

# *Our Lady of Lourdes Parish*

September 5, 2021

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

# PATRIOT DAY

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

# *Our Lady of Lourdes*

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

19002 N. 128TH AVE, SUN CITY WEST, AZ 85375

[www.ololscw.org](http://www.ololscw.org)

(623) 546-2767

**Closed Monday September 6 in honor of Labor Day**

OFFICE HOURS: SUNDAY 8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M., MONDAY - THURSDAY 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

**Pastor:** Fr. John Bonavitacola

[fjohn@ololscw.org](mailto:fjohn@ololscw.org)

**Deacon:** Dcn. James Carabajal

[jcarabajal@ccfphx.org](mailto:jcarabajal@ccfphx.org)

## ***Parish Mission Statement***

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish is community of the Christian Faithful entrusted to the care of our pastor, under the authority of the Bishop of the Diocese of Phoenix, who leads us to proclaim the Word of God in its entirety to all who live in our territorial boundaries. We seek to instruct in the truth of the faith and foster good works in the name of Christ. The miracle of the Most Holy Eucharist is the center of our Christian life.

**For Anointing of the Sick (24 hours), Baptisms, Funerals, and Marriages & Annulments, please contact the parish office at (623) 546-2767**

### **Mass Times**

Saturday	4:00 p.m.
Sunday	9:00 a.m.
Daily	8:30 a.m.

### **Confessions**

Tuesday	10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Saturday	9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

## ***Staff***

### **Business & Maintenance Manager**

Ezekiel Spanelli

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### **Director of Development**

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### **Director of Pastoral Care**

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### **Director of Sacred Liturgy & Music**

#### **Safe Environment Coordinator**

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### **Secretary & Accounting Clerk**

Patty Romero

[promero@ololscw.org](mailto:promero@ololscw.org), 623-344-7290

### **Maintenance Worker**

Tom Scott

## Foundational Failure

Dear Friends,

Watching Vice President Harris travel to Hanoi, all the while our courageous service men and women are landing helicopters on top of the Embassy in Kabul as they try to evacuate people, I wondered if anyone in the Biden Administration thought about how bad those optics were? As was the case in Vietnam, while our service men and women acted honorably and bravely, our leadership did not.

After the attacks of 9/11, the US had a clear objective to go into Afghanistan to defeat Al Qaeda, who were allowed to operate out of that country. But after the defeat of Al Qaeda, President Bush never provided any clear rationale for a continued US presence in the country. But it went on for vague objectives of nation building, or creating a more Western type of society in Afghanistan. And now we are witnessing the collapse of what really is a house of cards.

Though it was noble of us to want the people of Afghanistan to get out from the clutches of the Taliban and to live in a society where all people are treated equally despite gender, race or tribe, Afghanistan never had the foundation to build such a civilization. To do that would require a foundation of Judeo-Christian Biblical values.

The values enshrined in the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights were made possible by the values that both Judaism and Christianity infused into Western civilization. One of our society's foundational values is built on the biblical idea that we are created in the image of God. Hence every human person is equal in dignity and worth. Over time as that idea permeated our society, it helped build a culture where human dignity was upheld in law and in practice. It eventually led to religious liberty, the demise of slavery, of racial segregation as well as the uplifting of women and the protection of children.

The Afghani's never had that value built into their society. It's why our efforts there met resistance as well as bewilderment and never took hold. We never explained to them why we value the things we do. Or why democracy is superior to theocracy. Nor were our troops there permitted to do so. Why did we build schools so girls could be educated? To us it makes sense, to them not so much. Why do we consider it gravely wrong to use young boys for sexual gratification for older men? Again, that is something (bacha bazi as it is called) that is part of their tribal way of life and yet our troops were forbidden to interfere with the practice, in fact we bribed them with loads of ED medications.

Our society was built on the Bible. Even though today the Bible is ignored and even denigrated, we in the West are still living off of the fumes of what was once Christendom.

Without the foundation of Biblical principles, the nation building project in a place such as Afghanistan was always bound to fail.

We built roads and bridges in a place where most people do not drive or own a vehicle. Roads and bridges that they have no way to maintain nor have a reason to maintain. We built hospitals and clinics based on our value that all the sick deserve care. That's not a value the Taliban espouse. We installed a government with free elections, except the Taliban and other tribes don't believe in elections yet alone the right of women to vote. We created Courts and judges to provide for a balance between justice and revenge and where the rule of law could prevail. Their law is based on Sharia Law and they have no interest in Western concepts of due process, fairness or equal justice under the law. We helped them build an army but their allegiance was not to a government or a nation or the ideals enshrined in democracy but to a tribe, which is why once their military pay ceased, the Afghan army went right back to their tribe.

Some though, did start to want a different kind of society, one that is built on principles of human dignity and equality. Many of them became our allies and tried to re-create their land. Christianity had also started to spread, mostly underground. Catholic News Service reported that those Afghani's asking for refugee status based on a religious persecution claim were being denied access to transport planes by the State Department. In the meantime, radio/TV personality Glen Beck said he raised \$28 million and is sending in 20 planes to evacuate Christians, who will surely face death from the Taliban. India in the meantime agreed to take in those Sikhs and Hindus still in Afghanistan, though most of them had started to leave in March. What kind of courage is needed to be a Christian living under a radical Islamist rule? Those left behind will almost certainly face martyrdom.

Today, 90% of the Afghani's have cell phones. We gave them that. What we did not give them is the very thing that could change their way of life for the better.

As Jesus told us so long ago, a wise man builds his house on solid rock so that when the storms and floods come, it will stand strong. But a fool builds his house on sand... We built on sand and the result is just as Jesus predicted.

Love, Fr. John B.



View this bulletin online at [www.DiscoverMass.com](http://www.DiscoverMass.com)

## Mass Intentions

Sunday	<b>September 5 Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 9:00 a.m. Gerald Cerepat†
Monday	<b>September 6</b> 8:30 a.m. Charles & Helyn Sherman†
Tuesday	<b>September 7</b> 8:30 a.m. for the intentions of the Brennan Family
Wednesday	<b>September 8 Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> 8:30 a.m. for the special intentions for Paul & Joy Sanzone
Thursday	<b>September 9 Memorial of Saint Peter Claver</b> 8:30 a.m. Raquel & Francisco E. Hernandez†
Friday	<b>September 10</b> 8:30 a.m. Nicholas Hajat†
Saturday	<b>September 11</b> 8:30 a.m. for the Parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish <b>Anticipated Mass</b> 4:00 p.m. in Memory of All First Responders
Sunday	<b>September 12 Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary</b> <b>Time</b> 9:00 a.m. Joanne Burant†



Please pray for:

*Joseph Lasinski*

That they may know the eternal joy of God's reign.

## Readings Of the Week

Sunday	<b>Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37
Monday	Col 1:24—2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday	Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11; Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday	<b>Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6ab, 6c; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Thursday	<b>Memorial of Saint Peter Claver, Priest</b> Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 6:27 -38
Friday	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42
Saturday	1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7; Lk 6:43-49
Sunday	<b>Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Is 50:4c-9a; Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35



The office will be closed on September 6 in observance of Labor Day.

*September*  
Mass Changes

There will be no daily Mass on September 13 and 14 due to priest Convocation.



# Our Lady's Guild

## Book Club Meeting

The book club will meet in Madonna Hall on Thursday, September 9 at 9:30 a.m. It will also be offered on Zoom.

The book is "The Four Winds" by Kristin Hannah.

Join the Zoom meeting:

Meeting ID: 832 3348 0630

Passcode: Book

## September Meeting

Here is your chance to get to meet lots of ladies in our parish! Our Lady's Guild is meeting September 13 at 9:30 a.m. in Madonna Hall and it is open to all women of the parish. Come at 9am and enjoy coffee and rolls and a chance to visit. After the meeting we will have a meet and greet exercise to help everyone get to know each other better. There is a new registration form for new and renewal members to be completed at registration. There is also an emergency form that you are asked to complete. These will be sent as an attachment to your meeting reminder so that you can bring a completed form to the meeting. Please come early to register for the Guild and to enjoy refreshments prior to the meeting.

Dues are \$5.00 and they will be collected at the door. If you want a new badge, the dues are \$12.00.

## Guild Workshops

Workshops are meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 9:30 in Madonna Hall. Bring your craft to work on or just come and see what's happening.

Greeting cards are always needed for the members to make the beautiful cards they make and sell. No Christmas or mission cards, please! We also take donated jewelry and occasionally turn that into crafts or cash.

## Solo Spouse Group

The Solo Group annual Pizza Party and Meeting is on September 7 at 3:30 p.m. at the Palmbrook Country Club in Sun City.

All Solo members are invited, but must make reservations. Call John (623) 977-7073 to be on the list or for more information.

## Your Sacrificial Giving - August 22

### Plate Giving

Plate Giving (cash & check)	\$6,157
Plate Giving (electronic)	\$7,501
Total Plate Giving This Week	\$13,658

### Other Giving Inside the Parish

Maintenance Fund	\$603.50
Christmas	\$100

### Other Giving Outside the Parish

Respect Life Ministry	\$235.50
St. Vincent de Paul	\$190
Special Needs Appeal	\$10



**GRAND OPENING! SEPTEMBER 5 AT 10:00 A.M.****Coffee Shop Menu****\$1 Drinks**

Regular Coffee  
Decaf Coffee  
Iced Coffee  
Tea (hot or cold)  
Extra Shot of Espresso  
Lemonade  
Milk

**\$3 Frozen Drinks**

Strawberry (non-coffee)  
Hot Chocolate (non-coffee)  
Java Chocolate Chip  
Mocha Frappe  
Chocolate Mint  
Pumpkin Spice

**\$3 Espresso Drinks**

Lourdes Latte  
Mary's Mocha  
Mt. Carmel Macchiato  
Angel's Americano

**\$1 Food Items**

Donuts  
Muffins  
Granola Bars 2/\$1

**Specialty Items**

Coffee Mugs	\$10
Fr. John's Pasta Sauce	\$8.50

**Syrups:** Vanilla, Sugar Free Vanilla, Carmel, Hazelnut



On September 18 at 8:30 a.m., Holy Cross Cemetery & Funeral Home in Avondale is hosting a memorial for victims of abortion on the 8th National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children.

**Schedule**

8:30 a.m.: Memorial Service in Rachel's Mourning Section  
9:00 a.m.: Pray "The Life Rosary" in the Chapel  
Bring flowers or baby toys, if you like. Baby toys will be donated to Maggie's Place. Children are welcome.

**Address**

9925 W. Thomas Rd, Avondale, AZ 85392

For more information about this beautiful memorial service, please contact Holy Cross Cemetery at (623) 936-1710 or Terese Boas at [boasmfml@comcast.net](mailto:boasmfml@comcast.net).

**St. Vincent de Paul News****THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL****FEED. CLOTHE. HOUSE. HEAL.**

In today's Gospel we hear how Jesus "makes the deaf hear and the mute speak!" In living the gospel, we must open our ears to hear and recognize all the everyday opportunities for making God's presence known especially to those who are poor and suffering. On September 9<sup>th</sup>, the Church also celebrates the feast of Blessed Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Frederic heard the call of Jesus to love and serve those who are suffering.

Is there a family in our parish area who needs assistance?

Please have them call the St. Vincent de Paul-OLL conference at (623) 344-7267 so that together we can "make God's presence known" to those who are suffering and poor. Those in need who live out of our area can call 211 or the nearest Catholic Church to find their local St. Vincent de Paul.

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