SECOND COLLECTIONS

THIS WEEK the second collection is for the Campaign for Human Development. Donate here.

NEXT WEEK there is no second collection

Donate here to support our Charity Fund.
The charity fund is considered Restricted.

TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is the Bishops' Committee effort to fund projects that can break the cycle of poverty. 25% of your donation stays in San Francisco, and 75% goes to projects throughout the U.S. There are CCHD envelopes in the pews.

Greenhouse Volunteers Requested

All the church plants are stored in the church attic greenhouse through the Season of Advent, but it needs a good cleaning. ***If you'd like to help on this project, come to the church from noon till 1pm on Saturday, November 22nd.***

Bulletins by email or text:

text "B"
to 84576

stteresasf.flocknote.com/bulletins

venmo

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)



Walgreen's Flu Shots at Saint Teresa's
Sunday November 22 | 9:00am till Noon
Location: on the upper patio

If you'd like to receive a flu shot, there's a signup sheet in the lobby so Walgreen's can get an idea of the supplies needed.

Thanks to MaryKate (Geradine's daughter) who is bringing Walgreen's to Saint Teresa's to offer flu shots to everyone.

Shots are Free!



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.

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!

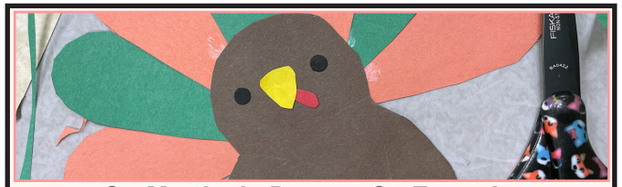


Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Parish

MISSOURI STREET and 19TH | SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

"Let us not cease to believe that even in this life God gives the hundredfold." - St. Teresa of Avila

November 15, 2026 | 33 Sunday in Ordinary Time



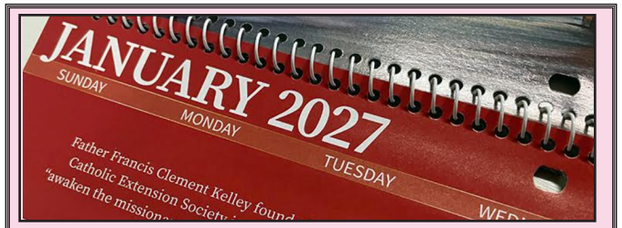
St. Martin de Porres - St. Teresa's Thanksgiving Turkey Drive

Saint Martin de Porres House (16th and Potrero) needs lots of turkeys to serve Thanksgiving Dinner to their unhoused and disadvantaged cliental. If you can help out, take a turkey sheet from the lobby bulletin board and follow the directions On the backside. Saint Martin de Porres House and the guests thank you.



Upcoming Baptisms

We will welcome Gabriel Kading (son of Peter and Jackie Kading) into the church through the waters of baptism next Sunday, November 22nd, during the 10 o'clock Mass. The following Saturday we will welcome August Samponaro (son of Paul and Angelo Samponaro) at noon.



2027 Calendars

Courtesy of Duggan-Serra Mortuary, religious wall calendars are available in the lobby of the church and in the coffee-and-donuts room starting today. Is it almost the year 2027; how did that happen?



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 (November 29)

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

Risk -vs- "Playing It Safe"

Over the past twelve months we have heard a number of parables from the Gospel of Matthew, and – on these last two Sundays of the year – we encounter two more: the Parable of the Talents (today) and the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats (next week).

In this week's parable a man entrusts three servants with five, two, and one talent, respectively. The first two servants invest their talents, doubling their investments to ten and four, respectively. But the third "plays it safe:" he buries his talent so as not to lose it. When the master returns, he applauds the actions of the first two servants, putting each in charge of larger affairs. But the third servant incurs the master's wrath: "Throw this worthless servant into the darkness outside, where he can wail and grind his teeth."

In earlier columns, I explained that a parable was a mid-Eastern literary form which contains an unexpected shock, surprise, or twist. The surprise or twist in today's parable lies in the master's reaction to the third servant. One would expect that the third servant's conservative and prudent action would be commended. Instead, the master launches into a verbal tirade that borders on abuse: "You worthless, lazy lout! . . . All the more reason to deposit my money with the bankers, so that on my return I could have had it back with interest."

What today's Gospel illustrates is an aspect found in many parables: risk. When we take a step back from today's parable, we notice that the master praises the first two servants for being industrious when their behavior might just as easily have been described as risky. Granted, the first two servants doubled their investments, but an equally plausible outcome might have been that the two servants lost the entire amount! Given this possibility, the third servant's burying the treasure could just as easily have been commended as prudent.

As a general rule, risk parables involve an act of faith. Historically, the early followers of Jesus took precisely this type of risk. For example: the first apostles, when called by Jesus, "left their nets and followed him" (Mk 1:18). They left their jobs and families behind in order to follow the Lord . . . which, to be honest, seems more foolish than risky.

Such risk is in marked contrast to the Rich Young Man (Mt 19:16-22). A follower of Jesus from a distance, the young man finally musters the courage to approach the Lord and asks, "What do I still lack?" Jesus tells him to ". . . go, sell what you have and give to [the] poor." When the young man heard Jesus' statement, "he went away sad for he had many possessions" (Mt 19:22). Unlike the first apostles, the rich young man was afraid to take the risk.

Ultimately, any act of faith involves risk. It involves tuning oneself over to the unknown, to something beyond oneself. Saying "I believe" is quite different from saying "I know", because whenever we say "I believe" we are simultaneously saying "I doubt." Acts of faith involve risk, and these acts of faith are an imitation of Jesus. Jesus modeled such "risky faith" when, as he was dying on the cross, he said, "Into your hands I commend my spirit."

-Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 14
04:15pm ✝ Antonio & Ramona Lee

Sunday, November 15
08:30am ✝ Paul Seibel
10:00am ✝ Lawrence V. Galla

Monday, November 16
08:30am ✝ Fr. Peter Sammon

Tuesday, November 17
08:30am ✝ Anita Ramerez

Wednesday, November 18
08:30am Sr. Lucia Lodolo (Sp. Int.)

Thursday, November 19
08:30am Stella Talmadge (Sp. Int.)

Friday, November 20
08:30am ✝ Carol Arrett

Saturday, November 21
04:15pm ✝ Eloisa Perera

Sunday, November 22
08:30am ✝ Allan Yeung
10:00am ✝ Lawrence V. Galla

This Week At St. Teresa's

Saturday – 14 November
- "Cheese and Crackers" after-mass gathering in the hall.

Sunday— 15 November
- 11:00am OCIA in the religious Education Room

Wednesday—18 November
- Zoom Bible Study 7:30-8:30pm contact jvhphd@icloud.com for zoom link and info. Drop-ins welcome.

Thursday – 19 November
- Sitting for Peace - 12:00—1:00pm on City Hall Steps

Saturday – 21 November
- Yoga - 9:00AM in the Teresa of Avila room.

9:00 AM Thanksgiving Day Mass

ST. TERESA'S GREEN TEAM

greenteam@stteresasf.org

Give Thanks by Supporting Local Food

November is a natural time to reflect on where our food comes from and the people and resources that make it possible. Supporting local farmers and choosing seasonal produce can strengthen our communities while encouraging more thoughtful food choices. A few ways to make a difference:

- Visit a local farmers market and look for fruits and vegetables that are in season
- Choose locally grown products when available to support regional farms
- Bring reusable shopping and produce bags when grocery shopping
- Explore plant-forward meals featuring seasonal vegetables, beans, and grains

Supporting local food systems helps connect communities with the people who grow our food. This season, gratitude can extend to the farmers, workers, and natural resources that sustain us.

Resource: Foodwise — Farmers Markets in San Francisco: https://foodwise.org/markets/

GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE

According to recent data from the Pew Research Center and the CDC, there were 44,447 total firearm deaths in the United States in 2024, representing an ongoing decline in overall gun violence. Breakdown of U.S. Gun Deaths (2024–2026 Data) Firearm Suicides: Account for roughly 62% of all gun deaths (27,593 deaths, or a rate of 7.6 per 100,000 people). Firearm Homicides: Account for roughly 35% of all gun deaths (15,364 deaths, or a rate of 4.7 per 100,000 people), marking a 27% decrease since the 2021 peak. Other/Unintentional/Law Enforcement: Includes around 450 unintentional injuries and over 636 fatal law enforcement shootings. Nonfatal Injuries: Over 200 emergency department visits occur daily for nonfatal firearm injuries, which outnumber deaths by a factor of at least 2:1. Mid-2026 Trends: Early data from mid-2026 indicates that U.S. gun violence and shooting fatalities have dropped to their lowest mid-year totals in over a decade. Highest overall firearm mortality rates: Mississippi (28.0), New Mexico (26.6), and Alaska (24.4). Lowest overall firearm mortality rates: Hawaii (3.7) and Massachusetts (3.8).California Statistics: California maintains a lower-than-average gun violence death rate of 7.0 per 100,000 people (with roughly 2,853 total firearm deaths), paired with a high state gun law strength score.