

SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK the second collection is for St. Vincent de Paul. Donate [here](#).

NEXT WEEK the second collection is for [St. Patrick Seminary](#) (ArchSF)

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



Online donation
Here are the
two ways you
can support St.
Teresa's



OSV Regular



MEETING TODAY
In the Hall RE Room
(follow the signs)



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.**

 *Living the Spirituality of John of the Cross in the 21st Century*

YOUNG ADULT men & women in their 20's & 30's
WEEKEND RETREAT
Holy Hill, Wisconsin
October 30 - November 1

Hosted by... **CARMELITE INSTITUTE OF NORTH AMERICA**
Tradition • Education • Evangelization
www.carmeliteinstitute.net

 Fr. Michael Joseph Paris, OCD
Retreat Master

Season of Creation

The banners in the rotunda commemorate:

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

 "Don't change the world; change worlds."
- Saint Francis of Assisi

Pope Leo XIV Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus, you conquered death without weapons or violence: you shattered its power with the strength of peace. Grant us your peace, as you did to the women filled with doubt on Easter morning, as you did to the disciples who were hiding in fear. Send forth your Spirit, the breath that gives life and reconciles, that turns adversaries and enemies into brothers and sisters. Inspire in us to trust in Mary, your mother, who stood at the foot of your cross with a broken heart, firm in the faith that you would rise again. May the madness of war cease and the Earth be cared for and cultivated by those who still know how to bring forth, protect and love life.

Hear us, Lord of life!



Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Parish

MISSOURI STREET and 19TH | SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

"All that is in our Rule and Constitutions serve only to help us keep these two commandments: love of God and love of neighbor" - St. Teresa of Avila

October 25, 2026 | 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Francis Pet Blessing 1-4pm Saturday October 31



The clergy of St. Teresa's and St. Gregory's will be on hand during the Farley's Coffee Pet parade on **Saturday, October 31**, to bless your Pets.

Please join us for the Pet Parade at Farley's Coffee shop on 18th Street.



Commemorating our Beloved Deceased

Bring in a photograph of your deceased friends and family members. These will be on display by the baptismal font until the First Sunday of Advent.



All Souls Remembrance

During the 10am Mass next Sunday, November 1st, after the homily, we will commemorate the recently deceased of the parish.

A Prayer for Pope Leo's Recovery - James Martin S.J.

God, at the very dawn of creation, you breathed upon the waters, making them the wellspring of creation. In those same times, after your divine breath entered into Adam's lungs, you gave life to all humanity. When your Son, Jesus, died on the Cross, He offered his very last breath to you, his heavenly Father. After the Resurrection, when you breathed new life into your Son, He, in turn, breathed on his disciples and gave them the gift of the Holy Spirit. In our time, that Holy Spirit guided the cardinals in their election of Pope Leo XIV. Now we turn to you and ask you to fill his injured lungs with that same Holy Spirit, making him strong and healthy, and removing any trace of illness. As Leo faces treatment, give him all the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially fortitude. Guide the actions of his doctors, nurses and caregivers, giving them the Spirit's gifts as well, especially wisdom and knowledge. Finally, help your Son's Vicar, and our Pope, Leo, trust in you, Both now in his time of illness, during his treatment and after his recovery. Come, Holy Spirit! Amen.

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

IN RESIDENCE

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

The Greatest Commandment

In the Gospel of Matthew the Pharisees and Sadducees try three times to trip up Jesus with trick questions. Last week the Pharisees asked whether one should pay the census tax (Mt 22:15-21). This Sunday they try to trip him up again, asking which commandment is the greatest (Mt 22:34-40). And in the passage that we didn't read (Mt 22:22-33), the Sadducees pose a hypothetical question about a woman widowed seven times. The Sadducees want to know which of the seven would be her husband when the dead have been raised.

It is important to emphasize that neither the Pharisees nor Sadducees are interested in the answers to these questions. Instead, they are asking them in order to stir up controversy. Jesus, "knowing their malice," answers in such a way so as to confuse (and offend!) both the Pharisees and Sadducees. Responding to the three questions. Jesus tells them to:

- *Render to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.* (Mt 22:21)
- *Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. . . . [and] love your neighbor as yourself.* (Mt 22:37-39)
- *At the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like the angels in heaven.* (Mt 22:30)

A richer understanding of today's Gospel occurs when we are aware of the religious, cultural, and historical framework in which today's interaction takes place. Historically, Moses received the original Ten Commandments in about 1250 BC, and, by the time of Jesus, the original decalogue had been expanded to over 600 laws. To get an idea of what this looked like, simply open a Bible to the Book of Leviticus and read a page or two. Very quickly you'll recognize how the minutiae of law governed every aspect of Israelite life.

For the Pharisees and Sadducees, the ongoing theological discussion revolved around which law was the greatest. The Pharisees believed in a hierarchy of laws . . . which meant that some laws were more important than others. For example, murder was more serious than failure to properly keep the Sabbath.

For the Sadducees, all laws were equal. It didn't matter if you murdered someone or worked on the Sabbath . . . breaking any one law was tantamount to breaking the entire law.

Notice that Jesus will "get into trouble" no matter how he answers the question. If he says that one law is more important than another he will offend the Sadducees; if he says that all laws are equal then he will offend the Pharisees. So what does Jesus do? He quotes Deuteronomy and Leviticus: *"You shall love the Lord, your God, with your whole heart, and with your whole being, and with your whole strength."* (Dt 6:5) And *"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."* (Lv 19:18)

Jesus' final statement – "The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." – implicitly forces the Pharisees and Sadducees to reframe their discussion.

Instead of a speculative theological debate about which law is the greatest, Jesus challenges them to put their religious beliefs into concrete action by loving God and loving neighbor.

-Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

MASS INTENTIONS

- Saturday, October 24**
04:15pm † [Carol Arrett](#)
- Sunday, October 25**
08:30am † [Gino Garilbaldi](#)
10:00am † Fr. Peter Sammon
- Monday, October 26**
08:30am Sr. Lucia Lodolo (Sp. Int)
- Tuesday, October 27**
08:30am Geraldine McGrath (Sp. Int)
- Wednesday, October 28**
08:30am † Carol Oliver
- Thursday, October 29**
08:30am † F. Ozanam (Canonization)
- Friday, October 30**
08:30am Sr. Laryn Kovalik (Final Vows)
- Saturday, October 31**
04:15pm † Sr. Kathleen Healy
- Sunday, November 1**
08:30am † [Paul Seibel](#)
[Sandra Seibel](#) (Sp. Int)
10:00am † [Sr. Patricia Mahoney, BVM](#)

This Week At St. Teresa's

- Sunday—25 October**
- 11:00am OCIA in the religious Education Room
- 11:30am Faith Action Community prayer group in the Teresa of Avila room.
- Wednesday—28 October**
- Zoom Bible Study 7:30-8:30pm contact jvhphd@icloud.com for info.
- Thursday – 29 October**
- Sitting for Peace - 12:00—1:00pm on City Hall Steps
- Saturday – 31 October**
- Yoga - 9:00AM in the Teresa of Avila room.

*Until the first Sunday of Advent,
bring in pictures of deceased
to be remembered at masses.*

ST. TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

Plug-In or Balcony Solar

California Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 868 (the Plug and Play Solar Act), making plug-in balcony solar legal starting January 1, 2027 through January 1, 2030.

- Portable solar panels connect directly into a standard indoor or outdoor wall outlet without needing a complex rooftop installation.
- Systems are capped at a maximum of 1,200 watts of aggregated AC output per dwelling unit.
- Systems must carry a UL or equivalent national lab safety certification and include an automatic grid-down shutoff feature.
- The exemption from utility interconnection rules remains in effect until January 1, 2030
- Renters and homeowners can plug small solar kits directly into a standard indoor or outdoor three-pronged wall outlet to lower monthly electricity bills.

Resource: [CalMatters \(SB868\)](#)

GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE
STRONG GUN LAWS SAVE LIVES

California has proven that strong gun safety laws save lives. Governor Newsome says we're going to fight any move that threatens our progress. HOWEVER The Trump Administration wants to make it easier for dangerous individuals to get guns and harder to stop gun trafficking. The federal government is executing a sweeping deregulation of firearms, with the Trump administration and the ATF rolling back dozens of gun regulations to realign federal policy with Second Amendment rights and recent Supreme Court precedents. Led by acting Attorney General Todd Blanche and newly confirmed ATF Director Robert Cekada, the Department of Justice has introduced over 30 regulatory reforms that systematically undo Biden-era restrictions and weaken federal gun industry oversight. HOWEVER Advocates for gun violence prevention can fight against the reversal of gun laws through local organizing, state-level legislative action, public health advocacy, and supporting ongoing legal challenges.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO VOTE EARLY