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.

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.

**INVITATION TO JOIN THE CHURCH CHOIR**

The St. Teresa 10:00am Choir is looking for new members. All who have sung in the choir in the past are welcome (and encouraged!) to join us. Those who have never been in the choir and have been interested in becoming a choir member are also encouraged to join. We will be starting up with weekly rehearsals at the beginning of September. No experience required. The choir meets on Monday (subject to change) evenings starting at 7:00 p.m. For further information, please contact: Laura Flaviani St. Teresa Parish Music Director (415) 386-2722 lflaviani@pacbell.net

A very generous parishioner has donated some wonderful poster sized pictures of this historic event. We have them displayed in the hall. Please take a few moments to go downstairs after Mass and view them.

Epic Perea would like to give thanks to all the wonderful people who supported his family during Lupita’s illness and recent death. They appreciate all the kind words, prayers, Mass Intentions, and support given to them during this difficult period.

**ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO ...**

Pick up donuts on your way to church on Sunday? Donuts need to be here in time to be served after the 8:30 Mass. If enough people volunteer, each may only have to pick up every couple of weeks.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please speak with Fr. Greenwell or call the Parish Office.

**FINANCE COUNCIL**

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.
MARTHA & MARY: A UNIQUE, SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP WITH JESUS

In reading the gospels you can’t help but notice that Jesus is surrounded by quite the menagerie of people. The twelve apostles immediately come to mind, and off the top of my head by being the hands and heart of Christ in our world.

As members of St. Teresa’s Parish we fulfill our baptismal 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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In today’s column I’d like to “read between the lines” of the Gospels and draw some conclusions about some of the people surrounding Jesus. For example, although there are twelve apostles, not all apostles are created equal.

Most Catholics assume that Mary, the Mother of Jesus, would be part of the select “inner circle” surrounding Jesus. The Gospels, however, tell a different story. After the infancy narratives, Mary speaks only two additional lines in the entire New Testament. This occurs at the Wedding Feast at Cana. Mary says to her Son, “They have no more wine,” and, later, she instructs the waiter to “do whatever he tells you.” Granted, Mary was present at the crucifixion, possibly at the tomb on Easter morning, and in the upper room with the disciples. From this, we might conclude that, although there are twelve apostles, not all apostles are created equal.

Which brings us to Martha and Mary, the subjects of this week’s Gospel.

Today’s Gospel, found only in Luke, has Mary at the feet of Jesus, listening to him speak. This in itself is remarkable because, in first-century Judaism, no woman would dare assume the position of a disciple sitting at the feet of the master. This image reinforces a Lucan theme that women had significant, egalitarian roles, both in the ministry of Jesus and in the early Church.

But there is more to Martha and Mary than meets the eye. The Gospel of John tells us that Mary was the one who anointed Jesus with perfumed oil and dried his feet with her hair (Jn 11:2). This serves as introductory material to the story about Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. In that story, Martha and Jesus engage in a lively theological discussion about resurrection, one which continues when her sister Mary arrives on the scene.

Then something extraordinary happened: Jesus wept (Jn 11:35). The fact that Jesus traveled to Bethany to be with Martha and Mary — and that he wept at the death of Lazarus — tells us something about Jesus’ relationship with these three people. If we “read between the lines,” it seems reasonable to conclude that Jesus had a profound and deep relationship with Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. We note that it was not until the night before he died, at the Last Supper, that Jesus said to his apostles, “I no longer call you slaves; I call you friends” (Jn 15:13-15).” Jesus addressed his apostles as friends only hours before his death. Apparently, Martha, Mary, and Lazarus enjoyed such a deep friendship with Jesus long before the night preceding the Crucifixion.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.

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.

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

Saturday, July 20
4:15pm † Mary A. Burns
Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, July 21
8:30am † Jake Kotrba
10:00am The People of the Parish

Tuesday, July 16
8:30am † Lupita Pereza

Friday, July 19
8:30am † Sonny Greenwell

Saturday, July 20
4:15pm † Milo Harnack
Henry Morgan, Jr. (Spec. Int.)

Sunday, July 21
8:30am † Oghi Ottoboni
10:00am † Gertrude Lech
The People of the Parish