

Reflections

My Brothers and Sisters,

When I was growing up, this weekend always represented “the last gasp of summer” – school would start just after Labor Day, just as swimming pools would close until the Memorial Day weekend. So the Labor Day weekend was always kind of a bittersweet time for this kid growing up “back East.” The concept of what Labor Day *really* was all about never entered my mind. I admit, mine was a shallow view of Labor Day.

Moving to Arizona and being ordained a priest caused a shift for me... first of all, Labor Day had (amazingly) nothing to do with the start of school... the school year was already a couple of weeks old! And let's not talk about closing swimming pools...

It was also enlightening to begin celebrating a special Mass each Labor Day: the *Mass for the Blessing of Human Labor*. The recommended Gospel for that Mass, Matthew 6:31-34, gives us some good words to ponder on this holiday weekend:

“So do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’ or ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear?’ All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom (of God) and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself.”

Interesting. On a holiday that celebrates human productivity, a holiday whose roots are in the labor union movement of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries... we hear a Gospel passage that takes our attention away from our own accomplishments, our own productivity and focuses us squarely on our need to trust in God to provide for our needs. Not once, but twice we are reminded “Do not worry.”

Does this mean that our Labor Day Gospel reading is encouraging us to give up on our jobs and just sit back, waiting for God to fill our mouths with food? Of course not! The dignity of human labor, of decent work, is something that the Gospel (and the Church) has always upheld. But perhaps this Gospel (and the fact that we celebrate labor by taking a day off work) helps us to remember that our work, our productivity, must never be our “god.” The Gospel reminds us to put God first – seek God's kingdom, God's way of life as a priority... and everything else will fall into place. Our profession, our career, our job is not the highest priority of our lives... our relationship with God is.

As we celebrate the blessing of human labor this weekend, let's remember to pray for those without work, that they may find meaningful employment. At the same time, perhaps we can pray that those of us who do work may always keep our labors in proper perspective. Work is a means to an end, not an end in itself. It's not something to be “worried about.” May we center ourselves on God's place, God's role in our lives... trusting that everything else can – and will – fall into place!

In Christ's peace,



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

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Liturgy And Music Notes & Notices

Attention All Liturgical Ministers, the new schedule for September & October was emailed this past week and copies are available in the Sacristy. Please review them very carefully, as they have been generated by a new computer program, and the format is different.

Choir rehearsal resumes its weekly schedule with Wednesday, September 3rd, still meeting in the Parish Conference Room.

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 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

SET Renewal If you are required to complete the SET Renewal for 2008 these group sessions are the only Renewal Sessions offered at St Theresa. Options for Renewal (group session or online) 2008/2009:

- Group sessions for Renewal "Internet Safety" Monday, September 8th @ 8:15AM or 6:30PM or Tuesday, September 9th @ 8:15am

Pre-Register at www.safeenvironmenttraining.org click "register for classes".

OR....

- Online Renewal www.safeenvironmenttraining.org Click "renewal" and follow the prompts.

Please check your status for compliance by going to: www.safeenvironmenttraining.org. Click "my obligation" and follow the prompts. Please correct any data that is wrong. You will be told what to take in order to be compliant for 2008/2009.

Interested In Advertising In The St. Theresa Parish Bulletin?

If you would like to place an ad in our Sunday bulletin or you would like further information, please contact Tony Crawford via his cell phone @ 1-214-502-2180. Tony can also be reached at Trinity's toll-free number @ 1-800-633-1122.



Helping Handbags Are Returning They will be available this weekend, August 30th & 31st after all Sunday Masses in the Church Ramada.

Got Paper? Paper recycling is now offered at St. Theresa. We have a green and yellow Paper Retriever bin located at the southeast corner of the McMahon Center Gym. Proceeds go to support Student Council-sponsored activities of St. Theresa School. **Paper only... Please no shredded paper, cans, glass or trash.** Thanks for helping keep our community "green!"



Families For Caring

As a natural outgrowth of our Christian faith and the desire to give back what we receive when we celebrate Eucharist together, Families for Caring will occasionally highlight different ways to be part of the Body of Christ in our community. For the month of August, think about watching the sales in anticipation of placing gifts under our parish Christmas Tree during Advent. Socks, underwear, T-shirts, shoes, school supplies, bedding, towels... whatever you might hide away for a family at Christmas. Christ be in our eyes and in our hearts.





**Interested In The Catholic Faith?
RCIA Inquiry Starts September 7th**
Have you attended Mass as a non-Catholic and sensed something that interests you? Perhaps you were never baptized, and are now thinking about becoming a Catholic? Or, were you raised Catholic but never received your sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation? If so, then the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) may be just the place for you. Please feel welcome to join us! RCIA Inquiry sessions begins Sunday, September 7th, at 10:30AM in the Upper Room. For more information, please contact Dee or John Campbell at the Parish Office, 602-840-0850.

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 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.



**Coming In Just 3 Weeks!!!
The Acclaimed Bible Study For Catholics
Featuring Jeff Cavins
Part One: *The Great Adventure*
A Journey Through The Bible**

The 24-week video series will show you how to read the Bible and lay out for you the narrative “story” of God’s plan for our salvation.

“I thought this Great Adventure Bible Class put the whole Story together for me in a way I had never heard before. I think this class is a must for anyone who wants to better understand their faith and get more meaning out of the Scripture Readings at Mass. The reward is certainly worth the effort.” -Al Frei.

The cost for materials is \$40, with Parish scholarships available. Tuesdays @ 8:15AM, 1PM & 7PM, from September 23rd-April21st.

**Part Two: *Adventures In Matthew*
The Kind And His Kingdom**

This series builds on The Great Adventure and shows how Jesus is the Son of David, the son of Abraham, the new Moses, the true Manna, the new Temple. The cost for materials is \$26, with Parish scholarships available. Wednesdays @ 7PM. To register for either of the above series please call the Parish Office @ 602-840-0850.

www.greatadventureonline.org



Pray For Those...
**Who Have Died: Pat Trillo
& Carmen Viviano**
Who Are Sick: Margaret Zigmicki

Engaging Spirituality Do you wonder how to react to the challenging news of today? Consider participating in the Engaging Spirituality program to explore the spirituality and reality of following Jesus in these challenging times. An essential informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9th @ 7PM in the Parish Office Conference Room. For more information please contact Marty Fischer @ 602-808-8634, marty-fischer@dataimages.com or Inge Casey @ 602-952-0562, ingegeneral@caseytrio.com.

PASTORAL CARE

Going Into The Hospital? Please be certain to let the hospital know that you are Catholic and would like to receive Holy Communion. If you would like to be anointed before you go into the hospital, please call the Pastoral Care Office @ 602-586-7429.

**Thursday Evening Prayer For Our Service
Men & Women In The Convent Chapel 6-7PM**
The first thing a soldier says when asked “What can we do to make things better for you?” is “We need your support and your prayers.” Lets get the word out and be a strong community of prayer for these wonderful young men & women!

**Adoration
Every Thursday From 9AM-9PM**



The purpose of the Holy Hour is to encourage deep personal encounter with Christ. The holy and glorious God is constantly inviting us to come to Him, to hold converse with Him, to ask for such things as we need and to experience what a blessing there is in hearing and being with Him.

**Training Session For Those Who Would Like To
Take Communion To Patients At St. Joseph Hospi-
tal** Wednesday, September 10th @ 7PM in the Parish Office. Please RSVP @ 602-586-7429.

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Grief Support Ministry starts up again on Monday, September 15th from 4-5:30PM in the Parish Office Conference Room. Our grief support group is called, "Hope for Tomorrow", which says it all. Grief can often set us aside from family, friends and normal social functioning. We feel like our lives will never be the same and normal events seem to overwhelm us. In our support group we invite you to come to a safe place and be with people who understand. Together we can enter our Tomorrow with Hope. Call the Pastoral Care Office @ 602-586-7429 if you plan to attend on September 15th.

Looking For Help! "Our Lively-hood depends on our income...Our Life depends on our giving." Pastoral Care is in need of some of those giving people. So many of our parishioners who are home-bound need someone to drive them to Dr. appointments, pick up groceries, have a friendly conversation to feel less lonely, take them some soup and just care. We call all the above 'Random Acts of Kindness'. If you can assist with one of these types of needs please call the Pastoral Care Office @ 602 586-7429.

"Leading The Way Ministry" Monday, September 22nd in the Parish Office Conference Room from 4-5:30PM. Leading the Way Ministry is for those who have experienced the death of their partner and are ready to join others who have also experienced this type of grief. As they move into the social and spiritual arena they come to make important new friends with whom they can share, laugh and once again bless many. For further information, please contact the Pastoral Care Office @ 602 586-7429.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Alzheimer Support Group Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 30th in the Parish Office Conference Room from 4-5:30PM. Our Care Consultant's are experienced professionals who work with families, assisting care givers in planning and caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder. They provide expert guidance, helping families to make informed decisions as they cope with the progression of the disease. For further information please call the Pastoral Care Office @ 602-586-7429.

FAITH FORMATION

"Stepping Stones" Is Coming To St Theresa Parish! Proverbs, parables and pizza, this new program for 4th & 5th graders will meet twice a month on Wednesdays. Registration will take place on the weekend of September 6th & 7th after all Masses.

Faith Formation At St. Theresa Has New Offerings! Take A Look! New to St. Theresa this year is a family-based catechesis called, "*Family Formation*." This religious education option is designed to encourage families' participation throughout the liturgical year by building the "domestic church" at home. Learning and teaching the faith allows parents, with children of all ages, an opportunity to encounter Christ and grow in faith. Families meet monthly for a specific topic of study, with remaining lessons done at home. Sound interesting? Please plan to attend the first Registration/Information Meeting on Sunday, September 7th @ 10:45AM in Fr. Feeney Hall. For more information, please contact Gina Keating, 602-840-0850.

Children's Initiation (Rite of Christian Initiation for Children) is a family program for children 7 years old and older who are not baptized, baptized in a different faith background and want to become Catholic, or for children who never had formal Catholic catechesis and received the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Meetings are every Wednesday night at 6PM in the Convent Chapel and Atrium. For more information, please contact Gina Keating @ 602-840-0850.

Children's Liturgy Of The Word needs volunteers to share the Gospel with the youngest members of our faith community. Beginning September 14th, children ages 4 to 9 are invited to participate in Liturgy of the Word with ministers in the McMahan Center. It's a wonderful way to share your love of Jesus with others. Training is provided. Please call Gina Keating for more details.

Sacramental Preparation for 2nd & 3rd Grade Children of St. Theresa Parish, don't be late... in turning in your registration forms this year! Children enrolled in religious education programs at the parish or the school are **required to register** through the Parish Office to prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation (Confession) in 2nd grade, and Confirmation/First Eucharist in 3rd grade. This is a family-style program that enables parents to help their children in the sacramental workbook, as well as by attending mandatory parent-child meetings and retreats. Registration for both sacraments will be available the weekend of September 6th & 7th, after Masses. Please note, registration materials must be returned to the Parish Office- complete with a copy of the child's baptism certificate- by Monday, November 3rd. A late fee of \$30 will be charged to each family after that deadline. For questions call Gina Keating @ 602-840-0850.

LIFE TEEN PROGRAM

All High School Teens Welcome!



AUGUST

31) Phoenix Rock Gym

Mass: Sundays @ 6PM

LIFE Teen: Sunday After Mass

Open Life Room: Thursday 3-5PM

Adoration: Thursday 7-9PM in Convent Chapel

www.godtalk.org

The Week Ahead!



Mass Intentions

(SEPTEMBER 1ST – SEPTEMBER 7TH)



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

6:30AM +MARIE & ALBERT FLEMING-FR. MATHEW

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

6:30AM +JOSE & NESTOR LUMUTHANG-FR. MATHEW

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

6:30AM +ELVIRA DAVIA-FR. MATHEW

8:30AM +FRANK JAMES PERLICH-FR. CHUCK

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

6:30AM +JOSEPH KRIMPLE-FR. FRANK

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

6:30AM +BEATRICE GRIMM-FR. MATHEW

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

8:00AM +JAMES ROONEY-FR. MATHEW

5:00PM FOR THE PARISHIONERS-FR. FRANK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

7:30AM +TONY DURAN-FR. MATHEW

9:00AM +BEATRICE GRIMM-FR. CHUCK

11:00AM +DANIEL PARRY-FR. LOU BISHOP, SJ

6:00PM +CAROL ANN FABIAN-FR. MATHEW

Please Note:

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

Sunday

8:00AM Blood Drive (Blood Mobile - Parking Lot)

7:00PM LIFE Teen (LIFE Rm)

Monday

Labor Day

Office & Facility Closed

Tuesday

5:00PM Bear Den Mtg. (PJP Rm)

6:30PM SVDP Meeting (Conference Rm)

7:00PM Cub Scout Planning Mtg. (PJP Rm)

Wednesday

9:15AM Centering Prayer (Convent Chapel)

6:00PM Choir Practice (Conference Rm)

6:30PM Rosary (Convent Chapel)

Thursday

9:00AM Adoration (Convent Chapel)

7:00PM Baptism Class (Conference Rm)

Friday

Saturday

8:30PM AlAnon (Classroom 16)

Alcoholics Anonymous (Classroom 17)

Readings Week of August 31, 2008

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| Sunday | Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27 |
| Monday | 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119; Lk 4:16-30 |
| Tuesday | 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145; Lk 4:31-37 |
| Wednesday | 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33; Lk 4:38-44 |
| Thursday | 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24; Lk 5:1-11 |
| Friday | 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37; Lk 5:33-39 |
| Saturday | 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145; Lk 6:1-5 |
| Sunday | Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20 |

St. Vincent De Paul

The next 5th Sunday Collection for the St. Vincent De Paul Society will take place THIS weekend, August 30th & 31st. As is our custom, members will be at the doors of the Church after all Masses to accept your donations. We sincerely thank everyone who supports our ministry with prayers and donations. We could not minister to the needy without you!