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: __________________________ Zip: ______________________ Email: __________________________

City: ____________________________ City: ____________________________

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

START YOUR THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATION BY JOINING US FOR EUCHARIST (MASS) AT 10:00AM ON NOVEMBER 28TH

Food waste is one of the biggest environmental tragedies that comes out of Thanksgiving. The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that Americans throw away 40 percent of their food every year. While composting the leftovers and scraps from people’s plates are a valuable process, it shouldn’t be the priority. This year, try portioning the food on your plate to only be what you are planning to eat. Start with a small portion and get more as you need it. Added bonus: you’ll probably end up consuming fewer calories with this strategy too. When dinner is finished, save leftovers to eat later in the week.

SAVE THE DATE

December 15th is the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudate Sunday. Gaudate means “Rejoice”, and it marks the half-way point of Advent. After the 8:30 am & 10 am Masses we invite you to the Parish Hall to rejoice” with a breakfast of sausage, eggs, and pancakes. (vegetarian/vegan options available)

We promise plenty of food and fellowship, please join us.

THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE . . .

would like to express their appreciation to all who donated throughout 2019. Your donations have made it possible for them to provide our hungry neighbors with 700+ bags of groceries, 100 Thanksgiving boxes, assistance for furniture purchase, and rental assistance. Additionally, our Tuesday & Sunday sandwich makers have made & distributed over 5,500 sandwiches this year! Without your support, none of this would be possible.

Mary Maglio, a long-time parishioner is now residing at Heritage on the Marina. She would love to hear from you. Cards can be mailed to her at 3400 Laguna St, Rm 12, San Francisco, CA 94123. Visits from friends are also welcome!

We Welcome You To St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
A Warm, Welcoming, Inclusive Faith Community
Served by the Carmelites

NOVEMBER 24, 2019
SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

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

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.

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

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

This year we are again delighted to be working with The Lantern to distribute Christmas cheer. Beginning November 30th, the tree with all the sparkling tags is our annual Giving Tree. Each child has 2 tags, with the name & age of the child along with clothing sizes or something practical on one tag; the other tag has a toy the child desires. There is no need to buy both, unless you take 2 tags for the same child. Some ask for gift cards—please be thoughtful in your selection of card & amount (to be age appropriate). We suggest the $25-$50 range.

Return the wrapped package, with tag attached, no later than Sunday, December 15 to ensure that Santa is able to make timely deliveries.

Thank you for your generosity – be assured you will be making a child very happy.
THE LAST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

Today is the Feast of Christ the King, and let’s be honest: Americans are suspicious of kings. Granted, we may be fascinated with the British Royal Family and anything involving Prince Harry, Meghan Markel, and Baby Archie. But such fascination is always tempered by our subversive memories of revolution. Our country’s roots lie in a revolt against another British monarch, George III, and being suspicious of kings seems to be in our very DNA. For this reason, a religious feast promoting Christ as King makes us a tad uncomfortable.

In both our historical memory and secular imagination, we tend to view kings more as tyrannical than benevolent. In this understanding, we associate kings with divine right and power, notions that are incongruent with democratic ideals.

But there is another perspective regarding kingship, a religious one. In the biblical tradition, kingship is more closely linked with prophecy and priesthood than with politics and power. We see this quite clearly in the rite of infant baptism:

God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life.

Notice that this baptismal prayer of anointing draws upon Old Testament imagery wherein in the king is not simply the secular leader of the Hebrew people but their religious leader as Christ’s priesthood, prophetic nature, and kingship.

Historically, the first 800 years of Israelite history did not include a king. God called Abra-ham in about 1800 BC, and roughly 600 years passed until Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt and brought them to the Promised Land. The Judges ruled Israel for the next 250 years before Saul united the Twelve Tribes and become the first Israelite King (1000 BC). Saul was followed by David and Solomon, and the monarchy continued for about 400 years, coming to an end with the Babylonian Captivity (587 – 538 BC). When the Israelites returned from Babylon they did so without a king, and over time a belief developed whereby the return of a king like David would be a sign that God has reestablished “… a chosen race, a holy nation, a people set apart.” Essentially, the return of the king would signify the beginning of the Messianic Age, an era when God’s reign would be established over all the earth. Reading between the lines, this image is evident in Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation II:

In that new world where the fullness of your peace will be revealed, gather people of every race, language, and way of life to share in the one eternal banquet with Jesus Christ the Lord.

The Feast of Christ the King was established in 1925 by Pope Pius XI and was assigned to the last day of October. Suffice it to say that the origins, rationale, and evolution of this Feast are fascinating material for a homily. A good starting point might be 12th stained glass window in the body of the Church which, as a Christological event, celebrates Christ’s kingship.

Following the Second Vatican Council, the Feast was elevated to the rank of Solemnity and is annually celebrated on the Last Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Fr. Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.