

Reflections

My Brothers and Sisters,

I don't know of anyone who was not both shocked and saddened by the untimely death of Tim Russert the week before last. For me, this political commentator from NBC made politics (and all the intrigue associated with politics) clear, intelligible, and – dare I say – engaging. Mr. Russert gave what I considered a balanced and fair assessment of our country's political life and did so in an interesting and witty way. I'm sure the fact that he was of Irish Catholic extraction helped me to relate to his commentary. From all accounts, he was a good husband and father, a person of faith and a man of integrity. The fact that he was only a few years older than me – and ostensibly in good health when he dropped dead at work – was sobering to me. Yes, he was taking medicine for high blood pressure and elevated cholesterol... but, according to his physician, he was exercising and following the guidelines for managing these conditions. His sudden death was completely unexpected and left a void in the lives of those who knew him and worked with him.

My purpose today is not primarily to extol the virtues of Timothy Russert, or to write an obituary for him... but rather to reflect a bit on the effect of a sudden death in the lives of those around the person who died. Certainly for those who knew him personally, there is the numbness and grief of “not having the chance to say goodbye;” there is the emptiness of a loved one's absence. But for the rest of us who feel the unanticipated loss of a respected public figure – particularly one who is relatively young – the thoughts of our own mortality are inevitable.

Thinking of our own death is something that our society sees as almost taboo. If we contemplate our own mortality, we are thought to be “dark,” “morbid” or “melancholy.” But for the Christian, the fact of the matter is that an event such as Tim Russert's death (or the death of anyone we know) should cause us to reflect on the ultimate reality of life: that each of us is indeed going to die... and that there is something beyond this life we know here on earth. Recognizing this and embracing these facts should not lead us to be gloomy or morose, but rather should give us greater incentive for living life to its fullest. Understanding the reality that we are mortals invited to immortality ought to give our lives deeper meaning and passion... and even greater incentive to live as Christ taught us, by loving God and loving our neighbor as ourselves. In the wake of an unexpected death, each of us can ask ourselves the question “Am I living my life in a state of preparedness for that journey home to God?” Another way to put it would be “If I were to die without warning this afternoon, am I ready to meet the Lord?” I am not advocating that we should somehow “look forward to dying;” it would be strange if we wanted to leave our loved ones and not accomplish our goals here on earth. But what I am advocating is that each of us should be ready, living our lives of discipleship to the best of our abilities, for we “do not know the time or the hour.” God willing, when that time comes, we needn't be fearful... but rather we can know that God has prepared a place for us. A place of unfathomable joy in the presence of God and all who have gone before us... a place of refreshment, light and peace.

May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace!

With love and prayers,



Rev. Charles G. Kieffer, V.F.
Pastor

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Liturgy And Music Notes & Notices

Welcome And Thank You To New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Chris Coury, Gina Keating, Pat Koos, Sue Seminara and David Updike. Your gift of presence and your time is deeply appreciated, God bless you. Thank you also to Kay Lewis and Al Iannucci for sharing their time, expertise and insights in the training process.

If You Are Interested In Serving In A Liturgical Ministry here at St. Theresa Parish, including becoming a Lector, a Minister of Holy Communion, or an Altar Server, please contact Jim Sage, via email: jsage@diocesephoenix.org or by phone: 602-840-0850, ext. 121. Training sessions will be scheduled early in June, depending on interest. We are in need of volunteers for all of these Ministries, serving at all Masses. Please note that even if you have served in these ministries at other parishes, you are still asked to go through our orientation, make sure your *Called to Protect* obligation is current, and be certified with the Diocese of Phoenix through St. Theresa Parish.

Choirs Sing

**At The 9AM & 11AM and 6PM Masses Weekly
All Groups Are Looking For New Members**

Please consider joining this ministry which strives to call us to God and lead us in prayerful song. Rehearsal for 9AM & 11AM is held on Wednesdays at 6PM; the choir for 6PM Mass rehearses before the liturgy at 4:30PM on Sundays.

PARISH NEWS

St. Theresa Knights of Columbus Council 13497

St. Joseph's Youth Camp in Mormon Lake, AZ is now accepting summer camp registrations for children ages 8-14; round trip coach bus transportation provided from OLMC Parish in Tempe (new location); children spend a week in the cool pines having fun & getting an outdoor education! Book 1 of 5 sessions July 2008 now! Learn more & register on-line at www.sjycaz.com. If you would like to sponsor a child, contact Tom Hart/SJYC Camp Board Member @ 480-970-0428.

Upcoming Events — Mark Your Calendars!

July 3rd-6th Family Weekend ~ St. Joseph's Youth Camp; Knights to host a 4th of July Celebration ~ BBQ, Climbing Wall, Live Music! Current & New Knights of Of Columbus Members welcome to join us at the camp.

**Thanks to St. Theresa Parish Families...
we Exceeded our 2008 CDA Goal!!!**



Once again, the community of St. Theresa Parish families very generously shared their financial resources in support of those in less fortunate circumstances and enabled us to not only meet our 2008 Diocesan Charity and Development (CDA) goal of \$275,000, but to exceed it!

Thanks to your generosity the lives of many people in our Diocese will be helped with health care needs, education and other social services.

We also extend special thanks to our two dedicated parishioner volunteers who helped coordinate and run our 2008 parish CDA effort over the last several months --- Nancy Donaghy and Dottie Kida!

All Bulletin Articles Are Due Monday At 12NOON

If Monday is a holiday then all articles are due the Friday before at 12NOON. Articles will not be accepted after the deadline. For more information call Shannon Braccio in the Parish @ 602-840-0850.

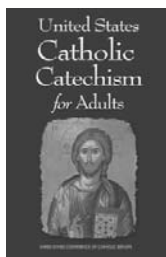


Got Paper? Paper recycling is now offered at St. Theresa... we have a large green and yellow Paper Retriever bin located at the southeast corner of the Msgr. McMahon Center. Proceeds of the recycling go to support Student Council-sponsored activities of St. Theresa Catholic School. Parishioners are encouraged to bring their newspapers when they come for Mass, and drop them off in the Paper Retriever bin. **Please: paper only... no cans, glass or trash.** Thanks for helping keep our community "green!"



Saint Vincent De Paul

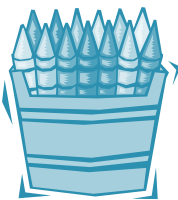
Our Fifth Sunday Collection will take place on the weekend of June 28th & 29th. Members of the Saint Vincent De Paul will be at the Church doors after all Masses to accept your donations. Your continued support makes it possible for us to continue our Ministry to assist the needy in our parish area.



The New United States Catholic Catechism For Adults (USCCA) Is Available For Purchase...

at a discounted price of \$22 in the Parish Office. This edition of the Catholic Catechism specifically addresses current US culture in light of Catholic church teaching.

Club Crayola... is a parent run co-op open to all children 1-4 years of age during the 9 & 11AM Sunday morning Masses. During the Summer, we will only be open during the 9AM Mass. If you are interested in using Club Crayola, please call Shannon Braccio in the Parish Office @ 602-840-0850 or stop by Club Crayola on Sunday to speak with Anne Aubuchon, Club Crayola Coordinator. All parents that use Club Crayola are required to take Called to Protect. If you completed Called to Protect in 2007 then you are required to take the 2008 annual training. Please contact Terez Barta @ 602-819-3016 for further information.



Work Has Begun In The Church...

replacing the carpet in the sanctuary (altar area) with a sealed travertine stone floor surface, through the generosity of a bequest left to St. Theresa for this purpose. For those of you who have visited the Convent Chapel, you have noticed that the recent renovation work there has included a “prototype” of this floor in the altar area of the chapel. It is both durable and beautiful, and we hope is the first phase of a project to replace all the church carpeting over the next few years. The floor of the church sanctuary will stretch from the baptistery to the choir area, and will include the steps. The stone color of the floor and the listelle (decorative border) will be very similar to that of the Convent chapel altar area. **During this time daily (Monday-Friday) Mass will be in the Convent Chapel. All Saturday and Sunday Masses will be in the Church.**

FOUND CAT... near 44th Street and Thomas Road. White with gray markings. Please call Karen @ 602-908-6582 for further information.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Alzheimer Support Group Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 24th in the Parish Office Conference Room from 4-5:30PM. Please come for answers and education so that you can deal with the changes that take place with a loved one who has dementia of any kind. For further information, please call 602-586-7429.



Pray For Those...
Who Are Sick: Rosemary Dlugosz & Clara Van DeBuzken
Who Have Died: Regina Godlew & Jo Murphy

PASTORAL CARE

St. Theresa Bridge Marathon... completed another fun year of bridge with the following winners:

- Men's Highest Score for the year - Conrad Nelke
 - Men's 2nd Highest Score for the year- Ed Klinger
 - Ladies Highest Score for the year- Jean Cardew
 - Ladies 2nd Highest Score for the year- Rosemary Klinger
 - Men's Highest Score for one night - Conrad Nelke
 - Men's 2nd Highest Score for one night - Ed Klinger
 - Ladies Highest Score for one night - Jean Cardew
 - Ladies 2nd Highest Score for one night - Atea Chaippori
- A donation of \$129.40 was made to the St. Theresa Pastoral Care Ministry. Anyone interested in playing during the 2008-09 season, please contact Conrad Nelke @ 480-656-1285. Everyone is welcome!

***Adoration In The Convent Chapel
Every Thursday From 9AM-9PM***

Adoration is prayer in the presence of Jesus. It celebrates Jesus, who is fully present in the Consecrated host at Mass and reserved in Tabernacles in Catholic churches and chapels. During Adoration, the Consecrated Host is reverently displayed on the altar in a receptacle called a monstrance. Can you spare 15 minutes, 30 minutes, or even an hour to pray with us? This time is for your own personal prayer and at the same time, you are adoring our Lord Jesus Christ by being in His presence.



**Evening Prayer For Our Service
Men And Women Every Thursday
In The Convent Chapel 6-7PM**

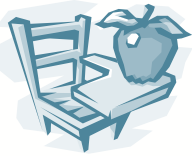
It is summer and it's hot! Sometimes it is difficult to take the time to drive to church and pray. However, the families of those who serve and protect us deeply appreciate your prayers. What a beautiful gift you give them by taking the time to be part of this special hour.

Grief Support Is Always Needed In the Fall we will start a new Grief Support Group. However, if you feel overwhelmed by the death of a loved one, please contact Bobbie Stich @ 602-586-7429 for an appointment.

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Going Into The Hospital? Please be certain to let the hospital know that you are Catholic and would like to receive Holy Communion. Also, please call our Pastoral Care Office @ 602-586-7429 to let us know that you are or going to be in the hospital. If you go into the hospital by emergency, it is vital to let us know so we can make certain that the parish responsible for that hospital meet your anointing and communion needs.

SCHOOL NEWS



Saint Theresa Catholic School Has Just A Few Openings Left In Grades K-6 For The 08/09 School Year

CTODP financial assistance is available, making Catholic education affordable for everyone, so don't miss this opportunity to give your children an education of a lifetime. For information please contact Tracey Michelle Theisen @ 602.840.0010 ext. 204 or ttheisen@diocesephoenix.org.

Help Wanted: Saint Theresa Catholic School is hiring part-time workers for our Extended Care Program from 3:00-6:00PM Monday through Friday from August 18, 2008 to the end of May, 2009. Work would entail the supervision of children from ages 3 to 14 (Grades Preschool through 8th). The hourly pay is based on experience. Employees must be high school graduates. Please come to the School or Parish Office to complete an application for these positions. Please call the School Office for further questions @ 602-840-0010.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Tax Credit For "C" Corporations Can Help Make Catholic Schools Affordable For Everyone Enacted in 2006, the AZ Corporate Tuition Tax Credit allows C-Corporations to claim an income tax credit for contributions made to organizations that provide educational scholarships to children of low to moderate income families, like the CTODP. Instead of sending taxes to the state, your business can provide lower income children the opportunity to attend a great Catholic school and receive a spiritually-rich, academically-sound education. Over the past 2 years, CTODP has raised nearly \$4.8 million dollars through this program and was able to send 749 children to Catholic school using corporate dollars this past school year. This year, an aggregate statewide cap of \$14.4 million dollars is available on a first-come, first-served basis, beginning July 1, 2008. This "tax re-direct" opportunity will not last long, so immediate action is required. Call 602-595-2349 or visit www.azcorporatescholarships.org for more information. *Take the credit.*

An Introduction/Overview Of Natural Family Planning... will be given at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church on Friday, July 18th @ 6:30PM. NFP is about effective and healthy family planning that respects Catholic teachings. Classes are open to married couples, couples preparing for marriage, and all who want to learn more about Catholic teaching about moral and married sexuality. Complete course of instruction to learn NFP methods are also offered. For complete class schedules see www.phxnfp.org. Pre-registration is required. Call 602-225-0636 for more information.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter "So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." Your spouse is worth so much to God. Are they worth taking a weekend away together to enrich your Sacrament? The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends are August 1st-3rd in Phoenix and September 26th-28th in Flagstaff. Call 602-246-6141 or email curtwessel@cox.net for further information.

Beginning Experience For Teens & Young Adults A program for teens and young adults whose parents are widowed, divorced or separated will be offered July 22nd-24th at Mt. Claret Retreat Center. Beginning Experience helps those who now live in single-parent or blended families sort out and work with feelings of loss and pain, while strengthening self-image and building hope and trust for the future. Cost is \$95 before July 5th; \$125 after that date. Space is limited. For more information, call Kathy Garast @ 480-483-3803.

Root Deeply in Your Faith! Kino Institute is the Diocesan institute for Theological Studies and Pastoral Ministry Formation. Kino offers a two-year process that includes 15 5-week undergraduate level courses in Roman Catholic theology, and 8 (4 per year) day long workshops in pastoral ministry applications. If you serve in the parish or if you would like to deepen your faith understanding in a profound way, contact Kino Institute @ 602-354-2300 or www.kinoinstitute.org.

The Most Rewarding Job You Will Ever Have Have you ever thought about where children go when they come into foster care, where they live, and who takes care of them? The answer - they live with families, *just like yours!* The children who need temporary families come in all ages, from 2 day old infants to 17 year old teens. They are of all ethnicities, and have varying degrees of special needs. Crisis Nursery is dedicated to breaking the cycle of child abuse and neglect. For the past 30 years we have provided temporary shelter for children, from infancy to age 10. For more information please contact Veronica Soto @ 602-358-5166.

LIFE TEEN PROGRAM

All High School Teens Welcome!



JUNE

22) Open LIFE Room

29) LIFE Night:

LIFE Teen Summer Issue Edition #1

Mass: Sundays @ 6PM

LIFE Teen: Sundays After Mass

Open Life Room:

Wednesday 5-7PM & Thursday 3-5PM

Basketball: Wednesday 5-7PM

Prayer Meeting: Wednesday 7-9PM

Adoration: Thursday 7-9PM in Convent Chapel

www.godtalk.org

Mass Intentions

(JUNE 23RD – JUNE 29TH)



MONDAY, JUNE 23RD

6:30AM +VERONICA & ED MUSIAL-FR. MATHEW

TUESDAY, JUNE 24TH

6:30AM +MRS. ANNA E. PEDROZA-FR. MATHEW

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25TH

6:30AM +WALTER GORCOWSKI-FR. MATHEW
CROSIER+GEORGE PENA

THURSDAY, JUNE 26TH

6:30AM +JEAN COLLINS-FR. CHUCK

FRIDAY, JUNE 27TH

6:30AM +GEORGIA BLAKE-FR. MATHEW

SATURDAY, JUNE 28TH

8:00AM +GEORGIA BLAKE-FR. MATHEW
5:00PM FOR THE PARISHIONERS-FR. CHUCK

SUNDAY, JUNE 29TH

7:30AM +MARY THEARLE-FR. CHUCK
9:00AM +JOHN AIELLO-FR. LOU BISHOP, SJ
11:00AM +ED FYLLING-FR. MATHEW
6:00PM +MARION FEDORA-FR. MATT LOWRY

Please Note:

The Priest scheduled to celebrate the Mass is subject to change.

The Week Ahead!



Sunday

1:00PM Baptisms (Church)
7:00PM LIFE Teen (LIFE Rm)

Monday

9:00AM Vacation Bible School (Feeney Hall)
6:30PM SVDP Meeting (Conference Rm)
7:00PM Boy Scout Mtg. (PJP Rm)

Tuesday

9:00AM Vacation Bible School (Feeney Hall)
4:00PM Alzheimer Support Group (Conference Rm)

Wednesday

9:00AM Vacation Bible School (Feeney Hall)
9:15AM Centering Prayer (Convent Chapel)
5:00PM Open LIFE Room (LIFE Rm)
6:00PM Choir Practice (Conference Rm)
6:30PM Rosary (Convent Chapel)
7:00PM LIFE Teen Prayer Meeting (LIFE Rm)

Thursday

9:00AM Adoration (Convent Chapel)
Vacation Bible School (Feeney Hall)
3:00PM Open LIFE Room (LIFE Rm)

Friday

9:00AM Vacation Bible School (Feeney Hall)

Saturday

8:30PM AlAnon (Classroom 16)
Alcoholics Anonymous (Classroom 17)

Readings Week of June 22, 2008

Sunday Jer 20:10-13; Ps 69; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33

Monday 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60; Mt 7:1-5 Vigil:
Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17

Tuesday Is 49:1-6; Ps 139; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

Wednesday 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3; Ps 119; Mt 7:15-20

Thursday 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Ps 79; Mt 7:21-29

Friday 2 Kgs 25:1-12; Ps 137; Mt 8:1-4

Saturday Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74; Mt 8:5-17 Vigil:
Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

Sunday Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19