

Our Lady of the Desert Catholic Church



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**Padre: Victor C. Yakubu,
Administrador Parroquial**

Padre: Julius Kayiwa, Vicario Parroquial

**Confesión el Sábado:
Por cita en (Español y Inglés)**

**Rosario el Sábado: Y Letanías de la Santísima
Virgen María—3:20pm**

Misa el Sábado: (Vigilia) / Inglés 4:00 p.m.

**Rosario el Domingo: Y Letanías de la Santísima
Virgen María— 9:40am**

Misa el Domingo: Español /10:00 a.m.

Liturgia en los Días de la Semana

Cada Día a las Doce: Angelus/Regina Caeli

Lunes: Adoración 7:00am y Misa a las 7:30am

**Martes, Miércoles Jueves, Viernes:
Adoración 7:30am y Misa 8:00am**

**Viernes: a las 6:00pm Rosario Reina de la Paz con
Adoración**

**Sábado: Adoración: 7:30am y a las 8:00am
Misa en Honor de Virgen María**



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? ... In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.” - Lk 14:28, 33

“Porque, ¿quién de ustedes, si quiere construir una torre, no se pone primero a calcular el costo, para ver si tiene con qué terminarla?”

Así pues, cualquiera de ustedes que no renuncie a todos sus bienes, no puede ser mi discípulo”. - Lc 14, 28. 33

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September 4th, 2022

**Rev. Victor C. Yakubu, Parochial Administrator
Rev. Julius Kayiwa, Parochial Vicar**

Confession on Saturday:

By appointment English/Spanish

Saturday Rosary: With Litanies of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 3:20pm

Saturday Mass (Vigil): English -4:00 p.m.

Sunday Rosary: With Litanies of the Blessed Virgin Mary—9:40am

Sunday Mass: Spanish 10:00am

Liturgy of the Weekdays

Every day at Noon: Angelus/Regina Caeli

Monday: 7:00am Adoration & Mass 7:30am

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:
Adoration 7:30am & Mass 8:00am

Friday: At 6:00pm Rosary of Queen of Peace with Adoration

Saturday: Adoration: 7:30 a.m. & 8:00 a.m. Mass
In Honor of the Virgin Mary

The Prayer of an Earthen Shelter

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

“This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.” – Luke 14:30

If I had to choose one of the Bible’s 31,102 verses to have inscribed on my tombstone, it would be Luke 14:30.

As a companion piece, my obituary could tell the story of my life through the list of projects I never finished. Swimming lessons in preschool. Piano in the sixth grade. Every journal I’ve ever tried to keep. That trip to Europe. The house my husband and I designed and never built. My life is littered with these unfinished projects, races for which I could not make it across the finish line. Whether it was strength, interest, money, or something else, I just didn’t have “it.” I came up short.

And these are just the literal examples. Every day, I am compelled to begin building what I feel inadequate to finish. I wake up so tired, but the day must start. I don’t have enough time or inspiration, but my work must be turned in. My patience is long gone, but the children must be parented.

I am writing this at 7:13 in the morning, and already my mind is racing through the tasks I must complete this day, tallying up my strength against the job and finding it insufficient. My earthen shelter is weighed down by many concerns.

When my first child was an infant and I was adjusting to the demands of working motherhood, I got into the habit of beginning each day by inviting God into my weakness. This sounds like a pious spiritual practice, but it isn’t. It’s a prayer born from desperation. It’s not poetic and it wouldn’t look pretty on the back of any holy cards. Here it is: “Lord, I have no idea how I’m going to make it through this day. I assume you have some ideas. Let’s go with those ideas.”



When I read of Christ’s admonition to renounce our earthly possessions, I think of this clumsy prayer. My anxieties, my fears, my expectations — these are my possessions, and I cling to them like a child clings to an old, smelly blanket. My stamina, my abilities, my insight, my good intentions — these are also my possessions, but I don’t have

enough of them. I never have. I never will.

When I was younger, I learned to ride horses. The thing you have to accept about horseback riding is that the animal does not need to listen to you. He chooses to, and there will come a time when he chooses not to. He will be spooked by something and take off at a gallop you never intended, or he will become irritated and begin to buck you from his back. I learned that if you try to control the horse in his mania, you will almost certainly be thrown. The only way to stay in the saddle is to take a deep breath and become small on the back of the beast while he thrashes. Recognize the strength of the horse and melt into it. Accept it. Cling to it. Renounce control.

It’s a feeling of vulnerability and fear that quickly turns to calm strength as the episode passes, the horse settles, and you find yourself still seated in the saddle, knuckles white around the reins.

It’s the same feeling I have every morning when I sit and take stock of my life and myself and acknowledge that I don’t have it — whatever “it” is. And I turn my empty palms to God, saying: fill me at daybreak. Turn me back to dust. Prosper the work of my hands. Make straight my paths.

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

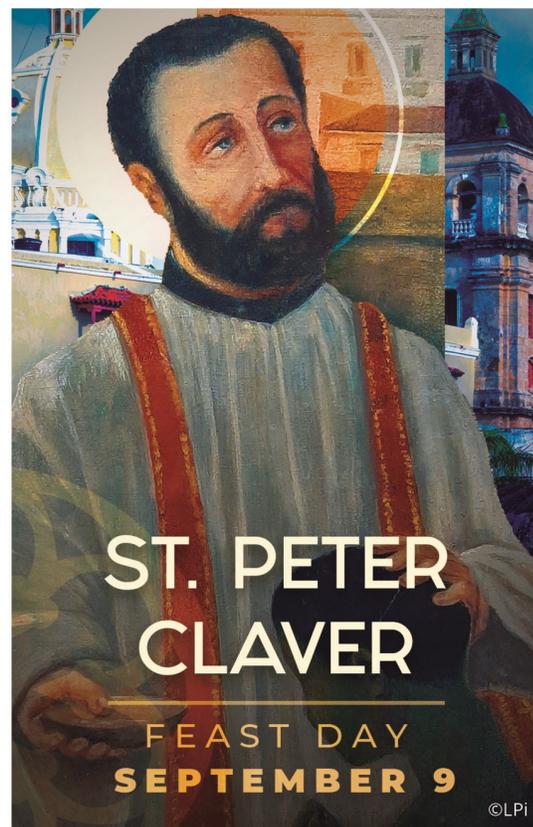
- Sunday:** Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33
- Monday:** 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/Lk 6:6-11
- Tuesday:** 1 Cor 6:1-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 6:12-19
- Wednesday:** 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/Lk 6:20-26
- Thursday:** Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
- Friday:** 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/Lk 6:39-42
- Saturday:** 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/Lk 6:43-49
- Next Sunday:** Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

- Sunday:** 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** Labor Day
- Thursday:** The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Friday:** St. Peter Claver, Priest
- Next Sunday:** 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Patriot Day; Grandparents' Day

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week

"Stand up straight and don't slouch!" Many a child has heard these words bellowed from their mother's lips. We need the perspective of others to help us understand when we are not walking as straight as we could be. God sends us the Holy Spirit to correct and guide us so that our paths through life can be straight. Without this assistance, how we see and understand ourselves and the world around us is incomplete. We will also lack the virtue of fortitude. It takes courage to listen to the Holy Spirit and devote ourselves to the task of discipleship. We have to put aside things that the world says are necessary and follow a path placed before us by Jesus Christ. Jesus is asking us to follow him. We must consider what we have to do to be free enough to do so. God needs us to show the world a complete picture of what life is meant to be, correct its vision and tell it to stand up straight!



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Born in Catalonia Spain in 1580, Saint Peter Claver studied at first at the University of Barcelona and then joined the Jesuits. He became friends with fellow brother Saint Alphonsus Rodriguez who encouraged him to be a missionary in the New World. Accordingly, Saint Peter went to Cartagena, a city in present-day Columbia where he was ordained in 1615.

Cartagena was a center for the slave trade, and the young missionary knew where he could best serve God. He proclaimed himself, "the slave of the Negroes forever." As ships would arrive with their human cargo, Saint Peter and a group of interpreters would rush into the hold with food and medicines. When the slaves were moved to pens to await sale, the saint continued to work among them, communicating God's love with acts of generosity and teaching the Catholic faith.

He also led missions in the interior, refusing the hospitality of plantation owners and preferring to stay in the slave quarters. He organized charitable societies and is said to have baptized and catechized more than 300,000 enslaved persons.

Saint Peter Claver died on September 8, 1654. He was canonized with his friend Saint Alphonsus Rodriguez in 1888, by Pope Leo XIII. He is the worldwide patron saint of African Americans and of enslaved peoples.

WHERE'S THE SACRIFICE?

"It's not that I want you to do it. It's that I want you to want to do it."

If you're married or in a relationship, your partner has probably either said something like this to you or you have said it to them. If one of you hasn't said it, you have probably wanted to, and it's likely that a big argument or two was had where you dance around the sentiment, these exact words flashing in your mind like an old-time movie marquee.

The "it" never really matters much. Taking out the trash, painting the bedroom, traveling to your in-laws' for Christmas — whatever the subject matter of the disagreement is, it's all just so much set dressing. The heart of the matter is the sacrifice and desire. That's what it all hangs on. Am I with a person who will sacrifice for me?

When Paul writes to Philemon that he is sending Onesimus to him, he says exactly this. He tells Philemon that he would prefer to keep Onesimus with him, but that he does not want to deprive Philemon both of Onesimus and the opportunity to make a sacrifice worthy in the sight of the Lord.

The point is not who gets to hang out with Onesimus. The point is, as it says in the Gospel, who is willing to carry his cross? Who is willing to renounce his possessions? Who is willing to do the good deed for the sake of the other?

God doesn't care that much about what we have to offer. He cares much more that we have the strength to offer whatever we have.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WHY DO CATHOLICS LIGHT CANDLES IN CHURCH?

Candles have been part of the Church's worship from the earliest times. In the days before electricity, candles and oil lamps were the ways that people lighted buildings. Even today, we often still depend on candles during power outages, relying on their flickering flames to bring light into the dark.

Like our ancestors, we also light candles on special occasions. Think about a festive family meal or a romantic dinner for two — there will often be candles on the table, special objects for a special event. We light candles on birthday cakes and carry them in processions. We also place candles at makeshift memorials that appear when there has been an accident or act of violence. In these moments, their light casts aside a different kind of darkness — the darkness of grief, fear, and death.

The custom of the early Christians lighting candles and lamps at the tombs of the martyrs gave way to the practice of having candles at Mass, honoring the sacredness of the celebration.

As Christians decorated their worship spaces with statues and icons, they would burn candles in

front of sacred images and the relics of the saints, basically "shining a light" on what they held to be sacred. When pilgrims would visit these shrines, they would often bring candles to light before the image or relic. These candles came to be a symbol of the person, and their prayer and the burning these candles came to be understood as an extension and continuation of the prayer that was offered. What began as a practical way to provide light has come to be a symbol of the hopes, desires, loves, losses, fears, and faith of everyday Christians offering their prayers to God and his saints.



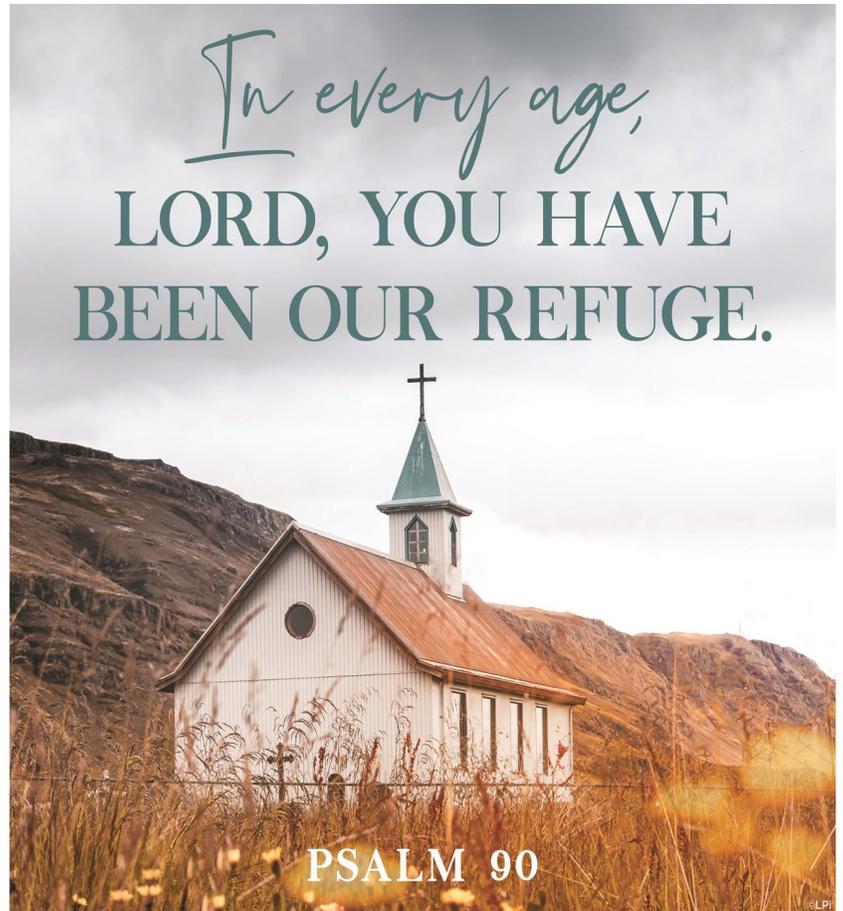
Safe Environment

It is now time to renew your Safe Environment training as set forth from the Diocese of Phoenix. If you wish to volunteer in any capacity for the church, you must have safe environment training.

There are two options: the Foundation (for those who have never had safe environment or have lapsed certification) and Renew (for those who certification expires this month.)

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

“Stand up straight and don’t slouch!” Many a child has heard these words bellowed from their mother’s lips. We need the perspective of others to help us understand when we are not walking as straight as we could be. God sends us the Holy Spirit to correct and guide us so that our paths through life can be straight. Without this assistance, how we see and understand ourselves and the world around us is incomplete. We will also lack the virtue of fortitude. It takes courage to listen to the Holy Spirit and devote ourselves to the task of discipleship. We have to put aside things that the world says are necessary and follow a path placed before us by Jesus Christ. Jesus is asking us to follow him. We must consider what we have to do to be free enough to do so. God needs us to show the world a complete picture of what life is meant to be, correct its vision and tell it to stand up straight!



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