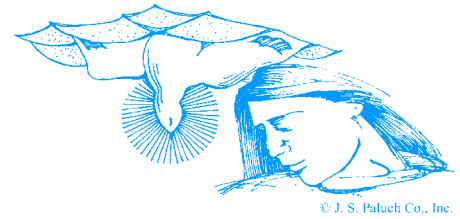


A voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - Matthew 3:17



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Monday, January 14

Our Lady of the Valley **9:00 am** † Jennie Woyat

Tuesday, January 15

St. Raphael **9:00 am** Int. of Lillian Blaney

Wednesday, January 16

Our Lady of the Valley **9:00 am** † LCpl Matthew Medlicott
 St. Raphael **5:30 pm** † George Cortez

Thursday, January 17

St. Anthony

St. Raphael **9:00 am** † Alex Upton

Friday, January 18

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Our Lady of the Valley **9:00 am** † Frank Vaughan

Saturday, January 19

Vigil – 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Lady of the Valley **4:00 pm** † Florence Defesi
 St. Raphael **5:30 pm** † John McKenna

Sunday, January 20

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Lady of the Valley **7:30 am** For the parishioners of OLV
 St. Raphael **9:00 am** For the parishioners of STR
 Our Lady of the Valley **10:30 am** † Linda Ruelas
 St. Raphael **12:00 pm** † George Cortez

News from the Diocese

The Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI has appointed the Most Rev. Thomas J. Olmsted, Bishop of Phoenix, as Apostolic Administrator of the diocese of Gallup, NM, assuming the duties of Bishop Donald E. Pelotte, SSS, who was granted a one-year medical leave of absence.

An apostolic administrator is appointed by the Holy Father on either a permanent or temporary basis for many reasons, including severe illness of the bishop of a diocese. In this situation, Bishop Olmsted will assume the duties of Bishop Pelotte on a temporary basis until Bishop Pelotte is able to return or his successor is appointed and installed. Bishop Olmsted will continue to serve as Bishop of Phoenix and divide his time between the two dioceses, adjusting his schedule to be present at major functions in both dioceses as long as necessary.

Bishop Pelotte, 62, suffered severe injuries in a fall at his home in Gallup on July 23 and, despite receiving treatment in Arizona, Texas and Florida, was unable to gain a full recovery, even when he returned to Gallup on September 21. After a valiant effort to continue his duties, he requested a leave of absence in December to focus all his energies on achieving a full recovery.

Bishop Olmsted asks the people of the Diocese of Phoenix to pray for Bishop Pelotte's recuperation, for the people of our sister Diocese of Gallup and for him as he assumes these additional duties.

Today's Readings

First Reading - Isaiah speaks of the servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7).

Psalms - The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29).

Second Reading - Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38).

Gospel - A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Matthew 3:13-17).



Readings for the Week of January 14

- Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20
- Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45
- Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17
- Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1: 29-34



The Our Lady of the Valley Parish office needs volunteers. If you can help for any length of time (1, 2, 3 or 4 hours a week between 9 AM and 1 PM; Monday-Friday), please call Trudy (602-993-1213).



STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship involves a change of heart, embodied not just in a single action, nor even a series of actions, but in one's entire life.

The last hurrah of Christmas!

No doubt, most of us have concluded the Christmas season in our homes prior to this date. In our liturgical observance the Christmas season concludes this weekend with the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus' baptism by John in the Jordan heralds the beginning of his public ministry that lays the foundation for Christian living that led to the passion, death and resurrection of the universal Savior.

Last weekend eight people entered the catechumenate in preparation for full incorporation in our Catholic Christian community through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Their journey of faith reminds those of us already baptized of our need for ongoing conversion and faith formation. Our baptismal commitment to walk with the Lord Jesus must be made on a daily basis. As we conclude the Christmas season we continue to revel in the great gift of Jesus, the Word made Flesh, whom we strive to emulate in our daily life of Christian living.

As we conclude the Christmas season I need to exonerate the "good name" of my dog, Raphie (a.k.a. Lady Raphaella of the Valley). Some may recall that on the Fourth Sunday of Advent I said she broke into some Christmas packages early and allegedly ate the contents of a box of mixed nuts. On New Year's day while the weather was so pleasant I was sitting on my patio and noticed something unusual protruding from under a chair in the living room. Upon closer examination, I unearthed a one pound tin of, you guessed it, mixed nuts. It seems Raphie was able to get into the cardboard box and through the plastic wrap on the tin, but was not able to open the tin. In her effort to try, however, she lodged the tin under a chair and out of her curious pursuit. My little pup is not always as angelic at home as her likeness portrayed at the manger at Our Lady of the Valley throughout this Christmas season!

Before the season formally concludes, I would like to thank the many parishioners in both communities for their cards, notes of encouragement and gifts in this season of giving. I am overwhelmed by your kindness. Raphie is especially appreciative for the myriad of toys and treats she received from so many of you. Thanks, too, to all of you whose boxes of candy, trays of cookies and other assorted goodies helped fatten up your pastor and our staff at both parish offices. I can only say that I am grateful for the early arrival of Lent this year!

This first month of the new year holds two special events of significance to the Holy Cross community. January 6, the anniversary of his death in 1937, is the date assigned by the church as the feast of **Blessed Brother Andre Bessette, CSC**, founder of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal and namesake of the Andre House of hospitality the Holy Cross community, with the assistance of many generous people throughout the area – including Our Lady of the Valley and St. Raphael parishioners – operates in downtown Phoenix. Blessed Brother Andre was known as the miracle man of Montreal for the spiritual and physical assistance he offered so many people through the intercession of St. Joseph.

January 20, the anniversary of his death in 1873, is the feast date assigned to **Blessed Father Basil Moreau, CSC**, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, who was beatified by decree of Pope Benedict XVI in LeMans, France on September 15. Next Saturday, January 19, Bishop Thomas Olmsted will join with the Holy Cross community in the Phoenix Diocese to celebrate the first feast day of Blessed Basil Moreau at St. Gregory's Parish in Phoenix. Since I will preside at both vigil Masses in our parishes, I will have to pray with them in spirit. In the universal calendar of the church because the feast of Blessed Andre and Blessed Basil both fall on a Sunday, the Sunday celebration takes precedence. Nonetheless, I urge you to join the family of Holy Cross in giving God thanks and praise for recognizing the call to holiness in the lives of these two religious.

Finally, please keep Carmelite Father Jack Larkin in your prayer. He faithfully served the St. Raphael community for many years and as recently as December 12, presided at the annual celebration in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Father Jack was diagnosed with acute leukemia and entered hospice on Christmas Eve. We are also grateful to the St. Raphael Guadalupanos for their gift of \$417 for the parish facility renovation fund from the proceeds of their Guadalupe celebration last month.

Fr. Ed Kaminski, CSC
pastor

Our Lady of the Valley



St. Vincent de Paul Society at Our Lady of the Valley and St. Raphael

After Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and a voice was heard "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." As we give to the poor, we also can hear these same words. **Have you considered joining the society of St. Vincent de Paul so that you can live your Baptism more fully?**

For those who donated \$250 or more for income tax purposes, a receipt will be automatically sent to you. Donation receipts for less than \$250 will be mailed **only if requested**. Please call and leave your name, address and phone number on the SVDP conference telephones. Thank you for your generosity.

Our Lady of the Valley: 602-993-9111
St. Raphael - Joel: 602-439-1904

Monday, January 14

SVDP	9am-Noon	Pantry
Sac. Of Reconciliation	6-7 pm	Chapel
Faith Sharing	7:00 pm	Rm 7
Rosary	7:00 pm	Chapel

Tuesday, January 15

AA	7:00 pm	Rm 8
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Wednesday, January 16

SVDP	9-Noon	Pantry
Pastoral Council Meeting	6:30 pm	Rms 1-3
Facilities meeting	6:30 pm	Conf Rm
Joint choir practice	7:00 pm	Chapel
Narcotics Anon	7:00 pm	Rm 8

Thursday, January 17

Young at Heart	10:00 am	Rms 1-3
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Friday, January 18

SVDP	9am-noon	Pantry
Filipino Praise/worship	7:00 pm	Chapel
Filipino Fellowship	8:00 pm	Rms 1-3

Saturday, January 19

Filipino FCCA	9:00 am	Rm 7
Enchilada dinner	5:00 pm	Rms 1-3

Sunday, January 20

RCIA	9:00 am	Rms 5-6
CLOW	10:45 am	Rm 7
KofC Free Throw	1:30 pm	Yard, Rm 7

Taking It to the Streets

Thank you for any warm clothes, blankets, pillows, Bibles, toiletries, etc. You may leave them at 3272 W. Country Gables Dr., Phoenix. They are distributed every Saturday evening.



The Young at Heart Sponsored Event

A **Cliff Castle Casino** trip on Wednesday, **January 30**, for \$5.00/person. The bus leaves at 8:00 AM from the parking lot of Our Lady of the Valley and returns at approximately 4:45 PM. Price includes a beverage, danish and two chances to win \$10.00 in cash. Upon arrival at the casino you also receive \$10 in cash! For reservations and information please call Annette (602-368-9481).



Our Lady of the Valley Women's Club

The Women's Club is sponsoring an Enchilada Dinner **January 19** at 5:00 PM. Dinner tickets will be on sale after all the Masses this weekend. Adults: \$5/person and children: \$3/person. Call Jovie Rodriguez (602-866-3664).



Annual Free Throw Contest

The Knights of Columbus will be having this yearly contest on Sunday, **January 20**, at 2:00 PM on the Our Lady of the Valley parish grounds. Open to all boys & girls ages 10 to 14 years. Refreshments will be served. Please register by calling/visiting either parish office (numbers on the front cover) and leaving your name, age and phone number by Tuesday, January 15. Permission slips are required to participate.



CHURCH SUPPORT

Our Lady of the Valley & St. Raphael

It's that time of year again!

If you need a record of your 2007 parish envelope contributions **for tax purposes**, please call the St. Raphael parish office (602-938-4227). Leave your **name, your parish envelope number and phone number**, and the statement will be mailed out at the end of each week. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Raphael

Calling All Seniors 55 Years and Over



St. Raphael's Senior Friendship Club meets this Sunday in Hibner Hall for an afternoon of fun, good food and great friends! Come join us. Call Bonnie Steiger (602-938-1660) for more information.

Monday, January 14

Faith Formation class	5-6:00 pm	Rms 1-10
Sacramental prep/parents	5:00 pm	Annex
Faith Formation class	6:30-7:30 pm	1-6, 9, 10
Sacramental prep/parents	6:30 pm	Annex
Edge	6:30-7:30 pm	Teen Ctr
Baptism preparation class	7:00 pm	AEC
K of C meeting	7:30 pm	Hall/Club

Tuesday, January 15

Wednesday, January 16

Water color class	1:00 pm	Club Rm
Joint choir practice	4:00 pm	Church
AA	8:00 pm	Rms 7-8

Thursday, January 17

Sac. Of Reconciliation	9:30-10:30 am	Chapel
Toastmasters	6:45 pm	Rms 7-8

Friday, January 18

Tops	8:00 am	Rms 7-8
AA	8:00 pm	Rms 7-8

Saturday, January 19

<i>Facilities Collection</i>		
Lay Carmelites	9am-Noon	Hall
Lay Carmelites	9:30 am	Church
Baptism	1:00 pm	Church
Blood Pressure checks after Mass		Club Rm
AA	8:00 pm	Rms 7-8

Sunday, January 20

<i>Facilities Collection</i>		
Blood Pressure checks after Mass		Club Rm
AA	7:00 pm	Rms 7-8

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The Gospel according to Matthew recounts the events surrounding the beginning of Jesus' public life and ministry. Jesus comes to John who protests. Upon Jesus' urging John baptizes him. As Jesus comes out of the water, the heavens part, and the spirit of God, in the form of a dove, descends upon him. A voice is heard, which explicitly identifies Jesus as the "beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17) on whom God's favor rests. This is *the* manifestation of God in Christ.

In the first reading, Isaiah echoes this pronouncement of God: "Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased" (Isaiah 42:1). Furthermore, Isaiah expounds upon the identification of God's beloved: Jesus is the covenant between God and his people, "to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness" (42:7).

Recall that the miraculous occurrences of which Isaiah writes are the hallmarks of the messianic age. The beloved Son, on whom God's favor rests *is* the chosen servant of God - his Anointed (remember that the word *messiah* means "God's anointed"). Sight, freedom, light - images from Isaiah in today's reading - are the very images that have led us through the Christmas season. These images are presented again to close this season. These are the spiritual graces that guide us in our Christian lives, given to us by the Son of God, whose coming we have commemorated. May these graces guide us throughout the coming year.

Psalm 29 uses images that mirror the scene described in the Gospel: "The voice of the Lord is over the waters, the Lord over the vast waters," and in the Acts of the Apostles, Peter identifies Jesus as the one whom God anoints with the Holy Spirit.

The combined readings nicely conclude the Christmas season. This one who has come into the world is God's Word, his very presence and action in our midst. The Word incarnate has come to establish the justice and mercy, showing us how we are to live in right relationship with one another - the way to eternal life. Christ has come as God's beloved, so that we too, through our own Baptism and living of the Christian life, might be God's beloved - God's adopted sons and daughters, on whom his favor rests.

Written by D. Todd Williamson. Copyright ©2007, Arch diocese of Chicago, Liturgy Training Publication.



Spaghetti Dinner

Saturday, January 26

ALL parishioners of St. Raphael and Our Lady of the Valley are invited to a great meal presented by the Knights of Columbus and the St. Raphael Women's Guild in Hibner Hall. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend and January 19-20. Cost is \$8/adult and \$4/child. Questions? Call Phil Scandura (602-942-0905) or Bob Reid (602-843-3828). Menu: Spaghetti, meatballs, salad, dessert, coffee & ice tea!

Healing Mass

A Healing Mass is being offered at 9:30 AM on January 19 at St. Raphael Church by the Lay Carmelites. Fr. Valentine Boyle, O.Carm. will officiate. There will be refreshments after Mass in the hall. All are welcome to attend.

Week 26, 2007-2008

St. Raphael

Sunday Offering for December 22-23, 2007

Total of 3 Collections: \$7,371

Average Weekly Operating Expenses: \$6,400

Weekly Surplus / <Shortfall>: \$971

Year-to-date Surplus / <Shortfall>: <\$2,515>

Week 27 **Sunday Offering for December 29-30, 2007**

Total of 3 Collections: \$6,980

Average Weekly Operating Expenses: \$6,400

Weekly Surplus / <Shortfall>: \$580

Year-to-date Surplus / <Shortfall>: <\$1,935>

Week 28 **Sunday Offering for January 5-6, 2008**

Total of 3 Collections: \$7,132

Average Weekly Operating Expenses: \$6,400

Weekly Surplus / <Shortfall>: \$732

Year-to-date Surplus / <Shortfall>: <\$1,203>

Week 26, 2007-2008

Our Lady of the Valley

Sunday Offering for December 22-23, 2007

Total of 3 Collections: \$7,168

Filipino Collection: \$1,146

Average Weekly Operating Expenses: \$7,500

Weekly Surplus / <Shortfall>: \$814

Year-to-date Surplus / <Shortfall>: \$14,122

Week 27 **Sunday Offering for December 29-30, 2007**

Total of 3 Collections: \$5,705

Filipino Collection: \$1,222

Average Weekly Operating Expenses: \$7,500

Weekly Surplus / <Shortfall>: <\$573>

Year-to-date Surplus / <Shortfall>: \$13,549

Week 28 **Sunday Offering for January 5-6, 2008**

Total of 3 Collections: \$8,159

Filipino Collection: \$894

Average Weekly Operating Expenses: \$7,500

Weekly Surplus / <Shortfall>: \$1,553

Year-to-date Surplus / <Shortfall>: \$15,102

Christmas Eve & Day Collections

Our Lady of the Valley: \$13,579

St. Raphael: \$11,308

Thank you for your generosity.



Remember those who have died recently, especially Joan Reed.

Informational Annulment Seminar

Saturday, February 16, 2008, 9:30 AM

St. Theresa Parish Hall

5045 E. Thomas, Phoenix

Contact: **Patti Fischer**

Diocese of Phoenix Tribunal

602-354-2283

Dates to remember:

- Jan. 13 - K of C Pancake Breakfast (OLV)
- Jan. 18 - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- Jan. 19 - Enchilada Dinner (OLV)
- Jan. 20 - K of C Free Throw Contest (OLV)
- Jan. 21 - Holiday; offices closed
- Jan. 22 - Day of Penance for Violations To Dignity of Human Race
- Jan. 26 - Parish Picnic (OLV)
- Jan. 26 - K of C Spaghetti Dinner (STR)



Paper Recycling Bins

at St. Raphael and

Our Lady of the Valley Parishes

Please remember to check the LABELS on the bins: Paper **OR** Cardboard (clearly marked on bin). In the PAPER bins only these items are allowed: newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office/school paper, envelopes. **No** trash, food containers of any type, tissue, plastic or glass. **ONLY CARDBOARD** is allowed in the "Cardboard" bin.

Celebrating Marriage 2008

25, 40 or 50+ with Bishop Olmsted

Ss. Simon & Jude Cathedral

6351 N. 27 Ave, Phoenix

Saturday, **February 9**, 10:00 AM Bilingual Mass

Contact Rosemarie (602-354-2356) for registration.



Fr. Jack Larkin, O.Carm., Gordy Teichmann, Millie Owens, Sherry Alviar, Ann Marie Hayley, Jim Granato, Michael Paniqua, Sandra Geiger, Terri Arnone, Agnes Piccoli, Stella Wilczek, the Perry Family, Lee & Philip Feutz, Theresa Smith, Jonathan Brett, Gregg Brunger, Pat & Jim Jordan, Rose Jendrusiak, those in need of our prayers and all requesting our prayers. Anyone from either parish wishing to place someone on the prayer list may do so **if they have their permission**. Then call Marilyn (602-938-0638).