

Operation New Socks for the Homeless



Warm their hearts by warming their feet!

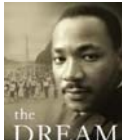
Throughout the month of January, there will be baskets throughout the church and hall awaiting your donations of new, white tube socks.

With the promise of a wet winter, a pair of new socks can make a huge impact on the lives of those without resources.

Won't you please help us meet or exceed our goal of 1,200 pairs before the end of January?

AID FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

If you have not yet made your donation to this cause, there is still time. **Please make your donation by Sunday, January 10.** All funds received will go to the refugees c/o Parishes Organized to Welcome Refugees (POWR). All donations are tax-deductible.



The Parish Office will be closed Monday, January 18th in observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The Mass Intention book for 2016 is filling up quickly, particularly the weekend Masses. If there are special dates on which you would like to dedicate a Mass to a loved one, please contact the Parish Office.

YEAREND TAX REPORTING

Letters acknowledging donations for 2015 will be sent out during the month of January to all Envelope & Monthly donors who contributed more than \$200. If you donated by checks in the basket and would like a tax letter, please email Stephani.

MONTHLY DONORS & SECOND COLLECTIONS

NOVEMBER	
First Collection	\$3,325
Building & Maintenance	\$2,309
All Saints	\$ 179
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$1,356
Garden Fund	\$ 877
St. Vincent de Paul	\$3,075
DECEMBER	
First Collection	\$7,310
Building & Maintenance	\$2,010
Retirement for Religious Fund	\$2,228
Initial Offering	\$ 160
Garden Fund	\$3,645
St. Vincent de Paul	\$1,798
Christmas Flowers	\$ 40
Christmas	\$7,237*

* Includes previously reported amounts

MARDI GRAS ZYDECO DANCE

St. Finn Barr Church, Goode Hall
415 Edna Street, San Francisco
Saturday, January 23, 2016
8:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight

\$20.00 in advance; \$25.00 at the door
Free Dance Lesson: 7:00 — 8:00 p.m.
For advance tickets, please call the Church Rectory at 415-333-3627

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Thinking globally about climate change? The Global Catholic Climate Movement brings together almost 100 Catholic organizations to care for God's creation, for the poor—who are the most vulnerable to climate disruption—and for our children, who will face the worst impacts in the coming years. They encourage Catholics to renew our relationship with creation and with our brothers and sisters in poverty, and they urge our political leaders to commit to ambitious climate action to solve this urgent crisis.

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



JANUARY 10, 2016
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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.
mkwecien@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
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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, Jan 10 - Faith Formation, 9am, Hall
 Mon, Jan 11 - AA Meeting, 6:30pm, Avila
 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm
 Tue, Jan 12 - SVdP Grocery Distribution
 1:00pm, Hall
 - Pastoral Council
 7:00pm, Avila
 Thur, Jan 14 - NERT Meeting
 7:00pm, Hall
 Sat, Jan 9 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Church Hall
 Sun, Jan 10 - Faith Formation, 9am, Hall

MASS INTENTIONS

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

4:15pm **Saturday, January 9**
 Bob Rose (Spec. Int.)
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

8:30am **Sunday, January 10**
 The People of the Parish
 10:00am † Patty Griffin & Dan Sullivan

8:30am **Tuesday, January 12**
 † Carmen Sheehan

8:30am **Friday, January 8**
 † Eloisa Perea

4:15pm **Saturday, January 9**
 † Bill Burns
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

8:30am **Sunday, January 10**
 The People of the Parish
 10:00am † Mykola Sorokolit

SECOND COLLECTIONS

January 9 & 10

There will be no second collection this week.

January 16 & 17

The second collection next week will benefit Catholic Charities, USA in their efforts for flood relief.

WEEKEND FIRST COLLECTION

JANUARY 2 & 3

\$1,975

THANK YOU!

We have been approached by a parishioner for assistance in finding either a small apartment or a room in a home to rent, either short- or long-term. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

Ministers Schedule for Next Week January 16 & 17

4:15 PM	10:00 AM
Lector: T. Jackson	1 Lector: M. Schelstrate
Bread: J. Daddio	2 Lector: C. Arett
Cup: B. Noelke	1 Bread: J. Schelstrate
Hosp: R. Jones	2 Bread: K. Schelstrate
	3 Bread: A. Schelstrate
8:30 AM	1 Cup: C. Allen
Lector: D. Paquette	2 Cup: G. McGrath
Bread: R. Kingman	Hosp: G. Femec
Cup: J. Newman	
Hosp: T. Lando	

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS: AN EMBARRASSMENT FOR THE EARLY CHURCH

If you read through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, you would probably be surprised to discover that very few things appear in all four Gospels. For example: the stories of Jesus' birth – as well as the Sermon on the Mount and the Lord's Prayer – are found only in two of the Gospels (Matthew and Luke), and the Institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper is only present in three of the four texts (in John's Gospel, Jesus washes the disciples' feet instead of breaking bread with them). In fact, there are only a handful of things that appear in all four Gospels (such as the Feeding of the Five Thousand, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection). The Baptism of Jesus also finds itself in this elite company, a fact which generates this significant question: What was so important about Jesus' Baptism that all four evangelists chose to write about it?

This may come as a shock to most Christians, but perhaps the reason that it appears in all four gospels is because the Baptism of Jesus was an *embarrassment* to the Early Church. How did such a bizarre conclusion come about? Let me suggest what may have happened.

First and foremost, we need to recognize that, since the earliest days of the Church, Baptism was the means by which new members were initiated into the community. The Acts of the Apostles gives us several examples of this practice: a) on Pentecost, "Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day." (Acts 2:41); b) after his conversion, Saul was baptized (Acts 9:18); and c) one chapter later, Cornelius and other Gentiles were baptized after listening to the preaching of Peter (Acts 10:48).

It is quite clear that baptism was the means through which people were initiated into the Church. What is not clear is the initial *meaning* of that baptism. Symbolically, baptism involved a change in life, leaving the past behind by "putting on Christ", or washing away the old and putting on the new. From this understanding, it is not hard to make the jump from "washing away the past" to the "cleansing and forgiveness of sin." By the time that the Gospels were written, a theology of baptism that included the forgiveness of sin had become firmly established.

The "embarrassment" occurred when, eventually, somebody asked the obvious question: "If baptism washes away sin, then why did Jesus – "He who is without sin" – go into the water?"

To answer this question we have to recognize that the Baptism by John in the Jordan was fundamentally different from the Sacrament of Baptism as practiced in the early Church. John never claimed that his baptism washed away sin. Essentially, John's baptism more closely parallels what we do on Ash Wednesday in that, when we place ashes on our foreheads, we "turn away from sin and follow the Gospel." Being signed with ashes does not mean our sins are forgiven; it does mean that we want to change our behavior in order to eliminate the "sinful practices" in our lives.

When Jesus was baptized by John, he was "turning away" from his hidden past to begin his public ministry, a path that would cumulate in his death and resurrection. When Jesus is baptized, it symbolizes the movement from his private life to his public ministry. It becomes an embarrassment only when one reads a later theological understanding of the sacrament into the earlier practice of John the Baptist.

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