

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

Lector Workshop
On Saturday, January 31st, there is a Lector Workshop for all the parish lectors. Here's the schedule:

- 12:30pm – we'll start with sandwiches, etc., while we do a deep dive into how Saint Augustine understands and interprets Scripture. His understanding is the Catholic understanding.
- 1:15pm – we'll then have a workshop on the how's of proclaiming the Word.
- 2:00pm – then we will practice inside the church (in a most non-judgmental way, of course). 3:00pm – End (or maybe a bit earlier if we're good).
- Yes, please RSVP to Lynn Jacklevich at kq6cev@yahoo.com (or see her at the door and tell her in person).

NEWSPAPERS REPORT a flu bug that is especially hard on the elderly is all over the East Coast and heading our way.
For this reason we will not be offering the cup until the end of the flu season.

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

SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK there is no second collection.

NEXT WEEK second collection benefits the St Teresa Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society. Donate [here](#).

SOLEMN VESPERS FOR THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

20th Anniversary of Shared Prayer Catholic Archdiocese & Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco.

Thursday January 22, 2026 @7:00 PM
@St. Pius X Catholic Church Woodside

Coffee and Donuts and More

The Town Hall told us that social action is a front-burner concern. So from time to time (maybe once a month or so) there will be a short and interesting social action presentation during Sunday's coffee-and-donuts - maybe 10 to 15 minutes. So don't worry, there'll be plenty of time for regular conversations and more donuts too.

The roof of the church has not been replaced in over 30 years and is starting to show its age. We would like to begin a discussion about a campaign to help take care of the old roof. This campaign would involve a longer term commitment from parishioners to raise money over the course of the last few years of the roof's life. Shortly we will begin the discussion during coffee and donuts.



St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
“The important thing is not to think much but to love much; and so do that which best stirs you to love.”
— Saint Teresa of Avila

JANUARY 18, 2026
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A reminder that we would like all parishioners to shift to online donation through our QR code. Seamless, simple, and easy to register the online donations or weekly tithing. Please scan the QR code in this box.



As a second giving option, the parish has just added Venmo. If you know what this is - great! If you don't, it's time to enter the 21st century :-)



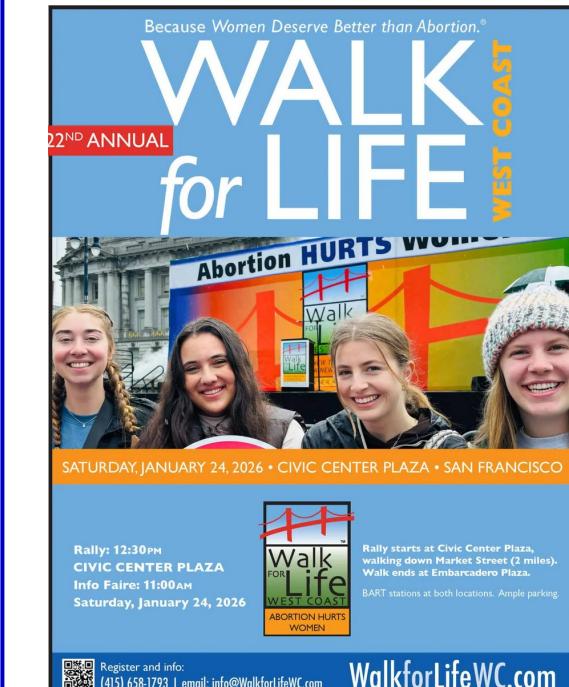
[venmo](#)

Please join us in celebrating the Baptism of Vincent Ernest Mokrani



Child of Erica and Samuel Mokrani, Godchild of Nicholas Kudyba & Catherine Baldwin. Vincent will be baptized by Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm this Sunday at 8:30 AM mass.

Walk for Life West Coast Jan. 24, 2026



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

THE COMPLEX IMAGE OF THE “LAMB OF GOD”

“Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (Jn 1:29)

This passage, taken from today’s Gospel, is certainly familiar to Catholic Christians, since we say it at every Mass immediately before the distribution of communion. And yet, the image of Jesus as *Lamb of God* is one of the most complex and nuanced titles given to Jesus in the New Testament. In today’s column I’d like to trace its history and development.

There are three Old Testament sources that contribute to the Lamb of God image. The first is from the Book of Exodus (*the Passover Lamb*), the second from the prophet Isaiah (*the Suffering Servant*), and the third from Jewish apocalyptic literature (*the Conquering Lamb*).

We are most familiar with the first image from Exodus. At the first Passover, an unblemished lamb was sacrificed, its flesh was roasted and eaten, and the blood of the lamb was sprinkled on the doorpost so that the avenging angel “passed over” the house and did not kill the first born. Essentially, the Passover story explains how a household was saved “by the blood of the lamb” and – at some point in the Christian tradition – a connection was made between the Passover Lamb and Jesus. Just as the Hebrews in Egypt were saved by the blood of the lamb, so were Christians saved by Jesus’ spilling his blood on Calvary.

The second image is taken from Prophet Isaiah (Is 53:7) in a section where the Prophet describes the *Suffering Servant*:

“Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth, like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth.”

This passage is included in the First Reading on Good Friday, and it describes how the servant, like a lamb to the slaughter, gives his life as an offering for sin. In the Christian tradition, Jesus is linked to Isaiah’s *Suffering Servant*.

The third image comes from Jewish apocalyptic literature in which a *Conquering Lamb* comes at the end of time to destroy evil and sinfulness. This image is alluded to in the Christian Book of Revelation where we read:

“They will fight with the Lamb, but the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and king of kings, and those with him are called, chosen, and faithful.” (Rev 17:14)

Returning to today’s Gospel passage, two things stand out. First, it is important to note that this is the first time in the scriptures that Jesus is addressed as the *Lamb of God*. This, in itself, is not remarkable . . . until considered in light of the second point: the Gospel of John was the last of the four canonical Gospels, written between 90-110 AD. In other words, the first written record of Jesus being called *Lamb of God* does not appear until the Gospel of John, at least 60 years after his death.

This 60-year gap tells us that the image of *Lamb of God* is complicated and nuanced. It tells us that the connection between Jesus and the Old Testament lamb imagery was not immediately apparent to the first followers of Jesus. It was not until long after his death and resurrection that the early community reflected on the person of Christ and began to make connections between Jesus and the Lamb.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

Saturday, January 17
4:15pm **† Anita Ramirez**
Sunday, January 18
8:30am **Sr. Lucia(Sp. Int)**
10:00am **† Fr. Frank Buckley, S.J.**
Monday, January 19
8:30am **† Mary Ellen Healy**
Tuesday, January 20
8:30am **Scarlett Andreotti**
Wednesday, January 21
8:30am **† Bob Jacklevich**
Thursday, January 22
8:30am **Scarlett Andreotti**
Friday, January 23
8:30am **† Eloisa Perea**
Saturday, January 24
4:15pm **† Mary Morgan**
Sunday, January 25
8:30am **† Fr. Peter Sammon**
10:00am **The People of the Parish**

This Week at Saint Teresa

Monday, 19th of January

- ♦ 8:30 am Sock Drive Collection starts
- ♦ 6:30 pm Choir Practice

Wednesday, 21st of January

- ♦ 7:00 pm YAC Bible Study

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

greenteam@stteresasf.org

Declutter with Purpose: The Eco-Friendly Clean Out

The “New Year” energy often brings an urge to organize, simplify, and declutter our homes. While minimalism is great for mental clarity, how we discard items matters just as much as clearing the space. The goal is to clear your home without clogging the landfill. “Wish-cycling” (throwing non-recyclables in the recycle bin) or dumping usable items helps no one. Instead, view your unwanted items as resources for others:

- Clothing & Linens: Wearable items can go to thrift stores; worn-out towels and sheets are often welcomed by animal shelters.
- Electronics: Old phones and cords require special e-waste recycling to recover valuable metals and prevent toxicity.
- Household Goods: Consider local “Buy Nothing” groups where neighbors might specifically need that blender or lamp you no longer use.

By re-homing items responsibly, you extend their lifecycle and support a circular economy.

Resource: Recycling search engine (where to recycle anything): earth911.com

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
MONDAY JANUARY 19TH FOR
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE

Gun violence is a daily scourge that threatens our most fundamental right: the right to life. More than 600 people die every day as a result of firearms violence, which is driven in part by easy access to firearms – whether legal or illegal. Anyone can be affected by gun violence, but it often disproportionately impacts people of color, men and boys in deprived communities, and other marginalized groups. Domestic violence involving firearms also puts women at heightened risk of death or life-changing injuries. Sometimes, the mere presence of firearms can make people feel threatened and fearful for their lives. They may be too afraid to attend schools or health facilities. Community-wide gun violence may prevent services from fully functioning, which can harm access to education or healthcare. The vast majority of gun violence occurs outside of armed conflict settings. A significant proportion – in some states more than half – of firearm deaths are caused by suicide and accidents. Our human rights are not protected if our leaders fail to tackle and end the epidemic of gun violence and gun deaths.

- Amnesty International