We Welcome You To
St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
Served by the Carmelites

JUNE 9, 2019
PENTECOST SUNDAY

1490 19th Street (Church)
Located on the NE Corner of 19th & Connecticut Streets

PASTOR
Rev. Michael A. Greenwell, O. Carm.
pastor@stteresasf.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR
Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.
mkwiecien@stteresasf.org

PARISH SECRETARY
Stephani Sheehan, stephani@stteresasf.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Laura Diaz-Flaviani, laura@stteresasf.org

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION
Anarose Schelstrate, anarose@stteresasf.org

SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday Vigil
Sunday

WEEKDAY MASSES
Tuesday
Friday

MARRIAGE
Please call 6 months in advance

BAPTISM & RECONCILIATION
Please call for an appointment

PARISH OFFICE / MAILING ADDRESS
Hours—10:00AM to 4:30PM
390 Missouri St, San Francisco, CA 94107
Phone: 415.285.5272
Fax: 415.285.8510
E-mail: info@stteresasf.org
Website: stteresasf.org

DO YOU HAVE AN HOUR OR TWO PER MONTH TO HELP?
Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference is in need of volunteers to help hand out grocery bags on Tuesday afternoons. The bags are given out between 2 & 3 pm every Tuesday. You need only commit to do it once per month. To volunteer, please contact Mary Katherine Law, bayvuer@aol.com

IF YOU WRITE CHECKS TO US, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING
We have been advised by our bank that they will only honor checks made payable to St. Teresa’s or St. Teresa’s Church. They will not honor those made payable to St. Teresa of Avila.

ST. TERESE’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.
Jewish Origins of the Christian Feast of Pentecost

Generally, Christians are unaware of the links and connections between Judaism and Christianity. All too often we speak of Jesus “founding a Church” when—if we scrutinize the Acts of the Apostles—we discover that the first followers of Jesus saw themselves in continuity with Judaism rather than as a separate or distinct sect. Of course, within a few decades of the death and resurrection of the Lord, Christians were “persecuted” with the synagogue for their heretical beliefs and practices. From a Jewish perspective, the Christians’ claim of Jesus as Lord was blasphemy, and their celebration of the Lord’s Supper was looked upon as sacrilege. Nevertheless, many Christian traditions and practices have their roots in Judaism. The Last Supper (Eucharist) took place at a Passover meal and the central feast of Christianity (Easter) is forever linked to the central feast of Judaism (Passover).

In Judaism the Feast of Weeks is a spring harvest festival; in Christianity, Pentecost celebrates the reception of the Holy Spirit and the “birth of the Church.” The event of Pentecost is described in the second chapter of Acts:

“When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.” (Acts 2:1-4)

According to tradition, Pentecost took place in the Upper Room. The Last Supper took place in this room, and, after the Ascension, the disciples returned to this place where they “devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.” (Acts 1:14) They were hiding in this upper room because they feared persecution by the authorities, and it was not until the descent of the Holy Spirit that they found the courage to leave their hiding place and preach the Gospel. For this reason, Pentecost is a feast that celebrates the “birth of the Church”.

The date for Pentecost is fifty days after Easter, and because Easter is a movable feast, the earliest possible date for Pentecost is May 10th (as in 1818), with the latest possible date being June 13th (which will next happen in 2038). The main sign of Pentecost is the color red, which symbolizes both joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit. Ministers wear red vestments, and in many places the assembly has adopted the custom of wearing red clothing as well.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.