



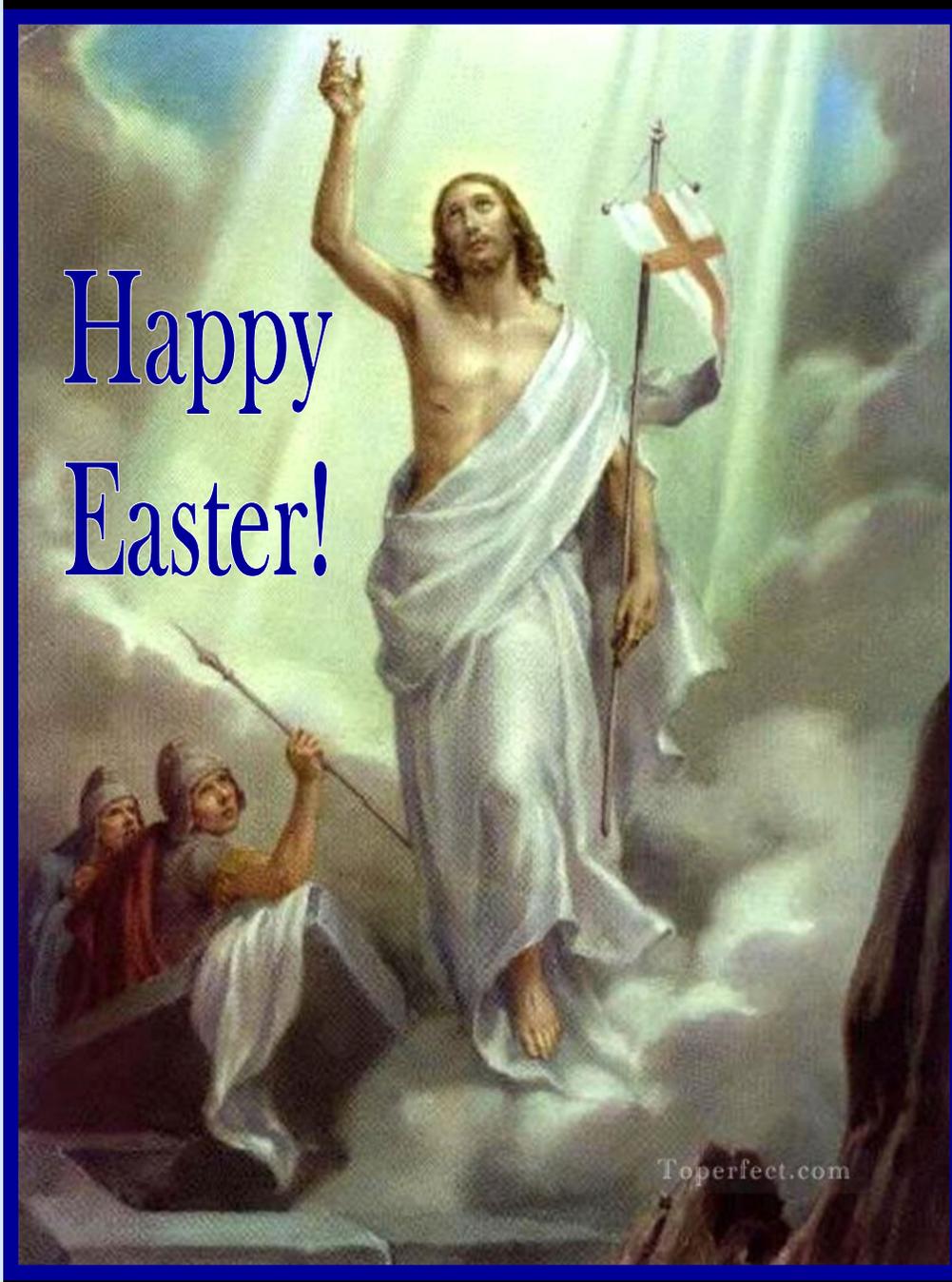
SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

April 12, 2020 MINISTERED BY THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS Estab. 1924

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Happy
Easter!



Victimae Paschali Laudes
(Chanted at Mass on Easter Sunday— after the Second Reading and before the Gospel Acclamation.)

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer your thankful praises! A Lamb the sheep redeems; Christ, who only is sinless, reconciles sinners to the Father.

Death and life have contended in that combat stupendous: The Prince of Life, who died, reigns immortal.

Speak, Mary, declaring what you saw, wayfaring.

“The tomb of Christ, who is living, the glory of Jesus’ resurrection; bright angels attesting, the shroud and napkin resting. Yes, Christ my hope is arisen; to Galilee He goes before you.”

Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining. Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!

Amen. Alleluia.

“We are an Easter people, and 'Alleluia' is our song!” -St. Augustine

"Believing is Seeing"

If Christmas is the “most wonderful time of the year,” then Easter is the most joyous, glorious, awesome time of the year, right? Well, today’s readings don’t exactly brim over with the kind of holiday cheer we find at Christmas—except for the Responsorial Psalm, which admittedly rings with gleeful joy. But otherwise, not so much.

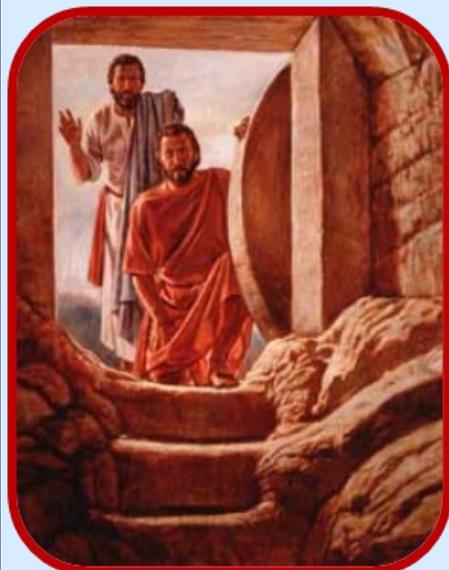
You’ve heard the saying “Seeing is believing.” Today’s first reading from the Acts of the Apostles seems to say just the opposite. In it, Peter gives a dry, condensed rendering of the story of Jesus to a group of Gentiles in Caesarea. You might think that when Jesus rose from the dead, **everyone** would see Him. Then His friends would rejoice and those who had put Him to death would repent (or run as fast as they could). Yet, Peter says that **He was only visible to some of the disciples**. Jesus did not appear to Herod or Pilate or Caiaphas. The Pharisees and scribes did not see Him, either. Even the disciples did not immediately see Him. The first thing they saw was the empty tomb, with burial cloths lying on the ground.



The Second Reading (St. Paul’s letter to the Colossians) actually does have us looking forward to glory. Most underwhelming, though, is the Gospel proclamation of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we want to hear about angels and earthquakes and trumpets and glory, we hear about a dark, silent, empty tomb. This Easter Sunday story from John’s Gospel is startling in its emptiness.

Perhaps we are being asked to look deeper into the mystery of the Resurrection, just as Peter went into the tomb to look deeper into the mystery of its emptiness. Mary Magdalene, who loved the Lord so much that she risked everything, possibly even her life, to go to the tomb before daybreak, finds the stone rolled away and assumes that someone has taken Jesus’ body. Frightened and sad, she runs to tell Peter and John. They all run back to the tomb, but what do they expect to see? Peter enters the tomb and sees. John enters the tomb and sees—and “believes”. But what does he believe? Scripture states, “For they did not yet understand the Scriptures that He had to rise from the dead” (John 20:9). They went home, not really knowing what had happened. But John “believed”—believed something.

So it seems the empty tomb eventually helped them to believe, and believing enabled them to see the Lord. Peter evolves from a bewildered participant into a witness to the Resurrection. When Mary of Magdala first saw Him, she thought He was the gardener; but then, after He spoke her name, she believed and recognized Him. What does this mean for us? What do we believe? What are we to find in the empty tomb? Maybe the reading from the Letter to the Colossians has an answer. Perhaps we just need to believe in order to see Him. By entering the empty tomb of our lives to seek the Lord, we see, we believe, we die, to be raised with Christ. *“For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God”* (Colossians 3:3). And we will rise in glory with Him. We also believe that He is present in the Sacraments: Baptism, the Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation show us that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit live in us.



Mother Teresa said she was amazed at the love she felt when she saw Jesus in the poor and the dying people of Calcutta. St. Francis saw Him not only in the poor but in all creation. Maybe we need to grow in faith so that we can see Jesus in the poor, the dying, the people who annoy us, even our enemies. That is why it is so important to spread the faith; if we don’t see Jesus in everyone, we may never have true peace.

READINGS FOR THE EASTER LITURGY

First Reading—Acts 10:34, 37–43

Peter proceeded to speak and said: “You know what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. We are witnesses of all that He did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put Him to death by hanging Him on a tree. This Man God raised on the third day and granted that He be visible, **not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance**, who ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in Him will receive forgiveness of sins through His name.”

Happy Easter!

Psalm 118

THIS IS THE DAY
THAT THE LORD HAS MADE;
LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT.

Responsorial Psalm—Psalm 118:1–2, 16–17, 22–23

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.
Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

“The right hand of the LORD has struck with power; the right hand of the LORD is exalted. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.”

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading—Colossians 3:1–4

Brothers and sisters: If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you, too, will appear with Him in glory

Gospel—John 20:1–9

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put Him.” So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered His head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that He had to rise from the dead.



Please pray this Novena from April 13—21!



NOVENA TO ST. THERESE TO END THE CORONAVIRUS

Dear St. Therese of the Little Way, You bore so patiently the disappointments and troubles allowed by God, thus preserving in your soul an unchanging peace because you sought only God's Will.

Since your life began in Heaven, you have showered down countless blessings on this poor world and have been an instrument used by Our Divine Lord to work innumerable miracles.

With this in mind, we ask you to pray for us during this deadly pandemic so that, through you, God will heal those who are suffering from the virus, protect the healthy from contracting it, and end its scourge upon the world so that we will be able to once again worship Our Lord in the Mass and receive Him in Holy Communion.

We ask for complete conformity to God's will in this and in all the trials of life. Amen.

CORONAVIRUS PLENARY INDULGENCE

The Vatican's Apostolic Penitentiary has granted a plenary indulgence for people with COVID-19, for those who care for them, and **for those who pray for them**. So all of us can all take part in this new plenary indulgence. Plenary indulgences are a dogma of the Church and an ancient practice of the faithful. Plenary indulgences remit all temporal punishment due to sin, either for oneself or for a soul in purgatory. They must be accompanied by full detachment from sin. **The conditions of an indulgence are: sacramental confession, reception of the Eucharist, and prayer for the intentions of the Pope, such as the recitation of the Creed, the Our Father, and the Hail Mary.** What is unusual about this CVP Indulgence is the statement that the person praying for it **"satisfies these conditions as soon as possible,"** since it may be some time before we can confess and receive the Eucharist again.

A person can receive one Plenary Indulgence a day. **It would be beautiful to offer this Indulgence every day for a different deceased person!**

WORDS OF ST. THERESE: *"I do not fear the trials of this earthly life, for even in the most bitter suffering, we can see that it is His loving hand which allows them. When we are expecting nothing but suffering, we are quite surprised at the least joy; and then suffering itself becomes the greatest of joys when we see it as a precious treasure."*

"I do not intend to remain inactive in Heaven. I want to work for the Church and for souls. I have asked this of God and I am certain that He will grant my request. I will spend my Heaven doing good upon earth. This is not impossible since the Angels, though always enjoying the Beatific Vision, watch over us. No, I cannot be at rest until the end of the world."

MAKING A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Pope Francis, Archbishop Gomez, and many bishops are encouraging us to deepen our love for the Eucharist during these difficult times when we are deprived of it. There is an ancient tradition in the Church of making a "Spiritual Communion." This began centuries ago when daily reception of the Eucharist was not allowed, and when some people could receive Holy Communion only once a year!

St. Alphonsus de Ligouri (1696-1787) wrote a very beautiful prayer for **"Spiritual Communion"** which you could pray every day:

"My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to possess You within my soul. Since I am unable now to receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You by sin. Amen."



LIVE STREAMED MASS FROM ST. THERESE CHURCH!

WE ARE NOW LIVE STREAMING THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS!

The Holy Sacrifice of Mass is the central act of worship in the Church, one which we, as practicing Catholics, have an obligation to attend on Sundays. Now, however, through no fault of our own, we have been deprived of that privilege of attending.

Since March 25, we have been **LIVE STREAMING Mass** every day of the week: **Mondays through Saturdays at Noon from the Adoration Chapel, and Sundays at 11:00 a.m. from the church** (this will continue throughout the quarantine). NOTE: The exception to this time schedule will be the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 11, which will live stream at **7:00 p.m.** that evening.

Just go to our **Facebook page** at <https://www.facebook.com/stthereseoflisieuxalhambra> and scroll down until you see the most recent live streamed Mass. These Masses are being celebrated privately by our Carmelite Fathers at St. Therese Church (after the Mass airs, they are also posted on our website). After, they will be uploaded to our YouTube Channel (click on the link in the right column of our home page).

You can also “attend” the Mass with our neighbors, the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles. They have a daily Mass **Monday through Saturday streaming at 6:15 a.m. and on Sundays at 11:15 a.m.**—at either <https://www.Facebook.com/CarmeliteSisters> OR at <https://www.instagram.com/carmelitesistersocd>.



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Being confined to your home is the perfect opportunity to become **FORMED** in your Faith! Skip the Netflix series and, instead, get the family together to watch a Catholic Family movie! It's **FREE** for you, our parishioners! FORMED was designed to help us "Explore our Catholic Faith," "Explain our Faith Formation," and to "SHARE our Faith". To get started, go to our website's home page (center column), scroll down until you see REGISTER NOW in the logo, click on it, and it will take you to the FORMED website. Then click on "Find your Parish or Organization," enter St. Therese, Alhambra, and then your name and your email address. That's it! You will have access to hundreds of movies, audios, and books.

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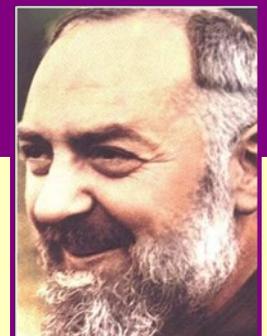
REGISTER NOW



EASTER WEEK RECOMMENDATIONS

- Pray: Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Watch: Divine Mercy with Father Michael Gaitley
- Read: Secrets of Siena

“The harm that comes to souls from the lack of reading holy books makes me shudder... What power spiritual reading has to lead to a change of course, and to make even worldly people enter into the way of perfection.” ~St. Padre Pio



FORMED

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

May God reward you!

Below you will find the total collections for the last few weekends.



April 4 / 5, 2020

Unrestricted.....	\$7,451.00
Restricted	\$1,397.00
T O T A L	\$8,848.00

February 29 / Mar. 1..	\$20,392.00
March 7 / 8.....	\$14,115.00
March 14 / 15.....	\$15,809.00
March 21 / 22.....	\$ 362.00

Check Users:
Please use a donation envelope in order to more easily credit your account.

Dear Parishioners, **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTINUED YOUR DONATIONS!**

I know that all of us are being challenged during this worldwide pandemic. Most apparent that these are strange days is that celebrating public Masses has been suspended—not only in our own Archdiocese but throughout our country and the world! However, just because we are not able to celebrate public Masses for you, St. Therese Church still has many operating costs. Therefore, we ask you not to forget us during this time, but instead continue to make your tithes and offerings to help us to meet our many expenses. You can do this by utilizing the online donation service, **FAITH DIRECT**, accessible from the home page of our website. You may also mail your donation to us (510 North El Molino Street, Alhambra 91801) or drop it in the mail slot to the right of the office door. We know that during hard times, tithing is usually the first expense people cut out. Our prayer, though, is that the generosity of our parishioners will see us through this crisis, and we'll be able to pay our bills and continue our mission during this very difficult period in history.



God bless each and every one of you,
Fr. Philip, Pastor



BLESSED CANDLES

Blessed vigil or votive candles are usually placed before statues of saints or at shrines. But how did this tradition get its start? The practice of lighting candles when seeking an answer to prayer has its origins in the custom of early Christians who lit candles at the tombs of the martyrs in the catacombs. The lights burned as a sign of solidarity between the martyrs and Christians still on earth. Because the lights continually burned as a silent vigil, they became known as "vigil lights" (from the Latin "vigilia," meaning "waiting" or "watching"). Lighting a candle is a way of extending one's prayer and/or showing solidarity with the person on whose behalf the prayer is offered. When lighting a candle, we remember the words of Our Lord, **"I am the Light of the World."** A candle lit in church is our intention to continually pray to God and to be aware of His constant presence in our lives. The light of the candles represents our prayers being lifted up to Heaven day and night.

Because Archbishop Gomez has enforced the closing of all the churches in this Archdiocese, we know you have not been able to come into church to light candles. **If you would like to PURCHASE A FIVE-DAY CANDLE (MAXIMUM OF 4 at \$5 each)** for use in your home, please email Noralyn at cailannocds@gmail.com or Denise at denisekay@hotmail.com. One of them will leave the candle(s) on the table on the front porch of the parish office for you to pick up. When you arrive, just drop the donation into the mail slot to the right of the door (please place it in an envelope marked "candle donation," along with your name).



Mass Intentions

April 11 through April 18, 2020

Saturday Vigil for Easter Sunday:

6:00 p.m.: Carmelite Community

7:00 p.m.: Doroteo Garcia, Jr., & Lourdes Jimenez, RIP

Easter Sunday

*7:30 a.m.: Fr. Bernard Perkins, OCD, INT

11:00 a.m.: 1) Laigo Family, INT;

2) Daisy Torres, INT; 3) Gabriel Anyanwu & Family, INT

Monday:

*7:30 a.m.: Gabriel Anyanwu & Family, INT

Noon: 1) Novena to End the Pandemic #1;

2) Anita Lim, Birthday Intention

Tuesday:

*7:30 a.m.: John Okamoto, RIP

Noon: 1) Novena to End the Pandemic #2;

2) Thelma Piol, INT

Wednesday

*7:30 a.m.: Beth Lahoz, INT

Noon: 1) Quia Sebella, INT;

2) Novena to End the Pandemic #3

Thursday:

*7:30 a.m.: Novena to End the Pandemic #4

Noon: 1) Engracia Vales, INT;

2) Helda Yu, INT

Friday:

*7:30 a.m.: Novena to End the Pandemic #5

Noon: 1) McAllister Family, INT

2) Rachelle Siy, Birthday Intentions

Saturday:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

Noon: 1) Ruth Laigo, INT;

2) Novena to End the Pandemic #6

***All Masses, including the Masses at the Cloistered Nuns' Chapel, are CLOSED to the public during the Coronavirus Pandemic.**

NOTICE RE MASS INTENTIONS:

Rest assured that, although Mass is currently not being celebrated publicly, the Carmelite Fathers are celebrating private Masses for all the above Mass intentions. When Mass is concelebrated, each priest offers the Mass for a separate intention. Thus you see that each of the Masses offered in the church has more than one Mass intention (one for each priest present).

Outside the Parish

Carmelite Pilgrimage for the 20th Anniversary of the liturgical feast of Divine Mercy on **September 6 - 18, 2020**, to Lithuania, Poland & Prague, Czech Republic, led by a Carmelite Friar (TBA). Includes: Medieval Vilnius: Ostra Brama, Hill of Crosses, Our Lady of Siluva, Poland: Sokolka-2008 Eucharistic Miracle, Lichen Stary-Largest Basilica in Poland, Glogowiec-Birthplace of St. Faustina, Czestochowa, Kracow; Wadowice -birthplace of Pope St. John Paul II, Lagiewniki-Divine Mercy Shrine, Convent of Sisters of Mercy & Sanctuary of Divine Mercy, Tatra Mountains in Zakopane-Fatima Shrine, Old World Prague: City Tour, Church of Our Lady Victorious, Infant Jesus of Prague. Cost: \$3995 from LAX (based on double room occupancy). Includes: R/T air from LAX w/airport taxes. Land travel by Luxury Coach, 3 & 4 Star Hotels, Breakfast/Dinner Daily, Guided Tours, All Entrance Fees, Daily Holy Mass. For more information contact: Louisa (323) 360-5186 or Jack (323) 403-8768 - St. Olav Travel - <https://stolavtravel.com>.

HELP FOR MARRIAGES: 82% of marriages that complete the nine-month *Retrouvaille* (REH-tro-v-eye) program are still together five years later? For questions or registration, call 909-900-5465 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com. Confidential!

You are invited to join Fr. Joe Joseph's Pilgrimage to SWITZERLAND, GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS BELGIUM, including the OBERAMMERGAU-PASSION PLAY from **SEPT. 2-14, 2020** Contact Bernadette at bcorp1114@gmail.com or 323-547-6618 /323-344-1548.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT, HANCEVILLE, ALABAMA, AND EWTN (JULY 23-30). Mother Angelica answered the call to build Nino Divino a temple. Enjoy talks, a healing service, and daily Mass with the friars and cloistered nuns; spend a day at EWTN and more! Space is limited. SIGN UP by contacting Albert and Mary Helen Estrada at remembertopt@sbcglobal.net.