

## PASTORAL COUNCIL

We are seeking two (2) parishioners to join our Pastoral Council. The Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month, from 7-9pm, September—May.

The Pastoral Council advises the parish administration on various aspects of community life at St. Teresa's.

Please see either Fr. Mike or call the office if you are interested in joining.

In observance of Thanksgiving, the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24.

**WEEKEND COLLECTION**  
(Envelope Donors & Loose Cash)

**NOVEMBER 11 & 12**  
**\$1,503**  
**THANK YOU!**

Please join us in welcoming to our parish community:



Amias Karl Fisher-Fleig, the son of Bryce & Emile Fisher-Fleig. Amias will be baptized by Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm. this Sunday at the 10 am Mass.

## The Pope Asks Young People to Take a Survey by November 30th

The Pope is requesting your feedback. A survey for young people 16 to 29 years old is online:

[survey-synod2018.glauco.it/limesurvey/index.php/147718](http://survey-synod2018.glauco.it/limesurvey/index.php/147718)

See bulletin board for more information. The direct link is available on our website.



PLEASE JOIN US  
AS WE CELEBRATE  
THE EUCHARIST IN  
OBSERVANCE OF  
THANKSGIVING  
AT 10:00AM  
NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>

**THANK YOU**

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Teresa's would like to give a big **THANK YOU** to all parishioners for supporting them. Due to your generosity, SVdP was able to make a donation to their counterpart in Santa Rosa to assist those affected by the fires.

## CALLING ALL KNITTERS & CROCHETERS

Want to help make scarves and blankets for those who need them this winter? We'll be knitting and crocheting after the 10am Mass every Sunday until early December. Come join us in the hall: no experience or tools necessary, we've got supplies and can help you get started!

## ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

A recent study concluded that in 2015, there were 133,700,000 in-store and online shoppers for Black Friday, resulting in more than \$71 billion spent in a single day. Every product we buy is produced from Earth's finite natural resources and each of those products is eventually disposed of, contributing to mass waste production and overflowing landfills. From the period of Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, humans produce 25% more waste than our average rate (which is already far from sustainable), resulting in an additional 1 million tons of waste dumped into landfills each week. So rather than participating in the Black Friday mania this year, keep your wallet and the earth happy by embracing Green Friday and reducing consumer purchases.

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

Served by the Carmelites



**November 19, 2017**  
**THIRTY-THIRD 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:

- 4:15pm **Saturday, November 18**  
† James J. Burns, Jr.  
Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)
- 8:30am **Sunday, November 19**  
The People of the Parish
- 10:00am † Bea & Vincent Cocciolone
- 8:30am **Tuesday, November 21**  
† Joseph L. Greenwell, Sr.
- 10:00am **Thursday, November 23**  
† Gregory Lewis
- 8:30am **Friday, November 24**  
† Eloisa Perea
- 4:15pm **Saturday, November 25**  
† Gregory Lewis  
Bob Rose (Spec. Int.)  
Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)
- 8:30am **Sunday, November 26**  
† Lois Trihub
- 10:00am † Ray McGrath  
The People of the Parish

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

**November 18 & 19**

This week’s second collection benefits the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, one in six people lives in poverty. With this collection you support programs that address the causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those who are struggling across the country. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and work on the margins.

**November 25 & 26**

Next week’s second collection benefits the St. Teresa Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**ATTENTION ALL LECTORS**

Workbooks for the new Liturgical Year, which starts December 3rd, are in the Ministers’ Sacristy. Please note you have picked-up your book on the provided sheet. Thank you!

**Parish Calendar**

- Sun, Nov 19 - Faith Formation, 9:00am, Hall  
- Sandwich Sunday, 11:00am, Hall
- Mon, Nov 20 - AA Step Meeting, 6:30pm
- Tue, Nov 21 - SVdP Sandwich Tuesday  
9:00am, Parish Kitchen  
- NO SVdP Grocery Distribution  
- Young Adults Meeting  
7:00pm, Priory
- Wed, Nov 22 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm
- Thur, Nov 23 - Thanksgiving Mass, 10:00am
- Sat, Nov 23 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Avila
- Sun, Nov 26 - Faith Formation, 9:00am, Hall

**Ministers Schedule for Next Week  
November 25 & 26**

	<b>4:15 PM</b>		<b>10:00 AM</b>
Lector:	C. Groepper	1 Lector:	L. Jacklevich
Bread:	R. Groepper	2 Lector:	A. Schelstrate
Cup:	J. Burns	1 Bread:	R. Labuguen
Hosp:	L. Lechich	2 Bread:	J. Warnock
		3 Bread:	E. Kudyba
<b>8:30 AM</b>		1 Cup:	C. Allen
Lector:	D. Canzoneri	2 Cup:	J. Schelstrate
Bread:	A. Lopez	Hosp:	J. Warnock
Cup:	S. Perez		
Hosp:	T. Lando		

**RISK -VS- “PLAYING IT SAFE”**

Over the past twelve months we have heard a number of parables from the Gospel of Matthew. And – on the last two Sundays of the year – we encounter two more: the *Parable of the Talents* (today) and the *Parable of the Sheep and the Goats* (next week).

In earlier columns, I explained that a parable was a mid-Eastern literary form which contains an unexpected shock, surprise, or twist. As 21<sup>st</sup> century readers, our challenge is to read a parable in such a way so as to experience that same shock, surprise, or twist. In doing so, we unlock the parable’s original meaning as intended by Jesus.

In this week’s parable, a man entrusts three servants with five thousand, two thousand, and one thousand silver pieces, respectively. (This parable is also found in the Gospel of Luke, but instead of silver pieces the servants are entrusted with five, two, or one talents.) Two of the three invest their amounts – doubling their investments to ten thousand and four thousand, respectfully – but the third “plays it safe”: he buries the money so as not to lose it. When the master returns, he applauds the actions of the first two servants, and puts each in charge of larger affairs. But the third servant incurs the master’s wrath: “Throw this worthless servant into the darkness outside, where he can wail and grind his teeth.”

The surprise or twist lies in the master’s reaction to the third servant. One would expect that the servant’s conservative and prudent action would be commended. Instead, the master launches into a verbal tirade that borders on abuse: “You worthless, lazy lout! . . . All the more reason to deposit my money with the bankers, so that on my return I could have had it back with interest.” If a modern day employer treated an employee like the master treats the third servant, the next part of the parable might involve a lawsuit for harassment!

What today’s Gospel illustrates is an aspect found in many parables: *risk*. When we take a step back from today’s parable, we notice that the master praises the first two servants for being industrious when their behavior might just as easily have been described as risky. Granted, each servant doubled his investment, but an equally plausible outcome might have been that each servant *lost* the entire amount! Given this possibility, the third servant’s burying the treasure – his “playing it safe” – could just as easily have been commended as prudent.

As a general rule, risk parables involve an act of faith. Historically, the early followers of Jesus took precisely this type of risk. For example: the first apostles, when called by Jesus, “left their nets and followed him” (Mk 1:18). They left their jobs and families behind in order to follow the Lord . . . which, to be honest, seems more foolish than risky.

Such risk is in marked contrast to the *Rich Young Man* (Mt 19:16-22). A follower of Jesus from a distance, the young man finally musters the courage to approach the Lord and asks, “What do I still lack?” Jesus tells him to “. . . go, sell what you have and give to [the] poor.” When the young man heard Jesus’ statement, “he went away sad for he had many possessions” (Mt 19:22). Unlike the first apostles, the rich young man was afraid to take the risk.

Ultimately, any act of faith involves risk. It involves tuning oneself over to the unknown, to something beyond oneself. Saying “I believe” is quite different from saying “I know”, because whenever we say “I believe” we are simultaneously saying “I doubt”. Acts of faith involve such risk, and these acts of faith are an imitation of Jesus. Jesus modeled such “risky faith” when, as he was dying on the cross, he said, “Into your hands I commend my spirit.”

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
- Send Sunday envelopes
- New Address
- Send Monthly Donor Form
- New Phone
- Moving—remove from mailing list