

**ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER, WILLIAMS, AZ  
ST. ANNE, ASH FORK & ST. FRANCIS, SELIGMAN**

November 29, 2020

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928-635-2430

**Mass Times**

**Saturday Evening**

4:00pm (Ash Fork)

5:30pm (Williams)

**Sunday Morning**

8:00am (Seligman)

10:00am (Williams)

**Monday, Tuesday,  
Friday**

9:00am (Williams)

**Wednesday**

Confession before  
Mass

4:00pm (Ash Fork)

**Confessions/  
Confessiones**

Tuesdays after Mass  
& Saturday 9 -10 or  
By Appointment

**Office Hours**

By Appointment  
Only



**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

“Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when  
the time will come.” - Mk 13:33

“Velen y estén preparados, porque no saben cuándo llegará  
el momento. ... Lo que les digo a ustedes, lo digo  
para todos: permanezcan alerta”. - Mc 13,33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

**Readings for the week of November 29, 2020**

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Question: When we say the Penitential Act at Mass, why do we strike our chest three times?

Our rituals and liturgical celebrations are filled with a variety of symbols, some of which also relate to our gestures and physical postures (e.g. kneeling, sitting, processing, making the Sign of the Cross). The custom of striking our breast three times during the “I Confess” of the Penitential Act of the Mass is one of those gestures that is loaded with symbolism.

The tradition of Christian’s striking the breast (above the heart) is rooted in the image of Sacred Scripture, especially texts like Psalm 51 which speak of a “humbled contrite heart” or how God heals broken hearts, binding up our wounds (see Psalm 147:3). Early Christian writers like Saint Augustine of Hippo and Saint Jerome also refer to this custom in their writings.

Ultimately, this practice is an expression of our sorrow for those times when we have been guilty of faults and a sign that we are willing to take responsibility for our sins and failings. That we all perform this gesture together is also an act of solidarity, recognizing that none of us, regardless of where we are on our journey of faith, is without fault and the need for grace and forgiveness.

### In the Unexpected

“What could happen next?” How many times have you asked yourself that question in the past year? Though we most often use that expression when things don’t seem to be going our way, this year it has been an expression of the constant changes to our world which the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought. But we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things, when the stars seem to align just right.

No matter what, we can say with certainty that tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world around us is increasingly complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

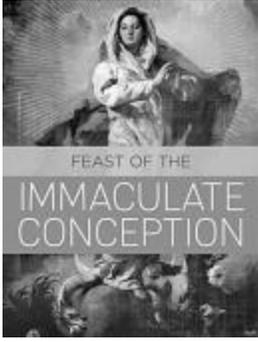
Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, “God with us.” He is the expected in all things unexpected.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**1st Friday Dinner**  
**December 4th, St. Joseph Hall**  
**5:00pm**

**Safe Environment Renewal**  
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**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

**Vigil Mass**

Monday, December 7th  
St. Anne, Ash Fork - 4:00pm  
St. Joseph, Williams - 6:00pm

**Mass**

Tuesday, December 8th  
St. Joseph, Williams - 9:00am  
St. Francis, Seligman - 12:00pm

**AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

**MY JESUS, I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT. I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS, AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY SOUL. SINCE I CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY, COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART. I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU. NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU. AMEN.**

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

**ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER  
Saturday, December 12th  
Procession - TBD  
Mass - TBD  
Reception following Mass**

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation)



If you have a need, please call the SVdP Helpline at 928-308-3294 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:am - 11:am.

Please consider donating to SVDP St. Joseph's Conference. For more information call **Maria at 928-308-3294.**

**THE ELIJAH CUP PROGRAM**

The purpose of the Elijah Cup, a consecrated chalice, is to provide a focal point for prayer. We are all aware of the need for vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate and to the religious life. But sometimes we forget just how powerful praying for an increase in vocations can be. If we pray with the faith of the widow of Zaraheth, our cup will never run dry! We will always have priests to bring us Jesus in the Eucharist.

In 1 Kings 17, during a drought, Elijah tells the poor widow of Zaraheth that if she makes him a small loaf of bread with the last of her flour and oil, her "jar of flour will not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry, until the Lord sends rain upon the earth." In faith, the widow baked the bread and fed Elijah. For the next year, the widow, her son, and Elijah ate bread made from the bowl of flour and jug of oil. The 2nd Vatican Council instructs us that it is the job of the laity to pray for and raise up vocations, and this has been echoed by Pope John Paul II in many of his teachings.

**How the Program Works**

Each week at Saturday/Sunday Mass the priest will call a family, individual, or couple forward to receive the Elijah Cup. They receive a blessing and take the cup home, putting it in a place of honor.

Each day for a week, during prayer time (morning, bedtime or at meals), they pray for an increase and perseverance of vocations. The following Sunday they give the cup to the person.

A prayer journal also travels with the Elijah Cup. Each week the family, individual, or couple that has the cup enters a thought, prayer, or scripture verse. Over time, this diary becomes a spiritual journal for the parish.

Praying for vocations is the most powerful way to support vocations. A vocation is a call from the Holy Spirit, a gift from God that is nurtured in prayer. When we pray for vocations, we lift up to our Father those men and women who he is calling in a very special way. We hope that those who bring the cup home will continue to pray for vocations daily.

**Interested in participating?** Fill out the bottom portion and place it in the collection basket

**THE ELIJAH CUP PROGRAM**



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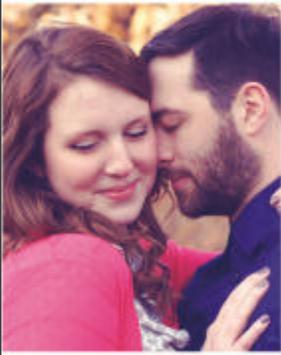
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