

**Established in 1906**

### **MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday:  
4:00 pm Vigil

Sunday:  
9:00 am  
11:00 am en Español

Mon, Tues, Thurs:  
8:00 am

Wednesday 6:00 pm Español &  
Friday 6:00 pm

### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturday:  
8:30 am to 9:30 am

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Thursday  
8:30 am - 5:30 pm  
(closed 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm)

Friday:  
8:30 am - 12:00 noon

**Rev. Victor C. Yakubu**  
Parochial Administrator

**Rev. Julius Kayiwa**  
Parochial Vicar

**Deacon Francis Staab**  
Parish Deacon

**Parish Secretary**  
Amelia Kent

**Hispanic Community**  
Oralia Cano

**Facility Custodian**  
Francisco Mejia

**Organist**  
Jerome Llagas

# **St. Mary Roman Catholic Church** **Iglesia Católica Romana de Santa María**

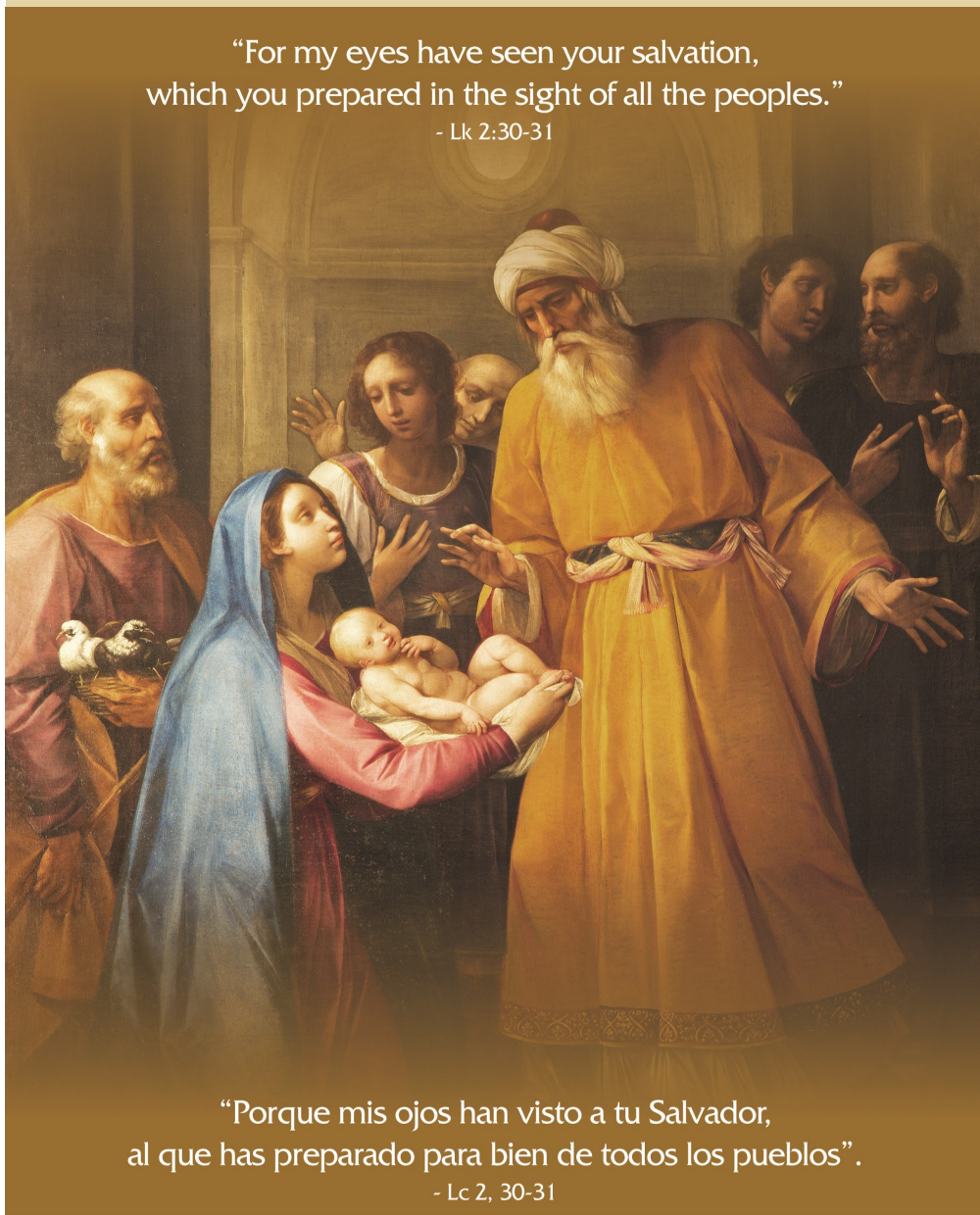


**302 E. Spring Street, Kingman, AZ 86401**  
**Office: (928) 377-3435 / [www.stmarykingman.com](http://www.stmarykingman.com)**

**SUNDAY, December 31st, 2023**

*"For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples."*

*- Lk 2:30-31*



*"Porque mis ojos han visto a tu Salvador,  
al que has preparado para bien de todos los pueblos".*

*- Lc 2, 30-31*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
Leccionario I © 1976 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano.

## Parish Mission Statement:

We the people of St. Mary Roman Catholic Church, Called by God,  
Approach the Father in Word and Sacrament, Live relationship with Jesus in Catholic  
Community, Seek the Called in the Love of the Holy Spirit

## MASS INTENTIONS, DAILY GOSPEL



### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 31, 2023

Year B

<b>Sat. Dec. 30</b>	Lk. 2:22-40	4:00 p.m.		<b>David &amp; Amelia Kent</b> (Anonymous)
<b>Sun. Dec. 31</b>	Lk. 2:22-40	9:00 a.m.		<b>People of the Parish</b>
<i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</i>	11:00 a.m.	+		<b>Julita Dela Peña</b>
		+		<b>Juan Dela Peña</b> (Aida Zlomke)
<b>Mon. Jan. 1</b>	Lk. 2:16-21	8:00 a.m.	+	<b>E.F. Schoney</b> (David Acuña)
<i>The Lord Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</i>				
<b>Tues. Jan. 2</b>	Jn. 1:19-28	8:00 a.m.	+	<b>4 Amigos of St. Mary</b> (David Acuña)
<i>St. Basil the Great &amp; Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops &amp; Doctors</i>				
<b>Wed. Jan. 3</b>	Jn. 1:29-34	6:00 p.m.	+	<b>Yolanda Gallegos</b> (Liz DeGraff)
<i>The Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>				
<b>Thurs. Jan. 4</b>	Jn. 1:35-42	8:00 a.m.	+	<b>Clifford &amp; Cherry Gilliam</b> (David Acuña)
<i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious</i>				
<b>Fri. Jan. 5</b>	Jn. 1:43-51	6:00 p.m.	+	<b>Yolanda Gallegos</b> (Carmen Mijares)
<i>St. John Neumann, Bishop</i>				
<b>Sat. Jan. 6</b>	Mt. 2:1-12	4:00 p.m.	+	<b>Luigi Vallani</b> (Darleen Williams)
<i>St. André Bessette, Religious</i>				
<b>Sun. Jan. 7</b>	Mt. 2:1-12	9:00 a.m.		<b>People of the Parish</b>
<i>The Epiphany of the Lord</i>	11:00 a.m.	+		<b>Luigi Villani</b> (Rabaiotti Family)



Reflection for The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph: Year B  
Feast of the Holy Family – December 31, 2023  
Fr. Timothy Eck

*Readings: Sir 3:2–6, 12–14 or Gn 15:1–6; 21:1–3 • Ps 128:1–2, 3, 4–5 or Ps 105:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9 • Col 3:12–21 or 3:12–17 or Heb 11:8, 11–12, 17–19 • Lk 2:22–40*  
[bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/123123.cfm](http://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/123123.cfm)

Of all the events during Jesus' life, isn't it interesting that his presentation in the temple as an infant is preserved, while so many others are not?

To make an analogy, if you were writing an autobiography, how many would include a story about your baptism? Sure, a passing reference, but what about a page or two? Even more, not only is Christ's presentation in the temple preserved, but the Church thinks that it is more important than many other events of Christ's life. We do not have a set day to remember when Christ raised the widow's son, or expelled demons, both of which certainly seem like a bigger deal than him being brought to the temple. And yet, the Church raises this celebration above many others and links it to Christmas, where it acts as the bookend to Christmas.

So what makes today so important? To understand this we need to remember history and how we got to this moment. Christ's presentation in the temple is set within the context of fulfilling the promises the covenants between God and Israel. Two thousand years previously Abraham was promised a multitude of descendants, land, and that the world would be blessed through him. This promise, though, was not fulfilled in his lifetime, for he would have a single son late in life.

Across these thousands of years, the people wrestled with the promises made to them by God. They waited in expectation as to how he would fulfill them. As with Abraham, they were called to have faith, that is trust in the Lord, that he would fulfill his promises. Just as the Lord acted "at the set time that [he] had stated," in giving Abraham Isaac, so too would the Lord do again with his other promises. And so in faith they waited for the arrival of the Messiah.

At long last, he has arrived, he is born unto us, but

in a manger, without notice and fanfare. His arrival is not yet known to the people. And so the Lord prepared his prophet Simeon for this day. The Lord had promised to him that he would not die before seeing the Messiah, the Christ, and so the Spirit then led him into the temple this day, filled with expectation: this is the set moment, this is the time prepared by the Lord across centuries.

As he lays his eyes upon this child, this infant of humble stock, he breaks out in praise, proclaiming publicly the good news, the gospel of the Messiah's arrival. The Glory of God has arrived in the temple, the salvation of the people, and wisdom to all. What we knew as secret a few days earlier at Christmas is now made public, and how we ought to rejoice in this, just as when we have kept a secret of good tidings which we can now share aloud.

The prophetess Anna, in hearing the joy of Simeon, comes over, and she too rejoices in the fulfillment of God's promises. She then goes throughout the temple bringing the good news to all, just as Mary Magdalene will do at the resurrection.

Further, in these two prophets, we find an elderly man and woman who come to bear witness to this event of the young Mary and Joseph bringing Christ. They stand in for the whole Old Testament and give witness to the arrival of the New Testament, that the Old Covenant of Israel is fulfilled in the New Covenant of Christ given to the Church and the world.

Let us each go forth as Anna did and proclaim the good news of Christ's arrival in the world. Just as his birth some two thousand years ago is often overlooked and forgotten, so too is it today in the commemoration of his nativity itself. But today we celebrate the public proclamation of said birth, the royal announcement that our Lord has arrived. The Old proclaims the New, and the New is glorified in the Old. Go forth and proclaim the good news, for your eyes have seen the Lord's salvation, bringing his light to all nations. Amen.

## Sharing our Gifts

### What We Gave Back to God

**December 24, 2023**  
**Attendance: Unknown**

Needed to meet weekly expenses	\$ 8,000.00
Plate Collection	\$unknown
Online Giving	\$ 651.77
Building Fund	\$unknown

#### November 2023

Monthly Operating Expense	\$37,408.33
Monthly Plate Collection	\$32,978.03
Deficit or Gain	<b>-\$ 4,430.30</b>

### Our Daily Bread

Thank you for your continued support of Our Daily Bread ministry. We have made and distributed 16,048 sandwiches year to date, and 341,533 since inception (September 2013).

**WE ARE IN NEED OF MONEY DONATIONS, FOR LICENSE, APRONS, HAIRNETS.** You may drop your donation off at the Parish Center.

**WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF A CAPTAIN FOR TUESDAYS SANDWICH MAKING!**



If you are interested, please contact David Hunter at 714-726-6130. Thank you, once again!

## Donate your Change

Be sure to pick up a special offering box or can at the back of the church. Write that it's for the building fund, your name and phone number on it before you turn it in.

All monies will go toward future building improvement projects in the parish campus.

## ***Brick Garden***

*We are continuing to take brick orders. This is a wonderful way to pay honor to someone you love or to be remembered as part of St. Mary history for years to come. Bricks are \$50 for a 4x8 and \$100 for a 8x8. Call the Parish Office for an order form or to place your order.*

*The brick garden is growing — don't miss the opportunity to be a part of it.*

## ***Featured Advertiser***



**\$3 Express Wash**

**3630 Stockton Hill Rd.  
Kingman**

**928-7570480**

[www.washmecarwashes.com](http://www.washmecarwashes.com)

Thanks to our advertisers we receive our bulletins—free of charge.

Show your appreciation by patronizing their business and mentioning their bulletin ads.



## Readings for the week of December 31, 2023

### Sunday:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps  
128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/  
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12,  
17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

### Monday:

Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/  
Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

### Tuesday:

1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/  
Jn 1:19-28

### Wednesday:

1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/  
Jn 1:29-34

### Thursday:

1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

### Friday:

1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

### Saturday:

1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/  
Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34,  
36, 38

### Next Sunday:

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see  
11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



## Saint of the week

Venerable Mary Elizabeth Lange was a trailblazing black Catholic who founded the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first congregation of black religious sisters in the USA. Her faith and perseverance helped break down barriers and create new opportunities for black Catholics.

## Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God, You granted Mother Mary Lange extraordinary trust in Your providence. You endow her with humility, courage, holiness, and an extraordinary sense of service to the poor and the sick. You enabled her to fund the Oblate Sisters of Providence and provided educational, social, and spiritual ministry especially to the African American community. Mother Lange's love for all enabled her to see Christ in each person, and the pain of prejudice and racial hatred never blurred that vision.

Deign to raise her to the highest honors of the altar in order that, through her intercession, more souls may come to a deeper understanding and more fervent love of You.

Heavenly Father, glorify Your heart by granting also this favor (state your request) which we ask through the intercession of Your faithful servant, Mother Mary Lange.

Amen.

(Prayer Source: <https://nolacatholic.org/news/black-catholic-history-month-mother-mary-lange#:~:text=Prayer,the%20poor%20and%20the%20sick.>)

# (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

## The Sword and the Family

In the first few weeks of parenthood, the tears flowed fast and freely, and with very little provocation.

Sometimes I wept because it was getting dark out, and sometimes because the sun was coming up. Sometimes I wept because the days were so unbearably long. Sometimes I wept because they were so cruelly short and slipped past so quickly, bearing away with them forever these inaugural moments of my daughter's life — moments I knew I would long for on my deathbed.

So, the inclusion of the Presentation of Christ in the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary has always struck me. The Blessed Mother, just a few weeks after giving birth, standing at the holy temple: Is she tired? Is she emotional? Is she frightened? Is she happy? We cannot know for sure, but if she is anything like most of the postpartum women I know, she is all four. But she stands there dutifully, offering her baby to the Lord, and this is what she is told, "A sword shall pierce your heart."

Joyful? I would have snatched the baby back, called the police and sobbed for a week.

But Mary knows that Simeon speaks the truth, and she cannot receive God's will with anything less than joy, even if it means a pierced heart.

Family means love, but love means — what, exactly? Pleasure, fulfillment, contentment? Yes, but so much more, too. Love means you have much to lose.

How full is family life with these beautiful moments which, on the surface, look and feel painful — but hold within them the opportunity to be like Mary, to bow our heads and once again say "Yes, Lord."

*"Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another..." — Colossians 3:12*

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

What are the servant songs of Isaiah? How do they relate to Jesus' life and ministry?

### Answer:

The four servant songs (Isaiah 42:1-4, 49:1-6, 50:4-9, and 52:13—53:12) are strategically placed in Second Isaiah to offer hope and consolation to a suffering Israel during its Babylonian Exile.

Israel had been defeated by the Babylonians, who destroyed their temple, killed the last of the kings in David's lineage, exiled them from their land, and transported them to Babylon. This is the context in which Second Isaiah composes his powerfully poetic book of hope and consolation. A significant part of that message is the portrait of God's servant, who is called to be a source of hope and encouragement for the people.

Each of the four poems emphasizes God's choice and election of the servant. The last poem stresses the suffering and rejection of God's servant, along with his eventual death. Isaiah is certain that God will use the servant's innocent suffering as a way to redeem and remove the guilt and sin of others. Thus, the servant becomes a source of salvation for himself and for others.

Who is this servant? Many suggest that Isaiah was referring to Israel herself, as she underwent exilic suffering which would ultimately prove to be redemptive. Jesus' followers, including those for whom Mark wrote his Gospel, understood Jesus' ministry in terms of Isaiah's suffering servant whose innocent suffering and death became the means of salvation for all.



## Parish News and Events

### Parish Events This Week

**Sunday, December 31**

Mass	9:00am	Church
Mass Spn.	11:00am	Church
Mass (Vigil)	6:00pm	Church



**Monday, January 1**

**Parish Office—CLOSED**

**The Lord Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

Mass	10:00am	Church
Mass	12noon	Church
Mass	6:00pm	Church

**Tuesday, January 2**

Women's Fellowship	6:00pm	Library
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**Wednesday, January 3**

Rosary	10:00am	Rm. 5,6,7
JPC	6:45pm	Rm. 5,6,7
CERS	6:45pm	Rm. 1
CERS-Youth	6:45pm	Rm. 5,6,7

**Thursday, January 4**

Anointing of the Sick	8:00am	Chapel
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**Friday, January 5**

Cleaning of Chapel	9:00am	Chapel
Choir-Eng	3:30pm	Church
Choir-Spn	4:30pm	Church
JPC	5:00pm	Rm. 5,6,7
CERS	6:45pm	Rm. 5,6,7
		Kitchen

**Saturday, January 6**

Confessions	4:30pm	Church
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**Knights of Columbus**



**REAL MEN BELIEVE**

Join online for free:  
[www.kofc.org/join](http://www.kofc.org/join)



**First Saturday Devotion**

Saturday,  
January 6, 2024  
2:30pm to 3:30pm  
In the Chapel

### Altar Flowers

Parishioners now have the opportunity to contribute to the altar flowers "in memory" or "in honor" of a loved one.

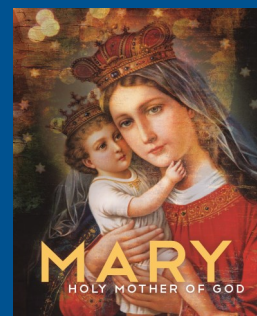
Donation is \$50, there are two bouquets for the altar. It is your choice of donating for one or two. The names will be published in the bulletin.

Thank you for your generosity.

### INTO THE FOLD

Our next **INTO THE FOLD** reception will be **Saturday, January 27, 2024, after the 4:00 Mass.**

We will be welcoming new parishioners who registered in Oct., Nov. and Dec. **Members of ministries or groups**, if you'd like to be represented at the reception, please contact Rina: [caterinar1986@gmail.com](mailto:caterinar1986@gmail.com)



**Parish Office  
CLOSED**

Monday,  
January 1, 2024



## Parish News and Events

### REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO THE BAPTISM OF YOUR CHILD

In order to baptize your child in our parish, parent (s) please come to the Parish Office to obtain an outline, describing the necessary requirements — PRIOR to both the parents and godparents being scheduled to attend a required pre-baptism class:



#### Parents

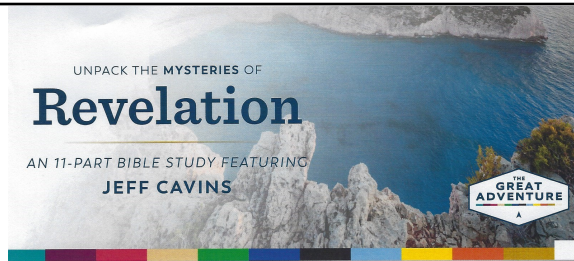
1. Must be registered parishioner in our parish
2. Parent (s) must be baptized and submit a copy of their Confirmation certificate.
3. If the parents are married, provide a copy of their Catholic marriage
4. Parent(s) must provide a copy of their child's birth certificate.

#### Godparent (s) At Least One:

1. Must be a practicing Catholic, following the teachings of the Catholic faith.
2. The godparent must be baptized and submit a copy of their Confirmation (certificate is required).
3. The godparent, if married must provide a copy of their Catholic marriage certificate.

Only after receiving the required documentation, must the parent(s) and godparents (s) have attended the pre-baptism class, can the baptism of your child be scheduled.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please call the Parish Center Office (928) 377-3435.



#### Dates – Times – Location

Study starts: January 9, 2024

Study group meets the 2nd and 4th  
Tuesday of each month

Meeting time: 5pm-6:30 in the church  
library

Cost – Registration  
**FREE!**

For More Information

Contact Liz at 928.530.9442

### PSALMS: THE SCHOOL OF PRAYER

The Holy Spirit inspired them, Israel sang them. Christ himself prayed them, as did our Blessed Mother. At the heart of the Bible are the Psalms, prayers from God that help us to pray. In PSALMS: THE SCHOOL OF PRAYER, we discover how these sacred hymns become our heartfelt response to God's loving and wondrous deeds for us.

In this 11 week course we will show you how to establish a deeply personal dialogue with God, through the Psalms. Learn how to meditate fruitfully on the captivating words of the Psalms using lectio divina and study the many ways the Psalms fortell the life and mission of Jesus.

Come join us on Tuesday Mornings, twice a month with videos presentations from Jeff Calvin's, Tim Gray, and Sarah Christmyer along with exciting conversations to explore ways into a personal encounter with God.

Classes are only one and half hour long and will begin in October, the first Tuesday, October 3 at 10 A.M. in the Parish Center. Plus, please go to [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com) to order your workbook (Psalms, the School of Prayer)

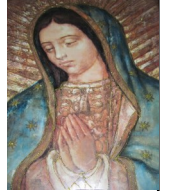
If interested, please contact Grace McNair at  
[grace.mcnair@mail.com](mailto:grace.mcnair@mail.com) to sign up.

Here's to praying the words that Jesus prayed! See you there.

## Events & News



### *Please pray for all who are sick or infirmed:*



*Robert Comstock, Linda Pinnick, Carol Kreft, Diane Schatz, Stella Dombrowski, Ray Martin, Rita Cownie, Mark Kucharek, Fr. Charlie Urnick, James Cleary, Angie Huizenga, Sandra Lyons, James Driscoll, Michael Barrett, Diane Seiler, Frankie Daiber, Fermin Esquibel, Joseph Matthews, Richard Potts, Mary Woodward, Toni Grzechowika, Ron Tuohey Sr., Richard Fernandez, Anthony Fernandez, Susan & Steve Richards, Ventura Villalobos, Jaime Fernandez, Susan Regino, Ellsie Taylor, Ryan Smith, Olivia Sanchez, Ann Peterson, Helena Hall, Gabriel Esquivel, Helaine MacPhal, Caitlin Amburgue, Peyton Mann, Jaime O'Niell, Art Penfold, Jerrod Wetzel, Teresa Stafford, Fernando Galvan Jr, Gary Gallant, Rocco DiConza, Rick Maiero, Alex Freiday, Jimmy Gifford, Josh Lazarski, Patrick & Jennifer Weinmiester, Katherine Tyler, Con Sanchez, Don & Pam Weinmiester, Bob Lucero, Susan Cowin, Carmen & Robert Clemente, Andrew Colton, Lupe Natividad, Jean Marie Hunt, Bill Glass, O'Niell Family, Jim Gunton, Joseph Matthews, Manuel Hernandez, Sabrey Byrd, Michele deLany, Larry Dye, Juan Acuña, Ernestine Stein, Patty George, Gary Arivzo, Bud Tuffe, Alan Rodberg, Dylan Short, Joe O'Neill, Ginny Carter, Marcheta Keller, Mert Glancy*

## ANNOUNCE THE GOOD NEWS



### Youth Bible Study

Hey you! We are inviting all the youth ages 13-18 to join us on Wednesdays, from 7pm-8:15pm for our Youth Bible Study! Come and join us to learn more about your faith and the Word of God! Be sure to bring a bible and a notebook! For more information contact Mariela Balderrama @ (928) 279-4411.

¡Atención jóvenes de edades 13-18! Te invitamos a que vengas a nuestro curso bíblico para jóvenes los miércoles de 7pm-8:15pm. ¡Acompáñanos para aprender más de la fe y de la Palabra de Dios! ¡No olviden su biblia y cuaderno! Para más información contacta a Mariela Balderrama @ (928) 279-4411.



### **Please pray for all those who have died, especially;**

Rita Thomas,  
Yolanda Gallegos,  
Margarita Temple,  
Norma Feilen



### **Rosary Group**

Wednesday, at 10:00am  
in  
Parish Center: Room  
5,6,7

Come join and pray the rosary and  
social with fellow parishioners.

Catholic Charities MANA (Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force) House provides transitional housing for veterans. We provide a foundation for veterans currently or at-risk of experiencing homelessness, providing each one the opportunity to reclaim a life of self-sufficiency.

Help support our veterans in our transitional housing program, MANA House by donating these items:

- Hygiene items (shampoo, body wash, razors, shaving cream, deodorant)
- Pillows
- Twin Sheet Sets (pillow, fitted sheet, and flat cover)
- Twin Size Blankets

From Catholic Charities to all veterans,  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



To learn more about MANA House or to donate, call 602.254.6785 or visit us at [CatholicCharitiesAZ.org](http://CatholicCharitiesAZ.org)  
"Open your mouth, judge justly, defend the needy and the poor." Proverbs 31:9



## ST. MARY CATHOLIC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Invites all women 18 years old and up! **REVELATION – THE KINGDOM YET TO COME**

**\*\*Bible Study Begins Tuesday, September 5th @6:00PM-7:30PM\*\***

This Bible Study, through Ascension Press, is presented by video by Jeff Cavins. The workbook may be ordered through [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com) (\$29.95, includes online access for one year). Please bring a Bible with you to our sessions. Our Fellowship meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month in the Parish Center Library.

### ST. MARY CATHOLIC WOMEN'S...

**Faith** – staying steadfast in our faith – no matter the adversities

**Evangelize** – the Good News about Jesus Christ to all

**Love** – Christian Love for one another – We are all made in the image of God.

**Learn** – Always learn something new about our faith. – There's so much to learn.

**Offer up** our troubles/worries to the Lord. – Trust in His infinite Mercy.

**Worship** our Lord through the sacrifice of the Mass and at Adoration.

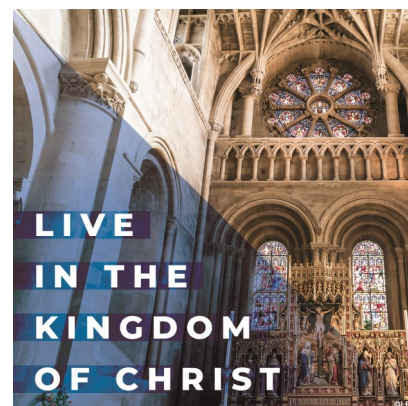
**Spirit** – Call on the Holy Spirit for guidance – in our thoughts, words, actions,

**Holiness** – Goal for all Christians for the graces towards holiness.

**Inspired** by the Holy Spirit to trust God, to do His will, to share our gifts for His glory and praise

**Pray** – Praying every day makes Jesus the center of our lives.

Come, join our Fellowship! – Email Rina, [caterinar1986@gmail.com](mailto:caterinar1986@gmail.com)



### Prayers for Ernesto Balderrama, Jr



We, the Balderrama family, (Ernesto, Sonia and children), would like to ask for your prayers for our son, Ernesto Balderrama, Jr...aka - Junior, 17 yrs. old. He has grown up in St. Mary. He received all his Sacraments of Initiation here. He was an altar server since 2015. He was a member of the CERS group since 2021 and more recently, was helping his sister, Mariela, with the Wednesday evening Youth Bible study group. He graduated from Lee Williams HS in May 2023 and has decided to dedicate some time to strengthen and learn more about his faith. He left on August 4, 2023, to join Christ of the Desert House of Formation, in Palmdale, CA. He will be on his formation journey for nine months, with other young adults, all of whom have chosen to live by the virtues of obedience, poverty, and chastity.

After the formation period, he will discern if he would like to make his promise to become a Missionary Servant of the Word for one year, serving in whatever mission he is sent to here in the United

States. We ask for prayers from our St. Mary community to help Junior stay strong and not feel lonely, as this is the first time he will be away from his family and community for so long. Prayers to help him stay focused during this formation period and guard against all temptation, not only for him, but for all the young people who are on the same journey as him, sacrificing a part of their young lives to follow Jesus. They have chosen to leave the many temptations of the secular world and follow Jesus out into the desert to pray and meditate on what God is calling them to do. Pray and make sacrifices as well for more teenagers and young adults to open their hearts and hear and answer God's calling. We are responsible for faith formation of the youth of our Church. Let us not abandon them in their time of spiritual needs. There is a spiritual warfare going on now and let us not lose our children to it.

Thank you so much and may God bless you all and guard you from all evil.

" Whomever has known God cannot be silent. " ~ Father Luigi Butera

"Quien ha conocido a Dios no puede callar."



## Parish News and Events

### Jail Ministry

**Looking for volunteer** to take over this ministry as Rita and I will no longer be able to do so. Contact Ray Martin at 251-233-9490 or Rita Martin at 928-404-3257 for more information. Thanks and God Bless.

### Blessed Carlo Acutis



Blessed Carlo Acutis London, May 3, 1991 - Milan, October 12, 2006

### Eucharistic Miracles Video Series

Produced by St. Mary's Church based on the work of Blessed Carlo Acutis' web pages.

Search on YouTube with:

@kevindavis3985

then click on the image of the Guadalupe angel to go to the full ever-expanding playlist of videos.



### Anointing of the Sick

On Thursday, January 4, 2024 anointing of the sick at the 8:00am Mass. All practicing Catholics, 65 years and older or those who are seriously ill are encouraged to participate in this healing sacrament.

Please sign in and take a name tag as you enter the Chapel. Confession is an important part of the healing sacrament.

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



Sunday, December 31, 2023  
Vigil Mass 6:00pm

Monday, January 1, 2024  
10:00am, 12noon 6:00pm

Expecting a child is life changing, and you're not the first person to question what to do now that you're pregnant. Catholic Charities Joining Hearts can help you during your unexpected pregnancy. YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

Help support pregnant mothers, adoptive families, and parents in need by donating items to Catholic Charities Joining Hearts Program:

- Bus Passes (monthly)
- Uber & Lyft gift cards
- TracFones—prepaid phones
- TracFone Prepaid Minutes
- Diapers
- Gift Cards to purchase food and household items (Food City, Fry's, Safeway, Walmart, Target, etc.)

Catholic Charities 888-818-4445 joining hearts



Text or call anytime, it's free & confidential. We help statewide. Search us at [joiningheartsaz.org](http://joiningheartsaz.org). We are here to help YOU 24/7.

To learn more about Joining Hearts or to donate, call 602-230-4910 or visit us at [CatholicCharitiesAZ.org](http://CatholicCharitiesAZ.org)

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" Jeremiah 1:5



We, at SVdP, just want to say thank you so much for all your donations!

You have been terrific in answering our requests for donations to help those in need in our community. We hope that you all have a blessed Christmas like you have blessed us! Thank you!

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (JN 1:14)

God gave the gift of His only Son to the world. Partake in that gift to better know His son, by living what Jesus has asked of us, to be charitable. Consider joining us and help Keep Christ in Christmas.



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