



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

April 3, 2022

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 Kobyłka 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

Stations of the Cross:

Friday: 7:00 PM

Reconciliation:

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

Adoration:

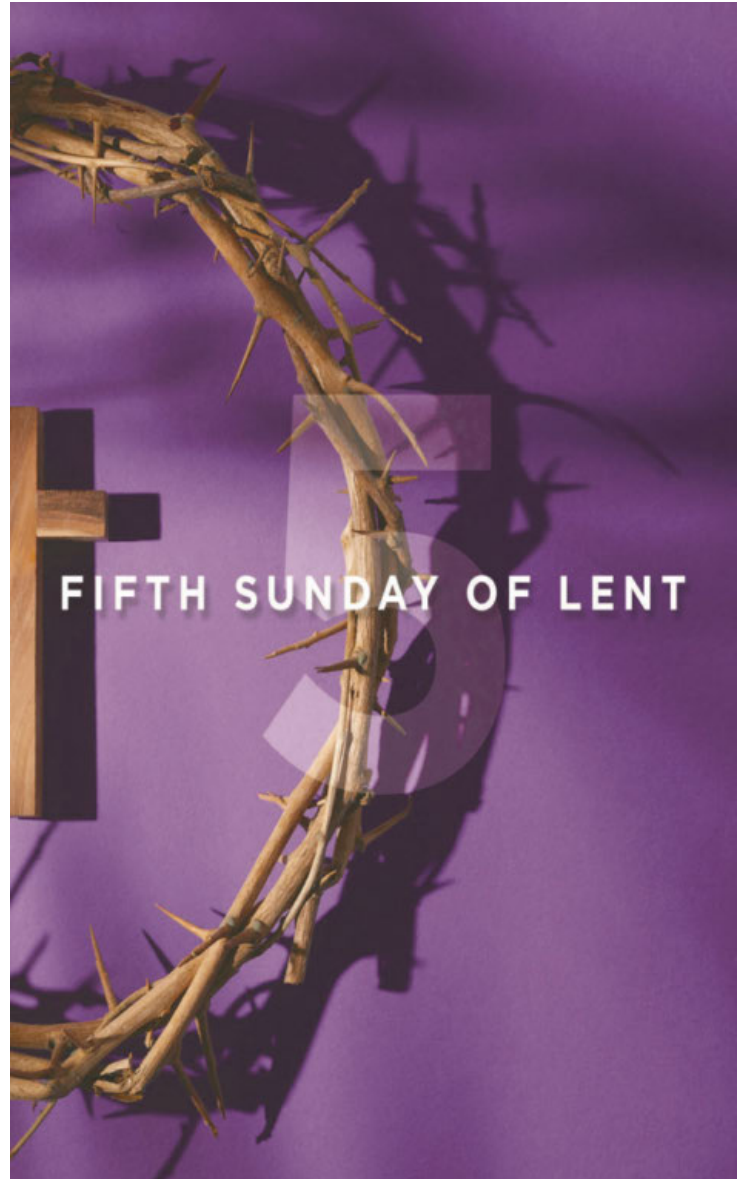
First Friday 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Inquire at the parish office.

Marriages: Nine month notice.

Sick Calls: Immediately Call (480) 837-1066



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

March 19 - 20

Attendance:	697
Plate:	\$ 4,904
ACH:	\$ 40
Total:	\$ 4,944

Average Weekly Plate Income:

\$13,641

As of 03/22/2022

Parish Goal:

\$77,000

Current:

\$47,594

Family

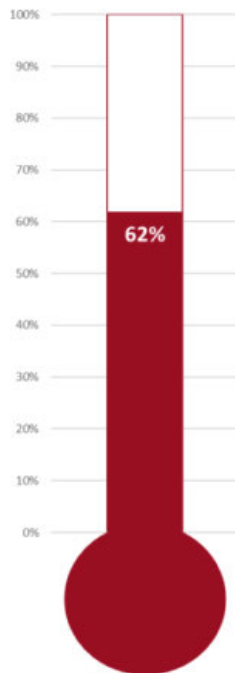
Participation:

228 out of 829;

Current

Participation

27%



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.



Richard Arvizu, Astrid Asche, Joan Asche, Pati Beers, Ann Blakely, Lorraine Brady, Robin C., Molly Campbell, Cameron Collins, Charles Cooper, 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, Richard Mars, Anthony Mazzucchi, Jim McCarthy, Ramona McCarthy, Fr. Larry McCarty, Kathy McDermott, Konnie Middleton, Larry Milano, Lynn Milano, Carol Moloney, Dennis Parks,, Denise Petzinger, Teresa Roberg, Patricia Sanagorsky, Robert Sanagorsky, Dennis Sparks, Jessica Swearingen, Lance Swearingen, Jackie Teale, Chris Towne, Linda Travis, Lynn Tupy, Helen Vince, Philomena Weyell, Diane White, and Judy Wiggins,

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 APRIL 3, 2022

- Sunday:** Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11
- Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5-6/Jn 8:12-20
- Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30
- Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42
- Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59
- Friday:** Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42
- Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56
- Next Sunday:** Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23:56 or 23:1-49

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 3, 2022

- Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Lent
- Monday:** St. Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Tuesday:** St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest
- Next Sunday:** Holy Week begins; Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week

Mercy makes us attentive to the voice of truth. We do not know what ever happened to the woman caught in adultery, after her encounter with Jesus. It is hoped that she found what she needed to feel true sorrow. What we do know is that through his gentle and wise persuasiveness, Jesus puts the Pharisees in their place and opens the door to grace for this child of God. Being exploited and used to test and discredit Jesus, she who is publicly known to be a sinner is now the victim. Jesus never tolerates people being used and immediately rushes to her defense. As the author of mercy, Jesus became her advocate and opened the door for her to God's love. Jesus also stands between us and the harsh, judgmental, and often hurtful stance of our world. He invites us to grace, to leave the sin that binds us, and for which we are often criticized, and pursue a life of virtue and freedom.

02-Saturday	5:00 pm	+DeRose & Patruno Family
03-Sunday	8:00 am	People of the Parish
	10:00 am	+Barbara Nanini
04-Monday	8:00 am	+Gaylord Bovee
05-Tuesday	8:00 am	+Joseph Castiglione
06-Wednesday	8:00 am	+Artie Harris
07-Thursday	8:00 am	+Kate Gannon
08-Friday	8:00 am	+Donald Waletzko
09-Saturday	5:00 pm	+Russ Cook
10-Sunday	8:00 am	+Kay Munter
	10:00 am	People of the Parish

St. Benedict the African | April 4

St. Benedict the African (1524-1589), was born in San Fratello, Sicily to Cristoforo and Diana Manasseri, Africans who had been taken as slaves. Some accounts claim that because of his parents' loyal service that Benedict was given his freedom at birth, other sources say that his freedom was granted when he turned 18. At 21 Benedict joined a society of hermits living under the rule of St. Francis of Assisi. Eventually he succeeded his friend, Jerome Lanze, as their leader. When the Pope disbanded the independent hermit society, Benedict joined the Order of Friars Minor and he was sent to Palermo, to the Franciscan Friary of St. Mary of Jesus. There Benedict worked in the kitchens and despite being illiterate and a lay brother (not a priest), he also served as Master of Novices, and as Guardian of the Community. St. Benedict was known throughout his life as a brilliant cook under whose hands food seemed to multiply miraculously, a healer, and a spiritual leader with profound understanding. He is recognized as the patron saint of African Americans.



WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

See, I am doing something new!
Now it springs forth, do you not
perceive it? (Is 43:19)



PSALM

The Lord has done great things for us; we
are filled with joy. (Ps 126)



SECOND READING

I consider everything as a loss
because of the supreme good of knowing
Christ Jesus my Lord.
For his sake I have accepted the loss of
all things (Phil 3:8)



GOSPEL

"Let the one among you who is without
sin
be the first to throw a stone at her."
(Jn 8:7)

*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
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

We love to make examples out of those who have erred and done wrong. Publicly punishing others serves as a means of demonstrating the consequences for what is deemed inappropriate or wrongful behavior. While this may appear an effective way of achieving conformity to established rules, it runs the real risk of distorting motivation. Obviously, we want people to do what is right and pursue healthy, virtuous behaviors and ideals. But is fear of punishment ever the best motivation for avoiding one action in favor of another?

Doing something out of fear is never healthy. Focusing exclusively on our behavior and what others expect or think, leads to living life with a self-focused superficiality. We become more concerned about protecting ourselves from something negative and unpleasant, than investing ourselves in the freedom, wonder and awe of being human! We can still find our way to the unacceptable or inappropriate behavior as long as we do not get caught! Being a whole, focused, and God-centered human being requires more. It demands an investment of the heart. Virtuous, moral, and mature lifestyles reflective of the Gospel necessitate love.

When we experience and recognize love, God's unconditional love, in the depth of our soul, we fall in love with what we have found. We then find ourselves leaving destructive and sinful actions behind in search of something more holy, dignified, true, integral, and loving. This is really "mercy realized." God's tremendous, loving, eternal forgiveness and willingness to bring us back to something more real and tender is transformational. The respect for myself that I receive from God is so life changing that it causes me to run quickly away from anything sinful and self-destructive to things that are whole and holy.

There are many people who want nothing more than to judge or criticize us. What would actually stoning the woman caught in adultery really accomplish? Nothing more than the inflation of the already self-righteous egos of a few men who think they have power. They have no power because they are sinners too, just like everyone else. What all of us have is the humble ability to express sorrow for pursuing destructive thoughts and actions and receive the power of God's mercy. Then, Jesus' request to "go and sin no more" will be one we proudly heed and follow.

GET INVOLVED



Parish PICNIC

SUNDAY, APRIL 3rd

GOLDEN EAGLE PARK

SAGUARO RAMADA - 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

The Church will provide, chicken, salads, dinner rolls, lemonade, iced tea, water and ice. We ask that you bring a side dish to share with others (e.g., chips, fruit, veggies, baked beans, or dessert) and lawn chairs or picnic blankets.

Come join us for a great afternoon of food, fun, music and friends.

SEE YOU THERE!

Living as a Synodal Church

We want to hear from you on what we should be doing to help make our parishes better!

Join us on **Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 10am** in the Parish Hall as we journey together on this common mission.

WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

FOUNTAIN HILLS WOMEN'S CLUB

Is now accepting applications for grants.

The applicant must be a woman who resides or is employed in Fountain Hills and who possesses a high school diploma or equivalent. The applicant must be at least 23 years of age and must desire to further her career goals through the pursuit of additional education.

For an application visit the Parish Office.

APPLICATION & ESSAY DEADLINE:

April 11, 2022

Incense will be used at the following Masses:

Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper - April 14, 7:00pm

Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil – April 16, 8:00pm

Easter Sunday – April 17, 10:00am



Lenten Schedule

DAILY MASS ADDED ON THURSDAYS

Thursdays: 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 Friday, April 8; 7:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

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



Palm Sunday, April 10: Regular weekend Mass schedule (Mass begins with a procession outside of the church.) **Please wear red.**

Holy Thursday, April 14: No morning Mass 7:00 p.m. - Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, April 15: Office Closed

Noon - Stations of the Cross

3:00 p.m. - Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord (Liturgy of the Word, Adoration of the Cross, and Holy Communion)

Holy Saturday, April 16:

Noon - Blessing of Easter Food (Front porch of the church)

7:30p.m. - Easter Vigil Mass begins with lighting of Easter fire outside.

Easter Sunday, April 17:

Mass Times: 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., & 10:00 a.m.

Easter Monday, April 18: Office Closed

Mass: 8:00 a.m.

Morning Prayer Every Weekday at 7:20AM



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>

Contact the parish office for login info.



MANA House Collection

Thank you all for your donations to this annual event. Along with all the merchandise collected, cash and gift cards were also received for the total of \$1315.

The Church of the Ascension Pastoral Council is Looking for a Few Parishioners!

Spring is the time of year when the Pastoral Council invites interested Parishioners to consider their gifts and talents, to advise the Council of your willingness to become a Council member.

If you are interested in learning more about the Pastoral Council and how we work, you are welcome to observe the Council in action at this upcoming meeting:

Monday, April 25, 2022

7:00 PM in the Conference Room

In order to properly accommodate everyone wishing to attend, please contact the President or Vice President of the Council and leave your name and telephone number no later than Friday before the meeting.

President: Karen Ramos 480-532-0310

Vice President: Amy Butler-Kobylka 480-785-6000

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

Welcome to our newly baptized child and congratulations to the family

Declan Caleb Guy

son of

Caleb and Courtney Guy

Their Son was baptized on Saturday, March 19th, 2022

Sharing the Gospel

When we do something wrong, God does not want to punish us. God just wants us to stop, learn from our mistake, and make better choices next time. Try to remember that the next time you catch a friend sinning. Instead of tattling, talk to your friend, and gently help your friend do what is right.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to be kind to my friends when they make mistakes. Help me remember that sometimes I make bad choices, too.

Mission for the Week

Name one thing you have done wrong. Jesus can forgive you for your mistakes. Try to forgive other people, too.

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