

**Pastoral Staff**

**Pastor**

Fr. Vince Mesi, O.F.M.

**Associate Pastor**

Fr. Alonso de Blas, O.F.M.

**Parish Manager**

Jerome Doris

**Christian Formation Director**

Sr. Anthony Poerio, I.B.V.M

**Music Director**

Gordon Stevenson

**Administrative Assistant**

Camela Barraza

**Liturgy Schedule**

Sunday Vigil 5:00 p.m. Saturday  
Sunday 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Weekday's 12:00 p.m.  
Holydays Noon and 5:15 p.m.

Civic Holidays  
7:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Holy Hour, Thursday  
11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

**St. Mary's Basilica**  
231 North Third Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85006

**Phone**  
602.354.2100

**Fax**  
602.354.2060

**Website**  
Stmarysbasilica.org

**Parish Center Hours**  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Second Sunday of Lent

March 4, 2007

# St. Mary's Basilica

A Catholic Faith Community

Franciscan Friars



## Parish Mission Statement

As Children of a loving Creator, baptized into Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, St. Mary's Faith Community believes in the power of the Sacred Liturgy which challenges us to faithfully live out Gospel values of peace and justice.

Following the example of Mary's openness to God's call and in the Spirit of St. Francis of Assisi we minister with courtesy and compassion to all people, especially the poor and marginalized.

Reflecting God's all-inclusive love, we commit ourselves to welcome and affirm the whole diversity of God's people.

Our commitment includes educating and forming ourselves into a community that joyfully celebrates our oneness in Christ.

Acknowledging that all gifts come from our Creator, we seek to become good stewards of all God's gifts.

## ***Second Sunday of Lent***

Dear Parishioners,

At the 9:00 a.m. Mass, today, we will focus on a special ritual for this period of purification and enlightenment in the RCIA journey of the Candidates. This Penitential Rite or scrutiny is celebrated world-wide on this second Sunday of Lent. The Candidates are those who are already baptized, and are preparing for completing the Sacraments of Initiation as well as the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. In reality it is a wake up call for all of us as we journey through this sacred time of Lent acknowledging our sinfulness and weakness, and trusting in God's mercy. As we see these living symbols of our Candidates accepting this call to conversion and being prayed over, we are made aware of God's tremendous compassion and merciful forgiveness of our sins and faults. Let us all join in prayer for our Candidates as they seek the presence of Christ in their lives.

May God continue to bless you in this Sacred Season of Lent!

*Sr. Anthony*

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters!

On this Second Sunday of Lent, we hear once again the story of Christ's transfiguration on the mountain, where he went with Peter, John and James to pray. The gospel tells us that as he was praying, his face changed in appearance and his clothes became a dazzling white. The disciples, awaking from sleep, see Jesus in this state of glory, speaking to Moses and Elijah. (Guys! How could you be sleeping at a time like this?) Later, the gospels tell us, a cloud comes along and casts a shadow over them, and they are frightened; a voice comes from the cloud, saying, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him."

I don't know about you, but if a cloud speaks to me, you better believe I'll be paying attention.

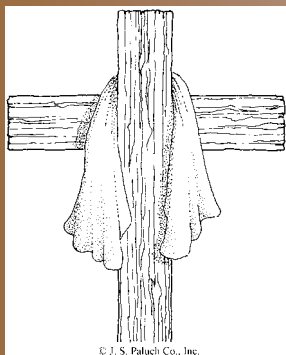
But suppose, instead of the voice of God coming from a cloud, the voice of God is coming to us through God's servants, our lectors and presiders? And suppose, like the disciples, I've gotten a little drowsy in the pew and my eyelids are at half-mast? Worse yet, suppose I'm not really listening but instead am mentally reviewing my to-do list for the week? How can I really hear and be ready to experience the truth and grace that is the gift of Jesus Christ?

My friends, we are the sleepy disciples. Some days we do better than others. Most days, we fall short of the potential inside each and every one of us to know the grace that is God. The amazing thing is that we are loved and forgiven our foolishness, our distractedness, our napping at the most inopportune times. Every day we are given another free pass, a chance to wake up, to pay attention, to open our hearts and minds to the radiant glory, the exquisite grace and beauty of love personified, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. If we will just be truly present for Christ, the love of our heavenly Father will surely shine in each of our lives, transfiguring our world in ways yet unseen.

Your sister in Christ,  
Lydia Cypher ~ St. Mary's Pastoral Council

**March 4, 2007**

**Lenten Devotions At St. Mary's Basilica**



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**Weekdays of Lent**

Noon Mass

**Tuesdays of Lent**

Taize Prayer Around the  
Cross

6:30 p.m. in the Basilica

**Wednesdays of Lent**

“The Spirit of Vatican II” Soup and Study Sessions  
6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall

**Thursdays of Lent**

Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the Basilica

**Fridays of Lent**

Stations of the Cross  
5:15 p.m. in the Basilica

**HOW DO WE GO FROM A “DEAF LIFE” TO A “LISTENING LIFE”?**

**Second Sunday of Lent**

As we continue our journey of Lent, we sometimes begin with great fervor after we receive our ashes. It is already the second Sunday of this sacred season and that powerful symbol on our forehead becomes a faded reality and because of life's “busyness” that fervor begins to wane a little. We are reminded in today's gospel that listening is creating the space in which you can hear the voice that says, “You are my beloved son, or daughter and all of mine is yours.” If you are anxious and nervous or tense and upset, you don't listen because you are so anxious that you don't have space to listen and you can't let the voice of God come in.

During the Middle Ages, Lent was becoming more a time for private and inward devotion, rather than a focus on the community's need for communal conversion. Today, as we travel this journey with the Catechumens and Candidates, we should be aware that Lent is a time not only for their conversion, but if we truly listen, that we are all called to continuing conversion. On going conversion is the way that we grow in the Christ-life.

How do I listen? Lent is a time of spring-cleaning not only in our homes and closets, but in our hearts. Spring-cleaning is how we make room for the new life and light of springtime. Can we do the same to make room for Jesus to enter in and clean our spirit of confusion and apathy? We have all had our spirits broken or crushed at some time. Lent gives us opportunities for expressing forgiveness, comfort, and getting rid of those obstacles that may have caused hurt, disappointment or bitterness and need healing. Lent is a time of reconciliation . A serious and careful use of the sacrament of reconciliation should be an important part of our Lenten practices. Today, the penitential and ascetical practices of Lent are often limited to avoiding certain evil habits such as swearing, impatience, or giving up foods, beverages, movies, etc. While these are worthy practices, they can obscure some of the deeper challenges of Lent, especially in terms of healing relationships. Do I sometime listen to this call to conversion with a deaf ear rather than respond with my listening ear so that healing can take place?

Lent is a test. We must choose. The Christian journey always requires a choice. We must choose between the cross and the world. Our journey is a story of joy, struggle, victory, defeat, grace and sin. That is part of being a community. Where is this journey going to lead us? The only road to our final goal is making the right choices that lead us in the direction of Jesus Christ. There will be sacrifices along the way...because that road is a road to the cross. When we do what the gospel demands, and are truly listening to the voice of God, we may hear about the needs of the world, whether our response is popular or not. It's not telling us just to do what is comfortable for us but rather professing a gospel of following the journey of the cross. Are we listening?

***“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shal I fear?”***



**St. Mary's Basilica  
Annual St. Patrick's Day  
Dinner Extravaganza**

**TICKETS ARE SELLING FAST**

March 10, 2007

6:00 pm

In the Social Hall

Music by the Irish Folk Band  
Oceans Apart

&

A special engagement performance  
by the  
McTeggart Irish Dancers of Phoenix

**Cost is only \$20.00 per person**

**All Proceeds will go to the  
St. Vincent de Paul Society**



Don't miss this wonderful evening  
full of Fun, Friends, food and  
entertainment!

**Pilgrimage to  
Italia!**

Fr. Vince  
Will lead a

Joy filled Pilgrimage to Italy And Sicily!!!

Papal Audience / Mass at Tomb of St. Francis

**September 7th –26th, 2007**

\$4500.00 (Double Occupancy)

There are still some spaces left for  
any one wishing to go on this  
spiritual journey !

For more information, please call  
Fr. Vince Mesi, O.F.M.  
602.354.2072  
vmesi@yahoo.com



**A New Parish Pictorial Directory**



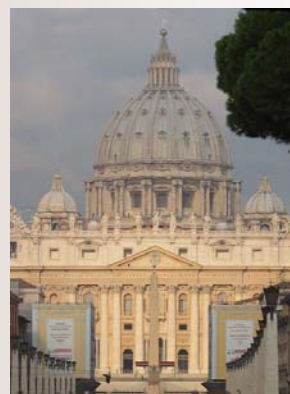
It's that time again!

With all of our new parishioners, why wouldn't we  
do an updated Parish Pictorial Directory?

We are still making appointments after each Mass  
**TODAY** if you would like to have your picture  
taken for the Pictorial Directory.

Remember, this is our parish family album. Without  
you it will be incomplete!

**The Spirit of Vatican II  
Soup & Study**



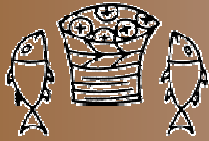
**All are welcome to join this educational/  
spiritual opportunity to “enrich your Lent!”**

**“Soup and Study” *The Spirit of Vatican II***  
**Wednesday evenings,**  
**March 7, 14, 21 and 28th.**  
**6:00 p.m. Soup / 6:30 p.m. Study**  
**in the Social Hall**

Given by Fr. Vince and Sr. Anthony  
Please call Sr. Anthony at 602-354-2068 for  
more information.

**“Our citizenship is in heaven.”**

**STEWARDSHIP**



**Weekly Offering**

February 25 , 2007

was \$7,816.30

Thank you!

“In the Name and Spirit of Jesus, we commit ourselves to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us, to share our time, our talent, our material gifts as an outward sign of the Treasure we hold in Jesus.” Amen.

(Stewardship Prayer)

**Ministry of Care**

**We need your help!**

Hospitalized members of our Catholic community need your assistance. These people need to maintain their connection to the parish and they need spiritual nourishment through prayer and the Eucharist. We could use your help. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Minister of Care please visit the Ministry of Care table in the Social Hall today following the 9 and 11:00 am Masses. If you are unable to attend, please call Dick and Sherrie Grant at 602-395-9699 or 602-354-2266.

You can also contact us by email at [pastoralcare@stmarysbasilica.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stmarysbasilica.org).



**Come, Celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph**

**March 19, 2007**

**Solemn Mass at 5:15 p.m.**

**Festive Italian Dinner and St. Joseph's Table**

Joseph was a wise man and a carpenter. He was chosen by God to be the spouse of Mary and he was devout. In Matthew's Gospel when an angel tells him in a dream about the child, he immediately does "as the angel of the Lord had commanded him." Workers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century felt especially drawn to St. Joseph. His steadfastness, simplicity and understanding of the great mystery of Jesus' birth make him an example to all of us. St. Joseph is the patron of the universal Church and he is the patron of Italy. Everyone is invited to celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph with a beautiful Mass at 5:15 p.m. followed by a lovely Italian dinner. We will also have the traditional "St. Joseph's Table" filled with lots of home baked goodies for sale! All the proceeds from the St. Joseph's table will be donated to the St. Mary's Organ Fund. St. Joseph, pray for us!

**St. Mary's Basilica Pastoral Council Discernment**

The following Brothers and Sisters were recommended by St. Mary's Parishioners:

Michael Arvizu	Dora Balderas	Francisco Barraza	Sylvia Bassford	Kathleen Bau
Bruce Berens	James Boozer	Nancy Brady	William Bruyey	Otis Burnett
Jeff Campbell	Mary Christmas	Delores Cooney	ChrisCoover	John Cortez
Jim Ehman	Richard Fox	Theresa Garcia	Norma Gonzales	Richard & Sherri Grant
Gloria Hernandez	Leon Humble	John & Kay Jakob	Richard & Jane Juarez	Dan Kerestes
Michael Little	Art Luera	Dave Madole	Paige Maki	Roberta Martinez
Martha Medina	Bill Neu	Cosmos & Tammy Ogini	Dave & Lorena Orahood	David Parrack
Tracy Pecora	Joe & Maria Perez	Renee Poston	George Rachford	Linda Raimundo
Eileen Ripsin	Cathy Robbins	Brian Robichaux	Susan Sanders	Helen Santana
Paula Schmieder	Rachel Sanchez	Jo Spencer	Mary Stech	Ellen Sweeney
Bill Zanelli	Pete Zapeda	Dana & Collette Kolasinski		

In order to be considered for the Council, all of these parishioners must attend a special Pastoral Council Workshop on Thursday, March 8th at 6:30 pm in the Social Hall.

God's Blessings upon all of you! *Fr. Vince*

## St. Mary's Basilica

### What's Happening At St. Mary's

#### **Monday, March 5th**

3rd Sunday of Lent Lector's Practice	6:30 pm	Basilica
Count Team	6:30 pm	Parish Center

#### **Tuesday, March 6th**

Taize Prayer	6:30 pm	Basilica
Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Parish Center

#### **Wednesday, March 7th**

Vatican II Soup & Study	6:00 p.m.	Social Hall
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#### **Thursday, March 8th**

Holy Hour	11:00 am & 5:00 p.m.	Basilica
Pastoral Council Workshop	6:30 pm	Social Hall
Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Choir Loft

#### **Friday, March 9th**

Stations of the Cross	5:15 pm	Basilica
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#### **Saturday, March 10th**

St. Patrick's Dinner Extravaganza	6:00 pm	Social Hall
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#### **Monday, March 12th**

Olan Mills Parish Directory Pictures	3:00 pm	Parish Center
Adult/Teen Confirmation Class	6:30 pm	Social Hall
4th Sunday of Lent Lector's Practice	6:30 pm	Basilica
Count Team	6:30 pm	Parish Center

#### **Tuesday, March 13th**

Olan Mills Parish Directory Pictures	3:00 pm	Parish Center
Taize Prayer	6:30 pm	Basilica
Choir Practice	6:30 pm	Social Hall

#### **Wednesday, March 14th**

Olan Mills Parish Directory Pictures	3:00 pm	Parish Center
Vatican II Soup & Study	6:00 p.m.	Social Hall

#### **Thursday, March 15th**

Holy Hour	11:00 am & 5:00 p.m.	Basilica
Olan Mills Parish Directory Pictures	3:00 pm	Parish Center
Choir Practice	7:00 pm	Choir Loft

#### **Friday, March 16th**

Stations of the Cross	5:15 pm	Basilica
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#### **Monday, March 19th**

Solemnity of St. Joseph	5:15 pm	Basilica
Feast of St. Joseph Italian Dinner	6:00 pm	Social Hall

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10  
Lk 6:36-38

**Tuesday:** Is 1:10, 16-20  
Mt 23:1-12

**Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20  
Mt 20:17-28

**Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10  
Lk 16:19-31

**Friday:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a  
Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

**Saturday:** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20  
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

### Readings for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

**First Reading** — "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have come to rescue them" (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15) or *Exodus 17:3-7*.

**Psalms** — The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103) or *Psalm 95*.

**Second Reading** — Those who think they are standing secure should take care not to fall (1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12) or *Romans 5:1-2, 5-8*.

**Gospel** — I shall cultivate the ground around the fig tree and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future (Luke 13:1-9) or *John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]*.

### Mass Intentions

#### **Saturday 5:00 p.m.**

The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament

#### **Sunday 9:00 a.m.**

People of St. Mary's

#### **Sunday 11:00 a.m.**

John Peters

#### **Monday 12:05 p.m.**

Br. Nevin Janicki

#### **Tuesday 12:05 p.m.**

Lee Pitcher

#### **Wednesday 12:05 p.m.**

Bill Riken

#### **Thursday 12:05 p.m.**

Ray Roman

#### **Friday 12:05 p.m.**

Mason Bly

**Interested in joining the Count Team?  
Please call Jerome Doris at 602-354-2069**

### Sanctuary Candles In memory of

The Willhite  
&  
Lunenschloss Families

