Upcoming at the Casa

Reach for the Stars
Improve flexibility and body strength.
Begins Wednesday, October 2, 7 - 8:30 pm

The Way of Henri Nouwen
With Wil Hernandez
Monday, October 18—Wednesday, October 20

Science & Faith
With Paul Mueller, SJ
Saturday, October 19, 9 am - 12 pm

The Conventual Church of
Our Lady of the Angels
at the Franciscan Renewal Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekend Mass</th>
<th>Saturday 5:00 pm</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday 7:30 am, 9:15 am, 11:00 am, 7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daily Mass</td>
<td>Monday - Saturday 7:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Day Masses</td>
<td>as announced</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reconciliation</td>
<td>please call for appointment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosary</td>
<td>Tuesday 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>Centering Prayer</td>
<td>Thursday 7:45 am</td>
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<td>Front Desk Hours</td>
<td>Monday - Saturday 7:30 am - 7:30 pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 7:30 am - 8:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Blessings</td>
<td>Monday - Friday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm</td>
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<td>Saturday 10:00 am - 6:30 pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 8:30 am - 2:00 pm</td>
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<td>5:30 pm - 8:30 pm</td>
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I Will Always Remember You

It is with real fondness and regret that I can no longer be with you. I am now retired. Among other things, chronic old age has caught up with me, as was obvious this past year. My eyesight is limited, my balance insecure, my ability to get around is limited, and now my ability to sit for any long period of time is no longer there. I sensed that these new limitations were affecting my effectiveness.

I now live at one of our senior residences, St. Fidelis Friary, in Appleton, Wisconsin. My goal now is to live into retirement! It is a whole new experience. As I have often preached, “We take what the Lord gives us to work with.”

I will try my hand at writing, a very different form of communication than preaching. I have two great loves: the celebration of Sunday Eucharist and Franciscan theology. And there are always the topics of Straight Talk Theology...

With deep and lasting thanks for all of your love and support over these many years, I will always remember you! Keep me in your prayers, as I do you.

Peace and all good!

Fr. Bill Cieslak, OFM, Cap.
Saint Clare of Assisi
Feast Day - August 11

At the age of 18, Clare left her wealthy, noble family to follow a life of contemplation and simplicity, inspired by the preaching of Francis of Assisi; she established an enclosed order for women — the Poor Clares — whose members now number more than 15,000.

Among the writings of Clare, we have her Testament and four letters to her friend, Agnes of Prague. Although Clare would be the first to emphasize that her way of life grew out of her association with Francis, scholars today are also examining her life in its own right. Her religious life is being recovered as a model of love, penance, and perseverance for women today.

Among the many attributes reflected in Clare’s life, two stand out. The first was her unrelenting commitment to a life of utter poverty. She engaged in a lengthy contest with Church authorities who thought that such a radical, counter-cultural way of life was neither realistic nor feasible. This commitment was a testament to her inner personal strength and confidence in her ability to uphold the poverty embraced by Francis in its most radical form.

The second attribute was Clare’s humility. Perhaps only a woman of such personal strength and commitment was able to speak of herself genuinely as an “unworthy” and “useless” servant of the Poor Ladies. The “hidden sweetness” of God’s love for her in Christ enabled her to focus on others rather than herself.

The solemnity of the Assumption of Mary
Mass - Thur, Aug. 15, at 7 am and 7 pm

What is the Assumption of Mary, and what relevance does it have for our lives today?

The Assumption of Mary is the teaching that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed, body and soul, into heavenly glory.

By contemplating Mary in heavenly glory, we understand that the earth is not the definitive homeland for us either, and that if we live with our gaze fixed on eternity, we, too, will one day share in this same glory.

Special Collection this weekend for the Church in Latin America, the Church in Africa, and the Church in Eastern Europe.

This weekend, we are participating in the annual “Special Needs collection” for the Church in Latin America, the Church in Africa, and the Church in Eastern Europe.

Why do we join in these collections?

We demonstrate our care and concern for the larger Church, of which we are a part. Offering what we can to the special collections is a reminder that we, as Catholics, belong to a worldwide Church, and how we can help others is a way to say thank you to God for the kindness we have been shown.

Upcoming special collections:
Sep. 14 & 15  The Catholic University
Sep. 28 & 29  Franciscan Missionary Union
Oct. 19 & 20  Mission Sunday

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Sep. 14 & 15  The Catholic University
Sep. 28 & 29  Franciscan Missionary Union
Oct. 19 & 20  Mission Sunday
Family Faith Formation  Aug. 11
The Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

REFLECTION: Waiting, waiting, waiting. In line at the grocery store, on the phone, for a package to arrive or an appointment to show up. We find ourselves in this space quite often if we think about it. How do we deal with waiting? In this society of instant gratification, I would dare say that most of the time, we get anxious and even angry at times. Today, Jesus promises that He will return, but doesn’t tell us when. Instead, we are to always be ready no matter the day or time. Are we to live in anxious expectation? No, we are called to live lives of discipleship and faithful stewardship. It is our responsibility to respond to the life that Jesus calls us to — living simply, with integrity, detached from possessions, alert, ready and attentive to what discipleship calls us to. In living this way, we are always ready for Jesus to come, whether it is the second coming or in the people and events around us. Let us ask God for the courage to live out this Gospel “lifestyle.”

CONVERSATION: If Jesus was coming to your house, how would you prepare?

PROCLAMATION/DISCUSSION:
LUKE 12:35-40
How does Jesus tells His disciple to wait?
When is Jesus coming?
Why does Jesus tell His followers to be ready?

ACTION: Fire Drill! Have a family fire drill. Go over escape routes, emphasize the need to move quickly and not go back in after they are out. Afterward, talk about the necessity of being prepared. Relate to the Gospel — being prepared to meet God at any moment.

CONCLUDING PRAYER:
Thank you God for always loving us, for keeping us in your care, for the gifts of Faith, Hope and Love, and for Jesus in whose name we pray. Amen.
Thank You, Don

Don Petersen recently completed a six-year term on the Franciscan Renewal Center Board of Directors. Along with his Board service, Don faithfully worked on the Finance Committee for many years. He also served on the Major Gifts Committee for the Capital Campaign, from its inception through to the end. Don has been part of the Casa community since 1987. Please join me in thanking Don for his many years of dedicated service to the Casa.

— Pat Bennier, CVA, Director of Volunteer Services

For volunteer opportunities, contact Pat Bennier at volunteer@thecasa.org or 480.355.0361

Thank you for your stewardship!

Mass Offerings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.28.19</td>
<td>$16,448.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.29.18</td>
<td>$16,296.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.30.17</td>
<td>$15,519.50</td>
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We received 244 collection envelopes.

SUPPORT GROUPS

No appointments required. All Are Welcome.

Monday:
6:30 - 8 pm: Divorce/Separation/Relationship Endings
5:30 - 7 pm: Grieving the Loss of a Loved One
6:30 - 8 pm: Depression and Anxiety

Wednesday:
6:30 - 8 pm: Addiction & Family

Books and Blessings

bookstore & spiritual boutique at the Casa

Featuring original art, gifts, jewelry, statuary, greeting cards and books that feed the heart and soul. Located in the Capistrano building.

Monday - Wednesday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Thursday - Saturday 10:00 am - 6:30 pm
Sunday 8:30 am - 2:00 pm and 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Please stop by. We look forward to serving you!
Visit us online at Booksandblessingsgiftshop.com

For more information about our Counseling Ministry, please call 480.948.7460, ext. 134 or email: counseling@thecasa.org
Together, we’ve assembled a thousand Casa Kindness Bags for our homeless brothers and sisters.

This year, we have a new project that offers our kindness to individuals, children, and families who are food-insecure. This project is the assembly of Casa Food-for-a-Meal Bags for the Desert Mission Food Bank.

YOU CAN HELP:

VISIT the Hunger Action Ministry (HAM) table in the Hospitality area to sign up to donate food items or make monetary donations toward our new project, the Casa Food-for-a-Meal Bags. Our goal is to assemble 300 Casa Food-for-a-Meal Bags. The bags include such items as: pouches of tuna fish, a box of macaroni and cheese, cans of low-sodium vegetables and light fruit, protein bars, etc. A complete list of items can be found at the table in the Hospitality area. Sign up through Sign-Up Genius, which will offer the number of items needed and will track items so we know how many of each item we expect to receive.

Find us in the Hospitality area these upcoming weekends: Aug. 17/18, 24/25 and Sept. 7/8, 14/15.

Collection of donated items: items are due at the Casa Hospitality area on Saturday, September 21 (after 5 pm Mass) or Sunday, September 22 (from 7:30 am to 12 pm).

ATTEND Hunger Action Sunday Through our Hands Event on September 22 at 12:15 pm and help assemble the meal bags. Our speaker is Yolanda Soto from Borderlands Rescue Produce. Visit the Casa Events web page for registration information or follow this link: HAM9/22 in the digital bulletin.

For information, visit Hunger Action Ministry (HAM) webpage or contact hungeraction@thecasa.org

English as a Second Language
New Volunteer Meeting

The English as a Second Language Ministry is in need of teachers and teacher aides to work at sites around the valley. Each site has an experienced teacher leading the ESL sessions. But, those leaders would greatly appreciate another experienced person, as well as volunteers who want to work one on one with students.

Come to the ESL New Volunteer Information session on Tuesday, August 20 from 6:30 - 8 pm in the Serra Room in Piper Hall.

Also plan to attend the Curriculum Review and Sharing meeting on Saturday, August 24 from 9 -11:30 am in the Serra Room in Piper Hall.

For more information, contact Patti Sills-Trausch.

Upcoming Faith in Action Ministry Meetings

Valley Interfaith Project Casa Core Team meets on Thursday, August 15 at 6:30 pm in the Sr. Luca room. They will continue to plan for the fall projects concerning water issues and education.

Care for Creation Ministry team meets on Monday, August 12 at 4:30 pm in the Bonaventure room. They are planning the fall movie night and finalizing plans for an FRC reusable water bottle.

Come check out these ministry efforts.

For more information about Faith in Action Ministries, contact Patti Sills-Trausch at 480.355.0348 or socialconcerns@thecasa.org; Laura Libertore at 480.355.5645 or laura@thecasa.org.
Getting Ready For Autumn Programs...

September 6 - 8  Boundless Compassion Retreat
September 7      Mindful Meditation
September 13 - 15 St. Francis Repairs the Church
         World Peace Day
September 21    Hunger Action Workshop:
            Through Our Hands
September 22    Women in Diversity (Group Discussion)
September 26    Compassionate Communication
September 27 - 29 Retirement and Conscious Aging Retreat

Reach for the Stars
Wednesdays, Oct. 2, 9, 16, and 23 7 - 8:30 pm
Susan Wrubel

Improve flexibility and body strength by using gentle stretching and allow stress and worry to slip away while being underneath the beautiful sky of stars!

Fee: $40.
Pre-registration required.

Saturday, Oct. 5, 9 am - 3 pm
Hank Molder

Come learn about and experience the beautiful sound of the Native American Flute.

Fee per person: $70, lunch included.
Pre-registration required. Limited seating only.
Flute is hand-made: $50. Purchase in class and paid directly to presenter.

Embracing a Spirituality of Imperfection: Following the Example of Henri Nouwen
Monday, Oct. 14—Wednesday, Oct. 16
Wil Hernandez

Discover how we can use our brokenness as a way to find wholeness.

Fee: Commuter $135, Single room $250, Double occupancy $150 per person. Fees include meals. Pre-registration required. Please call 480.948.7460 ext. 132 or register online.

The Way of Henri Nouwen
Monday, Oct. 18—Wednesday, Oct. 20
Wil Hernandez

Fee: Commuter $135, Single room $250, Double occupancy $150 per person. Fees include meals. Pre-registration required. Please call 480.948.7460 ext. 132 or register online.

For more information or to register for any of these programs, visit thecasa.org or call 480.948.7460 ext. 132
Who Am I? I Am Grieving
Thursday, Oct. 17, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Marcy Moore, MPS
This series will include reflection, meditation, and journaling in order to examine your inner thoughts and feelings and provide a place for healing.
Fee: $40 per person for 3 classes.
Pre-registration required.
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Introduction To Centering Prayer
Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 am - 1 pm
Carole Whittaker, PhD and Mary Bencomo, MA
Receive information on the practice of Centering Prayer and enjoy the opportunity to sit in silence.
Fee: $35, snacks and refreshments provided; lunch is not included.
Pre-registration required.
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Science & Faith
Saturday, Oct. 19, 9 am - 12 pm
Paul Mueller, SJ
Since Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, we need to be concerned not only with what is True in science and in faith but also with what that means for us – for our Way of Life. Fr. Mueller’s approach will be both academic and pastoral.
Fee: $30 with lunch at 12 pm.
Register with The Vatican Observatory for $45.
Pre-registration required.
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The Vatican Observatory
Saturday, Oct. 19, 12 pm - 3 pm
Paul Mueller, SJ
Learn about the particular history of the Vatican Observatory: Why does the Pope have an observatory? What are its activities and contributions, historically and in the present day? We will discuss several modern discoveries in astronomy and astrophysics, and reflect on what they could mean for faith and for human life.
Fee: $30 with lunch at 12 pm.
Register with Science & Faith for $45.
Pre-registration required.
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Envisioning a Beautiful World
Saturday, Oct. 26, 9 am - 12 pm
Laura Libertore
Join Laura as we explore the key themes and principles of Catholic Social Teaching as they apply to peacemaking, the common good and how they shape our call to lives of love and service in the world.
Fee: $35 includes lunch, Pre-registration required.
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St. Bonaventure's Journey Into God Retreat
Thursday, Oct. 31—Friday, Nov. 8
Fr. André Cirino, OFM & Josef Raischl, OFS
Spend some time learning about the life of St. Bonaventure and his journey of developing a relationship with God.
Fees, including meals: $550; with lodging $995 single, $725 double per person.
Pre-registration required.
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World Peace Day
Saturday, Sep. 21, 9 am - 2 pm
The PEACE DAY Aerial Photo is Back by Popular Demand! You can sign up to be a part of the Aerial Photo for Peace Day on September 21. Casa Peace Ministry will have a table in the Hospitality area after all Masses on the following dates:
- Sign up - August 18th
- Sign up - September 8th
The word this year is: “PEACE.”
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Several years ago, I began going to morning Mass each Monday. I met many wonderful people there, and one that stood out was my good friend, Chris French. She was a little lady who came to Mass each morning and made the Energizer bunny look like a slacker!

Chris shared with me how much she loved and cared for her family. She prepared vast amounts of food each day for her four grandsons, because their mom could not work long nursing shifts and also cook for her hungry brood. Chris did not whine or complain, rather spoke with great love of what she could contribute to make their lives better. She never worried about herself, rather about her husband, Phil, or her daughters and their respective families.

That was over five years ago, and once again I am amazed by God’s perfect timing. Two months ago, I was celebrating with Chris as she readied herself and Phil for a trip to Hawaii with their youngest daughter and her family. Chris was so excited about spending some time in paradise, away from the day-to-day routine that she lived with gusto. They were scheduled to leave on the morning of Monday, June 2. I went to morning Mass as usual, then coffee after Mass, just like any other Monday. What made that Monday different was that my sweet friend did in fact leave for paradise, but there would be no return trip for her. When Fr. Peter told us that Chris had passed on that morning, he said that she was now in Paradise, precisely where she wanted to be. I miss you, Chris, but I know exactly where you are.

— Sarah Privée, Major Gifts Officer 480.355.0357
Faith Sharing Groups

Casa Prayer Partners Ministry petitions prayers and prays for our human family. Send requests to: CasaPrayerPartners@gmail.com

Casa Rosary Prayer Group meets every Tuesday, 6 pm in the Meditation Chapel to share our prayer intentions, and those of the community. Through the Rosary, we seek to deepen our relationship with Christ and each other as we contemplate with Mary the face of Christ.

Casa Singles Single, Divorced, Widowed — AGES 40+, meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 7 pm. For more information and to be added to the email list, contact rick@thecasa.org.

Cornerstone at the Casa Meditation Wednesdays 11:30 am in the Spiritual Direction/Cornerstone Center and Mondays 8:30 am in Room B. All are welcome.

Men in Spirit This group of Christian men meets the first Saturday of every month for 7 am Mass, breakfast, then discussion, study, lectures and guidance. Contact: Al Sapia-Bosch or Chuck Jirauch: MenInSpirit@thecasa.org.

The Order of Secular Franciscans (OFS) Peace Fraternity meets at the Casa on the second Sunday of the month from 2 - 4 pm. This canonical Order of the Catholic Church is open to lay Catholics. Contact: Pat Kennedy, OFS, at 602.284.9343.

Nonprofit Meetings and Conferences

Nonprofit organizations are offered an exclusively serene gathering place for meetings, conferences and special events. For more information about hosting your next nonprofit event at the Casa, contact Indra Rodney, Director of Meetings & Conferences at 480.355.5632 or indra@thecasa.org.

Spiritual Direction

A spiritual director/companion is trained to listen and encourage you to explore a closer relationship with God through conversation, listening and prayer. If you are curious about spiritual direction at the Casa, or would like to make an appointment, please contact: Cathy Olds at 480.948.7460, x162 or spiritualdirection@thecasa.org.

Upcoming Special Collections

Sept. 14,15: The Catholic University
Sept. 28,29: Franciscan Missionary Union (Province)
Oct. 19,20: Mission Sunday (Diocese)

Mass Intentions

August 11 – August 17, 2019

Sunday Pro-Populo 7:30 am
Sara and Charlie Kimberly 9:15 am
William (Bill) Dolan 11:00 am
Dallas LeBarber 7:00 pm

Monday Diane Ladisio 7:00 am

Tuesday Joe Prasek 7:00 am

Wednesday James Girard 7:00 am

Thursday Frances Osiol and Irv Hlava 7:00 am

Friday Flinn Family 7:00 am

Saturday Chris Monaco 7:00 am
George Wendell 5:00 pm

For weekly readings, please visit usccb.org.

Mass Intentions for Next Week


The intentions listed here will be the intentions of the priest and will not be announced to the gathered assembly.

About the Franciscan Renewal Center

In 1951, the Casa de Paz y Bien began as a Catholic retreat center in Scottsdale. Now, as the Franciscan Renewal Center (still affectionately called the Casa) we offer opportunities for spiritual growth, healing and transformation that moves lives into the service of others.

The Casa was founded by and is today an active religious community of the Order of Friars Minor — part of the worldwide Franciscan family, following the footsteps of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi. The Casa is a wholly owned entity of the Franciscan Friars Province of Saint Barbara, based in Oakland, California, that works cooperatively with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix.

Activities at the Casa include daily Mass, Sunday services, private retreats, gathering space for non-profit groups, as well as volunteer ministries that assist the poor or vulnerable, empower individuals to improve their circumstances, care for the environment, and build community fellowship. Discover more at thecasa.org or call 480.948.7460.