



February 26, 2023

OUR LADY OF
LOURDES
PARISH & MISSION AT LAKE PLEASANT PKWY

WHEN YOU GIVE

ALMS

WHEN YOU

PRAY

WHEN YOU

FAST

YOUR FATHER WHO SEES
WILL REPAY YOU

Connect With Us

Address

19002 N. 128th Ave, Sun City West, AZ 85375

Phone: (623) 546-2767

Website: www.ololscw.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/OurLadyofLourdesSCW

Flocknote: text ollscw to 84576 or go to ollscw.flocknote.com

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Office Hours:

Sunday: 8:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

Monday - Thursday: 8:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

Friday: 8:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.

For information about the Sacraments, including access to our 24-hour Anointing of the Sick and Funeral lines, please call the main office phone.

Clergy

Pastor

Fr. John Bonavitacola

frjohn@ololscw.org

Retired Priest

Fr. Bill Fournier

Deacon

Deacon Larry Grey

lgrey1@cox.net

Mass Times:

Daily (Monday - Saturday)	8:30a.m.
Saturday	4:00p.m.
Sunday	9:00a.m.
Sunday	11:00a.m.

Vistancia Elementary School
30009 N. Sunrise Point, Peoria, AZ 85383

Sunday	1:00p.m.
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Confessions:

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

Adoration:

Thursday	9:00a.m.-11:00a.m.
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Fr. John's Pasta Sauce

**Fr. John's pasta sauce is currently sold out!
Please keep checking back here to find out
when we are able to restock.**



Open Sundays after 9:00a.m. and 11:00a.m.
Mass. Bring a bulletin and join us for coffee,
donuts or fritters, and fellowship!

Shocking

Dear Friends,

The great question to us is whether we are still capable of being truly shocked or whether it is to remain so that we see thousands of things and know that they should not be, and must not be, and that we get hardened to them. How many things have we become used to in the course of the years, of the weeks and months, so that we stand unshocked, unstimulated, inwardly unmoved.

This quote comes from Fr. Alfred Delp, S.J a German priest who was part of the Resistance to the Nazis and was convicted of treason and hanged by the Nazi's in 1945. Maybe it's because of the extreme horrors of the Camps that we too easily become unshocked by what we see today. The constant bombardment of the reality of the depth of human depravity like the Concentration Camps, the Killing Fields of Cambodia, the Gulags of the USSR, the Rwandan Genocide and so many other examples too often desensitize us so that our outrage is muted and we become impotent, too overwhelmed to take action or raise our voice.

So here are two things that should shock us, one small and one very large. Recently, I saw a Girl Scout Troop selling cookies in front of a Marijuana Dispensary. What kind of message does that send to 8 and 10yr old girls? So, the girls come away thinking that the Cheech and Chong munchies is just really fun and harmless. It's "just pot" after all, right? They also were taught good old capitalistic greed: make a profit no matter how shady, tawdry or unethical your business practices might be. I would bet that these same adults who took the girls there also rail against corporate greed and exploitation (but of course not for their Girl Scout Corporation). Many of us fought hard to make sure the Pot Dispensaries were located far from schools, childcare centers, playgrounds precisely so children would not be exposed to them. So, I suppose next the parents or Troop leaders will have the young girls selling cookies in front of the 'Adult Shop'.

Now for the much larger shock. Next Sunday on the Second Sunday of Lent we will welcome Sr. Betty Banja, as part of our Lenten Almsgiving. She comes from the country of South Sudan. Our Bishop Emeritus recruited her and two other sisters to come to our Diocese to help minister to the many refugees settled here from parts of Africa and the Middle East. Sister Betty speaks 5 languages included Arabic. She needed all those languages as she spent 20 years ministering in the South Sudan and Sudan, Chad and Libya and other African countries where the Christian population was a small very persecuted minority.

Sister Betty gave me a taste of what day to day life was like for Christians in those parts. To start with, for Christians to be even able to exist in the Sudan, one of her sisters from her religious community, had to marry the King, becoming his tenth wife. As a result, the King allowed Christians to live in his Muslim nation. A modern day version of Queen Esther for sure.

Her stories tell a tale of daily struggle and persecution in the most horrifying terms possible. I admit I was not prepared for what she told me and the photographs she showed me. After almost 35 years of priesthood, I have pretty much seen it all, or so I thought. It is really hard to be unshocked by the witness Sister Betty gives.

One of her catechists was killed, beheaded to be exact. He was killed by a Muslim. But when the police came, they had to make up a story and say that the man was killed by another Christian. Otherwise the police would start killing more Christians assuming they would try and seek revenge on Muslims. It is the only way to survive.

Now how do you swallow that kind of injustice? More than that, how do you get your people to not react in revenge and hatred? Beyond that, she showed me several pictures of other Christians who were crucified. Again, how do people hold on to faith? How is it they don't say, give it up, it is not worth it? The horror stories got even worse. But I think you get the picture.

The great lesson that we can take from her experience is that we too must learn to keep faith alive. We don't face the horrors of religious persecution or physical torture or violence but we do face a culture that marginalizes faith to the point of irrelevance. We also suffer from our affluence so much so that we wonder why we even need God. I hope Sister Betty can wake us up to the precious gift of faith we have and stop taking it for granted.

More than ever we need Lent. Let the barrenness of Lent remind you of your need for God and offer your prayers, fasting and sacrifices for our Christian brothers and sisters who live daily with the threat of death simply because they love Jesus. May this Lent be shocking and move you inwardly and stir up your passion for Christ.

Love, Fr. John B.

PS: Please support Sr. Betty's work among the refugee population, her outreach to women and girls caught up in the sex trade and the homeless.

Mass Intentions

Due to technical difficulties, Mass Intentions for the week of February 26—March 5 are not able to be printed this week. Please be assured that your Masses will be said by our priests and have been shared in the digital bulletin through Flocknote. You may also find them published on our website at

ololscw.org/bulletin

Our sincerest apologies! Thank you for your grace and understanding.



Please support our Respect Life Ministry and St. Vincent de Paul Conference this Charity Weekend!

LOST A SPOUSE?

ALONE?

COME JOIN THE SOLO SPOUSE GROUP

We are single due to the death of a spouse, divorce, or by choice. We are not a singles club, we are a faith based social group that brings lives together when you want to have someone in your life to share activities with.

1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH | 4:00PM

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH (MADONNA HALL)

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

Organizer's Contact: John Battoe (623) 977-7073

Church Contact: Whitney Lynch (623) 344-7285

If unable to attend the Monthly Meeting you may pick up the Monthly Calendar of activities in Our Lady of Lourdes Church Office with Receptionist

Readings for the Week

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19 or Rom 5:12, 17-19; Mt 4:1-11

Monday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday

Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday

Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday

Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

INTO HIS LIKENESS

MARCH 2ND - APRIL 6TH

THURSDAYS 1PM - 3PM

IN MADONNA HALL



We are called to be disciples, to follow in Jesus' footsteps, to be changed and made new. If you have a longing to follow Jesus more closely and grow deeper in your relationship with Him, God has given you the heart of a disciple. **INTO HIS LIKENESS** aims to help you follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit so that you may more intentionally encounter Jesus anew each day. Come be His disciple.

**VIDEO SERIES | BOOK STUDY
SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION**

**TO RESERVE YOUR BOOK:
(623) 546-2767**



Catholic Daughters of the Americas
 Court Our Lady of Lourdes #2278
 invite you to a one day

Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 11, 2023 | 8:30am - 1:30pm
 at Our Lady of Lourdes, 19002 N 128th Ave, Sun City West, AZ

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly

Forgiveness and The Beatitudes
 Speaker – Father Gary Norman



8:30am Holy Mass
 with Father Gary Norman
 9:15am Continental Breakfast
 in Madonna Hall
 10am in the Church
 Retreat Topic: Forgiveness
 11:15am Lunch
 in Madonna Hall
 12:15pm in the Church
 Retreat Topic: The Beatitudes
 1:30pm Retreat Concludes

Registration is \$20.00 and will take place at
 Prince of Peace & Our Lady of Lourdes
 on the weekends of Feb 18-19 and March 4-5



Knights of Columbus®

The Knights of Columbus Council 11809 wants to share a few ideas for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during this year's Lenten season.

- Spend time with our Lord during weekly adoration on Thursdays at Our Lady of Lourdes from 9 AM until 11 AM.
- Register for the Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Lenten Retreat. This year's theme is "The Good, the Bad, the Ugly." The retreat is on March 11th, starting at 8:30 AM. The guest speaker is Father Gary Norman.
- Enjoy fish and fries at the annual Knights of Columbus Council 11809 Fish Fry-Day Dinners starting at 3 PM on Friday, March 3rd, and every Friday during Lent. Bring your family and friends and share in fellowship. Visit <https://kofc11809.org/fishfrydays> for details.
- Donate to the Baby Bottle Drive to support Aid to Women Center, a local Catholic prolife pregnancy center serving uninsured women in need.
- Volunteer your time, talent, or treasure with a ministry at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.



You are invited to an education refresher of **Biblical Citizenship in Modern America** at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Madonna Hall

Program : Video presentation (90minutes) Discussion (30 minutes)

8 Sessions Every other week Jan – Apr. from 1PM – 3PM

- 1) The Foundation - January 18
- 2) Tending the Garden - February 1
- 3) Understanding the Times - February 15
- 4) The Seeds of Liberty - March 1
- 5) Who Has Authority - March 15
- 6) Of Kings and Courts - March 29
- 7) Religious Liberty - April 12
- 8) Being Salt and Light - April 26

Biblical Citizenship in Modern America presents the freedom principles of why we have a Declaration of Independence and how we stand strong in carrying out our Constitution written with respect and acknowledgment of our Christian values.

Upcoming K of C 11809 Events:

- March 3rd: Fish Fry-Day Dinners, 3 PM at Madonna Hall, Fridays during Lent.
- March 6th: Officer Planning Meeting, 2 PM Fr. McGivney Room; all members are welcome.
- March 9th: General Meeting, 5:30 PM rosary, 6 PM meeting, Madonna Hall; all members are welcome.
- March 19th: Bernadette's Brew, after the 9 AM & 11 AM masses

Visit kofc11809.org for more information and learn how to become a member of the Knights of Columbus. Vivat Jesus!

BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

Our Lady of Lourdes is hosting a baby bottle drive for Aid to Women Center, a Catholic, pro-life pregnancy center serving uninsured women-in-need and those facing an unplanned pregnancy. The kick-off weekend for our drive will be: February 11th & 12th.

Please pick up a baby bottle after any of the masses and return it back to church the weekend of: February 25th & 26th.
 Please filled with check, cash, and change. Checks should be made out to: Aid to Women Center.

Your Sacrificial Giving - Totals for February 5

Plate Giving (cash & check)	\$17,622.04
Mission Giving:	\$1,551.25
Plate Giving (electronic)	\$7,012
Total Giving	\$26,185.29
Maintenance Fund	\$51.50
Respect Life Ministry	\$47.50
LP - Building Fund	\$1,343
St. Vincent de Paul	\$402
Campaign for Human Devel.	\$25
Gospel of Life	\$2,832
Eucharistic Miracles	\$302
Retirement Fund	\$50
Ash Wednesday	\$50

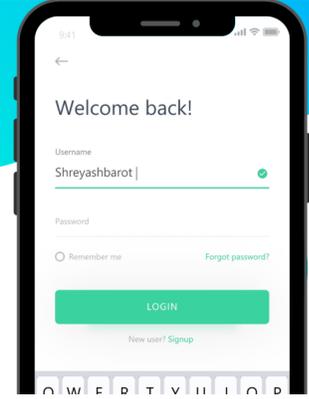
Join Us **MaryRuth Hackett, PhD**
Author Podcaster Speaker
Daughter by Design: Discover your identity as God's Beloved Daughter
www.maryruthhackett.com



Signed copies available for purchase

Our Lady's Guild Meeting
Monday March 6, 2023

Download Our App



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
 PARISH & MISSION AT LAKE PLEASANT PKWY
www.ololscw.org

FORMED <https://www.FORMED.org>
 THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND. Find our parish by zip code: 85375

Book of Healing & Comfort

THE BOOK OF HEALING AND COMFORT is for the names of people who are sick, not for the deceased. The names of the sick will remain in the BOOK for six months and they will be prayed for at Mass. Please do not repeat the same name in the Book within the sixth month period.



Support Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates

Like & Follow Us on Facebook

Join the Our Lady of Lourdes growing online community!

Here's how:

- Navigate to Facebook and type 'OLOL Sun City West' into the search bar to find Our Lady of Lourdes.
- Click the "Like" and "Follow" buttons.
- On the "Follow" dropdown menu, choose "See first" and you'll always get Our Lady of Lourdes updates at the top of your newsfeed.

Benefits:

- Daily Catholic content from our parish – posts, videos, inspirational articles, quizzes, and Catholic humor.
- Updated news from the parish.
- Keep in touch with your fellow parishioners.
- Every time you click the share button, that content will be put right into the newsfeeds of people in our neighborhood.