

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14, 2010

PARISH STAFF

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602-354-2072

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602-354-2070

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602-354-2069

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Sr. Anthony Poerio, IBVM
602-354-2068

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AND BAPTISM**

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602-354-2082

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Gordon Stevenson
602-354-2061

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ASSISTANT**

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602-354-2100

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Tom and Linda Raimundo
Renee Poston

PARISH CENTER

231 North Third Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
602-354-2100
FAX 602-354-2060
www.saintmarysbasilica.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 nine months
preparation
602-354-2100

**SACRAMENT OF
BAPTISM**

Celebrated monthly
During Mass

**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

**ST. VINCENT
DE PAUL**

602-354-2097

VIA ASSISI GIFT SHOP

Br. Tito Garcia, O.F.M.
Manager
602-271-0042
Thursday - Friday
10:00 am. to 3:00 pm
Saturdays
10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Sundays
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Dear friends,

Peace and all Good!

Today is the last Sunday before Lent begins. The readings for today's liturgies call us into this great season of conversion. Jeremiah's exhortation to place our trust in God rather than in human beings challenges us to ask ourselves in whom we trust. Trusting in God will lead to countless benefits. The prophet compares this outcome to that of a tree beside a steady water supply. It will thrive in the harshest conditions. From all appearances, its surroundings are little different from those of the barren bush. But its roots stretch out to an inexhaustible source of water. It is just so with those who place their trust in God. As we begin our Lent this week on Ash Wednesday, may we put our trust in God that God will be with us on this special journey of renewal. Lent demands that we examine our choices in life. What is really important? What has lasting value? The traditional penitential practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving help us refocus our lives on our relationship with God, and with our brothers and sisters who are also children of that same Father. As you see in our bulletin today, our parish Lenten schedule is full of opportunities for prayer, for fasting and almsgiving. I call your special attention to our Parish Mission to begin next weekend. A parish mission is a retreat to strengthen our loving relationship with God and with one another. I urge all of us to make attendance at the Parish Mission top priority in our lives. Please see today's bulletin announcement for more details.

One of the important spiritual practices of Lent is almsgiving. Traditionally, our parish almsgiving has been to participate in Operation Rice Bowl. Operation Rice Bowl is sponsored by Catholic Relief Services which brings financial, emotional and educational formation to millions across the globe. Operation Rice Bowl supports the many programs to help the poor make a living and to take care of themselves. Money from Operation Rice Bowl is also ready to help in time of disaster as in the recent tragic earthquake in Haiti. Once again our parish commitment to "almsgiving" will be Operation Rice Bowl. You will find the bowls at the entrance of the church today. Put the bowl together and place it on your table. You can designate one meal per week as a sacrificial meal and then place the money saved from your simple meal in the bowl. On the last Sunday of Lent, we will have a procession with the bowls filled with our offerings. This is also an excellent opportunity for your children to participate in prayer and learning to give to those in need.

Today is also Valentine's Day—a day to remember those we love in a special way. We offer our prayers and blessings upon all married couples and upon those who are planning to get married. If you haven't made plans yet for your special Valentine evening, we still have some tickets left for our Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance at the new Wild Horse Hotel and Casino.. We begin at 5:00 p.m. with a get together in the beautiful hotel lobby where a cash bar will be available. Then, at 6:30 p.m., you will be escorted into an elegant ballroom for a delicious dinner and dancing! The tickets are \$75 and includes a fabulous dinner and dancing. You will also have a good chance at winning some great prizes including a dinner for two and a night's lodging in one of the lovely rooms of the Wild Horse Pass Hotel. Get your tickets today right after Mass and come along and have a delightful evening. Happy Valentine's day!

Love,



DO WE TRULY BELIEVE THAT WE ARE “RESURRECTION PEOPLE?”
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today’s readings are somewhat puzzling. To some of us who try to think logically, sometimes the demands of the Christian life don’t make sense. I remember a professor I once had was completely baffled by celibacy. I’m not sure what his religion was, but he could not make any sense out of it, he could not understand why anyone would choose to live that way. If we try to make “logical” sense out of why we choose to follow Christ, we are choosing to transcend the “eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die” philosophy. The gospel assures us of reward for doing what is right and good, but it also promises the cross. To do good and be good might mean little respect from some, and may not make us materially rich; yet true wealth and affirmation come in the long run, in the ultimate moment.

We think of things that happen, like the young police officer with young children who lost his life recently, senselessly, at a traffic stop, or the beautiful little Baby Gabriel whose disappearance caused so much anguish, and we want to know “why?”. Yet we know there is a paradox of living with God, it turns everything upside down. For the poor, hungry, weeping and hated will be winners. Those who understand and perceive this, smile. Those initiated into this mystery, dwell in its truth. The ultimate issue of today’s reading is the “Resurrection.” Do we, or do we not really believe in it? If we do, it changes how we live. It means to live *now* in hope, in the expectation of something good. This expectation is powerful. It gives meaning through things which at the present might otherwise not; hunger, poverty, grief, persecution and death.

Because we live in an “instant society”, we tend to want “instant rewards”. We don’t want to wait for our food, so we go to a fast-food place, or put something in the microwave to ease our physical hunger. We look around to find a “faster Mass” to ease our spiritual hunger, not because it nurtures us better but we don’t want to spend extra time. We think that alcohol or drugs will ease our emotional hungers or escape to the TV so we don’t have to face reality. Our priorities get confused because we want instant gratification whether it be for health reasons, family problems, difficult relationships or financial woes. Paul makes clear that our hope is not limited to this life. To limit the pay-off to this life alone makes our faith worthless. Choosing Jesus does not necessarily mean comfort and fulfillment here and now. In fact it may be just the opposite.

The ultimate hope or reward of our faith is not fully seen or experienced until death. Life challenges us to understand the limitations of human love, support, and power. Sure we will have disappointments in our life, whether they be persons, or seemingly hopeless situations. Yet the scriptures are telling us, “happy are those who hope in the Lord”. Following God, believing in Him, should be an exciting adventure! It is a “blessed” way to live, here and now. It is a present-living which is future-oriented. It is life hungering for what is to come! Living now, knowing that “the reign of God is yours,” and ultimately “your reward shall be great” is powerful.

—Sr. Anthony Poerio, IBVM



The Charity and Development Appeal

The annual Charity and Development Appeal (CDA) continues this weekend. The CDA provides vital support to more than 70 charitable, spiritual and educational programs and organizations throughout the Diocese.

The CDA provides support for our seminarians and priests. We see the fruits of the CDA in our parish through trained catechists, deacons and additional resources provided by the Diocese for our parish staff and volunteers. Thousands of children have access to Catholic education through the efforts of CDA. Our parish goal is 100% participation and \$52,000. Please prayerfully discern your support for our *One Family in Christ*. Financial gifts and prayer commitments can be made online at www.diocesephoenix.org/cda or you may complete a donor card, available in the pews and in the back of the church. Please consider a commitment to prayer for those in need. Thank you for your support of the Charity and Development Appeal.



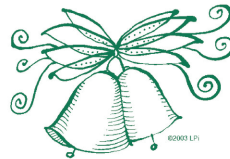
*Centering Prayer With
Fr. Luis Baldonado, O.F.M.*

Centering prayer is on Mondays
at 7:00 pm In the Friar's Chapel.



*Legion of Mary
Lenten Opportunity*

Lent is an ideal time to give a few hours weekly to bring Christ to others in our parish through the Legion of Mary. The Legion of Mary is a world-wide organization of men and women who serve the Church. The late Archbishop Fulton Sheen referred to it as "the miracle of our times." Please consider this important work for the Lord. Plan to attend a "Come and See Meeting" of the Legion of Mary on Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Parish Office or call Rosalinda Padilla at 602-380-6965 for information.



*St. Mary's Basilica
Weddings
God's Blessing upon*

*Richard and Sarah Mendez
February 13, 2010*

*Please pray for these couples
and for all preparing for marriage.*



Wedding Seminar

*Interested in getting married at
St. Mary's Basilica?*

Join us on **Wednesday, February 24th at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center.** We will offer information, go over our policies and Diocesan requirements under the new Covenant of Love policy. This seminar is required for weddings at the Basilica and will help you in making your wedding a memorable and liturgically beautiful Sacrament.

Pre-registration is now required.

Please call or email the parish office to register.
602-354-2100 camela@saintmarysbasilica.org



*St. Mary's Basilica
St. Vincent de Paul Conference
Lenten Donations*

The season of lent is a time for fasting or sacrificing. We who serve the churches needy know that they sacrifice all year, not just during the Lenten Season. So to help those in need, we are asking that each member bring one food item with them to the masses throughout Lent.

Each week there will be a different item for you to donate. It is our hope that you will make a Lenten sacrifice in order to see that those persons in need will have food.

We realize that times are hard for all, but there are many people suffering far greater than us and we need to care for them.

Your food donations may be left in the SVDP marked truck in the Diocesan parking garage after all Sunday masses or left in the SVDP boxes at the rear of the church after all masses.

*This week's food item is:
Cereal*



Operation Rice Bowl

Lent begins this week with Ash Wednesday. As part of our community's observance of Lent, we ask all families to participate in Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl, a program of prayer, fasting, learning, and giving. Please be sure to take home a Rice Bowl packet and follow this simple yet powerful Lenten practice. Visit orb.crs.org for more information.



*The Green Corner
Insulation*

Don't let heat fly out the window or through the roof. Insulating, weather stripping, and sealing the home is a low-cost means to lower your heating fuel bills and reduce emissions of heat-trapping pollutants.
-courtesy of simplesteps.org

Recycle your bulletin. You can access the bulletin online by going to www.seekandfind.com. Click on Big Find, enter the zip code 85004, and then click on St. Mary's Basilica. Or you can simply visit our website, www.saintmarysbasilica.org.

Lent at St. Mary's Basilica

Ash Wednesday—February 17, 2010

7:30 am , Noon and 5:15pm Mass

Mondays of Lent

Centering Prayer with Fr. Luis Baldonado, OFM

7:00 pm in the Friary Chapel

Wednesdays of Lent

Taize Prayer Around the Cross

7:00 pm in the Basilica

Thursdays of Lent

Holy Hour and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

11:00 am and 5:00pm in the Basilica

Fridays of Lent

Stations of the Cross

12:45 pm in the Basilica

(Immediately following the Noon Mass)



*Taize Prayer Around the Cross
Wednesday's Of Lent
At 7:00 p.m.
In the Basilica*

Come join our sisters and brothers in this lovely contemplative prayer of the Taize Community. In the midst of flickering votive lights and chanting sacred song, we are invited to relax in the presence of the Lord and to pray for peace and reconciliation.

*Join Us for Holy Hour
And Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursdays of Lent*

11:00 to Noon Holy Hour

5:00 pm—6:30 pm Holy Hour

6:30pm—7:00 pm

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



*The Stations of the Cross
Every Friday of Lent at 12:45 p.m.*

For centuries, Christians have gathered in Jerusalem and walked the Via Dolorosa in memory of Christ's journey to Golgotha. Since the 13th century, the Franciscan Friars have brought this devotional journey with Jesus to crucifixion to communities throughout the world. On Fridays of Lent at 12:45 p.m., everyone is invited to participate in this devotional walk with Jesus, calling to mind the suffering and death of the Lord and the suffering of his brothers and sisters throughout the world.



*St. Mary's Basilica
Parish Mission*

February 21st to February 24th

"The Loving Grace of God—

Being Transformed by the Love of God"

Mark your calendars now for our parish retreat in preparation for the holy Season of Lent. We have invited one of our gifted Franciscan retreat directors, Fr. Phil Garcia, to be our special presenter for our first Parish Mission in many years! Part of our parish plan provides for opportunities for spiritual growth of our community. I believe that you will find this retreat very rewarding as we begin the Lenten journey. Fr. Phil is a retreat director at Old Mission San Luis Rey in Oceanside, California and he has also given many parish missions throughout the country. He has a unique blend of deep spirituality and at the same time a delightful sense of humor. I know that we will all gain many graces from this parish mission. Fr. Phil will speak at all the Masses on the First Sunday of Lent, the weekend of February 21st and 22nd. And then, he will continue the Parish Mission with two conferences daily (10:30 am & 7:00 pm) on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of that week.

The Daily Themes for the Parish Mission:

Sunday: "Loved into Being, Loved into Becoming"—Allowing God to transform us into the impossible.

Monday: "Love Remembers"—trusting in a God who is closer than we think.

Tuesday: "Love Beholds"—God's presence in the power of forgiveness.

Wednesday: "Love Surrenders"—God takes possession of that which is already his.

In order that we may attend the Parish Mission, we have cancelled all regular parish meetings. Everyone is urged to make this time of renewal top priority for that week. May we allow our God to transform us into the persons God has called us to be!

Fasting and Abstinence

All Catholics 14 years and older must abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All Catholics between ages 18 and 59 are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

To fast means to eat one full meal; the other two meals that day should be less than the normal amount unless they are already minimum for good health. Eating between meals is not permitted; however, liquids including coffee, milk and fruit juices are

Readings for the Week of February 14, 2010

<i>Monday:</i>	Jas 1:1-11 Mk 8:11-13
<i>Tuesday:</i>	Jas 1:12-18 Mk 8:14-21
<i>Wednesday:</i>	Jl 2:12-18 2 Cor 5:20---6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
<i>Thursday:</i>	Dt 30:15-20 Lk 9:22-25
<i>Friday:</i>	Is 58:1-9a Mt 9:14-15
<i>Saturday:</i>	Is 58:9b-14 Lk 5:27-32
<i>Next Sunday:</i>	Dt 26:4-10 Rom 10:8-13 Lk 4:1-13

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Mr .Carlos Campos (*Deceased*)
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Amalia Acosta
Sunday 11:00 a.m.
People of St. Mary's
Monday 7:30 am
For all world Leaders
Tuesday 12:05 p.m.
For the Poor and Marginalized
Wednesday 7:30 am
Presider's Intentions
Wednesday 12:05 pm
The People of St. Mary's
Wednesday 5:15 pm
For Deceased Franciscan Friars
Thursday 12:05 pm
For those considering abortion
Friday 12:05 pm
For all Fisherman

What's Happening At St. Mary's

Sunday, February 14th

CDA Commitment Sunday	All Masses	Basilica
Legion of Mary	9:00 am	Parish Center
No R.E. and RCIA Classes		
Valentine's Day Dinner Dance	5:00pm	Wild Horse Pass Hotel

Monday, February 15th—President's Day—Parish Office Closed

Daily Mass	7:30 am	Basilica
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Tuesday, February 16th

Pastoral Council Meeting	7:00 pm	Parish Center
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Wednesday, February 17th

Ash Wednesday	7:30 am, Noon & 5:15 pm	Basilica
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Thursday, February 18th

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

Sunday, February 21st

Legion of Mary	9:00 am	Parish Center
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Monday, February 22nd

Feast of the Chair of St. Peter	Noon	Basilica
Count Team	6:00 pm	Parish Center
Centering Prayer	7:00 pm	Friar's Chapel
Parish Mission	10:30 am & 7:00 pm	Basilica

Tuesday, February 23rd

Parish Mission	10:30 am & 7:00 pm	Basilica
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Wednesday, February 24th

Parish Mission	10:30 am & 7:00 pm	Basilica
Wedding Seminar	6:30 pm	Parish Center

Thursday, February 25th

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

Sunday, February 28th

Legion of Mary	9:00 am	Parish Center
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Monday, March 1st

Count Team	6:00 pm	Parish Center
Centering Prayer	7:00 pm	Friar's Chapel

Thursday, March 4th

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

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has been helping those in need from our parish for over 50 years. Every Saturday morning, members of the Society meet in the Social Hall Kitchen to prepare food boxes they will deliver to the many families who wouldn't otherwise be able to purchase the food needed to sustain them through the week. Those needing assistance my call and leave us a message at 602-354-2097.

Donate your Vehicle

602-252-1128

All proceeds to benefit St. Mary's Basilica.



Free Pick Up
Tax Deductable
Company will complete all IRS & Title Docs Any condition, running or not.



Weekly Offering

February 7, 2010
\$7,802.53

Thank you for your support and generosity.