Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple — amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.

Matthew 10:42
TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — Elisha promises a baby son to the hospitable woman (2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a).
Psalm — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).
Second Reading — We shall live in newness of life as Christ was raised from the dead (Romans 6:3-4, 8-11).
Gospel — Whoever gives but a cup of cold water to another will surely be rewarded (Matthew 10:37-42).
In Tigray, a region of Ethiopia, East Africa, a Church was hewn out of rock in the fifth century, over 1,500 years ago. The founder of the Chapel in the sky, Father Ramudda strategically positioned the Chapel in the rock to keep enemies away and to be close to heaven. For the past 47 years, Gebre A. Ruphuel, the spiritual leader of the chapel, climbs the rock every day, to pray and to serve the faithful entrusted to his care. It takes two hours to trek through sharp cleaves, and turns to reach the chapel; worshippers are advised not to look back as that may scare them from concentrating and keeping their balance. Gebre and his faithful climb the rock for two hours to encounter Jesus.

My seminary years, (about 27 years ago) were devoted to discerning as to whether to pursue becoming a priest, or fit into another profession in life. The TAN books publishers based in America got donors in the USA to sponsor sending books both to aspirants and to vocation drives across Africa (Nigeria). I was privileged to read many of their books at that time, out of which two created deep impressions on me: the first is about Purgatory, as explained by the lives and legends of the saints by Fr. F. X. Schouppe, S.J. and the second, on the Passion of Christ by John Piper. The providers of those books, as disciples carried their own part of the cross by making the books available to students who needed inspiration and guidance to grow their vocation (divine call) to the priesthood.

The way of the cross (via crucis) is the safest; do not be afraid to walk along its thorny path. One does not choose his or her cross, but self will leads one through it; your cross is prepared and appointed by divine love. Cheerfully accept the challenge. Carry your cross always without objections; do not be insolent, or step on it in vain glory, or fall under it in despair, or run away from it in fear. As a true follower of Jesus — take up your cross. Jesus was a cross-bearer; he leads through sorrow. You could not have a better guide, since he carried a cross, what better burden is there to carry? Endurance leads us into turning our cross into crown (The Book of Jesus, Calvin Miller, p.353).

Some Christians display crosses in their Churches without the dying Jesus on it, to give the devotees the impression of a risen Christ. But, the Catholic Church influenced by St. Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, chooses to display crucifixes with the suffering Jesus on it; to bring to mind that the highlight of Easter glory is not without Good Friday. Humanity tends to do things the easy way and if possible pass the responsibility on to others. As for the cross, our model, savior, and friend, Jesus Christ, personally took his responsibility; he committed himself to securing human salvation. Therefore, as his disciples reflecting on his teaching, his life and his values; our lives should be modeled to preserve our relationship with Christ, and the privilege of divine encounter.
MASS TIMES as of July 5th, 2020

Sunday Mass Times starting July 4th / 5th Weekend & Daily Mass M-F 8am
To improve physical distancing at the 9:30am Mass, St Paul will add back the 11:30am Mass starting July 5th

Weekend Mass Times: Saturday 5pm VIGIL
Sunday 7:30am, Sunday 9:30am and Sunday 11:30am

The Sunday Mass Obligation has been dispensed by Bishop Olmsted. Please stay home, stay safe and healthy if you are high risk, care for high risk or sick.

Daily Mass Times: Monday—Friday 8am (no daily Mass on Saturday morning)

ALL MASSES ARE IN MAIN CHURCH

Please observe physical distancing, wearing masks, reception on hands and use of hand sanitizers

Thank you!

THE CROSS AND HOPE
The cross of Christ is the true ground and chief cause of Christian hope. ~Pope St. Leo I

CONFESSIONS: EVERY SATURDAY
3:30-4:30PM
In air conditioning and cool conference center with individual priest classrooms 8 & 9

Do not be afraid to go to the sacrament of confession, where you will meet Jesus who forgives you!

-Pope Francis
CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THE LITURGY.

Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist (EMs) & Ushers & Adult Altar Servers & Sacristans:
As you discern your readiness to return for volunteering for Mass, please keep in mind that the Bishop’s Dispensation for attending Holy Mass on Sunday is still in effect, so keep your health and safety at the forefront. If/when you are ready to serve or would like to discuss returning or have questions about Phase I reopening to public Mass, please see Sue and/or David after any Mass these next few weeks. We will be able to spend time reviewing and train on the changes made for liturgical services. We will not be having formal classroom or meeting for re-training due to COVID restrictions. This will allow small number training over the next few weeks, as we begin to build our ministry volunteers up. If you have never served, but would like to, we will be available to discuss at that time. Thank you all very much for serving our Lord in this most intimate and pious way.

FRIENDS IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

- Michelle Montinari
- Dino DeNicola
- Ida Alonge
- Greg Pentkowski
- Pat Cummings
- John Assaf
- Harold Rotteger
- Kathy Thielen
- Jon Gordon
- Mercy Rodriguez
- Julie Del Brocco
- Tillie Nortz
- Margaret O’Brien
- Larry Manion
- Dee Padilla
- Gilbert Bracamonte
- Linda Chavez
- Lin Stoudt
- Mary Ann Agnes
- Carmel Gioglio
- Doug Davy
- Jan Luchsinger
- Larry Mackin
- Lynn Licther
- Curtis Luchsinger
- Enrique Velez
- Mildred Rowe
- Robert LaLonde
- Steve Engstler
- Phillip Vallar
- Fr. Bitrus Maigama
- Fr. Joy Vargas
- Jackie Ignacio
- Bernadine Astesana
- Lisa McGlaughlin

OBTAINING MASS INTENTIONS

Please email admin@stpaulsphoenix.org to obtain an intention, and mail a $10 donation to St. Paul with the envelope marked Attention: Mass Intentions. If a specific date is needed, please ask for intentions at least one month in advance of the date. Please remember to include your phone number.

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE

St. Paul Catholic Community celebrates your being called to the Sacrament of Matrimony as you live out your Baptism. As a community, we want to give you all the tools to live your marriage vows now and forever.

The Diocese of Phoenix currently requires a minimum of nine months of preparation for the Sacrament of Matrimony. Couples must be registered, active parishioners of St. Paul Parish and notify their parish at least nine months prior to their desired wedding date.

For the Diocese of Phoenix complete Marriage Policy and more details, please visit the Sacraments page on our website:

www.stpaulsphoenix.org  Ed Seymour 602-942-2602
Bishop Olmsted’s Dispensation from the Obligation to attend Sunday Holy Mass remains in effect.

RECENTLY BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE:
Please pray for the Repose of the soul of:
Larry Throne
Forever in Our Hearts & in Our Prayers.

Ladies Book Club Mission Statement:
To inspire spiritual growth through friendships, books, and prayers.

We will continue with: The Bad Girls of the Bible and What we Can Learn from Them by Liz Curtis Higgs. Details will be in the bulletin.
Join us in prayer for Our Country! Rosary for the USA every Monday evening 6:30pm in Main Church

Pray for the USA Join Us! Rosary for The United States of America Mondays at 6:30pm in Main Church* All Welcome!

But the plan of the Lord stands forever; the design of His heart, through all generations. Blessed the nation whose God is the Lord, the people He has chosen for His own inheritance.

~Psalms 33:11-13

*COVID-19 Precautions: Sit behind marked pews, masks encouraged, 6 feet distancing entrance/exit. Pray from home if high risk or sick.

The Office will be Closed on Thursday, July 2nd In observance Of Independence Day.
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  5th SUNDAY COLLECTION - THANK YOU!

St. Paul’s Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul is very grateful for your support of our 5th Sunday Collection last month. The total amount of the collection was $6,183. This money will allow us to provide for needy people in our community with assistance for basic needs like food, rent, utilities and transportation. We see firsthand that this help makes a real difference in the lives of these neighbors and that they are appreciative of the assistance your generosity allows us to provide. Thank you again for your financial support and your prayers. If you would still like to make donation, you may put it in the poor boxes in the church, drop it off in the parish office or mail it to the parish office.

Thank You for your Generosity and Faithful Giving.
Plate Collection for the Weekend of June 21, 2020

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<tr>
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<th>Debt</th>
<th>Debt Offerings Mass + Office</th>
<th>Capital Offerings Mass + Office</th>
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Hope Remains: A Journey to Africa  
By Dr. Sue Moravec

(Part 2) From December 13th, 2019 there seemed to be a time warp because Christmas was near, and it was impossible for the New Bishop Elect to go immediate home to prepare. Therefore, with the help of Fr. Victor, the new Bishop had to design his crest, decide his motto, colors, pictures for Vatican & so forth. All of this in days leading to Christmas, we were in a flurry of decisions, plans and activity. But together we could manage it. First the crest. The new Bishop wanted to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe; he credits his Havasu parishioners for giving him this new devotion. He also wanted to credit the date of his announcement. (December 12th). So, the crest is green for Nigeria, it has a dove symbol of the Holy Spirit, cactus and corn. Cactus is in Arizona and in Nigeria. Corn is the main agriculture their village. Next, his motto – and “Grace to the Humble” below and the Cross of Jesus runs down the center of everything.

Pictures were another story. . . How to find a Bishop’s crosier, miter, ring and cassock in Arizona! Nigeria secretariat and Nigerian women who make cloth for the ordination needed his picture before he could go to Rome to get everything! Well the Phoenix Diocese helped by providing some very old items. I bought him a Chasuble of Our Lady and with these items, Fr. Victor and I took the first photos. Note: we improvised, and the Bishop’s ring is my husband’s wedding ring. Shhhh. Seeing him with the miter & crosier, made my tears flow silently. I was so proud. It’s Christmas and now we have only 1 week to say goodbye, pack up everything and prepare for his journey home. “Pray for me!” he emotionally asked his fellow African priests on December 26th as he celebrated Mass at St. Benedict’s with the African priests serving in this Diocese. Father Ishaya, as co-president, with Fr. Robert Alunzi, presented the new Bishop Elect with a white Chasuble, Alb and Cassock. More emotions…. Despite the violent conflicts & priest kidnappings in Nigeria and news surrounding a virus in China, Bishop Elect Julius asked me to be at his Bishop’s ordination in Kafanchan He knew it was an exceptional request. I could only promise if it was God’s will, I would be there.

(Part 3 – next week)  
~By Dr. Sue Moravec
Diocese of Phoenix Update for Use of Face Masks on Parish/School Properties and for Mass
(June 19, 2020 / Revised June 23, 2020)

As you know, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have committed to being Healthy, Smart and Holy, as we remain focused on the physical well-being of ourselves, parish staff, volunteers, parishioners and the wider community.

At the press conference on June 17, Governor Ducey stated that “an important part of containing the spread is the use of masks,” and he issued new guidance asking all Arizona employers to implement policies for the use of face coverings by employees and members of the public. He also gave local cities and counties the authority to implement their own face mask polices. This has resulted in many local face mask mandates throughout the Diocese of Phoenix.

In a spirit of the common good and for the protection of individuals and the community, Bishop Olmsted is asking all parishes/schools to comply with the mandatory face mask polices that have been implemented in their area or city which includes:

- Requiring all who attend Mass to wear a face mask in a spirit of care for their fellow parishioners.
- Requiring all staff and volunteers to wear a face mask when on campus and moving about in public areas or when physical distancing is not possible.
- It is important to remember that wearing a face mask does not replace the benefits of physical distancing.
- In a spirit of hospitality, it would be good to have face masks available for those who do not bring one to Mass or a meeting.
- For those who have medical conditions or refuse to wear a face mask – kindness and understanding should be the rule.
- It is critical to follow federal, state, and county public health guidelines to reduce the spread of illness amongst parishioners, staff, clergy, and the community, so these guidelines may be updated as new information and recommendations become available.

The faithful should be reminded that the Sunday Obligation continues to be dispensed during this time of the pandemic. It is important to inform individuals and families that while the Church is being cleaned and disinfected – the risk of contracting the virus remains. For this reason, caution and individual responsibility must be practiced.

Be Healthy, Be Smart, Be Holy!
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WHY IS IT
A man wakes up after sleeping under an ADVERTISED blanket on an ADVERTISED mattress and pulls off ADVERTISED pajamas. He bathes in an ADVERTISED shower, shaves with an ADVERTISED razor, brushes his teeth with ADVERTISED toothpaste, washes with ADVERTISED soap, puts on ADVERTISED clothes, drinks a cup of ADVERTISED coffee, drives to work in an ADVERTISED car and then refuses to ADVERTISE believing it doesn’t pay. Later if business is poor he ADVERTISES it for sale.

WHY IS IT?