ST TERESA’S GREEN TEAM

Earlier this week, on the 4th anniversary of Laudato Si’, California bishops released a new pastoral letter on the environment. The letter “proposes a practical application of the Laudato Si’ message of ecological spirituality” in the context of California. The bishops wrote, “Changes in lifestyle, policy, and economics are absolutely necessary, but Laudato Si’ calls for more.” The letter specifically calls out groups of people such as teachers and parents, liturgists, artists, business leaders, and young people to work together to “inspire everyone in California to care for our common home.” The pastoral statement “offers invitation to action and reflection for specific groups, in the hope that every Californian can find themselves touched by at least one.” This week, try to seek out opportunities to pray in natural surroundings and reflect on how to embrace integral ecology in your daily lives.

We have begun making preparations for the upcoming Religious Education programs. Letters/emails will be sent out to parents of students enrolled in the programs last year. For families new to our programs, forms will be available in the vestibule. PLEASE return all forms and payments to the Parish Office, either by mail or by dropping in the collection basket.

We encourage all parents to register early. Please note the parish expectation that parents and guardians participate in our Sunday Eucharistic celebrations and attend a number of our class sessions. The parents are the primary teachers and we are your helpers.

PASSINGS

We extend our sympathy and prayerful support to the family & friends of Elvira “Lupita” Perea, beloved wife of Epic, who died on Sunday, June 16th. Lupita was a long-time parishioner and resident of Potrero Hill.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Teresa’s on Saturday, June 29th at 10:30am, with a Rosary Service at 10:00am. A reception in our Parish Hall will follow.

ON-LINE GIVING

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

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We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you here celebrating with us. Whether long-time residents or newly arrived in our parish, we thank God that you are with us. If you are not registered or have changes to your registration, please fill in the form below, or complete the form on our website.

Welcome to St. Teresa of Avila’s Parish Community

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Address: __________________________ City: __________________________ Zip: __________ Email: __________________________

☐ New Parishioner ☐ New Address and/or phone ☐ Send Sunday envelopes ☐ On-Line Giving

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We are seeking parishioners with a business and/or finance background to serve on our Finance Council. The Council is an advisory group whose duty is to assist the Pastor in the administration of the property and finances of the Parish.

The Council meets 3-4 times per year, for approximately 2 hours, on a weekday evening. If interested, please see Fr. Greenwell, or call the Parish Office.

Next week's second collection will benefit the St. Teresa Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

We regret to inform you of the death of Beatrice Boland, former Parish Secretary and St. Vincent de Paul member. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Catherine of Siena (Burlingame) on Saturday, June 29 at 11 am.

### Mass Intentions
As we celebrate Mass together we include in our prayers:

**Saturday, June 22**
- 4:15pm: Bob Rose (Spec. Int.)
- 8:30am: The People of the Parish

**Sunday, June 23**
- 8:30am: Diocese of San Francisco
- 10:00am: Paul Foley

**Monday, June 24**
- 10:00am: Audrey & Bob Rose (Spec. Int.)

**Tuesday, June 25**
- 8:30pm: Cecelia & Leonard Greenwell

**Wednesday, June 26**
- 10:00am: The People of the Parish

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Quick question: In the late Middle Ages, what was the most popular religious feast? If you said Christmas or Easter, you’d be wrong because, by the 14th century, the most popular religious feast was Corpus Christi. How did this come about?

In 1264, Pope Urban IV issued the papal bull, *Transiturus de hoc mundo*, establishing Corpus Christi as a feast throughout the Universal (Latin) Church. But the feast of Corpus Christi did not suddenly appear with this document. Celebration and controversy surrounding the Eucharist had been around for centuries in both theological debate and popular devotion.

Corpus Christi – Latin for the “Body of Christ” – focuses on the Eucharist. In terms of theological debate, the issue revolved around the question of what do we call Christ “dwells in” the consecrated bread and wine, that is, the presence of Christ coexists within the substances of bread and wine. In *transubstantiation*, the bread and wine are changed: they are no longer bread and wine because their “substance” has been changed or transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ.

By the 13th century the *transubstantiation* position became the official theology of the Catholic Church, and it was formally and eloquently articulated by Thomas Aquinas in his *Summa Theologica*. Eventually, the *transubstantiation* position would be taken up by the Protestant Reformers, and their understanding of Eucharist – coupled with issues concerning the supremacy of the Roman Pontiff and the ordination of women – are regarded as the three “stumbling blocks” that stand in the way of the unification of the Christian Churches.

While theologians argued as to the meaning of the Body and Blood of Christ, devotions and practices surrounding the Eucharist became staples of popular piety. Eucharistic processions and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament were common, and the original feast of Corpus Christi – the Thursday following Trinity Sunday – was a Holy Day of Obligation. By the Middle Ages, this feast of Corpus Christi resembled our contemporary “Renaissance Fairs” with entertainment, primitive theater, miracle and morality plays, plenty of food and drink, and religious celebration as well. By the 15th century, Corpus Christi was a more popular feast than Christmas or Easter.

In the 13th century, the catechetical challenge facing the church was, “How do we teach the faithful about the doctrine of *transubstantiation*?” The most effective way to do this involved a two-fold process. First, through the liturgy of Corpus Christi, the clergy were able to preach and teach on the subject. And, secondly, by linking Corpus Christi to already existing devotions and practices, the Church could articulate, reinforce and integrate its doctrinal and theological concerns.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.