

St. Mary's Basilica
A Catholic Faith Community
Franciscan Friars

PARISH STAFF

RECTOR AND PASTOR

Fr. Vincent J. Mesi, O.F.M.
602-354-2072

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Alonso de Blas, O.F.M.
602-354-2070

**PARISH
ADMINISTRATOR**

Jerome Doris
602-354-2069

**CHRISTIAN
FORMATION**

Sr. Anthony Poerio, IBVM
602-354-2068

MUSIC MINISTRY

Gordon Stevenson
602-354-2061

**ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT**

Camela Barraza
602-354-2100

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Tom and Linda Raimundo
Renee Poston

PARISH CENTER

231 North Third Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
602-354-2100
FAX 602-354-2060
www.stmarysbasilica.org

PARISH CENTER HOURS

Weekdays
9:00 am to 4:00 pm

BASILICA HOURS

Monday through Saturday
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Parish Mission Statement

As children of a loving Creator, baptized into Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, St. Mary's Faith Community believes in the power of the Sacred Liturgy which challenges us to faithfully live out Gospel values of peace and justice.

Following the example of Mary's openness to God's call and in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, we minister with courtesy and compassion to all people, especially the poor and marginalized. Reflecting God's all-inclusive love, we commit ourselves to welcome and affirm the whole diversity of God's people.

Our commitment includes educating and forming ourselves into a community that joyfully celebrates our oneness in Christ. Acknowledging that all gifts come from our Creator, we seek to become good stewards of all God's gifts.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays 12:05 p.m.
Saturday Vigil 5 p.m.
Sundays
9:00 am and 11 a.m.
Holy Days
12:05 p.m., 5:15 p.m.

**SACRAMENT OF
RECONCILIATION**

Saturdays 4 to 5 p.m.
or by appointment

**SACRAMENT OF
MARRIAGE**

Minimum of six months
preparation
602-354-2100

**SACRAMENT OF
BAPTISM**

Celebrated monthly
During Mass
602-354-2068

**SACRAMENT OF
THE SICK**

Please contact the parish
for a priest.
602-354-2072

HOLY HOUR

Thursdays
11:00 a.m. and 6:00 pm

**VIA ASSISI GIFT
SHOP**

Dee Pennartz
Manager
602-271-0042
Wednesdays - Fridays
9:30 am. to 3:00 pm
Saturdays
11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sundays
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Dear friends,

Peace and all Good!

Today's Scriptures exhort us to embrace the virtue of humility. Sirach urges: "Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God." The parable Jesus tells in the Gospel teaches us that "everyone who exalts oneself will be humbled but the one who humbles oneself will be exalted." Isn't it strange that humility doesn't seem to get too much attention in our time? Even in our churches, we don't hear much about humility these days. The exalted are those who boast of their power, their wealth, their athletic ability, etc.

A long time ago, St. Francis of Assisi taught that the virtue of humility is at the heart of the Christian life. Everything he said or did was out of humility. Indeed, his Rule and way of life give clear admonitions to live a life of simplicity and humility. His earliest recorded writing is the Prayer Before the Crucifix. In this prayer, we find a beautiful song which demonstrates true humility before God. Francis prays: "Most high, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me correct faith, certain hope, and perfect love, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command." In this prayer, Francis shows us our true relationship with God—God is our loving Father and Mother and we are God's children. Let us accept the truth about ourselves—both our good points and our weaknesses and serve the Lord in great humility! As Francis says: "What a person is before God, *that* he or she is, and *that* alone." (Admonitions)

And speaking of St. Francis, our parish pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome begins this coming Friday, September 7th. It hardly seems possible that the day is finally here! But, all of the 42 pilgrims are looking forward to this opportunity to visit the holy places of the Franciscan spirit! In particular, we will remember all of you and your intentions at the Tomb of St. Francis and at the Tomb of Blessed Pope John XXIII in St. Peter's Basilica, Rome. Pilgrimages are not just tours or vacations; they are spiritual journeys which give the pilgrim the chance of stepping back from everyday life, to look at one's life humbly and honestly and to ask the Spirit to encourage change in one's life. For some, radical changes have taken place; for others, the grace to continue a spiritual path is given. As we pray for *you*, please also pray for *us*. Thank you.

Last weekend we began the registration process for all levels of religious education and formation. Judging from the number of registrations taken, many parents have not yet signed their children up for classes. The religious and spiritual formation of their children is of prime importance for parents. While it is true that the primary teachers of the Faith are the parents, nonetheless, the parish religious education and formation program is an integral part of your child's spiritual health. And so, I urge everyone to make sure that you are fulfilling your role as parent by bringing your children to our Sunday morning classes which begin on September 30th after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. There is a colorful poster about this in the Vestibule of the church today and also registration forms that you may pick up and fill out and return to the parish office to the attention of Sr. Anthony. Bless you.

Ciao,



WHAT PLACE DO WE TAKE AT THE TABLE?
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings remind us that we, like those who have gone before us can approach God's presence not through our own efforts, but because of Jesus who has acted on our behalf. The key lies not in demeaning ourselves; rather, it has to do with knowing who we really are. It may raise discomfoting questions of who we are willing to admit to our own tables or our Eucharistic tables. Our sense of hospitality is challenged as well as our need to humble ourselves.

Humility is a virtue, but perhaps not our favorite one. We have all met "pushy" people in our lives, whether the person is a family member or one in the workplace. There are those who seek the higher places, and who would do anything to "climb the corporate ladder" even if it means displacing others who might be more capable, in their effort to move forward. They will look for the best places at table for personal gain. To be number 1, in no matter what area, is a sought after goal. Even small youngsters have learned that raising that one finger, we're #1 in sports competitions have that challenge to be first. As in today's scripture, the humble person took the lowest place at table but was recognized for his true worth and was called "up higher". It is God who makes us worthy.

Humility demands that we not only be humble but that we embrace all of God's people as equals before God. It will be the humble, the poor, the blind, the crippled, and the lame who will first stand exalted at the future banquet. In our antiseptic world do we sometimes look down on someone who needs to bathe or who is in need of clean clothes? So subtle our reactions may be that we may not even be aware of what we are doing, yet it may be a reaction of a superiority attitude.

We believe that God blesses those who help the poor and that there is a definite gospel imperative for us to act in their behalf. The Church's concern for the poor is articulated in the language of "preferential option" for the poor. Material deprivation, unjust oppression, physical and psychological illness and death – all the many forms of human misery – have elicited the compassion of Jesus and the concern of the Church. The concern is that of helping each individual but also directed to addressing the social causes of inequality, deprivation and misery.

Could our vision of the heavenly banquet ever be, where the whole human running race could finally sit down at a round table and eat together? Those who are seeking always to move higher would not likely be comfortable in such a gathering where all are gathered as one!

RCIA—Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

If you know of anyone who:

- A) was baptized in the Catholic faith but never brought up in the faith
- B) Was baptized in another Christian religion but wishes to join the Catholic Church
- C) Who is unbaptized but wishes to become a member of the Catholic Church..

Please let them know they would be welcomed to join the RCIA group which is meeting in the Conference Room of the Friary after the 9:00 am Mass next Sunday, September 9th.

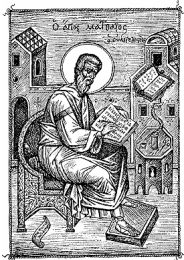
For more information, please contact
Sr. Anthony at 602-354-2068 or at reiousd@stmarysbasilica.org

Preaching About The Mass
Always Thanksgiving

The Eucharistic prayer (Eucharist means “thanksgiving”), beginning with “The Lord be with you” and ending with the Great Amen, is the central part of the Mass. It is proclaimed over the bread and wine, basic symbols of life and death. We praise God for all creation and for the saving life, death and resurrection of Jesus—such praise requires the participation of all present, it is not the priest’s prayer. WE involve ourselves fully when we join our hearts to the words sung or spoken, assume an attentive posture, put aside the missalette and sing the acclamations with full voice.

In the end “Eucharist” is what our life as Christians is all about. In suffering or joy or confusion or routine, our life is always to be praise. Always to be thanksgiving, always to be a sharing of God’s abundance with all in need.

Preaching about the Mass, 1992 Archdiocese of Chicago, Liturgy Training Publications. Copyright.



Reserve the Dates

Soup and Study
Adult formation Series
Facilitated by
Fr. Vince and Sr. Anthony

**Scripture journey into the
Gospel of St. Matthew**

Oct. 10,17,24,31 Nov. 7,14, 2007
6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall

\$10.00 to cover materials and
registration



**Join us for
Respect Life Rosary
After the Noon Mass
September 7, 2007**

St. Mary’s Basilica
Weddings

God’s Blessings upon

James Tyrin and Misti Lopez
September 8,2007

Jesse Hiatt and Rebecca Callahan
September 22, 2007



Summer Hours of Operation

Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	CLOSED
Wednesday	9:30 am to 3:00 pm
Thursday	9:30 am to 3:00 pm
Friday	9:30 am to 3:00 pm
Saturday	1:00 pm to 6:30 pm
Sunday	9:00 am to 1:00 pm

GOD RESPECTS THE HUMBLE

*Open our eyes to the needs of all;
inspire us with words and deeds to
comfort those who labor and are burdened;
keep our service of others faithful
to the example and command of Christ.*

*Let your church be a living witness to
truth and freedom, to justice and peace,
that all people may be lifted up
by the hope of a world made new.*

*Humility demands that we welcome the
disheveled stranger and let God do the judging.
Why are we any more worthy to come before
God than one of our society’s rejects?
Could this be something for us to think about?*

STEWARDSHIP



Weekly Offering

August 26 , 2007

was \$6,057.73

Thank you very much!!!

Pope John Paul II
Anniversary Celebration
September 15, 2007
5:00 pm Mass

20TH ANNIVERSARY *Celebration OF*

POPE JOHN PAUL II

An Encounter with Christ

SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2007
AT ST. MARY'S BASILICA

5:00 P.M. THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS FOLLOWED BY

RECEPTION
DINNER

SPECIAL PRESENTATION
AT THE PHOENIX CONVENTION CENTER

*Come and remember when this Great and Holy man
walked upon our shores.*



Mark your calendar's NOW!

A special liturgy and dinner are being planned to commemorate the papal visit of Pope John Paul II to Phoenix twenty years ago. Please plan on joining the diocese for a special evening as we celebrate God's goodness in the gift of John Paul II on the evening of September 15, 2007.

For more information please visit the promotional website at www.jp2visit.com.

Enjoy the Elegance of
Monte Carlo!

November 3, 2007

6.30 p.m.

St. Mary's Basilica



Delicious Food Provided by
Avanti's Famous Restaurant

Thrilling Casino Games
and fabulous Prizes!

Music and Silent Auction!

Tickets only \$50 per person
Your Passport to a Delightful Evening!
Tickets now available in the Via Assisi
Gift Shop.

www.stmarysbasilica.org.

What's Happening At St. Mary's

Monday, September 3rd

Memorial of Pope Gregory the Great	Noon	Basilica
Count Team	6:30 pm	Parish Center

Tuesday, September 4th

Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Parish Center
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Thursday, September 6th

Holy Hour	11:00 am & 5:00 pm	Basilica
Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Choir Loft

Friday, September 7th -26th

Parish Pilgrimage to Italy

Saturday, September 8th

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	5:00 pm	Basilica
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Monday, September 10th

Count Team	6:30 pm	Parish Center
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Tuesday, September 11th

Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Parish Center
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Thursday, September 13th

Memorial St. John Chrysostom	Noon	Basilica
Holy Hour	11:00 am & 5:00 pm	Basilica
Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Choir Loft

Friday, September 14th

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	Noon	Basilica
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Saturday, September 15th

Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows		
Pope John Paul II		
Anniversary Celebration	5:00 pm	Basilica

Monday, September 17th

Feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis of Assisi	Noon	Basilica
Count Team	6:30 pm	Parish Center

Tuesday, September 18th

Feast of St. Joseph of Cupertino	Noon	Basilica
Finance Council Meeting	Noon	Parish Center
Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Parish Center

Thursday, September 20th

Memorial of St. Francis Mary Camporosso	Noon	Basilica
Holy Hour	11:00 am & 5:00 pm	Basilica
Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Choir Loft

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18

Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11

Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8

Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14

Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Col 1:15-20

Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: Mi 5:1-4a or

Rom 8:28-30;

Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

**Readings for
The Twenty-Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

First Reading — You sent your holy spirit from on high and thus were the paths of those on earth made straight (Wisdom 9:13-18b).

Second Reading — I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that the good you do might not be forced but voluntary (Philemon 9-10, 12-17).

Gospel — Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? (Luke 14:25-33).

Mass Intentions

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Mike and Mary Nordstrom

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

People of St. Mary's

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Eric Paul Valdenpenas

Monday 12:05 p.m.

Melissa Jones

Tuesday 12:05 p.m.

Architects

Wednesday 12:05 p.m.

Nurses

Thursday 12:05 p.m.

In Honor of God the Father

Friday 12:05 p.m.

Pro Pluribus Defunctis

Sanctuary Candles

For The

*The Willhite & Lunenchloss
Families*

