

SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK second collection benefits the SF Archdiocese Churches in Latin America Fund. Donate [here](#)



NEXT WEEK there is no second collection.

Donate [here](#) to support our Charity Fund. The charity fund is considered Restricted.

Bulletins by email or text:

text "B"
to 84576



stteresasf.flocknote.com/bulletins



venmo

Here are the two
ways you can
donate to
St Teresa online



OSV Regular

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

The OCIA program for those interested in being baptized or becoming Catholic begins next Sunday, September 28th. We'll meet in the RE Classroom (next to the coffee-and-donuts room) after the 10 o'clock Mass. If you're interested in being baptized or becoming Catholic please see Father Gregory for a pre-program chitchat.

Help the Parish Get Back on Instagram

If you know who set up the Instagram for @stteresasf (yes, that's the parish's 'handle'), the Pastoral Council would like to fire it back up and link it to the parish's Facebook page, please see anyone on the Pastoral Council and/or Father Gregory.

THIS WEEKEND'S MATRIMONY

LET US ALL CONGRATULATE AND SEND OUR PRAYERS FOR JOSHUA JORDAN AND VERONICA SPANDLER WHO WERE JOINED IN THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY TODAY, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, AT NOON. FATHER MICHAEL WILL OFFICIATE.



ST. TERESA OF AVILA ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE ANNUAL CANNED FOOD DRIVE!

Because this is the "Year of Saint Francis" and the feast-day of Saint Francis is Sunday, October 4th, and Saint Francis is the patron saint of the poor (along with Saint Vincent dePaul) the canned food drive is extended to include Saint Francis feast-day, October 4th. We currently are at **1070** cans with a goal of 1500 cans.



Cute Kittens Adoptable

Father Greg rescued two kittens about to be abandoned, and brought them to the priory for care and feeding. After a quick visit to the vet for vaccines and neutering (provided by a generous animal-loving parishioner), we found out that they are approximately 18 months old (black kitten) and 7 months old (gray kitten). Both female. If you are interested in adopting one of them, please see Father Gregory.



Priests Convocation

This week all the priests of the Archdiocese of San Francisco are gathering for a weeklong convocation in Monterey. Because Father Mike is officially retired, he does not need to attend the convocation so daily masses will still be celebrated here at Saint Teresa's. On the other hand, Father Gregory and Father Brian will not be available this week because they'll be in Monterey.



St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
"The purpose of prayer, dear daughters, is good works,
and only good works."

- St Teresa of Avila

SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2026
The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Season of Creation

The banners in the rotunda commemorate:

- 1) the year of Saint Francis,
- 2) the Season of Creation,
- 3) and Saint Francis' upcoming feast-day.

The quotation is Saint Francis' call that we do something (anything) to make the world a better place. The banners will stay up until Thanksgiving.



Please join us in celebrating the Baptisms of Emilia Gomez Romero & Alana Harkins Rios

Emilia will be baptized into the
Church Saturday at 10:00am Mass.

Alana will be baptized into the
Church Saturday at 10:00am Mass.

Welcome Leo & Alana and
congratulations to your parents
and godparents.



Society of Saint Vincent dePaul Appreciation Gala

Members of the Saint Teresa of Avila Chapter of the SVdP attended the San Francisco Area SVdP Appreciation Gala at the Cathedral last Thursday. It was a big thing, with Mayor Lurie, various S.F. Board of Supervisors, Archbishop Cordileone, lots of clergymen, business leaders and 350 SVdP members. The theme of the evening was "A Night in New Orleans" so everything was in Mardi Gras colors with a Mardi Gras menu. After the appreciation speeches, and award speeches, and acknowledgment speeches, the evening turned into a fundraiser auction for SVdP. An amazing night.



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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Parish Finance Report

Father Gregory will be giving the annual Saint Teresa of Avila Parish Financial Report

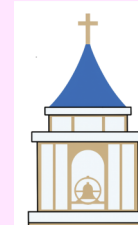
Date: Today!

Time: after the 10 o'clock Mass (~11:10am)

Place: Parish Hall (coffee-and-donuts room).

This will be also available via 'Zoom' using the "Mass Livestream" link.

Please note: questions can only be taken 'from the floor' and not from 'Zoom.'



Fiscal Year
2025-2026
Year-end Report

Bankruptcy
Assessment
Responses

Fiscal Year
2026-2027
Proposed Budget

The Landowner Hiring Workers: A Parable about God

After almost 50 years of priesthood (preaching virtually every Sunday), I can confidently say that today’s gospel is, perhaps, the gospel most disliked by the people in the pews. Matthew’s parable chronicles how a landowner hired laborers for his vineyard. He hired the first group at dawn, the second at mid-morning, the third and fourth at noon and mid-afternoon, and the fifth at five o’clock. At the end of the day he paid everyone a full day’s wage, and those who worked a full day complained:

“These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day’s burden and the heat.”

Two-thousand years later, our reaction is not much different. Like the laborers in today’s gospel, we stew silently in our pews, outraged at the apparent unfairness of the landowner:

“When those who had started about five o’clock . . . received a the usual daily wage, . . . [the first group] thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner . . .”

The landowner replies that he did them no injustice, that they agreed on the usual wage. Quite correctly, he points out that it is his money and he can to do with it as he pleases. The landowner also notes that some workers might be envious because he is generous. Matthew’s parable concludes with a familiar saying of Jesus: “Thus the last will be first and the first will be last.”

The first reading from Isaiah compliments today’s Gospel:
“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord, As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.”

Isaiah’s point – which is echoed in other prophets as well – is that although human beings are fashioned in the image of God, it is a mistake to assume that God is the reciprocal image of us. When God acts like God – as the landowner does in today’s Gospel – we human beings sometimes think this unfair or unjust. We are angry because we expect God to act like us.

Today’s parable is really a parable about God, but it is not the only such parable in the scriptures. Perhaps the most famous about God parable is Luke’s *Prodigal Son*. Initially, Luke’s focus is the wayward son, how he squanders his inheritance before returning to his father to beg forgiveness. However, a deeper reading of the parable focuses, not on the repentance of the son, but on the mercy of the father. The father welcomes his son with open arms and kills the fatted calf to celebrate the prodigal’s return. The older son is outraged at the father’s mercy and generosity: he is upset because the father acts like God instead of like us. For this reason the *Parable of the Prodigal Son* might more properly be called the *Parable of the Forgiving Father*.

Scripture offer many examples of how God is different than us, and sometimes we become upset with God when he does not act like us. Which brings us to the following quotation:

“God created man in his own image.
And man, being a gentleman, kindly returned the favor.”
– (Source Unknown, but it sure sounds like Mark Twain!)

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

	Saturday, September 19
4:15pm	† <u>Alphonso Talmadge</u>
	Sunday, September 20
8:30am	† <u>Fr. Peter Sammon</u>
10:00am	<u>Paul Spruell(Spc. Int.)</u>
	Monday, September 21
8:30am	† <u>Paul Seibel</u>
	Tuesday, September 22
8:30am	† <u>Paul Seibel</u>
	Wednesday, September 23
8:30am	† <u>Paul Seibel</u>
	Thursday, September 24
8:30am	† <u>Paul Seibel</u>
	Friday, September 25
8:30am	<u>Paul Spruell(Spc. Int.)</u>
	Saturday, September 26
4:15pm	† <u>Alphonso Talmadge</u>
	Sunday, September 27
8:30am	† <u>Fr. Peter Sammon</u>
10:00am	<u>Paul Spruell(Spc. Int.)</u>

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

This Week at St Teresa

- Saturday – 19th September**
- Yoga, Teresa of Avila Mtg Room 9:00am
 - Monday – 21st September**
- SVDP Meeting 10:30am
 - Friday – 25th September**
- SVDP Sandwich makers meeting in the kitchen at 9am
 - Saturday – 26th September**
- Yoga, Teresa of Avila Mtg Room 9:00am
- If you are interested in any of these events, please email the office for more information

ST TERESA’S GREEN TEAM
greenteam@stteresasf.org

Make Lunch More Sustainable

As summer schedules wind down and routines return, it’s a great time to make sustainable lunch and meal-prep habits part of the everyday routine. A little planning can help reduce food waste, packaging, and unnecessary spending.
A few ways to make a difference:
• Plan lunches around food you already have and pack only what you’ll eat
• Choose reusable containers, utensils, and water bottles instead of single-use items
• Compost food scraps when a composting option is available
Small changes to our daily meals can reduce waste, conserve resources, and make sustainable choices easier to maintain all year.
Resource: U.S. EPA — Preventing Wasted Food at Home: <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/preventing-wasted-food-home>

2026 Season of Creation

Running from September 1 to October 4, 2026, the Season of Creation is an annual ecumenical period where Christians worldwide unite in prayer and ecological action around the theme "Living Water," drawing deeply from the climate exhortations of Pope Francis.
• Join "Open Hearts" Virtual Prayer Gatherings: Participate in the network’s regular Pacific Time virtual prayer circles to pray in solidarity with Bay Area residents for climate healing, ecological conversion, and regional watershed protection.
• Lead Prayerful Outdoor Witness Along SF Coastlines: Partner with network members to combine prayer with local environmental action by conducting outdoor prayer walks (Via Creatonis) or quiet reflective gatherings along Ocean Beach, the Presidio, or the San Francisco Bay shoreline.
Resource: <https://laudatedeumsolidarity.org/>

GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE
September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

We’re sharing these important facts. Most people who die from suicide use a gun. Reducing easy access to a gun could mean saving a life. Secure storage can save lives by keeping guns secure from those at risk of suicide, specifically children and teens. One of the most helpful things people can do to prevent suicide is to learn more about secure gun storage and to advocate for stronger gun safety laws. Every day in the United States an average of 74 dies from firearms. Help us spread awareness. If you or someone you know is struggling , is depressed or in crisis, call **988** Suicide & Crisis line or text **988**.