

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ENDORSES THE DIGNITY FUND

The Board of Directors of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of San Francisco has voted unanimously to endorse The Dignity Fund on the November 2016 ballot for the City and County of San Francisco. "Catholic Charities has long worked to ensure the gift of dignity extends across all generations, especially seniors and adults with disabilities," said Jeff Bialik, Executive Director of Catholic Charities. The Dignity Fund would authorize the city to:

- Stabilize funding for today's services and support seniors, veterans, adults with disabilities and adults living with chronic and life-threatening health conditions and;
- Establish a fund that will grow with the City's discretionary revenues. Any unspent funds will roll over to the next year. The Dignity Fund will not raise taxes.

More than 1,000 seniors age with dignity each year through Catholic Charities Aging Support Services.



In Observance of Columbus Day, the Parish Office Will Be Closed Monday, October 10

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

We are hoping that a few people will volunteer to help with hospitality in the hall after the Sunday 10am Masses. We need people to either assist Stella & Rita in the kitchen, or to help with clean-up (mostly wiping tables, straightening up, etc.) It is our hope that enough people volunteer so no one person has to be there more than one or two Sundays per month. Please either see Stella or Rita on Sunday or call the Parish Office.

Baptized Adult Catholics who have not received either Confirmation or First Eucharist

are asked to see Father Kwiecien or call the parish office if you would like to be prepared for these Sacraments.

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Halloween is quickly approaching! How can you be both spooky and sustainable? **Green your costume!** Rather than buying a new costume for the event, get creative by going with a handmade and upcycled costume instead. **Hand Out Healthy Treats!** Instead of buying sugary candy, consider giving mandarin oranges, trail mix, organic granola bars, Rainforest Alliance Certified chocolate, or other Fair Trade candies. **Compost Leftovers!** Once Halloween is over, recycle your pumpkins, leaves, straw and any other organic material by putting it in the green composting bins.

WE WELCOME YOU TO ST. TERESA OF AVILA CATHOLIC CHURCH

SERVED BY THE CARMELITES



OCTOBER 9, 2016 TWENTY-EIGHTH 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

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

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
Judy Warnock

PARISH OFFICE / MAILING ADDRESS

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San Francisco, CA 94107
Phone: 415.285.5272
Fax: 415.285.8510
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MONTHLY DONORS & SECOND COLLECTIONS — SEPTEMBER

First Collection	\$2,500
Building & Maintenance	\$1,898
Priests' Retirement Fund	\$1,614
Louisiana Flood Relief	\$1,462
Garden Fund	\$ 470
St. Vincent de Paul	\$2,004

Classes Have Begun!!

FORMATION



If you have not yet registered your child/ren for classes, please contact Anarose Schelstrate or the Parish Office to make arrangements to enroll in one of our programs.

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, Oct 9 - Faith Formation, 9:00am, Hall
 Mon, Oct 10 - No Choir Practice
 - AA Step Meeting, 6:30pm
 Tue, Oct 12 - SVdP Meeting, 9am, Hall
 - SVdP Grocery Distribution
 1:00 pm, Parish Hall
 - Pastoral Council
 7:00pm, Avila
 Sat, Oct 15 - AA Meeting, 7pm, Avila
 Sun, Oct 16 - Faith Formation, 9am, Hall

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

4:15pm **Saturday, October 8**
 † Kathy Burns
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

8:30am **Sunday, October 9**
 The People of the Parish
 10:00am † Barbara McGrath

8:30am **Tuesday, October 11**
 The Sick of the Parish

8:30am **Friday, October 14**
 The Deceased of the Parish

4:15pm **Saturday, October 15**
 † Gertrude Henke & Gertrude McEvoy
 Henry Morgan Jr. (Spec. Int.)

8:30am **Sunday, October 16**
 † Gertrude & John Lech
 10:00am † Paul Sullivan
 The People of the Parish

SECOND COLLECTIONS

October 8 & 9
 No second collection scheduled.

October 15 & 16
 No second collection scheduled.

The Mass Intention book for 2017 is now available. If there are special dates on which you would like to dedicate a Mass to a loved one, please contact the Parish Office. We also have dates available for the remainder of **2016**.

WEEKEND COLLECTION

OCTOBER 1 & 2

\$2,007

THANK YOU!

Ministers Schedule for Next Week October 15 & 16

4:15 PM	10:00 AM
Lector: A. Rose	1 Lector: C. Arett
Bread: J. Burns	2 Lector: R. Pitts
Cup: B. Noelke	1 Bread: S. Miller
Hosp: R. Jones	2 Bread: M.K. Law
	3 Bread: J. Warnock
8:30 AM	1 Cup: J. Schelstrate
Lector: K. Causey	2 Cup: G. McGrath
Bread: P. English	Hosp: L. Mastrangelo
Cup: R. Kingman	
Hosp: T. Lando	

LEPROSY IN THE HEBREW AND CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES

Today is the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time, and both of today's principle readings (2 Kgs 5:14-17 & Lk 17:11-19) deal with leprosy. Most of us have at least a vague notion that leprosy is a skin disease, yet probably none of us have either seen a leper or have first-hand knowledge of the disease. In both the Old and New Testaments there are frequent incidents involving leprosy, and because there are so many misconceptions about the disease, I'd like to focus today's column on leprosy in the Bible: what is leprosy, and why is there such stigma attached to the disease?

Leprosy has affected humanity for over 4000 years, but for most of history it was a disease that was quite misunderstood. It was not until 1873 that Dr. Gerhard Hansen discovered that leprosy was the result of a bacterial infection. Leprosy is spread when one comes in contact with an infected person, but – contrary to popular belief – it is not highly contagious. However, it is an unusual disease in that its incubation period can be as short as a few weeks or as long as 30 years.

Skin lesions are the primary external sign of leprosy, and the disease is progressive, causing permanent damage to the skin, nerves, limbs, and eyes. Contrary to folklore and popular belief, leprosy does not cause body parts to fall off, although they can become numb or diseased as a result of secondary infections. These secondary infections, in turn, can cause fingers and toes to become shortened and deformed, and can also cause nerve damage leading to numbness of the skin over parts of the body. Beginning in about 1930, antibiotics were used to treat leprosy, but it was not until the 1980s that an effective drug regimen was developed that "cured" the disease.

For most of history – including the Old and New Testaments – human beings knew neither the cause of nor the cure for leprosy. As a result, people were *afraid* of lepers and, because of their fear, they *stigmatized* those victimized by the disease. To use Biblical and theological language, lepers were *excommunicated*. Until they "became clean" they were segregated in leper colonies, ostracized from the community because they were "unclean".

Because people knew nothing about "real leprosy" (now known as Hansen's Disease), virtually any form of skin disorder would arouse suspicion, resulting in the victim being segregated, ostracized, or quarantined. In other words, a person was treated as a leper if he or she had lesions, skin eruptions, dry or flaky skin, psoriasis, measles, chicken pox, shingles, or any type of a rash . . . perhaps even athlete's foot!

In the case of minor skin diseases or infections, once the symptoms disappeared the priest pronounced the person clean and he or she was incorporated back into the community. But in those cases where the condition was leprosy (Hansen's disease), the victim's condition never improved, only worsened. In such cases, victims were forced to live in leper colonies, segregated and ostracized from the community.

Because people knew neither the cause of leprosy nor how it was transmitted, anyone suspected of leprosy – as well as anyone who came in contact with lepers – was treated as a leper. In other words, when one *touched* a leper one *became* a leper. Given this understanding, we are not surprised that, when Jesus cured lepers, he was treated with suspicion and shunned: Jesus "became a leper" when he "touched a leper".

In the popular view, lepers were treated as sinners, their disease being a punishment for some transgression against God. Therefore, to cure a leper was, in effect, to forgive sin . . . which expands our understanding of what it means when Jesus touched and cured lepers.

In today's two readings there is an additional twist: Naaman the leper (Old Testament) and the ten lepers (Gospel) were *foreigners*. Given this additional information, the action of God's prophets (Elisha and Jesus) must have been quite a shock to those witnessing the miracles. Why? Because if they held the belief that only Jews were God's chosen people, then the actions of Elisha and Jesus – the healing of sinful foreigners – would have turned their world upside down!

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