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

MARCH 1, 2020
FIRST SUNDAY
OF LENT

1490 19TH STREET (CHURCH) 
LOCATED ON THE NE CORNER OF 19TH & CONNECTICUT STREETS

SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday Vigil 4:15 pm
Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 am

WEEDAY MASSES
Tuesday 8:30 am
Friday 8:30 am

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

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

PARISH SECRETARY
Stephani Sheehan, stephani@stteresa.org

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

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

ON-LINE GIVING
Call in on Tuesday, March 3 at 5:30pm:
Dial-in: (712) 770-5505
Access code: 738182

Please check the bulletin boards in the church vestibule and Parish Hall for upcoming events or special notices from the Archdiocese.

St Teresa’s Green Team
Do you know your carbon footprint? The average American emits 16.6 tonnes of CO₂ per year. If you’re a frequent flyer, that number jumps to 50.1 tonnes of CO₂ per year—YIKES! Take action by visiting cool efect.org to use their Travel Emissions calculator to find the estimated amount of emissions from your recent flight and then to make a donation to help offset your carbon footprint. The donations help fund carbon reducing, global projects. The company works with a range of global projects that are carefully selected and scientifically verified to reduce carbon emissions. Visit cool efect.org to learn more!

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE GREEN TEAM?
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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 longtime 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

AAA 2020—Week 4
Assessed Amount: $28,868
Amount Pledged: $18,020
Balance Remaining: $10,848
We are at 62% of our goal! Thank you to all who have donated & pledged. Last year we had AAA wrapped up in 6 weeks (including pledges to be paid over the year) and received donations from 75+ parishioners/families. We would like to receive pledges from 100 people this year. So far we have received donations from 53 individuals/families.
Please check with your employer to see if they provide matching funds for charitable donations.
You can donate through the Archdiocesan website: https://sfarch.org/aaa Choose St. Teresa Church
or by scanning this QR code

“RUN” GROUPS NEEDED
Groups needed to purchase healthy snacks and assemble into packs for the homeless. Catholic Charities Mission and Bayview Access Points distribute these healthy snack packs to people in need every day. Please contact Carol Laughlin CLaughlin@catholiccharitiessf.org to learn more about organizing an assembly project or donating.

St Teresa of Avila Church
is an EPA ENERGY STAR®
certified building.

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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THE “A” GOSPELS FOR THE SUNDAYS OF LENT

Let me begin with a bold statement: The A-cycle Gospels for the Sundays of Lent are the most cohesive set of readings in the lectionary. Every three years we read from the A-cycle, but whenever we have catechumens to be baptized at Easter we defer to the A-cycle on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent. Let’s look at what we’ll hear over these five weeks:

Week | Gospel | Symbol/Image
--- | --- | ---
1 | The Temptation in the Desert | 40 Days in Desert
2 | The Transfiguration | The Dazzling, White Garment
3 | The Woman at the Well | Water
4 | The Man Born Blind | Light
5 | The Raising of Lazarus | Resurrection/New Birth

What makes this cycle so unique and special are the gospels for the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays. These readings — the Temptation in the Desert, the Man Born Blind, and the Raising of Lazarus — are taken from the Gospel of John, and the practice of using these readings dates from the third century. What is important to note is how the Gospels for these five Sundays focus on the baptismal character of the Lenten season:

- The 
  *temptation in the desert* — where Jesus spends 40-days in preparation for his temptation in the desert — parallels the catechumens’ final 40-day preparation for Baptism.
- The 
  *dazzling, white garment* — central to the transfiguration narrative — corresponds to the white garment with which we clothe the newly baptized when they come out of the water.
- The 
  *woman at the well* — which emphasizes the “living water” that Jesus offers the Samaritan woman — corresponds to the living water of Baptism.
- The 
  *man born blind* — which focuses on light — alludes to the Easter fire, the Paschal Candle, and the myriad of Easter images of light conquering darkness.
- Finally, the 
  *raising of Lazarus* — which prefigures Christ’s resurrection from the dead — parallels a person being “born again” to new life through the waters of Baptism.

The restoration of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) was one of the major reforms of the Second Vatican Council. Included in this restoration was the revision of the Lectionary so as to retrieve the Johannine sequence of readings for the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent. These Gospels challenge the catechumens with three profound questions:

- What am I thirsty for? (From the Woman at the Well)
- What am I blind to? (From the Man Born Blind)
- What am I bound by? (Lazarus: “Unbind him and set him free!”)

Notice that these questions are posed, not only to those who are preparing for baptism, but also to those who are already baptized. Essentially, the A-Gospels for the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent force the assembly of the baptized to walk with and accompany the catechumens on their journey towards the Easter Sacraments.

Michael Kwiecien, O. Carm.