, it makes it easier to meditate on this breathtaking Truth.

**Note:** With all of the division and disunity afflicting the family, the Church, and the world, let us especially embrace and pray up a storm during the Church Unity Octave that begins this Wednesday, January 18, and concludes with the Conversion of St. Paul on January 25th. **Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph, —Fr. Thomas**

## From Chapter Seven of "Be Transformed: The Healing Power of the Sacraments" by Bob Schuchts (How Holy Matrimony Heals Wounds of Fear) Fifth Installment

It took me many years to realize that my "vow" ("I will never be like my dad and divorce my wife and hurt my children") was a resolution originating from my wounds of fear and the judgments that I formed to protect against the hurt. This was hardly the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Later, when I married my wife, I embraced the Sacrament of Matrimony and expressed my sacred vows to her with the full intention of loving her for life. But lurking underneath the surface, my fear-motivated vows were hidden in darkness and would later almost destroy our marriage. This realization came to me when I turned thirty-three years old (the age my parents were when they separated). I found myself shut down emotionally, "not in love," and terrified that our marriage would end in divorce just like my parents'. I was living my worst nightmare, terrified that I would hurt my wife and children the way I had been hurt.

I remain deeply grateful for God's intervention during that most difficult year of my life (and our life together). In saving our marriage, He also preserved each one of us from the devastation of continuing the cycle of broken hearts and broken relationships. During that year, the Holy Spirit began to show me that, like Adam and Eve after the fall, I was projecting my fear onto my wife and blaming her for the ways I was not fulfilled. He also revealed the gaping wounds of fear and mistrust that were buried beneath my judgments and fearful vows.

Looking back, I now appreciate how the graces from the Sacrament of Matrimony held us together through that difficult season. When we first spoke our vows to each other on our wedding day, we called on the power of the Holy Spirit and solemnly promised "to love, honor, and cherish" each other, "in good times and bad, in sickness and health, for richer or poorer, until death do we part." As we spoke those sacred vows, we solemnly promised that no matter what the other person did or didn't do, we would remain faithful to God and to one another. We later sealed and consummated these sacred vows that night when we gave ourselves intimately to each other—body, soul, and spirit—becoming "one flesh" (CCC, 1643). This was no casual contract; it was a lifelong covenant that we freely chose to enter into. We understood these vows were indissoluble. As such, they called for the total gift of ourselves to one another: "The intimate union of marriage, as a mutual giving of two persons, and the good of the children, demand total fidelity from the spouses and require an unbreakable union between them" (CCC, 1646). **(Continues weekly)**

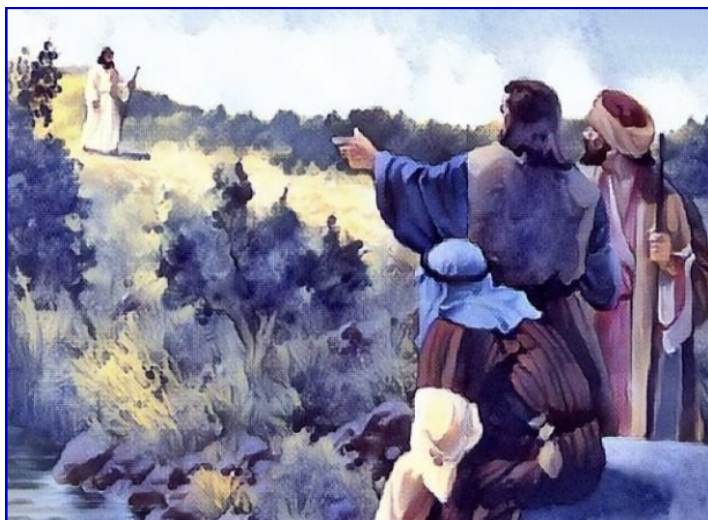
# Behold the Lamb of God!

Today's Gospel tells us about the Baptism of Jesus, and its significance in our own lives and communities. The Gospel of John does not narrate the Baptism like the other Gospels. Instead, John the Baptist gives testimony, emphasizing that Jesus has received the Holy Spirit. Jesus will go on to baptize with this same Spirit, as He did immediately after His resurrection (John 20). In the Second Reading, Paul's greeting to the church in Corinth reminds us that we are simultaneously God's sanctified people and yet continually called to become holy. Baptism begins our journey, where we know the Spirit dwells within, and the same Spirit summons us to full maturity in Christ.

John the Baptist cries out, **"Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."** This name, "Lamb of God," is rich in meaning and can be interpreted in various ways. From the Old Testament, it evokes the lamb of Passover, linked to God's rescue of the Hebrew people from Egypt. It is also an image of God's faithful servant, as in Isaiah 53, when the "lamb is led to slaughter." We can notice that here Jesus is the Lamb **"of God."** He is God's own Lamb, belonging to God. Jesus is not a cultic sacrifice to God or a demand from God. John is presenting a traditional image in a new way. The Lamb **"takes away"** our sin, both exposing the reality of our sin to us (which we often hide from ourselves) and also forgiving us our sin. This same Lamb, filled with the Holy Spirit, heals our troubled hearts.

I wonder if anyone at the time of Jesus understood why John the Baptist called Jesus "the Lamb of God." Did they associate that name with the paschal lamb whose blood protected the Israelites from the Angel of Death? After Jesus' death and resurrection, the apostles began to understand that Jesus' blood, shed on the cross, freed us all from sin and death. Yet, here is the Baptizer already acting like a disciple before Jesus has gathered any disciples or even begun to preach. John the Baptist gives us some hints about discipleship. First, John trusts God with things he does not understand. He says twice that he did not know Jesus, yet he trusts God's revelation that Jesus would "baptize with the Holy Spirit" (John 1:33). If you have lost a loved one, are looking for work when no one is hiring, or are dealing with serious illness, this is the time to trust that God still loves and cares for you.

Originally John baptized others as a sign of repentance, but he soon came to see that his real work was to make Jesus "known to Israel" (John 1:31). When we try to do what God wants, it is good to remember that God is the One in control and who decides what the result will be. What looks like failure to us can be success in God's eyes. John's third hint teaches us that a disciple shares his or her faith in God. So, John testifies that Jesus is the Son of God. While that sounds obvious to us, it took courage to say that to people who would have thought it blasphemy. Even today, when Jesus is known throughout the world, we still need to share our faith. You may be surprised to find that your own faith deepens the more you share it with others. **As we point out the Lamb of God to those who don't know Him, we get to know Him better ourselves.**



## 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.



January 7 / 8, 2023

Unrestricted..... \$11,814.00  
 Restricted ..... \$ 1,842.00  
**T O T A L..... \$13,656.00**

December 10 / 11 ..... \$22,294.00  
 December 17 / 18 ..... \$11,930.00  
 December 24 / 25 ..... \$33,055.00  
 Dec. 31 / Jan. 1 ..... \$20,193.00

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 your account.



# "The Flame of Love" Consecration

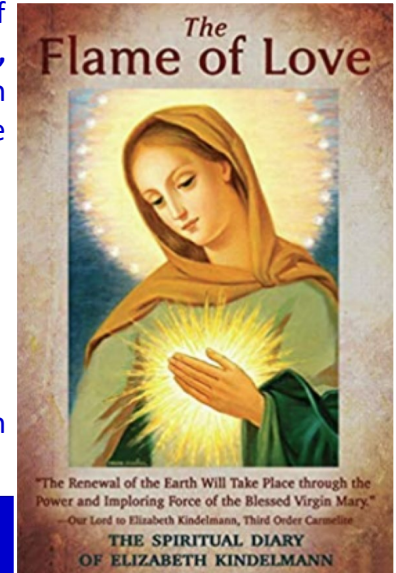
The "Flame of Love Consecration: To Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary" will take place here in St. Therese Church on **Candlemas Day, February 2**. The words "**Flame of Love**" come from the diary of Elizabeth Kindelmann entitled, "The Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary: The Spiritual Diary." In it, Our Lady promises many blessings, including:



- To blind Satan
- To save souls (especially family members)
- To save the family
- To free souls from Purgatory
- To convert the world

To be part of this amazing Movement of Grace, please register at the Church office. The Flame of Love book is available for purchase for \$10.

**PREPARATION FOR THE CONSECRATION:** Meet Every Monday in this month of January. Two sessions are available on each of those Mondays (January 16, 23, and 30): either at 12:30 p.m. in the Avila Room in the Parish Offices or at 5:30 p.m. in the **Parish Hall**. The Act of Consecration will take place at the 7:00 p.m. Mass on Candlemas Day, Thursday, February 2, 2023, and will be led by **Fr. Robert Barcelos, OCD**.



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# Saint Therese Carmelite School

## Faith Academics Virtue

### The Benefits of Beginning Latin at a Young Age

*Excerpts from "The Lost Art of Teaching Latin" by Cheryl Lowe*

*In the 20th century[,] we are in a hurry to cover "everything" and we are addicted to superficial work. So the student pays the price; he must cover the text, receive a grade, and earn a credit. But, has he learned anything? Has he been motivated and inspired to continue his study or has he developed a dislike for the subject? The grade and the credit mean nothing. It is the answers to these two questions that really matter...*

*While the age is not critical, I do think beginning Latin in the 3rd grade is best. Students who are reading well at this age need a new challenge, and the Latin grammar gives them some good meat to chew on; it gives discipline to the student and structure, form, purpose and goals to the whole elementary curriculum. Beginning Latin at a young age gives students ample time to master grammar in the grammar stage, syntax and translation in the logic stage and thus come to the rhetoric stage in the 9th and 10th grades fully prepared to enjoy the great Latin classics of Caesar, Cicero and Virgil.*

## Saint Therese Carmelite School

Deeply rooted in Carmelite spirituality, Saint Therese Carmelite School, united with our parents who are the primary educators of their children, seeks to form students in faith, academics, and virtue through a Classical education.



### Open House

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

10 AM-3 PM



1106 EAST ALHAMBRA ROAD, ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91801

### Saint Therese Carmelite School Saturday, February 4 \$50 Per Person



Poker, food, drinks,  
raffles, and more!

Stop by the school office  
to purchase tickets.

All attendees must be 21+.  
No Exceptions.



### Savers Clothes and Textiles Drive

We are once again partnering with Savers for a clothes and household textiles drive. Donate items packaged in 13-gallon trash bags and help raise money for the school! We get paid per pound; the more we collect, the more money we raise! **Eligible Items:** Clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks, bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linens, tablecloths, curtain, pillows, other soft household textiles

Package all items in 13-gallon trash bags and **drop off bags in the Parish Hall on January 17, 18, and 19, between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m.**

1106 East Alhambra Road  
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(626) 289-3364  
[www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com](http://www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com)

# The Real St. Therese



An installment from  
*The Passion of Thérèse of Lisieux* by Guy Faucher

Mother Agnes, who thought that the end was near for Therese, asked her for more precise details about certain matters in her memoirs. Therese gave her many confidences. Her manuscript was unfinished, and she knew that she would not be writing any longer, so she made

various important recommendations to Mother Agnes.

The spiritual event of July was undoubtedly the reception of her Last Anointing and Holy Communion as Viaticum. On the days when death seemed near, her joking increased, for, contrary to Dr. Dieulafoy's description of tuberculosis patients, Therese did not become panic stricken. "She will die laughing," wrote Sister Marie of the Eucharist to her parents. But the time to die had not yet come. The hemoptysis ended, but the fever and difficulty in breathing remained.

After the alarm of July 30, 1897, there was a lull, but that did not mean an improvement. Before rejoining his wife at Plombieres, Dr. de Corniere said that the sickness was spreading to her left lung. However, Therese enjoyed a relative respite and had a craving for "all sorts of good things." On Tuesday, July 10, she again asked for the pencil that had been refused her on the 5th. This time it was given to her and she was able to write a last letter to Abbe Belliere, telling him that she was ready to go and explaining what would be given to him as an "inheritance." He called them his "relics." On July 12, she wrote to Sister Marie of the Trinity on the back of a small picture for the latter's twenty-third birthday. But these days of remission were not to last.

The great sufferings (August 15 - 27 August) - A. The tuberculosis attacks the left lung: On the evening of the Feast of the Assumption, Therese had great difficulty in breathing and suffered from sharp pains in her left side. She also had swelling in her legs. In the early hours of August 16, the pains in her left lung were so severe that Sister Genevieve lit a blessed candle. Therese's distress ceased, but the pain continued. The next day it was realized that she could not remain in that state without seeing a doctor.

Mother Marie de Gonzague gave permission for Dr. Francis La Neele, who had returned from a trip to Caen, to enter the infirmary. In the letter he wrote to his father-in-law on the 26th, he gave the following diagnosis—the only one written by a doctor that we still possess: "The right lung is completely lost, filled with tuberculosis and in the process of softening. The lower part of the left lung is also affected. She is very emaciated, but her face still does her honor. She is suffering very much from intercostal neuralgia."

# Foreshadowed by the Incarnation

Even before Jesus began His public ministry, beginning with the events surrounding His birth, the marvelous works of God began to be manifest through the power of the Holy Spirit. In the first chapter of Luke, the angel Gabriel comes to the Virgin Mary to announce the good news that God's promises are now being fulfilled. The long-awaited Messiah, the Son of God, is coming in the world to reign as King forever, and He will be born of her. Gabriel tells Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the Child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God" (Luke 1:35).



These words are strikingly similar to Jesus' promise to His apostles some 34 years later, at the beginning of Acts: **"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"** (Acts 1:8).

**What happens to Mary at the Incarnation is a foreshadowing of what will happen to the whole Church at Pentecost.** The Incarnation is a kind of Pentecost preview. As the Holy Spirit comes powerfully upon Mary, with the result that Christ becomes present in her and she brings Him forth into the world, so the Holy Spirit will come upon the disciples at Pentecost, resulting in Christ being present in them, so they can bring Him forth in the world through their proclamation of the Gospel.

"Behold, I am the servant of the Lord," Mary answers the angel; "Let it be done unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). The Greek term used for "let it be" indicates not just acceptance, but enthusiastic desire; a better translation is "may it be..." It expresses Mary's joy at the greatest news anyone has ever heard: The Messiah will be present within her! She embraces God's plan wholly.

Luke then shows Mary's immediate response to the Holy Spirit coming upon her: Christ is in her, and she cannot keep Him to herself. So she goes "in haste" to visit her cousin to spread the good news. Mary's visit to Elizabeth is the very first Christian mission. Just as at Pentecost, the immediate effect of being filled with the Holy Spirit is evangelism.

Each of the above book excerpts continues weekly. The one on the right is from the Spiritual Handbook and is available for sale in the office.



# Mass Intentions

January 14, 2022—January 21, 2023

Saturday evening:

5:00 p.m.: Charles "Chuck" Marikian, RIP

Sunday:

\*7:30 a.m. (Carmel): Sr. Faustina Marie, OCD, INT

7:30 a.m.: Laura Cuevas, INT

9:00 a.m.: Parishioners

11:00 a.m.: Mary Frances Magana, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Judy Johnson, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Terry Johnson, INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Agapito Villegas, INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Lucia Tuyet Trinh, DC, 18th Anniv

8:00 a.m.: Gonzalez & Chavez Families, INT

7:00 p.m.: Eric LeClair, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Sandy Quigley, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Angelina Brajkovich, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Arcelia Diaz, Birthday INT

7:00 p.m.: Charles Morrow, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Nancy Sargeant, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Liam Cox, Birthday INT

8:00 a.m.: Doris Marikian, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Otto Lacayo, Jr., Birthday INT

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Avelina Fuentes, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Mary, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Charles Morrow, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Shirley Sullivan, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Mary B. Hayes, RIP

\*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Kim Marie, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Charles Morrow, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Ramon Aquino, RIP

Saturday Morning:

\*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Charles Morrow, RIP

\*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel.

The Carmel's Chapel is open to the public every day except Sundays and major holidays.

## 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. Monday evening Mass are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube. Links to those two sites are on our website's home page (in the top left column).

# Quiet Listening Prayer

(Note: We will go through the entire *Fourth Mansion* of *The Interior Castle* over the next few months. We begin here with Chapter Three because St. Teresa herself says that *she* should have started with this Chapter):

This Chapter deals with the prayer of recollection, which for the most part the Lord gives before the prayer just mentioned. It tells about its effects and about those that come from that spiritual delight, given by the Lord, that was discussed in the previous chapter.

The effects of this prayer are many. I shall mention some. But first, I want to mention another kind of prayer that almost always begins before this one. Since I have spoken of such a prayer elsewhere, I shall say little. It is a recollection that also seems to me to be supernatural because it doesn't involve being in the dark or closing the eyes, nor does it consist in any exterior thing, since without first wanting to do so, one does close one's eyes and desires solitude. It seems that without any contrivance, the edifice is being built, by means of this recollection, for the prayer that was mentioned. The senses and exterior things seem to be losing their hold because the soul is recovering what it had lost.

# Outside Our Parish

Today, Sunday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m., the Los Angeles Area Baroque Chamber music ensemble KONTRAPUNKTUS (under the direction of Raymond Jacobs) will be presenting a **concert of the music of George Frederic Handel and Johann Sebastian Bach at St. Andrew's Parish** in Old Pasadena (311 North Raymond Avenue, Pasadena CA 91103).

Tickets can be purchased at [www.Eventbrite.com](http://www.Eventbrite.com) (code:KONTRAPUNKTUS) or [www.kontrapunktus.com](http://www.kontrapunktus.com)

# Deaths

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

**+ Joanna Samudio**

(Her funeral will be here on Saturday, January 21, at 2:00 p.m.)



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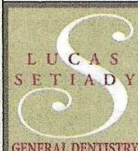
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