



# CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

This year we are again delighted to be working with The Lantern to distribute Christmas cheer.

Beginning November 28, the tree with all the sparkling tags is our annual Giving Tree. Each tag has the name of a child along with clothing sizes, or a toy the child desires.

Please take one or two (not more so everyone gets an opportunity) and **return the wrapped package no later than Sunday, December 13** to ensure that Santa is able to make timely deliveries.

Thank you for your generosity – be assured you will be making a child very happy.

## AID FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES

This year our Parish Council is adding envelopes to the tree. If you wish to make a donation to refugee families—mothers, fathers, and children—please put a check in the envelope made out to St. Teresa of Avila. All funds received will go to the refugees c/o Parishes Organized to Welcome Refugees (POWR). All donations are tax-deductible.

There has been a delay in the production of the **DONATION ENVELOPES**. We hope to receive them in time to place them in the church for pick-up next weekend. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

## ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Are you glad to see Pope Francis speaking out about the environment and climate change? Consider joining St Teresa's new Green Team volunteers. Please let us know of your interest by email to [info@stteresasf.org](mailto:info@stteresasf.org), and join us if you can for the official Green Team launch meeting on Tuesday, December 1 from 6 to 7 PM at the priory.

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

## YOU'RE INVITED!!

December 13th is the Third Sunday of Advent, *Gaudate Sunday*. *Gaudate* means "Rejoice!", and it marks the half-way point of Advent. After the 8:30 am & 10 am Masses we invite you to the Parish Hall to "rejoice" with a breakfast of sausage, eggs, and pancakes. (vegetarian/vegan options available)

We promise plenty of food and fellowship, please join us.

In April, Pope Francis declared that we will celebrate an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy in the upcoming liturgical year. The Jubilee Year gives the Church the opportunity to enjoy its spiritual bounty, "a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective".

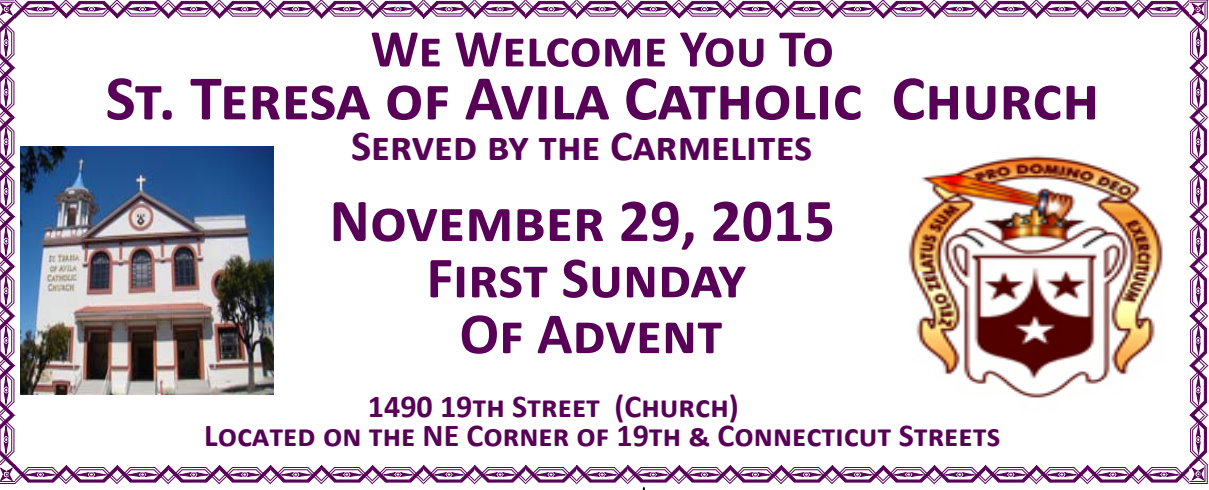
On the Third Sunday of Advent, December 13, Pope Francis will open the Holy Door of the Basilica of Saint John Lateran - the Cathedral of Rome. Archbishop Cordileone, as the Archbishop of San Francisco, invites all the faithful to join him at **Vespers at the Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption on December 13 at 3:00 pm to celebrate the opening of the Holy Doors in our Archdiocese** and to unite in prayer for the start of this Jubilee.

May we all rededicate ourselves to being *Merciful like the Father* during this Jubilee Year, as we seek to draw ever closer to our Lord Jesus Christ in his Holy Spirit.

## PASSINGS

We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to the family of:

Lena Ferrando, a long-time Potrero Hill resident and parishioner, who died Sunday, November 22. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Teresa's on Tuesday, December 1 at 10:00am.



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

SERVED BY THE CARMELITES

## NOVEMBER 29, 2015 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



1490 19TH STREET (CHURCH)  
LOCATED ON THE NE CORNER OF 19TH & CONNECTICUT STREETS

### PASTOR

Rev. Michael A. Greenwell, O. Carm.  
[PastorStTeresaSF@aol.com](mailto:PastorStTeresaSF@aol.com)

### PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.  
[mkwiecien@carmelnet.org](mailto:mkwiecien@carmelnet.org)

### DEACON

Rev. Mr. Charles Allen, Jr.  
[chuck@stteresasf.org](mailto:chuck@stteresasf.org)  
Rev. Mr. Martin Schurr  
[svdpms@yahoo.com](mailto:svdpms@yahoo.com)

### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Laura Diaz-Flaviani  
[lflaviani@pacbell.net](mailto:lflaviani@pacbell.net)

### DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Anarose Schelstrate  
[anarose0707@gmail.com](mailto:anarose0707@gmail.com)

### PARISH SECRETARY

Stephani Sheehan  
[stephani@stteresasf.org](mailto:stephani@stteresasf.org)

### 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  
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](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.*

## Parish Calendar

Sun, Nov 29 - No Faith Formation  
 Mon, Nov 30 - AA Meeting, 6:30pm, Avila  
 - Choir Practice, 6:30pm  
 Tue, Dec 1 - No Grocery Distribution  
 Sat, Dec 5 - Lay Carmelite Meeting  
 10:00am, Avila  
 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Church Hall  
 Sun, Dec 6 - Faith Formation, 9am, Hall

### MASS INTENTIONS

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

**Saturday, November 28**  
 4:15pm † Mike Comaich  
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

**Sunday, November 29**  
 8:30am † Lena Ferrando  
 The People of the Parish

10:00am † Carlo Gomez

**Tuesday, December 1**  
 8:30am The Sick of the Parish

**Friday, December 4**  
 8:30am The Deceased of the Parish

**Saturday, December 5**  
 4:15pm Bob Rose (Spec. Int.)  
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

**Sunday, December 6**  
 8:30am † Raul Rekow  
 The People of the Parish

10:00am † Mary & Frank Sullivan

## SECOND COLLECTIONS

### November 28 & 29

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

### December 5 & 6

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

## WEEKEND FIRST COLLECTION

### NOVEMBER 21 & 22

**\$1,832**

**THANK YOU!**

We are pleased provide you with Advent pamphlets, available in versions for adults & children. Additionally, there are also Advent calendars. All these items are available in the vestibule.

### Ministers Schedule for Next Week December 5 & 6

<b>4:15 PM</b>		<b>10:00 AM</b>
Lector: R. Ostler		1 Lector: C. Arett
Bread: J. Daddio		2 Lector: L. Jacklevich
Cup: E. Perea		1 Bread: R. Labuguen
Hosp: L. Lechich		2 Bread: A. Schelstrate
		3 Bread: M. Schelstrate
<b>8:30 AM</b>		1 Cup: C. Allen
Lector: P. Diaz		2 Cup: G. McGrath
Bread: J. Newman		Hosp: K. Varandas
Cup: R. Kingman		L. Mastrangelo
Hosp: T. Lando		

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <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 |

## SYRIAN REFUGEES: COMPASSIONATE CHRISTIANITY -VS- A POLITICS OF FEAR

Early last September, Pope Francis – addressing the weekly Sunday crowd in St. Peter's Square – issued a broad appeal to Europe's Catholics. The Pope called on every parish, religious community, and monastery to take in one refugee family — an appeal that, if honored, would offer shelter to tens of thousands.

At the time the pontiff issued his challenge, thousands of asylum-seekers were being detained in Hungary as they tried make their way to Germany and Austria. From a distance, we in the United States watched this drama unfold. Since 2011, nearly four million Syrians have fled their homeland, fleeing death, war, and famine. The majority of refugees have fled to neighboring countries, but thousands are seeking political asylum in the West.

A German citizen from Munich tweeted, "The Pope is asking all parts of the Church to take in refugees. My question to my parish . . . How shall we do it? What can I do?" This is the same question raised by St. Teresa's Pastoral Council at their October meeting, and the discussion continued at the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. After discussion, the council recognized that sponsoring or supporting a refugee family was unrealistic, but the Pastoral Council nevertheless wanted to challenge the Parish to participate in the relief effort.

Pastoral Council members "did their homework" for the November meeting. We discussed several options, such as collecting moneys for Catholic Charities or Catholic Relief Services. But we also discovered that there were other options available through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The USCCB website offered valuable suggestions, and below are links to pertinent material:

<http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-policy/syrian-refugee-crisis.cfm>

<http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-policy/current-policy-issues/upload/fact-sheet-on-refugee-services.pdf>

<http://www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/upload/POWR-donation-form.pdf>

**Parishes Organized to Welcome Refugees (POWR)** is sponsored by the US Catholic Bishops and raises funds to aid refugees, and at the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting the Pastoral Council decided to utilize **POWR**. Rather than add an additional second collection, we decided to tie-in the refugee relief effort with our annual Giving Tree. Each "ornament" supplies information about a child (such as age, sex, height, etc.) so that an appropriate gift may be provided. But this year, the "ornaments" include envelopes which allow an individual or family to make a donation to **POWR** for the refugee relief effort. Those who would like to participate can deposit their donation in a special box when they place their "gift" under the tree.

I want to point out that, for the past two Sundays, our religious education students have been decorating these envelopes. Their teachers say that this has been a wonderful catechetical experience as our children become aware of the refugee crisis.

Please note that our "plan" to tie-in the relief effort with the Giving Tree was in place *before* the November 13<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks in Paris. Suffice it to say that, in the two weeks since those events, there has been considerable political grandstanding. A politics of fear has emerged, hinting that refugees are terrorists.

We disagree. Why? Because the Pope was right in encouraging parishes to support refugees. Because the US Catholic Bishops were right in taking a stand in support of refugees and relief efforts. And because our Pastoral Council was right in challenging the parish to participate in the refugee and relief efforts.

That is why we are raising funds for **POWR** in conjunction with this year's Giving Tree.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.