

PASSINGS

We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to the family & friends of Peter Genera. Beloved Son of Sonny and Carmen Castro passed on Palm Sunday after a 6 year battle with cancer.

As a kid, Peter was photo'd in the Call Bulletin – at three, as the youngest toddler to catch a fish. He spent a life with a love of fishing and food. He graduated from City College and travelled the US working as an executive chef – treating his parents to lovely times at the hotels he worked at.

A man of faith, he found his community in El Paso where, he like his dad, fed those at the Church. His faith community was a large part of his life and a major support in his last days.

PASSINGS

We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to the family & friends of Douglas Punsalan. Doug was a long-time resident of Potrero Hill and a faithful parishioner of St. Teresa's, continuing to attend Mass after his retirement and move to Santa Rosa.

Doug passed on March 30th at his home. At this time there are no services scheduled. We will advise when more information becomes available.

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

- 4:15pm **Saturday, April 25**
 † Peter Genera
 Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)
- 8:30am **Sunday, April 26**
 10:00am The People of the Parish
 † Raymond McGrath
- 8:30am **Tuesday, April 28**
 All Healthcare Workers (Spec. Int.)
- 8:30am **Friday, May 1**
 All First Responders (Spec. Int.)
- 4:15pm **Saturday, May 2**
 † James J. Burns, Sr.
 Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)
- 8:30am **Sunday, May 3**
 10:00am The People of the Parish
 † John Griffin

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.

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

We Welcome You To St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

Served by the Carmelites



APRIL 26, 2020 THIRD 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

FAITH AND COMMON SENSE—THE CATHOLIC RESPONSE TO AN EPIDEMIC

Our Sunday Visitor has made a brochure available to encourage Catholics to face epidemics with a balance of reason, prudence, and trust in God. In it, readers will find practical tips for keeping themselves and others safe, how to plan ahead, and the importance of caring for the sick and most vulnerable. They will also learn about certain precautions that bishops and pastors may take to protect the health and safety of all the faithful. The pamphlet includes a special prayer that can be used to stay close to the Lord and the Blessed Mother in prayer during an outbreak.

<https://stteresasf.org/documents/faith-common-sense>

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.

THE UNNAMED DISCIPLE ON THE EMMAUS ROAD

It was late afternoon on that first Easter Sunday. A mysterious stranger accompanies two disciples – one named Cleopas, the other unnamed – as they walk and talk the seven miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus. The story hints that the stranger was Jesus, but the disciples do not recognize him . . . that is, until the end of their journey, when they sit down to eat and recognize him “in the breaking of the bread”.

This story is found only in Luke, and we read it only once every three years (on the Third Sunday of Easter, cycle A). It is my favorite story in the scriptures, and I have been intrigued by this passage long before I formally studied theology. For me, the Emmaus story is not simply a mysterious, cryptic story about an encounter with the Risen Lord. It is also a window into the soul of one of the most intriguing characters of the New Testament, the evangelist, Luke.

The third evangelist – known as Luke – was a convert to Christianity. Reputed to be “a physician from Macedonia,” Luke is the most prolific writer in the New Testament. He wrote both a Gospel and the *Acts of the Apostles*, and the consensus among scholars is that he is the best writer in the Christian Scriptures. Luke’s language is elegant, poetic, and inspirational.

It is also a historical fact that Luke never actually *met* Jesus. For me, this has always generated puzzling questions. How did Luke become so passionate a believer? What convinced Luke that Jesus was the promised messiah so that he not only abandoned his pagan ways to become a Christian, but also left everything behind to accompany Paul on his second missionary journey (Acts 16 ff)? Essentially, what was Luke’s conversion experience?

We know about the conversion of Luke’s companion, Paul. Blinded by the light on the road to Damascus, Saul’s conversion was so powerful that the great persecutor of Christians became the greatest preacher of Christianity. Which leads us to this question: what happened to Luke to cause him to leave his life in Troas, travel with Paul on his missionary journeys, and become the finest writer in the New Testament? The answer to this question, I believe, is found in today’s Gospel, in what happened to the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus.

My belief is that Luke’s conversion to Christianity was the result of his interaction and encounter with the Christian community. Luke, like the two disciples on the road, had a profound experience of the Risen Lord and “recognized him in the breaking of the bread”. For Luke, this did not take place on a road between Jerusalem and Emmaus; rather, it happened during the community’s celebration of the Eucharist. The disciples on the road recognized Jesus when the stranger “took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.” (Lk 24:30b) Luke, I believe, recognized Jesus’ presence when he participated in the community’s Eucharistic celebration. Today’s Gospel is not simply a story about two disciples on the road to Emmaus; it is also, metaphorically, a story about Luke’s conversion to Christianity.

To take it one step further, today’s story is neither about Luke nor the two disciples on the road; it is a story about us. We, like Luke, were neither alive nor present when Jesus walked the earth. And although we are catechized and learn about our faith, there comes a time when we experience a conversion and accept as true what we have been taught. In today’s

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Gospel, Luke gives us a paradigm for this conversion experience: we, like Luke and the two disciples, have our faith validated when we experience Christ’s presence in the Eucharistic community. We recognize him “in the breaking of the bread”.

And yes, the unnamed disciple is Luke. And you. And me.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

This past week marked the 50th anniversary celebration of Earth Day and the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis’s *Laudato Si’*. On April 22, Pope Francis dedicated his catechesis to a reflection on the human and Christian responsibility to care for the Earth, humanity’s common home.

In his catechesis, the pope said Earth Day was “an occasion for renewing our commitment to love and care for our common home and for the weaker members of our human family.”

“As the tragic coronavirus pandemic has taught us, we can overcome global challenges only by showing solidarity with one another and embracing the most vulnerable in our midst,” he said.

As the Book of Genesis relates, he said, “we live in this common home as one human family in biodiversity with God’s other creatures,” and God has called on humanity to care for and respect his creation and “to offer love and compassion to our brothers and sisters, especially the most vulnerable among us, in imitation of God’s love for us, manifested in his son Jesus.”

God is good and always forgives, the pope said, however, “The Earth never forgives: if we have despoiled the Earth, the response will be very bad.”

“We have failed to care for the Earth, our garden-home; we have failed to care for our brothers and sisters. We have sinned against the Earth, against our neighbors and ultimately against the Creator, the benevolent father who provides for everyone and desires us to live in communion and flourish together,” he said.

It is imperative that people restore “a harmonious relationship” with the Earth and with the rest of humanity, he said.

Looking for ways to celebrate Earth Day at home? Check out San Francisco Environments featured virtual events by going to <https://sfenvironment.org/climateactionmonth>

REGISTERED . . . ?

If you are not receiving emails from us, please take a moment to register for the parish through the link on our website or email our parish secretary, Stephani, with your information (name, address, phone, email). This information is never shared outside of the parish office. Our website is updated regularly to reflect any changes and features a return of our weekly bulletin.

FIRST & SECOND COLLECTIONS MARCH (ALL SOURCES)

First Collection	\$ 9,376
Building & Maintenance	\$ 5,075
Garden Fund	\$ 588
Little Sisters of the Poor	\$ 1,565
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 611



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.