

CATHOLIC CHARITIES LENTEN PROGRAM TOURS

Please see the bulletin board for an invitation from Catholic Charities to join them for a program tour(s). Meet the experienced staff; learn about the program's impact and volunteer opportunities.

Please note space is limited; sign up today!

EASTER DECORATING

If you would like to help decorate the church for our Easter services, Deacon Chuck will be in the church on Saturday, March 26 at 12 noon. Please let us know if you plan on helping.

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2016

Assessed Amount: \$26,520

If you wish to donate online, access is through: <https://www.sfarchdiocese.org/home/stewardship/archdiocesan-annual-appeal/donate-to-the-appeal>

The easiest way is to use the direct link on our website's home page.

Please check with your employer to see if they provide matching funds for charitable donations.

Last year we had AAA wrapped up by the end of March (including pledges to be paid over the year) — Let's do it again!



CALLING ALL EGG HUNTERS!

All children (toddler to age 12) are invited to participate in the St. Teresa Annual Easter Egg

Hunt after the 10:00am Mass on Easter Sunday. We ask that children bring their own basket. If you would like to help hide the eggs, please contact Anarose Schelstrate.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Tuesdays in Lent

Mass, 8:30am

Fridays in Lent

Mass, 8:30am

Stations of the Cross, 9:00am

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday Vigil, March 19: 4:15pm

Palm Sunday, March 20: 8:30 & 10am

EASTER TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday, March 24: 7:30pm

Good Friday, March 25: 12:15pm

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil,

March 26: 8:00pm

Easter Sunday,

March 27: 8:30 & 10:00am



SANDWICH TUESDAY

The faithful sandwich makers will meet on Tuesdays, March 15, 22 & 29 to make over 200 sandwiches for delivery to the St. Vincent de Paul Shelter.

Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church for Easter Triduum Ministers. We are in need of Ministers for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

The Fiji Government declared a state of emergency following a category 5 cyclone. Cyclone Winston struck island-nation Fiji on February 20th taking more than 40 lives and affecting 350,000 people, 40 percent of the country's total population. Our thoughts and Prayers go out to our Fijian Brothers and Sisters who have just gone through the most devastating tropical cyclone on record in the Southern Hemisphere.

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



MARCH 13, 2016 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



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

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
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.

Parish Calendar

Sun, Mar 13 - Faith Formation, 9 am, Hall
 Mon, Mar 14 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm
 - AA Step Meeting, 6:30pm
 Tue, Mar 15 - SVdP Sandwich Tuesday
 9:00am, Parish Kitchen
 - SVdP Grocery Distribution
 1:00pm, Hall
 Sat, Mar 19 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Church Hall
 Sun, Mar 20 - Faith Formation, 9am, Hall

SECOND COLLECTIONS

March 12 & 13

There is no second collection this weekend.

March 19 & 20

Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. This collection supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. The funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ's love and respect to all people. Next week, please give generously to The Catholic Relief Services Collection and help Jesus in disguise.

WEEKEND FIRST COLLECTION

MARCH 5 & 6

\$1,547

THANK YOU!

Ministers Schedule for Next Week March 19 & 20

4:15 PM	10:00 AM
Lector: A. Rose	1 Lector: V. Flores
Bread: J. Burns	2 Lector: T. Labuguen
Cup: E. Perea	1 Bread: J. Schelstrate
Hosp: L. Lechich	2 Bread: M. Schelstrate
	3 Bread: A. Schelstrate
8:30 AM	1 Cup: C. Allen
Lector: R. Bral	2 Cup: S. Miller
Bread: J. Newman	Hosp: G. Femec
Cup: E. Miller	
Hosp: T. Lando	

MASS INTENTIONS

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

4:15pm	Saturday, March 12 † Alois Vanicek Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)
8:30am 10:00am	Sunday, March 13 The People of the Parish † Lloyd Miglio
8:30am	Tuesday, March 15 † Joseph Greenwell
8:30am	Friday, March 18 The Sick of the Parish
4:15pm	Saturday, March 12 The People of the Parish Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)
8:30am 10:00am	Sunday, March 20 Debra Beyer (Spec. Int.) † Vincent Cocciolone

THE WOMAN ACCUSED OF ADULTERY

This year, the Sunday Gospels of Lent focus on reconciliation and forgiveness, and today's Gospel is, perhaps, the most powerful and dramatic example of this theme. As Jesus is teaching in the temple precincts, the scribes and Pharisees lead a woman forward who had been caught in adultery. The Law of Moses demanded she be stoned to death, and the religious leaders ask Jesus what should be done. Jesus challenges the crowd ("Let the one among you who is without sin cast the first stone . . ."), and the crowd dissipates, leaving only Jesus and the woman. "There is no one here to condemn you," says Jesus, "neither do I condemn you. Go and avoid this sin."

Since this is the Year of Mercy, today's homily will undoubtedly focus on compassion and forgiveness. But in this week's column, I'd like to take a different approach: I'd like to examine some of the underlying religious, cultural, and political dimensions which contribute to the context of this week's gospel.

Unfortunately, our starting point for examining today's text is to recognize that the story of the woman accused of adultery – as described in today's Gospel – probably never happened. Why? There are two major reasons why scholars and historians would make this claim.

Scholars tell us that although there is evidence that this story "circulated" in the early Christian communities, it is a fact that there is no mention of a woman caught in adultery anywhere in the Synoptic Gospels. Additionally, this particular story does not appear in several of the early manuscripts of the Gospel of John, causing us to question whether the story was part of John's original Gospel. This "sketchiness" surrounding the story raises questions about whether the incident actually took place.

But there is a more compelling reason as to why this story probably never happened: when Israel was under Roman rule, we have no evidence, either from Roman or Jewish sources, that anyone was ever executed under Jewish Law. The most compelling fact supporting this position is actually found in the Gospels, and it concerns the execution of Jesus. After he is found guilty by the Sanhedrin, the Jewish authorities bring Jesus to Pilate, who says, "Take him yourselves, and judge him according to your law." The Jews answer, "We do not have the right to execute anyone," (Jn 18:31), and they then turn Jesus over to Pilate and the Roman authorities. It is quite clear that the Sanhedrin would have liked to have executed Jesus because of his blasphemy, but it is equally clear that Roman domination prohibited them from doing so. For this reason, the Jewish authorities turned Jesus over to Pilate for trial and execution. Had Jesus been executed under Jewish law, he would have been stoned to death for blasphemy; instead, he was crucified under Roman law because his crime was treason.

There is, however, one instance in the New Testament when a Jewish mob did take the law into its own hands: the martyrdom of Stephen (Acts 6:8-60). This occurred several years *after* the death of Jesus at a time when insurrection and revolution against Rome became increasingly more bold. This type of rebellious disregard for Roman authority triggered a Roman response, one which would eventually result in the destruction of Jerusalem (70 AD), the elimination of any remaining Jewish resistance at Masada (73-74 AD), and the suppression and destruction of the Jewish state.

Historically, it is unlikely that the incident described in today's Gospel ever happened, but the bottom line is that it makes no difference. That's because, theologically, the story of the woman caught in adultery not only crystalizes the conflict between Jesus and the Jewish authorities, but it also demonstrates the centrality of Jesus' message regarding reconciliation and forgiveness. The validity of the story rests, not in its historical accuracy, but in its theological truth, and as such it is one of the most profound examples of compassion and forgiveness found in the New Testament.

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: _____

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| <input type="checkbox"/> New Parishioner | <input type="checkbox"/> New Address | <input type="checkbox"/> New Phone |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send Sunday envelopes | <input type="checkbox"/> Send Monthly Donor Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Moving—remove from mailing list |