

St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church



"In this house all are friends, all are loved, all are helped, all are held dear."

— St Teresa of Avila

JULY 13, 2025

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

1490 19TH STREET (CHURCH)
NE CORNER OF 19TH & CONNECTICUT STS.



MEET THE NEW GUYS

Introducing Br David Semmens, O.Carm. He's the new kid on the staff here at Saint Teresa's. His role will be coordinating our social outreach; e.g., work with the homeless, visits to the homebound, communion calls, informing us of the Catholic bishops responses to immigration and health care, and maybe twinning this parish with a poor parish, or maybe even an occasional 'mission trip.' He'll be working with Sister Lucia who has a long history of doing this here at Saint Teresa's.

Meet Carmelite seminarian, Brother Kevin Flores, O.Carm. He's currently teaching at a Carmelite high school in Tucson but during the academic summer break he'll be dividing his time between Saint Teresa of Avila and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, a Carmelite parish in Fairfield. Why? The Provincial would like him to have some parish exposure.



PARTICIPATE IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Gun Safety Committee

Date: First Wednesday each month
Time: 10:30 - 12 noon Downstairs Hall

St Vincent de Paul St. Teresa Conference

Date: Second Monday each month
Time: 10:30 - 12 noon Downstairs Hall

PASTOR

Rev. Gregory Houck, O.Carm.
pastor@stteresasf.org

IN RESIDENCE

Bro. David Semmens, O.Carm.,
dsemmens@carmelites.net
Rev. Brian Henden, O.Carm.,
bhenden@carmelites.net
Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O.Carm.,
mkwiecien@carmelites.net



OFFICE MANAGER/ BUSINESS MANAGER

Joel Gile, joel@stteresasf.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Laura Diaz-Flaviani, lflaviani@pacbell.net

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Anarose Schelstrate, anarose@stteresasf.org

ONLINE
GIVING
QR code



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

Why is there such animosity between Samaritans and Jews?

Today's Gospel is taken from the 10th Chapter of Luke and includes the *Parable of the Good Samaritan*. Both Christians and non-Christians are familiar with this story, and most of us know that there is animosity between Samaritans and Jews. However, few of us know the underlying reasons for this tension. In today's column I'd like to explore the reasons as to why Samaritans and Jews don't like each other.

The first thing we need to do is examine the history and geography of Biblical Israel. Referring to the map, notice that Jerusalem is in the southern part of the country (Judea), due west of the northern tip of the Dead Sea. Nazareth – where Jesus grew up – is in the northern part of the country, west of the Sea of Galilee. Samaria is the region between Galilee and Judea, and in order to get from Nazareth to Jerusalem one must pass through Samaria.

Turning to Israelite history, we note that, a thousand years before Jesus, Saul united the Twelve Tribes of Israel into a single nation. Saul was succeeded by David then Solomon, and when Solomon died (about 931 BC), the Kingdom divided in two, with Israel in the North and Judah in the South. Both kingdoms were Jewish, but Israel and Judah had separate kings.



Two hundred years later, the Northern Kingdom fell to the Assyrians (721 BC). This Northern Kingdom included Samaria and Galilee, and, after the fall of the North, Jews from Samaria and Galilee began not only to intermarry with these "foreigners" but also to worship their gods. Intermarriage and idolatry scandalized the Jews in the South, and herein lies the root of the animosity between Samaritans and Jews.

In the fourth chapter of the Gospel of John, the *Woman at the Well* is a Samaritan woman who asks Jesus, "Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" (Jn 4:12) The woman is referring Jacob's well, and it is apparent from her question that the Samaritan woman is a descendent of Jacob, the father of twelve sons who later became the twelve tribes of Israel. Essentially, the woman and Jesus share the same ancestry.

The Jews from the South (Judea) – especially from the area around Jerusalem – were trying to preserve and maintain religious and ethnic purity. As such, they were suspicious of those Jews in the Mediterranean who spoke Greek instead of Hebrew. They also refer to Jesus' homeland as "Galilee of the Gentiles," and – in their discussion of Jesus – they make the cynical comment, "What good ever came out of Nazareth?"

In the South, Jewish animosity was directed towards Samaritans, and today's *Parable of the Good Samaritan* would have offended the Jews of Jesus' day. Jews and Samaritans would not talk to one another, and the suggestion that a Samaritan, moved by compassion, would attend to a Jewish victim and arrange for his care and recovery would have the hearers of this parable shake their heads in disbelief. But in order to understand why Samaritans provoked such a hostile response, we have to know something about the History of Israel and how the "Samaritan issue" developed and evolved.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

FIRST & SECOND COLLECTIONS JUNE

First Collection	\$3,930
Building & Maintenance	\$398
Garden Fund	\$351
Charity Fund	\$243
St. Vincent de Paul	\$360
Carmelite Missions	\$684

Thank you for your donations. If you haven't taken a tag yet, please check them out. They list a variety of things, different tags with different lists, that will support the Boys and Girls Club in their mission. Give what appeals to you as a gift for kids looking for fun or to learn a new skill or to make friends. The B&G Club makes all of that possible, directing activities and guiding kids through new experiences. Please bring your gift, or have it delivered to the rectory, by August 3. Thank you!



GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE

Gun violence prevention: know the warning signs

When a child or teen is in crisis, it's dangerous for them to have access to a gun. Signs that someone maybe in crisis and intend to harm themselves or others may include: Loss of interest in school or social activities, Aggressive, angry, or impulsive behavior, Conflicts with classmates or other acquaintances, bullying, periods of social isolation or loneliness, Expressing feelings of worth-lessness, hopelessness, guilt, or self-hatred, Using substances like alcohol or drugs, Mentioning, bragging they have access to a gun, Expressing violent thoughts or plans (spoken, written, with gestures, or through art). Kids and teens sometimes face stressful situations, and they may have trouble processing their emotions in healthy ways. If you notice any signs that a child or teen may be in crisis, take action. Start by making sure they don't have access to a gun. **Call or text 988 to reach the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline for free 24/7 support.**

Source: [Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Violence Solutions](#)

AAA 2025—WEEK 20

Assessed Amount:	\$28,663
Amount Rec'd/Pledged:	\$24,038
Balance Remaining:	\$4,625

We are at **86%** of our goal! Thank you to all who have donated & pledged. Last year we met our goal within 11 weeks with 73 donors. So far 56 donors have given/pledged. Let's try to wrap this up with a bang!

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

Any excess funds received are returned directly back to our parish.

You can donate now on the Archdiocesan web-site:

<https://sfarch.org/aaa>

or Scan this QR code



← You may also donate on our online portal [here](#) or Scan this QR code

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM greenteam@stteresasf.org

If you're planning on hitting the beach, consider using mineral sunscreens, which use zinc oxide or titanium dioxide to reflect UV light off of you. These are safer for aquatic life (especially reefs) and can be a bit easier on your skin if you're particularly sensitive. These sunscreens take just a bit more time to lather on but they can make a really big difference for our oceans. Regardless of which sunscreen you choose, make sure it's at least SPF 30 and to reapply it every couple of hours to keep yourself safe.

Anyone looking to contribute, to our piano reconditioning, please donate using the QR code here.



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.

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:15 pm
Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 am

MARRIAGE

Please call 6 months prior

BAPTISM

Please call for appointment

RECONCILIATION

Monday—Friday
Following 8:30am Mass
or call for appointment

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday—Friday
8:30am

PARISH OFFICE / MAILING ADDRESS

HOURS—10:00AM TO 4:30PM

390 Missouri St, San Francisco, CA 94107

Phone: 415.285.5272

Email: info@stteresasf.org

SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK there is no second collection.

NEXT WEEK there is no second collection.

Donate [here](#) to support our Charity Fund.

Donate [here](#) to support Piano Repair Fund.

NOT REGISTERED FOR OUR PARISH?

Please complete the form on the last page and place in the collection basket.

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

Saturday, July 12

4:15pm † Gregory Lewis

Sunday, July 13

8:30am † Robert & Lois Biniek
10:00am Rick Pitts(Spc. Int.)

Monday, July 14

8:30am † Fr. Peter Sammon

Tuesday, July 15

8:30am † James J Burns, Sr

Wednesday, July 16

8:30am † Kathleen M Burns

Thursday, July 17

8:30am † Dan Perea

Friday, July 18

8:30am The People of the Parish

Saturday, July 19

4:15pm † Henry Morgan

Sunday, July 20

8:30am † Bruna Salvi
10:00am Rick Pitts(Spc. Int.)
& Maybell Quimpo Legaspi(Spc. Int.)

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

☐ On-Line Giving