

We Welcome You To
St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
Served by the Carmelites



December 12, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT



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

PASTORAL COUNCIL

PastoralCouncil@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 6 months
in advance

**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

ALL MASSES
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
MASKS REQUIRED
3 FEET SOCIAL DISTANCE
BRING A JACKET—ALL
DOORS & WINDOWS OPEN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Eucharistic Ministers: At all Masses. Call/email the Office or see Fr. Kwiecien.

Coffee & Donuts: After 8:30 and 10 am Masses (especially during the holidays). To volunteer, please call/email the office or see Fr. Greenwell.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

Friday, December 24th
4:15pm Family Mass
9:00pm Choir Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Saturday, December 25th
8:30am & 10:00am
(No 4:15pm Mass)

NEW YEAR'S DAY
SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Saturday, January 1st
9:00am

All Masses will be live-streamed via the link on our website or

<https://zoom.us/j/820821335#success>

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GAUDETE SUNDAY

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! Indeed the Lord is near.

— Phil 4:4, 5 (the Introit for Gaudete Sunday)

Gaudete is the Latin word for *rejoice*, and the Third Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete Sunday*. Today marks the approximate half-way point in the Season of Advent, and there are subtle differences in today's liturgy. In the tradition of the Church, the organ and flowers – normally not used during the Advent Season and reserved until Christmas Eve – are employed, and optional rose-colored vestments may be worn in lieu of the familiar Advent purple. Rose is the color of the third candle in the Advent wreath, and the hymn, *Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*, is most appropriate for today's liturgical celebration. Why does the Church do this?

Originally, the season of Advent paralleled the season of Lent, beginning as a 40-day preparation for the feast of Christmas. At that time Advent – like Lent – was a penitential season, which began in about mid-November and lasted six weeks. Over time, the Advent season was reduced to from six weeks to four, but – more importantly – the *tone* of the season changed. Whereas Lent was a penitential season that focused on prayer, penance, almsgiving, and fasting, Advent developed into a season of longing, both for the anticipated second coming of Christ at the end of time and the commemoration of his first coming at Christmas.

You may have noticed that the Advent season (and, for that matter, the liturgical year) is “out of sync” with the rest of the world. In the real world, New Year's is celebrated on January 1st; in the Church, the new year begins with the First Sunday of Advent (which this year fell on the evening of November 27th). The real world “quasi-officially” begins its Christmas season with Macy's Thanksgiving Parade and “Black Friday”; the Church does not officially begin her Christmas celebration until Christmas Eve, December 24th. The real world looks at things in chronological order; the Church juxtaposes that order when, on the First Sunday of Advent, the Gospel focuses on the *second* coming of Christ. Three weeks later, the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent shifts to the *first* coming of Jesus, and we begin to tell the Christmas story on that Sunday, several days before the actual celebration of his birth on December 25th.

This weekend – the Third Sunday of Advent – marks that chronological shift from the second coming to the first. For the first two weeks of Advent, the liturgy focused on the future, second coming of Christ; in this the third week we shift our focus to the upcoming feast of Christmas. Today's readings point to the imminent birth of Jesus, and next week – on the Fourth Sunday of Advent – the Gospel reading actually serves as a prelude to the Christmas Story. This shift in focus from Christ's second coming to the first is symbolized by the shift in color, music, and tone that we experience on this day.

The spirit of *Gaudete Sunday* is readily apparent in the opening lines in today's first two readings:

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion!
Sing Joyfully, O Israel!
Be glad and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

—Zep 3:14

Rejoice in the Lord always!
I say it again. Rejoice!
The Lord himself is near.
—Phil 4:4

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

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.

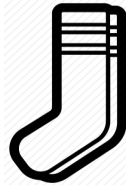
The community of St. Teresa's finds its strength to fulfill this through participation in the Eucharist, prayer, learning the building of relationships, and action for Justice.

Catholic Charities Immigration Center Reunites Families & Serves Individuals from All Countries

DID YOU KNOW that Catholic Charities offers our immigration legal services to reunite families and serve individuals from all countries?

With an experienced legal staff at our San Mateo and San Francisco offices, the Center provides family- and marriage-based immigration as well as naturalization services for a reasonable legal fee. **Call 650.727.8430 to schedule your free consultation today!**

By choosing Catholic Charities to represent you, you will support the Center's invaluable work consistent with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to help local immigrants participate in our society so that together we seek the common good and well-being of all.



While shopping this season, keep a look-out for inexpensive white athletic socks. We will have our annual **SOCK DRIVE** in January.

SECOND COLLECTION

This week's second collection benefits the Retirement Fund for Religious. The women and men Religious of the Archdiocese are appreciative of any help you can give and count on your assistance as they face retirement with limited resources. More importantly, though, please remember in your prayers the more than 500 women and men religious living and serving in the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Donate online [here](#).

Next week there will be no second collection.



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

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Christmas is unfortunately a holiday that generates a lot of waste, but with these eco-conscious tips, you can have a Christmas that's more mindful of the environment. Rather than buying more toys, clothes, and other trinkets for loved ones, consider giving them the gift of an experience! Buying a museum membership, orchestra season tickets, sport game tickets, annual national park passes, or even a pottery making lesson, are all great ways to provide somebody the gift of experiencing something new. However, if you'd really prefer to have a loved one open a gift, consider purchasing zero-waste or plastic-free products, shop from small businesses, give a handmade gift, or purchase a gift that gives back like planting trees. It's a great feeling when you know you're doing your part even if you decide to only make a few small changes during this advent season.



ON-LINE GIVING

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

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

Saturday, December 11

4:15pm † Bob Rose

Sunday, December 12

8:30am The People of the Parish

10:00am † Javier Navarro

Tuesday, December 14

8:30am † Edward B. Godwin

Friday, December 17

8:30am † Edward B. Godwin

Saturday, December 18

4:15pm † Bob Rose

Sunday, December 19

8:30am The People of the Parish

10:00am † Dory Yochum

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED next Sunday December 19 after the 10am Mass to help bring Christmas Decorations down from the Choir Loft.

VOICE YOUR OPINION

This weekend, December 11 & 12, we will be handing out paper ballots in church to vote on the new paint colors for the interior painting of the church. Emails have been sent out with the final 3 choices; email the office if you did not receive it.

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

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE



Thank you to all the wonderful, generous people who have donated to our Giving Tree. You will be making 81 families very happy!

Monday, 12/13, is the last day to drop cards off at the Parish Office. Simply put your gift cards in an envelope, note the Name & Family Number and place through the mail slot.

If you have pledged but cannot get the card to us on time, please consider giving an "e-card". Please email givingtree@stteresa.org with the name and family number; we will make sure Santa comes to everyone.