

St. Therese Catholic Church

September 25, 2022 Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars Est. 1924
510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org



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 6:00 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 Busic, 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: Andrew Coyne | Andrew.Coyne1@gmail.com

Respect Life Ministry: Catherine Contreras XI 12

ST. THERESE CARMELITE SCHOOL

(626) 289-3364

www.SaintThereseCarmeliteSchool.com

Principal: Alma Cornejo X661

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

A Letter from the Pastor

SLIGHT CHANGE TO THE CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**Confessions on Saturdays
will now end at 6:00
instead of 6:30 p.m. This
will allow the Friars time
for Community Prayer.**

Thank you!

Blessed 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time—and blessed Novenas to St. Michael and all the Holy Archangels AND to our Patroness, St. Therese!

This is a good week to ask for the grace of a word of knowledge, to help us notice the suffering of another person so that we can help him or her right away: "Do not withhold any goods from the owner when it is in your power to act. Say not to your neighbor, 'Go, come back tomorrow, and I will give it to you,' when all the while you have it" (Proverbs 3:27-28). The main problem with the rich man in the Gospel is that he didn't even notice Lazarus sitting outside his home begging. That is one of the wonderful things about training in our Baptismal authority: it gives us the confidence in the

Lord Jesus, so that we can pray with others in their need right then and there, without having to face that uncomfortable feeling of "**Someone just asked me for help, and all I could give the person was a promise of future prayer later on. Couldn't I have prayed with that person for at least thirty seconds and helped facilitate Your mercy for that person here and now??**"

Please, please remember to invite others—and, for yourself, to pray about going—to Saint Therese Carmelite School's **Little Way Dinner and Benefit Auction** this coming **Friday evening, September 30**, at 5:30 p.m., at Almansor Court. It will be a lot of healthy Food, Faith, Fellowship and Fun—and you just might come away with the prize of an evening of bowling with Fathers David and Godfrey and the rest of us Carmelite Friars!! You never know...

Now, back to our series on the Transforming Power of the Sacraments (see box below) **-Fr. Thomas**

ABIDING PRESENCE: How Holy Communion Heals Wounds of Abandonment

(From Chapter Four of *Be Transformed: The Healing Power of the Sacraments* by Bob Schuchts) | **6th installment**

When I consider what may have contributed to the vibrancy of the early Church communities, many things come to mind. I think about how the apostles heard Jesus personally proclaim, "My Flesh is true food, and my Blood is true drink" (John 6:55). They were confronted right then with His literal meaning of those words as He challenged them to leave if they didn't believe His teaching. Later, I envision them celebrating the Passover meal before His bloody sacrifice on Calvary, watching Him closely as He took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body." I wonder what they felt when they received the Cup from Jesus' own hands and heard Him speak these words: "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:26-28).

It surely would take them several days before they would understand the meaning of these powerful words and gestures. Only after enduring the anguish of His passion and death, and then touching His resurrected Body with their own hands, could these words make sense. They surely would not treat His Body and Blood casually or with the kind of indifference many of us often do. Though most of them abandoned Jesus during His darkest hour, and also probably felt abandoned by God themselves during that entire nightmare, they heard His promise that He would never forsake them (John 14:18). Even if they didn't comprehend at first, they would eventually come to understand that Jesus was promising to be with them in the person of the Holy Spirit and, in a particular way, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion every time they gathered to remember His passion, death, and resurrection. When they "broke bread" in remembrance of His death and resurrection after Pentecost, these early disciples experienced the Risen Jesus. His abiding Presence filled their hearts and permeated their communities. Witnessing His resurrection power in their midst, healing and miracles abounded. By all evidence, these men, women, and children were "on fire" with the Holy Spirit. With their passionate zeal, they set the world around them ablaze with His love. Through them, people saw and experienced a living Jesus, not a faint memory of Him. Carrying His Divine Presence, they attracted thousands into the Church.

This can still be true today, as Jesus desires the Church, to be the primary place where we encounter His presence so we can, in turn, bring His love to the world around us. We can ask ourselves this question: **When will we meet Jesus? Only at the end? No! We meet Him every day.** But how? In prayer! When you pray, you meet Jesus. When you take Communion, you meet Jesus in the Sacrament. This meeting happens in prayer, when we go to Mass, and when we do good works.

(This excerpt will continue in next week's bulletin.)

THE DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS OF
SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH
request your presence at

**HURRY AND RSVP! IT'S
ONLY FIVE DAYS AWAY!**



The Little Way Dinner & Benefit Auction

benefitting the
Saint Therese Scholarship Fund

Friday, September 30, 2022

ALMANSOR COURT
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Tickets are \$130 each

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FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION.



Feast of St. Therese

The Feast of our Patroness,
St. Therese of the Child
Jesus and the Holy Face, is
on Saturday, October 1.



You are invited to join us in
honoring her that day at
the 5:00 p.m. Mass.
Following the Mass, there
will be a **POTLUCK** in the
Parish Hall. Please bring a
dish or a dessert to share!

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. THERESE

O Glorious St. Therese, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind, I implore your miraculous intercession. So powerful are you in obtaining every need of body and soul, that our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a prodigy of miracles, the greatest saint of modern times. I fervently pray to you to answer my petition and to fulfill your promise of spending Heaven doing good upon earth. Henceforth, dear Little Flower of Jesus, I will fulfill your plea "to be made known everywhere," and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus through you. Amen.

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.



September 17 / 18, 2022

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Unrestricted..... | \$10,766.00 |
| Restricted | \$ 865.00 |
| T O T A L..... | \$11,631.00 |

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| August 20 / 21 | \$21,238.00 |
| August 27 / 28 | \$12,357.00 |
| September 3 / 4..... | \$14,904.00 |
| September 10 / 11 | \$20,569.00 |

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

A Spiritual Bouquet to Our Lady of Fatima

The Five First Saturdays Devotion Continues



On October 1, the first Saturday in October, we will continue the Five First Saturdays Devotion here at St. Therese, so that more Spiritual Bouquet offerings can be made to honor Our Lady's request at Fatima.

This weekend, September 24 & 25, after all the Masses, there will be parishioners outside the church to provide the Spiritual Bouquet packet to all those interested; it includes an offering form and various devotional materials. For those who have completed the five consecutive First Saturdays, we encourage you to continue this devotion as a great spiritual practice; we can provide you a new offering form.

How to Make the Five First Saturdays Devotion:

This devotion, made on the First Saturday of FIVE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS, consists of:

- **Going to Confession,**
- Receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion,
- Saying five decades of the Rosary,
- Meditating for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary.

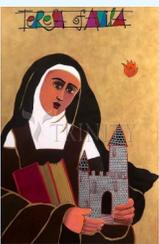
These are offered in **REPARATION** for the sins of blasphemy and ingratitude committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Confession: Make a good confession **within eight days prior to or after the first Saturday** with the intention of offering reparation for the offenses against Our Lady's Immaculate Heart (based on what the Child Jesus told Sister Lucia on

February 15, 1926). This allows a total window of 17 days—eight before, plus the First Saturday, and another eight after, to get to confession. Routine confession, at least monthly, helps us stay in a state of grace. As Fr. Garrigou-LaGrange points out in *Knowing the Love of God*, even venial sin blocks some of the graces available to us. Frequent confession keeps the pipeline open for more grace to help us grow spiritually.

At Fatima, Our Lady showed Hell to the three shepherd children, explaining, "You have seen Hell, where the souls of poor sinners go." The sublime love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary for God's mercy and justice makes us understand why she herself came to warn of the divine punishment if we did not stop offending God. We experience justice and mercy in Confession. When we confess our sins, we condemn ourselves in justice. The priest acknowledges the demands of justice by confirming the gravity of our sins and our guilt. At the same time, however, he extends mercy. With the words of absolution, he remits the punishment for our sins, so we no longer incur eternal damnation.

The **Four Requirements for a Valid Confession** are: 1) Contrition, i.e., real sorrow for sin; 2) A desire to amend one's life; 3) Telling the priests one's sins, especially all mortal sins, with the firm purpose of not sinning again; 4) Performing the penance that the priest assigns as penance.



Quiet Listening Prayer

From *THE WAY OF PERFECTION* by St. Teresa of Avila: Sometimes in this prayer of quiet the Lord grants another favor which is very difficult to understand if there is not a great deal of experience. But if there is some experience, the one who receives it will immediately understand. It will be a great consolation for you to know what it is, and I believe God often grants this favor, together with the other one. When this quiet is great and lasts for a long while, it seems to me that the will wouldn't be able to remain so long in that peace if it weren't bound to something. For it may happen that we will go about with this satisfaction for a day or two and will not understand ourselves—I mean those who experience it—and they definitely see that they are not wholly in what they are doing, but that the best part is lacking; that is, the will. The will, in my opinion, is then united with God, and leaves the other faculties free to be occupied for His service—and they then have much more ability for this. But in worldly matters, these faculties are dull and at times as though in a stupor" (Chapter 31, No. 4).

PROFESSIONAL CPA TO SPEAK



D o n n
Canzano, a certified professional accountant, as well as a former long-time member of St. Therese Church (who also served for many years on our Council), will give a talk at St. Therese

about tax-smart charitable contributions.

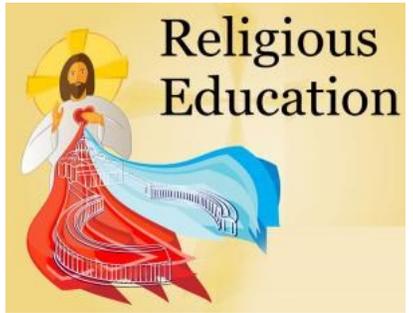
You can hear this u can hear this talk this **Wednesday, September 28—from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall,** including time for a Question and Answer session.

Donn tells us that using tax-smart ways to make contributions can help to bring in more donations for any cause. **Good planning can generate from twenty-five to fifty percent in savings to the taxpayer.** For instance, a donation of \$50,000 might only cost the donor \$25,000 to \$37,500. This would be a great way to enhance donations for our church or for Saint Therese Carmelite School. The savings will increase for persons with higher income who are in a position to make a substantial donation (\$25,000 or more). Donn says there are also special breaks for retirees and people with appreciated property, like stock or real estate.

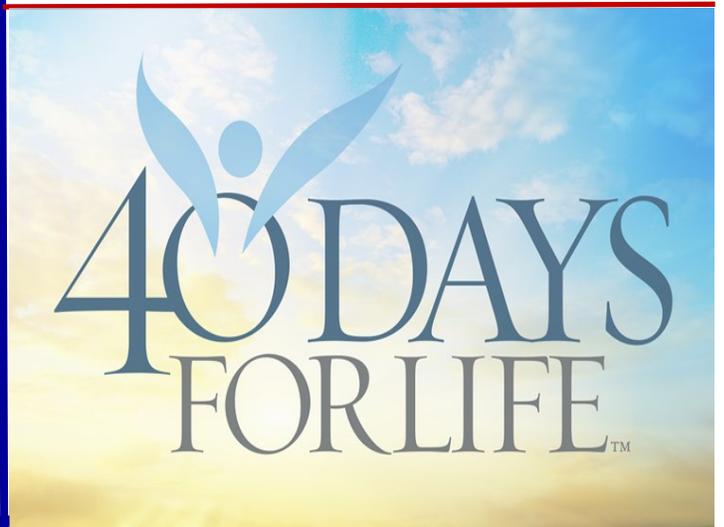
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Although the 2022-2023 Religious Education classes began this past week, it's not too late to register.

Go to our website and click on the link, "Rel. Educ." to download the appropriate form, as well as the schedule of classes dates and times. Then just fill it out and bring it to the office, along with the fee and a copy of each enrollee's Baptist certificate. Classes are held for grade school children, high school teens (Confirmation), and adults (RCIA and Adult Confirmation).



For more information, contact the coordinator, Florence Goh, at STCreligiousEd7@gmail.com.



GIVE AN HOUR IN DEFENSE OF LIFE!



Pasadena's Forty Days of Life will start their peaceful prayer and fasting vigil **THIS COMING Wednesday, September 28,** and continue until November 6. We ask that you try to spend some time with us at the Pasadena Planned Parenthood facility, while praying to end abortions there. Their busiest days for abortion are Tuesdays. If you are able, please join us anytime Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Let's pray that ALL abortions be stopped.

Pasadena 40 Days for Life:

**Vigil location: Pasadena Planned Parenthood
 1045 N Lake Avenue, Pasadena, California**

Vigil Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM—or on your own time

For questions, contact Rose Curiel at (323) 528-8094 or indigorose40daysforlife@gmail.com. Learn more at www.40daysforlife.com/pasadena

The Real St. Therese



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

In June of 1897, Thérèse described her trial thus: “When I want to rest my heart, wearied by the darkness which surrounds it, my torment doubles. It seems to me that the

darkness says mockingly to me: ‘You are dreaming about the light, about the eternal possession of the Creator of all these things; you believe that one day you will walk out of this fog which surrounds you. Dream on, dream on; rejoice in death which will give you not what you hope for, but a deeper night, the night of nothingness.’”

She preferred not to continue this description of the darkness that obscured her soul for, she said, “I fear I might blaspheme...”(ibid). We can never stress too much the place this trial had in the last months of Thérèse’s life. The great majority of the sisters remained unaware of this secret Passion. Even those who did know of it did not suspect its intensity. What a contrast there was between that girl who wrote such loving poetry and that abyss of darkness that made her contemporary with the atheists of her century. She was aware of this situation herself: “I may perhaps appear to you to be exaggerating my trial. In fact, if you go by the sentiments expressed in my little poems composed this year, I must appear to you as a soul filled with consolations and one for whom the veil of faith is almost torn aside. It is no longer a veil for me; it is a wall which reaches right up to the heavens and hides the starry firmament. When I sing of the happiness of Heaven, of the eternal possession of God, I feel no joy in this, for I sing simply what I WANT TO BELIEVE” (Ms C p.214).

We must understand clearly that Thérèse had been living in the tunnel fourteen months. She understood that it was a purification for herself and a means of redemption for “sinners.” We must try to imagine what it would have been like for her to suddenly find herself in darkness after the waves of light of the proceeding months. Who could help her when she did not dare express her thoughts fully? How could she still hope “to die of love” when she was like one thrust down into Hell? Where was her Beloved leading her? Had He deceived her? For the first time were her hopes going to be ridiculed? Thérèse would not ask herself these questions. She had not yet reached the age when she would see her trial “as a great grace.”

CONTINUES NEXT WEEK

For the Good of Others...

St. John of the Cross, in his book *The Ascent of Mount Carmel*, reaffirms the biblical teaching that God gives us spiritual gifts so that they may be used for the good of others. He describes two kinds of



benefits of the gifts: “The temporal benefit includes healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind, raising the dead, expelling devils, prophesying the future so people may be careful, and other similar things. The spiritual and eternal benefit is the knowledge and love of God caused by these works in those who perform them or in those in whom, or before whom, they are accomplished.”

At the same time, John cautions against using the gifts for any motives other than the glory of “God and the good of souls.” Our deepest concern, he says, “must be whether the people we minister to are being converted to Christ and drawn to deeper union with Him.” In giving these warnings, John is echoing St. Paul’s teaching in Scripture that the gifts have absolutely no value apart from love (1 Corinthians 13).

So, is it dangerous to seek the gifts? Only if one is doing so for hidden motives of pride or personal gain. It is indeed possible to use the charisms and yet not be in right relationship with God. Jesus warned that on the last day, “Many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from you, you workers of lawlessness’” (Matthew 7:22-23).

On the other hand, because God gives the gifts so we can be conduits of His love for others, to choose not to seek the gifts can be a failure of love. St. Paul exhorts us, “Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts” (1 Corinthians 14:1).

What gifts are available to Christians today? From its inception, the Protestant movement was suspicious of some of the gifts. The Lutherans and Calvinists believed that certain gifts had ceased, those being gifts of healings, working of miracles, tongues, and interpretation of tongues. Prophecy was for all intents and purposes also denied, in that it was reinterpreted to mean simply preaching. This was the predominant Protestant view from 1517 until the birth of the Pentecostal movement in 1901.

The above is taken from *The Spiritual Handbook*—
which is available for sale in the office.

Mass Intentions

September 24 to October 1, 2022

Saturday Evening:

5:00 p.m.: Virginia Hirst-Ireland, INT

Sunday:

*7:30 a.m.: George Rossy, Birthday INT

7:30 a.m.: Parishioners

9:00 a.m.: Ralph & Carmen Cardoza, RIP

11:00 a.m.: Mary Yong Yik Oye and
Yong King Geang RIP

1:00 p.m.: Guy Loya, RIP

5:00 p.m.: Miriam Motta, Birthday INT

Monday:

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

*7:30 a.m.: Fr. James Zakowicz, OCD, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Sean Cox, Birthday Intention

7:00 p.m.: Fr. James Zakowicz, OCD, RIP

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Danilo P. Buenavente, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Teresa Tran Duc Nga, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Bishop Timothy Fryer, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Juana Soliz Hernandez, RIP

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Diana Tharp, RIP

*7:30 a.m.: Marita E. Alfonso, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Brigit Grimm, 23rd Birthday INT

7:00 p.m.: Juana Soliz Hernandez, RIP

Thursday:

6:00 a.m.: Roberto Martinez, Birthday INT

*7:30 a.m.: Dec'd Religious, Relatives, and
Benefactors of the Discalced Carmelite Order

8:00 a.m.: Patricia Fryer, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Juana Soliz Hernandez, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Christina Pasinato, Birthday INT

*7:30 a.m.: Ane Nguyen Kim Tinh, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Luis Motta, Jr., Birthday INT

Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Mother Brenda Marie, OCD, INT

***Held at the Cloistered
Carmelite Chapel**

**The Carmel Chapel is open to the
public every day except Sundays.**

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

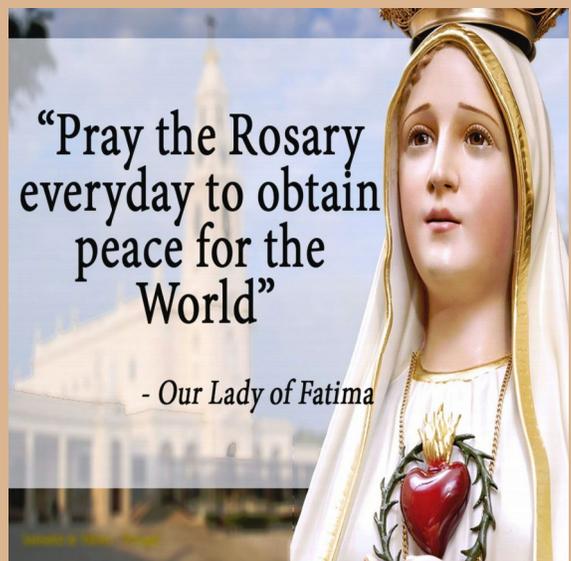
The 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday), the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, and the 7:00 p.m. weekday Masses are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube (for those unable to attend due to illness, etc.). Links to those two sites are on our website's home page (in the top left column).

Outside the Parish

Want to keep the romance alive? The Worldwide Marriage Encounter experience is for married couples to reconnect privately. The experience allows you to create a dialogue with each other and with God, to create a higher and broader understanding of what it means to be married. The next Encounter will be October 14-16 at Mater Dolorosa in Sierra Madre. To register, contact Cameron & Barbara Troxell at (909) 938-2682 and leave a message. For more info, go to www.SacramentalLove.com.

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 to the Marian Shrines of Wisconsin on October 5-12. **NEW RATE:** \$2,995 (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. Add \$450 for single room occupancy. For details, call Louisa & Jack Day at (323) 360-5186 or (323) 403-8768



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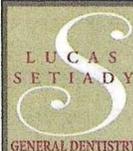
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