



# 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

## PARISH PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM

**Parochial Administrator:** Rev. Jilson Panakkal ext. 203  
**Deacons:** Phil LoCascio; Richard Smith  
**Parish Manager:** Dolly DuBon ext. 205  
E-mail: dhartel@diocesephoenix.org  
**Pastoral Care Ministry:** Dcn. Phil LoCascio ext. 202  
E-mail: plocascio@ascensionfh.org  
**Director of Music/ Coordinator of Liturgy:**  
Billy Mattison ext. 208  
**Coordinator of Religious Education:**  
Virginia O'Brien ext. 206  
**Administrative Assistants:** LeAnn Pernot ext 201;  
Jennifer Mintzer ext. 206  
**Bookkeeper:** Joanne Wamer ext. 204  
**Facilities and Maintenance:** Bill Kobylka ext. 210

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

## LITURGY SCHEDULE

### Daily Mass:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., & Fri. - 8:00 AM

### Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

**Holy Days:** 7:00 PM Vigil; 8:00 AM Holy Day

### Reconciliation:

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

### Adoration:

First Friday 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Third Friday 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

## SACRAMENTS

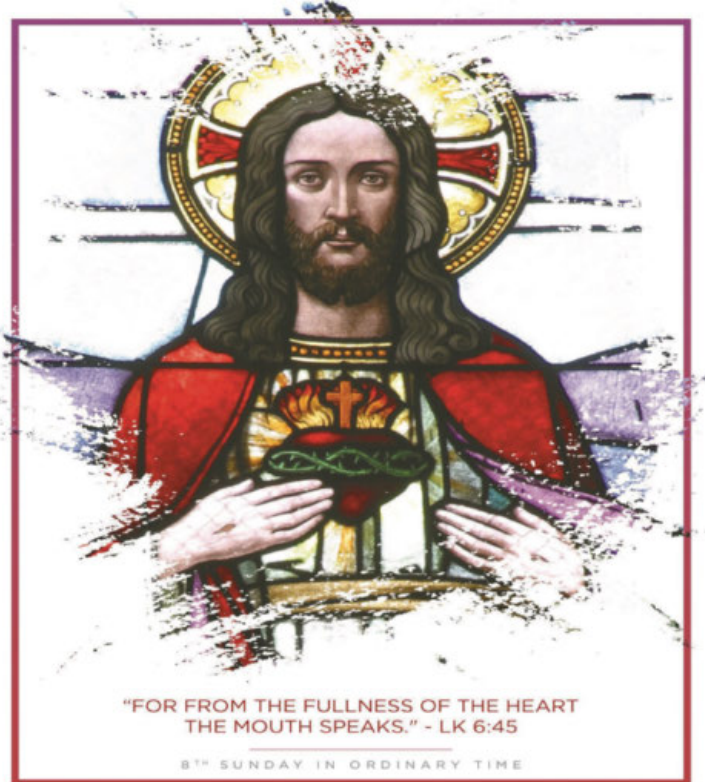
**Baptism:** Inquire at the parish office.

**Marriages:** Nine month notice.

**Sick Calls:** Immediately Call (480) 837-1066

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

## February 27, 2022



### Parish Office Hours

**Monday – Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM**

**Friday: 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Sunday: 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

## 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 February 12 - 13**



**Attendance:** 584  
**Plate:** \$ 9,948  
**ACH:** \$ 7,182  
**Total:** \$17,130

**Average Weekly Plate Income:**  
\$13,157

### **Calendar Year 2021** **Donation Tax Letters**

If you have donated \$600 or more to the parish, your donation tax letter was mailed to the address on file. If you made donations less than \$600, your donation tax letter will be available for pick up in the parish office.

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.

## 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.



*Astrid Asche, Joan Asche, Pati Beers, Ann Blakely, Lorraine Brady, Molly Campbell, Cameron Collins, Basil Cousins, John Diggins, Darlene Dyrhaug, Tom Elliott, Karen Fjeldheim, Jim Gannon, Cindy Germscheid, John Greenwood, Gary Hollar, Juanita Hollar, Traci Jacobs, Ken Jeschke, Carol Jones, Jim Kelly, Maureen Kelly, Eric Kuhn, Anthony Mazzucchi, Jim McCarthy, Ramona McCarthy, Ward McCarthy, Fr. Larry McCarty, Larry Milano, Lynn Milano, Carol Moloney, Dennis Parks., Denise Petzinger, Diana Philip, Melvin Philip, Teresa Roberg, Patricia Sanagorsky, Robert Sanagorsky, Dennis Sparks, Jessica Swearingen, Lance Swearingen, Jackie Teale, Linda Travis, Lynn Tupy, Judy Wiggins, Rose Zeidas, and Roxanne Zeidas*

## PRAY FOR THE MILITARY

Nagel, Brian R., Capt., USAF  
Nagel, David M., Capt., Army  
Travis, Adam, Lt. Col., AZ National Guard

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



# WEEKLY PRAYER



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

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27, 2022

**Sunday:** Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

**Monday:** 1 Pt 1:3-9/Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 and 10c/Mk 10:17-27

**Tuesday:** 1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Mk 10:28-31

**Wednesday:** Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday:** Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

**Friday:** Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

**Saturday:** Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

**Next Sunday:** Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [cf. 15b]/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27, 2022

**Sunday:** 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Wednesday:** Ash Wednesday

**Thursday:** St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

**Friday:** St. Casimir

**Next Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent

## LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week

"From the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." What we say reveals so much about who we are. It discloses what is really going on within us: our integrity, priorities, depth of conscience, level of compassion and understanding of mercy. People whose speech is judgmental or overly critical usually reveal an interior life that is angry, unsettled, defensive, and shallow. Our speech communicates our sense of right and wrong, the strength of our relationship with God and how we feel about our fellow human beings. We are also quick to point out the faults of others, concentrating on their shortcomings and wrongdoings before our own. Only God fully understands what is going on inside the human heart. Only God can see the depth of a human soul. Perhaps it would do us well to consider what may be happening inside our brothers and sisters and temper our critical speech of what we see occurring outside. Looking within will also help us identify our own sins and weakness so that we can be better positioned to offer the type of wisdom and compassionate guidance that can really be of help to our friends.

26-Saturday	5:00 pm	+Rodney Harris
27-Sunday	8:00 am	People of the Parish
	10:00 am	+Ted Demski
28-Monday	8:00 am	+Josephine & John Bambalas
01-Tuesday	8:00 am	+Robert Lickman
02-Wednesday	8:00 am	+Tony Blazejewski
	7:00 pm	+Jack Prendergast
03-Thursday	8:00 am	+James Oakes
04-Friday	8:00 am	+Lee Doranzo
05-Saturday	5:00 pm	+Paul DeGiusti
06-Sunday	8:00 am	+John F. & John R Kinzig
	10:00 am	People of the Parish

## St. Katharine Drexel | March 3

With a family like hers, it's no wonder that St. Katharine Drexel (November 26, 1858 – March 3, 1955) grew up to become one of the first American-born saints.

Born in Philadelphia in 1858, her mother passed away when she was only five weeks old. Her father, a renowned banker, remarried a wonderful woman, and together they raised St. Katherine Drexel and her two sisters in a life of privilege. Both financially and spiritually well-endowed, the Drexels were devout Catholics and set an excellent example of true Christian servitude with prayer and care for the poor.

After her father's death, St. Katharine Drexel gave up her inheritance and instead devoted her life to the material and spiritual well-being of black and native Americans. Mother Drexel, as she would become known as, established the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored, and together they opened a boarding school in Santa Fe, the first of 50 missions for Native Americans in 16 states.

At 77, she suffered a heart attack and was forced to retire from active ministry. She spent the next 20 years of her life in quiet yet intense prayer. She died at the age of 96 and was canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II.

# WORSHIP & MEDITATION



## FIRST READING

Praise no one before he speaks,  
for it is then that people are tested.  
(Sir 27:7)



## PSALM

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.  
(Ps 92)



## SECOND READING

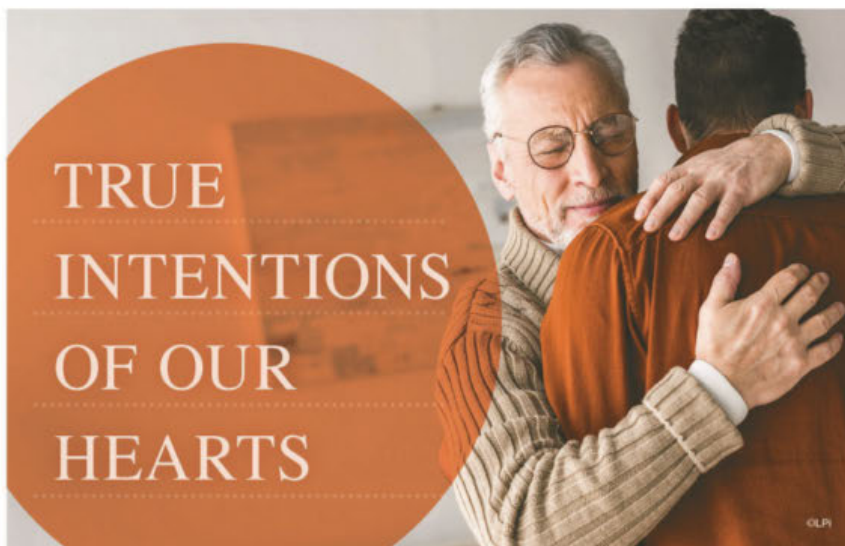
But thanks be to God who gives  
us the victory  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
(1 Cor 15:57)



## GOSPEL

"A good person out of the store of  
goodness in his heart produces good,  
but an evil person out of a store of evil  
produces evil;  
for from the fullness of the heart the  
mouth speaks." (Lk 6:45)

*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

What we say and how we say it reveals the true intentions of our hearts. The content and manner of our speech is a window into the recesses of our souls. Our consciences, attitudes, sentiments, weaknesses, and motives are displayed. As much as we think we can hide the truth of our lives from others, we cannot. Who we really are is not only expressed on our lips but is written on our faces. Jesus says precisely this, "For every tree is known by its own fruit." What does the fruit of our lives say about us?

Because we like to play the game of hide and seek with ourselves, in pretending that we are hiding we deflect attention others may give to us by becoming more critical of others. After all, the more time one can spend analyzing others' behavior the less time one has to look at his or herself. Often, the behaviors we abhor most in others are the very ones we are guilty of ourselves. We just don't know it yet. The more we put ourselves in the role of a judge, the more satisfaction and control we seem to achieve. Yet, what about ourselves? In focusing our attention on the beams in others' eyes, the aridity and barrenness of our lives goes unchecked. St. Ambrose reminds us that "no one heals himself by wounding another." Bringing our brothers and sisters down by being overly critical, serves no positive purpose.

But the one who knows how easy it is to fall into sin and weakness and how quickly errors in judgment can be made, knows the depth of true compassion, mercy, and kindness. Having recognized our own poor choices, misguided opinions, negative emotions, and ability to do horrendous things, we can be more sympathetic and understanding of where others may be. We are designed to be mentors and guides to one another. In walking the journey together, we can help each other become the best we can be. Humility is the order of the day and the primary virtue that prevents us from being hypocrites.

# GET INVOLVED

## Church of the Ascension **BLOOD DRIVE**

Sunday, March 13  
7:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Parish Hall



Contact Parish office at 480-837-1066 or  
visit [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) (Blood Drive Code: ascension)

vitalant

## All Volunteers & Ministry Members Your Annual Safe Environment Training is now due.

If you need assistance for your annual  
certification, please contact Dolly DuBon in  
the parish office at 480 837-1066.

Login to <https://phoenix.cmconnect.org>

## Catholic Coffeehouse

Every Sunday at 11 AM - Noon in the parish conference  
room with Deacon Phil. Grab your coffee  
& donut and join us. All are welcome!

### UPCOMING TOPICS

- Feb. 27 - Lent
- March 6 - Our Call to Holiness
- March 13 - How in the World Do We Relate



## St. John the Evangelist Caregivers Support Group

All Caregivers are welcome to join us on  
Monday, February 28th, at 2pm in the parish  
hall for a presentation offered by Foundation  
for Senior Living.

Attention Parishioners!  
We are looking to collect  
any blessed Palm Branches  
from previous years to make  
ashes for Ash Wednesday  
on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.



If you have any you would like to  
donate, leave them in the labeled  
basket near the Baptismal Font in the  
Narthex.

### ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Mass with distribution of Ashes.

Noon - Scripture service with distribution of Ashes.

### DAILY MASS ADDED ON THURSDAYS

Thursdays: March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24,  
March 31, April 7, and April 21; 8:00 a.m.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross can be prayed privately.

Please see the front office for a Stations of the Cross  
book.

**Organized Stations of the Cross held Fridays:**

March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25, April 1, and  
April 8; 7:00 p.m.

**LENTEN PARISH MISSION with Fr. Bob Rossi**

Three Nights: Sunday, March 20 - Tuesday, March  
22; beginning at 6:30 pm in the church.

**SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH**

Saturday, March 19; 8:00 a.m.

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Lenten Communal Penance Service:

Tuesday, March 29; 7:00 p.m.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

For more information regarding Religious Education at Ascension contact Virginia O'Brien in the parish office at email: [familyfaith@ascensionfh.org](mailto:familyfaith@ascensionfh.org) or at 480-837-1066.

## ATTENTION 3<sup>RD</sup> 4<sup>TH</sup> 5<sup>TH</sup> 6<sup>TH</sup> 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS AND PARENTS!

Ascension would like to restart our religious education night for kids that have already received their Confirmation and Communion. We miss all of you and encourage your return! I am looking for parental feedback to make this happen. What weekday night would work best for your family? Please email Virginia at [familyfaith@ascensionfh.org](mailto:familyfaith@ascensionfh.org).

## Near-Death Experiences

### Question:

Are near-death experiences real?

### Answer:

There is a lot of curiosity and fascination with the idea of an afterlife and communicating with those who have died. In movies, television shows, and numerous books, people make claims about their ability to communicate with the dead, or having had a near-death experience. There is no objective way to verify any of this. While details about people and events can be surprisingly accurate, it is just circumstantial evidence that might be explained in other ways.

On the other hand, when people have unusual experiences, sometimes called near-death or out-of-body, it is real to them. They react with the emotions and thoughts that one would expect. At times, they report details they could not have known any other way, such as bits of conversation, or meeting people they had never known in this life. So certainly, to the person, they experience something. We believe in a life after death, we believe in the communion of saints. These things are not a contradiction to faith, but we should not base our faith on them, nor change our beliefs. They are unexplained and will likely remain so.

## Upcoming Sacramental Preparation Classes:

### 1st Communion & Confirmation:

- ◆ March 8
- ◆ March 13 - Rite of Enrollment
- ◆ March 22
- ◆ March 27 - Reconciliation for Communion & Confirmation Candidates
- ◆ April 2 - Parent and Child Retreat



### Reconciliation:

- ◆ March 6
- ◆ March 13 - Rite of Enrollment
- ◆ March 19 - Parent and Child Retreat
- ◆ March 27 - First Reconciliation for Candidates



## Sharing the Gospel

Jesus wants you to look carefully at your own words and behavior. If you call your sister selfish, Jesus wants you to make sure you are not selfish. If you fuss at your brother because his room is messy, Jesus wants you to make sure your room is not messy. Do not judge others. Remember that everyone makes mistakes. God forgives you and wants you to forgive yourself and others.

## Prayer

Holy Spirit, help me get my mistakes straightened out.

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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