



OCTOBER 30, 2022

13720 West Thomas Road

Avondale, AZ 85392

Ph: (623) 935-2151

Fax: (623) 935-5044

www.stacc.net



31st Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. - Lk 19:5-6

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MASS TIMES

Mon-Sat: 8:00am

Sat (Vigil): 5:00pm

Sun: 7:00am, 9:00am,
10:45am, 12:30pm

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 8:30am

Wed: 5:00pm to 6:45pm

ADORATION

Tues: 1:00pm to 7:00pm

Wed: 1:00pm to 7:00pm

Thurs: 1:00pm to 7:00pm

Fri: 9:00am to 1:00pm



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF PHOENIX

LETTER FROM FR. MUIR

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Dear Friends of St Thomas Aquinas,

As promised, this week I'd like to REVEAL A NEW PARISH PROJECT. This is the "cherry on top" of our Thomas Together Campaign, which has deepened our parish connectivity and engagement. Now it's time to get to work as a community!

The Eucharist is the "source and summit of Christian life," as the Second Vatican Council reminded us. It's the Beating Heart of our community, bringing Jesus' life into his Body every day and night. It is what energizes all our works of love and service to each other.

So I propose this November we raise the funds to build a new, permanent chapel to help us deepen our love for the Eucharist. It will be to the right of the vestibule and hold about one hundred people. I want it to be warm, intimate, and beautiful—a place you can come whenever you want to, alone or with friends and family. We will use it for small Masses, lots of Eucharistic adoration, prayer groups, quiet visits throughout the day or night, and more.

Of course, we'll want it to be a good architectural fit on our southwestern mission style campus. I think it'd be amazing for it to have a similar feel to both our original mission church in Litchfield Park, while paying homage great chapels of the southwest, especially in Santa Fe and California. It'll be as beautiful as we are generous! So please prayerfully consider making a gift to make this chapel a reality. This week, I will personally make the first donation. Then, I hope you'll join me in this wonderful project...and we'll have it done in a matter of months.

There are a few ways to participate in this quick but exciting campaign:

Make a one-time gift through our new PushPay online giving platform, through the website or parish app. Set up a recurring gift through PushPay—many folks are shifting over their diocesan campaign gift to this one. A great idea!

Make a one time gift through the envelopes I'll mail you in a week or two, or use an envelope from the doors of the church.

Stop by the parish office to ask for help to make a donation.

Here's a bonus aspect of this project that is really neat. If we can raise the funds, I'm working on plans to upgrade the altar "reredos" and tabernacle (altar backdrop with the crucifix) and integrate the tabernacle into it. Fr Kieran, my predecessor, used to tell me his dream was to make this key part of the church even more beautiful than it is, but he lacked the funds back in 2003. He wanted the reredos to look like a radiant "doorway to heaven." Let's make that dream a reality!

For more details on the project, please go to www.stacc.net/autumncampaign

So please pray this week for the Holy Spirit to inspire us all in this project. I hope every single person—rich and poor, old and young—can make some small sacrificial gift to honor our Eucharistic Lord, to help us love him more than ever. Our official "donation phase" will be November 6 through November 20. Let's do it!

**Sincerely,
Fr John Muir**





Readings for the week of October 30, 2022

Sunday: Wis 11:22—12:2/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13, 14/2 Thes 1:11—2:2/Lk 19:1-10
Monday: Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
Wednesday: Wis 4:7-14/Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21/Rom 5:17-21/Mt 11:25-30
Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 15:1-10
Friday: Phil 3:17—4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a and 9/Lk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15 [15b]/2 Thes 2:16—3:5/ Lk 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

07:00am Hong Family - Blessings
 09:00am Mike Federico †
 10:45am Intentions of the Parish
 12:30pm Carole Webber †

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

08:00am Michelle Garcia Blas †

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

08:00am M&M Tru Tran †

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

08:00am Alex Marthaler †

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

08:00am Vincent Lombardo †

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

08:00am Deanna Engelbert †

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

08:00am Ginny Suleski †
 05:00pm John Tuzzolino †

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

07:00am Inez Montoya †
 09:00am Grace Valencia †
 10:45am Intentions of the Parish
 12:30pm Zach Hemmila †



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ALL SAINTS (NOV. 1) & ALL SOULS (NOV. 2)

4

*HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



Solemnity of All Saints

NOVEMBER 1ST

6:30AM (MASS)
8:00AM (DAILY MASS)
7:00PM (MASS)

All Souls Day

PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

NOVEMBER 2ND
8AM (DAILY MASS)
7PM (REQUIEM MASS)




St Thomas Aquinas
All Saints Day
<https://ppay.co/mSDBb6AEqE>

Please prayerfully consider contributing to the Solemnity of All Saints and All Souls Day. Thank you for your generosity!



St Thomas Aquinas
All Souls Day Remembrance
<https://ppay.co/X5M3RDn8vmg>

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Last Sale Week!

Eddie Zuleger
18th Annual Veterans and Service Personnel
Appreciation Dinner and Program



Sponsored by Father Joseph T. O'Callahan
 Assembly 2669, Knights of Columbus.

When: Saturday, November 5, 2022

Where: St. Clare Hall, St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Time: Hospitality – 5:30 PM, Program Promptly begins
 at 18:00 hours (6:00pm).

Costs: \$25.00 a ticket (no tickets will be sold at the
 door)

Attire: Formal (Tux) or Business Suit Attire

~~~~~

Tickets will be sold after Masses or

Contact: Frank Torres 623-872-8856 or e-mail  
 sirknight13024@aol.com

( Don't delay - Dinner Program is usually a Sell-Out!)

**PARISH STAFF**

**CLERGY**

- FR. John Muir, **Pastor**
- FR. Chris Gossen
- FR. Estevan Wetzel
- DCN. Ken Porter
- DCN. Jason Robinson
- DCN. Edgar Carnercer
- DCN. Ken Wedge
- DCN. Chuck Shaw

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Parish Manager
- MaryLina Luna** x214  
Assistant to the Parish Manager
- Daniel Saucedo** x212  
Director of Sacred Liturgy
- Andrew Starbuck** x206  
Facilitator of Faith Formation
- Basilio Salinas** x206  
Faith Formation Assistant
- Stephanie Chorkavy** x243  
The DOC Manager
- Selina Nuñez** x274  
Coordinator of Communications
- Mayra Romero** x218  
Marriage Prep/Annulments
- Gina Kaiser** x210  
Infant Baptism
- Ronnie Buchino** x290  
Parish Assistant
- Karen McLaughlin** x217  
Administrative Assistant



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# ADDITIONAL MUSIC

6

## 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time / C

This week's readings can be found at - 1201  
The Order of Mass can be found on the Red Trimmed pages.

### Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people  
of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your  
great glory, Lord God,  
heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only  
Begotten Son, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, Son of the  
Father, you take away the  
sins of the world,  
have mercy on us; you take  
away the sins  
of the world, receive our  
prayer;  
you are seated at the right  
hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy  
One,  
you alone are the Lord, you  
alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the  
glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

### Gathering Hymn

#### COME TO THE RIVER

*SPRINKLING RITE*

Mass of Glory  
Bob Hurd

Refrain

Come, O come, come to the riv - er  
flow - ing from the bod - y of Christ.  
We'll go down, deep in the wa - ter,  
but in the Lord we shall a - rise.

Verses

1. Washed in wa - ters of re-birth,  
2. Priest - ly peo - ple are \_\_\_ we,  
3. Blest are those \_\_\_ who \_\_\_ thirst  
4. Let us walk \_\_\_ in the light  
5. Those who sow \_\_\_ in \_\_\_ tears

to Refrain

1. we have put on Christ Je - sus.  
2. sealed and sent by the Spir - it.  
3. for the reign of God's jus - tice.  
4. of God's ho - ly prom - ise.  
5. reap the har - vest re - joic - ing.

## YOUR GRACE IS ENOUGH

Matt Maher

Verses

1. Great is your faith - ful-ness, O God;  
2. Great is your love and jus - tice, God of Ja-cob;

1. you wres-tle with the sin-ner's rest - less heart.  
2. you use the weak to lead the strong.

1. You lead us by still wa - ters in - to mer - cy,  
2. You lead us in the song of your sal - va - tion,

1. and noth - ing can keep us a - part.  
2. and all your peo - ple sing a - long.

1, 2. So re-mem-ber your peo-ple, re-mem-ber your chil-dren,  
1, 2. re - mem - ber your prom - ise, O God.

Refrain

Your grace is e-nough, your grace is e-nough, your  
grace is e - nough for me.

### Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the Highest

### Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us (x2).

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

### Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this bread and we drink this cup, we proclaim your death,  
O Lord, until you come again.

OR

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

### Spiritual Communion

For those unable to receive Holy 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.



# FAITH FORMATION

8



Praise God for a wonderful weekend retreat and the 65 high-schoolers that came to experience the Lord in a new way through the witness of St. Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles.


The Holy Spirit showed up in a big way to enkindle and enflame the love of God in their hearts.

We will have a video montage to show by next week!



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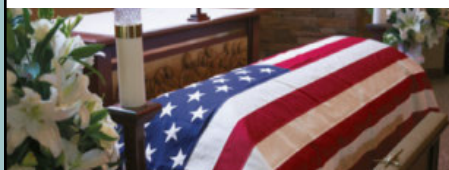
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**October 30, 2022**  
**31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**





Barry had a life sentence in prison for doing unthinkable crimes. He would often remark to the chaplain that he was an atheist and could not bring himself to believe in any "god." When the chaplain asked why, Barry quickly retorted that the book of Genesis speaks of God creating everything and feeling very good about it. God's creation of people and things is beautiful. Barry continued, "If there is a God who creates something and likes what He makes and that God is good, then how could He have created someone as evil as me?" The chaplain fell silent as tears welled up in his eyes. "God loves you too, Barry. The stuff that you did is another matter. God puts His image and likeness in each one of us, in our souls. How can God not love himself?" God cannot despise or hate anything or anyone. He made you. Life hurt you. He is always about unconditional love and mercy. Barry found a glimmer of hope that day and was touched by love.

Zacchaeus met love incarnate in Jesus. He knew there was something special about him, and he had to see Jesus for himself. Realizing and knowing God's unconditional, penetrating love is a game-changer. Sinners don't repulse Jesus, he wants to eat with them! We can often find ourselves conflicted about how God sees us. We want to believe that He loves us, but other tapes playing in our heads convince us that this cannot be true. We carry our sins around like heavy sacks weighing on our shoulders. We are crippled.

God's divine blessing lives in each of our souls. It is our essential goodness, a free gift given to us by God. The beginnings of salvation's blessings are discovered when we begin to understand who God is, who we are, and how we are to act relative to our brothers and sisters. We become more focused and courageous, eager to gather up all of the fragments of our lives and become whole. Zacchaeus, after meeting Jesus, finally knew who he was. He saw his sins and his potential for goodness as a blest child of God. When we allow God to meet us and touch us in such a profound way, we find what our selfishness has lost. We are on the road to salvation.



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| <p><b>Nancy O'Connell</b><br/>         Owner, Parishioner<br/> <b>623-258-3633</b><br/>         Goodyear, Arizona<br/>         naoconnell@msn.com<br/>         LIC.# ROC325486<br/>         nancyannswindowcoverings.com</p> |  <p><b>Susan Care Home, LLC.</b><br/>         A Place Called Home</p> <p>Specializing in Assisted Living, Memory Care, Rehabilitation Care, Daily Activity Assistance<br/>         15842 W. Mercer Land • Surprise, Az 85379<br/>         602-909-3176 www.susancarehome.com</p> |                                                                                     |  <p><b>Drip In Turf</b><br/>         Christmas Lighting</p> <p>Residential Landscape Lighting<br/>         Commercial Landscape Maintenance<br/>         623.242.2153   wvoutsidelights@gmail.com<br/>         Holiday Lighting   dripinturf.com</p> |



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## GIRD THY LOINS

Written by: Joshua Collins

It's just about Halloween, and Christians around the world should be teeming with excitement to celebrate a beautiful tide of holy days. Unfortunately, that is not the case. Some Christians cower in fear of this holiday, or bunker down with lights off so as to not seem like they are taking part in "spooky season" festivities. Others celebrate the day, but are completely ignorant of its Christian roots. Halloween, unbeknownst to many American Christians, Catholic and Protestant alike, is indeed a Christian holiday and should be celebrated as such. Since Halloween's origins are in the Catholic Church, Catholics should lead the charge in taking it back from the secular and pagan cultures that claim to own this day. Halloween is the Eve of All Saints day, preparing Catholics for the Triduum of Hallowtide. Hallowtide is a three day observance that honors the entire Church - The Church Militant, Suffering, and Triumphant. Starting with "All Hallows Eve" on the evening of October 31st, then All Hallows (Saints) day on November 1st, and finally All Souls day on Nov 2nd. "Hallow" is an old English word for holy (like we say in the Our Father). In the British Isles, English speakers commonly pronounced "All Hallows Eve," as Hallow E'ven or E'en (evening) eventually formulating the slang word "Halloween". When English, Scottish, Irish, and French immigrants started to colonize parts of North America, they brought many old Catholic Halloween festivities with them. However, as tensions grew between Catholics and Protestants, many Protestants seeking their own religious expressions, started to disassociate Christianity with anything remotely Catholic, especially its holidays like Halloween (we see a similar dichotomy with many old English Christmas celebrations as well). Halloween traditions such as trick or treating, carving pumpkins and dressing up in costumes actually come from Old World Catholic-Christian traditions. Sadly, anti-catholic rhetoric claimed that these traditions stemmed from Old World Paganism instead. Fast forward hundreds of years, and now Halloween traditions aren't even recognized as having anything to do with religion, let alone Christianity.

Another common accusation of Halloween's pagan origins is that of the Celtic festival, Samhain (pronounced sau-wihn). This attribution is historically inaccurate as there is virtually no actual historic evidence of Samhain traditions leading to Halloween traditions. 20th century Neo-pagan groups such as Wicca, also try to claim Halloween as their ancient holiday, but in historic reality, it is not. Some protestant groups even accuse Catholics of merging Samhain with All Saints Day. This is vaguely true, but not in a negative sense. All Souls Day was first celebrated in Rome in the 600s when Pope Boniface IV consecrated/converted the Pantheon in Rome to become a Christian Church dedicated to all the Saints and Martyrs, celebrating All Saints on May 13th. Then in the 800s Pope Gregory III moved it to November 1st (possibly to replace any remnants of druidic culture and Samhain in Ireland - yet Ireland was already Christianized for almost 400 years by then). His successor Gregory IV then officially made the holiday universal throughout the Catholic Church. All in all, besides being instituted on the same day, no substantial historic connection to Samhain or other pagan festivals exist.

This Halloween, research some Catholic Hallowtide festivities, and start some new (and old) traditions to celebrate these solemn feast days, where we honor the heroes in heaven, our faithful departed, and reflect on our own coming death - and the hope that we have for eternal life in Christ Jesus.

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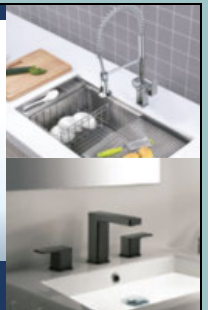
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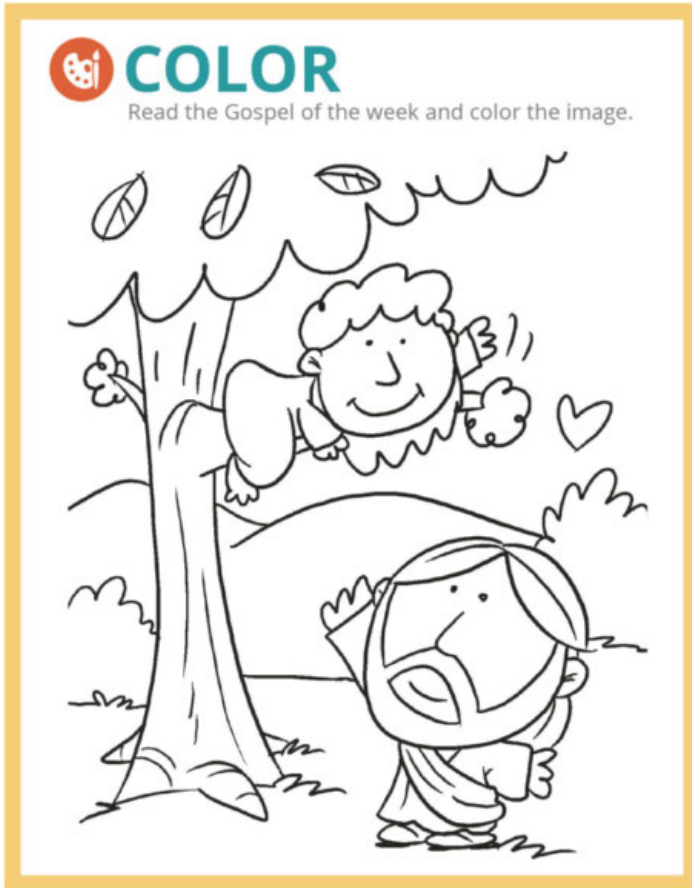
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### Prayer

Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Please forgive me.


### Something to Draw

Draw yourself in a tree and Jesus telling you to come down.

### Mission for the Week

I will take time to play with my brothers and sisters.

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