

## ADVENT MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesdays in Advent 6:15pm

### Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

4:15 Family Mass

9:00 pm, Mass with Caroling Prior

### Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

8:30am Mass

10:00 am, Mass with Caroling Prior

## 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.



## 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.

## YOU'RE INVITED!!

December 16<sup>th</sup> 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 catered breakfast of sausage, eggs, and pancakes. We promise plenty of food and fellowship, please join us.

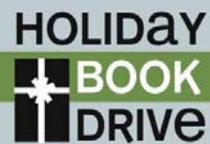


## Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who took a tag from our "Giving Tree". The children of The Lantern will be thrilled to have you as their Secret

Santa. The tags include all the necessary information you need to choose your gift. Please wrap the gifts, place the tag on them, and return them to church by **December 16<sup>th</sup>** (Next Sunday). The gifts will be delivered to the children before Christmas.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



We will be collecting new and gently used books for the Reading Partners program at Flynn Elementary School in the Mission.

Donation bins are set up in the vestibule and will remain until the New Year. Please help a child experience the world of joy & wonder reading can open up to them.

## 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 9, 2012  
THE 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 E. Kwiecien, O. Carm.  
mkwiecien@stteresasf.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  
schelstrate@earthlink.net

### 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](http://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  
Emmy Naranjo-Cabatic  
Steve Miller Ron Labuguen  
David Paquette Rick Pitts

### PARISH OFFICE / MAILING ADDRESS

390 Missouri St  
San Francisco, CA 94107  
Phone: 415.285.5272  
Fax: 415.285.8510  
E-mail: [info@stteresasf.org](mailto: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 9 - Good Shepherd & Faith Formation, 9:00am  
 Mon, Dec 10 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm  
 Tue, Dec 11 - SVdP Grocery Distribution 1:00pm, Sammon  
 - Pastoral Council 7:00pm, Avila  
 Wed, Dec 12 - Advent Mass 6:15pm  
 Sat, Dec 15 - AA Meeting 7:00pm, Avila Hall  
 Sun, Dec 16 - No Good Shepherd or Faith Formation  
 - Parish Breakfast Following 8:30 & 10:00am Masses

## WEEKEND COLLECTION December 1 & 2 \$1,060

### MASS INTENTIONS

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

#### Saturday, December 8

9:00am The Deceased of the Parish  
 4:15pm + Mark Dailey  
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

#### Sunday, December 9

8:30am + Katherine Orlando  
 The People of the Parish  
 10:00am + Lucy Ceccarelli

#### Tuesday, December 11

8:30am + Souls in Purgatory

#### Wednesday, December 12

6:15pm + Albert Salerno

#### Friday, December 14

8:30am Little Childrens Aid

#### Saturday, December 15

4:15pm + Giuseppe & Maria Molinari  
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

#### Sunday, December 16

8:30am The People of the Parish  
 10:00am + Vincent Coccione

## SECOND COLLECTION

### December 8 & 9

This week's Second Collection benefits the Retirement Fund for Religious. Give to those who have given a lifetime. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests worked for many years for little, if any, pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

### December 15 & 16

This will be no Second Collection next weekend.

### Donation Envelopes

The donation envelopes for the new Liturgical year are available for pick-up in the back of the church. We also offer a Monthly Donor program. Please contact Stephani in the Parish Office if you would like to request envelopes or need more information about/would like to enroll in the monthly donor program.

### Calendars

Our St. Teresa of Avila calendars are available in the church. Please take one for yourself and some to give to others!!

### Ministers Schedule for Next Week December 15 & 16

<b>4:15</b>		<b>10:00 AM</b>	
Lector:	D.B. Aikins	1 Lector:	R. Pitts
Bread:	J. Burns	2 Lector:	D. Bernstein
Cup:	B. Noelke	1 Bread:	J. Schelstrate
Hosp:	M. Comaich	2 Bread:	M. K. Law
		3 Bread:	T. Mana
<b>8:30 AM</b>		1 Cup:	C. Allen
Lector:	S. Cabatic	2 Cup:	S. Miller
Bread:	Volunteer	Hosp:	K. Vandaras
Cup:	J. Newman		B. Cassidy
Hosp:	J. Propster		

## DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>: THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Quick quiz: December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Which statement best articulates what we mean by *Immaculate Conception*?

- Jesus was miraculously conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Mary, like Jesus, was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Mary was born without *Original Sin*

As a former high school theology teacher, I have always been amazed at how many Catholics incorrectly answer this question. Those who answer "a" think that the Immaculate Conception refers to the miraculous conception and birth of Jesus without benefit of a human father. Properly speaking, this is the dogma of the *virgin birth*, not the Immaculate Conception.

Those who answer "b" think that Mary, like Jesus, was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. Not true: tradition teaches that Mary was the daughter of Joachim and Anne, and that there was nothing extraordinary about her biological conception and birth.

The correct answer is "c": The Immaculate Conception is a dogma of the Catholic Church maintaining that, from the moment she was conceived, Mary was kept free of original sin. This dogma – which is almost uniquely Roman Catholic – has an interesting history and development, and I'd like to explore some of that information in today's column.

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception is a more a product of tradition than from Scripture. The fact of the matter is that there is very little about Mary the Mother of Jesus in the Scriptures. Most of our claims and beliefs about Mary come, not from Scripture, but from our tradition which has developed over two millennia of Christian history.

Within this tradition we have the doctrine of original sin, which dates from the 5<sup>th</sup> century, during the time of St. Augustine. According to this doctrine, all human beings are born with original sin as a consequence of the transgression of our first parents, Adam and Eve. Because of their disobedience, suffering and death entered the world, and Adam and Eve's descendants (i.e., all human beings) "inherited" original sin.

Once the doctrine of original sin is in place it is only a matter of time before a new problem emerges: the problem of Jesus. If all human beings have original sin – and Jesus is a human being – then does Jesus, too, have original sin? We do some fancy theological footwork to deal with this thorny issue. Certainly, the extraordinary circumstance surrounding Jesus' birth – especially being conceived by the Power of the Spirit – allow us to claim that Jesus was born without original sin.

But there is a further complication: if original sin is passed on from mother to child, did not Jesus "inherit" original sin from Mary? Since Late Antiquity there has been a widely held belief that Mary did not have original sin, but it was not until 1850 that Pius IX formalized this belief. The dogma of the Immaculate Conception was proclaimed on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1850, in the papal bull *Ineffabilis Deus*. The dogmatic statement is expressed near the end of the document:

*We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful.*

The Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the Americas, and in many Catholic countries the feast is observed as a Holy Day of Obligation on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.