



# Saint Therese Catholic Church

1100 East Alhambra Road, Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | [www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org](http://www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org)

May 23, 2021

Ministered by the **Discalced Carmelite Friars** Estab. 1924

**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:** Deacon Joseph Mizerski X333;

Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

### Vocations:

For the Carmelites: [www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com](http://www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com)

For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

### 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:

Charlotte Lansberg X226 / [cjlansberg@gmail.com](mailto:cjlansberg@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)**

**and Thursday EVENINGS:** 7:00 p.m.

(these are also LIVE STREAMED)

**CONFESSIONS (OUTSIDE)** Saturdays from 3:00

to 6:30 p.m. and Sundays from Noon to 1:00 p.m.



## SAINT THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

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

[principal@saintthersecarmeliteschool.com](mailto:principal@saintthersecarmeliteschool.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.



When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house... Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...



Acts 1:1-4



# FROM THE PASTOR

Skateboarding is not a sin



## Blessed Pentecost Sunday, Everyone!

May the Fire of the Holy Spirit fall on us all in a special way today—and every day! May the Lord who is the Spirit renew each person's Confirmation graces and cause them to grow and flourish even more! <— — May He make you feel like the friar in this photo, and may He inspire your faith to increase like that of the three priests underneath him! (How do you spell faith? R-I-S-K.)

Do you know the date of **YOUR** personal Pentecost, the day when you were confirmed? If not, maybe this week you could call your parish church where you were confirmed and ask them to look it up for you; then write it down and begin celebrating it every year. This is the day that the Blessed Trinity began empowering you with special, supernatural gifts to give public witness to Jesus! Even if your particular Confirmation preparation was lacking and you can hardly remember any supernatural support or guidance from the Holy Spirit in your life, you can make up for lost time. I urge you to listen to EWTN host Jeff Cavins' audio of what happened to him after his Confirmation. I also encourage you to sign up for the online SCRC Pentecost Sunday conference AND the Encounter Ministries conference at the end of June:

 **PENTECOST SUNDAY CONFERENCE:**  
<https://encounterministries.regfox.com/southern-california-encounter-conference>  
**JEFF CAVINS' AUDIO:** [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E\\_Mi7s1LEqraNFE8lfhj\\_1ns-CJ542kX/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E_Mi7s1LEqraNFE8lfhj_1ns-CJ542kX/view?usp=sharing) (These links will be "clickable" on this week's E-blast)

Also, because the Church allows Pentecost Monday and Tuesday to be days of special liturgical devotion to the Holy Spirit, we will continue to celebrate special Masses of the Holy Spirit for the next two days, especially on Monday and Tuesday evening. We will also dedicate some extra time to teaching about and opening up and practicing with some of the gifts of the Spirit after these evening Masses. Come and see! We will also have present relics of some saints and of the True Cross in order to help open us up to the Spirit's movements. To help prepare for Monday and Tuesday evening, check out the below \*videos (I think you'll especially love the one about the mechanic telling the story of how he received supernatural knowledge of how to fix a customer's truck!) Think of developing the Spirit's gift of a word of knowledge as a kind of Ignatian prayer meditation, where instead of using your five senses to help you compose and enter into a scene from the Gospels, you use your five senses as a way of letting the Lord show you a live scene with real people today, for the purpose of helping that person through prayer (the Randy Clark video is excellent; he works with Dr Mary Healy, the Catholic seminary Scripture professor and co-author of *The Spiritual Gifts Handbook*). \*Note: These videos will also be "clickable" links on this week's E-blast.

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Randy Clark — Words of Knowledge Explained</b><br><a href="https://youtu.be/-ecrgZsfttA">https://youtu.be/-ecrgZsfttA</a>   |  | <b>Shawn Bolz—Words of Knowledge Explained</b><br><a href="https://youtu.be/VDSHbChtxJU">https://youtu.be/VDSHbChtxJU</a>  |
| <b>Richard Roberts— Word of Knowledge Explained</b><br><a href="https://youtu.be/SGn9XZwFcfU">https://youtu.be/SGn9XZwFcfU</a> |  | <b>Joyce Meyer Words of Knowledge Explained</b><br><a href="https://youtu.be/zD6yHp9juM0">https://youtu.be/zD6yHp9juM0</a> |
| <b>Kris Valloton - Words of Knowledge Explained</b><br><a href="https://youtu.be/72FSG-mTfDg">https://youtu.be/72FSG-mTfDg</a> |  |  |

 **Come Holy Spirit! Rejoicing With You in the Holy Spirit,**   
Fr. Thomas, OCD

# COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME!

**Come, Holy Spirit!** Today we celebrate Pentecost, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the first disciples and on all who are baptized. We also commemorate the birth of the Church. Before Pentecost, the disciples remained hidden and uncertain; at Pentecost, those who were gathered were filled with the Spirit and proclaimed the wonders of the Good News of Christ to all. The Spirit guides us to the truth of Christ's love and mercy and strengthens us to live as disciples. Without the Holy Spirit, we would perish; with the Spirit, we have life to the full. Relying on the Spirit, we are given the grace to turn away from the many temptations that we face each day and prefer instead what is good and holy. Come, Holy Spirit, come!



**THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT:** As followers of Jesus, we are called to direct our minds and hearts to Christ's love, turning away from all that is not of God in order to be more Christ-like in our daily lives. The more we invite the Holy Spirit to draw us close to God's heart, the more readily we will avoid sin and choose life, faith, and love. In the letter to the Galatians, we hear a list of things that those who live in the Spirit are to avoid. Things like immorality, hatred, jealousy, and selfishness. At first glance, we might think to ourselves, "Of course, I want to avoid those things," and yet, if we are honest with ourselves, we likely recognize some of those patterns in our lives. Upon further reflection, however, we also see that these negative behaviors pose temporary pleasure while the fruits of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—lead to a life of deep and lasting fulfillment.

**NOTHING WILL STAND IN THE WAY:** The Jewish people who had gathered in Jerusalem for the festival of Pentecost came from every corner of the world. They spoke many languages and yet were drawn to hear the message of Christ from the disciples who had just experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. They were astonished by what they heard—not only the message, but the way in which it was conveyed, in their own language, and by the messengers, people whom they would have considered ordinary and unremarkable, rather than the acknowledged religious leaders of their time.

We, too, are called to share the love and mercy of Christ through word and action, even when we feel small and insignificant. We need only to look at the witness and experience of those first disciples and all the saints who have preceded us to know that we are capable of much when we place our lives in God's hands.



Nothing can stand in the way of the incredible love of God when we are filled with the power and presence of the Holy Spirit!

**Today's Readings:** Acts 2:1–11; Psalm 104:1, 24, 29–30, 31, 34; Galatians 5:16–25 or 1 Corinthians 12:3–7, 12–13; John 20:19–23 or John 15: 26–27; 16:12–15

# Discalced Carmelite Nuns: Indirect Victims of Covid-19

By John Burger of  
www.Aleteia.org



*Nuns who support themselves by supplying Communion hosts have had to adjust to lower demand.* Of the many ways in which the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the Catholic Church, one has gone largely unnoticed. As the pandemic picked up steam in March of 2020, millions of Catholics began to “attend” Mass via internet or television. Instead of receiving Communion in person, they might make what is called a “spiritual communion” instead—a prayer asking Jesus to come into their souls. **Thus, churches were largely empty for months, leading to a drastic drop in the use of Communion wafers.** Parishes were left with bags of unused hosts, so there was no need to receive further shipments for the time being. In many cases, these hosts, also known as altar breads, are baked and sold by religious communities. Sales of such wafers provide financial support for the communities, which are mostly sisters or nuns.

With orders canceled, these communities soon began to feel the pinch. “Before the pandemic, we had about 200 customers,” said Sister Anna Tran, O.C.D., who oversees altar bread production at the Carmel of St. Teresa in Alhambra, California, a community of cloistered Discalced Carmelite nuns. “We shipped approximately 250,000 hosts to parishes, hospitals, schools, and religious communities per week. Once the pandemic hit, by April 2020, all of the orders from our customers were cancelled. The customers who did order were very minimal (about 10%), so probably about 90% of our customers either cut down or cancelled their orders completely.” Mother Brenda Marie Schroeder, O.C.D., prioress of the Carmel of St. Teresa, said that after a year “we had to throw away all our supply of small altar breads. It was starting to get buggy.” She said that large hosts were still in demand because priests were still celebrating Mass, albeit privately. But not the small ones. The Carmel wrote recently to customers, who are throughout the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, as well as parts of Nevada and Arizona, expressing the hope that they would resume their orders when public Masses resume.

In the meantime, a local supporter of the nuns, Jennifer Nolan, offered to help because she realized what an impact the loss of business would have on the Carmel. “I thought I could set up a monthly donation base,” said Nolan, founder of Catholic Polytechnic University. “Hillsdale College has thousands of people who give \$10 a month. That’s what these nuns need—an army of people.” So Nolan set up a monthly donation option on the Discalced Carmelite Nuns’ website (<https://www.carmelteresa.org/donation>). The change soon made a difference. “Just in one week we got 27 donors for them,” Nolan said. “It’s so hard not to know: ‘Are we going to have enough money for food next month?’ If they have 100 donors giving \$20 a month, they’ll have an amount they know they can depend on.”

The biggest change brought on by the pandemic, however, seems to have taken place with the Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in Clyde, Missouri. The sisters made the difficult decision to largely cease altar bread production, which they had been engaged in since 1910. “All these years we’ve been the largest religious producer of altar breads,” said Sr. Ruth Elaine Starman, O.S.B. “We sold wholesale to other religious communities, who over time just got too small to really keep up their own production. We have provided to Carmelites, Poor Clares, and some other Benedictine monasteries over the years.” Because of COVID, “everything just tanked,” Sr. Ruth said.

The nuns will now become a distributor for Cavanagh Altar Bread, a secular producer based in Rhode Island. The sisters will continue producing their own low-gluten hosts, however. In spite of the disruption, Sr. Ruth said the abbey is in “pretty good shape,” financially, since benefactors have stepped up in the time of crisis. “It’s been beautiful to see how people still want to support us,” she said. **Sr. Ruth and others said that, more than their own situation, they are more concerned about lay Catholics and their sacramental life at this time. “I’m hoping that more and more people will decide to go back to church and partake of the sacraments,”** Sister Ruth said. “That’s been the biggest tragedy—not that our sales were poor, but that people weren’t able to participate in the sacraments at all. It’s just not the same, watching on TV.” **Added Mother Brenda Marie, of the Carmel in Alhambra, the pandemic and the shutdown “made us really united with the people. We feel more at one with them, because of everything we’ve gone through together.”**



# APOSTLES IN QUARANTINE

By Nick Hardesty  
CatholicTelegraph.com

The apostles were once under a mandated quarantine—something we’ve all become familiar with over the last year. You can read all about it in the first two chapters of the Book of Acts. After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to the Apostles over a period of 40 days. Then, He ordered them to stay in Jerusalem and await the promise of the Father. And so they did. For nine days, they stayed together in the Upper Room. Then, on the 10th day (the Feast of Pentecost), the Spirit fell upon them and filled them with courage and zeal for the Lord. I can’t help but think about those nine days. Scripture tells us they devoted themselves to prayer “with one accord” (Acts 1:14). That must be true, but I wonder if they also bickered and complained. I certainly wouldn’t put it past them. After all, the Apostles were far from “perfect Christians,” and the Upper Room was the place of both their greatest acts of faith and some significant failures. **The Upper Room is where the Apostles received the Eucharist. It’s where Jesus washed their feet. It’s where He gave them the power to forgive sins. It’s where He made them priests.** But, the Upper Room *is also where:*



- The Apostles argued over who would be the greatest;
- Peter resisted the foot washing;
- Judas identified himself as Jesus’ betrayer;
- The Apostles rejected the women’s report of the Resurrection;
- Thomas would not believe that Jesus had appeared.



There’s a lot of baggage associated with that room, and it’s easy to imagine that the Apostles brought all of it into their nine-day quarantine. Of course, it could just as easily be that their time cooped up in the Upper Room was every bit as holy as Scripture seems to indicate. After all, it was preceded by 40 days with their resurrected Lord! Jesus broke open the Scriptures for them. He instructed and encouraged them. He ascended into Heaven right in front of them. His holy Mother was with them. Perhaps those nine days were a time of unparalleled growth, holiness, and praise as they waited in anticipation of the promised Advocate and Helper.

**What has your quarantined “Upper Room” experience been like?** I’ve had some breakthroughs: my daughter let me see her sing; I’ve felt the presence of God in prayer with people via Zoom; my youngest son was finally potty trained; and I’m reconnecting with friends I haven’t seen in a really long time. But also... the house is a wreck. The kids are too loud while I’m trying to work. I’m over-eating because the pantry is, like, right there. I have friends who are sick with COVID-19, as well as vulnerable family members that I worry about constantly. Shopping feels like a video game, trying to get from the bread aisle to the dairy department without coming within six feet of anyone.

Thankfully, there is always one constant: the Holy Spirit. **The Spirit that fell on the apostles is the same Spirit that can fall on me.** He can fall on you, too—not when you finally get your act together, but now! He can heal you. He can stir within you a desire to pray. He can give you courage and strength and **can light your soul on fire so that you can emerge from your Upper Room like the Apostles: invigorated, renewed and completely empowered by God.**

# ENCOUNTER

## COST: \$99 - TO REGISTER, VISIT:

<https://encounterministries.regfox.com/southern-california-encounter-conference>

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|--------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|

# BABY BOTTLE DONATIONS / BABY SHOWER GIFTS!



THIS WEEKEND, GPS will collect the filled baby bottles you took home earlier. If you forgot your baby bottle or a gift for the Baby Shower, you may bring them to the parish office (510 North El Molino Street) by this Friday.

## VIRTUAL PRESENTATION, SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

# Van Mueller presents...



**THIS THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 27, 7 P.M.**

## *Faith, Family and Financial Security*

The Knights of Columbus will host a virtual/on-line presentation THIS THURSDAY, MAY 27, AT 7:00 P.M., titled, "Faith, Family and Financial Security," with Van Mueller as the speaker. If interested, please register on line at the following link: <https://vanmueller.com/kofc-registration/>. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Storey at 716-0638 or [Jeffrey.storey@kofc.org](mailto:Jeffrey.storey@kofc.org).

Invite the Spirit into your life. The Spirit moves as He wills, and He wills to move YOU.

I WILL POUR OUT  
MY  
*Spirit*  
ON ALL  
PEOPLE  
ACTS 2:17

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.  
John 16:13



The Spirit alone gives eternal life  
Human effort accomplishes nothing

John 6:63

# FINANCIAL OFFERINGS

May God reward you! Below you will find the total collections for the previous four weekends.

**NOTE:** There is a second collection on the 2ND WEEKEND each month for our School.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



|                          |                    |                               |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>May 15 / 16, 2021</b> |                    | April 17 / 18.....\$11,183.00 |
| Unrestricted.....        | \$22,395.00        | April 24 / 25.....\$24,007.00 |
| Restricted .....         | \$ 4,500.00        | May 1 / 2.....\$16,135.00     |
| <b>T O T A L .....</b>   | <b>\$26,895.00</b> | May 8 / 9.....\$13,970.00     |

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

# Mass Intentions

May 22 through May 29, 2021

**Saturday:**

5:00 pm: Alicia Maria Guadalupe, B-Day INT

**Sunday**

\*7:30 a.m.: Teddy Yang, INT

7:30 am: Emma Cox, B-Day INT

9:00 a.m.: Lisbeth Ruiz, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Roberto Martinez, INT

1:00 p.m.: Edgar Efrain Arenas, B-Day INT

5:00 p.m.: Parishioners

**Monday:**

6:00 a.m.: Rica Yan, B-Day INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Luisa Lapidario, INT

8:00 a.m.: Victoria Sandoval, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Roland de la Rosa, RIP

**Tuesday:**

6:00 a.m.: Lourdes Hernandez, B-Day INT

\*7:30 a.m.: Ruy Eduardo Arenas, B-Day INT

8:00 a.m.: Gilbert & Evangeline Holman, RIP

7:00 p.m. (Span): Doctors, Nurses & Families, INT

**Wednesday:**

6:00 a.m.: Fr. Matthias Lambrecht, OCD, INT

\*7:30 am: Mary Esther Victor, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Lucila Ochoa, RIP

**Thursday:**

6:00 a.m.: Augustin Juarez, RIP

\*7:30 am: Mary Esther Victor, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Alejandro Rodriguez, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Raymond Toohey, INT

**Friday:**

6:00 a.m.: Augustin Juarez, RIP

\*7:30 am: Mary Catherine Bacciarini Fluetsch, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Flora Santoso, RIP

**Saturday:**

\*7:30 am: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Lapidario Family, Th'gvg

\*Held at the Carmelite Chapel,  
215 East Alhambra Road

**\*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.

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evening

Masses (and any other special evening

Masses) are all live streamed on Facebook

AND YouTube (for those not attending)—links

on our website's home page (top left column).

# Quiet Listening Prayer Guidance

In the midst of the experiences that are both painful and delightful together, our Lord sometimes gives the soul feelings of jubilation and a strange prayer it doesn't understand. I am writing about this favor here so that if He grants it to you, you may give Him much praise and know what is taking place. It is, in my opinion, a deep union of the faculties; but our Lord nonetheless leaves them free that they might enjoy this joy—and the same goes for the senses—without understanding what it is they are enjoying or how they are enjoying it.



What I'm saying seems like gibberish, but certainly the experience takes place in this way, for the joy is so excessive that the soul wouldn't want to enjoy it alone but wants to tell everyone about it so that they might help this soul praise our Lord. All its activity is directed to this praise. Oh, how many festivals and demonstrations the soul would organize, if it could, that all might know its joy! It seems it has found itself and that, like the father of the prodigal son, it would want to prepare a festival and invite all [5] because it sees itself in an undoubtedly safe place, at least for the time being. And I hold that there is reason for its desires. The devil cannot give this experience, because there is so much interior joy in the very intimate part of the soul and so much peace; and all the happiness stirs the soul to the praises of God.

**(St. Teresa, Interior Castle, Mansion VI, Ch. 6, No. 10).**

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**MARKETING & EVENT COORDINATOR:** [https://recruiting.myapps.paychex.com/appone/MainInfoReq.asp?R\\_ID=3622155](https://recruiting.myapps.paychex.com/appone/MainInfoReq.asp?R_ID=3622155)

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