



A VOICE IN THE DESERT

*A Radiant Church
Through The Holy Spirit*

October 2012

*A Bi-Monthly Newsletter Of
**Catholic Renewal
Ministries**
Of the Diocese of Phoenix*



**St. Germaine Prayer Group in Prescott Valley Hosted a
“Pilgrimage with the Holy Spirit” on August 18 (see story p. 6)**

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CRM Mission: To declare Jesus is alive through his word, to put the gifts of the Holy Spirit into service for the community, to give testimony to what the love of God has done in our lives, to be united and committed in one spirit of service to form community.



From the Desk of Father Andrés

The Yeast of the Pharisees

“Simon Peter answered him: ‘Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.’” (John 6:68)

On the road to happiness we all tread hard. We enjoy many hours of light, but suddenly the night surrounds us, bringing times of effort and decision-making. We call these “growing pains.” From there we can move either to a break or to a deeper encounter with God.

When the followers of Christ heard about eating his Body and drinking his Blood, some of them felt the horizon was darkening: “This saying is hard: who can accept it?” Many took the occasion to get away.

We also, current followers of Christ, may have our own hours of darkness. Faith can become something heavy, a burden which can lead us to use the verb “believe” in the past tense: “I had great faith;” “I went to mass daily;” “We worshiped as a family.”

We can move away from Christ, and into a darkening, for many reasons: a difficulty, an incident, our own vices, fatigue. Yet, the radical call of Jesus never relents, pushing us hard enough that we can be tempted to say, “This saying is hard: who can accept it?”

It is only through the grace of the Holy Spirit that we are then able to say, as Peter said, “Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

The hidden thirst, the climate of tedium, the unspeakable inner discomfort... has a proper name: absence of God. We have excused ourselves by judging the radical call of Jesus as harsh and impossible. But he could tell us: “your own heart is even harder.”

God challenges us all, me and you alike, to say as Joshua said, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24:15) We say it repeatedly, perhaps smiling, perhaps through gritted teeth, as we move through our days of darkness and light.

And then we will gain the softness of heart to love others into the Kingdom.

God bless you. I love you.

Fr. Andres

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From Marge Chavez

“Year of Faith”

Pope Benedict XVI has declared that a “Year of Faith” will begin on October 14, 2012 and conclude November 24, 2013. What does this mean for us? It means that we are being asked to make renewed efforts to study our faith; to reflect on the documents of Vatican II and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It is a wonderful opportunity for us to experience a greater conversion and to enter into a deeper relationship with our Lord. As we explore further into scripture and the teachings of the Church, we will learn more about our faith and be better equipped to share it with others. This will help us to be more fruitful evangelists which we are called to do as baptized Catholics. As we absorb the richness and beauty of our faith our hearts are more likely to open to our brothers and sisters in Christ all around us.

Love and Unity

In his letter to the Christians in Ephesus, Paul writes about love and unity. “I, then, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” (Eph 4:1-6)

We are blessed to also have a section in the Catechism of the Catholic Church about Unity. “Christ bestowed unity on his Church from the beginning. This unity, we believe, subsists in the Catholic Church as something she can never lose, and we hope that it will continue to increase until the end of time.” (820)

I pray that the Lord will fill each of us with his love and many graces so that we may continue this journey of study and learn to be united in love, that together we may expand the kingdom of God.

Love, joy, peace and blessings,
Your sister in Christ,

Marge

Companion on the Journey

By Tom Beale

Most of us have seen online videos of “flash mobs” in action. Flash mobs are typically groups of people in a public place, such as a shopping mall, who suddenly and unexpectedly perform an entertaining routine, much to the delight of the unsuspecting audience.

I recently saw a video with a different kind of flash mob: a Eucharistic flash mob. The title of the video is “Lift the City.” The URL can be found below.

In the video, a man in a Franciscan-style religious robe comes to the center of a town square, puts on a priestly stole, and takes a monstrance, with the Blessed Sacrament, out of his bag. As he stands, holding the monstrance aloft, another man begins to intone, book-by-book, a brief description of Jesus from every book of the Bible.

Many people take no notice, continuing their activities in and through the square. However, in the midst of the non-stop hustle and bustle, people begin to kneel one-by-one. Ultimately, those who are kneeling break into spontaneous applause. Alleluia.

One thing that I found striking was how many people either took no notice of the monstrance or who gave a quizzical look but continued on, not knowing what they were looking at. It gave me pause to think.

How in tune with and obedient to the Holy Spirit am I? Enough that his light shines through me, so that people will recognize his presence in me - to the glory of God the Father?

How busy is my mind? So busy that I fail to look up and take notice of those around me? So busy that I cannot see Jesus in others, or reach out as the light of the Holy Spirit?

Let’s seize this moment, right now, to slow down and visit the silence within us - that inner silence of the Holy Spirit. Just do it. Take a breath now, close your eyes, and greet the Spirit.

Now let’s pray: “Holy Spirit, my companion, be the inner silence and life within me. Keep me always aware of your presence, ever obedient to your promptings. Shine through me as a light in a busy, distracting world. Amen.”

“Lift the City:”

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ5aYoSr3Hg>

Mass at the Eucharistic Congress in Ireland



The July 28 fundraiser dinner-dance at Queen of Peace was a fun-filled night of eating barbecued ribs cooked by Bertha Murillo, playing bingo, winning prizes, dancing to “oldies but goodies” sung by Ron Clavecilla, and having good family fun with the kids.



Healing Masses

Charismatic masses followed by the laying on of hands for healing are celebrated throughout the year at parish churches in the Diocese of Phoenix.

For information on how to set up a healing mass at your parish contact Marge Chavez at 480-201-6691.

Life In The Spirit Seminars

Life in the Spirit Seminars serve as an introduction to a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit. They provide teaching, guidance, and prayer leading to a new and deeper relationship with the Lord. They are an invitation to make or renew a deep personal commitment to Jesus Christ in openness to the Holy Spirit and His gifts. Seminars are given throughout the year at parish churches in the Diocese of Phoenix.

For information about how to set up a Life in the Spirit Seminar at your parish contact Tom Beale at 623-878-6488.

A Pilgrimage with the Holy Spirit Day of Retreat and Reflection

In this one-day retreat we learn what the scriptures and the church tell us about the Holy Spirit and simple, practical ways to personally experience the Holy Spirit in our lives.

For information on setting up a Pilgrimage with the Holy Spirit Day of Retreat and Reflection at your parish contact Tom Beale at 623-878-6488.

Valley Wide Charismatic Events

Valley Wide Charismatic Events are open to everyone from the entire diocese of Phoenix and are held throughout the year. Events may include praise and worship, teachings, prayer, and fellowship.

For information on setting up an Event contact Marge Chavez at 480-201-6691. For information on upcoming Events visit our website.

Weekly Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Meetings

Weekly charismatic prayer group meetings are held at many parishes throughout the valley where there is praise and worship, teaching, sharing, prayer ministry and fellowship. These meetings provide a place for the formation of close friendships with other charismatic Catholics in a local area and encourage growth in the use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and a life lived in the Holy Spirit.

For more information on starting a prayer group at your parish or to locate a weekly prayer group meeting in your area contact Marge Chavez at 480-201-6691 or Marilyn Stewart at 480-969-9956.

Monthly Youth Prayer Meetings

Monthly “God’s Love Youth Ministry” prayer meetings at St. Jerome’s, and “Monday Night Fellowship With God” from 7:00 to 8:30PM every second Monday of the month at the City of the Lord. Contact Jojo Concepcion at 623-229-6902.

Intercessory Prayer

Intercessory Prayer Ministry meets every Thursday at the Diocese of Phoenix after the 12:00PM Mass at St Mary’s Basilica to pray exclusively for the needs of the Catholic Renewal Ministries. Leaders and prayer group representatives are encouraged to come to pray for their prayer group needs.

For more information contact Manuel and Bertha Murillo at 602-276-9100 or 602-799-2563.

Worship Night

To host a worship night— a time of praise and worship especially for youth and young adults (but all ages welcome), contact Jojo Concepcion at 623-229-6902.

Worship Café at Lake Perris

as shared by CJ Concepcion

From July 13 – July 15, my family and I enjoyed a trip to Perris, California to spend the weekend at the Simple Praise Family Camping and Worship Café. More than a dozen families participated. It was a fun and uplifting experience despite the insistent heat that threatened to sunburn us. We spent the days swimming at



the lake, riding on a speed boat and riding the tube, having water-gun fights, and simply taking pleasure in each other's company.

Saturday started off early with a walk to Lake Perris where water splashed through the air and sand clung to our legs. Despite our best efforts to ward off the sun with sun block, the temperature eventually took its toll on us, and we returned to the campsite after an eventful morning, to lounge under a cool shade a tree and soothe our sun-soaked skin. Guitars were strummed and football was played to pass the time that was left under the light of day.



At night the families took turns cooking and serving the food, after which we had Worship Café by firelight. With the smell of smoke in the air and the stickiness of burnt marshmallows on our fingers, we sang and praised the Lord. My father, Jojo Concepcion, led worship and gave a short talk. Others also shared their talents and gifts in song and music. The stars glistened in the black sky, and as the last of the S'mores were eaten, our tents welcomed us to blissful sleep. Sunday arrived with the warmth of the sun and, after a group picture, we packed up our tents and, with thoughts of coming back next year, we drove back home.



Fortnight Prayers for Religious Freedom at St. Steven's, Sun Lakes

The prayer group at St. Steven's sponsored a fortnight evening of prayer on July 3, 2012, beginning with a procession with song into the church.

Father Reggie Carreon, Parochial Vicar, spoke and said that we must stand with our bishops and in solidarity with our church leaders in protesting against anything which takes away religious freedom. We need to support the church's stand against contraception.

Guest speaker Ed Orillo told us we cannot take our faith for granted. We must proclaim the moral truths of the gospel. In Isaiah 1:18 God says to his people, "let us set things right".

We now face powerful new cultural currents that are directly opposed to the core moral teachings of our Judeo-Christian tradition and are hostile to Christianity. Cultural currents promote notions of freedom detached from moral truth. Freedom of conscience is never freedom from the truth but always and only freedom in the truth. Jesus is the way to authentic freedom. We need the Holy Spirit, whose presence in us leads us to freedom, since we come to know the Truth. As true disciples of Christ we recognize what is untrue and we are empowered to speak out and defend the Truth.

After hearing the many speakers share about freedom in our country we prayed and sang the patriotic rosary for each of our States and for our country's leaders.



“A Pilgrimage with the Holy Spirit” Was Held on August 18th Sponsored by the St. Germaine “Light in the Lord” Prayer Group in Prescott

As shared by Elaina



Throughout the process of putting this Retreat Day together, the path was very clear to us. We had no idea how many would register, but ultimately had over 100 people attend. It was a faith- and Spirit-filled Day. We had prayed for open minds and hearts, and those who attended were very ready to hear this teaching. Comments we received were: “It was a spiritual awakening for me,” “a beautiful presence of God there,” “incredible speaker,” “I don’t think he realized how impressed people were with the Day,” “everything was so well arranged and organized,” “using the screen for the presentations made it very easy to see and visualize,” “over the top and exceptional!”

Many thanks have come to us for bringing this program to our area, and we are very grateful to Tom Beale and his team for making this possible and to the Holy Spirit for making it wonderful!! For further information about this Prayer Group, please call Barbara at 928-775-5257. (See photos on the cover.)



CRM Families Enjoy Luau at Big Surf August 11
By Kayla Concepcion

I could not wait to get to Big Surf because it was burning

hot and I wanted to have some fun in the sun with people who shared the same faith as me. The water slides were great and the Wave Pool was awesome possum! Christian music was playing at our designated site, and I enjoyed the music while eating and talking to friends. I am very thankful that I had this opportunity to spend time with family and friends. Before the park closed there was a big haboob dust storm coming so we took a group photo, then hopped into our cars and drove away. Everyone got home safely! I can’t wait to do this again next year!

CRM’s new “God’s Mercy Youth Ministry” had our first monthly



inter-parish prayer meeting Saturday, September 8, at St. Jerome’s. About 25 people came, including youths and their families. Praise and worship with teachings about praise and worship between songs was followed by fellowship with potluck food. (See ad page 8) by Jojo Concepcion

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR



Monday Nights: September 10
Through October 15, 2012
6:30PM-8:30PM

St. Germaine Catholic Church
7997 E. Dana Dr., Prescott Valley

Pre-registration is requested:
e-mail: www.lifeconnections@rocketmail.com
or mail to: “LSS” c/o Life Connections
7875 E. Florentine Rd., Ste. C
Prescott Valley, AZ 86315-2284

For information call: Barb (928) 775-5257
Or Diane (928) 308-6859
Registration forms: flyers & CRM website
The Seminar is free. Donations accepted.

Healing Mass

Monday October 1, 2012
6:30PM Praise and Worship
7:00PM Mass

Celebrant: Fr. Frank Bartel



Spirit of Peace Prayer Group

St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
13720 W. Thomas Rd., Avondale

Call Ada Fe Cunningham: 623-935-9401
Or Ferrell McNeal: 623-972-6741

Healing Mass



Wednesday October 24, 2012
6:30PM Praise and Worship
7:00PM Mass

Celebrant: Father Thomas Bennett
Queen of Peace Catholic Church
141 N. Macdonald, Mesa



August 19 Feast of St. Jean Eudes, Founder of Eudists

Jean Eudes (1601-1680) was a French missionary, founder of the Congregation of Jesus and Mary (Eudists) and of the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Refuge, and author of the Propers for Mass and

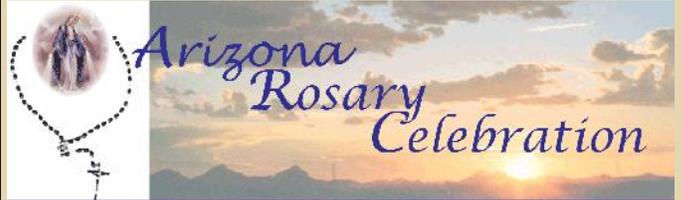
Divine Office of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. His virtues were declared heroic by Pope Leo XIII on January 6, 1903. The miracles proposed for his beatification were approved by Pope Pius X on May 3, 1908, and he was beatified on April 25, 1909. He was canonized in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. His feast day is August 19, the day of his death.

John Eudes was born at Ri, Orne, France. At the age of fourteen he took a vow of chastity. After studying with the Jesuits at Caen he joined the Oratorians on March 25, 1623. He was ordained a priest on December 20, 1625 and began his priestly life with heroic labors for the victims of the plague in France. In 1641 he founded the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Refuge to provide a refuge for prostitutes who wished to do penance. The society was approved by Pope Alexander VII on January 2, 1666. With the approbation of Cardinal de Richelieu and a great number of others, Father Eudes severed his connection with the Oratory to establish the Congregation of Jesus and Mary (Eudists) for the education of priests and for missionary work. This congregation was founded at Caen on March 25, 1643. In 1674 he obtained from Pope Clement X six bulls of Indulgences for the Confraternities of the Sacred Heart already erected or to be erected in the seminaries. Father Eudes dedicated the seminary chapels of Caen and Coutances to the Sacred Hearts. The feast of the Holy Heart of Mary was celebrated for the first time in 1648, and that of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in 1672. The Mass and Office proper to these feasts were composed by Father Eudes. For this reason, Pope Leo XIII, in proclaiming his virtues heroic in 1903, gave him the title of "Author of the Liturgical Worship of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Holy Heart of Mary".

CRM's liaison priest, Father Andrés Arango, Pastor of St. Jerome's, is a Eudist priest.

What is a Papal Bull?

A papal bull is a letters patent or charter issued by a Pope of the Catholic Church. It is named after the lead seal (bullae) that is appended to the end in order to authenticate it. Papal bulls' lead or gold seals have the heads of the apostles Saint Peter and Saint Paul on one side and the Pope's signature on the other. Today papal bulls are only used for the most formal or solemn of occasions. The bull is the only written communication in which the Pope will refer to himself as "episcopus servus servorum Dei", meaning "Bishop, Servant of the Servants of God." When Benedict XVI issues a decree in bull form, he will begin the document with "*Benedictus, Episcopus Servus Servorum Dei*". It is the most formal type of letters patent issued by the Vatican Chancery in the name of the Pope.



October 21, 2012 — 2:00PM-4:15PM

Phoenix Convention Center, Halls F & G
100 N. 3rd St., Phoenix, AZ 85004

Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted,
Bishop of Phoenix, Presiding
Most Reverend Eduardo Nevares,
Auxiliary Bishop, Attending

Guest Speaker: Reverend Zachary of the
Mother of God Shallow, SOLT

Information available at: www.azrosary.com



SAVE THE DATE!!

21st Annual CRM
Conference

"Let God Arise!"

February 8-9, 2013

Phoenix Convention Center

Keynote Speaker Maria Vadia

Other speakers to be announced

Separate Sessions for Teens
and Young Adults

See: www.CatholicRenewalMinistries.org.

Or call: Marge Chavez (480) 201-6691

Upcoming Events in Brief

September 10, 2012....(Monday)...begin 6 week Life in the Spirit Seminar...St. Germaine, Prescott Valley.....6:30PM
 October 1, 2012.....(Monday).....Healing Mass with Fr. Bartel....St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Avondale....7:00PM
 October 21, 2012....(Sunday).....Arizona Rosary Celebration.....Phoenix Convention Center.....2:00PM-4:15PM
 October 24, 2012...(Wednesday)...Healing Mass with Fr. Bennett.....Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Mesa...7:00PM
 February 8-9, 2013....(Fri.-Sat.).....21st Catholic Charismatic Conference, Phoenix.....Phoenix Convention Center

**Diocese of Phoenix CRM and Simple Praise
Ministry introduce our new Youth and Young
Adult Outreach, "God's Mercy Youth Ministry,"
monthly prayer meeting at St. Jerome
and**

**"Monday Night Fellowship With God" for young
adults every 2nd Monday (except
holidays) from 7:15-8:30PM
City of the Lord Main Hall
SPM Worship Center
711 W. University Dr., Tempe**



www.simplepraise.org www.mnfwithgod.org

**INTERCES-
SORY
PRAYER**

**Thursdays at
Diocese of
Phoenix
following the
12:00PM
Mass at St.
Mary's
Basilica**

**MONTHLY
HEALING MASS**

**Every 2nd Monday
of the Month
7:00-9:00PM
September 10, 2012
October 8, 2012
St. Jerome
Catholic Church
10815 N. 35th Ave.
Phoenix**

**HEALING
PRAYER ROOM**

Individual Prayer for
Inner Healing and
Deliverance
2nd and 4th Wednesdays
7:00-9:00PM
St. Timothy
Catholic Church
1730 West Guadalupe
Mesa

**HEALING
PRAYER ROOM**

Individual Prayer
for Healing and
Deliverance
Every Wednesday
6:30-8:30 PM
Queen of Peace
Catholic Church
141 N. Macdonald
Mesa

**HEALING
PRAYER ROOM**

Individual Prayer
for Physical and
Emotional Healing
2nd and 4th Mondays
7:00-8:30 PM
St. John Vianney
Catholic Church
539 Loma Linda
Goodyear

**HEALING
PRAYER ROOM**

Individual Prayer
for Physical and
Emotional Healing
Every Friday
7:00-9:00PM
St. Vincent de Paul
Catholic Church
3140 N. 51st Ave.
Phoenix

Healing Prayer Ministry

Every Weekend After All Masses
St. Jerome's Catholic Church
10815 N. 35th Ave., PHX.

Healing Prayer Ministry

Every 4th Sunday Of The Month After The 11:00AM Mass
St. Steven Catholic Church, 24827 S. Dobson Rd., Sun Lakes
(On Dobson just north of Riggs Road)

**Newsletters, Event Programs, Calendars and Flyers for the Catholic Renewal Ministries
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Valley Call Ed Orillo 480-330-4350