



# CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Thank you to all who chose names from our tree! If you have not done so already, **please wrap the gifts, place the tag on them, and return them to church on or before December 13.** If you have not yet brought your gift to church, you may bring it to the Parish Office by 5pm on Tuesday.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

## AID FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

This year our Parish Council is adding envelopes to the tree. If you wish to make a donation to refugee families—mothers, fathers, and children—please put a check in the envelope made out to St. Teresa of Avila. All funds received will go to the refugees c/o Parishes Organized to Welcome Refugees (POWR). All donations are tax-deductible.

## ADVENT MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Fridays 8:30am  
*Christmas Eve*  
Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
4:15 Family Mass  
9:00 pm (Choir); Caroling @ 8:30pm  
*Christmas Day*  
Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
8:30am & 10:00am  
Caroling Prior to 10:00am Mass

Parking will be available in the ACTCM lot, enter on Connecticut (between 19 & 20 Sts.)

The **DONATION ENVELOPES** for those already enrolled in this program are available for pick-up in the back of the church. Contact the Parish Office if you would like envelopes.

### YOU'RE INVITED!!

December 13th is the Third Sunday of Advent, *Gaudate Sunday*. *Gaudate* means "Rejoice!", and it marks the half-way point of Advent. After the 8:30 am & 10 am Masses we invite you to the Parish Hall to "rejoice" with a breakfast of sausage, eggs, and pancakes. (vegetarian/vegan options available)

We promise plenty of food and fellowship, please join us.

**Parking will be available in the ACTCM lot, enter on Connecticut (between 19 & 20 Sts.)**

Recently a short video about the Sanctuary Movement was filmed in our church. To view, please visit <https://vimeo.com/146736382>

Due to the holidays and our Parish Secretary taking vacation time, the Parish Office will be closed December 17 — December 29

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

We are in need of Liturgical Ministers for the 4:15 & 9:00 pm Christmas Eve Masses and for the 8:30 & 10:00 am Masses on Christmas Day. There are sign-up sheets in the back of the church.

### ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

*Since the market tends to promote extreme consumerism in an effort to sell its products, people can easily get caught up in a whirlwind of needless buying and spending. ... We have too many means and only a few insubstantial ends.*

(from the Papal Encyclical, *Laudato Si*, ¶203)

# WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH

SERVED BY THE CARMELITES

## DECEMBER 13, 2015 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



1490 19TH STREET (CHURCH)  
LOCATED ON THE NE CORNER OF 19TH & CONNECTICUT STREETS

**PASTOR**  
Rev. Michael A. Greenwell, O. Carm.  
PastorStTeresaSF@aol.com

**PAROCHIAL VICAR**  
Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.  
mkwiecien@carmelnet.org

**DEACON**  
Rev. Mr. Charles Allen, Jr.  
chuck@stteresasf.org  
Rev. Mr. Martin Schurr  
svdpms@yahoo.com

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**  
Laura Diaz-Flaviani  
lflaviani@pacbell.net

**DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION**  
Anarose Schelstrate  
anarose0707@gmail.com

**PARISH SECRETARY**  
Stephani Sheehan  
stephani@stteresasf.org

**OFFICE HOURS**  
10:00am to 12:30pm  
1:00pm to 4:30pm

**Website: stteresasf.org**

**SUNDAY MASSES**  
Saturday Vigil 4:15 pm  
Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 am

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
Tuesday 8:30 am  
Friday 8:30 am

**MARRIAGE**  
Please call six months in advance.

**BAPTISM & SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
Please call the Parish Office for an appointment.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL**  
Jim Schelstrate Steve Miller  
David Paquette Ron Labuguen  
Tricia Lawrence Judy Warnock

**PARISH OFFICE / MAILING ADDRESS**  
390 Missouri St  
San Francisco, CA 94107  
Phone: 415.285.5272  
Fax: 415.285.8510  
E-mail: info@stteresasf.org

### ST. TERESA'S MISSION STATEMENT

*As members of St. Teresa's Parish we fulfill our baptismal commitment by being the hands and heart of Christ in our world. We achieve this commitment by accepting the human dignity of all persons, and by advocating for and serving those oppressed in our society. The community of St. Teresa's finds its strength to fulfill this through participation in the Eucharist, prayer, learning the building of relationships, and action for Justice.*

## Parish Calendar

- Sun, Dec 13 - No Faith Formation  
 - Pancake Breakfast, 9:45am  
 Mon, Dec 14 - AA Meeting, 6:30pm, Avila  
 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm  
 Tue, Dec 15 - SVdP Sandwich Tuesday  
 9:00am, Parish Kitchen  
 - SVdP Grocery Distribution  
 1:00pm, Hall  
 Sat, Dec 19 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Church Hall  
 Sun, Dec 20 - Faith Formation, 9:00am, Hall

### MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together  
 we include in our prayers:

- Saturday, December 12**  
 4:15pm † Maria & Giuseppe Molinari  
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)
- Sunday, December 13**  
 8:30am The People of the Parish  
 10:00am † Vincent Cocciolone
- Tuesday, December 15**  
 8:30am † Lena Ferrando
- Friday, December 18**  
 8:30am Bob Rose (Spec. Int.)
- Saturday, December 19**  
 4:15pm The Sick & Troubled Seeking  
Frederic Ozanam's Divine intercession  
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)
- Sunday, December 20**  
 8:30am The People of the Parish  
 10:00am † James & Louise Holden

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

**December 12 & 13**

Aging religious need your help. In the United States today, there are more than 33,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. These religious worked tirelessly in Catholic schools, hospitals, and agencies, usually for little to no pay. As a result, many religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more.

**December 19 & 20**

There is no second collection next weekend.

## WEEKEND FIRST COLLECTION

**DECEMBER 5 & 6**

**\$1,814**

**THANK YOU!**

### Ministers Schedule for Next Week December 19 & 20

<b>4:15 PM</b>		<b>10:00 AM</b>
Lector: T. Jackson		1 Lector: D. Churton
Bread: J. Daddio		2 Lector: T. Labuguen
Cup: A. Rose		1 Bread: S. Miller
Hosp: L. Lechich		2 Bread: K. Schelstrate
		3 Bread: M.K. Law
<b>8:30 AM</b>		1 Cup: C. Allen
Lector: R. O'Connor		2 Cup: G. McGrath
Bread: D. Paquette		Hosp: K. Varandas
Cup: R. Kingman		L. Mastrangelo
Hosp: T. Lando		

## Welcome to St. Teresa's Parish Community

We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you here celebrating with us. Whether long-time residents or newly arrived in our parish, we thank God that you are with us. If you are not registered or have changes to your registration, please fill in the form below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- New Parishioner       New Address       New Phone  
 Send Sunday envelopes       Send Monthly Donor Form       Moving—remove from mailing list

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GAUDETE SUNDAY

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! Indeed the Lord is near.*

– Phil 4:4, 5 (the Introit for Gaudete Sunday)

*Gaudete* is the Latin word for *rejoice*, and the Third Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete Sunday*. Today marks the approximate half-way point in the Season of Advent, and there are subtle differences in today's liturgy. In the tradition of the Church, the organ and flowers – normally not used during the Advent Season and reserved until Christmas Eve – are employed, and optional rose-colored vestments may be worn in lieu of the familiar Advent purple. Rose is the color of the third candle in the Advent wreath, and the hymn, *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*, is most appropriate for today's liturgical celebration. Why does the Church do this?

Originally, the season of Advent paralleled the season of Lent, beginning as a 40-day preparation for the feast of Christmas. At that time Advent – like Lent – was a penitential season, which began in about mid-November and lasted six weeks. Over time, the Advent season was reduced to from six weeks to four, but – more importantly – the *tone* of the season changed. Whereas Lent was a penitential season that focused on prayer, penance, almsgiving, and fasting, Advent developed into a season of longing, both for the anticipated second coming of Christ at the end of time and the commemoration of his first coming at Christmas.

You may have noticed that the Advent season (and, for that matter, the liturgical year) is “out of sync” with the rest of the world. In the real world, New Year's is celebrated on January 1<sup>st</sup>; in the Church, the new year begins with the First Sunday of Advent (which this year fell on the evening of November 28<sup>th</sup>). The real world “quasi-officially” begins its Christmas season with Macy's Thanksgiving Parade and “Black Friday”; the Church does not officially begin her Christmas celebration until Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>. The real world looks at things in chronological order; the Church juxtaposes that order when, on the First Sunday of Advent, the Gospel focuses on the *second* coming of Christ. Three weeks later, the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent shifts to the *first* coming of Jesus, and we begin to tell the Christmas story on that Sunday, several days before the actual celebration of his birth on December 25<sup>th</sup>.

This weekend – the Third Sunday of Advent – marks that chronological shift from the second coming to the first. For the first two weeks of Advent, the liturgy focused on the future, second coming of Christ; in this the third week we shift our focus to the upcoming feast of Christmas. Today's readings point to the imminent birth of Jesus, and next week – on the Fourth Sunday of Advent – the Gospel reading actually serves as a prelude to the Christmas Story. This shift in focus from Christ's second coming to the first is symbolized by the shift in color, music, and tone that we experience on this day.

The spirit of *Gaudete Sunday* is readily apparent in the opening lines in today's first two readings:

**Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!  
 Sing joyfully, O Israel!  
 Be glad and exult with all your heart,  
 O daughter Jerusalem!**

– Zep 3:14

***Rejoice in the Lord always!  
 I say it again. Rejoice!  
 The Lord himself is near.***

– Phil 4:4

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.