

ADVENT MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Fridays 8:30am

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24th

4:15 Family Mass

9:00 pm (Choir); Caroling Prior to Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 25th

8:30am & 10:00am

Caroling Prior to 10:00am Mass

YOU'RE INVITED!!

December 11th 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.

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Thinking of upgrading some appliances for Christmas? If you're replacing a toilet or clothes washer, take advantage of the rebates that are available from the SF Public Utilities Commission until December 31, 2016 (or until funds run out). You can also take advantage of free water-efficient showerheads, faucet aerators, standard toilet repair parts, and a Water-Wise Home Evaluation. For more details, check out <http://sfwater.org/>.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

There are still a few sparkling tags on our annual Giving Tree. Each child has 2 tags, with the name & age of the child along with clothing sizes or something practical on one tag; the other tag has a toy the child desires. There is no need to buy both, unless you take 2 tags for the same child. Some ask for **gift cards**—please be thoughtful in your selection of card & amount (to be age appropriate). We suggest the \$25-\$50 range.

Please take one or two (not more so everyone gets an opportunity) and **return the wrapped package, with tag attached, no later than Sunday, December 11** to ensure that Santa is able to make timely deliveries.

Thank you for your generosity – be assured you will be making a child very happy.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Thursday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please join us for Mass at 7:00pm.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

NOVEMBER 26 & 27

\$1,506

THANK YOU!

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.

WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH

SERVED BY THE CARMELITES

DECEMBER 4, 2016 SECOND 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

DEACONS

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
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.*

MASS INTENTIONS
As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

4:15pm **Saturday, December 3**
 The People of the Parish
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

8:30am **Sunday, December 4**
 † Joyce Huddleston
 10:00am † Mary Sullivan

8:30am **Tuesday, December 6**
 † Kevin Doyle

7:00pm **Thursday, December 8**
 The People of the Parish

8:30am **Friday, December 9**
 Jim Allio (Spec. Int.)

4:15pm **Saturday, December 10**
 † Giuseppe & Maria Molinari
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

8:30am **Sunday, December 11**
 † Vincent Cocciolone
 10:00am † Dory Yochum
 The People of the Parish

SECOND COLLECTIONS

December 3 & 4
 This week's collection benefits the St. Teresa Building & Maintenance Fund.

December 10 & 11
Your donation works for aging religious. "I read that roughly 95 percent of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we truly want our donations to *work*." Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more.

ATTENTION ALL LECTORS

Workbooks for the new Liturgical Year, which started November 27th, are in the Ministers' Sacristy. Please note you have picked-up your book on the provided sheet. Thank you!

Ministers Schedule for Next Week
December 10 & 11

4:15 PM	10:00 AM
Lector: R.M. Ostler	1 Lector: D. Bernstein
Bread: B. Noelke	2 Lector: V. Flores
Cup: E. Perea	1 Bread: J. Schelstrate
Hosp: J. Marasco	2 Bread: M. Suisala
	3 Bread: A. Schelstrate
8:30 AM	1 Cup: C. Allen
Lector: P. Diaz	2 Cup: S. Miller
Bread: J.T. Wymer	Hosp: J. Warnock
Cup: S. Lang	
Hosp: T. Lando	

Parish Calendar

Sun, Dec 4 - Faith Formation, 9am, Hall
 Mon, Dec 5 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm
 - AA Step Meeting, 6:30pm
 Tue, Dec 6 - SVdP Grocery Distribution
 1:00pm, Hall
 - Virtual Green Team Meeting
 6:00pm. Call 41.715.3580,
 Access Code: 979-179
 Thur, Dec 8 - Immaculate Conception Mass, 7pm
 Sat, Dec 10 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Avila
 Sun, Dec 11 - Faith Formation, 9am, Hall
 - Pancake Breakfast

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 Jesse Tree
(and other Advent/Christmas activities)

This Sunday, prior to the 10 o'clock Mass, the students involved in our catechetical program will decorate the *Jesse Tree*, and in this week's column I'd like to go into a deeper explanation of this practice.

The Jesse Tree is named after Jesse, the father of King David. In the Old Testament, it is abundantly clear that David was the most beloved and revered King of Israel, and in the Hebrew Scriptures, the heroics of David are legendary. As a boy, David slew the giant Goliath; later, as king, he ruled during a period of unprecedented peace and prosperity. In the Hebrew imagination David became a larger-than-life figure, and the Israelite hope was that the Messiah would be a person like King David. Jewish conventional wisdom held that the Messiah would be a descendent of David, which is why Jesus is not only born in Bethlehem (the "City of David") but also has the title, "Son of David". In the Prophet Isaiah, we learn of this prophecy:

*"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots; and the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him."
 (Is 11: 1-2)*

In this passage, when Isaiah speaks of the "rod out of the stem of Jesse" he is not referring to Jesse's son, David. Rather, Isaiah is referring to a descendent of David, namely, Jesus of Nazareth.

One might think that the "Jesse Tree" is a family tree that traces Jesus's ancestry back from Jesus through David to Jesse. That's not quite the case. The Jesse Tree does not concern itself with the ancestral line from Jesus to Jesse; instead, it traces Salvation History from Creation until the Birth of Christ.

The Jesse Tree is, primarily, a catechetical tool for children. Its intention is to put them in touch with the great events of Salvation History. At a very early age children learn the Christmas story, but there is so much that happened before the birth of Christ took place. There is a vast and expansive history that leads up to the Christmas event, and it consists of the great stories of the Old Testament: Creation, Adam and Eve, and the Fall; Noah, the Ark, and the Flood; Abraham, Moses, and David. These stories focus on why it was necessary for Christ to be born in order to redeem the world. In preparation for Christmas these stories are told, and symbols are created to be hung on the Jesse Tree. In assembling the Jesse Tree there are over twenty stories to chose from, and it is suggested that each day of Advent focus on one story and symbol.

The Jesse Tree is not the only "extra activity" during the Advent/Christmas season. In Advent, we have the Advent Wreath, and we light one candle on each of the four Sundays of Advent. Then, at Christmas, we have the Christmas *crèche* and Nativity Scene, with figures of the Holy Family, Wise Men, Shepherds, and Angels surrounding the manger and newborn king.

The Jesse Tree, Advent Wreath, and Nativity Scene are not "official parts" of the liturgy of the Church. But they are valuable catechetical tools which challenge us, not only to recall the events leading up to the birth of Christ, but also to focus on the extraordinary stories surrounding his birth.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.