

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Americans are generating more plastic trash than ever, and very little of it gets recycled. Plastics and their byproducts are littering our cities, oceans, and waterways, and contributing to health problems in humans and animals. Here are some ways to get plastic out of your life:

- Carry reusable shopping bags
- Give up bottled water
- Buy from bulk bins
- Shop at your local farmers market
- Avoid single serving containers
- Buy in metal, glass, and wood
- Try to borrow, rent, or buy used first
- Go plastic free for parties

AAA 2020—Week 1

Assessed Amount: \$28,868
 Amount Pledged: \$ 9,170
 Balance Remaining: \$19,698

We are at **32%** of our goal! Thank you to all who have donated & pledged. Last year we had AAA wrapped up in 6 weeks (including pledges to be paid over the year) and received donations from 75+ parishioners/families. We would like to receive pledges from 100 people this year. So far we have received donations from 30 individuals/families.

Please check with your employer to see if they provide matching funds for charitable donations.

You can donate through the Archdiocesan website: <https://sfarch.org/aaa>
Choose St. Teresa Church
 or by scanning this **QR code**



Catholic Help and Hope for Hurting Marriages

Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with your spouse? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels, including disillusionment and deep misery. The next program in this area begins with a weekend **February 28 –March 1**, and involves Saturday follow-up sessions in March and April. For information or to register, phone or e-mail:

Retrouvaille of San Francisco: 415-893-1005
SF@RetroCA.com
[HelpOurMarriage.com](http://RetroCA.comHelpOurMarriage.com)



Remember man that you are dust and into dust you shall return.

ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 26ST

Mass with Distribution of Ashes
12:15pm & 7:30pm



ON-LINE GIVING

To make a **one time gift**, scan the QR code, scroll past the log in, click on **Quick Give**. To **register for the program**, scan the QR code and complete the log in, etc.



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

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

A Warm, Welcoming, Inclusive Faith Community

Served by the Carmelites



FEBRUARY 16, 2020
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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

Operation New Socks for the Homeless



FINAL UPDATE

Our final tally is in—we collected a grand total of **2,662** pairs of socks!!!

Due to your generosity, there will be warm, dry feet for those served by The Presentation Day Labor Program, Martin de Porres and The Catholic Worker Hospitality House. Socks were delivered last week. The three programs who benefited were extremely grateful for your donations and will put them to very good use.

Interfaith Refugee Welcome Concerts

Benefitting Catholic Charities Center for Immigration Legal & Support Services

Enjoy outstanding classical music by gifted young local musicians at an upcoming benefit concert for families and individuals:

February 23, 2022, 4:00 PM, Mission Dolores Basilica, 3321 16th Street, San Francisco.

Notes for Nourishment concert featuring teen pianist Josephine Chan, violinist Pierce Wang, and cellist Robert Howard. Admission is free, however, suggested donations of \$10 - \$20 will be collected at the entrance and exit. Free parking behind the Basilica (enter from Church St.).

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

Saturday, February 15

4:15pm † William J. Burns
Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, February 16

8:30am † Alberto Herrera
10:00am The People of the Parish

Tuesday, February 18

8:30am † John Griffin

Friday, February 21

8:30am The Sick of the Parish

Saturday, February 22

4:15pm The People of the Parish
Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, February 23

8:30am † Edwina Fenili
† George Salamy
10:00am † Leticia Leano

Ministers Schedule for Next Week February 22 & 23

4:15 PM		10:00 AM	
Lector:	Sr. Maire	1 Lector:	D. McManus
Bread:	J. Burns	2 Lector:	L. Schoendorf
Cup:	R. M. Ostler	1 Bread:	J. Schelstrate
Hosp:	R. Jones	2 Bread:	Volunteer
		3 Bread:	M. Ta'aga
8:30 AM		1 Cup:	S. Miller
Lector:	D. Canzoneri	2 Cup:	A. Schelstrate
Bread:	S. Siebel	Hosp:	J. Warnock
Cup:	R. Kingman		
Hosp:	T. Lando		

SECOND COLLECTIONS

February 15 & 16

There is no second collection this weekend.

February 22 & 23

Next weekend's second collection will benefit the St. Teresa Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

Parish Calendar

Sun, Feb 16	- Faith Formation, 9am, Hall - Sandwich Sunday, 11am, Hall
Mon, Feb 17	- Office Closed - Choir Practice, 7pm, Church - AA Step Meeting, 6:30pm, Hall
Tue, Feb 18	- AA Meeting, 7:30am, Avila - SVdP Sandwich Tuesday 9am, Parish Kitchen - SVdP Grocery Distribution 1pm, Hall - Young Adult Scripture Study 7pm, Priory
Wed, Feb 19	- AA Meeting, 7pm, Hall
Sat, Feb 22	- AA Meeting, 7pm, Avila
Sun, Feb 23	- Faith Formation, 9am, Hall - Sandwich Sunday, 11am, Hall



The Parish Office
will be closed
on Monday,
February 17th
in observance of
Presidents' Day

THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY AND THE ISRAELITE UNDERSTANDING OF LAW

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets.
I have come not to abolish but to fulfill." (Mt 5:17)

So speaks Jesus in today's gospel, part of the *Sermon on the Mount*. In this passage, Jesus reflects on law, citing examples as they pertain to murder, adultery, divorce, and oaths. In doing so, Jesus challenges us to look at law (and sin) in a new and different light.

Notice, at the onset, that Jesus intends, "...not to abolish, but to fulfill. [the Law]" Essentially, Jesus takes the interpretation of law to a new level. In the teaching on adultery, for example, he expands the sin of adultery to include *thoughts and desires of infidelity*. In a similar way, Jesus expands the notion of killing to include *anger against another human being*. In other words, Jesus does not limit sin to actions. Instead, he expands the notion of sin to a level which includes motives, attitudes, and intentions of the heart.

In today's homily I intend to focus on this deeper level, but in today's column I'd like to focus on a different, underlying issue. Why is Jesus – and his Jewish audience – so focused on law in the first place?

To answer this question, we have to go back about six centuries to what is known as the *Babylonian Captivity*, a catastrophic event which took place between 588 BC and 537 BC. To put it succinctly, the Babylonians defeated the Israelites in 588 BC, and exiled the religious, economic, and political leaders to Babylon (roughly 1000 miles East of Israel to what is now present day Baghdad, Iraq). The Babylonian Exile was devastating, not simply because the Israelites were exiled to a foreign land, but because of what was lost in the process:

- the **Land**, known as the *Promised Land*, given by God to the Israelites following their liberation from slavery in Egypt, was now in the hands of a foreign power;
- the **King**: who was God's anointed, chosen one, and representative on earth, no longer reigned; and
- the **Temple**, which was built by Solomon and located in God's Holy City of Jerusalem, was destroyed by the Babylonian conquerors.

The Exile lasted approximately fifty years, which gave the Israelites plenty of time to reflect upon what happened. During the exile they pondered one, burning question: What did we do to so offend God that, to punish us, he not only took away our land, our king, and our temple but also exiled us to a foreign land?

For fifty years the Israelites pondered this question, and after a half-century, they came up with an answer: We don't know what we did, but we better not do it again!

And how do we ensure that we don't do it again? We develop a system of regulations and laws that govern every aspect of our lives. It is in Babylon that the original Ten Commandments are expanded to over 600 laws (see the books of *Leviticus* and *Numbers*), and this preoccupation with the minutiae of law still prevailed in Jesus' day (remember when they ask, "Which law is the greatest?"). This understanding of law is the context for today's Gospel, and what Jesus does in the *Sermon on the Mount* is to shift the focus from the number and detail of laws to the underlying intention and purpose of law.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.