Welcome to St. Teresa of Avila’s Parish Community
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.

Name: __________________________ Phone: __________________________
Address: __________________________
City: __________________________ Zip: __________ Email: __________________________
☐ New Parishioner ☐ New Address and/or phone ☐ Send Sunday envelopes ☐ On-Line Giving

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
lf flaviani@pacbell.net

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.

ST TEREZA’S GREEN TEAM
Even though San Francisco’s summers are known to be foggy, it is still important to protect your skin from UV damage by wearing sunscreen. Some sunscreens contain ingredients such as Oxybenzone and nanoparticles that can pose risks to both our health and the environment. Check http://www.ewg.org/sunscreen/ to see how your sunscreen is ranked. Keep in mind, wearing shades, hats, and protective clothing, while avoiding mid-day sun as much as possible, should also be considered.

Please join us in welcoming to our parish community:
Kaitlyn Irish Ejercito, the daughter of Julie Irish & Edgar Ejercito. Kaitlyn will be baptized by Rev. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm. this Saturday at the 4:15pm Mass.

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.
Today is the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, and in this week’s Gospel one of the disciples teaches them the "Our Father," and below are three versions of this most famous prayer of Christians. Which is the “correct” version? Which version most accurately reflects the original “words that Jesus taught us”?

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.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive everyone in debt to us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

– Lk 11:2b-4
– Roman Missal, 3rd Ed.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive our debtors; and do not subject us to the final test, but deliver us from the evil one.

– Mt 6:9-13

As a theology student, when I first saw the above side-by-side comparisons of the Our Father, I was surprised, confused, and . . . shocked! Until that time, I thought that any controversy surrounding the Our Father dealt with the “Catholic-vs-Protestant” versions of the text. In the Protestant version, the prayer ends with “… the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever”. In the Catholic tradition, this phrase is not said in private or public recitations of the prayer except when it is recited by the assembly during Mass. Until I started studying theology, I thought that the “Catholic-vs-Protestant” distinction was the only controversy surrounding the Our Father. But upon taking a closer look at the Scriptures, I discovered that the disputed ending was the least of the problems surrounding this prayer. Additional “problems” include:

- The “kingdom, power and the glory” phrase – the source of that supposed controversy between Catholics and Protestants – is nowhere to be found in Scripture.
- The Our Father – which was supposedly taught to us by Jesus himself – is only found in two of the four gospels, Matthew and Luke.
- The wording of the Our Father found in Scripture is quite different from the wording of the Our Father used in either private prayer or the liturgy.
- The Our Father found in the Gospel of Matthew is decidedly different from the Our Father found in the Gospel of Luke.

So what do we make of these differences and how do we deal with them? In the next two columns I’ll explore these issues in greater detail. Until then, take a look at the three versions of the Our Father reproduced above. Which one do you believe is closest to the original words of Jesus?

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.