

## 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.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

This weekend is the special collection for our St. Vincent de Paul Conference. Historically, most donations have been made at Mass, usually in cash.

While donations to our Parish have been good, St. Vincent de Paul has experienced a drop. They are continuing to provide food to neighbors in need. If you are able, please take a moment to make a donation, either on-line, by mail, or by dropping a check off at the office. They would be most grateful, as will the people they serve.

### CHARITY FUND

Do you know that St. Teresa's maintains a Charity Fund to assist people in need (parishioner or not)? Items we help with range from groceries, rent or tuition assistance, to funeral expenses. Lately this fund has experienced heavier than usual use.

Please consider making a donation to our Charity Fund. There is now an option in the on-line portal.

### DO YOU HAVE ANY APPLE PHONES THAT YOU ARE NOT USING?

We have recently upgraded our livestreaming equipment and are in need of donations of two iPhone 6 or above. These are to be used as cameras. If none are available, we will have to purchase these items.

### COLLECTIONS

As we enter the last week of June, we are behind in our collections (Sunday and Building & Maintenance) by approximately 40%, compared to June 2019. This is the first month we have lagged so far behind 2019 amounts.



### 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



## JUNE 28, 2020 THIRTEENTH 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

### UPDATE ON PUBLIC MASS

On Friday, June 12th the San Francisco Department of Public Health issued a clarification to their order regarding church services. Indoor Masses are not allowed in San Francisco at this time. We will continue to livestream all of our regularly scheduled Masses and prepare to once again celebrate together as a community. The dispensation to attend Mass remains in place.

As we look to the future, we must have volunteers to serve as ushers at the weekend Masses. We need 4-6 volunteers for each Mass. Without these volunteers we will be unable to resume public Masses. We do not have adequate staff to ensure our ability to follow protocols and protect attendees. Volunteers are needed to:

- Control the entry of attendees into the church,
- Collect and assist attendees in completing affidavits,
- Guide attendees to the pews; and,
- Ensure that attendees maintain physical distancing and other safety practices.

Ushers should arrive at least a half hour before Mass for training and organization. Ideally volunteers would make a weekly (or bi-weekly) commitment to help. Contact the Parish Office by phone or email to volunteer.

## THE "MIRACULOUS BIRTH" OF CHILDREN

Today's first reading – taken from the Second Book of Kings (2 Kgs 4:8-17) – begins with a woman from Shunem offering hospitality to the prophet Elisha:

*"... let us arrange a little room on the roof and furnish it for him with a bed, table, chair, and lamp, so that when he comes to us he can stay there."* (2 Kgs 4:10)

As the narrative continues, we learn that,

*"She has no son, and her husband is getting on in years."* (2 Kgs 4:14b)

Elisha promises her that,

*"This time next year you will be fondling a baby son."* (2 Kgs 4:16a)

Finally, we learn that,

*"... by the same time the following year she had given birth to a son, as Elisha promised."* (2 Kgs 4:17)

This story follows a familiar pattern found in both the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. A couple – often elderly and past child-bearing age – miraculously conceives a child. Here are two examples of such stories, one from the Hebrew Scriptures and second from the New Testament.

In Genesis 17, God tells the 100-year old Abraham that his 90-year old wife, Sarah, will bear him a son. Abraham laughs at God's suggestion, but God is faithful to his promise: within a year Isaac is born, and Isaac's birth is seen as a sign of God's covenant with Israel.

In the New Testament we have, in the Gospel of Luke, a marvelous story regarding the birth of John the Baptist. Elizabeth and Zechariah *"had no child, because Elizabeth was barren and both were advanced in years."* The angel Gabriel appears to Zechariah and announces John's birth. Zechariah is skeptical, and is struck dumb until after the birth of John, his son.

There are other examples of "miraculous births" in the Scriptures, with the most extraordinary being the conception and birth of Jesus. The more important question, however, is this: What is the deeper meaning in these stories describing "miraculous" childbirths?

There's a three-fold answer to this. The first can be found in Genesis 18:14, when God says to Abraham, *"Is anything too marvelous for the Lord to do?"* In this context, the conception and birth of children – either by those thought to be barren or those past child-bearing age – was regarded as a demonstration of God's favor, benevolence, and generosity.

The second answer can also be found in Genesis: *"Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so shall your descendants be."* (Gn 15:5) In the Hebrew Scriptures, God repeatedly makes the promise that he will make of them a great nation. In this context, children are a sign of God's faithfulness to the covenant.

The final answer surrounds the extraordinary leaders that are born through extraordinary means or under extraordinary conditions. John the Baptist and Jesus immediately come to mind. John was the last of the prophets and the herald of "the one who is to come." Jesus was the "Word made flesh who dwelt among us," the one who both reconciled the human race to God and established a New Covenant in the Eucharist.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

## ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's (SFPUC) innovative Stormwater Management Ordinance just celebrated their 10 year anniversary! Since the inception of the ordinance, the SFPUC has helped oversee the completion of 300 green infrastructure projects on public and private properties. These projects divert rainwater from the City's combined sewer system, easing the burden on a network that features 100-year-old infrastructure in some segments. In the decade of its existence, the undertaking has helped manage 180 million gallons of rainwater each year, steering 60 million gallons of water away from the City's sewer system in the process. The green infrastructure projects have also helped beautify neighborhoods and reduced the chance of contaminants from flowing into the City's sewer system. The Stormwater Management Ordinance transformed the City for the better!



### MASS INTENTIONS

*As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:*

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 4:15pm            | <b>Saturday, June 27</b><br>† <u>Lupita Perea</u><br>Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)                    |
| 8:30am<br>10:00am | <b>Sunday, June 28</b><br>The People of the Parish<br>† <u>Dory Yochum</u>                             |
| 8:30am            | <b>Tuesday, June 30</b><br>† <u>Ruby Sanchez</u>   |
| 8:30am            | <b>Friday, July 3</b><br>† <u>Lupita Perea</u>   |
| 4:15pm            | <b>Saturday, July 4</b><br><u>Audrey &amp; Bob Rose</u> (Spec. Int.)<br>Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.) |
| 8:30am<br>10:00am | <b>Sunday, July 5</b><br>† <u>Marie Anuzzi</u><br>The People of the Parish<br>† <u>Mary Sullivan</u>   |



### 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.