

GARDEN FUND

We have begun the process of designing the garden space. There are architectural renderings posted in the church and hall. Won't you please consider making a donation to this worthy cause, sure to benefit the entire parish community!

In response to the call of Pope Francis who declared 2015 the **Year of Consecrated Life**, the Archdiocesan Council of Religious is presenting the film, **"Women and Spirit"** based on the exhibit of the same name which toured throughout the United States. This film chronicles the history of the thousands of Sisters who came to this country and founded the Catholic School system, built hospitals, orphanages, homes for the poor, mental institutions, and many more programs benefitting the poor and marginalized. Please see the flyer on one of our bulletin boards for show times and more information.

YOUTH COUNCIL

The Archdiocese is looking for high school teens to be on the Youth Council for the 2015/16 year. Members of the Council meet once a month to express their ideas and plan for the facilitation of Archdiocesan Youth Ministry events, such as the Youth Rally/Youth Mass, Food Fast, and Confirmation Retreats. They also gather ideas for starting and maintaining parish youth ministry programs. For more information, please email the Associate Director for Youth Ministry, Ynez Lizarraga, at

LizarragaY@sfarch.org
Or call 415-614-5654

RCIA

The **RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the current process the Church offers to interested adults. We are all asked to invite people. We do have something worth sharing.

RCIA begins in September and culminates at the Easter Vigil with participants receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. It is hoped that St. Teresa's will have a new group of people entering this process in the fall.

Please contact Fr. Kwiecien or the Parish Office if you are interested in exploring this process.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For Audrey Rose and her family. Her husband, Bob, had emergency surgery last weekend while in Pennsylvania for the funeral of Audrey's son.

PASSINGS

We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to the family of Mary Louise Green, a long-time parishioner & Potrero Hill resident. Mary Louise was active in many parish activities, especially Sandwich Tuesdays.

A Funeral Liturgy will be held at St. Teresa's on Thursday, June 18 at 10am, with a reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

SAVE THE DATE

The next meeting of our Young Adult group is scheduled for Sunday, June 7 immediately following the 10:00am Mass. Please feel free to join, even if you have not attended any previous meetings. The general age guidelines are 18 – 40, single, married, with or without children.

WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH

SERVED BY THE CARMELITES

MAY 31, 2015

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



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
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, May 31 -
 Mon, June 1 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm
 Tue, June 2 - SVdP Meeting
 9:00am, Sammon
 - No SVdP Grocery Distribution
 Sat, June 6 - Lay Carmelite Meeting
 10:00am, Avila
 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Sammon
 Sun, June 7 - Young Adult Meeting
 11:00am, Avila

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together
 we include in our prayers:

Saturday, May 30

4:15pm The People of the Parish
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, May 31

8:30am + Emilio Brignole
 10:00am + John Warnock

Tuesday, June 2

8:30am The Deceased of the Parish

Friday, June 5

8:30am The Sick of the Parish

Saturday, June 6

4:15pm + Luis Megid, Sr.
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, June 7

8:30am + Emilio Brignole
 10:00am + Maria & Giuseppe Molinari
 The People of the Parish

SECOND COLLECTIONS

May 30 & 31

This week's second collection benefits the St. Teresa conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

June 6 & 7

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

WEEKEND FIRST COLLECTION

MAY 23 & 24

\$1,320

THANK YOU!

The Mass Intention book for 2015 has Masses available. If there are special dates on which you would like to dedicate a Mass to a loved one, please contact the Parish Office.

Ministers Schedule for Next Week June 6 & 7

4:15 PM		10:00 AM	
Lector:	T. Jackson	1 Lector:	D.B. Bernstein
Bread:	J. Daddio	2 Lector:	V. Flores
Cup:	A. Rose	1 Bread:	S. Miller
Hosp:	L. Lechich	2 Bread:	C. Arett
		3 Bread:	Volunteer
8:30 AM		1 Cup:	C. Allen
Lector:	D. Paquette	2 Cup:	Volunteer
Bread:	R. Kingman	Hosp:	K. Varandas
Cup:	M. Morey		L. Mastrangelo
Hosp:	T. Lando		

WHY DO CHRISTIANS SPEAK OF GOD AS "TRINITY"?

Ask any mainline Christian to talk about or describe God, and sooner or later the conversation will involve the Trinity: one God, three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Trinity is one of the central dogmas of our faith, and in my religious education I recall catechists using images such as a triangle or shamrock in an attempt to illustrate and explain this doctrine. However, I have to say that even as a nine-year old I found such images inadequate, and as I got older I became even more confused: three persons in one God began to sound like multiple personalities, and certainly God did not suffer from a psychiatric disorder!

Theological studies did little to resolve my problem. I quickly learned that to speak about Trinity was to enter a theological minefield: imprecise language would lead to heresy, be it *tritheism* (three gods), *subordinationism* (a hierarchy of Father, Son, and Spirit), or *modalism* (defining God by function: creator, redeemer, and sanctifier). When speaking about the Trinity I realized that it was better to simply say "It's a mystery!" rather than slip into heresy by trying to explain or articulate this central doctrine of our faith.

For centuries theologians have been trying to articulate the mystery of the Trinity with varying degrees of success. But I find that a far more interesting question is to ask *why* Christianity chooses to define and explain God in this particular manner. To my knowledge, the notion of one God in three persons is unique to Christianity. The question is, how and why did Christians arrive at this particular formulation?

In order to articulate an answer, we have to begin with the Hebrew Scriptures and the History of Judaism. At times, Jews worshiped other gods (think about the golden calf in the desert), but over time Judaism became a *monotheistic* religion. Unlike surrounding nations or peoples, Jews evolved to the belief that there was only *one* God, and this belief became solidified about seven to eight hundred years before Christ.

At the same time that the Jews became monotheistic, Jewish theology believed that God would send a messiah or redeemer to "restore" the world. This person would be a human being – like Abraham, Moses, David, or one of the prophets – who would emerge as both a religious and secular leader.

A salient point that most Christians fail to realize is that nowhere in the Old Testament do we have any mention that God himself would become a human being. The notion that Jesus is God's Son – and is equal to God – is completely foreign to Jewish thinking. Hence, when Jesus is spoken of as the Son of God or as equal to God, such claims violate the centuries-old belief in monotheism. When we become aware of this, it should come as no surprise that the Jews of Jesus' day regarded such claims as blasphemy.

To put it another way, to speak of Jesus as God violates the belief in monotheism: how can you be monotheistic when you have "two" Gods, Yahweh and Jesus? This proved to be a thorny problem, not only for Jews during Jesus' lifetime, but also for Christians in the early Church.

In next week's column, I'll try to show how the notion of Trinity addressed this problem, and will also suggest how the Holy Spirit – the Third Person of the Trinity – became incorporated into the dogma.

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 |