



# St. Teresa of Avila

11600 Atwood Road

Auburn, CA 95603

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**July 20, 2025**

Genesis 18:1-10

Psalms 14 (15):2-5

Colossians 1:24-28

Luke 10:38-42

## "The Special Visit" Based on Luke 10:38-42

One sunny afternoon, two sisters named Martha and Mary were at home. Their house was warm and cozy, and they were waiting for a very special guest. Can you guess who it was? It was Jesus! When Jesus arrived, Martha welcomed Him with a big smile. She wanted everything to be perfect. She hurried into the kitchen—stirring soup, setting the table, and baking bread. She ran around, working hard to make a delicious meal for her guest. But Mary did something different. Mary sat quietly on the floor near Jesus. She looked up at Him with wide eyes and listened closely to every word He said. She didn't want to miss a single story or lesson. She felt peaceful just being near Him. Martha peeked out from the kitchen. She saw Mary sitting still, while she was doing all the work. She frowned. "Jesus," Martha said, "don't You care that Mary isn't helping me? Tell her to come help me!" Jesus looked at Martha kindly and said, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and busy about so many things. But only one thing is truly important. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken away from her."

Martha stopped. She took a deep breath. She realized that Jesus wasn't mad. He was helping her see what mattered most: spending time with Him. So, Martha sat down too. The soup could wait. The bread would be fine. What really mattered was being close to Jesus and listening with love. And from that day on, both Martha and Mary knew:  
The best way to welcome Jesus... is to give Him your heart.

## July 22—Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

Today we celebrate the Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene, one of the most faithful and remarkable women in the Gospels. Pope Francis elevated her memorial to a feast day in 2016, calling her the “Apostle to the Apostles”—a title the early Church Fathers also used—because she was the first to witness the risen Christ and to proclaim His Resurrection to the apostles.



Yet her journey to that moment was not simple. Scripture tells us that Jesus had cast seven demons out of Mary Magdalene (Luke 8:2). That number symbolizes deep spiritual affliction—a life of profound darkness. And yet, having encountered the healing mercy of Jesus, Mary becomes a devoted follower, remaining with Him even when many others fled. She was there at the foot of the Cross, present when others abandoned Him. And she was the first at the tomb, early in the morning while it was still dark—both physically and spiritually.

And in that darkness, something miraculous happens.

As she weeps outside the empty tomb, thinking someone has taken the Lord's body, Jesus comes to her. She doesn't recognize Him at first—until He calls her by name: “Mary.” With that one word, her sorrow is turned into joy. Her confusion becomes clarity. Her loss becomes mission.

This is not just a touching story; it is a powerful message for each of us.

### 1. God's Mercy Transforms Our Past

Mary Magdalene's life before Christ was one of torment and brokenness. But Jesus did not define her by her past. He redeemed it. That is the great Christian hope: No one is beyond the reach of God's mercy. Our past does not disqualify us from discipleship. In fact, those who have been forgiven much, love much (cf. Luke 7:47). Mary Magdalene reminds us that a healed heart becomes a missionary heart.

### 2. Faithfulness in the Dark

She went to the tomb before dawn. She stayed, even when all seemed lost. Sometimes we are tempted to walk away when God feels silent or absent. But Mary Magdalene shows us that those who wait in love will be the first to see the dawn of Resurrection. Faithfulness, even in grief, prepares us for grace.

### 3. We Are Called by Name

Jesus doesn't simply reveal Himself to Mary with a theological explanation. He calls her by name: “Mary.” That is the heart of Christian faith—not just knowing about Jesus, but hearing Him speak your name. He knows you. He loves you personally. And He calls you to mission.

### 4. Proclaim the Resurrection

After encountering the Risen Lord, Mary runs to the apostles and says, “I have seen the Lord!” This is the core of our faith. It's not an idea. It's not a moral system. It's a Person who is alive. You and I are also called to witness—not just with words, but with lives that say, “I have seen the Lord. He has changed me.”

Dear friends, Saint Mary Magdalene is a model for the Church. She shows us that holiness is not about perfection but about encounter, love, and fidelity. In a world that often labels people by their worst moments, Mary Magdalene reminds us that God sees our deepest identity: beloved, redeemed, sent.





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| Sunday 7/20    | 8:30am  | + | Robert Hill               |
|                |         | + | Joe Testa                 |
|                | 10:30am | + | Lercree Kirtley           |
|                | 4:00pm  |   | For The Faithful          |
| Tuesday 7/22   | 8:30am  | + | Fr Dermot Dwyer           |
| Wednesday 7/23 | 8:30am  | + | George & Elizabeth Coelho |
| Thursday 7/24  | 8:30am  | + | Robert & Rose Champion    |
| Friday 7/25    | 8:30am  | + | Fiammetta Catena          |

## LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

July 26th & 27th, 2025

### Altar Servers

Saturday, 5:00pm: Kendal, Landon & Claire Douglas  
 Sunday, 8:30am: Manley's  
 Sunday, 10:30am: Matt Clifton, Thomas Huckins,  
 Colin Santos

### Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday, 5:00pm: Jackie Carlson, Claudia Beckwith

Carol Coleman, Steve

McCullough,  
 Sunday, 8:30am: Tom & Kris Epperson,  
 Bob & Fran Sypnieski,  
 Tim & Becky Gilbride,  
 Luciana Curtis

Sunday, 10:30am: Mario Vilamor, Nati Magowan,  
 Barbara Kilborn, Mary Aguilar,  
 Lisa Avila, Erin Anguillo,  
 Rhemee Brockway

### Lectors

Saturday, 5:00pm: Ron Roussey, Bob Thomas  
 Sunday, 8:30am: Russ Zeller, Lucy Manley  
 Sunday, 10:30am: Carolyn & Alan Hayes

### Sacristans

Saturday, 5:00pm: Steve McCullough, Trish Jensen  
 Sunday, 8:30am: Julia Eggert  
 Sunday, 10:30am: Chuck Manzer, Danny Bernal



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### What are the fruits of Holy Communion?

Holy Communion increases our union with Christ and with his Church. It preserves and renews the life of grace received at Baptism and Confirmation and makes us grow in love for our neighbor. It strengthens us in charity, wipes away venial sins and preserves us from mortal sin in the future.

### When is it possible to give Holy Communion to other Christians?

Catholic Eucharistic ministers may give Holy Communion licitly to members of the Oriental Churches which are not in full communion with the Catholic Church whenever they ask for it of their own will and possess the required dispositions.

Catholic Eucharistic ministers may licitly give Holy Communion to members of other ecclesial communities only if, in grave necessity, they ask for it of their own will, possess the required dispositions, and give evidence of holding the Catholic faith regarding the sacrament.

### Why is the Eucharist a “pledge of future glory”?

The Eucharist is a pledge of future glory because it fills us with every grace and heavenly blessing. It fortifies us for our pilgrimage in this life and makes us long for eternal life.

It unites us already to Christ seated at the right hand of the



Father, to the Church in heaven and to the Blessed Virgin and all the saints. (1402-1405) In the Eucharist, we “break the one bread that provides the medicine of immortality, the antidote for death and the food that makes us live forever in Jesus Christ.” (Saint Ignatius of Antioch)

### What kind of worship is due to the sacrament of the Eucharist?

The worship due to the sacrament of the Eucharist, whether during the celebration of the Mass or outside it, is the worship of latria, that is, the adoration given to God alone. The Church guards with the greatest care Hosts that have been consecrated. She brings them to the sick and to other persons who find it impossible to participate at Mass. She also presents them for the solemn adoration of the faithful and she bears them in processions. The Church encourages the faithful to make frequent visits to adore the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle.

### Why is the Holy Eucharist the paschal banquet?

The Holy Eucharist is the paschal banquet in as much as Christ sacramentally makes present his Passover and gives us his Body and Blood, offered as food and drink, uniting us to himself and to one another in his sacrifice.

### What is the meaning of the altar?

The altar is the symbol of Christ himself who is present both as sacrificial victim (the altar of the sacrifice) and as food from heaven which is given to us (the table of the Lord).

**When does the Church oblige her members to participate at Holy Mass?** The Church obliges the faithful to participate at Holy Mass every Sunday and on holy days of obligation. She recommends participation at Holy Mass on other days as well.

### When must one receive Holy Communion?

The Church recommends that the faithful, if they have the required dispositions, receive Holy Communion whenever they participate at Holy Mass. However, the Church obliges them to receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season.

## **Jesus loved the family of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha deeply, and the Gospels give us several reasons why:**

### **1. They Welcomed Him with Love and Hospitality**

Martha, Mary, and Lazarus lived in Bethany, near Jerusalem, and often welcomed Jesus into their home (Luke 10:38–42). They treated Him not only as a guest, but as a close friend. Their home became a peaceful and supportive place where Jesus could rest, pray, and enjoy friendship.

### **2. They Had a Deep Faith in Him**

When Lazarus died, both Martha and Mary expressed faith that Jesus could have saved him—and Martha even declared her belief in the resurrection (John 11:21–27). Their strong faith and trust in Him revealed hearts that truly believed in His divine power.

### **3. They Had a Close, Personal Relationship**

John 11:5 says plainly:

“Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus.” This shows that their relationship wasn't just about service or belief—it was personal. Jesus shared in their sorrow, as shown when He wept with them at Lazarus' tomb (John 11:35), revealing His deep compassion and emotional connection to them.

### **4. Mary Anointed Jesus with Perfume**

Mary showed great love by anointing Jesus' feet with expensive perfume and wiping them with her hair (John 12:1–3). This act was a sign of reverence, gratitude, and love—something Jesus praised and even connected with His burial (John 12:7).

### **In Summary:**

*Jesus loved Lazarus, Mary, and Martha because: They welcomed Him and served Him with love.*

We place **flowers on the altar** in the Catholic Church as a way of showing honor, reverence, and beauty in worship. Here are the main reasons:



### **1. To Honor God**

Flowers are part of God's creation and reflect His beauty and goodness. When we offer them at the altar, we are giving back to God a symbol of life, love, and gratitude.

“All good giving and every perfect gift is from above.”  
– James 1: 17

### **2. To Show Joy and Celebration**

Flowers express joy, festivity, and reverence, especially during important feasts like Easter, Christmas, weddings, and saints' feast days. They help reflect the joy of the Church in its liturgical celebrations.

### **3. To Beautify the Sacred Space**

Just as we clean and decorate our homes for guests, we beautify the church and altar to show that this is a special, holy place where Christ is truly present. The altar represents Christ Himself, so flowers highlight the dignity of the space.

### **4. As a Symbol of Life and Resurrection**

Flowers are often used as a symbol of new life, especially during Easter, reminding us of Christ's resurrection and the hope of eternal life.

### **5. A Sign of Devotion and Sacrifice**

Just like we give gifts to those we love, offering fresh flowers is a small sacrifice that reflects our love and devotion to God.

### **When did Jesus Christ institute the Eucharist?**

Jesus instituted the Eucharist on Holy Thursday “the night when he was betrayed” (1 Corinthians 11:23), as he celebrated the Last Supper with his Apostles.

### **How did he institute the Eucharist?**

After he had gathered with his Apostles in the Cenacle, Jesus took bread in his hands. He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “Take this and eat it, all of you; this is my Body which will be given up for you.” Then, he took the cup of wine in his hands and said, “Take this and drink of this, all of you. This is the cup of my Blood, the Blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.”

### **What does the Eucharist represent in the life of the Church?**

It is the source and summit of all Christian life. In the Eucharist, the sanctifying action of God in our regard and our worship of him reach their high point. It contains the whole spiritual good of the Church, Christ himself, our Pasch. Communion with divine life and the unity of the People of God are both expressed and effected by the Eucharist. Through the eucharistic celebration we are united already with the liturgy of heaven and we have a foretaste of eternal life.

### **What are the names for this sacrament?**

The unfathomable richness of this sacrament is expressed in different names which evoke its various aspects. The most common names are: the Eucharist, Holy Mass, the Lord’s Supper, the Breaking of the Bread, the Eucharistic Celebration, the Memorial of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, the Holy Sacrifice, the Holy and Divine Liturgy, the Sacred Mysteries, the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar, and Holy Communion.

**Where does the Eucharist fit in the divine plan of salvation?** The Eucharist was foreshadowed in the Old Covenant above all in the annual Passover meal

celebrated every year by the Jews with unleavened bread to commemorate their hasty, liberating departure from Egypt. Jesus foretold it in his teaching and he instituted it when he celebrated the Last Supper with his Apostles in a Passover meal. The Church, faithful to the command of her Lord, “Do this in memory of me” (1 Corinthians 11:24), has always celebrated the Eucharist, especially on Sunday, the day of the Resurrection of Jesus.

### **How is the celebration of the Holy Eucharist carried out?**

The Eucharist unfolds in two great parts which together form one, single act of worship. The Liturgy of the Word involves proclaiming and listening to the Word of God. The Liturgy of the Eucharist includes the presentation of the bread and wine, the prayer or the anaphora containing the words of consecration, and communion. (1345-1355, 1408)

**Who is the minister for the celebration of the Eucharist?** The celebrant of the Eucharist is a validly ordained priest (bishop or priest) who acts in the Person of Christ the Head and in the name of the Church.



*Pope Leo emphasizes that peace is not merely the absence of war but a personal and interior effort. True peace begins with humility, forgiveness and mindful communication — not just political treaties.*



## Sundays' Gospel

Today's Gospel presents us with a familiar and beloved scene: **Jesus visits the home of Martha and Mary.**

Martha is busy, working hard to serve the Lord, while Mary sits at His feet, listening to His words.

At first glance, we might sympathize with Martha. She's doing what most of us would do—preparing the house, making sure everything is in order, making the Lord feel welcome. But instead of praising her efforts, Jesus gently corrects her: "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things... Mary has chosen the better part."



This is not a condemnation of service. After all, in other parts of the Gospel, Jesus says, "I am among you as one who serves" (Luke 22:27). Service is essential to the Christian life. The Church is full of Marthas—volunteers, ministers, parents, caretakers—who sacrifice daily for the good of others. We are deeply grateful for them.

But Jesus isn't criticizing Martha's service. He's inviting her—and us—to something deeper: a life rooted in relationship with Him.

Mary, in this moment, represents the contemplative heart. She knows that while there is much to do, the most important thing is to be with Jesus, to listen to Him, to allow His word to shape her. This is the "better part" that cannot be taken away.

The meal will be eaten and forgotten, but the Word of God, planted in the heart, bears eternal fruit.

So what is Jesus asking of us today?

First, to slow down. We live in a Martha-world—always busy, always rushing, often anxious. But in all our activity, we must not lose sight of Jesus. We cannot give what we do not have. We need time in prayer, in silence, in Scripture, so that we are not just doing things for God, but living with God.

Second, Jesus is reminding us that anxiety is not from Him. He says to Martha, "You are anxious and worried about many things." How often do we feel the same? Yet how often do we bring those worries to Him? Prayer is where burdens are lifted. Mary's posture—sitting at Jesus' feet—is the image of trust and surrender.

Lastly, Jesus shows us that our identity is not in what we do, but in who we are to Him. Mary is not praised for accomplishing a task but for simply being present with the Lord. We are not defined by our achievements, but by our relationship with Jesus, who calls us His friends.

Dear friends, both Martha and Mary are saints. We are not called to be one or the other, but to integrate both: to serve with love like Martha, and to pray with devotion like Mary. But the order matters. First, we sit at His feet. Then, we rise to serve.

May we, like Mary, choose the better part—and may it never be taken from us.

## "MARTHA, MARTHA,"

THE LORD ANSWERED. "YOU ARE  
WORRIED AND UPSET ABOUT MANY THINGS,  
BUT ONLY ONE THING IS NEEDED.  
MARY HAS CHOSEN WHAT IS BETTER, AND IT  
WILL NOT BE TAKEN AWAY FROM HER."

— LUKE 10:41-42 —





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**Rev. Arbel S. Cabasagan, Pastor**  
**Deacons: John Sheehan & Adam Crawford**

#### **Mission Statement**

*"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in My Love." In Christ's Love, the Eucharistic community of St. Teresa of Avila, Auburn, embraces and welcomes all as part of God's family. We value every parishioner and strive to reflect the mercy, forgiveness, and healing of Jesus Christ.*

**Parish Office:** 11600 Atwood Rd., Auburn, CA 95603  
(530) 889-2254, fax (530) 889-2643  
info@stteresaauburn.com

**Office Hours:** Monday—Friday, 8:00am—4:00pm  
Closed for lunch 11:30am—12:30pm

**Pastor:** Fr. Arbel S. Cabasagan  
(530) 889-2254 ext. 100  
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**Parish Secretary:** Barbara Freuler  
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## July 25—Feast of Saint James the Greater

“Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?” (Matthew 20:22)



Today, we celebrate the feast of Saint James the Greater, the brother of Saint John, a son of Zebedee, and one of the first disciples called by Jesus. James is called “the Greater” not to diminish others, but likely because he was either older or taller than the other apostle named James. But more than size or age, he was great in faith, in zeal, and ultimately in sacrifice.

In the Gospel today, we hear the famous moment when the mother of James and John approaches Jesus with a bold request: that her sons might sit one at His right and the other at His left in His kingdom. It’s a very human moment—seeking honor, glory, and recognition.

Jesus does not rebuke them harshly. Instead, He redirects the conversation. “Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?” He is speaking of the cup of suffering, the cross, the total gift of self in love. James and John boldly respond, “We can.”

They didn’t yet understand fully what they were agreeing to, but Jesus accepted their willingness—and He prepared them to become not just witnesses of His life, but participants in His passion.

### 1. The Journey of Discipleship

James began his journey as a fisherman—simple, hard-working, ordinary. When Jesus called him, he left his nets immediately (Matthew 4:22). That is the heart of true discipleship: a readiness to leave behind what is comfortable in order to follow the Lord. James didn’t just follow physically; he followed spiritually.

He walked with Jesus, listened to Him, and was one of the three (with Peter and John) chosen to witness special moments—the healing of Jairus’ daughter, the Transfiguration, and the agony in the garden.

But James was not perfect. At times, he was impetuous. Jesus nicknamed him and John the “Sons of Thunder” (Mark 3:17), likely because of their fiery temperament—like when they wanted to call down fire from heaven on a Samaritan village (Luke 9:54). But Jesus took that zeal and, through patient formation, turned it into a zeal for the Gospel.

### 2. Martyrdom: Drinking the Cup

James was the first apostle to be martyred. Acts 12:2 tells us that King Herod had James killed by the sword, around the year 44 AD. He was the first to fully “drink the cup” of which Jesus spoke. While others would follow, James was first in love, in courage, and in laying down his life. His death is not just a tragic end—it is the ultimate testimony of faith. He sealed his apostleship with his blood.

This is important for us to remember: true greatness in the kingdom of God is measured not by status, but by sacrifice.

### 3. Lessons for Us Today

What can we learn from Saint James?

Be ready to leave your “nets.” Whether that’s comfort, pride, plans, or possessions, discipleship costs something. Are we willing to follow Jesus even when it’s uncomfortable?

Let Jesus shape your zeal. Like James, we may be passionate, but that passion needs to be purified. Let Christ redirect your fire—not for anger or ambition, but for love, mercy, and truth.

Embrace sacrificial love. Most of us won’t be martyred like James, but we’re still called to “drink the cup”—through daily sacrifices, self-denial, and a love that gives without counting the cost.

## Announcements

1. Last Sunday during the 8:30am Mass a parishioner's car was entered and money was stolen from a wallet. Let's all be sure to lock our vehicles and not leave items in sight to deter a break in.

2. St Teresa's Religious Education Program cordially invites all Catechists and interested parish volunteers who would like to help with the Faith Formation and Sacramental Prep classes during the 2025/2026 year to a Potluck Planning Meeting on this Tuesday evening July 22nd at 7:30pm in the Beatitude Room. Bring a dish to share, drinks and dessert will be provided. If you are planning to attend please RSVP by calling Sr. Rosemary at the parish office.

3. Volunteers are needed to help with cleaning, dusting and vacuuming the church on Monday and Saturday mornings, if you are interested in helping please contact the parish office.



4. Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation classes will be starting September 7th. registration forms are available in the parish office. Religious Education and celebrating the Sacraments are vital to the children and volunteers are needed to support the programs. If you are interested in volunteering contact Sr. Rosemary at the parish office.

5. Next Sunday, July 27th the Auburn Interfaith Food Closet will be distributing non-perishable food items at 5:00pm on the plaza, No identification is required.

6. The Grief Support Group will be meeting on Friday, July 25th at 2:00pm in the Beatitude Room. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one plan to attend this meeting.



### Welcome to the Family

1. Addison Mae Jones, the daughter of Garrett
2. Ashley Jones and granddaughter of Jeff and Anne Jones.

***"Peace is built in the heart and from the heart, by eliminating pride and vindictiveness and carefully choosing our words." – Address to members of the diplomatic corps, May 16, 2025. Here, Pope Leo highlights the importance of personal humility and mindful communication in fostering peace.***