SAVE THE DATE

You are invited . . .
to attend a piano recital
by the students of our parishioner Therese Labuguen on Sunday, June 2 at 3pm here at St. Teresa's.

COME, ENJOY THE MUSIC!

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adult Confirmation will take place on Pentecost Sunday, June 9, at the 11:00am Mass at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption. Any adults who need to be confirmed should see Fr. Michael Kwiecien. A reminder: in order to be a Godparent or Confirmation Sponsor you need to be Confirmed.

DONATION UPDATES

If you have signed up to use on-line giving and no longer wish to receive donation envelopes mailed to your home, please contact Stephani in the Parish Office.

Please be aware that many parishioners are now donating on-line and not in the passed basket. Signing up is quick & easy! If you have any questions, please contact Stephani, either by phone or email.

REGISTERED . . . ?

Are you a registered parishioner? If not, please take a moment to go to our website: stteresasf.org and fill out the registration form. Please give us either an email or phone number. We use this information to keep our parishioners informed of events in the parish & diocese that affect our community.

This information is never shared outside of the parish office. We rarely send out more than one email per month.

At the 10 am liturgy this weekend, seven of our young parishioners will receive First Eucharist. We offer our congratulations to:

Matthew “Jake” Gamboa
Noah Gamboa
Everg Garcia
Joaquin Garcia
Ava Long
Clare Opeka
Kendall Wickliff

May your relationship with Jesus Christ deepen and grow as you continue on your Christian journey.

ST TERESA’S GREEN TEAM

In the United States, we are accustomed to having access to nearly any fruit or vegetable all year long. While this is a nice luxury, produce that isn’t in season has to travel a long way to make it to your grocery store. Consider reducing your carbon footprint by buying your produce from local farmers markets. Local produce is fresher because it is usually sold within 24 hours of being picked and it doesn’t have to travel as far. If you buy produce at a conventional grocery store, it may have been kept in storage for days or weeks.

May is a great time to try out the farmers market and pick up strawberries, cauliflower, artichokes, asparagus, leeks, carrots, and raspberries as they are all in season!

Jim Schelstrate
Judy Warnock
Victoria Michalchuk
Steve Miller
Ron Labuguen
Maddie DeVlieger

To make a one time gift, scan the QR code, scroll past the log in, click on Quick Give
To register, scan the QR code and complete the log in, etc.

ST. TERESA’S MISSION STATEMENT

As members of St. Teresa’s Parish we fulfill our baptismal commitment by being the hands and heart of Christ in our world.

We achieve this commitment by accepting the human dignity of all persons, and by advocating for and serving those oppressed in our society.

The community of St. Teresa’s finds its strength to fulfill this through participation in the Eucharist, prayer, learning the building of relationships, and action for Justice.

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This weekend at the 10 o’clock liturgy, seven young parishioners will receive First Eucharist. We offer our congratulations, and pray that your relationship with Jesus Christ will continue to grow and deepen as you continue on your Christian journey.

Since this is First Communion Sunday, I thought I might review the history of this tradition and practice, since it has undergone remarkable changes over the centuries.

Most of us are familiar with the custom of baptizing children as infants and administering First Communion at about the age of reason (defined in Canon Law as seven years of age). Confirmation occurs during adolescence, and while most of us are familiar with this pattern and practice, many of us would be surprised to learn that it has been around for only about 100 years.

Until the early part of the 20th century, the custom had been to baptize children as infants, confirm them at about the age of seven or eight, and admit them to First Eucharist at about the age of twelve. This sequence of the Sacraments of Initiation – Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist – follows an ancient tradition going back to the earliest days of the Church. We witness this practice when we initiate adults at the Easter Vigil where catechumens are baptized and confirmed before receiving Eucharist. This sequence and practice is maintained in both the Orthodox and Eastern Rite (Catholic) Churches where, immediately after baptism, an infant is confirmed (“chrismated”) before a drop of the Precious Blood (Eucharist) placed on the tongue. That is why, if you attended an Eastern Rite (Catholic) or Orthodox service, you would notice that infants and small children receive Eucharist. Why is the practice different in the Latin Church?

The answer is that, historically, celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation developed differently in the East and the West. In the early days of the Church, the bishop presided at the Sacraments of Initiation. However, as Christianity spread and the Church grew in numbers, presbyters (priests) presided at the initiation sacraments. In the Eastern (Orthodox) churches, priests functioned like the bishop and administered the three Sacraments of Initiation at the same liturgy. But in the West, the priest baptized an infant and confirmation was delayed until the bishop could administer the sacrament. Sometimes it was years before the bishop was “in town,” so confirmation often did not take place until late childhood, adolescence or young adulthood. Confirmation followed confirmation, so the practice in the West (i.e., the Latin or Roman Catholic Church) evolved to one where infants were baptized, children were confirmed (at about the age of seven,) and first communion was received at about the age of twelve.

This practice continued into the early 20th century when it was revised by Pope St. Pius X (1903-1914). Pius X was noted for his devotion to the Eucharist, and he felt that children should not be deprived of the Sacrament. On August 6th, 1910, Pius X issued the Decree Quam Singulari, which abolished the practice of children being confirmed at about the “age of discretion” and moved back to the junior or senior high school years.

Today, this sequence of Baptism-Eucharist-Confirmation is the practice that is followed in most dioceses, including San Francisco. However, there are several dioceses – such as Phoenix, AZ – where the ancient order has been restored: children are baptized as infants and are confirmed at the age of reason. These children then receive First Eucharist at the same liturgy where their confirmation took place.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.