

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Best Practices for Recology Customers during COVID-19. Help keep yourself and Recology San Francisco employees safe by following the guidance below.

STOP & THINK—What goes where? Sorting properly is critical to keeping recyclable and compostable material out of the landfill. Food scraps and yard trimmings go in the compost bin, while cardboard, paper, glass, metal, and plastic containers go in the recycling.

BREAK IT DOWN—Optimize space in your blue bin and keep recyclables loose (not bagged). Break down cardboard boxes and do what you can to save space in your cart to make sure it's not overflowing.

BAG IT & BIN IT—Do your part to keep drivers safe and reduce litter. Trash (black bin) should be secured in bags to prevent materials from blowing onto the street. Make sure all trash fits inside your bin.

SAVE YOUR DONATIONS—Put reusable items aside for now. Once Shelter-In-Place restrictions are lifted, donate reusable goods to a local charity, non-profit, family or friend. They will appreciate the donation, and it won't go to the landfill. A win-win!

WASH YOUR HANDS—Frequently! Washing your hands before and after rolling your bins to the curb will help keep both you and your driver safe. You can also wipe down the handles and lids of your bins with a sanitizing wipe to further protect yourself and drivers.

ROLL IT OUT—Place your curbside bins out early. Drivers may arrive earlier or later due to temporary routing changes. Remember to leave space between your bins to allow our automated trucks to collect bins effectively.

SMILE & WAVE—Drivers need to socially distance, too. Please maintain the advised 6 feet of social distance between you and your driver. But that doesn't mean you can't say hi — a friendly wave is always appreciated!

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

4:15pm	Saturday, April 18 The People of the Parish Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)
8:30am 10:00am	Sunday, April 19 † Sr. Kathleen Healy † Barbara McGrath
8:30am	Tuesday, April 21 All First Responders (Spec. Int.)
8:30am	Friday, April 24 † All who have died due to COVID-19
4:15pm	Saturday, April 25 All Healthcare Workers (Spec. Int.) Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)
8:30am 10:00am	Sunday, April 26 The People of the Parish † Raymond McGrath



AAA 2020

We are extremely happy to report we have met our goal of \$28,868 year, provided all pledges are fulfilled. We received pledges from 77 individuals/families. **Thank you for your most generous support!!**

If you have not done so already, please check with your employer to see if they provide matching funds to your donation.

If you still wish to contribute, all excess monies received by the Archdiocese will be returned to St. Teresa's.

We Welcome You To St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

Served by the Carmelites



APRIL 19, 2020 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

PASTOR

Rev. Michael A. Greenwell, O. Carm.
pastor@stteresasf.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.
mkwiecien@stteresasf.org

PARISH SECRETARY

Stephani Sheehan, stephani@stteresasf.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Laura Diaz-Flaviani, laura@stteresasf.org

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Anarose Schelstrate, anarose@stteresasf.org

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:15 pm
Sunday 8:30 &
10:00 am

MARRIAGE

Please call 6 months
in advance

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 8:30 am
Friday 8:30 am

BAPTISM & RECONCILIATION

Please call for an
appointment

PARISH OFFICE / MAILING ADDRESS

HOURS—10:00AM TO 4:30PM
390 Missouri St, San Francisco, CA 94107
Phone: 415.285.5272 Fax: 415.285.8510
E-mail: info@stteresasf.org
Website: stteresasf.org

REGISTERED . . . ?

Have you been receiving our email updates? We have been sending 1-2 emails per week to let our parishioners know what is going on at St. Teresa's. Did you know that we are livestreaming all Masses?

If you have not received any emails, please take a moment to register for the parish. The easiest way is through our website. You may also send an email to our parish secretary, Stephani, with your information (name, address, phone, email). This information is never shared outside of the parish office.

Our website is also being updated regularly to reflect any changes.

Welcome to St. Teresa of Avila'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, or complete the form on our website.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Email: _____

New Parishioner New Address and/or phone Send Sunday envelopes On-Line Giving

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.

THERE'S MORE TO TODAY'S GOSPEL THAN THE "DOUBTING THOMAS"

Today's Gospel is the familiar story of the "doubting Thomas". The story is framed by two appearances of Jesus, the first on Easter Sunday night and second a week later. Thomas is not present at the first, and it is at the second appearance that Jesus challenges Thomas to touch his hands and side, stating ". . . do not be unbelieving but believe." Usually, homilists focus on Thomas' lack of faith, but there is so much more to this Gospel than the "doubting Thomas". Earlier in the narrative the evangelist noted that Jesus breathed on the disciples, this week's column focuses primarily on the breath of God.

If you were in the upper room on Easter Sunday night and Jesus suddenly appeared in your midst, what would you see? What would you remember? And what would you write about for future generations?

I don't know what I would have remembered or written about, but I do know what the Evangelist John did: he tells us that Jesus *breathed on them*. Why on earth would the evangelist focus on this mundane, ordinary detail?

Reading between the lines, I would suggest that the evangelist tells us that Jesus breathes on them because he is trying to make a point: that the resurrected Jesus is not a ghost, phantom, spirit, or apparition. Why is this the case? Because ghosts don't breathe.

In emphasizing that Jesus *breathes*, the evangelist is saying that there is something physical and corporeal about the resurrected body. On one hand, the resurrected Jesus is flesh and blood like you and me. On the other hand, the risen Jesus is very different from us: unlike our bodies which grow old, die, and decay, the resurrected body is incorruptible.

This Sunday's Gospel is not the only time that an evangelist makes this point. Luke 24:36-49 parallels the Johannine account, except that, instead of breathing upon them, Jesus asks,

"Have you anything here to eat? They gave him a piece of baked fish; he took it and ate it in front of them." [Lk 24:41b-43]

The meaning lies between the lines. Ghosts don't breathe. Neither do ghosts eat fish. As interesting as breathing and eating might be, equally fascinating are the *words* Jesus speaks when breathing on the disciples:

"Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." [Jn 20: 22b-23]

The Church cites this passage as the place where Jesus institutes the Sacrament of Penance, but I would like to focus on how this passage links the Holy Spirit with the breath of God.

Jesus' words and action parallel what we find in the second story of creation:

". . . the Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being." (Gn 2:7)

Both in today's Gospel and in the above passage from Genesis we have a nascent theology of the Holy Spirit. Formal dogmas pertaining to the Trinity were not developed until the fourth century, and before there was any formal articulation of Trinitarian doctrine, Holy Spirit was understood as *God's Life* or *God's Breath*. Our earliest theology of the Holy Spirit recognizes that it is God's Spirit which gives us life and animates our being. As early as Genesis we recognize that God's life – the Holy Spirit – is present in us in the very act of breathing.

It is important to note that – at the time when the gospels were written – there was no developed theology of either the Holy Spirit or the Trinity. The early Christian community – being rooted in Jewish *monotheism* – had a difficult enough time coming to grips with the idea that Jesus was the divine Son of God; that there might be a "third person" in the godhead – the Holy Spirit – would never have entered their conversation.

The New Testament does describe instances which, by the fourth century, will be cited as scriptural support for a formal, developed Trinitarian theology. Scriptural "evidence" in support of the Holy Spirit includes:

- The *Advocate* or *Paraclete* whom Jesus promises to send after the Ascension (Jn 16:7)
- The *Tongues as of Fire* that descend upon the Apostles at Pentecost (Acts 2:1ff)
- The *Spirit Conferred on Converts* through the laying on of hands (Acts 8:16-18)
- The *Spirit Poured Out on Gentiles* before they are baptized (Acts 10:44 ff)
- The *Inspiration* that filled Peter when he was questioned by the Sanhedrin (Acts 4:8)

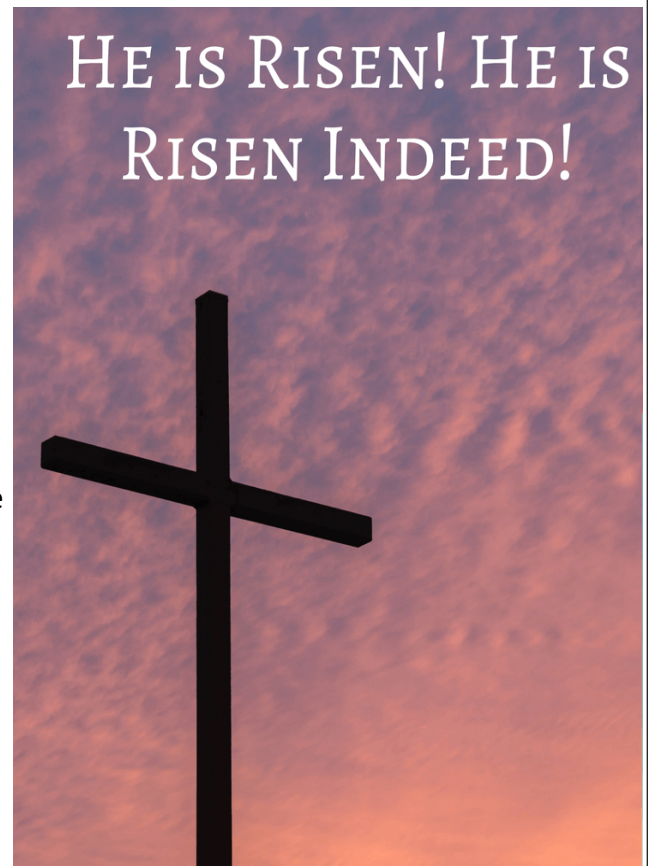
In cycles A, B, and C there are different readings for the third through seventh Sundays of Easter, but on the Second Sunday of Easter we always read the same Gospel, the Doubting Thomas. Perhaps the church does this because it wants to emphasize the final words of Jesus (in today's text):

"Jesus said to him (Thomas) 'Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and believed.'" [Jn 20:29]

Unlike Thomas, we believe without seeing . . . which is what the Church wants to emphasize in our annual reading of this Gospel.

On the other hand, "reading between the lines" demonstrates that there is a wealth of latent material in today's text. Not only does today's gospel ground the Church's claim to forgive sin, but the text also raises issues about the resurrected body, the "breath of God", and the Holy Spirit. Reading between the lines, we recognize that there is more to today's Gospel than the "Doubting Thomas".

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.



ON-LINE GIVING

To register for on-line giving or to make a one time gift, scan the QR code and complete the log in or scroll down to **Quick Give**.



St Teresa of Avila Church is an EPA ENERGY STAR® certified building.