

June 22-23, 2024

Santa Catalina

14380 N DRAGLE RD, TUCSON 85739
WWW.SANTACATALINAPARISH.ORG

Catholic Church

A REDEMPTORIST COMMUNITY

Pastoral Team

Fr. Huy Vu, C.Ss.R
Pastor
frhuy@santacatalinaparish.org
Redemptorist Renewal Center

Deacon Flavio Sanchez
Deacon Alfonso De LaRiva

Parish Office

(520)-825-9611
Mon-Fri 9:00 am-3:30 pm

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass

Mon-Fri 8:00 am

Weekend Mass

Sat Vigil, 4:00 pm
Sun 7:00 am, 9:00 am,
11:00 am (Bi-lingual), 5:00 pm

Reconciliation

Wed 8:45-10:00 am
Sat 2:30-3:30 pm
... or by appointment

Anointing

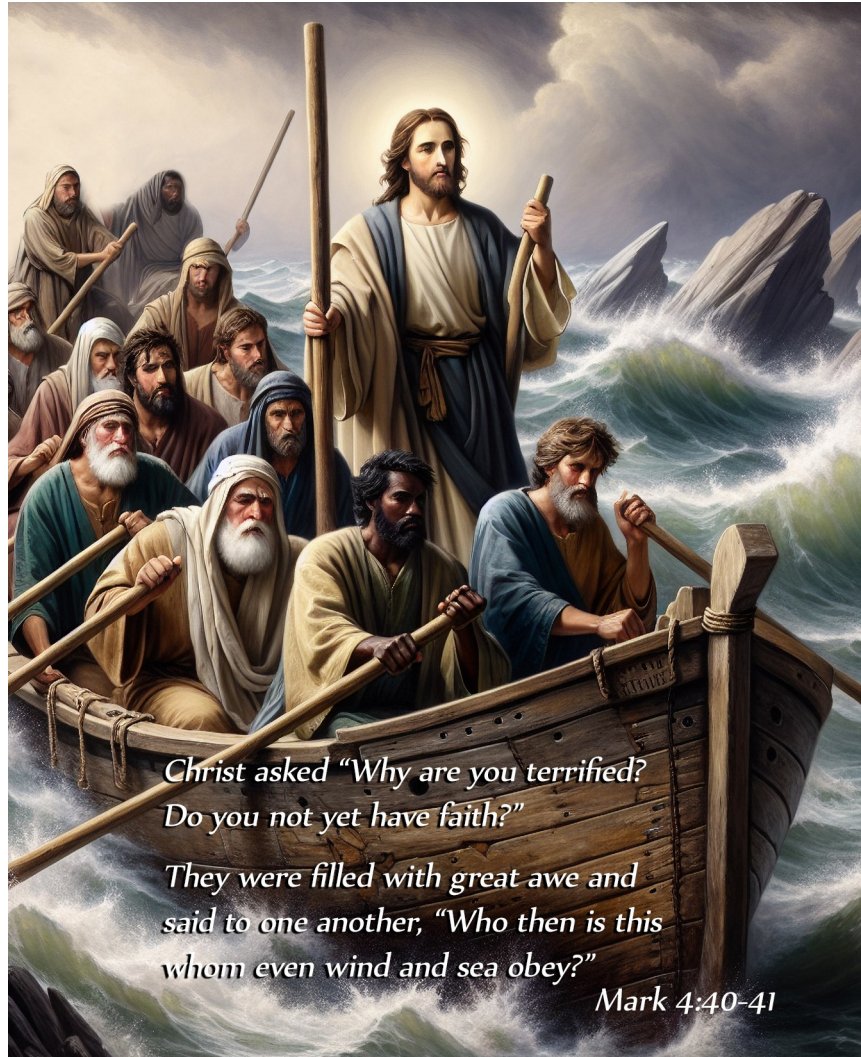
First Friday of the month
at 8:00 am Mass
... or by appointment

Adoration

In church, Wed 8:30-11:00 am
Benediction at 10:45 am.
Chapel hours, Mon-Thu
8:00 am-2:30 pm

Rosary in the Church

Mon-Fri 7:30 am



*Christ asked "Why are you terrified?
Do you not yet have faith?"*

*They were filled with great awe and
said to one another, "Who then is this
whom even wind and sea obey?"*

Mark 4:40-41

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Mission:

As members of God's Faith Community at Santa Catalina Catholic Parish, we commit our lives to being the voice, hands, and spirit of Christ, as our way of continuing God's call to love and peace.

Misión Parroquial:

Como miembros de la Comunidad de Fe de Dios en la Parroquia Católica Santa Catalina, comprometemos nuestras vidas a ser la voz, las manos y el espíritu de Cristo, como nuestra forma de continuar el llamado de Dios al amor y la paz.

Parish Vision:

Together as a parish, we will strengthen our spiritual and personal lives so we can live out our mission as disciples. Led by the Redemptorist Charism, we will follow Christ the Redeemer, to build communities where all people can encounter the message of plentiful redemption, to serve the most abandoned, to minister to those in need and to be evangelized by them.

Visión Parroquial:

Juntos como parroquia, fortaleceremos nuestra vida espiritual y personal para que podamos vivir nuestra misión como discípulos. Guiados por el Carisma Redentorista, seguiremos a Cristo Redentor, para construir comunidades donde todas las personas puedan encontrar el mensaje de abundante redención, y servir a los más abandonados, ministrar a los necesitados y ser evangelizados por ellos.

THIS IS OUR PARISH — ENGAGE — BE PART OF THE VISION



Spiritual

Providing ways for us to enter into a closer relationship with God and be excited & understand our faith

Adoration
Bible Study
Daily Rosary
Hispanic Ministry
Cultvando Mi Fe
Matachines
Society of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Men's Fellowship Group
R.C.I.A.
Religious Education
Vocations Ministry
Women's Prayer Group

Personal

Providing help for people to care for their bodies and minds

AA
Al-Anon
Arts & Crafts Group
Book Bunch
Game Night
Mental Health Ministry
Outreach Ministry
Sassy Solos
YogaFaith

Pastoral

Meeting the needs of our home, the parish, to support the parishioners

Communion Ministry with the Sick and Homebound
Finance Council
Funeral Ministry
GriefShare
Liturgical Ministry:
Altar Servers
Art & Environment
Eucharist
Hospitality
Lector
Martha's Kitchen
Music Ministry
Pastoral Council
Stephen Ministry

Outreach

Serving most in need & abandoned and to be evangelized by them

Dignity of Human Life
Knights of Columbus
Monthly Food Drive
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Project Linus Quilters
Social Awareness & Justice Ministry:
Caring For God's Creation
Casa Alitas
Casa Maria
Christ Child Society of Tucson
Dress a Girl Around the World
Local Immersion Ministry
Poor Box Program
Prison Ministry
Refugee Ministry
Snack Pack Program
Sr. Jose Women s Ministry
Troubled Youth
St Vincent de Paul

Ministry Meetings and Events for the Week of June 24

Day	Time	Meeting/Event	Location
Mon, Jun 24	10:00 AM	St Vincent de Paul	Marian Room
	4:00 PM	Music Ministry/choir rehearsal	Church
Tue, Jun 25	1:30 PM	Arts & Crafts for All	Cholla Room
	5:30 PM	Music Ministry - Bilingual Choir	Church
	6:00 PM	Men's Prayer Group	Marian Room
	6:00 PM	Women's Prayer Group	Saguaro Room
Wed, Jun 26	8:30 AM	Eucharistic Adoration	Church
	8:45 AM	Reconciliation	Church
	10:00 AM	St Vincent de Paul	Marian Room
	1:00 PM	Understanding Sunday Scripture	Catalina Room
Thu, Jun 27	6:30 PM	R.C.I.A.	Mesquite Room
	9:00 AM	Fingerprinting	Parish Hall
	4:00 PM	Al-Anon "High Hopes" Meeting	Marian Room
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting	Marian Room
Fri, Jun 28			
Sat, Jun 29	2:30 PM	Reconciliation	Church
Sun, Jun 30	3:30 PM	R.C.I.A.	Mesquite

Contacts

520-825-9611

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Webmaster	Christopher Auclair		chris@thinking-cap.com

SCCC's 2024 Vacation Bible School a Success



Fr. Huy, Watson, & Seminarian Noel join Katharine and 35 children, 16 Youth Leaders and 22 volunteers.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) had a successful week. (June 10-14) led by SCCC's Religious Education Coordinator, Katharine Lopez (RE@santacatalinaparish.org).

There were 35 children who attended which represents a 40% increase over last year. The children from kindergarten – 5th grade embarked on an exciting wilderness adventure through the Sacraments. They loved all the games, songs, crafts and learning more about their faith.

There were 16 youth helpers who did a tremendous job of leading small groups of children through the Faith, Craft, Music, Games and Snack stations each day.

Father Huy was there for spiritual support and conducted a Mass at the end of VBS. Katharine had the support of 22 volunteers to make this happen.



Golder Ranch Fire Department arrived to cool things off on Day 4.

2024 Summer Mass

Schedule July 14—Sept 8th

Saturday: 4:00 PM
Sunday: 7:00 AM
9:00 AM
11:00 AM

Sunday 5:00pm Mass will resume on Sept 8th.



The Parish Office is closed Thursday & Friday July 4-5 in observance of America's Independence Day.



Learning about the virtue of self-control, Katharine demonstrated the Mento and Coke experiment that shows when you are out of control, not only are you impacted, but those around you are as well!

Meet the Ministry - Arts and Crafts Ministry

The Arts and Crafts Ministry is a group of people who share a love of creating two- and three-dimensional arts and crafts. We enjoy creating a variety of projects using multiple media: graphite, colored pencils, charcoal, watercolor, ink, acrylic, pastels, and decorative glass. We draw and paint two-dimensional art projects.

We also create cards, decorative rocks, and paper designs in three-dimensional projects. We share ideas with each other. We have

members who have been involved in personal art development for years, members who are enrolled in workshops or college art classes now, and brand-new learners who are exploring arts and crafts options. No previous experience is necessary. If you are a beginner or not sure, come see us.

We meet in the Cholla Room at the Parish Center on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 1:30 – 3:30 PM year-round (except in December). Typically,



our first meeting of the month is considered studio time where individuals work on their own specific projects; during the second meeting of the month, we learn about projects from each other and practice that new skill.

If you want to learn more about us, please contact Monica Nelson at lobby@santacatalinaparish.org.

YogaFaith

YogaFaith meets every Tuesday from 9:30-10:30 in the Santa Catalina room located in the Parish Hall.

Please bring a mat and wear comfortable clothing that

allows you to stretch and move in various standing, sitting, kneeling and prone postures. We begin with a prayer and ask for special intentions. Through cleansing breaths, we ask the Holy Spirit to be with us as we stretch and move to

realign our standing posture, strengthen our core and improve our balance.

All are welcome.



Book Bunch

Do you love to read fiction, old and new? Join us for discussion of the novel *One of Ours* by Willa Cather on July 11th. Upcoming book selections are as follows:

Aug. 8 *The Legend Of Colton H. Bryant* by Alexandra Fuller

Sept. 12 *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict

For more information please contact Marilyn Smith at lobby@santacatalinaparish.org.



Al-Anon & AA Meetings

Thursdays in the Marian Room, Al-Anon is 4-5:00 PM, contact Judy at 520-639-8650. AA is 7-8:30 PM, contact Art at 520- 825-5218.



Meet our Newest Youth Altar Server – Maya Pieterse



On Sunday, May 26th, Maya Pieterse served as a Youth Altar Server for the first time at Santa Catalina Catholic Church. Since Maya is a trained as an Altar Server at Immaculate Heart



LOWER LEFT; PAT ARRUDA, LEAD ALTAR SERVER. LOWER RIGHT; MAYA PIETERSE, OUR NEWEST ALTAR SERVER.

UPPER LEFT; DR. ALFONSO DE LARIVA. UPPER RIGHT; FR. GARY ZIURAITIS, C.S.S.R

Academy, where she is going into the 5th Grade this Fall, it was easy to brief her on the Altar Server practices here at Santa Catalina Parish.

Once the Choir started to sing, Maya processed up the aisle carrying the cross in a very dignified manner. When Maya went up to the sanctuary with Pat, Deacon Al and Father Gary, “I knew that Maya was going to do a great job”, Pat said. Maya was fully engaged in all of the Altar Server duties. “After Mass, I asked Maya what she thought”, Pat said. Maya, exclaimed, “I loved it.” Pat went on to say, “I was proud to have Maya serving with me. I look forward to seeing her serve in the future.”

Parishioners also congratulated Maya on a job well done.

If a child in your family wants to be a Youth Altar Server at Santa

Catalina Parish, they need meet the following requirements: have had their First Communion, are going into the 4th grade or higher in the upcoming school year, have taken the Circle of Grace Compliance training and have the permission and commitment of their parent(s) or guardian. The Youth Altar Server Application, Consent and Commitment Form can be picked up before and after Mass. Please see the Mass Coordinator for the form. Completed forms can be dropped off at the Parish office or given to a Mass coordinator.

If you have questions about the Youth Altar Server Ministry, please contact Sophie Zvonar at 520-825-9611 ext. 105 or szvonar@santacatalinaparish.org

The Pastoral Council Wants To Hear From You

The Pastoral Council wants your feedback, comments and questions about our parish.

Please look for us at mass or at church events (we will be wearing our name badges) and let us know what you think. You can

also send an e-mail to PC@SANTACATALINAPARISH.ORG

We also would like to start an “Ask the Pastoral Council” forum for the bulletin. So feel free to send any questions that you would like to be answered to our e-mail.



Saint of the Week:
St. Maria Faustina Kowalska

St. Faustina (1905-1938) was born Helena Kowalska in Poland to a poor family with ten children. They were devoutly Catholic, and she felt a call to the religious life at age seven, when praying in front of the exposed Eucharist. Despite wanting to become a sister as soon as she finished her schooling, she was sent to work as a housekeeper to help support the family instead.

When she was 18, she had a vision of Jesus suffering and, in the vision, Jesus asked her how long she would keep putting off entering religious life. She decided, at that moment, to travel to Warsaw and join the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. Upon entering the Congregation, she took the name Sister Maria Faustina.

During her 13 years in the Congregation, Sister Faustina experienced and recorded extraordinary revelations from Jesus. She recorded these experiences and messages into notebooks which became later known as the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska. In these writings, she reveals Jesus asking her to proclaim God’s loving message of Divine Mercy.

Alongside her writings, Sister Faustina also experienced many miraculous phenomena. There are stories of her experiencing hidden stigmata, bilocation, prophecy, and the ability to read into human souls.

Despite these occurrences, she maintained that miraculous events were simply “ornaments” for the soul and that her real sanctity came from her deep relationship with Jesus and desire to do God’s will.

After her death at age 33, her writings on Divine Mercy sparked a great movement in the worldwide Catholic church with a strong focus on the Mercy of Christ and how to extend that mercy to others.

Saint Pope John Paul II called her “the great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time.” St. Faustina, pray for us!

©LPi



ST. MARIA FAUSTINA
 KOWALSKA

Catholic Trivia

Question: What are the three occasions where ashes are used liturgically?

Answer: Ash Wednesday, the dedication of a church building, and the consecration of an altar

Today's Readings (June 23, 2024)

First Reading:

Thus far shall you come but no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stilled! (Jb 38:11)

Psalm:

Give thanks to the Lord, his love is everlasting. (Ps 107)

Second Reading:

So whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. (2 Cor 5:17)

Gospel:

They were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?” (Mk 4:41)

This Week's Gospel Meditation

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Right now, you and I are only worried about one of only two things: wind or water. Bear with me. This week we hear the account of the terrified disciples waking Jesus in a sea-storm. He chastises them for their lack of faith, and then, “rebuking the wind, he said to the sea, ‘Quiet, be still!’” He rebukes the wind and stills the water. In the Bible wind and water represent the two most fundamental poles of our experience of creation. Wind means heaven, spirit, that which gives identity, unity, order, light.

Water stands for earth, variation, potential, that which can be drawn into identity, darkness, chaos.

Too much “wind” is when things get way too rigid, abstract and ideological — when we face oppressive leaders and tyrants, when we get addicted to our own way of doing things, when



Por lo regular, cuando una persona está en problemas serios, tiende a sentirse sin rumbo y perdida. Estar en medio de la tormenta de la vida conlleva a tomar el timón y guiar hacia la calma. Pero, ¿Cómo hacerlo? ¿A quién dirigirnos? En el Evangelio de hoy, los discípulos estuvieron en medio de una fuerte tormenta y se asustaron, y llenos de miedo despiertan a Jesús. Enseguida vienen las preguntas: “Maestro ¿no te importa que nos hundamos? Él entonces se despertó. Se encaró con el viento y dijo al mar: Cállate, cálmate”. El viento se apaciguó y siguió una gran calma. Después les dijo: ¿Por qué son tan miedosos? ¿Todavía no tienen fe? (Marcos 4:38-40).

El susto de los discípulos, primero, de morir

our attention is too narrowly focused on one thing. Too much “water” is excessive novelty, passivity, indifference, and chaos — when our attention is too broadly diffused on many things, when things seem to be crumbling without direction into the dark abyss. We know both terrifying experiences all too well.

The point of the miracle is that God in Christ is the One who brings final cosmic harmony between these two vital but threatening forces. He ultimately does so from the wood of the cross, when he breathes forth the wind of his spirit and pours forth the water from his side to establish a new creation, filled with harmonious peace. When the wind and water are out of control, trust him.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

ahogados, y seguido, de ver quien era Jesús que hasta el viento y el mar le obedecían. Y Jesús, sorprendido de su falta de fe, a pesar de estar junto a él, les reprende su falta de confianza en Dios. Nosotros, también, hemos estado en situaciones difíciles en nuestra vida. El miedo y la incertidumbre al perder un ser querido, el trabajo, el de emigrar a otro país dejándolo todo. Pero, si creemos en Jesús, debemos de mantener siempre viva la esperanza, porque toda nuestra vida, queramos o no, está en manos de Dios. ¿De qué nos puede reprender Jesús ahora? ¿Cuáles son mis miedos más apremiantes? Sea lo que sea, que nunca cese nuestra oración, porque al orar, Dios vendrá en nuestro auxilio y todo tipo de situaciones tormentosas serán manejables.

This Week's Liturgy Schedule

Date	Mass	Celebrant	Intention	By
Mon, Jun 24	8:00 AM	Fr. Charlie Wehrley	Gordon Discosola (living)	Pat Avery
Tue, Jun 25	8:00 AM	Fr. Huy Vu	✠ Mike Sieverding	Joe & Deb Sieverding
			✠ Ed Kaleff	Jim & Kate Takacs
Wed, Jun 26	8:00 AM	Fr. Charlie Wehrley	✠ Joan Lemere	Kate Takacs
			✠ Robert L. Roosma	Carol Roosma
Thu, Jun 27	8:00 AM	Fr. Huy Vu	✠ Marie B. Montano	by her family
Fri, Jun 28	8:00 AM	Fr. Steve Rehrauer	✠ Stan Graves	Dave Maloney
			✠ Calixto & Remedios Yap	Evelyn Silver
Sat, Jun 29	4:00 PM	Fr. Huy Vu	Anita Valenzuela (living)	Don Romero
			✠ Bob Haines	Rita Quin
	7:00 AM	Fr. Steve Rehrauer	✠ Bette & Harry Lanyon	by daughter Beth Stanton
			✠ Patrick Ekvall	Drew & Sheliah Drowenkowski
Sun, Jun 30	9:00 AM	Fr. Lester Mendonsa	✠ Kathleen Harris	Pat Lotker
			✠ William Boynton	Deanne Boynton
	11:00 AM	Fr. Lester Mendonsa	Scott Bieber (living)	Tom & Donna Opsatnick
	5:00 PM	Fr. Charlie Wehrley	For the Intentions of the Parish	

Note: If you are viewing this bulletin electronically, instead of using the QR codes (below, right) to go to the full text of the daily readings on your phone or iPad, you may alternatively click the QR codes to visit the websites. If you are reading a printed bulletin, you can use the QR codes to view the readings on your phone or pad, by scanning them with your phone (or pad's) camera. For details on how to accomplish that visit: <https://www.asurion.com/connect/tech-tips/scan-qr-code-on-phone/>

Readings for the week of June 23, 2024

Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11/Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31 (1b)/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41

Monday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11/Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday: 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Ps 119:33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40/Mt 7:15-20

Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/Mt 7:21-29

Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Mt 8:1-4

Saturday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19

Day: Acts 12:1-11/34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Next Sunday: Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13 (2a)/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/

Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43



Spiritual



- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Cliff Bentz | Jose Gutierrez | Maureen Schlosser |
| Scott Bieber | David Maloney | Robert Shelby |
| Gail Buick | Ana F. Marquez | Linda Slivinski |
| Mario Calbone | Denjal Noval | Mary Sloan |
| Diane Clark | Margarita Peña | Charles Soulé |
| Mark Cowie | Edward Peña | Carolina Soulé |
| Mimi Cuono | Arianna Peralta | Bob Stamer |
| Albert Diaz | Frank Reilly | Kelley Thomas |
| Anita Garcia | Susann Rein | Dorothy Fuerstenberg |
| Allen Grandel | Noly Roca | |

Mary Elizabeth Kriss

Prayer for Inner Peace

Jesus, Speak your command of “Quiet! Be still!” into the dark recesses of my mind — my fears, concerns, and anxieties.
Be with me, at every moment, no matter the storm. Fix my eyes upon you. Amen.

Santa Catalina Parish



Spiritual Adoption

Jesus, Mary and Joseph
I love you very much.
I beg you to spare the life
of the unborn child that I
have spiritually adopted who is
in danger of abortion.

...Bishop Fulton J Sheen



A reminder to say your Spiritual Adoption Prayer daily - Dignity of Human Life Ministry

Stewardship

Weekend June 15-16	Totals	Attendance
Offertory	\$14,176	974
Major Maintenance	\$1,048	
Total	\$15,224	
Last Year's Offertory	\$18,162	1105
Parish Rectory	\$2,150	



Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Spiritual

The Perfect Storm

I am writing this on a Saturday morning. Saturdays are my writing days, when my husband takes over the kids and the house and I disappear into the office with an enormous cup of coffee and noise-canceling headphones. Saturdays are sacred — if work can be called sacred.

But Saturday morning is also the only time I'm able to consistently get to confession. Every other time the sacrament is offered in my area during the week, I seem to have unavoidable commitments — but on Saturday morning, all I have is work, and how can I let work come before a sacrament, as much as I might secretly want to?

I've spent a good deal of time being bitter about this, because it's just not convenient, having to carve out time from work to run to the other side of town, especially when I get there and there's a line. I sit there in the sanctuary, waiting my turn, checking the clock, stewing, fretting. Obsessing over forgetting one of my sins. Thinking of how much work I have when I get home.

Saturday mornings: a perfect storm, I sometimes call it in my head. I forge ahead, though. I've never gotten up and dashed back to my desk. I make it into the confessional and I stammer out my pathetic little list and receive absolution. Then I go before the tabernacle to perform my penance.

It's while I am kneeling there that it happens. Always. God awakens, and he cries into the depths of my heart: "Quiet! Be still! Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?"

After teaching all day by the shore of the sea, Jesus asks his disciples to remove him from the crowds. He wants to escape the noise, the clamor, the disquiet. But the clamor follows him, because the world is full of it. Storms crop up wherever we go.

Jesus sleeps through the storm, because he understands what the disciples do not: the storms of the world cannot hurt us. They are only so much noise. "Who then is this whom even wind and sea obey?"

— Mark 4:41

©LPi

Question: We are considering homeschooling our children. Does this present a problem when it is time for them to receive the sacraments? What must we do?

Answer: Homeschooling is legal in all fifty states and like other types of education, has its advantages and its drawbacks. There are many factors to consider, and each family has to decide what is the best way to educate its children.

With religious education, many dioceses have a formal policy that outlines procedures and expectations, some of which include more than just academic information. Call the religious education office to find out what they are for your area.

In general, the best first step is to make an appointment with your parish priest to discuss your situation. An opportunity to discuss what is available, what the expectations are for each sacrament, and how you can best prepare your child helps make your time of preparation more effective. The priest can direct you to good catechetical materials, parent information classes, and other choices and possibilities for your child. All parents need to be part of their child's religious education, taking a lead in instilling the values and beliefs of their faith. Communication and information help us all to teach and preach the Gospel as Jesus did. ©LPi

Outreach

Poor Box - Helping those in need in Tucson

Every quarter, the Social Awareness and Justice Ministry (SAJM) recommends local organizations that serve the poor to receive \$500 each from the "Poor Box" funds. Fr. Huy approves the recipients, Thank you for your generous donations. A recent recipient is for a special project for Gap Ministries.

John Hohn, the Executive Chef at Gap Ministries, is leading a campaign to raise funds for the construction of a new kitchen at

GAP Ministries. Their goal is to raise \$372,900, and thanks to generous supporters, they've already raised \$150,000. They have asked Santa Catalina to sponsor a square foot of the new kitchen. Our donation will purchase 2 1/2 square feet. The donation will directly support their mission, which includes:

- Culinary Training Program: Empowering over 150 individuals to enter the local workforce and transform their lives.

- Providing Meals: Over 90,000 free meals annually to children in low-income elementary schools, daycares, and after-school programs, as well as mobile meals for the elderly and those in transitional housing.
- Catering Services: Offering low-cost, high-quality catering services to our guests.



Meet the Ministry - Project Linus

The Catalina Quilters Project Linus ministry has two goals:

To provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new hand-made blankets lovingly created by volunteers;

To provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals in our parish and in

the Catalina community for the benefit of children.

The quilts created by our group number over 200 per year and are blessed by the parish pastor before turning them over to the great Tucson Project Linus leadership for distribution to hospitals, public service agencies, foster care services, migrant and domestic shelters.

We accept donations of cotton



fabric, thread, batting and tools. In addition we hold a fundraiser each year to raise money for needed supplies.

Our ministry meets at Santa Catalina Catholic Church parish hall the third Monday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Contact the parish office for more information. All sewists and quilters regardless of expertise are welcome.

Helping the homeless and disadvantaged in South Tucson

Members of the *Casa Maria Ministry* go to Casa Maria Soup Kitchen to serve meals the mornings of the third Wednesday and Friday of every

month. If you are interested in volunteering, send an e-mail to sajm@santatcatalinaparish.org.



Meet the Ministry: The Christ Child Society of Tucson

by Deb Auclair



I am a president of the Tucson Chapter of the Christ Child Society. Our goal is to aid the underserved children, new mothers and foster teens in Southern Arizona.

We do this by:

- Making Layettes (a baby shower in a bag) for mothers of newborns
- Providing drawstring bags filled with hygiene products and a daily devotional to foster teens
- Providing books for children.

I would like to share a story about our Foster Teen Program (Wings). I was buying fabric for the

drawstring bags at JoAnn's. Maria, the young girl cutting the fabric, asked me what I was making.

I told her drawstring bags for foster teens. Maria got so excited and exclaimed, "I was once one of those teens. This will mean the world to them. It shows them someone cares!"

I keep this in mind as I am sewing, that this really does make a difference. I am telling you Maria's story because we could use help making, filling and distributing these bags. Would you consider helping us with this mission? We serve 600 foster teens each year and over 400 mothers of newborns.

If you are interested in helping, please contact me, at sajm@santacatalinaparish.org, or visit <https://www.christchildtucson.org>

The Little Red Wagon Story

The Little Red Wagon became a symbol of the Christ Child Society, founded by Mary Virginia Merrick, as the result of a Christmas wish.

Paul, the son the Merrick family laundress, designated himself as Mary's errand boy. In 1884, Miss Mary asked him what he wanted for Christmas. He replied that he wanted a red wagon to help his mother deliver the wash, but then quickly added that his family was not celebrating Christmas because his father was out of work. She

then suggested that he write a letter to the Christ Child asking Him for the red wagon. Paul asked, "Who is He?" She replied, "He is the Giver of all good gifts and Christmas was His birthday!"

A few days later Paul returned with the letters from his siblings and friends. Mary gathered her sewing circle friends, asking each to fill a wish. On Christmas Day, the red wagon with the gifts were given to the children, marked simply "From the Christ Child".



CCST's Wagons are filled with Layettes, Books & Foster Teen Bags

Since then, volunteers have been driven by faith, love and a desire to make a difference. Today over 5,500 members in 45 chapters serve more than 75,000 children and their families annually.

Mary Virginia Merrick is on the path toward Sainthood.

Outreach

“Get On the Bus” Program Brings Children & Their Incarcerated Fathers Together

Contributed by Mark Kvidera & Deb Auclair

The Prison Ministry group at SCCC was asked by the Catholic Community Services, Kolbe Prison Ministry to be a part of their Get on the Bus (GOTB) Program in Southern AZ on June 14th.

GOTB annually enables children and their caregivers to visit their fathers in prison. It provides free transportation to the prison, a Father’s Day card for them to color and give to their Dads, meals and snacks for the day and a pizza dinner at the prison. The Christ Child Society provided drawstring bags full of age-

appropriate activities. We had five families (eleven children in total) participating this year.

These in-person visits are very important for the spiritual health of an incarcerated person. Data supports that in-person visits markedly reduce inmate violence.

Statistics from 1999 from the Federal Bureau of Justice found that 57% of fathers in state prison reported never having a single visit from their children. This is due to cost, distance and the fact that the vetting paperwork to enter the prison can be overwhelming.



<https://www.getonthebusaz.com>