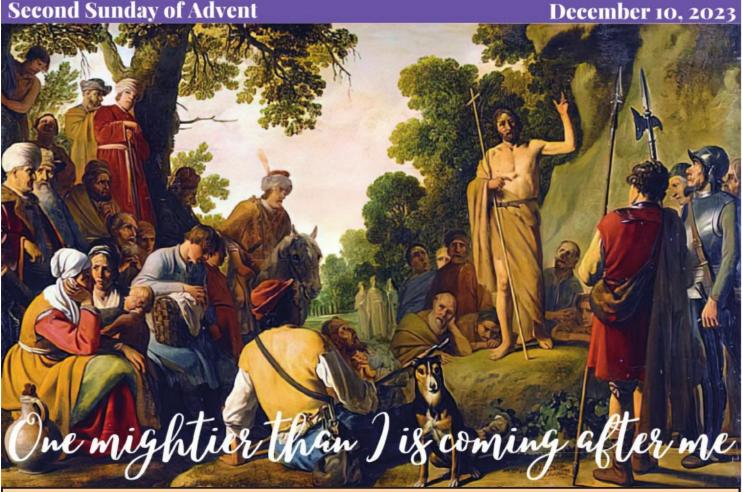
St. Clare of Assisi Roman Catholic Church





Parish Information

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

Phone: (623) 546-3444 | Website: stcpaz.org | Email: church@stcpaz.org

Parish Office Hours After Hours Emergency Sacraments: (623) 975-5612

Sunday 7:30 AM to 1:30 PM Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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



| Mass Sched | ule |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Saturday | 4:00PM |
| Sunday | 7:00AM |
| | 9:00AM |
| | 11:00AM |
| | 5:00PM |
| Daily (Monday - Saturday) | 8:00AM |
| Rosary 35 minutes prior t | n every Mass |

| 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 | | | | | | |

| Religious Education | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| MONDAY | | | | | | | | |
| Grade 6-8 | Youth Ministry | 6:30pm | to 8:00pm | | | | | |
| Grade 9-12 | Youth Ministry | 6:30pm | to 8:00pm | | | | | |
| Adults | OCIA | 6:00pm | to 7:30pm | | | | | |
| WEDNESDAY | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | | |

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

PARISH PERSONNEL

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

(623) 546-3444

Clergy & Deacons

Fr. McGuire, Pastor: frmcguire@gmail.com Fr. Menegay, Parochial Vicar: frmenegay@stcpaz.org Deacon Dave Opsahl | Deacon Richard Carmody Deacon J. Mike Woiwode

Office Manager

Shelley Barber: (623) 975-5601 sbarber@stcpaz.org

Receptionist

Bertha Simoneau: (623) 546-3444 | bsimoneau@stcpaz.org

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

Director of Religious Education

Sarah Camplese: (623) 975-5606 | scamplese@stcpaz.org

High School Youth Ministry Coordinator Gabriela Dávila: (623) 546-3444 | gdavila@stcpaz.org

Director of Communications, Facilities Scheduler, Safe Environment Coordinator

Kaitlynn Eaton: (623) 975-5602 | keaton@stcpaz.org

Pastoral Care Coordinator, Marriage or Baptism Preparation, Annulments

Joe Lukaszewski: (623) 975-5612 | jlukaszewski@stcpaz.org

Funeral Coordinator

Joanne Swift: (623) 975-5600 | jswift@stcpaz.org

Director of Maintenance Operations

Phillip Weatherspoon: (623) 546-3444 pweatherspoon@stcpaz.org

Maintenance Assistant

Hanany Ballesteros: hballesteros@stcpaz.org

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.

Please Consider Joining Us In Ministry!

Michelle Templeton mmtemp@cox.net Adult Bible Study Altar Linen Society Chris Haak (262) 215-1839 Anima Christi Charismatic Prayer Jerianne Bender jeribender@aol.com

Arts and Environment Kaitlynn Eaton keaton@stcpaz.org Blood Drive Connie Gaudio (623) 703-9303 Catholic Daughters of the Americas Adults: Teddi Murray (623) 523-7233

Juniors: Lorrie Holland (623) 512-1042 Manny Hernandez Catholic Men's Fellowship

manbert2013@gmail.com Christ Renews His Parish Dcn. Dave Opsahl kdopsahl@hotmail.com Cursillo Group David Buettner dpbuettner@hotmail.com

Laura Alcantar (623) 512-8585 Divine Mercy Cenacle El Buen Pastor Oracion Charismatica Sandra Lopez (623) 293-2848 Jose Arellano (602) 919-2698

Holy Family Co-op (homeschoolers) David Oliver holyfamilycoopaz@gmail.com Knights of Columbus Council 12851 Pat Sullivan (815) 280-8194

Knights of the Altar David Oliver (630) 962-7395 Legion of Mary Carla Wrublik (602) 818-4895

Library Committee Betty Jacobson <u>b.jacobson@hotmail.com</u>

Liturgical & Music Ministry Vania Masch vmasch@stcpaz.org

Manny Hernandez Men's Scripture Study manbert2013@gmail.com Metanoia Miguel Garcia (626) 539-0191 Nomad AA Group Charles Anderson (623) 518-4450 Our Lady of Antipolo Ministry Marylou Gonzalez (571) 437-8461 Our Lady of Guadalupe Association Leonor Ward (623) 986-9992 Pastoral Council Laura Pike gotcha421@gmail.com Prayer Shawl Ministry Simonne Barthell (480) 390-9821

Rosary Makers Christine Haak christine.haak@yahoo.com Safety Committee Dan Pike (740) 255-4350 St. Maximilian Kolbe Fraternity Cathy Roszhart (309) 825-2900

Pat Conlan (623) 975-5617 St. Vincent de Paul Society Saturday Evening Fellowship Barb & Bruce Grattan brubrb31@gmail.com

Scouts (Pack & Troop) Seth Dyson seth.dyson@yahoo.com Small Christian Communities Dan & Kathy Berger dd.berger@yahoo.com

Sorority of Lisieux Mary Oliver (773) 710-0270 Charlie & Kathy Buckley wwminstclareaz@gmail.com Walking With Moms In Need Women's Guild Carol Lee <u>2bobcrLee@prodigy.net</u>

Pro-Life Resources:

Are you struggling with a crisis pregnancy and need help? These Pro-Life resources are recognized by the Diocese of Phoenix and can help you, regardless of income.

Life Choices Women's Clinic www.pro-lifearizona.com | (602) 305-5100

Choices Pregnancy Center: www.choicesaz.com | (623) 486-5232

1st Way Pregnancy Center: www.1stway.net | (602) 261-7522

Maggie's Place: www.maggiesplace.org | (602) 262-5555

The Sisters of Life: (480) 389-5650

St. Clare of Assisi is an official Baby Safe Haven location. 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

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

|) [| 1.600 | - | 00000 |
|---------|---|---------|-------------------------------------|
| | Saturday, Dec | ember | 9, 2023 |
| 8:00 AM | Judith Elvir† | by | Yolanda Naedler |
| 4:00 PM | Beverly Grabiec† | by | Joe & Lisa Bialek |
| | Sunday, Decen | nber 10 |), 2023 |
| 7:00am | Maggie Cadkin & Mark Pieper | by | Margaret & John Rector |
| 9:00AM | Brother Knight William Doak [†] | by | Knights of Columbus |
| 11:00AM | Andrew Ramirez [†] | by | The Ramirez Family |
| 5:00 PM | Pro Populo | by | St. Clare of Assisi Parishioners |
| | Monday, Decer | mber 1 | 1, 2023 |
| 8:00 AM | Joe & Eileen† Ricci Wedding Anniversary | by | Joe Ricci |
| | Tuesday, Dece | mber ' | 12, 2023 |
| 8:00am | Lorraine Swogger† & Swogger Family | by | Diane Allen |
| | Wednesday, Dec | embe | r 13, 2023 |
| 8:00am | Gaudio, Giallanza, Morbillo & Norcera Families† | by | Eugene & Connie Gaudio |
| | Thursday, Dece | ember | 14, 2023 |
| 8:00am | Fr. Hans Ruygt | by | Ginnie Hebert |
| | Friday, Decem | ber 15 | , 2023 |
| 8:00am | Alfonso Contreras† | by | Roland & Dolores Grijalva |
| | Saturday, Dece | ember | 16, 2023 |
| 8:00 AM | Matilde Grijalva† | by | Dolores Grijalva |
| 4:00 PM | Pro Populo | for | St. Clare of Assisi Parishioners |
| | Sunday, Decen | nber 1 | 7, 2023 |
| 7:00am | Brena Robinson Hudson | n† by | Ed Bradley |
| 9:00AM | Mary Ann Blair" | by | Gary & Carol Aden |
| 11:00AM | Fellowship Square Rosary Group | by | Bill Wild |
| 5:00 PM | Reynaldo & Philip | by | Lorna & Michael Salang |

| | Monday, December 11, 2023 | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 6:00pm | 5pm Sunday Evening Mass Choir Practice—CHURCH | | | | |
| 6:00pm | OCIA—NARTHEX | | | | |
| 6:30pm | Youth Group—HALL | | | | |
| | Tuesday, December 12, 2023 | | | | |
| 9:00am | Adult Bible Study—HALL | | | | |
| 11:30am | Legion of Mary—HALL | | | | |
| 11:30am | Nomad AA—HALL | | | | |
| 5:00pm | Children's Choir Practice—CHURCH | | | | |
| 6:00pm | St. Vincent de Paul Meeting—HALL | | | | |
| 6:30pm | Adult Choir Practice—CHURCH | | | | |
| | Wednesday, December 13, 2023 | | | | |
| 9:00am | Men's Scripture Study—HALL | | | | |
| 10:30am | Legion of Mary Jrs—HALL | | | | |
| 4:00pm | ${\sf RE: 1st\ Confession,\ Communion/Confirmation\ Class-HALL}$ | | | | |
| 6:00pm | Knights of the Altar Meeting—CHURCH | | | | |
| 6:00pm | ${\sf RE: 1st\ Confession,\ Communion/Confirmation\ Class-HALL}$ | | | | |
| Thursday, December 14, 2023 | | | | | |
| 9:00am | Adult Bible Study—HALL | | | | |
| 11:30am | Nomad AA—HALL | | | | |
| 6:00pm | Scouts Meeting—HALL | | | | |
| 6:30pm | Anima Christi Charismatics—CHURCH | | | | |
| | Friday, December 15, 2023 | | | | |
| 8:45am | Divine Mercy Cenacle Diary Study—VESTRY | | | | |
| 1:00pm | Rosary Makers—HALL | | | | |
| 1:00pm | Prayer Shawl Ministry—HALL | | | | |
| 5:00pm | Advent Reconciliation Service | | | | |
| | Saturday, December 16, 2023 | | | | |
| | fall closed for St. Vincent de Paul Advent Angel Tree | | | | |
| 6:00pm | A St. Clare Christmas Concert—CHURCH | | | | |
| | Sunday , December 17, 2023 | | | | |
| | Hall closed for St. Vincent de Paul Advent Angel Tree | | | | |



Balangue

Tim Lukaszewski Wade Chio

Marie Frasca Fr. Hans Ruygt

Melanie Anderson Karen Opsahl

Brian Vergara David Bailey

Marilyn Anderson Paul Kramer

Glenn Sutton Natalie Bejarano

Ellie Cardona Michael & Carolyn Rouse

Mary Lou Sutton



Please do not use the pews to stabilize your pen or paper when writing. Please supervise little ones when coloring in the pews! Our maintenance team have seen damage from pens on the wood of the pews from heavy writing/coloring. Help us keep our brand new pews in good condition!



The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."* Mark 1:1–3

These, the opening lines from the Gospel of Saint Mark, present us with Saint John the Baptist. John was the one that Isaiah prophesied would come before the Messiah. John was given the responsibility and privilege of being the one who would be the most immediate preparer for the Savior of the World.

Perhaps if most people were given the task of instructing John on how best to prepare the way for the Lord, they would tell him he must go to the leaders of the people, the civil authorities, the influential and those of status in society to win them over first. Many would conclude that the Messiah needed to have the full support of the leaders at that time. But that's obviously not what John did.

John the Baptist, at the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, was driven not into the homes of the most prestigious and wealthy, not into the halls of the civil governors, and not into the synagogues or Temple. Instead, John was driven into the desert. And in the desert, that dry and deserted place, he drew many people to himself and to his message of repentance.

God continues to call many today to follow in the footsteps of John the Baptist. Though John was a real person sent on a real mission at one particular moment in time, the mission he fulfilled is one that still needs fulfilling in various ways today. The "way of the Lord" still needs to be prepared. The Lord still desires to come to many, and He needs prophets to prepare the way for His continual coming by grace. Are you one of those people?

Truth be told, every one of us, rich or poor, learned or unlearned, young or old, etc., is called by God to prepare the way for His coming by grace every day. We are called to prepare the way by calling others to sincere repentance and conversion of life. This is done by the witness of our actions, by our words and by numerous other ways that God calls. How is God calling you to do His work? He is certainly calling you. You simply need to be open to that calling and generously respond.

Reflect, today, upon that "desert" to which you have been called, so as to prepare yourself and others for the coming of Christ. That desert is any place where there is need and every place where our Lord is not. It might be your family, work environment, community, among friends, or any place that lacks the superabundance of God's grace. Seek to enter those deserts and to be open to be a channel of our Lord's grace to those in need.

Lord, You desire to come to me and to all of Your children every day.

Please use me to not only prepare my own heart and soul for Your
divine coming but to also prepare others to meet You. Give me
wisdom and compassion, insight and strength, so that I can imitate
Saint John the Baptist and prepare the way for Your most glorious
coming by grace. Jesus, I trust in You.



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

December 10: Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading: <u>Isaiah 40:</u> 1-5, 9-11 Responsorial Psalm: <u>Psalms 85:</u> 9-10, 11-12, 13-14

Second Reading: Second Peter 3: 8-14

Alleluia: <u>Luke 3:</u> 4, 6 Gospel: <u>Mark 1:</u> 1-8

December 11: St. Damasus I

First Reading: Isaiah 35: 1-10

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 85: 9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-

Gospel: <u>Luke 5:</u> 17-26

December 12: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

First Reading: Zechariah 2: 14-17 or Revelation 11: 19a; 12: 1-6a, 10ab Responsorial Psalm: <u>Judith 13:</u> 18bcde, 19 Gospel: <u>Luke 1:</u> 26-38 or <u>Luke 1:</u> 39-47

December 13: St. Lucy

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 25-31

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10

Gospel: Matthew 11: 28-30

December 14: St. John of the Cross

First Reading: Isaiah 41: 13-20

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 145: 1 and 9, 10-11, 12-

13ab

Alleluia: <u>Isaiah 45:</u> 8 Gospel: <u>Matthew 11:</u> 11-15

December 15

First Reading: Isaiah 48: 17-19

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 1: 1-2, 3, 4 and 6

Gospel: Matthew 11: 16-19

December 16

First Reading: Sirach 48: 1-4, 9-11

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 80: 2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-

19

Alleluia: <u>Luke 3:</u> 4, 6

Gospel: Matthew 17: 9a, 10-13

December 17: Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: <u>Isaiah 61:</u> 1-2a, 10-11

Responsorial Psalm: <u>Luke 1:</u> 46-48, 49-50, 53-54

Second Reading: First Thessalonians 5: 16-24

Alleluia: <u>Isaiah 61:</u> 1 Gospel: <u>John 1:</u> 6-8, 19-28

pancake breakfast



After morning Masses

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a pancake & sausage breakfast as a "thank you!" to those who have supported our ministry over the years!

Seconciliation C

December 15 | 5:00pm | Church

There will be several priests available for Confessions. Please take part in this beautiful Sacrament before the King of Kings comes!



FLOWER DONATION **Nature's Beauty Honors**

- The parishioners of St. Clare of Assisi are invited to participate in supplying flowers for weekend Masses & Holy Days of Obligation.
- Monetary donations are requested for fresh flowers to be placed on the altar for weekend Masses.
- P You may request a particular weekend to honor a loved one or a special occasion, or you can indicate it may be used as needed.
- ♣ Arrangements for week end Masses are \$100.00; however, all donations are very much appreciated!

Please fill out this form, place it in an envelope with your check and mail it to the church office or put in offertory basket.

Please print clearly.

| Name | & F | 'none | NO.: | |
|------|-----|-------|------|--|
| | | | | |

Date requested:

Occasion/Person to be honored:

Donation amount: _

For questions, please contact Kaitlynn Eaton at: (623) 975-5602 or Keaton@stcpaz.org

Isaiah 40:3



| | | | | | Fiscal | Year | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------------|---------------|------------|-------|---------------|----------|-------------|
| | | | | | t | О | | | | Fiscal | Year |
| | | | | November | Date | July- | Fisca | I | Year to | to Date | July- |
| | | November | November | 2023 | N | ov | Da | ate | July- | Nov 2023 | |
| | | 2023 Actual | 2023 <u>Budge</u> t | Difference | 2023 | <u>Actual</u> | Nov 2 | 2023 | <u>Budget</u> | Differ | <u>ence</u> |
| Ordinary Plate Collection | _ | | | | | | | | | | |
| In Pew Giving | | 85,423.16 | | | 391,0 | 77.25 | | | | | |
| Online Giving | | 40,612.00 | | | 207,455.10 598,532.35 | | c. | | | | |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | - | 126,035.16 | 116,700.00 | 9,335.16 | | | 583,500.00 | | 15,03 | 2.35 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Building Fund Collection | - | | | | | | | | | | |
| In Pew Giving | | 20,581.92 | | | 71,28 | 81.62 | | | | | |
| Online Giving | | 7,291.00 | | | 45,86 | 51.00 | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | 27,872.92 | 40,000.00 | -12,127.08 | 117,1 | 42.62 | 2 | 40,00 | 00.00 | -122,8 | 57.38 |
| PAC/PEWS Donation | | 26,096.87 | 4,167.00 | 21,929.87 | 190,0 | 40.61 | 5 | 50,00 | 0.00 | 140,04 | 10.61 |

^{*}Fiscal Year in the Diocese of Phoenix is July to June



The Word Among Us Advent Companion

books are available, free of charge, in the Narthex!

Pick one up to help guide your journey through

Advent.

CANDLE PRICE INCREASE

Due to the increase in shipping and material costs, the price of the large candles are now \$5 each. The small votive candles are \$1 each.



Religious Articles Sale





The Carmelite Missionaries of St. Therese of the Child Jesus will be selling religious articles here at St. Clare of Assisi Parish the weekend of December 9th and 10th, 2023 after all Masses.

Please plan to buy some articles and support our mission work of evangelization in Mexico, Ecuador and United States.
Your support will help us to finish the project of the construction of the convent destroyed by Hurricane Grace in Sierra Norte of Puebla, Mexico where we have been ministering to our indigenous brothers and sisters for almost 80 years.
We will also continue the evangelization programs in remote regions of Mexico, and

support vocational formation, provide health care, and other social services. Thank you for your generosity!

Ecuador. This includes aid for education,

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com





This is the time of year when many of us are looking at our IRAs, especially those who are required to make minimum distributions (RMDs). You can make an RMD by contacting your IRA administrator and asking them to make a direct distribution to St. Clare of Assisi! This is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

You can make up to \$100,000 of QCDs and so can your spouse if he or she has a separate IRA. The QCD satisfies your RMD up to \$100. While you will not get an income tax deduction, you will not have to pay tax on the distribution. In order for this to work, the administrator must make the distribution <u>directly</u> to st. Clare of Assisi. If you take it yourself, you lose the benefits.



As always, speak with your financial advisor before making any decision that can affect your income tax planning.



Would you like to find the short, easy road to Heaven? If so, then join us for a new type of Advent mission entitled...

A Mission to Jesus through Mary

Part I: In the Church

The kickoff presentation will be on Monday, December 18, at 6:00 p.m.

Part II and Part III: Online

To sign up for the online portion of this Advent mission, please send an e-mail to the following address:

castorino8@proton.me





Join us for this great opportunity to share your ministry with our parishioners. The fair is designed to benefit your ministry by adding members, building community relationships with other ministries and parishioners. It also gives parishioners an opportunity to spend some time after Masses talking to ministry representatives in one place. The success of the Ministry Fair will hugely benefit St. Clare through more parishioner participation!

JOIN US FEBRUARY 3-4: ST. CLARE OF ASSISI'S MINISTRY FAIR!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT BARB GRATTAN AT <u>BRUBRB31@GMAIL.COM</u> OR LAURA PIKE AT GOTCHA421@GMAIL.COM BY DECEMBER 15, 2023

Excerpts from

The Imitation of Christ

Thomas à Kempis

Book IV: About the Blessed Sacrament: A devout encouragement to receive Holy Communion

On Burning Love and Eager Longing to Receive Christ: Of old that blessed forerunner of yours, John the Baptist, highest among the Saints, filled with gladness at your presence, leaped for joy of the Holy Spirit while still in the shelter of his mother's womb. In after years, when he saw Jesus walking among men, in utter abasement he said with loving devotion: The bridegroom's friend, who stands by and listens to him, rejoices too, rejoices at hearing the bridegroom's voice. So it is with me: I long to be afire with great and holy desires, and with all my heart to offer you myself. It is for this reason that I offer and lay before you the worship you receive from all devout hearts their outbursts of joyous praise, their burning affection, their ecstasies, their spiritual insight, their heavenly visions; to these I add all the virtues, all the praises, that ever have been or will be offered to you in heaven or upon earth. I offer them for myself and for all for whom I have been asked to pray, that you may be given by all men that praise which is your due, and glory that has no end.

pg. 257





Our Facebook wants your photos! Want to share the fun you're having and the work you're doing with your Parish community?

Send photos to Kaitlynn as attachments, using Google Drive or Dropbox, and she will share them on Facebook:

keaton@stcpaz.org





MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

8:00AM DAILY MASS, MONDAY JANUARY 1

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

4:00PM - SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 7:00AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM, 5:00PM - SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

DECEMBER 24, 25, 26 - CLOSED **DECEMBER 31 - OPEN, 7:30AM-1:30PM** JANUARY 1 - CLOSED

FUNERAL HOME

Stanley S. Stobierski,

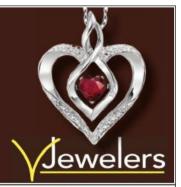
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Contact us for more information

623.561.7728

16650 N Stadium Way | Surprise, AZ 85374 | www.carepartnersliving.com

Minutes from St. Clare of Assisi



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www.DM.CHURCH/5504

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