

We are in the process of making preparations for the upcoming Religious Education programs.

Letters/emails will be sent out to parents of students enrolled in the programs last year. For families new to our programs, forms are available in the vestibule.

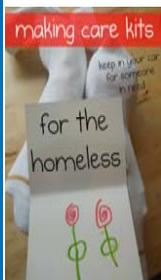
We encourage all parents to register early. Please note the parish expectation that parents and guardians participate in our Sunday Eucharistic celebrations as they are able and attend a number of our class sessions. The parents are the primary teachers and we are your helpers.

Please join us in welcoming to our parish community:



Thomas Hartge, the son of Eric & Cathleen Hartge. Thomas will be baptized by Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm. this Sunday at the 10 am Mass.

### STUDENT ADVOCACY PROJECT



Arianna Barajas (a student of our Director of Music, Laura Flaviani) has created a social advocacy project to help the homeless in San Francisco. A flyer explaining the project and items needed has been inserted into this bulletin. Bins have been set-up for donations, which are due by August 13.

Do you know that there are special **Children's Bulletins** available in the vestibule every week? There are 2 versions available: for ages 3-6 or for ages 7-12. There is also a link to on-line games, etc. on most bulletins.

### WEEKEND COLLECTION

(Envelope Donors & Loose Cash)

**JULY 15 & 16**

**\$1,611**

**JULY 22 & 23**

**\$1,039**

**THANK YOU!**



Sacrament of Anointing

### ANOINTING

Next weekend, August 5 & 6, we will be offering the Sacrament of Anointing at all our Masses.

### ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

The EPA's ENERGY STAR program, which stands alone as the most successful voluntary energy efficiency movement, makes it simple for consumers to identify and purchase energy-efficient products that offer savings on energy bills without sacrificing on performance. It has been a simple choice for energy efficiency for more than 20 years. Trump's budget plan would eliminate federal energy efficiency programs like ENERGY STAR which saved US consumers \$34 billion off of their utility bills in 2015 alone! Eliminating programs like ENERGY STAR would not only wreak serious harm on our environment, it will cost lives. Air pollution already kills thousands of people every year through asthma attacks, heart disease, and cancer. Tell your congressional representative and your US senators that Trump's proposed budget does not reflect our nation's morals and values.

**Are you interested in becoming a member of the Green Team?** Our virtual meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for August 1st at 6:00pm. The call-in information is in the Parish Calendar.

# We Welcome You To St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

Served by the Carmelites

**July 30, 2017**  
**Seventeenth Sunday**  
**in Ordinary Time**



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

### PARISH SECRETARY

Stephani Sheehan  
stephani@stteresasf.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

### OFFICE HOURS

10:00am to 12:30pm  
1:00pm to 4:30pm

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 Steve Miller  
David Paquette Ron Labuguen  
Judy Warnock Victoria Flores

### 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.*

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

- Saturday, July 29**  
4:15pm † Milo Harnack  
Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)
- Sunday, July 30**  
8:30am The People of the Parish  
10:00am † Ray McGrath
- Tuesday, August 1**  
8:30am The Sick of the Parish
- Friday, August 4**  
8:30am † Jim Wilson
- Saturday, August 5**  
4:15pm † Joseph L. Greenwell, Sr.  
Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)
- Sunday, August 6**  
8:30am The People of the Parish  
10:00am † Frank Sullivan

**Ministers Schedule for Next Week  
August 5 & 6**

<b>4:15 PM</b>		<b>10:00 AM</b>	
Lector:	T. Jackson	1 Lector:	T. Labuguen
Bread:	J. Daddio	2 Lector:	R. Pitts
Cup:	E. Perea	1 Bread:	S. Miller
Hosp:	L. Lechich	2 Bread:	A. Schelstrate
		3 Bread:	J. Warnock
<b>8:30 AM</b>		1 Cup:	C. Allen
Lector:	T. Lang	2 Cup:	G. McGrath
Bread:	R. Kingman	Hosp:	J. Warnock
Cup:	S. Lang		
Hosp:	T. Lando		

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

July 29 & 30  
This week's second collection will benefit the St. Teresa Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

August 5 & 6  
Next week's second collection will benefit the St. Teresa Building & Maintenance Fund.

**GOT FOOD?**

Do you know our St. Vincent de Paul Conference collects food year round for their pantry? There's a bin in the vestibule for this purpose. Please bring non-perishables only.

**Please check the bulletin boards** in the vestibule for upcoming events or special notices from the Archdiocese.

**Parish Calendar**

- Sun, Jul 30 - Coffee & Doughnuts following the 8:30 & 10:00 am Masses
- Mon, Jul 31 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm  
- AA Step Meeting, 6:30pm
- Tue, Aug 1 - No SVdP Grocery Distribution  
- Green Team Virtual Meeting 6:00pm, Phone: 641-715-3580  
Passcode 738182#  
- Young Adults Meeting 7:00pm, Priory
- Sat, Aug 5 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Avila
- Sun, Aug 6 - Coffee & Doughnuts following the 8:30 & 10:00 am Masses

**A CONTEMPORARY MUSTARD SEED PARABLE**

Last week's Gospel featured three parables, the *Weeds and the Wheat*; the *Mustard Seed*, and the *Yeast and the Dough*. The shortest of the three is the parable of the *Mustard Seed*:

*The reign of God is like a mustard seed which someone took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest seed of all, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes so big a shrub that the birds of the sky come and build their nests in its branches. (Mt 13:31-32)*

Let's be honest: for the 21<sup>st</sup> century reader, our familiarity with mustard seeds begins and ends with those tiny seeds in stone-ground *Grey Poupon*. How, then, are we to understand this parable? Well, if Jesus were around today, he might cast the parable in these or similar words:

*The reign of God is like a man who, in 1997, had \$1000 to invest. For the small amount of \$18 per share, he got in on the ground floor on an IPO for a new company named Amazon. He invested all he had, and now – 20-years later – that initial investment of \$1000 is worth a whopping \$639,900! He reaped so big a return that now he and his family are secure for life.*

Living in the Bay Area, we may not know much about mustard seeds, but we certainly know about dot coms, IPOs, and return on investment. Many of us, I am sure, lament that we didn't get in on the ground floor with Apple, Amazon, or Microsoft. Yet the image of their success – astronomical returns on small initial investments – captures the essence of what Jesus' *Parable of the Mustard Seed* is about. For just as the smallest of seeds becomes the largest of plants (or the smallest of investments mushrooms into a virtual fortune), so it is when the Word of God takes root in our lives.

Like many of the parables, the parable of the *Mustard Seed* incorporates the theme of *abundance*. To put it simply, these parables promise that when we let God into our lives, great things will happen.

Yet there is a flip side to these parables of abundance. Such openness to God also involves *risk*, and for every success story of an outrageous return on investment, there are hundreds of stories of those who lose everything they have. Our reluctance to risk hard-earned money on speculative investments parallels our wariness of anything involving risk, be it changing jobs, relocating to a different part of the country, or falling in love. Given our suspicion of risk, we are also reluctant to follow the example of Jesus when he says, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

This dimension of risk is found in two of the three parables heard this weekend. In the parable of the *Buried Treasure*, a man buries a treasure in a field and then sells all he has to purchase that field. In the second parable, the *Pearl of Great Price*, a merchant searching for fine pearls finds an especially valuable pearl and sells all he has in order to purchase it. The risks, of course, are that someone else may have found the buried treasure or that the pearl may not be as valuable as it seems. Nevertheless, both parables tap in to our reluctance to go "all in", even if it appears to be a sure thing.

Finally: parables are not about investing money, buried treasure, or pearls of great price. ***Rather, parables are literary devices that challenge us to focus on our relationship with God.*** Parables promise abundant returns . . . but only at the cost of trust and risk.

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