Church of the Ascension

12615 N. Fountain Hills Boulevard
Fountain Hills, Arizona 85268
Parish Office: (480) 837-1066
Fax: (480) 837-9093
www.ascensionfh.org

December 13, 2020

PARISH PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM

Pastor: Rev. John T. McDonough ext. 203
Deacons: Phil LoCascio; Richard Smith
Pastoral Associate: Dolly DuBon ext. 205
E-mail: dhartel@diocesephoenix.org
Pastoral Care Ministry: Dcn. Phil LoCascio ext. 202
E-mail: church@ascensionfh.org
Director of Music/ Coordinator of Liturgy:
Charles Szczepanek ext. 208
Director of Catechetical Ministries: Cheryl Hentz ext. 206
E-Mail: chentz@ascensionfh.org
Director of High School & Middle School Ministries:
Cheryl Hentz ext. 206
Marriage and Family Therapist: Gerry Blakeman, M.A. LMFT (480) 367-1660 x 3#
Administrative Assistant: LeAnn Pernot ext. 201
Bookkeeper: Mike Mencuccini ext. 204
Facilities and Maintenance: Lucas Hartel ext. 210

EUCHARISTIC LITURGY SCHEDULE

Daily Masses:
Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. - 11:30 AM
Weekend Liturgies
Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

Chapel Hours Open for Prayer and Meditation:
Mon. - Thurs.: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM;
Friday: 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Holy Days: 7:00 PM Vigil, 8:00 AM Holy Day

Reconciliation:
Saturday: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM or by appointment

St. Dominic's Mission - Rio Verde
Secretary: Rosemary Palys - (480) 471-2112

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Inquire at the parish office.
Marriages: Nine month notice.
Sick Calls: Immediately Call (480) 837-1066

St. Vincent de Paul Help Line: (480) 837-7287

STREAMED & PUBLIC MASSES
Call the parish office to reserve your seat for public masses 480 837-1066

The faithful are still able to view the Holy Mass streamed each week on Saturday after 5 PM on YouTube. Here is the link:
https://www.youtube.com/CatholicChurchoftheAscension
Weekday and Sunday Masses are now public with limited seating and mandated social distancing. If you are healthy and would like to attend mass, you must call the parish office to reserve your seat(s), 480 837-1066. Weekday Masses are held Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday at 11:30AM. Sunday masses are held at 8AM & 10AM.

Parish Office Hours
Monday – Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

STEWARDSHIP

Parish Mission Statement

Committed to build, strengthen, and nurture the Body of Christ.

Our community welcomes all who come through our doors to worship and seek spiritual nourishment. As a Stewardship parish, we respect and embrace an individual's time, talent and treasure. To join our faith community, please contact the office.

Weekend Collection Nov 28 - 29

Plate:	**$ 4,455**
ACH:	**$**
Total:	**$ 4,455**

Average Weekly Plate Income:
$11,966

Weekly Budgeted Income:
$15,490

Parishioners please remember to turn in your **2021 Commitment cards**. You can mail them, drop them off in the offertory basket, or at the parish office.

Also, if you are a envelope user, please pick up your **Stewardship Envelopes**. They are located in the Narthex.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please contact the Parish Office at 480-837-1066 to have a name to be added or removed from either list.

David Agresto, Marie Aiello, Tom Aiello, Pati Beers, Emmy Butler, Jerry Engler, Eugene Doffin, Lee Doranzo, Gloria, Joe Goyena, Margaret Guempel, Maureen Kelly, Tom Mazzotta, Eileen McCarthy, Lois McDonald, Michael McGuckin, Gene O'Callaghan, Kathleen O'Leary, Jeffrey Poynter, Jacob Reister, Theresa Roberg, Lynn Tupy, Casey Vilandre, and Judy Wiggins

STAY INFORMED

Ascension parishioners, you can still receive our weekly bulletin to stay informed. A way to do this is by subscribing to our bulletin on ParishesOnline. Visit:
parishesonline.com, locate our parish with the search tool, and sign-up to automatically get an email when a new publication becomes available.

Visit us and any of these social media platforms along with https://ascensionfh.org

Find us on Facebook

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) any events listed in this bulletin are tentatively scheduled and are subject to change or be cancelled. Please contact the organization directly to confirm status of the event.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

SUN 12/13	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
MON 12/14	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
TUE 12/15	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
WED 12/16	Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/ Lk 7:18b-23
THR 12/17	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
FRI 12/18	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
SAT 12/19	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
SUN 12/20	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/ Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

Sunday:	3rd Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday:	4th Sunday of Advent

LIVE THE LITURGY

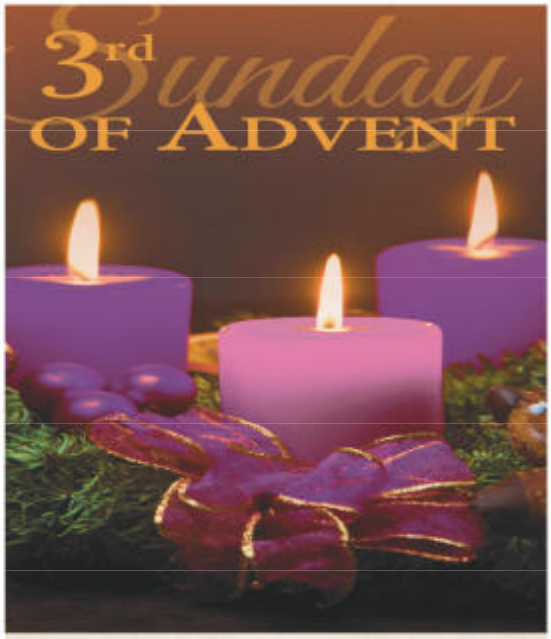
Inspiration for the week

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.

Mass Intentions

+ = Deceased Loved One
♥ = Wedding Anniversary
* = Living Intention

12-Saturday	5:00 pm	+Raymond Mazza
13-Sunday	8:00 am	+Anita Brennan
13-Sunday	10:00 am	+Arleen DeSmet
14-Monday	11:30 am	+Cliff Nimis
15-Tuesday	11:30 am	+Cece Frietze
16-Wednesday	11:30 am	+Jeffrey LoDestro
17-Thursday	8:00 am	Morning Prayer
18-Friday	11:30 am	+Elaine Decker
19-Saturday	5:00 pm	+Ted & Nita Putnam
20-Sunday	8:00 am	+Cy Plazak
20-Sunday	10:00 am	People of the Parish



The desire for God is written in the human heart.

WORSHIP & MEDITATION

FIRST READING

I rejoice heartily in the LORD,
in my God is the joy of my soul. (Is 61:10a)

PSALM

My soul rejoices in my God. (Is 61:10b)

SECOND READING

May the God of peace make you
perfectly holy
and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body,
be preserved blameless for the coming of
our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thes 5:23)

GOSPEL

"I am *the voice of one crying out in the desert,*
'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" (Jn 1:23)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

©LPi

Ascension Volunteers are you looking for something to do, during this pandemic?

Safe Environment Training Renewal
Is due by December 31st

All employees' and volunteers' certifications expired on June 30th and is now up for renewal.

Login to https://phoenix.cmgconnect.org

If you have any questions, contact the parish office at 480-837-1066.

Community Hike

Check the online calendar for days, times, and meeting place

Disconnect and unwind! Get away from all the busyness of life for a bit. Meet new people in your parish! Build relationships with others. Renew and refresh with us.

Ascension is Virtual...Join Us

It's not surprising that so many people are enjoying staying connected through our online meetings! You can stay connected too! Try one or more of our Zoom meetings! Call the parish office for information on how to join an online meeting.

Morning Prayer
Every Weekday at 8AM

Start the day with time spent with God and friends in our parish community. We have a wonderful group that meets each day. Morning prayer lasts about 20 -30 minutes. We read from the Universalis daily morning prayer found at this site:

https://universalis.com/lauds

Just Follow Me Prayer Group
Every Monday at 1 PM

How is your prayer life? Are you looking for new ways to deepen and expand your prayer practices? Join us to learn and practice different ways we can pray. We even take turns sharing our prayer practices with one another.

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Tuesdays, 12:30 PM

We meet weekly to share our thoughts and discuss a variety of faith-based topics such as, Faith in Action/Social Justice, Faith and Science, Art and Architecture, History, And more! Everyone is welcome to drop in any week. We'd love to hear your thoughts too.

Attention Lectors…

2021 Workbook for Lectors are available. Please see LeAnn in the parish office to pick yours up.

ACH

Automated Clearing House

A GREAT TIME TO SIGN UP NOW!

ACH payments are simply electronic transfers from one bank account to another.

BENEFITS:

- **Never miss a monthly contribution. We can also provide you with the annual set of Special Collection Envelopes**
- **Listed on your bank statement as ACH**
- **Save money on checks & postage**
- **Convenient**
- **You choose which date you would like your checking account would be deducted:**

5th 15th 25th

Contact Mike in the parish office at 480 837-1066

Andre House: Turkeys & Blankets Advent Collection
Thank you for your donations to Andre House. We collected 34 turkeys and over 40 blankets. Thank you for your generosity.

Advent Penance

This Advent the Chapel will be open for Reconciliation
Each Saturday, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Please remember to take one of the Little Advent Books (Blue). They are available for pick up in the Chapel.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

For more information regarding Religious Education at Ascension or any articles below contact Cheryl Hentz at 480-837-1066 or **chentz@ascensionfh.org**

Welcome to our newly baptized, children and congratulations to the families

Carsyn Avery Clay
daughter of
Wesley and Ashley Clay

And

Payson Blair Reiners
daughter of
Jared and Danae Reiners

The children were baptized on Saturday, November 28th, 2020

Thank you to the youth group at Church of the Ascension who brought smiles to families that adopted from foster care this year! *They donated items to place in beautiful baskets as we give thanks to families who opened their homes and hearts to welcome a child! We, at Catholic Charities, along with those you helped, are thankful and grateful for your support!*

MESSINGER MORTUARIES
First in Caring. First in Service.
480.837.5588
www.messingermortuary.com

SPINATO'S
THE FAMILY PIZZERIA SINCE 1974
11108 N. FLW BLVD.
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85259
Ancala Village Shopping Center
480-391-2347
SpinatosPizzeria.com

FOUNTAIN VIEW VILLAGE
a Senior Lifestyle community
Independent Living
Assisted Living • Memory Care
Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation
#AL5936C
16455 East Avenue of the Fountains
480-836-5000
WWW.SENIORLIFESTYLE.COM
Pet Friendly

PROBATE IS COSTLY
Protect your spouse Reduce taxes Stay in Control
WILLS LIVING TRUSTS
POWERS OF ATTORNEY
25% Parishioner Discount
Simple Easy Fast
We help with existing or out-of-state docs!
Call Us First
toll free: 1-844-637-0514
www.SpiritWestEstate.com
The Schaefers; Kevin, Amelia, Hank, Wes and Violet.
Visit our website for a FREE estate planning checklist.

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust
• Burglary • Flood Detection
• Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide
ADT Authorized Provider SafeStreets
1-855-225-4251

Craig C. Capirchio, Ltd.
Certified Public Accountant
Serving Fountain Hills & Surrounding Areas
13225 N. Verde River, Ste. # 204
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
(480) 837-5265 • Fax (480) 816-6575

Travis & Sons
PLUMBING INC.
Bob Travis Licensed & Bonded
Parishioner Since 1977
480-837-9422

ally spine center
Dr. Christopher R. Condon
Chiropractic Physician
Advanced treatment and Spinal Decompression therapy for sciatica, neuropathy, bulging herniated discs, chronic pain
10565 N. 114th Street, Unit 109
Scottsdale, AZ
480-809-4700
allyspinecenter.com

catholicmatch® Arizona
CatholicMatch.com/AZ

SPREAD THE WORD
A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters
SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

D Williams SERVICES
GBAC COVID-19 Certified
"Our Reputation is Spotless"
Experts in Residential & Commerical Cleaning Services
info@dw.services • (480) 466-9040 • www.dw.services

SHIELDS ELECTRIC
For All Your Electrical Needs
2140 E. 5th St. #10
Tempe, AZ • 941-2115

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
Contact Cindy Kelly to place an ad today!
ckelly@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2695

We Get Results, Because We Care!
Real Estate Sales Center
9617 N. Saguaro Blvd.
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
www.goyenateam.com
Joe GO: (480) 825.1083
Carol: (480) 825.1084
CarolGoyena@gmail.com
Joe GO & Carol Goyena
Associate Broker, GRI
Sales Executive
MCO REALTY
Assisting Clients in Fountain Hills Since 1984
Church of the Ascension Parishioners Since 1981

Phil's Filling Station & Grill
NEVER LEAVE HERE HUNGRY!
Breakfast (Mon—Sun) 7 am - Noon
Lunch & Dinner (Mon-Sat) 11 am - 9 pm
(Sun) 11 am - 8 pm
480-816-8200
16852 E Parkview • Fountain Hills, AZ

LIVING TRUSTS · WILLS · POWERS OF ATTORNEY

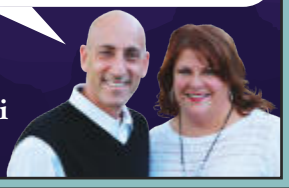
Mention this ad for $200 off of an Estate Plan Portfolio.
Valid through January 31, 2021

MAY YOU HAVE THE GIFT OF FAITH, THE BLESSING OF HOPE, AND THE PEACE OF HIS LOVE AT CHRISTMAS AND ALWAYS.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND MUCH HEALTH AND HAPPINESS IN 2021.

(480) 991-1055
www.callGCPA.com

John & Tracey Dombroski
Serving Arizona's Catholic community since 1994



Your Fresh Asian Experience

Outstanding Asian Fusion Cuisine

Accompany in culture and Excellent Service

Now Hiring for all positions

NOW OPEN IN FOUNTAIN HILLS

Blossom Kitchen

14835 E. Shea Blvd
Suite 100
(by Fry's)
(480)837-2566

BERCEL BUILDERS INC.

BUILDING & REMODELING SPECIALISTS

Custom Homes • Room Additions • Kitchen & Bathroom Remodeling
Re-Roof & Roofing Repairs • Window & Door Replacements
Handicap Accessibility Remodels, Ramps & Grab Bars
Deal directly with the owners, John and Mark Bercel

480.837.2596

ROC # 064760-B

COLDWELL BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

SHARI GAY, Realtor®
PARISHIONER
480.231.5425
shari.gay@azmoves.com
azshari.com
16872 E Avenue of the Fountains #101
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

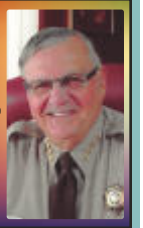
SPREAD THE WORD

A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

NEW BOOK
Sheriff Joe Arpaio
AN AMERICAN LEGEND

Call or visit
714-403-6861
16743 E. Palisades Blvd #103
Fountain Hills, AZ



Too Sick for Mass?

SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!

Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!
www.parishesonline.com

Call us today for a FREE ESTIMATE!
SSR ROOFING
480-242-5346
Quality Work at Fair Prices
$1000 OFF a re-roof with coupon
Bonded & Insured / ROC #294680 Expires 3/31/20

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR **BUSINESS HERE**

Contact Cindy Kelly to place an ad today!
ckelly@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2695