

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th

8:30am Mass

4:15 Family Mass

9:00 pm Choir Mass, Caroling Prior

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th

8:30am

10:00 am, Caroling Prior

**PARKING FOR ALL
CHRISTMAS EVE &
CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE
ACTCM PARKING LOT.**

**ENTER ON CONNECTICUT STREET
BETWEEN 19TH & 20TH STREETS.**

**We still need Liturgical Ministers for
all Christmas Eve & Christmas Day
Masses. There are sign-up sheets in
the back of the church.**

Due to the holidays and our Parish
Secretary taking vacation time,
the Parish Office will be closed
December 23—January 1
January 6 & 7



ADVENT SOCK DRIVE

This is the last weekend to drop
off socks for Sr. Katie! Socks
must be **NEW WHITE** cotton
men's socks, crew or tube style.

Your Pastors, Rev. Michael A.
Greenwell, O. Carm and
Fr. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.,
along with the Pastoral staff,
Anarose, Laura, Stephani and
Deacon Chuck, want to take this
opportunity to wish you all a
Very Merry, Happy and
Blessed Christmas!

THANK YOU . . .

To Fr. Kwiecien and Anarose
Schelstrate for organizing the
wonderful parish breakfast last
Sunday. A thank you also to the
Social Committee for their lovely
decorations. And we want to send
a Special Thank You to our won-
derful parishioner who anony-
mously donated most of the food
served!



THANK YOU!

A big thank you to
all who donated
so generously to
the kids on the
Giving Tree. You
brightened the
Christmas of 115
children this sea-
son.

Thanks also to the elves – who worked
to make this happen so smoothly:
Shirley and Vince for tracking the gifts,
Mary Katherine and Judi for helping or-
ganize the day of delivery; and particu-
larly to new parishioners Jeff and Sandra
who were the sleigh delivering the gifts.

WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH

SERVED BY THE CARMELITES

DECEMBER 22, 2013
FOURTH 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

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

Please visit our 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 Judy Warnock
Steve Miller Ron Labuguen
David Paquette Doug Aikins

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 22 - Religious Education
9:00am, Parish Hall
Mon, Dec 23 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm
Tue, Dec 24 - SVdP Sandwich Tuesday
9:00am, Parish Kitchen
- Mass, 4:15pm & 9:00pm
Wed, Dec 25 - Mass, 8:30am & 10:00am
Sat, Dec 28 - AA Meeting
7:00pm, Sammon
Sun, Dec 29 - No Religious Education

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together
we include in our prayers:

Saturday, Dec 21

4:15pm + Anita Sorokolit
Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, Dec 22

8:30am + Michele Foss, Ray Cooke, Paul
Beaumont

10:00am + Dan Sullivan

Tuesday, Dec 24

8:30am + Ruben Madrid
4:15pm Intention of the Presider
9:00pm The People of the Parish

Wednesday, Dec 25

8:30am Virginia Ferreras (Spec. Int.)
10:00am Intention of the Presider

Friday, Dec 27

8:30am + James J. Burns, Jr.

Saturday, Dec 28

4:15pm The Sick of the Parish
Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, Dec 29

8:30am The Deceased of the Parish
10:00am The People of the Parish

SECOND COLLECTION

December 21 & 22

There will be no second collection this week-end.

December 28 & 29

The second collection next weekend benefits the St. Teresa Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

December 14 & 15

\$1,365

THANK YOU!

AAA UPDATE

As we approach the end of the year, could you please take a moment to complete any outstanding pledge you have made to our Parish's AAA Drive? Remember, any monies in excess of our assessment are returned to the parish.

Ministers Schedule for Next Week December 28 & 29

4:15 PM

Lector: D.B. Aikins
Bread: E. Perea
Cup: B. Noelke
Hosp: R. Jones
M. Perea

10:00 AM

1 Lector: E. Koh
2 Lector: D. Aikins
1 Bread: C. Arett
2 Bread: J. Warnock
3 Bread: T. Mana

8:30 AM

Lector: G. Foss
Bread: L. Foss
Cup: Volunteer
Hosp: J. Propster

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: MATTHEW'S FOCUS ON JOSEPH

Whether we are in Year A, B, or C, the pattern for the Gospel readings for the Sundays in Advent is always the same. The first Sunday of Advent – which marks the beginning of the liturgical year – speaks, ironically, not about the beginning of Salvation History with the Birth of Christ but about the end of Salvation History with Christ's Second Coming. The second and third Sundays of Advent center on John the Baptist, and it is on this Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of advent, that we begin the Christmas Story.

The Gospel on the Fourth Sunday of Advent serves as a prologue to the Christmas story, in years B and C, the Gospel is taken from Luke. Two years ago we read the account of the Annunciation, and last year we read about the Visitation. In both of these accounts the focus was on Mary, the first being her interaction with the Angel Gabriel and the second involving a visit to her kinswoman, Elizabeth.

However, this year – in Cycle A – Matthew's focus is not on Mary but on Joseph. In the Gospel of Matthew no mention is made of either Mary's encounter with the Angel Gabriel or Mary's interaction with her kinswoman, Elizabeth. The first half of Matthew's first chapter consists of a lengthy (and boring!) genealogy of Jesus in which the evangelist traces the ancestry of Jesus from Joseph through King David and, eventually, back to Abraham.

The second half of Matthew's first chapter speaks of the birth of Jesus, and it is quite a bit different from what we find in Luke. Matthew's text focuses on Joseph, and describes what happens when he discovers that Mary, his betrothed, was "found with child". Joseph plans to divorce her quietly, but he learns – in a dream – of how Jesus was conceived through the Holy Spirit. Upon waking, Joseph takes Mary into his home as his wife and, after she bore a son, he names the child "Jesus".

There are several fascinating dimensions of this story that are apparent only when we examine the Jewish culture of first century Judea. The Gospel text tells us that Mary and Joseph were betrothed, but that before they lived together she was found to be pregnant (Mt 1:18). Joseph plans to divorce her (Mt 1:19), and our 21st century question is this: How can Joseph divorce her if they were not married?

The mistake we make is assuming that *betrothal* is the ancient equivalent of our modern-day notion of *engagement*; it is not. Betrothal is far more serious. In the ancient world, betrothal was the first part of marriage constituting a man and woman as husband and wife. At some time during the period of betrothal the husband takes his wife into his home. Thus – in the ancient world of first-century Judea– no one would be surprised if a woman were to become pregnant during the period of betrothal. However, in this case Joseph knows that he is not the father of the child. Therefore, Mary's pregnancy is a source of scandal (infidelity) . . . which is why Joseph "decided to divorce her quietly". When Joseph learns, through a dream, the true story of what happened, he "took his wife into his home" and accepted Jesus as his child. In these actions, Joseph's act of faith is every bit as remarkable as Mary's consent to becoming the Mother of God.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

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