Upcoming at the Casa

Discover the Vision
An introduction to the Casa’s mission and ministries.
Thursday, March 5, 11 am

Compassionate Communication
Learn how to speak authentically and listen empathetically.
Thursday, March 5, 12, 19 & 26, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Celtic Spirituality
With Richard Groves
Wednesday, March 25, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

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

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5802 East Lincoln Drive • Scottsdale, Arizona 85253 • Phone 480.948.7460 • thecasa.org
**DISCOVER THE VISION**

Friars and staff will take you on a one-hour, behind-the-scenes tour of the Casa’s unique services and ministries.

**Thursdays**
- March 5            11:00 am
- March 19           6:00 pm
- April 2            11:00 am
- April 16           6:00 pm

*Reserve your spot today:*
- online: thecasa.org/discover-vision/
- phone: 480.355.5631
- email: rsvp@thecasa.org

**CHURCH ART & ARCHITECTURE**

No reservation needed. Meet at the church.
- **Wednesday,** March 11, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
- **Sunday,** March 15, 12:30 pm - 1:15 pm
- **Wednesday,** March 25, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
- **Sunday,** April 5, 12:30 pm - 1:15 pm
- **Wednesday,** April 8 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

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**YELLOW LIGHT, RED LIGHT**

The traffic light turned yellow, and my friend did the right thing and stopped at the crosswalk, even though she could have sped up and beaten the red light.

The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

She was still in mid-rant when she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The cop ordered her out of the car with her hands up, then took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed and placed in a holding cell.

A couple of long hours later, another policeman opened the cell door and escorted the woman back to the booking desk. There, the arresting officer met her and returned her personal effects.

He said, “I’m very sorry for this mistake, when I pulled up behind your car, you were blowing your horn, flipping off the lady in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at her. Then I noticed the ‘What Would Jesus Do’ bumper sticker, ‘Choose Life’ license plate holder and the chrome plated Christian Fish emblem on the trunk, so I naturally assumed you had a stolen car.”

During this season of Lent, calm down, be respectful and kind to everyone. Remember that you and everyone you encounter are created in the image and likeness of God.

Peace and Good,

Deacon Hervé Lemire, OFM
Lenten practices—
Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving

Customary observances during Lent focus on three areas: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. But, it might be more meaningful to consider how these practices can support and enrich each other.

Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. This form of fasting is one of the Church’s practices of public penance.

On Fridays at the Casa, we offer a simple soup supper following the Stations of the Cross. Come as you are and sit around a table with other members of the community in this simple meal. Donations are gratefully accepted and given to the poor. This is a thoughtful combination of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Food is the great leveler. We all eat, but when we do it in community, it breaks the ice, and gives us something to talk about or comment on. It helps with community building.

Food and breaking bread together—this kind of meal is the continuation of that intimacy with one another that we share at Mass. Jesus ate with his friends often. A good deal was probably discussed over those meals, but mostly they became a close knit team around the table. We can do the same.

What are you “doing” for Lent?

There are unlimited ways of connecting this threefold Lenten challenge: works of personal charity, attending Mass daily or several times a week, praying the Rosary or the way of the Cross, attending an evening prayer service such as “Taize Prayer,” teaching the illiterate to read, reading to the blind, helping at a soup kitchen, visiting the sick and shut-ins and giving a young mother a break by babysitting. All of these can be more meaningful than simply “giving up chocolate for Lent.”

Let us all pray for the gift of integrity and the strength to keep Lent faithfully.

Curt Sather began music lessons on the accordion at age 7 in Wisconsin. He received music degrees in organ performance from Arizona State University, and the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY. He served 13 years as Organist & Choirmaster of St. Barnabas on the Desert Episcopal Church in Scottsdale, AZ, before residing 4 years at the historic Benedictine monastery of San Miniato al Monte, Florence, Italy, performing daily recitals, as well as serving as an organist in the Duomo (Cathedral) of Florence. Subsequent full-time positions were held in Milwaukee, WI; Los Angeles, CA; and Olympia, WA. He is currently residing in New York where he is Organist for St. John’s Episcopal Church in Delhi, and St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in Hobart. In addition to performing as Organist and Choir Director throughout the USA, Europe, New Zealand and Australia, Dr. Sather has recorded several CDs, and has, for decades, performed recitals on March 21 to celebrate the Birthday of Johann Sebastian Bach, including two 24-hour marathons of the complete organ works of J. S. Bach (2006 & 2017).

Fridays during Lent
“Prayer, Fasting, & Almsgiving”

5:45 pm  Stations of the Cross
6:15 pm  Simple Soup Supper
7:00 pm  Taize Prayer Around the Cross
(except March 6)
**TEEN TALK!**

**What are teens giving up for Lent?**

*Check out what these teens are saying...*

“Last year, I didn’t give up anything for Lent, I just added more prayer time. This year, I am going to add more prayer time and give up Facebook.” — Joseph

“This year, I’m giving up shoes as often as possible.” — Paul

“I’ve heard of people giving up their beds for Lent. They slept on the floor or the couch.” — Anna

“I didn’t do this, but last year two of my friends gave up warm water for their showers.” — Maria

“I gave up spoons and forks. I learned to use chopsticks. It was funny for my friends and made it easy to talk about Lent in a way that people were cool with. We laughed a lot.” — Matt

“Each day of Lent, I wrote a letter of thanks to a person that touched my life in one way or another and I prayed for that person on that day...it was a wonderful experience!” — Peter

“This year, I’m giving up the radio in my car in order to focus more on the things that are around me that God created.” — Sandy

*OLA TEENS—What Are Your Plans?*

Stop by the RCIA table and write down your Lent plans and ideas, which will be shared with the teens preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist this Easter.

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**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION**

*First Sunday of Lent * March 1

**REFLECTION:** After His Baptism, Jesus was driven to the desert by the Spirit to reflect and pray for forty days. The desert was a place of trial, a place of aloneness, a place where all is revealed—for there is nowhere to hide. Here, Jesus was forced to come face-to-face with Himself and His identity. Lent lavishes on us the grace and the space for a “time out” to enter our desert and honestly reflect on what the Paschal mystery means to us. More importantly, how are we called to live this out? What does it mean to die to self and become alive in Christ and how do we pass this mystery and way of life on to our children and families?

Great questions for all of us to reflect on during this Holy Season of preparation.

**CONVERSATION:**

How do you resist temptation?

**PROCLAMATION/DISCUSSION:**

Read Matthew 4:1-11.

- Why did Jesus go into the desert?
- How was Jesus tempted?
- What did he do?

**ACTION:** Point out to your family that Jesus was tempted, just like we sometimes are, but was obedient to God’s Will. Talk about what Lenten resolutions each person has made. Write them out and put them inside your family Bible. Decide what you will do as a family to observe Lent this year.

**CONCLUDING PRAYER:**

God of life, You gave Your Son, Jesus, strength in the desert. Give us the strength to do what is right and to stand up for what we believe in. Amen.
Jon Allen “the Rose Guy!”

Did you ever wonder how our Casa roses seem to magically know when to bloom every year for Easter? It’s not such an easy feat to have that happen on a date that can vary by more than a month from year to year. It takes dedicated volunteers like Jon Allen. Our grounds here at the Casa are an integral part of the experience for our community and our guests. It takes a lot of work and perseverance to keep them beautiful. Jon Allen is one of a few devoted volunteers who show up every week to make this happen. He can be seen pruning, weeding and planting in the rose garden almost every week. Right beside Jon are a whole group of passionate, dedicated folks who don’t mind getting a little dirt under their nails. They are called the Casa Gardeners, and you don’t need to be a master gardener to enjoy the fellowship and work engaged by them. If you would like to learn more about this ministry, contact me and I will introduce you to some wonderful people.

— Pat Bennier, 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

2.16.20  $23,221.00
2.17.19  $22,538.50
2.18.18  $25,966.50

We received 271 collection envelopes.

SUPPORT GROUPS

No appointments required. All Are Welcome.

Monday:
6:30 - 8 pm:  Divorce/Separation/Relationship Endings

Tuesday:
5:30 - 7 pm:  Grieving the Loss of a Loved One
6:30 - 8 pm:  Depression and Anxiety

For more information about our Counseling Ministry, please call 480.948.7460, ext. 134 or email: counseling@thecasa.org

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.
The Casa Habitat Ministry
Home Is Where the Heart Is

Baked goods for donations: Visit Habitat's Hospitality table after the morning Masses on **Sunday, March 22**. Home-baked goods will be available for donation.

Your donations help to support the Casa Habitat Ministry; not only in the work of building homes, but also the lunches provided for the builders, and the housewarming-dedication gifts given to our Habitat Home Families.

Would you like to help build the 14th Casa Habitat Home with our fellow builders from the Caritas Catholic Coalition? If so, contact **thecasahabitat@thecasa.org**. There are many more dates to "build" available this spring. Stop by the table in Hospitality after all Masses for more information.

Celebrate the Word of God with
**Just Scripture**

March 8, 9 - 10:30 am
in the Brother Anthony Room in Piper Hall

Second Sunday monthly sharing from a perspective of Franciscan values:

- Biblical issues of justice and mercy that impact our world today.
- How do the Sunday readings connect with daily life?
- No previous study of Scripture is needed.

**All are Welcome.**

For more information, contact: **kgarast@aol.com**.
Provide your contact information, and you will receive the monthly invitation, readings and meeting location.

Apache Fair Trade Crafting Ministry
Is Holding Sales During March

Come support the crafters of the San Carlos Apache Reservation by purchasing beautiful handmade jewelry, baskets and other items. Volunteer sellers will be set up in front of the dining room from 11 am - 1:30 pm on:

* **Saturday, March 7**
* **Saturday, March 21**

You can also support the ministry by becoming one of the volunteer sellers. More volunteers mean more sales to support the crafters. Training is provided.
For more information, email: **AFTCO@thecasa.org**.

Kino Border Initiative (KBI) is a bi-national, non-partisan, nonprofit that treats migrant people and families with dignity and provides humanitarian assistance.

- Last year, 131,725 meals were served, 296 women and children were sheltered, and 4,059 received medical care.
- KBI has produced several publications documenting abuse of migrants based on hundreds of interviews.

For more information on the dinner and to volunteer, go to the KBI website at **www.kinoborderinitiative.org**.
Looking Ahead to April at the Casa

April 2  The Art & Text of *The Saint John’s Bible*
April 4  Franciscan Vision Series:
         The Naked Truth: Why St. Francis Took Off All
         of His Clothes in Front of the Bishop of Assisi
April 5 - 8  Holy Week Retreat—Part 1
April 9 - 12  Holy Week—Triduum
April 16, 23, & 30  Who Am I? I Am Grieving
April 25  Education For Peace—Developing Skills and
         Capacities for Peacemakers

Please visit the online registration portal to learn more about
these and other upcoming programs.
You can read about the presenters, and register online at:
frc.retreatportal.com/events

Food for Thought: Lenten Course on
Hunger and Food Insecurity
*Monday, Mar. 2, 6:30 - 8:30 pm*
*Casa Hunger Action Ministry*

This course occurs over four Mondays in Lent:
March 2, 9, 16 and 23.
Sponsored and facilitated by the Casa Hunger
Action Ministry.

**Fee:** $40 per person.
**Pre-registration required.**

Compassionate Communication
*Thursday, Mar. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 6:30 - 8:30 pm*
*Christine Dove*

Compassionate Communication offers a process
that helps us find a way through these difficult
situations. You will learn how to speak authentically
and listen empathetically.

This class fills up quickly, so please register early.

**Fee:** $70 for four sessions.
**Pre-registration required.**

For more information or to register for any of these programs
please visit thecasa.org or call 480.948.7460 ext. 132
Legacy Workshop Series: Planning for End of Life
Saturday, Mar. 7, 9:30 - 11:30 am
Mary Dunn
This workshop will help you prepare for the challenges that often arise in the later years of life and make choices that reflect your values and what matters most to you.

Fee: $20 per person. Pre-registration required.

The Joy of Journaling
Saturday, Mar. 14, 9 am - Noon
Bonnie Wasniewski
Come for a morning that will give you basic knowledge, tools and that little nudge that can help you discover the joy of journaling and get you started writing!

Fee: $45 per person, includes lunch. Bring your favorite pen and journal or paper. Pre-registration required.

The Art & Text of The Saint John’s Bible
Thursday, Mar. 19, 10 - 11 am
Paula White
The major Illuminations are presented in this special gathering. Discussion will be about how the images and the Word of God bring understanding to the Biblical text.

No Fee. Pre-Registration required.

Celtic Spirituality
Wednesday, Mar. 25, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Richard Groves
The Celtic Christian tradition emerged in the 5th Century and produced great saints and scholars like Brigit, Columba, Kevin and many others. They produced remarkable spiritual perspectives and practices focused on our relationship to the natural world and the importance of spiritual companions called anam cara (soul friends). Today, this wisdom is re-emerging all over the world as many seekers hunger for a spirituality that trusts the Divine Light within each person and can heal our wounded planet. This evening workshop will inspire and offer a wealth of insight into a way of relating to God that transcends many of today’s political, cultural and religious tensions.

Fee: $25 per person. Pre-registration required.

Emmaus Retreat for Grieving Parents
Friday, Mar. 27—Sunday, Mar. 29
Marianne Gouveia & Fr. Peter Kirwin, OFM
The retreat is offered by grieving parents who have lost children of their own, and is supported by spiritual leaders who understand this ministry. Together, we provide an opportunity for parents to gather in a sacred, warm, and compassionate space with others who know their pain. Many parents find peace and comfort, at least for a time. All faiths are welcome.

Fee: $135 commuter, includes meals; with lodging $225 single, $135 double per person. Pre-registration required.

For more information or to register for any of these programs please visit thecasa.org or call 480.948.7460 ext. 132
Affection for the Casa

Like many others in the Valley, my first introduction to the Casa was that of driving past it on Lincoln Drive. I was drawn, visually, to its stunning location at the base of Mummy Mountain on its large expanse of land square in the center of Paradise Valley. That was 30 years ago.

Since that time, I have been blessed by a true friendship with the Casa through my introduction to Father Joe Schwab and Charles Brown. I have a professional colleague, April Moore, to thank for that meeting. Her enthusiasm for the spiritual growth and support experienced at the Casa was infectious. I was her guest at the Fifth Annual Renewing Lives Breakfast. Listening to testimonies of those whose lives were touched by the Casa, meeting Tau Society members, and gaining a better understanding of the ways in which the Casa builds community fellowship, all confirmed my commitment to support the Casa’s future.

As this new year begins, I reflect on yet another Renewing Lives Breakfast hosted at Mountain Shadows. Although our resort’s connection to the Casa endures the year through, it is never more validated than by welcoming the volunteers, community members, friars and staff of the Franciscan Renewal Center to this uplifting annual event. I am grateful for the opportunity to support this cause and am blessed by the friendship we share today...and for days to come.

—Bill Nassikas, Mountain Shadows and Westroc Hospitality
Mass Intentions
March 1, 2020 – March 7, 2020

Sunday
Benefactors FMU
Pro-populo
Joseph Giovenco
Teresa Valdivieso
7:30 am
9:15 am
11:00 am
7:00 pm

Monday
Carlos, Bill, Crista Stalcup
7:00 am

Tuesday
John O’Morrow
7:00 am

Wednesday
Dan Sullivan
7:00 am

Thursday
Mary Murillo Rivera
7:00 am

Friday
Al Watkins
7:00 am

Saturday
Julie Martin
Frank Missurelli
7:00 am
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.