



St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

“What a pity it was to have left you, my lord, under the pretext of serving you.” – Saint Teresa of Avila

NOVEMBER 09, 2025
THE DEDICATION OF ST JOHN THE LATERAN

November is the month of the holy souls. Throughout this month we remember all our loved ones who have died as we hold them in prayer. Bring photos of your deceased friends and family members and place them by the font so the parish can remember them at each mass in November.



Eternal Rest
Remembrance of the Holy Souls during the month of November



SAINT GREGORY'S POTLUCK DINNER

Saint Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church (Mariposa and DeHaro) invites this parish to a Potluck Luncheon honoring California's Indigenous People this Sunday, November 9th, at 12:30pm. Fr Gregory will attempt to make a wild rice casserole that his grandmother, who was an Ojibwe healing woman, used to make.

ARE WE MEETING ON THANKSGIVING DAY?
YOU BET YOUR MASS WE ARE!
9:00 AM SERVICE THANKSGIVING DAY, COME ONE
AND COME ALL!



Special Thanks to Mary McLeod! For organizing the town hall meeting, putting together the figures, and being an amazing help across the board. Thank you to everyone who attended.

St Teresa Holiday Craft Faire

The St Teresa Holiday Craft Faire is returning to the lower hall this December. Expect a wonderland of home made gifts, sweet treats, and community ambiance. December 6th is the day of the faire, if you would like to support in any capacity or become a vendor please reach out the Parish Office via email.



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

IN RESIDENCE
Rev. Brian Henden, O.Carm.,
bhenden@carmelites.net
Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O.Carm.,
mkwiecien@carmelites.net

SOCIAL OUTREACH COORDINATOR
Bro. David Semmens, O.Carm.,
brotherdave@stteresasf.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Laura Diaz-Flaviani, lflaviani@pacbell.net

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION
Anarose Schelstrate, anarose@stteresasf.org

November 9th: The Dedication of St. John Lateran

Today is the most unusual feast in the entire liturgical year. The Dedication of St. John Lateran does not commemorate a historical event (such as the Birth of Christ). It is not an “idea feast” (such as Christ the King); nor is it a day to remember a Saint (like St. Francis of Assisi). No, today we commemorate and celebrate a *building*.



You heard me right, a *building*: St. John Lateran, the first Church built in the city of Rome. St John Lateran – not St. Peter’s – is the cathedral church of Rome (remember, first and foremost, that the Pope is the Bishop of Rome). The Church was dedicated by Pope Sylvester in 318 AD, five years after the Edict of Milan (313 AD) legalized Christianity in the empire. The church has been rebuilt several times following sackings, earthquakes, and fires, and the present structure dates from the 17th century.

Why so much fuss about a Church? Two reasons. First, St. John Lateran, as one of the first Churches in the city of Rome, is the “Mother Church” of Christianity. The inscription over the entrance reads, “Mother and Head of all the churches in the City and in the world.” Secondly, from the early 4th century until the Avignon Papacy (14th century), the popes resided at the Lateran Palace. It was not until the 15th century that popes lived in what is now the Vatican.

What is perhaps most fascinating about this church is the baptistry. The font area is surrounded by eight pillars with Ionic and Corinthian capitals, and the font itself looks like a bathtub, but it’s not. Rather, it’s a *sarcophagus*: a funeral receptacle for a corpse, which was usually carved in stone and displayed above ground. In other words, early Christian catechumens were initiated into the church by being baptized in what is, in effect, a coffin. The pillars support a dome inscribed with a Latin text attributed to Pope Sixtus III (432-440).which speaks eloquently our theology of baptism.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm

The name of the church is the cathedral of St John. It is built on the Lateran hill in Rome; that is why it is called the John Lateran.



ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

greenteam@stteresasf.org

The United Nations COP30 conference begins Monday, November 10, near the mouth of the Amazon River in Belém Brazil. Transforming agriculture and food systems is #3 on the COP30 action agenda (<https://cop30.br/en/action-agenda>). Since the 1970s, Joan Gussow, who died in March, called for the transformation of agriculture and food systems. Gussow was a researcher, writer, teacher, and gardener who encouraged learning how real food is grown. For a video celebrating the life and work of Gussow and to find California farms part of a real food movement Gussow supported, visit the Real Organic Project website.

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

4:15pm † Saturday, November 08
Alfonse & Alex Talmadge

8:30am † Sunday, November 09
Francesca Lodolo Beltran
10:00am † Special Mass for Deceased Pastors

8:30am † Monday, November 10
John Klenke

8:30am † Tuesday, November 11
George Gabriel Muhek

8:30am † Wednesday, November 12
George Gabriel Muhek

8:30am Thursday, November 13
Rick Pitts

8:30am Friday, November 14
George Gabriel Muhek

4:15pm † Saturday, November 15
James J. Burns

8:30am † Sunday, November 16
Lawrence V. Galla
10:00am Rick Pitts

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS

If you or someone you know can use a SVdP Thanksgiving Dinner Food Basket, please call the Parish Office (415-285-5272) to get on the list of recipients.



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

ONLINE GIVING QR code



GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE

CHILD ACCESS to FIREARMS in the US

1 in 3 homes with children* have firearms Schuster (2000)



21 million children* live in homes with firearms Schuster (2000)



Children often find or handle firearms in the home without their parents' knowledge

According to Baxley (2006):



By the age of 3, some children are strong enough to pull the trigger of a handgun



*In this infographic, children are defined as under 18, unless otherwise specified

For evidence-informed strategies for prevention, visit our resource guide: [ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org/firearm-resource-guide-2013](https://www.childrensafetynetwork.org/firearm-resource-guide-2013)

To view detailed sources for this infographic, please visit: [ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org/publications/firearms-child-access-infographic](https://www.childrensafetynetwork.org/publications/firearms-child-access-infographic)



Children's Safety Network

www.ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org

SUNDAY MASSES

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

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 stteresasf.org
Email: info@stteresasf.org

MARRIAGE

Please call 6 months prior

BAPTISM

Please call for appointment

RECONCILIATION

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

SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK's second collection benefits the St Patrick's Seminary Fund. Donate



NEXT WEEK there is no second collection

Please Join Us!

After the masses, on November 15 and 16, the Gun Safety Committee will ask parishioners to come to the hall and write a few postcards to U.S. Senators in California, Illinois and New York asking them to oppose Senate Bill 65 "Constitutional Carry Reciprocity Act" which would create a federal mandate that would force every state to recognize every other states standards for carrying a concealed and loaded gun in public. Postcards will be addressed and sample messages will be provided.



FIRST & SECOND COLLECTIONS SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

First Collection	\$5,883
Building & Maintenance	\$679
Garden Fund	\$0
Charity Fund	\$385
St. Vincent de Paul	\$808
Carmelite Missions	\$678
World Central Kitchen	\$0

DO YOU HAVE AN IRA?

DONATE TO ST TERESA FOR TAX RELIEF!

- If you are 70 or over you can transfer up to \$100,000 a year to a charity tax free every year.
 - This is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution, and it counts toward your required minimum distributions.
 - A qualified charitable distribution is only tax free as long as the distribution is paid from the individual retirement account directly to the charitable organization, like St Teresa
- SPEAK WITH FATHER GREG AFTER MASS OR CONTACT YOUR TAX ADVISER FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO OBTAIN TAX RELIEF FOR CHARITABLE DONATIONS.

Let's All Get Online!

All parishioners are strongly encouraged to support the parish through online giving.



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