

AAA 2026—WEEK 22

Assessed Amount: \$31,288
Amount Rec'd/Pledged: \$27,416
Balance Remaining: \$3,872

We are at **88%** of our goal! Thank you to all who have donated & pledged. Last year we met our goal within 37 weeks with 104 donors. So far 47 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 website:

<https://sfarch.org/aaa>

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



Bulletins by email or text:

text "B"
to 84576



stteresasf.flocknote.com/bulletins

Here are the two
ways you can



OSV Regular

donate to
St Teresa online



venmo

Please join us for the
in-person "Sitting for Peace/
Standing for Justice" on the
steps of San Francisco City
Hall this Thursday at 12PM.

www.sfsangha.org/peace.html

SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK there is no second
collection.

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

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

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



St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
"The awakened soul is like a little butterfly who
cannot go back to being just a worm."
- St Teresa of Avila

JULY 19TH, 2026
The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Off to N.P.M.

Laura and Victor are in
Washington DC this week
for the **National Pastoral
Musicians (NPM)**
conference at Catholic
University and the Shrine
of the Immaculate
Conception. Show 'em
how it's done, Laura!



Salesian Missions

Each year the Archdiocese
welcomes missionaries to
speak about their work and
raise funds for their ministry.
Father Nicolas Soto of the
Salesian Missionaries will
speak here at Saint Teresa's
the weekend of August 1-2.
You'll find Salesian literature
in the pews starting next
weekend.



Pope Leo's Prayer for Life

"Lord Jesus,
may we love life as you love it:
with tenderness,
fidelity,
and self-giving.
May we proclaim,
in words and actions,
that every human life is worth the
total gift of ourselves.
Amen."



WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday—Friday 8:30am

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:15 pm

Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 am

PARISH OFFICE / MAILING ADDRESS

HOURS—8:30AM TO 5:00PM

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stephani@stteresasf.org

PASTOR

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SOCIAL OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Bro. David Semmens, O.Carm.
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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Laura Diaz-Flaviani, lflaviani@pacbell.net

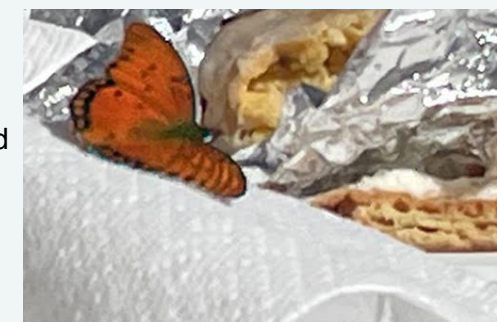
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Anarose Schelstrate, anarose@stteresasf.org



Mariposa Visitor

We had a surprise visitor during breakfast on the patio on Thursday. Mass and breakfast was part of the parish's celebration of the Solemnity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. During breakfast scapulars were blessed and distributed as the butterflies looked on.



Parables Revisited

This year we are in cycle “A” – which means that the majority of our Sunday Gospels are taken from Matthew. Beginning last Sunday and continuing through next week, our Gospels are taken from Chapter 13, known as the *Parabolic Discourse*. During this three-week period we will be exposed to six parables, and for this reason I’d like to revisit a column I wrote in the past to provide some background on Jesus’ use of this literary form.

The first and most important thing to note about parables is that most people make the mistake of assuming that a parable is the same thing as a fable. A fable is a story with a moral... like the tortoise and the hare. In this particular story, the two creatures square off for a race, and the hare – being faster – bolts ahead, then rests, while the tortoise maintains a constant pace. Towards the end of the race the hare rests, falls asleep, and is passed by the tortoise, who then wins the contest. The moral of the story: slow and steady wins the race.

We easily recognize the predictable pattern of a fable: it is a story that concludes with a *moral lesson*. Most Christians make the mistake of reading the parables of Jesus as if they were fables. Parables are actually quite different from fables. Whereas a fable is a western literary form, a parable is a middle-eastern literary genre. A fable is a story with a *moral*, a parable is a story with a *twist*. In a parable there is an unexpected turn of events – a surprise or twist – that often produces shock or disbelief in the hearer. Whenever Jesus told the crowd a parable, the audience was usually surprised and often shocked by the “twists.” It is precisely the surprise or “twist” in the parable that makes the hearer perk up his ears and engage the narrative in a new or different way.

Over three Sundays we hear several parables: the *Sower and the Seed*; the *Wheat and the Weeds*; the *Mustard Seed*; the *Leaven in the Flour*; the *Buried Treasure*; and the *Pearl of Great Price*. Each parable has its own twist or surprise:

- The surprise or shock in the *Sower and the Seed* is that the seed which falls on good ground yields such a bountiful (and extraordinary!) hundred-fold harvest.
- The surprise in the *Wheat and Weeds* is that owner does not pull up the weeds. Instead, he allows wheat and weeds to grow together, not to be separated until the harvest.
- The parables of the *Mustard Seed* and *Leaven in Flour* make the point that from small beginnings (a tiny mustard seed or a bit of yeast) great things happen. The mustard seed grows into a large, full plant, and the yeast is able to make the entire mass of dough rise.
- Finally, the parables of the *Buried Treasure* and *Pearl of Great Price* involve risk. Each asks the question, “What would you be willing to do in order to secure the treasure or obtain the pearl?” The risk of selling all you have to secure the treasure or pearl appears to be impulsive, foolish, and irresponsible.

When Jesus told parables, the people in the crowd shook their heads in disbelief because they were surprised or shocked by the unexpected twists in the story. When we hear a parable, we too, should be shocked by the message. To get at the meaning we have to get at the twist... which is the challenge to 21st century hearers and homilists. If we’re not surprised or shocked like Jesus’ first-century hearers, then we’re missing the point of a parable.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

4:15pm	Saturday, July 18 † Fr. Edward Murray
8:30am	Sunday, July 19 † Henry Marga
10:00am	† Jake Kotrba
8:30am	Monday, July 13 † Bob Jacklevich
8:30am	Tuesday, July 14 † Mary A. Burns
8:30am	Wednesday, July 15 † Lupita Perea
8:30am	Thursday, July 16 † Mary Katherine Law
8:30am	Friday, July 17 † James J. Burns
4:15pm	Saturday, July 18 † Jackie Jackson
8:30am	Sunday, July 19 † Oghi Ottoboni
10:00am	† Alphonse Talmadge

This Week at St Teresa

Saturday – 18th July - 9:00am Yoga In the Hall
Sunday – 19th July - 11:00am Christmas in July Begins
Wednesday – 22th July - 7:30pm Online Scripture Study (Google Meet)
Thursday – 23th July - 9:00am Tai Chi in the Garden - 12:00pm Sitting for Peace/Standing for Justice
Saturday – 25th July - 9:00am Yoga In the Hall

If you are interested in any of these events, please email the office for more information

ST TERESA'S GREEN TEAM
greenteam@stteresasf.org

Keep Our Waterways Clean This Summer

From neighborhood creeks to San Francisco Bay and the Pacific coastline, our local waterways face increased pressure during the busy summer months. Trash left behind at parks, beaches, and outdoor events can quickly find its way into storm drains and eventually into the Bay and ocean.

You can help protect water quality by:

- Packing out everything you bring
- Recycling and composting whenever possible
- Picking up litter—even if it isn't yours
- Securing trash and recycling bins on windy days
- Avoiding the release of balloons and other plastic decorations outdoors

Every cleanup effort, no matter how small, contributes to healthier ecosystems and cleaner recreational spaces for everyone.

Resource: Save The Bay:
<https://www.savesfbay.org>

GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE

Gun safety news in June 2026 was highlighted by the U.S. Senate’s designation of June as National Gun Violence Awareness Month. At the federal level, Congresswoman Valerie Foushee introduced the Gun Violence Prevention and Public Safety Database Act. Meanwhile, proposed ATF rule changes regarding the retention of gun sales records drew intense public debate and pushback from advocacy groups

- **Congressional Database Legislation:** Introduced on June 12, the Gun Violence Prevention and Public Safety Database Act of 2026 aims to direct the CDC to establish a publicly accessible federal hub of gun violence and public safety research.
- **ATF Record-Keeping Proposals:** Gun safety organizations expressed concerns that proposed federal rule changes by the ATF might allow dealers to destroy older sales records. Advocates contend this would hamper law enforcement and eliminate investigative leads and launched public comment campaigns.