#### Strength for the Journey Ministry: For Those with Life-Threatening Illness

First Friday of every month
Starting June 2, 1:00 - 2:30pm
Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption
1111 Gough St., San Francisco
Sr. Elaine Stahl 415-567-2020, ext. 218
estahl@stmarycathedralsf.org

The focus and goal of this ministry is spiritual support for people with lifethreatening illnesses. This support group will meet on the First Friday of each month in the Msgr. Bowe Room at St. Mary's Cathedral. The facilitator is Deacon R. Christoph Sandoval. Also available is guidance on Catholic Teaching and the preparation of Health Care Directives. There is no charge. For information and registration contact Sr. Elaine Stahl, above.

#### **PASSINGS**

We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to the family of Frank Rahmer, who died Sunday, May 21st. Frank is a cousin to Mary Katherine Law and frequently attended the 8:30am Mass on Sundays.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Teresa's 10 am on Friday, June 2nd, with a Vigil Service on June 1st at 7 pm at Valente Marini Perata Funeral Home.

Please join us in welcoming to our parish community:



Amalia Kinsley Cedro, the daughter of Alex & Lorelei Cedro. Amelia will be baptized by Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm. Saturday, May 27th at the 4:15pm Mass.

# Remembering those who paid for our freedom.

In observance of Memorial Day, the Parish Office will be closed Monday, May 29

# WEEKEND COLLECTION MAY 20 & 21 \$1,474 THANK YOU!

#### ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Leave your car at home and save some stress and greenhouse gas emissions! On June 4th, St. Teresa's is participating in Walk and Bike to Worship Week! Get ready to tune up your bicycle, break out your walking shoes, or grab your Clipper Card and hop on the bus! On this day, let us remember the encyclical, Laudato Si, where Pope Francis called us to live in harmony with God, with our neighbors, and with nature.

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 June 6th at 6:00pm. The call-in information will be in next week's bulletin.

### WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH

**SERVED BY THE CARMELITES** 



## MAY 28, 2017 THE ASCENSION 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. 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 Iflaviani@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

#### 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

#### 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, May 27 **†** Grace Yaksich 4:15pm Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.) Sunday, May 28 8:30am The People of the Parish 10:00am **†** Ray McGrath Tuesday, May 30 The Deceased of the Parish 8:30am Friday, June 2 8:30am The Sick of the Parish Saturday, June 3 4:15pm **†** Ray McGrath Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.) Sunday, June 4 The People of the Parish 8:30am 10:00am **†** Giuseppe & Maria Molinari

### Ministers Schedule for Next Week June 3 & 4

June 3 & 4				
4:15 PM		10:00 AN	<u>1</u>	
Lector:	P. Diaz	1 Lector:	L. Jacklevich	
Bread:	J. Daddio	2 Lector:	V. Flores	
Cup:	E. Perea	1 Bread:	S. Miller	
Hosp:	J. Marasco	2 Bread:	A. Schelstrate	
		3 Bread:	J. Warnock	
8:30 AM		1 Cup:	C. Allen	
Lector:	Sr. Kathleen	2 Cup:	J. Schelstrate	
Bread:	C. King	Hosp:	J. Warnock	
Cup:	P. English			
Hosp:	T. Lando			

#### **SECOND COLLECTIONS**

May 27 & 28

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

June 3 & 4

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

#### **SANDWICH TUESDAY**



The faithful sandwich makers will meet on Tuesday, May 30 to make over 200 sandwiches each day for delivery to the St. Vincent de Paul Shelter.

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

#### **Parish Calendar**

Sun, May 28 - Faith Formation, 9:00am, Hall Mon, May 29 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm - AA Step Meeting, 6:30pm - Parish Office Closed

Tue, May 30 - SVdP Sandwich Tuesday 9:00am, Parish Kitchen - SVdP Grocery Distribution 1:00pm, Hall

Sat, Jun 3 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Avila Sun, Jun 4 - Coffee & Doughnuts following the 8:30 & 10:00 am Masses

We extend our hands and heart Whether long-time residents or lif you are not registered or have	newly arrived in our parish, we th	ere celebrating with us. nank God that you are with us.
Name:Address:	Phone: City:	_ Email: Zip:
□ New Parishioner □ Send Sunday envelopes	☐ New Address ☐ Send Monthly Donor Form	New Phone Moving—remove from mailing list

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#### THE ASCENSION OF JESUS IN LUKE AND IN ACTS

When we examine the Scriptures we discover that the Ascension appears in only one of the four canonical Gospels. Luke mentions it, but only in the last verses of the Gospel text, and his description is limited to a few simple, declarative sentences:

"... he led them [out] as far as Bethany, ... [and ] as he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God." (Lk 24:50-53)

A careful reading of the text reveals that, in the Gospel of Luke, the Ascension takes place on Easter Sunday! In Chapter 24, the Evangelist chronicles the events of that first Easter, beginning with the women at the tomb at Sunday dawn (Lk 24:1-12). The bulk of the chapter (Lk 24:13-35) consists of Jesus appearing to two disciples on the Road to Emmaus, and after Jesus "vanishes from their sight" these same two disciples return to Jerusalem to describe to the community,

"... what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread. While they were still speaking about this, he [Jesus] stood in their midst and said, 'Peace be with you.'" (Lk 24:35-36)

Jesus speaks to the disciples for a brief period of time before

"... he led them [out] as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven." (Lk 24:50-51)

In the Gospel of Luke, the Resurrection and the Ascension take place on the same day, Easter Sunday. How, then, did we come to the belief that the Ascension took place forty days after Easter? We turn to the Ascension account in The Acts of the Apostles as we attempt to unravel this mystery:

"When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.'" (Acts 1:9-11)

Six verses earlier the author makes mention of "forty days" when we learn that Jesus,

". . . presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God." (Acts 1:3)

When we take a literal interpretation of this text from Acts, the Ascension occurs forty days after Easter (which is a Thursday).

A more serious concern is that the author of the Gospel of Luke is also the author of the Acts of the Apostles. How can this same person (Luke) have the Ascension take place on Easter Sunday (in the Gospel of Luke) and forty days later (in the Acts of the Apostles)?

A simple key to solving this mystery involves an examination of the mythology surrounding the number "40". Some examples from our Judeo-Christian tradition: in the story of Noah's Ark, it rained for 40 days and 40 nights; in the Exodus, the Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years; and after his baptism, Jesus spent 40 days in the desert. In the liturgical year, there are 40 weekdays between Ash Wednesday and Easter, and there are 40 days between Easter and the Ascension.

In the Judeo-Christian tradition the number "40" seems to appear whenever we want to emphasize a *significant* period of time. Notice that *significant* is not necessarily the same thing as *specific*. In other words, 40 days or 40 years may not literally mean 40 days or 40 years.

Returning to the question of the Ascension, what Luke is trying to emphasize is that the time following the Resurrection was a *significant* time in which the disciples experienced the Risen Jesus. When Luke speaks of Jesus appearing to the disciples over 40 days, we have to recognize that he is probably speaking symbolically and does not literally mean 40 days.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.