



Please join us in welcoming Emma Sophia Fernandez Yambao to our parish community. Emma, the daughter of Ryan & Irma, will be baptized by Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm. on Sunday, December 25th at the 10am Mass.

**PLEASE NOTE**  
The Parish Office will be closed Monday, December 26 through Monday, January 2, 2012. We will re-open at 10am on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**2011 AAA UPDATE**  
As of December 8:  
Assessed Amount: \$26,600  
Amount Received: \$17,171 (64.6%)  
Additional Pledged: \$ 300 (1.1%)  
Amount Needed: \$ 9,129 (34.3%)

The 2011 Appeal is ending December 31st. **This is a great opportunity to receive a tax deduction for next year's taxes.** Remember, any monies not raised will need to be paid from our general funds.

**ALL ARE INVITED . . .**  
to join with fellow parishioners in the Parish Hall after all Christmas Masses for fellowship and light refreshments. We will you all a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Please join with us in thanking the individual members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society for their generous, personal donation of the large revised Roman Missal for use by our parish.

**MINISTERS' SCHEDULES**  
The Liturgical Ministers' schedules were emailed on Friday. There are copies in the Sacristy and it is available on our website.

**ADVENT SOCK DRIVE**  
Sister Katie needs socks for her guests! The Circle of Light has begun its Advent Sock Drive. Socks must be **NEW** white cotton men's socks, crew or tube style. If you cannot get out and shop, you are welcome to donate to the purchase of socks. Please talk to Judi Daddio, Mary Katherine Law or Lynn Jacklevich. It's a little thing, a clean pair of socks, but it means so much.

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

**WE WELCOME YOU TO**  
**ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
SERVED BY THE CARMELITES

**DECEMBER 25, 2011**  
**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**




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

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

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

**DEACON**  
Rev. Mr. Charles Allen, Jr.  
chuck@stteresasf.org

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**  
Sr. Maureen O'Brien, BVM  
maureen@stteresasf.org

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

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

**OFFICE HOURS**  
9:30am to 12:30pm  
1:00pm to 5:00pm

**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 Briony Doyle  
Emmy Naranjo-Cabatic  
Steve Miller Ron Labuguen  
David Paquette Rick Pitts

**PARISH OFFICE**  
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**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 18 - Christmas Day, Masses at 8:30 & 10:00 am  
- No Good Shepherd  
- No Faith Formation  
Mon Dec 26-Mon Jan 2 - Parish Office Closed  
Mon, Dec 26 - Choir Practice, 7:00pm, Church  
Tues, Dec 27 - SVdP Sandwich Tuesday 7:00am, Parish Kitchen  
- No Grocery Distribution  
Sat, Dec 31 - AA Meeting 7:00pm, Avila Hall  
Sun, Jan 1 - New Year's Day, Masses at 8:30 & 10:00 am  
- No Good Shepherd  
- No Faith Formation  
Mon Dec 26-Mon Jan 2 - Parish Office Closed

## WEEKEND COLLECTION

December 17 & 18

First Collection \$ 1,280

### MASS INTENTIONS

*As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:*

#### **Saturday, December 24**

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

#### **Sunday, December 25**

8:30am The People of the Parish  
10:00am + Ruth Allen

#### **Tuesday, December 27**

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

#### **Friday, December 30**

8:30am + Charles Friel

#### **Saturday, December 31**

4:15pm Rosa Maria Alonso (Spec. Int.)  
Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

#### **Sunday, January 1**

8:30am The People of the Parish  
10:00am + Ruth Allen

## SECOND COLLECTION

December 24 & 25

There second collection this weekend benefits the St. Teresa's Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. SVdP plans to use the monies collected in this collection to pay for Christmas donations of warm clothing for the seniors at the convalescent home and Christmas presents for the clients of the Riley Center for Abused Women and the Ozanam Rehabilitation Center.

December 31 & January 1

There is second collection next weekend benefits the St Teresa's Building & Maintenance Fund.

We have recently learned of a program run by the Presentation Sisters of giving Christmas presents to the workers who assemble on Cesar Chavez hoping to be hired for the day. They assemble bags filled with everyday necessities. They collect unopened toiletries that donors have brought home from hotels. If you would like to participate, Sr. Maureen has volunteered to collect these throughout the year and deliver them to the Sisters.

### Ministers Schedule for Next Week December 31 & January 1

#### 4:15

Lector: M.L. Green  
Bread: E. Perea  
Cup: M. K. Law  
Hosp: A. & J. Allio

#### 10:00 AM

1 Lector: A. Schelstrate  
2 Lector: R. Bral  
1 Bread: E. Miller  
2 Bread: J. Warnock  
3 Bread: D. Tejada

#### 8:30 AM

Lector: J. Propster  
Bread: R. Kingman  
Cup: Sr. Maureen  
Hosp: T. Lando  
2 Cup: J. Schelstrate  
Hosp: J. Warnock

## THE SYME WINDOW: THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

*At St. Teresa's there are twelve windows in the main body of the Church. These windows, which date from the 1930s, are in need of repair. The restoration process (which will take several years to complete) is being done as funds become available. Over the next year the pastor's column will focus on a "Window of the Month," and today, Christmas Day, it is most appropriate to look at the Syme Window depicting the Nativity of the Lord.*

The Syme Window of the Nativity is the second window in the northeast corner of the Church. However, before entering into any discussion about the window itself, we should first take a look at the Nativity stories as presented in the Gospels.

Much to the surprise and shock of most Christians, the Birth of Jesus appears in only two of the four Gospels (Matthew and Luke). Once we get past this initial surprise and shock we are faced with a second one: in comparing the accounts of these two evangelists, we discover that the nativity stories are not only different but are also irreconcilable!

In Matthew's Gospel the central figure is Joseph. Additionally, Matthew highlights the Star of Bethlehem, incorporates the magi bearing gifts, and has the Holy Family flee to Egypt to escape the schemes of the wicked King Herod (who murders innocent children).

In Luke's Gospel the central figure is Mary. In this account there is no star (instead, angels and heavenly hosts sing "Glory to God in the Highest!"), shepherds replace magi, and the wicked King Herod is nowhere to be found. Since there is no evil King trying to murder the infant Jesus, there is no need for the Holy Family to flee to Egypt. Instead, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus simply return to Nazareth, in Galilee.

The Nativity Window at St. Teresa's draws primarily on the Gospel of Luke. In the center of the window we find the infant Jesus, near the manger and wrapped in swaddling clothes. The three men on the right are shepherds. We know this because the middle figure is holding a shepherd's crook while the figure at the far right cradles a sheep in his arms. In the right foreground there is a lamb gazing at the infant Jesus, which not only reaffirms the identity of the shepherds but also alludes to the fact that Jesus is the Lamb of God.

There are a few anomalies contained in the window. The first is the figure of Joseph, located behind the left shoulder of Mary. According to tradition, Joseph is a carpenter, yet the figure in the window appears to be holding a shepherd's crook. Perhaps it is not a crook but a walking stick, but nevertheless it's still out of place: the Holy Family is no longer on the road to Bethlehem; they've already arrived at their destination and the Christ child has been born.

The second anomaly is the Star of Bethlehem, found in the upper center of the window. The star only appears in the Gospel of Matthew; it is not mentioned in the Lucan account. Thus, if the window was to be "scripturally accurate" it should have either Star & Magi (Matthew) or Angels & Shepherds (Luke). The presence of both the Star and Shepherds indicated that the window's artist has created a hybrid from two different Gospel accounts.

The window was originally donated by Mr. and Mrs. John F. Syme. After the new year, the window will be removed for restoration, thanks to a generous gift of Mario & Emma Brondello.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.