

# St. Clare of Assisi Roman Catholic Church

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 18, 2023



## Parish Information

17111 W. Bell Road, Surprise, AZ 85374  
(SW Corner of Bell Rd. and Cotton Ln.)

Phone: (623) 546-3444 | Website: [stcpaz.org](http://stcpaz.org) | Email: [church@stcpaz.org](mailto:church@stcpaz.org)

### Parish Office Hours

After Hours Emergency Sacraments: (623) 975-5612

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Closed for lunch: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM



## Mass Schedule

Saturday	4:00PM
Sunday	7:00AM
<i>Sign Language Interpreted Mass</i>	9:00AM
	11:00AM
	5:00PM
Daily (Monday - Saturday)	8:00AM

**Rosary 35 minutes prior to every Mass**

## Religious Education (Resumes in the Fall)

### MONDAY

Grade K- 6	Catechesis	4:00PM	to	5:30PM
		6:00PM	to	7:30PM
Grade 2 - 12	Sacramental Prep	4:00PM	to	5:30PM
		6:00PM	to	7:30PM

### WEDNESDAY

Grade 7-8	Youth Ministry	5:30PM	to	7:00PM
Grade 9-12	Youth Ministry	5:30PM	to	7:00PM
Adults	OCIA	6:00PM	to	7:30PM

## Confessions

Wednesday	12:00 PM	to	1:00 PM
Friday	5:00 PM	to	6:00 PM
Saturday	2:30 PM	to	3:30 PM

## Adoration

Fridays	1:00PM	Exposition
	1:30PM	Rosary for the Unborn
	4:00PM	Benediction

**PARISH PERSONNEL**

General Office Number (623) 546-3444  
 Emergency After Hours Number (623) 975-5612

**Clergy & Deacons**

Fr. McGuire, Pastor  
[frm McGuire@gmail.com](mailto:frm McGuire@gmail.com)  
 Fr. Menegay, Parochial Vicar  
[frm Menegay@stcpaz.org](mailto:frm Menegay@stcpaz.org)  
 Fr. David Ashbeck, Retired Priest  
 Deacon Dave Opsahl  
 Deacon J. Mike Woiwode

**Staff**

**Office Manager**  
 Shelley Barber  
 (623) 975-5601, [sbarber@stcpaz.org](mailto:sbarber@stcpaz.org)

**Director of Sacred Music, Liturgical Ministry Scheduler**  
 Vania Masch  
 (623) 975-5607, [vmasch@stcpaz.org](mailto:vmasch@stcpaz.org)

**Director of Religious Education**  
 Sarah Complese  
 (623) 975-5606, [scamplese@stcpaz.org](mailto:scamplese@stcpaz.org)

**Director of Communications, Facilities Scheduler,  
 Safe Environment Coordinator**  
 Kaitlynn Eaton  
 (623) 975-5602, [keaton@stcpaz.org](mailto:keaton@stcpaz.org)

**Pastoral Care Coordinator, Marriage or Baptism  
 Preparation, Annulments**  
 Joe Lukaszewski  
 (623) 975-5612, [jlukaszewski@stcpaz.org](mailto:jlukaszewski@stcpaz.org)

**Funeral Coordinator**  
 Joanne Swift  
 (623) 975-5600, [jswift@stcpaz.org](mailto:jswift@stcpaz.org)

**Director of Maintenance Operations**  
 Jack Kavalchick  
 (623) 546-3444, [jkavalchick@stcpaz.org](mailto:jkavalchick@stcpaz.org)

**Maintenance Assistant**  
 Hanany Ballesteros  
[hballesteros@stcpaz.org](mailto:hballesteros@stcpaz.org)

**Receptionist**  
 Bertha Simoneau  
 (623) 546-3444, [bsimoneau@stcpaz.org](mailto:bsimoneau@stcpaz.org)

**Data Entry**  
 Betty Unverzagt  
 (623) 975-5614, [bunverzagt@stcpaz.org](mailto:bunverzagt@stcpaz.org)

**St. Clare of Assisi Roman Catholic Parish**  
 Walking With Moms In Need

*These Pro-Life resources are recognized by the Diocese of Phoenix*  
**Life Choices Women's Clinics**  
[www.pro-lifearizona.com](http://www.pro-lifearizona.com) Phone: 602-305-5100

**Choices Pregnancy Center**  
[www.choicesaz.com](http://www.choicesaz.com) Phone: 623-486-5232

**1st Way Pregnancy Center**  
[www.1stway.net](http://www.1stway.net) Phone: 602-261-7522

**Maggie's Place**  
[www.maggiesplace.org](http://www.maggiesplace.org) Phone: 602-262-5555

**The Sisters of Life** Phone: 480-389-5650

**Please Consider Joining Us In Ministry****All Parishioners Welcome!**

Adult Bible Study	Michelle Templeton <a href="mailto:mmtemp@cox.net">mmtemp@cox.net</a>
Altar Linen Society	Chris Haak (262) 215-1839
Altar Server Coordinator	David Oliver (630) 962-7395
Anima Christi Charismatic Prayer	Jerianne Bender <a href="mailto:jeribender@aol.com">jeribender@aol.com</a>
Arts and Environment	Kaitlynn Eaton <a href="mailto:keaton@stcpaz.org">keaton@stcpaz.org</a>
Blood Drive	Connie Gaudio (623) 703-9303
Catholic Daughters of the Americas	Adults: Teddi Murray (623) 523-7233 Juniors: Lorrie Holland (623) 512-1042
Catholic Men's Fellowship	Manny Hernandez <a href="mailto:manbert2013@gmail.com">manbert2013@gmail.com</a>
Cursillo Group	David Buettner <a href="mailto:dpuettner@hotmail.com">dpuettner@hotmail.com</a>
Divine Mercy Cenacle	Lily Buettner <a href="mailto:lilyauman@gmail.com">lilyauman@gmail.com</a>
El Buen Pastor Oracion Charismatica	Laura Martinez (623) 216-2723 Josefina Torres (480) 548-8531
Holy Family Co-op (homeschoolers)	David Oliver <a href="mailto:holyfamilycoopaz@gmail.com">holyfamilycoopaz@gmail.com</a>
Knights of Columbus Council 12851	Pat Sullivan (815) 280-8194
Legion of Mary	Carla Wrublik (602) 818-4895
Library Committee	Betty Jacobson <a href="mailto:bjacobson@hotmail.com">bjacobson@hotmail.com</a>
Liturgical Ministry	Vania Masch <a href="mailto:vmasch@stcpaz.org">vmasch@stcpaz.org</a>
Men's Scripture Study	Manny Hernandez <a href="mailto:manbert2013@gmail.com">manbert2013@gmail.com</a>
Nomad AA Group	Charles Anderson (623) 518-4450
Our Lady of Antipolo Association	Marylou Gonzalez (571) 437-8461
Our Lady of Guadalupe Association	Leonor Ward (623) 986-9992
Pastoral Council	Laura Pike <a href="mailto:gotcha421@gmail.com">gotcha421@gmail.com</a>
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Simonne Barthell (480) 390-9821
Rosary Makers	Christine Haak <a href="mailto:christine.haak@yahoo.com">christine.haak@yahoo.com</a>
Safety Committee	David Oliver (630) 962-7395
St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity	Cathy Roszhart (309) 825-2900
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Pat Conlan (623) 975-5617
Saturday Evening Fellowship Committee	Barb & Bruce Grattan <a href="mailto:brubr31@gmail.com">brubr31@gmail.com</a>
Scouts (Pack & Troop)	Lori Hart <a href="mailto:climbergirl_78@yahoo.com">climbergirl_78@yahoo.com</a>
Small Christian Communities	Dan & Kathy Berger <a href="mailto:dd.berger@yahoo.com">dd.berger@yahoo.com</a>
Spanish Music Group	Jose Cruz <a href="mailto:josecrucz@outlook.com">josecrucz@outlook.com</a>
Walking With Moms In Need	Charlie & Kathy Buckley <a href="mailto:wwminstclareaz@gmail.com">wwminstclareaz@gmail.com</a>
Welcome Retreat	Dcn. Dave Opsahl <a href="mailto:kdopsahl@hotmail.com">kdopsahl@hotmail.com</a>
Women's Guild	Carol Lee <a href="mailto:zbobcrLee@prodigy.net">zbobcrLee@prodigy.net</a>

**Pastoral Care & Sacraments**

Contact: Joe Lukaszewski (623) 975-5612

**Weddings or Annulments**

Planning to marry at St. Clare? Please note that wedding preparation requires a minimum timeline of nine months.

Need information on the annulment process?  
 Please contact Joe.

**Baptisms**

To schedule a baptism for a child under 7, please contact Joe.

**Ministry of Care**

If you are homebound, hospitalized or in a care facility, or know of someone who is and would like Holy Communion on a weekly basis, please contact Joe to make arrangements.



St. Clare of Assisi is now a Baby Safe Haven. Parents or agents of parents can drop off an unharmed newborn baby to a staff member during regular office hours. For more information, please visit [azsafebabyhaven.org](http://azsafebabyhaven.org)

**St. Vincent de Paul 24 Hour Assistance Helpline**

Please call (623) 975-5617. This is not a manned phone line.  
 Leave a message and someone WILL call you back.



# Mass Intentions

# Week at a Glance

Saturday June 17, 2023		
8:00 AM	Mr. & Mrs. John J. Morgan <sup>†</sup>	by Ray & Chris Sees
4:00 PM	Beverly Grabiec <sup>†</sup>	by Joe & Lisa Bialek
Sunday June 18, 2023		
7:00 AM	Charles Prebay <sup>†</sup>	by Garand & Mary Prebay
9:00AM	Pro Populo	for St. Clare of Assisi Parish
11:00AM	Robert Kulpaka <sup>†</sup>	by Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Kulpaka
5:00 PM	Donovan Encarnacion	by The Encarnacion Family
Monday June 19, 2023		
8:00 AM	Laurie Kosmal <sup>†</sup>	by Robert Kosmal
Tuesday June 20, 2023		
8:00 AM	Ike Eisinger <sup>†</sup>	by Donna Eisinger
Wednesday June 21, 2023		
8:00 AM	Marie Therese Duchatellier and Lyonel Dupoux <sup>†</sup>	by Patrick Dupoux
Thursday June 22, 2023		
8:00 AM	Bob Unverzagt <sup>†</sup>	by Gayle Lukaszewski
Friday June 23, 2023		
8:00 AM	Denis Jorve <sup>†</sup>	by Sharon Jorve
Saturday June 24, 2023		
8:00 AM	Bob Unverzagt <sup>†</sup>	by Bruce & Barbara Grattan
4:00 PM	Beverly J. Grabiec <sup>†</sup>	by Joe Bialek
Sunday June 25, 2023		
7:00 AM	Bub Unverzagt <sup>†</sup>	by Alice Homeman
9:00AM	Raymond & Dennis Laskos <sup>†</sup>	by David Laskos
11:00AM	Pro Populo	for St. Clare of Assisi Parishioners
5:00 PM	Mercedes Mejia	by Encarnacion Family

Monday, June 19, 2023	
ALL DAY: VBS—HALL	
Tuesday, June 20, 2023	
ALL DAY: VBS—HALL	
6:30pm	Anima Christi Charismatics—CHURCH
Wednesday, June 21, 2023	
ALL DAY: VBS—HALL	
6:30pm	Guadalupanos Rosary—CHURCH
Thursday, June 22, 2023	
ALL DAY: VBS—HALL	
Friday, June 23, 2023	
ALL DAY: VBS—HALL	
Saturday, June 24, 2023	
3:00pm	St. Vincent de Paul Cap & Sock Drive—PALO VERDE WALKWAY
Sunday, June 25, 2023	
12:00pm	Knights of Columbus Installation of Officers —CHURCH
1:30pm	St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity Meeting—HALL



- |                   |                |             |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Gayle Lukaszewski | Paul Kramer    | Tom Holland |
| Tim Lukaszewski   | Fr. Hans Ruygt | Karl Koller |
| Brian Vergara     | Karen Opsahl   | Kay Koller  |
| Wade Chio         | Marsha Gaskill |             |

### Traditional Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them all for the intentions of Your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the Pope, our bishops and our priests. Amen.



## Weekly Reflection

Sent by the Power of God

At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest." Matthew 9:36-38

This passage from today's Gospel begins by revealing to us the Heart of Jesus. His Heart is one that is "moved with pity." As Jesus looked at the crowds before Him, He could see that they were "troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd." The sight of them evoked compassion, concern and mercy from within Him. This is a beautiful image to prayerfully ponder. As Jesus looks at you, He gazes at you as He gazed at the crowds long ago. As He does, the same depths of mercy and compassion are evoked within His Sacred Heart. Sometimes, when we think of God, we allow ourselves to have inaccurate perceptions of Who He is and how He sees us. If you do not regularly see the compassionate Heart of Jesus, then ponder this passage and know that His Heart of love for you is the same as it was for the crowds.

The second part of the passage above reveals to us one of the ways that Jesus reaches out to us. He is the "master of the harvest" Who has called others to Himself and then sent them forth to minister in His name and with His authority. The lines that follow the Gospel quoted above tell us that Jesus immediately "summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness."

As you look at your own life, your struggles, your spiritual needs and your desire to grow in faith, how has God fed you? Through whom has He spoken to you? This shepherding will take place by your participation in the Mass, through the Sacrament of Confession, through holy preaching, through the written word, through the inspired witness of another, and in many other ways. What's helpful to ponder is that any time you have encountered the grace of God through another, it happened because the Master of the Harvest chose to send a laborer to you. When good fruit is borne in your life, it was God Who initiated that good work through another, out of the mercy and compassion of His Sacred Heart.

Reflect, today, upon the image of Jesus gazing at you with love and choosing to send His ministers to you in His name and with His authority. Pay special attention to how God has been speaking to you recently. If it is through a particular book, keep reading it. If it is through a certain preacher of the Gospel, keep listening. If it is through a certain conversation with a friend, spouse or loved one, keep talking. God loves you, has a Heart full of compassion for you, and will continue to reach out to you in many different ways, especially by sending others to you in His name.

*My Lord and Master, You seek to bring forth an abundant harvest of grace in my life. You continuously inspire others to act as instruments of Your love and speak to me through them, calling me to Yourself. May I always be open to the many ways that You come to me, and may I always receive Your holy Word through the ministers You send to me. Jesus, I trust in You.*



## WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### June 18: The Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading:** Exodus 19: 2-6a

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 100: 1-2, 3, 5

**Second Reading:** Romans 5: 6-11

**Alleluia:** Mark 1: 15

**Gospel:** Matthew 9: 36 - 10: 8

### June 19

**First Reading:** Second Corinthians 6: 1-10

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 98: 1, 2b, 3ab, 3cd-4

**Alleluia:** Psalms 119: 105

**Gospel:** Matthew 5: 38-42

### June 20

**First Reading:** Second Corinthians 8: 1-9

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 146: 2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a

**Alleluia:** John 13: 34

**Gospel:** Matthew 5: 43-48

### June 21: Aloysius Gonzaga

**First Reading:** Second Corinthians 9: 6-11

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 112: 1bc-2, 3-4, 9

**Alleluia:** John 14: 23

**Gospel:** Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-18

### June 22: Paulinus of Nola, John Fisher, Thomas More

**First Reading:** Second Corinthians 11: 1-11

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 111: 1b-2, 3-4, 7-8

**Alleluia:** Romans 8: 15bc

**Gospel:** Matthew 6: 7-15

### June 23

**First Reading:** Second Corinthians 11: 18, 21-30

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7

**Alleluia:** Matthew 5: 3

**Gospel:** Matthew 6: 19-23

### June 24: The Nativity of John the Baptist

**First Reading:** Isaiah 49: 1-6

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 139: 1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15

**Second Reading:** Acts 13: 22-26

**Alleluia:** Luke 1: 76

**Gospel:** Luke 1: 57-66, 80

### June 25: The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 20: 10-13

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalms 69: 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

**Second Reading:** Romans 5: 12-15

**Alleluia:** John 15: 26b, 27a

**Gospel:** Matthew 10: 26-33

# happy father's day



Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father. Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. Amen.

Author: Anonymous

we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Psalm 100:3

REMHINDER

Due to Vacation Bible School in the Hall from June 19-23, the Hall is closed to all other activities and meetings. The Hall will reopen on June 24.

YOUR SACRIFICIAL GIVING: JUNE 11	
Plate	\$19,349
Parish Center/Pews	\$32,650
Loan/Building	\$8,766
Other Donations	\$11,904
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$72,669</b>

Eternal rest, grant unto them,  
O Lord...

Diego Villa Hernandez  
Harvey Watson



**FEED. CLOTHE. HOUSE. HEAL.**

**THE GREAT SOCKS AND HATS CRUSADE**



Once again, we are asking our wonderful parishioners to collect **HATS AND SOCKS**. Our hot summers are very hard on people who live on the street. Hats and socks are the most wanted items. Keeping their head covered from the glare of the sun and their feet in clean socks, will help our neighbors at the Dan O'Meara Center and our dining room at the Human Resource Campus. The Weekend of **June 17-18 and June 24 and 25**, The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting hats and socks on the Palo Verde Walkway after all Masses. Spread the word to family and friends to save gently worn, and clean hats and socks. New hats and socks will be welcomed also. **There is a great need for men's, women, and children's hats and socks.** Thank you for your generosity, *"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me."* (Matt: 25:31-45)



Dear St. Claire of Assisi Catholic Parish Parishioners:

Thank you for your generosity and kindness in participating in the WWM Baby Shower to support mothers in crisis pregnancies. Each service and gift that Life Choices is able to provide to these new moms help them to see that they are loved and supported. In 2022 we served 6,922 clients and provided them with life-affirming medical services, pregnancy tests, ultrasounds and material aid & support. We could not provide this support without your help.

The end of Roe v. Wade was not the end of our work, but a tiny foothold that we plan to take full advantage of as we move forward to make abortion unthinkable. As a mother sees her child for the first time through the ultrasound picture, the love that starts with your gift can grow within her. With the help and hope she is offered, many women who were considering abortion may chose life instead.

Sheila Riely,  
Director of Life Choices Women's Clinic



# Congratulations

## FR. GABRIEL



**Fr. Gabriel celebrated a gorgeous Mass of Thanksgiving on June 4th! Many parishioners found Fr. Gabriel's Mass deeply moving and powerful. Someone described the Mass as the most profound religious experience of their life, due to the plenary indulgence and the power of seeing the fraternity of priests represented on the altar.**



**Safe Environment Training will expire on July 1, 2023. All volunteers are required to complete Safe Environment. See next week's bulletin for information on accessing your account!**



**Knights of Columbus**  
Council 12851

**The Family Fully Alive**

Parents have a unique relationship with their children. They have been called by God to love their child with the same faithful, self-giving love in which the child was conceived. To be sure, the notion of "self-giving love" is not an idealistic or naïve concept dreamed up by theologians. It is demanding and sacrificial. Self-giving love has its source in the Trinity and is revealed most fully by Jesus on the Cross. As the primary educators of their children, mothers and fathers have many responsibilities. One of the most fundamental practices they must teach is self-giving love. Self-giving love not only places the good of another ahead of one's personal good, but also sees another's good as one's own good. In its fullness, self-giving love gives totally, without reservation. The form of marital and family love is given by God himself, who is love. The Christian family, the domestic church, has been entrusted with the irreplaceable vocation of being the first school of human and divine love.

**LEARN of ME**  
DISCERNMENT RETREAT



with THE POOR CLARES of PERPETUAL ADORATION

"TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU AND LEARN OF ME, FOR I AM GENTLE AND LOWLY IN HEART, AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS." (MT 11:29)

PRAYER  
FELLOWSHIP  
TEACHING  
ACCOMPANIMENT

**SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023**  
**11 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.**

AT OUR LADY OF SOLITUDE MONASTERY IN TONOPAH

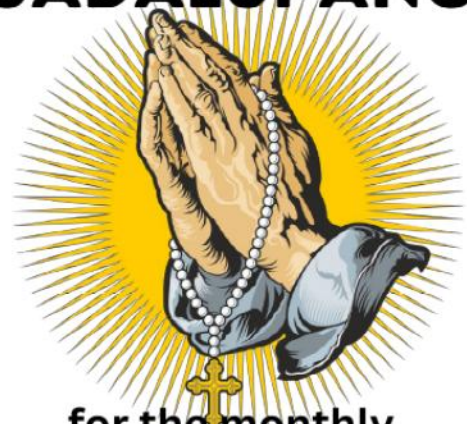
**REGISTER NOW**

Registration Deadline: July 1, 2023

[DESERTNUNS.COM/LEARN](http://DESERTNUNS.COM/LEARN)

Open to: Young women between the ages of 18-35 who are practicing Catholics, open to discerning consecrated life and experiencing the Poor Clare charism.

**Join the GUADALUPANOS**



for the monthly **ROSARY**

**June 21 at 6:30pm in the Church**





## ~Saint Spotlight~

### THOMAS MORE



Feast Day: June 22  
Canonized: 1935

In the Opening Prayer on June 22, we pray, “Give us the courage to proclaim our faith by the witness of our lives” (*Sacramentary*). Thomas More was a man of great faith and courage whose life shows us what it means to be a witness to our faith. Thomas was born in London in 1478. He became a lawyer and a member of the English parliament. Because he was so well educated, he was a tutor for King Henry VIII when he was young. In 1529, Henry appointed Thomas the Lord Chancellor of England. Thomas was married twice and had four children.

King Henry wanted to divorce his wife and marry another woman. The pope would not give his approval. Henry expected Thomas to take his side, but Thomas also refused, and he resigned his position in 1532. King Henry decided to separate the Church of England from the Catholic Church in Rome. He ordered parliament to write a document naming him the head of the Church of England. This document was called the Oath of Supremacy. Henry demanded that all the bishops in England and his entire government sign the oath. Thomas refused. He knew that the pope was the successor of St. Peter and that there could be only one pope.

King Henry was furious. Thomas was arrested and imprisoned in the Tower of London for fifteen months. He was found guilty of treason against the king and was sentenced to death. He died on July 6, 1535, and was canonized in 1935, along with his friend, Saint John Fisher.

We honor St. Thomas More as a person of courage. He lived the moral virtue of fortitude. He courageously defended his faith. We can follow Saint Thomas More’s example. We can be witnesses for our faith in Jesus and his Church through our daily words and actions. We honor him as a patron saint of lawyers and politicians.

### JOHN THE BAPTIST

Feast Day: June 24  
Canonized: Pre-Congregation

John the Baptist was Jesus’ older cousin. He was a prophet sent by God to prepare people for the coming of Christ into the world. John’s parents were Elizabeth and Zechariah. They were an elderly couple who had nearly given up hope that their marriage would be blessed with a child. Then the angel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah in the temple and told him that Elizabeth would give birth to a son. Gabriel said they should name the child John. (Read about the birth of John in Luke 1:57-80.)

The Gospel of Luke also tells us about the mission God gave to John. He was called to tell people to repent, or to be sorry for, their sins and to be baptized. Before Christ began his public ministry, John told the people to “Prepare the way of the Lord” (Luke 3:4). He said, “I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs on his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Luke 3:16).

John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. Luke tells us that the heavens opened at that moment and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus. Then the voice of God spoke, saying, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased” (Luke 3:21-22). John preached against King Herod, who was married to his brother’s wife. This was a great sin because the brother was still living. The wife’s name was Herodias. She demanded that Herod arrest John.

Herodias plotted with her daughter, Salome, for revenge against John. At a party, Salome danced for Herod. Her dancing tempted Herod, and he promised Salome that that he would give her anything she wanted. She asked for John the Baptist’s head on a platter. John was martyred that night. Just as John prepared people for the coming of Jesus, his brutal death prepared Jesus’ followers for Christ’s sacrifice on the cross. We thank God for St. John the Baptist. We can honor him by preparing the way for Jesus by being sorry for our sins and trying to live as loving children of God.



# Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father this month. Amen



**SUNWEST FUNERAL HOME**  
**Stanley S. Stobierski,**  
 President  
 Licensed Funeral Director  
  
**HERITAGE Cemetery**  
 623-974-2054  
 12525 NW Grand Ave., El Mirage

  
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