

St. Therese Catholic Church

December 25, 2022 Ministered by the Discalced Carmelite Friars Est. 1924

510 North El Molino Street | Alhambra CA 91801 | (626) 282-2744 | www.StThereseChurchAlhambra.org

And the
Word
Became
Flesh...



MASSES | CONFESSIONS

Masses: Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. & Vigil at 5:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

And Traditional Latin High Mass at 1:00 p.m.

Monday-Friday Masses: 6:00 and 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

(Tuesday's evening Mass is in Spanish). Note: the daily 8:00

a.m., the 7:00 p.m. MONDAY evening, and the Sunday

11:00 a.m., Masses are all **LIVE STREAMED**

on Facebook AND YouTube)

Rosary: Mon-Sat after 8:00 a.m. Mass

CONFESSIONS (OUTSIDE)-Wednesdays from 8:00

to 9:00 p.m.; Saturdays from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

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

OFFICE HOURS | CONTACTS

Monday – Friday: 9:00 am-1:00 pm; 2:00 pm-5:00 pm

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Koller, OCD X222

Associate Pastor: Fr. David Guzman, OCD X232

In Residence: Fr. Albert Bunsic, OCD, Bro. Jason Parrott,

OCD; and Fr. Godfrey Chandya, OCD

Deacons: Dcn Joseph Mizerski | Dcn Gilbert Vargas X333;

Annulments: Deacon Gilbert Vargas X333

Vocations: For the Archdiocese: (213) 637-7515

For the Carmelites: www.discalcedcarmelitefriars.com

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 XI12

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

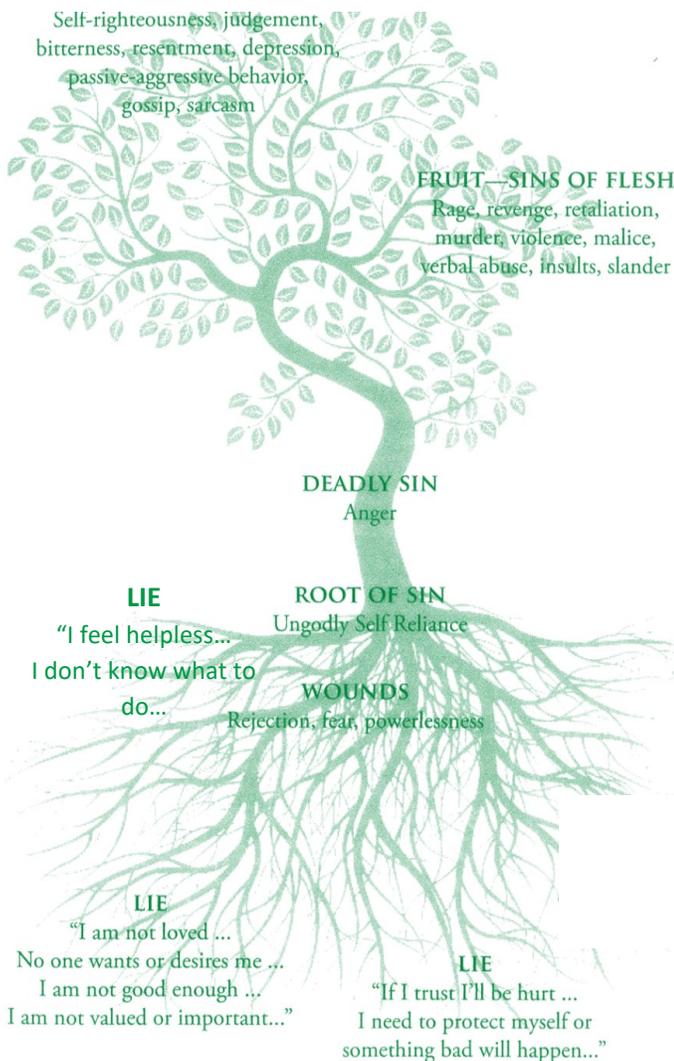
A Letter from the Pastor

Mary Christ-Mass, and yes, Merry Christmas, one and all!!!

Can you believe it? The Second Person of the Triune God Who is from and for ALL ETERNITY entered our world 2000 years ago and became fully one of us while always remaining fully Himself??? And He hasn't left us since—even if He went from visible to invisible!! The Scandal of the Incarnation... Hopefully, none of us will EVER get tired of being in AWE of this Mystery. But, as I remember every year, this "most wonderful time of the year" is not very wonderful if Advent hasn't helped us get in touch with our constant need for a Savior—Jesus!—to save us/me!/you! from our sins and wounds! In case you need help with that (I sure do!), below and on the next page are some images/info that can help.

And remember... besides the other ways that Our Savior Jesus likes to heal (e.g. Confession, Mass, Adoration, the Rosary, etc.) we also have available at St. Therese healing prayer ministry teams every Thursday and First Friday after the evening Mass (around 8:15 p.m.) for anyone who wants help inviting the Lord Jesus into his/her sin/wounds. He really is here and wants to heal/help each of us much, much more than we could ever imagine. Recently, someone asked for healing from a backache, and then received a memory around some inner pain from family relationships, and Jesus revealed Himself in the middle of that pain and the person received more of Jesus' Peace. (And Jesus said that He is also working on the backache... 😊). Fraternally in Jesus and Mary and Joseph, —Fr. Thomas

THE FRUIT & THE SINS OF THE FLESH



SEVEN DEADLY WOUNDS

ONE: Wounds are strongholds of mind and emotion based in IDENTITY LIES. "More often than not, the emotional pain we feel in the present tense has been triggered by lie-based thinking, which is rooted in memory. Lie-based thinking is the false belief one holds in memory that is learned during a specific life event." (Dr. Ed Smith, Healing Life's Hurts).

TWO: Seven deadly wounds are each a personal taste of Hell. Hell is the experience of complete separation from God. The seven deadly wounds are tastes of Hell. They are reflections of experience where we are disconnected from God. Each of the wounds has an "identity distortion" or lie associated with it. Each of these "identity lies" is true of the demons who speak them, but they are not true of us in Christ. Yet these lies often get planted in our hearts as young children through our misinterpretation of painful events.

THREE: Seven deadly wounds are interrelated with the seven deadly sins. Sin not only causes wounds; it also grows out of wounds. Remember... Jesus said, "woe to those who caused these little ones to sin" by wounding them (Matt. 18). We often sin as a way of trying to escape the suffering caused by the wound. We need to examine the area of sin pattern and see beyond the sin to the wound that is giving power to the sin.

Merry Christmas to Our Parishioners and Visitors!



May Christmas this year be a reminder to you of how much God loves you. May the holy day of our Lord's birth be a beautiful day of grace for you and your family, for the Lord came to make you His very own and gave His life FOR you and TO you! God love and bless you always!



—The Clergy and Staff of St. Therese Parish—

See Fr. Thomas' letter (Page Two) for an explanation of the info below.

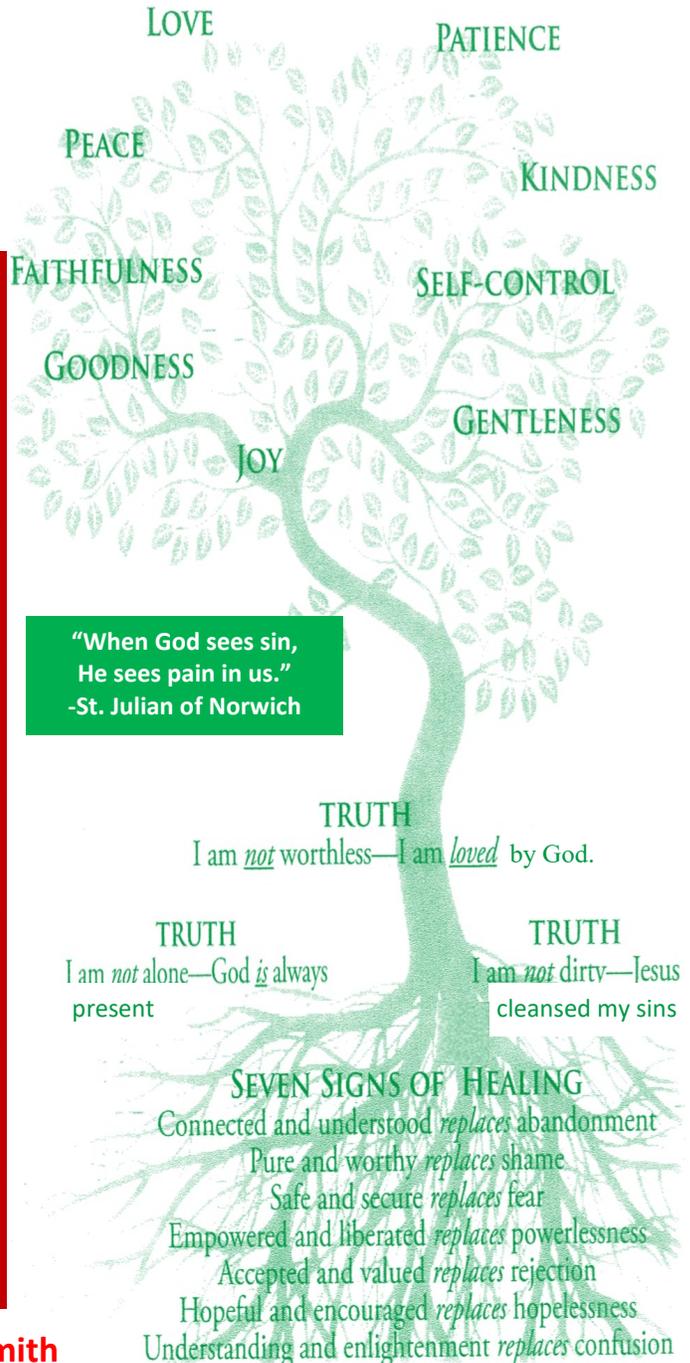
INNER VOWS

Promises we make to ourselves out of fear, wounds, or judgments. "I will never be like my mother, father, brother, abuser..."
"I will not trust or be vulnerable."

BELIEFS

Lies: What we believe about ourselves.
Judgments: What we believe about others.

SIGNS OF HEALING AND THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



"When God sees sin, He sees pain in us."
-St. Julian of Norwich

* SIN	WOUNDS	HOW THEY DISTORT IDENTITY
Pride	Abandonment	"I am all alone. No one understands me."
Envy	Shame	"I am bad, dirty, perverted... it's my fault."
Gluttony	Fear	"If I trust, speak, confront, I will be hurt or die."
Lust	Powerlessness	"I feel overwhelmed... I don't know what to do."
Anger	Rejection	"I am not loved or wanted... I have no value."
Greed	Hopelessness	"It's never going to change... there is no hope."
Sloth	Confusion	"I don't know what is happening to me."

* From *Beyond Tolerable Recovery* by Dr. Ed Smith

New Year's Schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Wed., December 28: 8:00 p.m. & Sat., Dec. 31, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Eve Vigil Mass, Saturday, December 31, for the Feast of Mary, Mother of God: 5:00 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Sunday, January 1: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. Latin High Mass, and 5:00 p.m.



Psalms for Christmas Masses

December 24 & 25 2022

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses (5:00 and 7:30 p.m.)

Psalm 89 (88):4-5, 16-17, 27, 29



I will sing the good-nes of the Lord__ for ev - er.

Christmas Eve "Midnight" Mass (10:30 p.m.)

Psalm 96 (95):1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13



To-day_ is born our_ Sav - ior,__ Christ the Lord.

Christmas Day Masses (9:00 and 11:00 a.m.)

Psalm 98 (97):1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6



All__ the ends__ of the earth__ have



seen the sal - va - tion by__ our God.

World Youth Day 2023

Calling all young adults 18-35! Join fellow young adults and Pope Francis for a pilgrimage to Portugal for World Youth Day from July 30 to August 8, 2023.

We're also visiting Fatima and the Eucharistic

Miracle of Santarem. Cost will be

approximately \$4,145 per person (includes

roundtrip airfare, hotel, transportation,

and more). To register or for more

information, contact Amy Rodriguez at

amyrodriguez01@gmail.com. To receive text or

email updates, text "WYD2023" to 84576.



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.



Due to the Christmas holidays, this bulletin was prepared early. The totals for the weekend of Dec. 17/18 will be posted in the bulletin of January 8, 2023.

November 19 / 20\$13,076.00
 November 26 / 27\$16,977.00
 December 3 / 4 \$33,466.00
 December 10 / 11\$22,294.00

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Saint Therese Carmelite School

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Who is served by the classical curriculum? -Leigh Lowe, Memoria Press speaker and classical curriculum consultant

Everyone. Every person is worthy of and can benefit from a classical education. A well-planned curriculum is one that prioritizes for students not simply knowledge, but wisdom, and affords not only content, but character. The Memoria Press curriculum consistently reflects a classical, Christian, traditional identity and successfully serves homeschools, cottage schools, Christian schools, charter schools, students with special needs, and adults.

Merry Christmas

May all the days of all the years

That God has still in store

Be filled with every joy and grace

To bless you more and more.

May hope of heart and peace of mind

Beside you ever stay

And that's the golden wish I have

For you, this Christmas Day!



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The Real St. Therese



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

From about June 10, 1897, until the beginning of July, Therese's condition remained stable. She wrote her memoirs out of obedience—not without difficulty, for she was always being interrupted, especially when she was outside.

Beneath the shade of the chestnut trees, Therese tried to concentrate—in vain. Humorously, she relates her adventures: ***“In order for me to express my thoughts, I have to be like the solitary sparrow, and that is rarely my lot. When I begin to take up my pen, behold, a sister passes by, pitchfork on her shoulder, believing she will distract me with a little idle chatter; but this doesn't last long, for all of a sudden another sister, working in the hay, throws flowers on my lap, perhaps believing these will inspire me with poetic thoughts. I am not looking for any at the moment and would prefer to see the flowers swaying on their stems. Finally, I open a book and say resolutely that I shall copy out some thoughts from the Psalms and the Gospels for the feast of Our Mother. It's true that I am not sparing in these quotes. Dear sister, I would amuse you, I believe, when telling you about all my adventures in the groves of Carmel. I don't know if I have been able to write ten lines without being disturbed, etc.”***

What a delightful scene! A nun, looking well, sitting out in the sun, writing to her sister to keep herself busy while the other nuns toss hay in the nearby little field. Who would have thought that she was suffering from a fatal illness? Her coughing could be heard, that was true, but who knew about the pains in her side which came and went, or that increasing weakness which she hid behind a smile? She alone knew, since June 9, that she was going to die. On that day, she wrote to Abbe Belliere: ***“I am taking advantage of a moment when the infirmarian is out of the room to write you a short word of farewell. When you get it, I shall have come to the end of my exile . . . Oh! My Brother, how glad I am to die!”***

She also bade farewell to her sisters. She gave them a memento card on which she had copied out some of Theophane Venard's last words before his martyrdom. On Pentecost Monday, June 7, she let Sister Genevieve photograph her in three different poses. The photographer thought she looked too sad in the first one, she moved during the second and, while the third was being taken, the gardener, working nearby, heard her beg her sister: ***“Oh! Please hurry up; I'm exhausted!”*** The final result was hardly any better: ***“When the novices saw it, they cried that I had put on my grand look. It seems that I am ordinarily more smiling.”***

From Chapter Seven of "Be Transformed: The Healing Power of the Sacraments" by Bob Schuchts (How Holy Matrimony Heals Wounds of Fear) 2nd Installment

The problem with the wounds of fear goes all the way back to the fall of mankind, when Adam and Eve



broke their covenant with God and subsequently invited seeds of division, mistrust, and infidelity into all human relationships. Since then, every relationship that is not formed and sustained by God's Spirit eventually becomes unfaithful to one degree or another. This is most damaging in marriage because God intended the marital covenant to be the place where His faithful love would be on display for all to see and experience.

The faces of unfaithfulness are many. Divorce and adultery represent major breaches in marital fidelity, but they are not the only ones. Belittling one's spouse or family members with words or actions is a form of unfaithfulness. Withholding love is unfaithfulness. Judging one another is unfaithfulness. Looking at pornography is unfaithfulness. Holding grudges and failing to forgive is unfaithfulness. Gossiping about one's spouse to friends and relatives is unfaithfulness. None of these infidelities, no matter how large or small, allows Jesus' love to permeate the marriage relationship. Instead, they serve to spread fear and mistrust, permeating through the family like a deadly cancer.

As spouses and children internalize these hurtful interactions, a pervasive sense of insecurity settles into each of their souls, leaving wounds that could last a lifetime if not healed. Moreover, when the bonds of love between a husband and wife are completely broken, their own hearts and the hearts of their children likewise become violently ripped apart in the process (Malachi 2:16). At times like this, when the marital bond of love is torn asunder, fear and mistrust often become strongholds in each person's heart.

Both of the above book excerpts will continue to be published each week.

Mass Intentions

Quiet Listening Prayer

December 24—December 31, 2022

Christmas Eve:

5:00 p.m.: Christina Torres, Birthday INT

*6:00 p.m.: Pacifico & Flaviana Lim, RIP

7:30 p.m.: Lopez CiFuentes Family, INT

10:30 p.m.: Thompson Family, INT

Christmas Day:

7:30 am: Goh & Cheah Families, INT

9:00 a.m.: All Souls in Purgatory

*9:30 am(Carmel): Maria Thanh Binh & Family, INT

11:00 a.m.: Mary DeSantis, RIP

1:00 p.m.: Arenas Ortega Family, INT

Monday:

6:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena 1

*7:30 am: The Jang Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Th'gvg for God's Creation & Mercy

7:00 p.m.: Clyde Sookhan, Birthday INT

Tuesday:

6:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena 2

*7:30 am: Deceased Religious, Relatives, and Benefactors of the Carmelite Order, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Mary Rose Go & Patrick Rosal, INT

7:00 p.m.: Fr. Philip Sullivan, OCD, INT

Wednesday:

6:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena 3

*7:30 a.m.: Thanksgiving for Mission San Gabriel

8:00 am: Ray & Nicole Tittmann, 25th Anniv INT

7:00 p.m.: Unborn Babies and their Families, INT

Thursday:

6:00 am: Christmas Novena 4

*7:30 am: Maria Hai Nguyen Dang, RIP

8:00 a.m.: Linda Kay Hesse, RIP

7:00 p.m.: Louise Jamila Sunga, RIP

Friday:

6:00 a.m.: Goh & Cheah Families, INT

*7:30 am: Maria Bich & Family, INT

8:00 a.m.: Christmas Novena 5

7:00 p.m.: Carmencita Masur, RIP

Saturday Morning:

*7:30 a.m.: Carmelite Community

8:00 a.m.: Lopez CiFuentes Family, INT

*Held at the Cloistered Carmelite Chapel. The Carmel's Chapel is open to the public every day except Sundays/major holidays.

LIVE STREAMED MASSES:

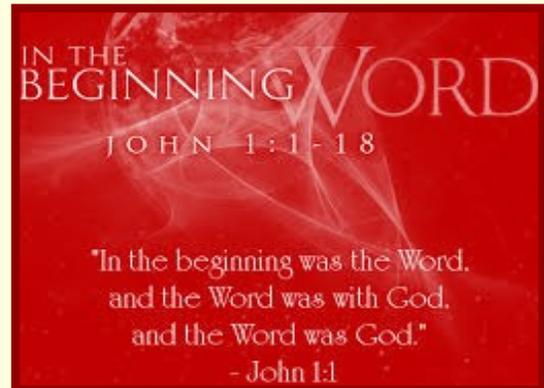
The 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (Monday—Saturday), the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, and the 7:00 p.m. Monday evening Mass are live streamed on Facebook AND YouTube. The Christmas Eve 10:30 p.m. and the Christmas Day 11 a.m. Mass will be livestreamed. (Links to YouTube|Facebook on website home page.)

WORDS TO

MEDITATE UPON:

"The Father spoke one Word, which was His Son, and this Word He always speaks in eternal silence, and in silence must It be heard by the soul. The language God understands best is silent love."

—St. John of the Cross



Personal Ads

ROOMS FOR RENT IN HOUSE: Shared bath, kitchen privileges. TEXT Miriam at (626) 590-0768 for details.

Funerals

You are invited to attend the funeral services for the following persons:

+ Marie Ryan (wife of Phil Ryan)

The funeral Mass will be here at **St. Therese Church** on **Saturday, January 7, at 10:30 a.m.**, followed by a reception at **Almansor Court**

+ Joanne Hawkins (wife of the late Jim Hawkins)

The funeral Mass will be held at **Our Lady Queen of Angels Church, Newport Beach, this Wednesday, December 28, at 10:00 a.m.**

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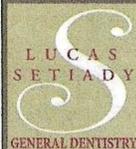
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