

SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK second collection benefits the Saint Vincent de Paul. Donate [here](#)

NEXT WEEK there is no second collection.

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



2026 ST. TERESA OF AVILA SVDP ANNUAL CANNED FOOD DRIVE

We exceeded our 1500 can goal
With over **1900 cans** donated!



Saint Teresa of Avila Parish

MISSOURI STREET and 19TH | SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

"In his own stigmata, Saint Francis was always aware of Jesus and kept him always at his side." - St Teresa of Avila

October 4, 2026 | Feast Day of Saint Francis



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, there is still time to join OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults). We meet each Sunday at

11 o'clock in the RE classroom. Follow the OCIA signs.

Time: 11:00am

Place: R.E. Classroom (follow the OCIA signs).

OCT 4
When: **11:00am** (after the meal on the patio)
Where: **Downstairs – St. Teresa of Avila Room**
How Often: **Every Other Sunday**



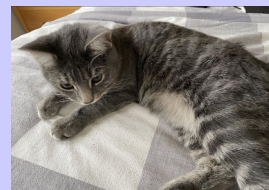
Pope Leo's Magnifica Humanitas (Magnificent Humanity)
ON SAFEGUARDING THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE TIME OF AI
Study Group

Consider joining us in studying Magnifica Humanitas, Pope Leo's AI Encyclical. The study group will be offered after the meal on the patio at about 11:00am. We will go through the encyclical chapter by chapter.

This will be our fourth meeting, and we will discuss Chapter 3 of the encyclical (there are 5 chapters total).

Kittens Available

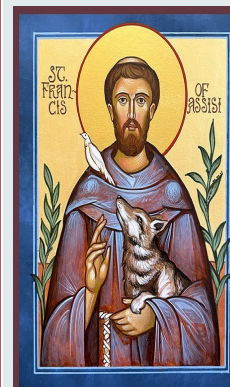
These cuties are available for adoption. Both are female. The black is about 18 months old and the gray is about 7 months old. They've had they shots, both spayed, chipped, and in perfect health. See Father Gregory is you'd like to visit with them.



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.**

ONE Mass Sunday Oct. 4 at 9AM followed by food on the patio



Saint Francis Feastday - because this Diocese is named after Saint Francis, and today closes the "Year of Saint Francis" all the parishes in the Arch-diocese are celebrating Saint Francis (readings and prayers) instead of the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

We welcome Father John Hardin, OFM, a Franciscan friar who works in the Tenderloin, who will preside at today's 9:00am Mass.

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 finger-foods and coffee-and-donuts outside on the patio.

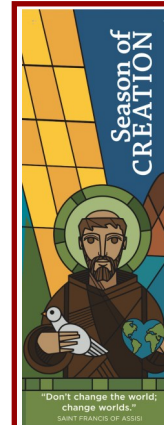
Season of Creation

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.



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.

NAME TAG SUNDAY!

Introduce yourself to someone you don't know; and ask their name; and give them a big WELCOME in the name of Jesus.

Zoom Weekly Bible Study Group



Wednesdays 07:30-08:30pm

Please contact jvhphd@icloud.com
for info and zoom link

Fr. Gregory is away

October 8-18: Giving retreat to Christian Brothers in Chicago area, then driving back to San Francisco

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

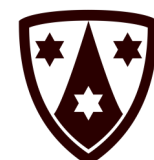
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

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IN RESIDENCE

Fr Michael Kwiecien, O.Carm. | mkwiecien@carmelites.net

Fr Brian Henden, O.Carm. | bhenden@carmelites.net



The Taming of Francis of Assisi

This weekend, on October 4th, we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of the City of San Francisco and, perhaps, the most well-known and venerated saint in the Christian tradition. Born in 1191, Francis lived only 44 years, but during his short life he impacted the Church and culture as few have done, either before or since.

Most of us are familiar with the central aspects of his life story. The son of a textile merchant, Francis was born into an aristocratic, wealthy family and was expected to follow his father in the family textile business. However, in 1202, a war broke between Assisi and Perugia. Francis was captured in battle and held in prison for over a year before being ransomed.

Francis returned to Assisi a changed man. Shortly after his return, Francis was praying in the church of San Damiano when he reportedly heard the voice of Christ, who told him to rebuild the Christian Church and to live a life of extreme poverty. This led to Francis's conversion: he rejected his former life, abandoning a life of luxury in order to embrace the life of the poor.

Francis's Christ-like poverty was a radical notion at the time. The Christian Church was tremendously rich, which concerned Francis and many others who felt that the Church's long-held apostolic ideals had eroded. Francis saw, as his mission, the restoration of the original values of Jesus to the now -decadent Church. Francis possessed incredible charisma, and thousands of followers were drawn to him, listening to his sermons and joining in his way of life. The Franciscan Movement spread like wildfire.

It is important to note a few things about this movement, which have been all-too-often overlooked. First, the Franciscan movement was a lay movement . . . it began "from the ground up." Francis and his followers were not priests, bishops, or clerics; rather, they were common "lay-folk" who were outside the formal structure of the institutional Church. Second, we have to remember that the Franciscan movement was a radical movement which threatened the very structure and existence of the institutional Church. Why? because Francis and his followers challenged the Church to divest itself of wealth and power in order to focus on the marginalized and the poor, thus following more closely in the footsteps of Jesus.

How did the Church respond to the Franciscan "threat?" First, it took the Franciscan movement – which had its origins outside the institutional structure of the Church – and incorporated it into the formal Church structure. No longer on the outside, the Franciscans became a religious community inside the Church, with the followers of Francis becoming religious brothers and priests.

The second response to the Franciscan movement was to shift the emphasis of Francis's message. Instead of being critical of the Church's accumulation of wealth and power, Francis was "tamed" and became the patron saint of animals and ecologists. What does this mean? Well, let's be honest: being the friend of birds and animals is a lot safer than challenging the Church to divest itself of wealth and power!

Ironically, in a 21st century world where supposedly learned people dismiss global warming as folly, Francis of Assisi and his focus on our stewardship of the earth is, once again, ever-so-relevant. And, as it was the 13th century, there are those today who would want to continue to tame Francis, restricting him to the blessing of animals rather than connecting him with the issues involving climate change.

— Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

MASS INTENTIONS

As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

- Saturday, October 3
4:15pm † Carole Arett
- Sunday, October 4
9:00am † Fr. Peter Sammon
- Monday, October 5
8:30am † Sister Kathleen Healy
- Tuesday, October 6
8:30am Judi Daddio (sp. intention)
- Wednesday, October 7
8:30am Elwood Murray (health)
- Thursday, October 8
8:30am Sandra Seibel (sp. intention)
- Friday, October 9
8:30am † Fr. Peter Sammon
- Saturday, October 10
4:15pm † Zenaida Camplis
- Sunday, October 11
8:30am † Paul Seibel
10:00am † Fr. Peter Sammon

This Week at St Teresa

- Sunday—4th October
 - 9am Mass with food on the patio after
 - 11am Pope Leo's AI Encyclical Study Group downstairs in Avila room
 - 7:00pm Rosary for disarmament and peace - in the prayer garden
 - Wednesday—7th October
 - Gun Safety Committee Meeting 10:30am in the Hall.
 - Zoom Bible Study 7:30-8:30pm contact jvhphd@icloud.com for info
 - Thursday – 8th October
 - Sitting for Peace - 12:00—1:00pm on City Hall Steps
 - Saturday – 10rd October
 - Yoga, Teresa of Avila Mtg Room 9:00am
- 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

Prepare Your Garden for Fall

As the seasons change and wetter weather approaches, fall is a great time to give gardens and compost systems some attention. Healthy soil and good yard-waste practices can help gardens thrive while keeping organic materials out of the landfill.

- A few ways to make a difference:
- Add leaves, grass clippings, and other appropriate yard materials to compost
 - Use finished compost to enrich garden soil and help it retain moisture
 - Keep compost balanced with a mix of "greens" and carbon-rich "browns"
 - Clear leaves and yard debris from pathways and drainage areas before heavy rain

Preparing now can support healthier soil, reduce waste, and help gardens handle the changing seasons.

Resource: U.S. EPA — Composting at Home: <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-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.

- 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

NEWSOM SIGNS NEW GUN CONTROL LAWS

Some California gun owners view a new law requiring people to take a four-hour safety class as a kind of tax on firearm ownership. It's one of 10 gun safety measures Gov. Newsom signed into law on Saturday. Have a gun? You're going to need to take another safety class after Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a package of bills Saturday that are a boon to gun control advocates and anathema to Second Amendment groups.

The law, Senate Bill 948, would apply to current residents with newly purchased guns starting in 2029. The class would need to be at least four hours long. Starting in 2028, people moving to California with guns would need to obtain a firearm safety certificate within 180 days of arrival.

Berkeley Democratic Sen. Jesse Arreguin wrote the legislation. -CalMatters

MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE