

SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK second collection benefits the SF Priests Retirement 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

MEETS TODAY: ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA) !



For all persons interested in becoming Catholic and/or being baptized, the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) begins today. And if you haven't signed up, you can

visit this first session as a 'come-and-see' to see if OCIA is for you. This first meeting will take 30 to 40 minutes.

Date: Sunday, September 27th
Time: 11:00am (till 11:30am or so)
Place: R.E. Classroom (room just off the coffee-and-donuts room) pre-program chitchat.

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

We are receiving cans till October 4,
the feast day of St. Francis:
Most needed: **Soup and meats**

1742 Cans Currently!
We have exceeded our 1500 goal!

THANK YOU ST. TERESA'S!!



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.



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.**



Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Parish

MISSOURI STREET and 19TH | SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

*"In this house, all our friends, all are loved,
all are helped, all are held dear." - St Teresa of Avila*

September 27, 2026 | 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

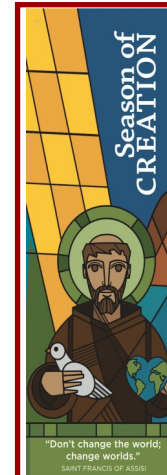
Season of Creation

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.



Only ONE Mass Next Sunday

9AM Sunday October 4 followed by
food on the patio

Father John Hardin OFM will preside and preach at that mass as the entire church celebrates St. Francis of Assisi and the closing of the "Year of St. Francis" This Mass will be followed by a finger-foods and coffee-and-donuts outside on the patio.



Sunday October 25th St. Francis Pet Blessing



The clergy of Saint Teresa's and Saint Gregory's will be on hand during the Farley's Coffee Pet Parade on Sunday, October 25th, to bless your pets.

Yes, this is customarily done on October 4th, but the 'Pet Parade' is an opportunity too good to pass up.

Faith, Action, and Community (FAC) Prayer Group

SEP 27 When: 11:30 – 12:30
Where: Downstairs – St. Teresa of Avila Room
How Often: Every other Sunday

Faith, Action, and Community is a small group ministry rooted in Carmelite spirituality and inspired by St. Teresa of Ávila's call to deep interior prayer that naturally leads to loving action. The purpose of this group is to create a space where parishioners can deepen their relationship with God through prayer, reflect on how God is speaking in their lives, and discern concrete ways to live out their faith in service to others. In keeping with the rhythms of parish life, the group will meet following the Sunday 10:00 AM Mass, offering a natural continuation of worship into reflection and action.

SUNDAY MASSES

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday—Friday 8:30am

PARISH OFFICE

MONDAY—FRIDAY | 10AM TO 4:00PM

Phone: 415-285-5272 | info@stteresasf.org

390 Missouri St | San Francisco, CA 94107

PASTOR

Fr Gregory Houck, O.Carm. | pastor@stteresasf.org

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Br Dave 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 Vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel"

While looking for a topic for this week’s column, I noticed that, for the past several weeks, a common thread in the readings has been the image of the vineyard. I thought it might be interesting to explore this scriptural image in more detail, and the title of this week’s column (from Isaiah 5:7) also happens to be the suggested refrain for next Sunday’s responsorial psalm.

For three weeks in a row, vineyards have been the setting for both the Old and New Testament readings:

- Last week we heard a parable of an estate owner who hired workers for his vineyard. He hired them at different hours of the day, but paid each a day’s wage.
- This week the Gospel was about a man who asked each of his two sons to work in the vineyard. The first said he would but didn’t; the second said he wouldn’t but did.
- Next week’s first reading is from Isaiah; it describes how a man cultivated his vineyard, only to have it yield wild grapes.
- Next week’s Gospel describes a property owner who leased his vineyard to tenant farmers. When the owner tried to collect his share of the grapes, the tenants seized the slaves, beating one, killing another, and stoning a third. Eventually, the tenants kill the owner’s son. In the end, the owner leases the vineyard to others who “will see to it that he has grapes at vintage time.”

Obviously, the vineyard is a familiar image for the people of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. On a simple, practical level, the climate and geography of the Holy Land make it ideal for growing grapes, and wine is a beverage common to daily meals for both rich and poor. However, the related images of vineyard, grapes, and wine have deeper meanings for this Judeo-Christian culture:

- The planting and caring of vines is backbreaking work, demanding almost constant attention and pruning. The sacred writers develop the metaphor that God’s attentiveness to his chosen people mirrors that of the owner to his vineyard.
- The yield of the vineyard (grapes and, eventually, wine) are symbols not only of God’s generosity and blessing, but also of the future heavenly banquet. When “God’s Kingdom comes” there will be feasting, characterized by fine foods and wine.
- The vineyard itself is a metaphor for God’s kingdom. God calls us to be workers in the vineyard, and should we be unwilling or unsuccessful in our work, the vineyard will be turned over to those who will “produce good grapes at harvest.”
- In the Gospel of John, Jesus says that “I am the vine, and you are the branches,” (Jn 15:5), and he also states at the Last Supper that “ . . . I shall not drink this fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it with you new in the kingdom of my Father.” (Mt 26:29)
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As you can see, whenever the Scriptures speak about vineyards and wine they are drawing upon a world of complex images and metaphors. Ultimately, the images of vineyards and wine point to the Kingdom of God, the heavenly banquet that God has prepared for us.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

Saturday, September 26

4:15pm † Donald H. Parker
† Patrick Parker

Sunday, September 27

8:30am † Alphonso Talmadge
10:00am † Carole Arett

Monday, September 28

8:30am † Sister Kathleen Healy

Tuesday, September 29

8:30am † Sr. Kathleen Healy

Wednesday, September 30

8:30am † Rose Marie Ostler

Thursday, October 1

8:30am † Paul Seibel

Friday, October 2

8:30am † Fr. Peter Sammon

Saturday, October 3

4:15pm † Carole Arett

Sunday, October 4

8:30am † Paul Seibel
10:00am † Fr. Peter Sammon

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

Sunday—27th September

- FAC Prayer Group after 10:00am mass –Teresa of Avila Room

Thursday – 28st September

- Sitting for Peace - 12:00—1:00pm on City Hall Steps

Saturday – 3rd October

- Yoga, Teresa of Avila Mtg Room 9:00am
- Lay Carmelites Hall 9:30 - 4:00PM

Sunday – 4th October

- 9AM Mass Fr. John Hardin OFM, followed by food on the patio

If you are interested in any of these events, please email
info@stteresasf.org for more information

ST TERESA’S GREEN TEAM
greenteam@stteresasf.org

Give Your Digital Workspace a Green Reset

Back-to-routine season is a good opportunity to clean up our digital and office habits, too. Reducing unnecessary printing, managing energy use, and responsibly handling old electronics can make our workspaces more sustainable. A few ways to make a difference:

- Choose digital documents where possible
 - Print double-sided when a hard copy is needed
 - Enable sleep and power-management settings on computers and office equipment
 - Reuse, donate, or responsibly recycle electronics instead of sending them to the trash
- A greener office doesn’t require big changes—small technology and paper-use habits can add up over time.

Resource: ENERGY STAR — Energy-Saving Tips for Offices: <https://www.energystar.gov/buildings/save-energy-commercial-buildings/ways-save/checklists>

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.

- Volunteer at a local community garden: Dedicate a morning to planting or maintaining urban greenery by joining a Volunteer Gardening Day at locations like the Geneva Community Garden or Francisco Park to cultivate and sustain local ecosystems.
- Resource: <https://laudatedeumsolidarity.org/>

GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE ‘MARCH FOR OUR LIVES’

March For Our Lives works to educate, engage, and mobilize young people into sustained action that challenges the systems enabling gun violence and creates the conditions for the cultural and policy change needed to make our communities safe. We envision a future where young people inherit a nation free from gun violence, where the systems that profit from and perpetuate it are dismantled, and where safety is valued above gun industry profit. August used to mean picking out new notebooks, picking the perfect first-day outfit, and wondering who you’d sit with at lunch. For an entire generation, that excitement comes mixed with something else: a quiet, heavy anxiety. Back-to-school season now comes with bulletproof backpack ads, security system pitches, and the familiar routine of school shooter drills. We’re taught where to hide, how to stay silent, and how to block a door before we’re even taught geometry. We’ve been conditioned to accept this routine as normal — a culture of conformity around gun violence. But preparing students for a worst-case scenario is not a substitute for keeping them safe in the first place.