

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 TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Getting ready to send out Christmas cards this year? Here are some tips to help you make sustainable decisions!

Skip the Foil- Foil pressed cards are really pretty, and they are super popular right now. However, they can't be recycled and they aren't compostable.

Buy Less- Buy fewer cards and only send them to the people you really care about. Limiting the number of cards that are sent out not only reduces the amount of materials used, but it also cuts back on the CO2 emissions that come from delivery.

Save the Trees- With so many recycled paper options out there, it makes it easy to find alternative paper options that aren't made from virgin tree paper. Consider purchasing cards and envelopes that are made from recycled materials.



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



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:

4:15pm	Saturday, November 28 † Gregory Lewis † Henry Morgan, Jr.
8:30am 10:00am	Sunday, November 29 The People of the Parish Lynn Jacklevich (Spec. Int.)
8:30am	Tuesday, December 1 All suffering from COVID-19,
8:30am	Friday, December 5 The Deceased of the Parish
4:15pm	Saturday, December 6 † Edward M .Henke † Edward F. Henke † Henry Morgan, Jr.
8:30am 10:00am	Sunday, December 7 The People of the Parish † Mary Sullivan

We Welcome You To St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

Served by the Carmelites



November 29, 2020 FIRST 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

UPDATES

- **We are preparing to send out a survey to gauge interest in attendance at our Christmas Masses, should we be able to celebrate together at that time. The survey will be sent out next week. Please be aware that attendance will be by reservation only. We will need to have a minimum of 4 volunteers at each Mass to guarantee the safety of all attendees. If volunteers are not available for any Mass, that Mass will be available via live-stream only.**
- After consultation with our Safety Directors and Fr. Kwiecien, Fr. Greenwell has made the decision to suspend all Public Masses at St. Teresa's, effective immediately. All Masses will continue to be live-streamed.
- Lectors are needed, particularly at the 10am Sunday Masses. Please email the office to sign-up.
- The Missals for the next Liturgical Year, which begins on November 29, are available for pick-up. Please email the office to make arrangements.
- The new Workbooks for Lectors are also available for pick-up. Please email the office to make arrangements.

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

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference would like to thank all those who have generously donated over the past year. They were able to provide over 40 people with at least 2 bags of food each for Thanksgiving this year.

ADVENT: IT'S NOT JUST A SHORTER LENT!

I suspect that, for many Catholics, Advent is like Lent . . . only two weeks shorter! After all, many of the things we do in Lent occur in Advent as well. We don't sing the *Gloria* or *Alleluia*; we wear purple vestments; and, in many parishes, the semi-annual penance service takes place, the other occurring during Lent.

Despite such surface similarities, Advent and Lent are actually two completely different seasons. Lent emphasizes fasting and penance in anticipation of Easter, whereas Advent is a season of hope and longing in anticipation of Christmas.

In the history of the Church the season of Lent underwent a three-fold development. Originally, Lent was a 40-day fast in preparation for Easter, which was then followed by 50-days of rejoicing between Easter and Pentecost. This was the original and earliest understanding of Lent, and it can be traced back to the earliest days of Christianity.

The season of Lent took on a different flavor when it evolved into the *Period of Purification and Enlightenment*, a time when catechumens went through their final spiritual preparation before receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. This phase dates from the early church until about the 5th century before it suddenly disappeared . . . only to be restored about 40-years ago with the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council.

Finally, the emphasis in Lent focused on penance, a time of metanoia when people took inventory of their lives, repented and confessed their sins, and prepared for the celebration of the Paschal Mystery at Easter. This understanding of Lent – focusing on sin and conversion – is probably the “Lent” that most Christians are familiar with.

The tone in Advent is quite different from the tone in Lent. Instead of fasting and penance, Advent emphasizes anticipation and longing. I'd like to suggest that, perhaps, the best analogy for Advent is the period of pregnancy. As a couple journeys through the nine months which will cumulate with the birth of their child, they experience a plethora of emotions. On the one hand, there is incredible joy and longing as they anticipate the birth. However, this joy and longing walks hand in hand with incredible anxiety and fear. Will there be complications with the pregnancy and birth? Will the child be healthy? And what about the child's future? Will the child's life be meaningful and fruitful, filled with joy and happiness? Or will it be marked by suffering and sadness, tragedy and pain? During the nine months of pregnancy, parents vacillate between hope-joy and anxiety-fear.

Advent is like pregnancy. During the darkest, coldest time of the year – the winter solstice – we anticipate the Light of Christ, the Son of God, coming into our darkened, sinful world. We anticipate and hope that the presence of Christ can and will make a difference, yet we also know “the rest of the story”: that the life of Jesus ends in suffering, crucifixion, and death. The fact that this tragedy of death is triumphed by Resurrection does not diminish the tragedy. Hence, in the Paschal Mystery, we experience both sadness and joy. This is true for the life of Jesus; this is true for each of our lives; this is true for those waiting to be born.

As you can see, there is quite a bit of difference between the seasons of Advent and Lent. In some of the non-Catholic Christian denominations – especially in the Anglican and Lutheran Churches – this difference is emphasized by a change in the color of vestments. During Advent

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midnight blue vestments are worn instead of purple, and this subtle color shift from purple to blue highlights the difference between these two liturgical seasons. The Roman Catholic Church does not allow the wearing of midnight blue vestments, only purple; perhaps this is why Catholics so often think that Advent and Lent are the same season!

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

GIVING TREE

This Christmas will be different in many ways so continuing our Giving Tree tradition is one way we can honor the past and imagine the future! Our Giving Tree is virtual this year; your generosity is real, as always.

To become a giver simply email givingtreesteresa@googlegroups.com. A Circle of Light member will send you a child's first name and family number. You may certainly ask to be Santa to more than one child. We anticipate about 70 children from 25 families. We also want to give a virtual holiday basket to each family to add to their festivities so you can choose to provide a gift card for groceries too.

For safety and convenience, all gifts this year will be gift cards. We suggest a card value of \$25. If you'd like to contribute a lesser amount, we will consolidate those cash donations into gifts for the children and gift baskets. Lantern staff recommend Target or VISA/MasterCard gift cards; look for cards that the families can use easily without computer access. If you'd like to donate a gift card toward the holiday baskets, we suggest Safeway.

Please send your cards to The Giving Tree, St. Teresa of Avila Church, 390 Missouri Street, San Francisco, CA, 94107 **no later than December 12**. You can also drop them in the mail slot at the Rectory. The Circle of Light will consolidate all gifts and deliver them to The Lantern. The staff at The Lantern will give your gifts to the families starting December 16.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



This year the Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 8th and is a Holy Day of Obligation in this Archdiocese. Live-stream Masses at 8:30am and 7:00pm.

SECOND COLLECTION

This weekend's second collection benefits The St. Teresa Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society

Next week's second collection benefits the St. Teresa Building & Maintenance Fund.

You may donate to these collections through our on-line donation portal.

FIRST & SECOND COLLECTIONS

September

First Collection	\$6,848
Building & Maintenance	\$2,584
Garden Fund	\$ 625
Charity Fund	\$ 243
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 730
Carmelite Seminary	\$ 590

OCTOBER

First Collection	\$9,023
Building & Maintenance	\$2,032
Garden Fund	\$ 325
Charity Fund	\$ 989
St. Vincent de Paul	\$1,955
World Mission Sunday	\$ 540

Thank you for continuing to support our parish. We are truly blessed!