

*THIS IS MY
BELOVED SON*

with Whom I am well pleased

MATTHEW 17:5



OUR LADY OF
LOURDES

PARISH & MISSION AT LAKE PLEASANT PKWY

March 5, 2023

Connect With Us

Address

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Phone: (623) 546-2767

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/OurLadyofLourdesSCW

Flocknote: text ollscw to 84576 or go to ollscw.flocknote.com

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Secretary & Accounting Clerk

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Maintenance Worker

Tom Scott

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Office Hours:

Sunday: 8:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

Monday - Thursday: 8:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

Friday: 8:30a.m. - 12:00p.m.

For information about the Sacraments, including access to our 24-hour Anointing of the Sick and Funeral lines, please call the main office phone.

Clergy

Pastor

Fr. John Bonavitacola

frjohn@ololscw.org

Retired Priest

Fr. Bill Fournier

Deacon

Deacon Larry Grey

lgrey1@cox.net

Mass Times:

Daily (Monday - Saturday)	8:30a.m.
Saturday	4:00p.m.
Sunday	9:00a.m.
Sunday	11:00a.m.
<u>Vistancia Elementary School</u>	
30009 N. Sunrise Point, Peoria, AZ 85383	
Sunday	1:00p.m.

Confessions:

Saturday	9:30a.m.-10:30a.m.
Tuesday	10:00a.m.-11:00a.m.

Adoration:

Thursday	9:00a.m.-11:00a.m.
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Fr. John's Pasta Sauce

**Fr. John's pasta sauce is currently sold out!
Please keep checking back here to find out
when we are able to restock.**



Open Sundays after 9:00a.m. and 11:00a.m.
Mass. Bring a bulletin and join us for coffee,
donuts or fritters, and fellowship!

Time to Sort it Out

Dear Friends,

Any time we worship anything other than God we dance around the altars of Baal, a false god. The more we do, the more frantic we become and the more we begin to hurt ourselves. Sounds like addictive or compulsive behavior to me. That is exactly what happens when we substitute a material thing for God. We will dance around it more and more frenetically until we start to harm ourselves. Witness an addiction to a drug: the thing we convinced ourselves would help turn us around begins to harm us.

This First Sunday of Lent gave us the prescription for curing what ails us spiritually. When we worship God rightly, we find peace. Whenever we adore God, we are face to face with Him; whenever we adore anything less than God our soul disintegrates into a spiritual cacophony.

How often have you tried to substitute material things for spiritual but always came up unsatisfied, always wanting more and with a very restless heart? Those substitutions can take a lot of different and subtle forms. The four classical things that we substitute for God are usually wealth, power, pleasure, and honor. We make these and not God our ultimate concern. They become our center of gravity. And think how often we are prompted by the false prophets to seek these, just watch any marketing campaign, TV commercial: it all suggests that happiness is found in power or pleasure, wealth or honor or any combo of these four. When we pursue these, we are like the false prophets, worshipping around the altars of a false god.

And when we do get any of these, even just a little taste of say wealth we get a buzz but it eventually wears off, then you seek more, and that buzz lasts even less, and you frantically hop around the altar of a false god wanting it to produce that which it can't.

Likewise, pleasure is good but it is not God yet we hop around the altars of pleasure too. Power too, can be used for good purposes. But most people who get power don't know how to use it but once had it becomes addictive. Some finally make honor their god. But honor is for others not the self. And the gratification from being appreciated, recognized, affirmed is a short-lived buzz when we do get it.

Every one of these is an altar that I have danced around at times in my life. The false prophets, you know are very seductive and can convince you that this is the way to true happiness. Who doesn't want more prestige, it's a platform we tell ourselves to do great things, or having sufficient wealth and power can help me do even better things, for God of course! And then having done all the hard work we talk ourselves into pleasure as ever so rightly deserved.

What I have learned is that the only way to keep them at bay, to keep them from corrupting your soul and making you dance around their altars, is to like Jesus in the desert to simply rebuke them, call them out publicly for what they are: false gods that don't deserve our worship and only offer a cheap substitute for human happiness. That's why Jesus asks his disciples for absolute allegiance. Love him more than father, mother, sister, brother, anything. As the song says, you can have all this world but give me Jesus. If you put Jesus first then you will not be worshipping at any other altar. But failure to keep first things first can have lethal consequences.

We live in a culture where freedom and self-determination are the highest concerns. Jesus is telling us otherwise. True freedom, to really become who you are, is found by subverting your will to that of God's will. It is not what I desire that matters, not the course that I am plotting for myself but what God desires, what God's plan is for me. When we put God off to the side and go it alone, we find only the illusion of freedom. We too easily get the order wrong, me, my desire, my self-determination matter.

The Bible tends to scorn such behavior but praises those who listen to the Lord and allow God to define them and allow God's will to determine them and not their own will. No, the Scriptures tell us God first always and you will find freedom. Allegiance to Jesus or the false prophets? What's it to be? Lent is the season to sort it all out.

Love, Fr. John B.

Mass Intentions

March 5: The 2nd Sunday of Lent

9:00a.m.: Yvonne Marchi+

11:00a.m.: FullCircle Benefactors

1:00p.m.: Parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes

March 6

Ron & Anita Lindquist+

March 7

Stephen McClintock+

March 8

Don Giovannetti+

March 9

Living & Deceased Members of the DeGarmo Family

March 10

William "Bill" Fox+

March 11

8:30a.m.: Suffering Souls

4:00p.m.: Happy Birthday—James Avancena

March 12: The 3rd Sunday of Lent

9:00a.m.: Living & Deceased Family & Friends of Maryann Frison

11:00a.m.: Bill Allds+

1:00p.m.: Parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9

Monday

Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11 & 13; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday: Memorial of Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 & 23; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Saint John of God, Religious

Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Lk 16:19-31

Friday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Mt 21:33-43. 45-46

Saturday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

Help Wanted

Altar Servers

We are in great need of more altar servers to serve for daily, weekend, and funeral Masses.

Hands-on training will be provided! The current altar servers promise it's not too difficult or scary!

Contact:

Kaitlynn Eaton | 623-344-7292 | keaton@ololscw.org

INTO HIS LIKENESS

MARCH 2ND - APRIL 6TH
THURSDAYS 1PM - 3PM
IN MADONNA HALL



We are called to be disciples, to follow in Jesus' footsteps, to be changed and made new. If you have a longing to follow Jesus more closely and grow deeper in your relationship with Him, God has given you the heart of a disciple. **INTO HIS LIKENESS** aims to help you follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit so that you may more intentionally encounter Jesus anew each day. Come be His disciple.

VIDEO SERIES | BOOK STUDY
SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

TO RESERVE YOUR BOOK:
(623) 546-2767



Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Court Our Lady of Lourdes #2278
invite you to a one day

Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 11, 2023 | 8:30am - 1:30pm
at Our Lady of Lourdes, 19002 N 128th Ave, Sun City West, AZ

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly

Forgiveness and The Beatitudes
Speaker – Father Gary Norman



- 8:30am Holy Mass with Father Gary Norman
- 9:15am Continental Breakfast in Madonna Hall
- 10am in the Church
Retreat Topic: Forgiveness
- 11:15am Lunch in Madonna Hall
- 12:15pm in the Church
Retreat Topic: The Beatitudes
- 1:30pm Retreat Concludes

Registration is \$20.00 and will take place at Prince of Peace & Our Lady of Lourdes on the weekends of Feb 18-19 and March 4-5



Our Lady's Guild

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND HAPPY ST. JOSEPH'S DAY! The March 6th meeting will have a speaker first before the meeting: MaryRuth Hackett. Everyone is invited to hear her speak.

There will be nomination of Officers for the 2023-2024 year. There will also be a potluck luncheon after the General Meeting featuring both Italian and Irish food made by our Guild ladies. If you have not signed up to bring a dish, please bring something and just come.

Workshops are continuing every Wednesday in March, except for the third Wednesday. Please come and put your skills to work. All levels of skills are needed. If you think you have none, come and you will be taught.

Our selection for Feb/ March Book Club was "The Personal Librarian". It is a story of a black woman who was able to pass as white. She became a confidante and influential employee to J. P. Morgan in the 1920's. The discussion will be held on March 9th in the Fr. McGivney room.

For more information on Our Lady's Guild, please contact Lori Duryea at 623-243-6952



Every Friday at 4PM during Lent
Starting March 3rd

Our Lady of Lourdes - Madonna Hall

Visit: kofc11809.org/fishfrydays
For more information

BRING YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS & SHARE IN FELLOWSHIP



Knights of Council
Columbus 11809

Join Us

MaryRuth Hackett, PhD

Author Podcaster Speaker

Daughter by Design: Discover your identity as God's Beloved Daughter

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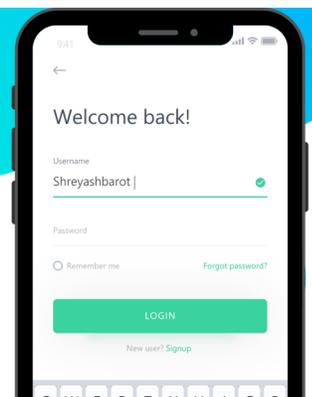
Our Lady's Guild Meeting

Monday
March 6, 2023

Download
Our App



www.ololscw.org



Your Sacrificial Giving - Totals for February 12

Plate Giving (cash & check)	\$14,913.10
Mission Giving:	\$1,963
Plate Giving (electronic)	\$4,222
Total Giving	\$21,098.10
Maintenance Fund	\$81.50
Respect Life Ministry	\$132.50
LP - Building Fund	\$195
St. Vincent de Paul	\$112
Easter	\$10
Gospel of Life	\$745
Eucharistic Miracles	\$949.50
Holy Thursday	\$20
Ash Wednesday	\$60
Christmas	\$100

More Opportunities for Prayer:

Miraculous Medal Novena: join us each Monday after daily Mass (excluding most holidays or whenever the office is closed) to pray to Our Lady. Prayers take approximately 15 minutes. Booklets with the prayers will be provided and collected following the Novena

Divine Mercy Devotion: a staple devotion in our parish for over 20 years, Divine Mercy meets each Thursday morning following daily Mass with a social following in Madonna Hall. Join us as we pray to obtain our Lord's mercy on us and on the whole world. Contact Fred Malcolm for more information at divinemercuryprayers7@gmail.com.



Sr. Betty Banja from Catholic Charities is from the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She has spent the last 20 years living in Northern Sudan advocating for persons affected by persecution and war. Her Christian message of love, peace, and reconciliation is both powerful and inspiring. Her mission has now brought her to Arizona, where she works for Catholic Charities Community Services. She will speaking to us after mass during this Lenten Season and we welcome you to join us on **March 4th & 5th**. Thank you.



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Dear Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners:
 Thank you for your generosity and kindness in participating in the Cradle Sunday to support mothers in crisis pregnancies. Each service and gift that Life Choices is able to provide to these new moms help them to see that they are loved and supported. In 2022, we served 6,922 clients and provided them with life-affirming medical services, pregnancy tests, ultrasounds and material aid & support. We could not provide this support without your help.

The end of Roe v. Wade was not the end of our work, but a tiny foothold that we plan to take full advantage of as we move forward to make abortion unthinkable. As a mother sees her child for the first time through the ultrasound picture, the love that starts with your gift can grow within her. With the help and hope she is offered, many women who were considering abortion may choose life instead.

Sheila Riely, Director of Life Choices Women's Clinic