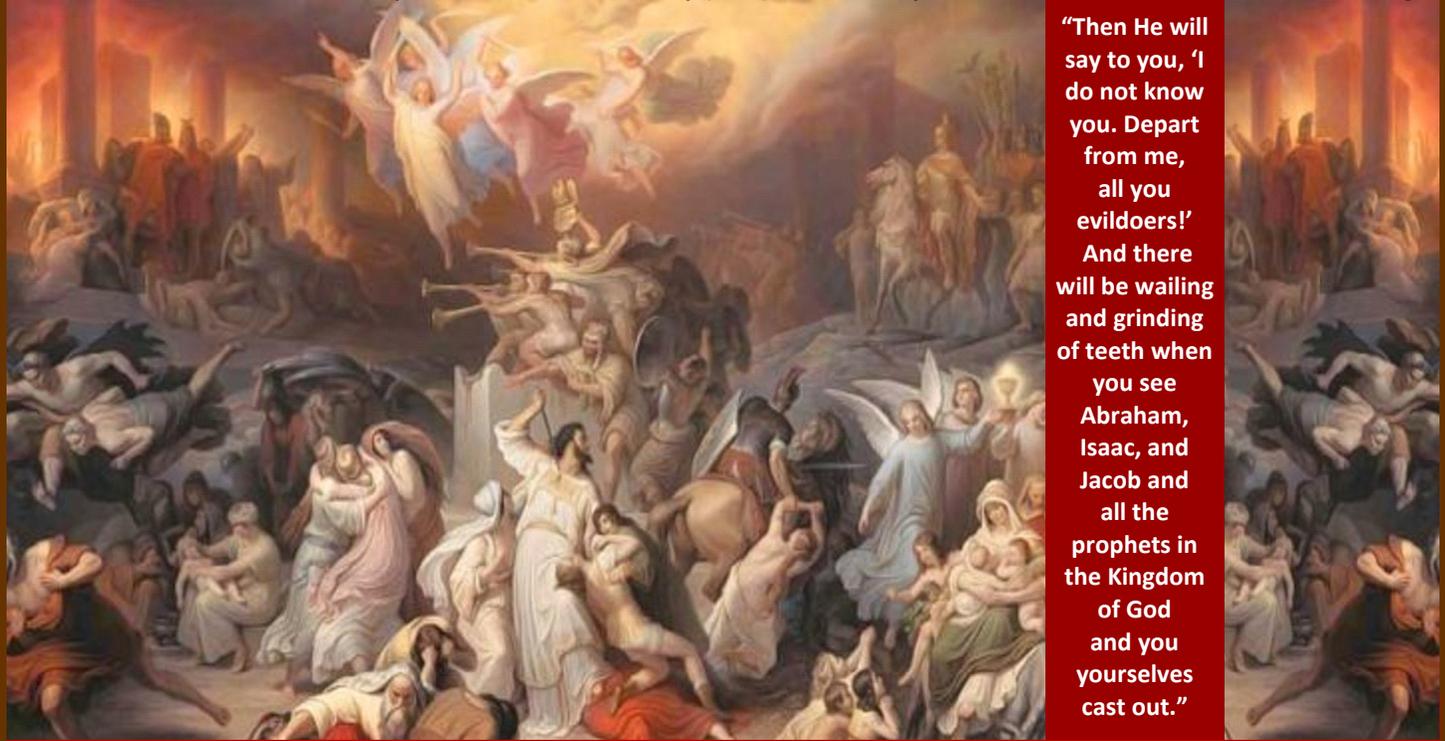


St. Therese Catholic Church

August 21, 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 will say to you, ‘I do not know you. Depart from me, all you evildoers!’ And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God and you yourselves cast out.”

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 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.

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 XI 12

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

Blessed Twenty-first Sunday of the Year and Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, everyone!

A special THANK YOU to the choir for making the Solemn High Mass of Our Lady's Assumption so beautiful!!!



Let me say something about today's Gospel: "Then will you stand outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, open the door for us.' He will say to you in reply, 'I do not know where you are from.'...And there will be wailing and grinding of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God and you yourselves cast out."

When you hear these words, do you start worrying about somehow being thrown into Hell? That is what it sounds like, but is that what Jesus is formally teaching? No, the constant and settled teaching of the Catholic Church is and has always been that the Trinity gave us a free will and will never violate it by forcing us to follow Him. Therefore, no one gets thrown into Hell without choosing it, and no one gets thrown into Heaven without having to choose it. And so, we can hear Jesus' words as a wake-up call for everyone to stop worrying about what other people are doing or not doing and decide how to stop making choices that lead towards Hell and get serious about getting into Heaven themselves!

And now, let us continue looking more closely at the incredible gift of our Baptism (see the box below) and our new identity as beloved sons and daughters who live their Christian lives **from** their Father's love, not **for** their Father's love. (By the way, someone just shared with me how she keeps hearing from others how she is a "beloved, awesome daughter" of her Heavenly Father, like in the homily at Mass, and the words just bounce off of her and don't sink in. "I hear the words from the priest or whomever, and I'm thinking, 'I don't get it, I just don't get it. I must be stupid or something...'" But then, during the quiet time after Holy Communion, she experiences some relief from that feeling of failure; the silence somehow helps her to become aware of her Father's love. Wow! Thank You, Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit!!!)

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



How Baptism Heals Wounds of Rejection—FINAL ENTRY

Chapter Three of *Be Transformed: The Healing Power of the Sacraments* by Bob Schuchts

(Continued from last Sunday, August 14, 2022)



Always remember that you are the beloved child in whom your Father delights; you are marked and sealed in the name of the living God, who now lives inside you. You are a new creation in Christ, living not for yourself but for the glory of God, called to love others as He has loved you. In this way, you have been called to heal the primordial wound of rejection that prevents all of us from believing in and receiving God's love. Let's take a moment and reflect on Donna's experiences (as read in the last two weeks' bulletins) and all of our own to see how the Holy Spirit may want to speak to each one of us about this battle we are engaged in. Then, in the following Scripture meditation and prayer, I invite you to let these realities penetrate the depths of your heart.

- In what ways have you felt rejected? How do you reject yourself?
- What role did Baptism play in Donna's healing? How did prayer and God's Word help in the process of her restoration?
- Describe the opposing spirits behind abortion and Baptism. Where do you recognize the battle between these spiritual realities in your life?
- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in reflecting on this Scripture passage.
- Read this passage three times slowly, listening to the words or phrases that the Holy Spirit is revealing to you.
- After each time, write down or discuss what speaks to your heart.

PRAYER AND MEDITATION: Begin by asking the Holy Spirit to guide you. Then slowly bless yourself in the name of the Father (who is love), the Son (who is the beloved), and the Holy Spirit (who is the bond of r. thfr. thomlove). As you do this, you are renewing your baptismal blessing and remembering Jesus' death on the cross, which enabled you to become the Father's beloved son or daughter at Baptism; He is continuing to bless you with those graces now with your cooperation. Let your heart ponder these realities. Notice that the words of the Apostles' (and Nicene) Creed are summarized in the renewal of our baptismal vows that are normally spoken with the entire Church during Easter. Renouncing the works of Satan and affirming our faith in God can take place every day and every moment of our lives. We are given this authority by virtue of our Baptism. Let's put this into practice: Suppose someone said something that offended you, and you are left feeling rejected. Try praying the following: "In the name and authority of Jesus Christ, which I received in my Baptism, I renounce the lie that I am not loved or lovable. I renounce the curse of rejection that comes from the father of lies. I renounce the authority that I have given to anyone else but you, Father, to tell me my value and worth. You, Father, are the only one who completely knows me and loves me as I am. I acknowledge that by virtue of my Baptism, I am loved and delighted in by you, Father. I also acknowledge that, by virtue of my blessing in Baptism, you have given me your Holy Spirit, whose love is poured out into my heart. I am one with Jesus, your beloved. Amen."

This entry was the FINAL entry for Chapter Three. If you missed reading any part of Chapter Three of this book, you may do so by going to the "Bulletins" link on our website and then begin with the first entry, which is in the issue of July 24, 2022. Next Sunday, August 28, we will begin publishing Chapter Four, "How Holy Communion Heals Wounds of Abandonment."

NEW SCHOOL YEAR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Saint Therese Carmelite School is excited to be welcoming our students back **THIS Wednesday, August 24** for another wonderful school year. We appreciate the support of all the parishioners that helps make our school a success. Please continue to pray for an effective and fruitful school year for our families, teachers, staff, and students.

PARKING LOT CLOSURES

Beginning **THIS WEDNESDAY, August 24**, and continuing **EVERY SCHOOL DAY WHILE SCHOOL IS IN SESSION**, the parking lot will **close immediately after the conclusion of the 8:00 a.m. Mass and remain closed until 5:00 p.m.** We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our children safe.



Religious Education classes will begin again on **September 18 for elementary grades...** on **September 22 for Youth Confirmation...** and on **September 21 for RCIA and Adult Confirmation.**

To register, stop by the tables in/or in front of the Parish Hall after the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses today, **August 21, or next Sunday, August 28.** Bring your checkbook for the fees and a copy of the enrollee's baptism certificate.

ENTERING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Don't you love it when the underdog wins? When the Cardinals beat the Yankees for the championship or the Blues beat the Redwings, or the Rams beat anyone? Even when I watch a game with no St. Louis teams playing, I still like to root for the underdog. That is what I like about today's Gospel: the last will be first and the first will be last. Some say that Jesus was referring to the Jews, God's chosen people, whom Jesus called first to be His disciples. When they rejected Him, the call went out to the Gentiles, who became followers.

Or perhaps in Jesus' time, He was talking about the leaders of the Jews, the scribes and Pharisees. These refused to follow Jesus, while ordinary Jews who did not feel threatened by Jesus' teaching became disciples. In a way, you can understand why the leaders rejected Jesus. They made a nice living out of the offerings made by ordinary Jews. As long as they could decide who could enter the temple, they had a nice income flow. They were smart enough to include the poor, by asking them for smaller offerings. And who could argue with them? They worked for God. How dare Jesus say that they would be cast out, while people from the rest of the world would enter the Kingdom of God!

And how about us? Remember that the Gospel was not written for non-believers. Are we threatened by Jesus' message? Just as the scribes and Pharisees considered themselves important in God's eyes because of their office, do we consider ourselves "saved" because we call ourselves Christians? Do we respect all people, or just the ones we like? Are we generous to the poor, or just to our friends? Do we give good example to the people we work with? Do we follow our conscience or do we follow the crowd? Entry into the Kingdom of God is not a fashion statement. We don't get there by looking good. We are invited by Jesus to be last on earth so we can be first in the Kingdom.



The Real St. Therese



We published installments from *The Passion of Therese of Lisieux* by Guy Gaucher from June to November 2021.

The year 1895 was an exceptional year in St. Thérèse's life. It was indeed providential that Mother Agnes, at Sister Marie of the Sacred Heart's suggestion, had ordered Thérèse to write down her

childhood memories precisely that year. Having reached this summit, she could look back and see her life in the light of God's Merciful Love. Yet, when she put the points of suspension on page 84 of her manuscript, she had not reached the end of her course.

In the pages that follow, we have decided against classifying and grouping together in logical themes Thérèse's aspirations and sentiments. On the one hand, we would have had to cover the same ground several times. On the other, we would have impoverished the "Thérésian elan" which becomes progressively more profound, fired as it is by the same intertwining passionate desires. It is better to proceed like Thérèse and follow the course of time, even if it entails repeating the same themes at each stage, just as they come up in her correspondence, her manuscripts, her poems, her plays. What does it matter if we experience a certain surfeit... The result will show that this young girl was not merely repeating pious formulas but was expressing completely her whole being, which was thirsting for love.

We are dividing this spiritual journey from 1895 to 1897 into four main stages. The **FIRST** is **From the Scriptural confirmation of the Little Way to the act of oblation to love (from the end of 1894 to June 9-14 of 1895)**. Since her discovery in Céline's notebook of Old Testament texts, which gave way to the scriptural basis of her "way of confidence and love," Thérèse advanced swiftly and joyfully along her road.

At the beginning of that year, she was asked to write her Memoirs. She would soon set down her thoughts on the graces that God had given her:

"I find myself at a period in my life when I can look back over the past. My soul has matured in the crucible of exterior and interior trials. Now, like a flower strengthened by the storm, I can raise my head and see the words of Psalm 22 realized in me" (Ms A, p. 15).

Instruments of the Spirit

A natural gift, such as athletic ability or musical talent, is an innate aptitude that you can develop and use at will. But a charism is dependent on the operation of the Holy Spirit, and therefore it has an efficacy that surpasses merely human talent. It either enables what is humanly impossible



such as prophecy, healings, or miracles, or it elevates a natural aptitude, such as teaching or administration, to a supernatural level of efficacy.

We can grow in the use of these gifts, but they always remain dependent on the Holy Spirit. If you have a gift of healing, for example, you cannot pull that gift out of your pocket and heal someone whenever you feel like it. Rather, you are a musical instrument on which the Holy Spirit plays, according to His purpose and His timing. The more yielded you are to Him, the more freely He will play.

Paul was convinced of the power of the gifts to open people's hearts to the Gospel. He was one of the most effective evangelists in history, yet he insisted that it was not primarily his preaching that won over so many people to Christ, but rather the supernatural deeds that God worked through him. He wrote, "I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by work or deed, by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God" (Romans 15:18-19).

He reminded the Corinthians that it was such manifestations of the Spirit that convinced them to believe: "My speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God" (1 Corinthians 2:4-5). The Holy Spirit's action through the gifts provides visible confirmation of the truth of the Gospel.

(Taken from *The Spiritual Gifts Handbook* by Randy Clark and Mary Healy, available in the Parish Office.)

FR. ROBERT RETURNS ON THE CORONATION MEMORIAL



This Wednesday, August 22, is the Memorial of the Coronation of Our Blessed Mother, Queen of Heaven and Earth. It is also the day that Fr. Robert resumes celebrating the Monday Night Meditation Masses (at the normal time of 7:00 p.m.)

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing. You reign now in splendor with Jesus our King. In Heaven the blessed your glory proclaim; On earth we your children invoke your fair name. Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Maria!

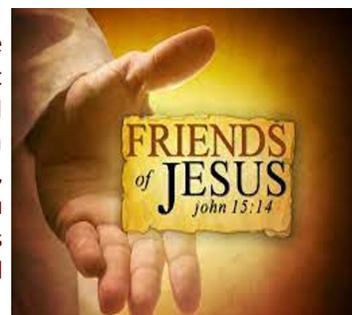


Be Neither Fair-Weather nor Foul-Weather Friends

The term “fair-weather friend” might need a technological-era updating. Perhaps “short attention span friend” would work. In our world of multiple communication platforms, it somehow has become increasingly easy to lose track of friends. We shouldn’t be surprised when we reach out and they’ve moved on due to our indifference. The God who is Love and whose covenant is one-hundred percent about relationship is depicted in the same way by Jesus today. “Hey God, remember us? There was that one time we were really in trouble and you helped out; well, we’re in trouble again.” But we may find that God has moved on since we turned out to be only “foul-weather friends.” The covenant relationship has two parties: God and us. If that covenant relationship falls apart, and we’re no longer “friended” by God, it’s not because God failed as a friend. Keeping up the friendship is equally our responsibility.

Imagine how shocking Isaiah’s words would have been to those who first encountered them. After all, they were the people God called “Chosen.” It was easy for them to presume that after the sufferings of exile that God’s freeing redemption would be for them and them alone. Yet, here is Isaiah saying that the saving hand of God will extend to all nations. Perhaps most shocking to Isaiah’s initial audience would have been today’s final line: that God would take these outsiders and fugitives, elevating them to the priesthood, to include them in the descendants of one of Jacob’s sons, Levi. It’s not difficult to imagine that this sweeping vision of God’s mercy and love beyond the bounds of the Chosen People was met with resistance.

Jesus shows Himself to be firmly in Israel’s prophetic tradition, a true son of Isaiah today, as He proclaims a similar message. Those who had been chosen as disciples could not presume that merely keeping physical proximity with Jesus or remaining in His company gave them any real claim to call themselves true disciples. Even eating and drinking with Jesus does not guarantee an eventual seat at the table of God’s reign. Even being a “pureblood” (a descendant of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob) doesn’t make your final destination a sure thing. How the world has placed you into its categories—first or last—just might get scrambled, too. It is those who follow Jesus through the “narrow gate” of discipleship, truly abiding by His example who are sure to find themselves reclining at table in the Kingdom.



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.



August 13 / 14, 2022

Unrestricted..... \$26,261.00
Restricted\$ 2,002.00
T O T A L.....\$28,263.00

July 16/17\$ 8,686.00
July 23/24 \$16,119.00
July 30/31\$22,082.00
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Fasting from the Wound of Resentment

PAUSE TO HEAR GOD SPEAK:

“Resentment...is
rejection of God.”
-St. Ignatius
Brianchaninov

“Does a spring gush
forth, from the same
opening, both pure
and brackish water?”
—James 3:11

Today, I chose to fast from the sin of resentment. Think of resentment as firewood for your anger. The intensity of anger needs fuel to keep it burning hard. Resentment is that fuel! When we remain indignant at unfair treatment and hold a grudge, we are resentful. We are unable to let go of a wrong that we think has been done to us. Anger will subside if it is not fueled by resentment. But resentment dwells on injustice and unfairness. On the inside, we feel unsettled in our hearts and our souls. Sometimes our resentment is based on real injustice, but other times it stems from our perception that someone treated us unfairly. The solution for resentment is simple: forgiveness.



TAKE TIME TO ASK YOURSELF:

- Whom do I resent?
- Do I hold a grudge against anyone?

Resentment is like taking
poison and waiting for the
other person to die.

Heavenly Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I renounce resentment in my life and repent all the ways I have sinned because of it. I reject every form of resentment in my life. I ask you, Father, to forgive me, and I forgive myself for my resentful hearts and actions. Holy Spirit, make me aware of any resentful thoughts, feelings, and actions. Amen.

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



Mass Intentions

August 20 to 27, 2022

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Eulogio and Amparo Diaz, RIP

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Mary Lilia Flores, RGS, RIP

7:30 a.m.: Simon Choy, RIP

9:00 a.m.: Nikolay Vassilev, INT

11:00 a.m.: Aiden Arakawa Birthday INT

1:00 p.m.: Parishioners

5:00 p.m.: Vanessa Limon Birthday INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Felipe Sanchez, INT

*7:30 a.m.: Maria Socorro Alvarado, RIP

8:00 a.m.: John & Jackie Tran, Anniverswary

7:00 p.m.: Lacha Kayavane, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Ms. Jessie Martinez, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Mariam Joseph, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Sr. Mary Lilia, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Ronald & Andrea Abaunza, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Ingrid Solichin, Birthday INT

*7:30 a.m.: Deceased Religious, Relatives, and Benefactors of the Carmelite Order, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Irene E. Spencer, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Margie Weiner

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Mary DeSantis, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Sr. Mariam Joseph, OCD, INT

8:00 a.m.: Lisa Losorelli, Birthday INT

7:00 p.m.: Yohanes Iwan Wutuh, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Joy Fan Solichin, Birthday INT

*7:30 a.m.: Alicia Maria Guadalupe Ortega, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Sophia Arakawa, Birthday INT

Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Ernest Emond, Sr., RIP

*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 | St. Teresa of Avila

Now behold, daughters, how great the wisdom of our Master is. I am reflecting here on what we are asking for when we ask for this kingdom, and it is good that we understood our request. But since His Majesty saw that we could neither hallow, nor praise, nor extol, nor glorify this holy name of the Eternal Father in a fitting way, because of the tiny amount we ourselves are capable of doing, He provided for us by giving us here on earth His kingdom. That is why Jesus put these two petitions next to each other. I want to tell you here, daughters, what I understand so that we may know what we are asking for and the importance of our begging persistently for it, and do as much as we can so as to please the One who is to give it to us....Now, then, the great good that it seems to me there will be in the kingdom of heaven, among many other blessings, is that one will no longer take any account of earthly things, but have a calmness and glory within, rejoice in the fact that all are rejoicing, experience perpetual peace and a wonderful inner satisfaction that comes from seeing that everyone hallows and praises the Lord and blesses His name and that no one offends Him. Everyone loves Him there, and the soul itself doesn't think about anything else than loving Him; nor can it cease loving Him, because it knows Him. And would that we could love Him in this way here below, even though we may not be able to do so with such perfection or stability. But if we knew Him we would love in a way very different from that in which we do love Him (Chapter 30, 4-5).

Outside the Parish

Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD, will lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and to Rome/Assisi on Oct. 3 to 14, 2022, for \$4000 each. Included are air, hotels, bus, tour guides, all meals in Jerusalem and breakfasts and dinners in Italy. Call or send a test via WhatsApp to 626-818-2937 or email ximegabella@yahoo.com.

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

14-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land (September 28 to October 11, 2022, led by Fr. Darrin Merino, CMF, for \$4,989). For more information, contact Parishioners Albert and Mary Helen Estrada at (626) 285-6687 or rememberto@sbcbglobal.net.

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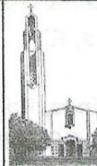
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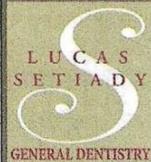
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