

# On a Wing and a Prayer

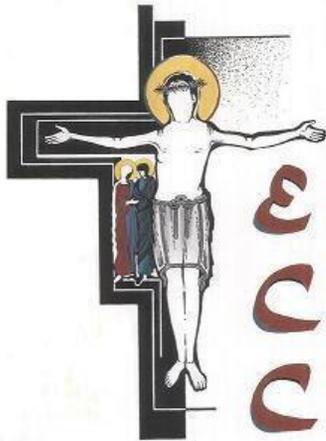
June 2015 Newsletter

Guardian Angels Catholic Community – Just. Faithful. Catholic.

[www.guardianangelscatholiccommunity.org](http://www.guardianangelscatholiccommunity.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/GuardianAngelsCatholicCommunity>

Join us for Mass every Sunday at 9AM and every Wednesday at 7AM



**THE ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC COMMUNION -- A Wonderful Way of Being Catholic!**

<http://www.ecumenical-catholic-union.org/>

A *great* **COMMITMENT**  
to the  
**GREAT COMMANDMENT**  
and the  
**GREAT COMMISSION**  
makes a  
*great* **CHURCH!**

# June

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><b>MAY 31</b></p> <p><b>MOST HOLY TRINITY AND THE GREAT COMMISSION</b> PRESIDER/PREACHER: SUE</p>	<p><b>JUNE 1</b></p> <p><b>LOVE-IN AT THE ISLAMIC COMMUNITY CENTER IN PHOENIX 6:30PM</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>LIBRARY OPEN 3-6PM</b></p> <p><b>LECTIO DIVINA @ THE LIBRARY 6:30PM – 7:45PM</b></p> <p><u>WEAR ORANGE TODAY – STAND AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE</u></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>MASS 7AM</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>TEAM MEETING 11AM @ UP</b></p> <p><b>GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP IN CONF. ROOM 6-7PM</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>START READING THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS!!!</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>SABBATH SUNDAY</b> PRESIDER/PREACHER: SUE</p> <p><b>SPECIAL BLESSING OF VALESKA AND CYNTHIA'S "LEGAL" MARRIAGE @ MASS</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>SUE IS AWAY JUNE 8 – JULY 3</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>MASS 7AM</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP IN CONF. ROOM 6-7PM</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> PRESIDER/PREACHER: ELAINE</p> 	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>MASS 7AM</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP IN CONF. ROOM 6-7PM</b></p> <p><b>RAMADAN BEGINS</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>RAMADAN SOLIDARITY FAST</b></p> <p><b>BREAK-FAST AT THE ICC @ 7:45PM</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> PRESIDER/PREACHER: ED</p>  <p><b>LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING AFTER MASS TODAY</b></p> <p><b>PAZ DE CRISTO 4-7PM</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>MASS 7AM</b></p> <p><b>PROGRESSIVE CLERGY GROUP 12:30PM</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP IN CONF. ROOM 6-7PM</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>RAMADAN SOLIDARITY FAST</b></p> <p><b>BREAK-FAST AT THE ICC @ 7:45PM</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>KEEP READING THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS!!!</b></p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> PRESIDER/PREACHER: ELAINE</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>JULY 1</b></p> <p><b>MASS 7AM</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP IN CONF. ROOM 6-7PM</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>RAMADAN SOLIDARITY FAST</b></p> <p><b>BREAK-FAST AT THE ICC @ 7:45PM</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> 
<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> PRESIDER/PREACHER: SUE</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>MASS 7AM</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP IN CONF. ROOM 6-7PM</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>RAMADAN SOLIDARITY FAST</b></p> <p><b>BREAK-FAST AT THE ICC @ 7:45PM</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>



The Angels blessing Ann Connolly before she embarked on this year's Migrant Trail Walk, May 24 – 31. Barb bent down and blessed Ann's feet. A good idea as the walk is more than 70+ miles in some pretty hot, dry, desolate locations.

For more about the Walk, check out this link: <http://azmigranttrail.com/about/>



On May 21, 2015, Arizona State University's Center for Applied Behavioral Health notified AZ Center for Law in the Public Interest Staff Attorney **Anne Ronan** that she has been selected to receive their 2015 Behavioral Health Advocacy Award. Anne will be presented with the award at the 11th Annual Arizona Behavioral Health Awards Gala on Thursday, July 16 at the Hilton Sedona Resort and Spa in Sedona, Arizona. Anne is being recognized for her years of service advocating for the rights of people impacted by disabilities in general, and behavioral health conditions in particular, as well as her lifelong dedication to a life of service. Please join us in congratulating Anne for this well-deserved honor!



Dear Beloved Angels,

On Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup> I will begin a vacation/mini-sabbatical. I will be “unavailable” until July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The first week or so Gary and I will be in Pennsylvania where I will have the privilege of presiding at my nephew Nate’s wedding. We will then take a short side trip to visit Gary’s Mom. We’ll come back to town on the evening of June 17<sup>th</sup>. We will then be home but I will not be doing ANYTHING Angel-like. Elaine will be in charge of putting together the 3 Sunday Liturgies I will miss. She will preside at two and Fr. Ed will cover the other one. I won’t be at mass. You won’t get any email blasts from me and this newsletter goes until I come back...so hopefully it has all of the important things noted.

Many of you don’t know my history with Guardian Angels. I started attending the mass in the Fall of 2004 when I “officially” left the Roman Catholic Church and my 18 year, full-time job with a parish in the Diocese. By early 2005 I started putting the liturgies-masses together. I had been a Liturgy Coordinator in one of my former parish jobs so I offered to help. I have created the Liturgy for the weekly mass at Guardian Angels ever since (10 years!). I was ordained a Deacon in the summer of 2005 and by the Spring of 2006 Guardian Angels moved out of the Lutheran Church in Chandler and took up residency where we are today – at Community Christian Church. I continued to serve the Community as a Deacon. By this time, Elaine was serving as our Music Minister (this was before she went to Claremont for her Masters in Divinity). We began meeting on Saturday evenings then on Sunday evenings. Our little Community was at about 15-20 people in attendance on a good day. On June 24, 2007, I was ordained a priest and became Guardian Angels Pastor that day. From that time until today Guardian Angels has been my top priority. I arranged my work around the needs of this beautiful group of people, taking jobs that would allow me to help grow and develop our Community. The perfect storm came to pass in the Fall of 2013 – we were able to secure a prime time Sunday morning spot for our mass and by Advent our awesome Paul and Joseph joined us as music ministers, allowing Elaine to now fully embrace her priesthood. Since that time Guardian Angels has grown from a small group of people who really only met for mass once a week to the active, engaged, alive, busy seven days a week parish that it is today. All of you have reason to feel proud of Guardian Angels because, my beloved community, you have created a Church based on Love and Service, that stands with folks who are marginalized, abused, forgotten, excluded....and you do it with such joy and heart.

I feel that Guardian Angels is about to begin a new phase...a phase that will call more of you to consider leading in some of the areas that I’ve been leading. I’m not going anywhere, so don’t worry about that. But I am spending some of my time off dreaming new dreams and exploring new visions for Guardian Angels and I call all of you to do the same. We don’t have much scheduled in June on purpose. I’m encouraging EVERYONE to carve out some Sabbatical or Sabbath time. We will launch this effort with our Sabbath Sunday Mass this Sunday, June 7.

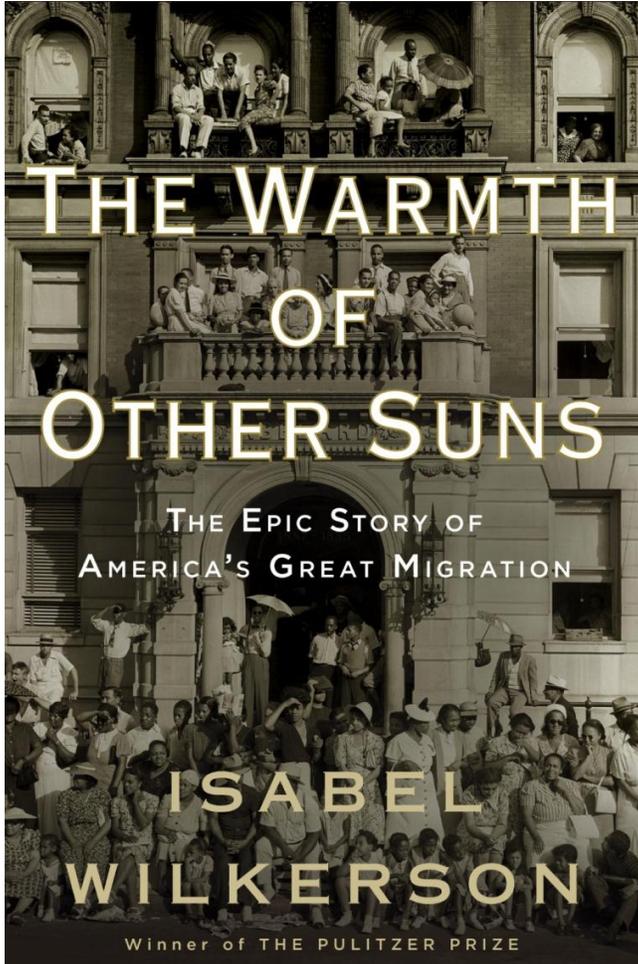
I’m so blessed to be able to lead this amazing group of people. You all should be jealous that you don’t get the see ‘YOU’ – gathered in community - on a regular basis...I have a front row seat and you look marvelous! There is so much giftedness and faith among all of you and I have come to realize that my need to take care of everything is not good for the Parish. All of you are capable of stepping up to help with some aspect of Parish Community Life. You don’t have to know NOW what that is I just want you to spend some time dreaming about the next steps for Guardian Angels – no rules and no limits! We’ll have a parish potluck in July and we’ll share our June dreamings!

I’m grateful to the Leadership Council for approving my time away and also Community Christian Church for giving me extra time off. Like I told all of you at Easter...I have proof that Christ is Risen...because I see him in all of you.

Love, Pastor Sue

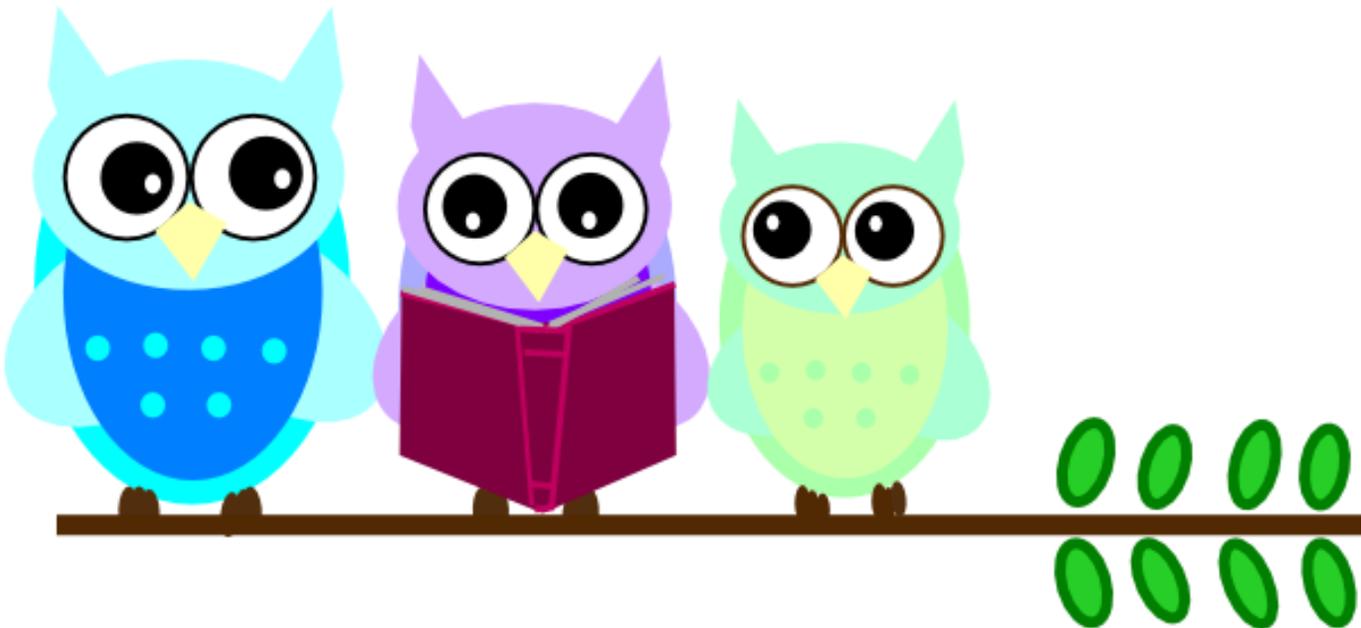
PS Don’t miss the Poem on the last page of this Newsletter ☺

# One Book...One Community



There is an effort in small towns and big cities to encourage a Community to all read the same book over a specific period of time and then talk about it. Over the past year we have been trying to become more educated and informed concerning racism in this country. Something that we thought should be gone or almost gone has been shown to have a staying power that we could not have predicted. The book, "The Warmth of Other Suns," is Guardian Angels next attempt to help us learn more about African American history. It comes recommended by several Angels. So we will read this book together over the summer. Now don't let it scare you...it's kinda thick! But I understand once you get into it, it is a real page turner! We have one scheduled discussion date so far, *Thursday, July 16 @ 7PM* at the Church. So get the book and start reading!

Learn more about how our historical government policies also contributed to our current problems  
<http://www.npr.org/2015/05/14/406699264/historian-says-dont-sanitize-how-our-government-created-the-ghettos>



**READ. THINK. TALK. LISTEN. GROW.**



**Angels Serving at I-HELP! This can't be work!**

**Everyone looks like they are having too much fun!**



**LOVE in ACTION**

# Grief Support Group

## Is your life currently affected by unresolved grief?

Do you sometimes have nagging and uncomfortable feelings related to a death; or maybe another kind of emotional loss? We invite you to join us and begin a weekly healing journey along with others who understand the pain of loss.

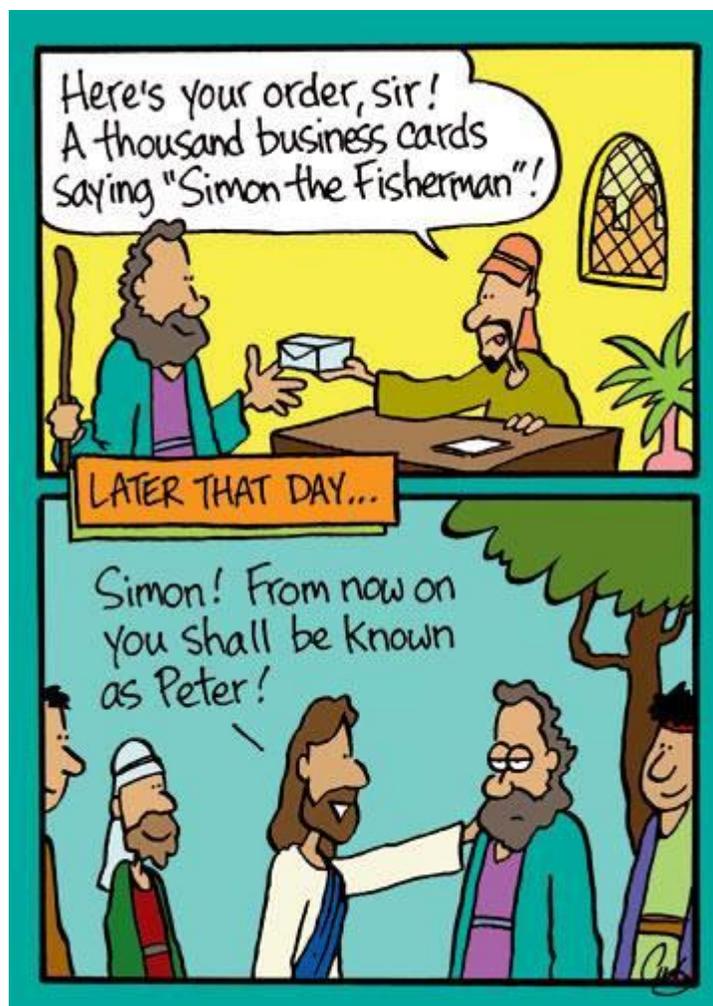
Our weekly "Grief Support Groups" are always open to anyone and everyone who may be struggling with feelings of unresolved grief, regardless of the source of those feelings.

*"The death of a beloved is an event that rings and rings through a life: bearing it is not a problem to be solved, but a long, slow piece of music to listen to. And mourning, like music, is best listened to with others." -- Sarah Miles from her book Jesus Freak*

**Thursdays, 6:00 to 7:00pm in the small conference room in the church office.**

Facilitator & Gemini Hospice Chaplain: Ed Walsh

Questions? Please Call Ed 602-642-6813 or email [edw@geminihospice.com](mailto:edw@geminihospice.com)



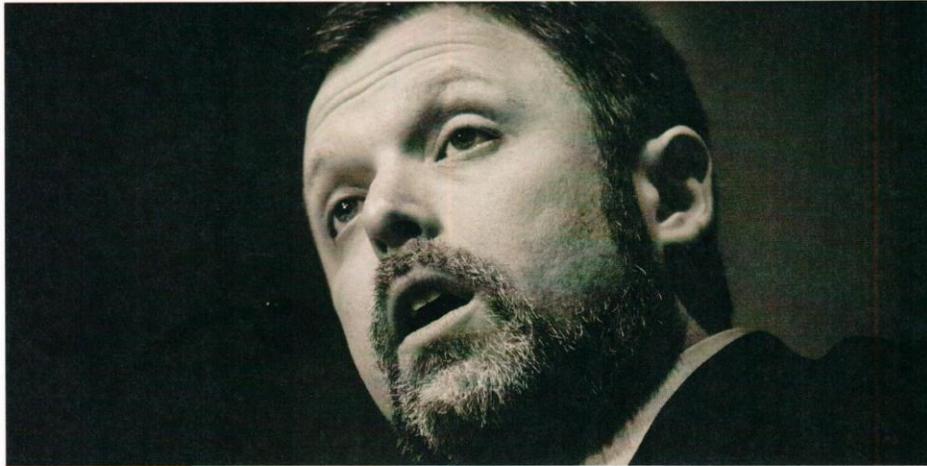
**Put this on your calendar TODAY!**

The Center for the Study of Race and Democracy Presents  
**New Generations Leadership Program**

## Race, Justice and the Future of Leadership

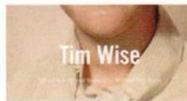
**Featuring Tim Wise**

Leading Anti-Racist Writer and Educator



**White Like Me**

Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son



Dear  
**White  
America**

LETTER TO A NEW MINORITY

**TIM WISE**

date

Thursday, July 23, 2015

location

To be determined

time

6:30 p.m.

reception and book signing immediately following

Free and open to the public.

For more information, call 602-496-1376.

**ASU** CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF  
RACE & DEMOCRACY  
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

[csrd.asu.edu](http://csrd.asu.edu)

join the conversation



It's an exciting time at the Center for the Study of Race & Democracy (CSRD) **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** The CSRD is actively seeking volunteers for programs/events. To learn more about the many opportunities available, please visit each event's webpage and select "Volunteers," or contact our office at [602-496-1376](tel:602-496-1376).

Please share widely with your colleagues, family, friends, and networks.  
Thank you for your continued support!

Center for the Study of Race and Democracy Arizona State University University Center, Suite 300

Office: [602-496-1376](tel:602-496-1376) | Fax: [480-727-8546](tel:480-727-8546) | e-mail: [csrd@asu.edu](mailto:csrd@asu.edu) | <http://csrd.asu.edu>

Angels continue to pursue Interfaith Relationships. 15 of us represented Guardian Angels and the Ecumenical Catholic Communion at the May 7<sup>th</sup> Dinner and Interfaith Dialogue about Holy Scriptures and Sacred Texts.



A reflection on Inclusion: When threatened with loss, when feeling insecure, we circle the wagons. Gathering the clan and resisting the outsiders is a popular reaction against insecurity and fear. Identifying perceived enemies and resisting them is a popular diversion used by nations and individuals. Ethnic cleansing, heretic hunting and other methods of exclusion are deadly reactions to fear and security.

We should not be surprised by John's statement, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." John's words remind us of reports of denominational quarrels or local church controversies. Current religious conversation often focuses on who is "in" and who is "out." Our labeling discounts persons and their ideas. "Liberal," "conservative," "evangelical," "social activist" – these have become weapons of religious warfare. When we use these terms, we not only describe emphases; we also prescribe rejection.

A journalist once asked Carl Sandburg, "What is the ugliest word in the English language?" After a few minutes Sandburg replied, "Exclusive." The ugliness of exclusive depends upon whether we are among the included or the excluded. We pride ourselves on being members of exclusive clubs, living in exclusive neighborhoods, dining at exclusive restaurants, vacationing at exclusive resorts, belonging to exclusive churches. Being an insider carries with it a sense of pride and security. Most of us, however, have been excluded often enough to agree that exclusive is an ugly word. When we are among the marginalized, the rejected, the pushed-aside or the left-out, it hurts!

The conflict in the early church centered on the question of who is in and who is out. Are gentiles to be included? Peter and Paul debated that one until Peter had a dream and concluded that "God shows no partiality." The Book of Acts is the story of God's grace through the Holy Spirit, pushing the early church out to the margins and breaking down the barriers among the people.

Judging people by whether or not they are "one of us" thwarts God's reign of justice, generosity and joy. The disciples missed the power and victory of God's liberating presence in the man casting out demons. Their assumption that only those "following us" could cast out demons blinded them to God's presence in another. Rather than being grateful that demons were cast out, they were upset that the healing was done through someone outside their group.

God has a history of acting decisively in and through outsiders. The Hebrew slaves were delivered through the leadership of Moses, a 'murderer.' Jesus welcomed a marginalized tax collector and a political extremist (Simon the Zealot) into the apostolic band, talked to a disreputable woman at a well and called a zealous persecutor (Saul) as an evangelist and missionary.

Jesus, the very incarnation of God's power and presence, refused to live by the divisions and barriers of his time. He challenged the practice of confining God's redemptive and transforming action to one's own race, one's own religious institution, one's own political party. When the disciples wanted exclusive claim to God's reign, he

challenged them to see God's presence and power manifested in those who were not members of their group. "Do not stop him... Whoever is not against us is for us."

Mark's Gospel follows this incident with a warning to those who "put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me." Why does this warning come after the demon story? Because whether "the little ones" are children or persons new in the faith, nothing hinders them more than exclusiveness. Confining God's presence and power to one's own group is a distortion of the gospel of God's universal love. How often this gospel is negated by division among those who claim allegiance to it! As one person said, "Why would I want to be a Christian? You Christians seem more concerned about protecting your own privileges and proving you are right than doing something about the injustice and suffering in the world." - Kenneth Carder



**Would you like to Fast in Solidarity with our Muslim friends during Ramadan? We Catholics are great with Fasting on Fridays so we chose that as our Fast Day. The idea is that you do not eat anything while the sun is up. The Muslims Break-Fast in the evening together...every evening together during Ramadan at the Islamic Community Center in Tempe. We are invited to join them for their Break-Fast Meal at the Center at 7:45PM on the Friday's we Fast. This is not required at all but we are invited to join them. Let Pastor Sue know if you are interested in this opportunity and she will fill you in on the details. Ramadan begins on June 18 and ends on July 17.**



## **INTERESTED IN SERVING IN A MINISTRY AT **GUARDIAN ANGELS?****

Interested in helping to set up before mass and greet people arriving for mass?

Contact Terry, Leadership Council [tmpizzi7@aol.com](mailto:tmpizzi7@aol.com)

Interested in being a Lector? Contact Barb, Leadership Council, [moen4955@cox.net](mailto:moen4955@cox.net)

Interested in being a Eucharistic Minister? Contact Nancy, [nanzmann@gmail.com](mailto:nanzmann@gmail.com)

Interested in baking our Altar Bread? Contact Jeanie, Leadership Council, [azghanclan@hotmail.com](mailto:azghanclan@hotmail.com)

Interested in helping with clean-up after mass? **We are currently looking for some people to help with this.**

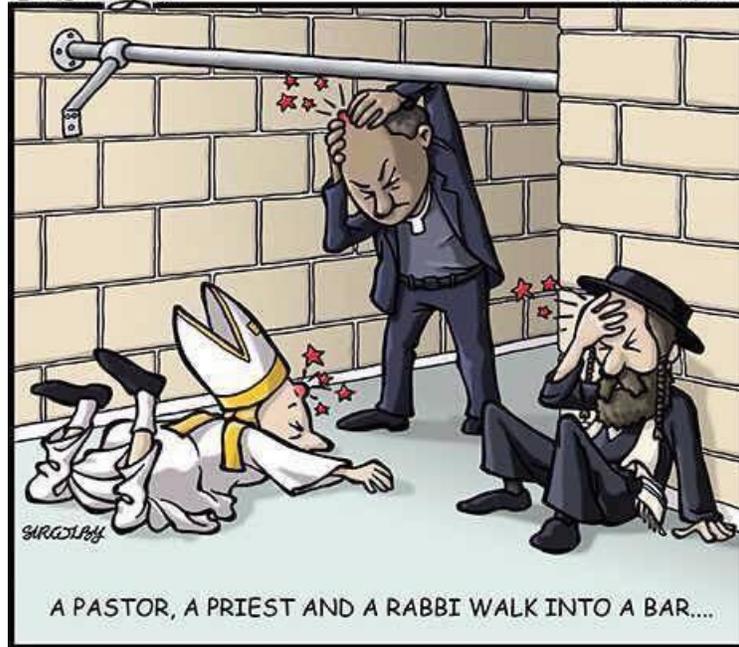
**It is an easy thing for individuals and families to do. Training provided! 😊**

Contact Carol, Leadership Council, [desertgourmet@hotmail.com](mailto:desertgourmet@hotmail.com)

If you have any financial questions about the parish,

ask Treasurer Frank, Leadership Council, [frank.mcpeek@gmail.com](mailto:frank.mcpeek@gmail.com)

or pick up the monthly financial report available on the back counter where you pick up your worship aid.



## Leadership Council

### News from Your Leadership Council



#### Under Discussion:

1. Fr. Nathan Castle (Newman Center) retreat, "Your Afterlife Bucket List" at CCC September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Cost would be about \$1000 plus travel expenses.



#### Decisions:

1. A semi-annual meeting to address our budget has been approved along with an increase in vacation time for Sue. The budget meetings are tentatively scheduled for the June and October time frame. These meetings will be separate from the Leadership Council's regular monthly meetings.
2. Funds were approved to send 3 members from Guardian Angels to the commissioning of Bishop Francis on Sept. 18th
3. Pastor Sue to take a well-deserved vacation/mini-sabbatical from June 8th – July 3rd.
4. AZ/NM Dioceses & 501c3 on Hold

**New Updated Directory of "Angels" available electronically!** Let Jeanie, azghanclan@hotmail.com, know if you would like a Guardian Angels Directory of Members. This Directory includes emails, addresses & phone numbers if we have them.

### Feedback

Your Leadership Council invites you to attend our meetings on the 3rd Sunday of every month after mass. This month's meeting will be on **June 21<sup>st</sup>**. Questions and suggestions are welcomed so we may better serve our community. We may be contacted at:



Barb [moen4955@cox.net](mailto:moen4955@cox.net)



Carol [desertgourmet@hotmail.com](mailto:desertgourmet@hotmail.com)



Christine [paukencm@gmail.com](mailto:paukencm@gmail.com)



Kevin [kevrapkoch@cox.net](mailto:kevrapkoch@cox.net)



Jeanie [azghanclan@hotmail.com](mailto:azghanclan@hotmail.com)



Robert [rlongonijr@cox.net](mailto:rlongonijr@cox.net)



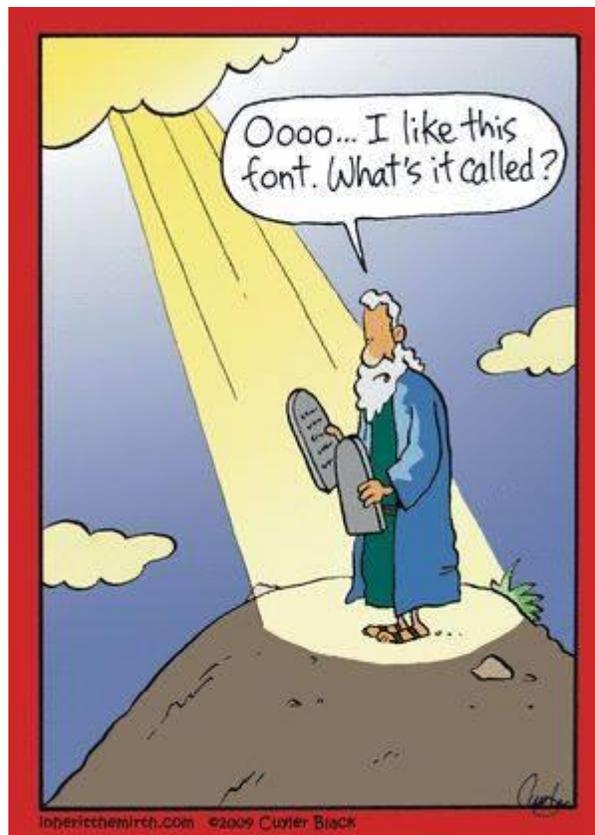
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Terry [tmpizzi7@aol.com](mailto:tmpizzi7@aol.com)

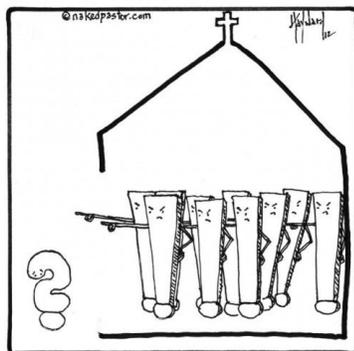


Sue [irreverendsue@gmail.com](mailto:irreverendsue@gmail.com)





Let's go fly at kite, up to the highest height. Let's go fly a kite and send it soaring....



BRING YOUR  
QUESTIONS TO  
**GUARDIAN ANGELS!!**  
WE WANT TO HEAR  
THEM

### Ecumenical Catholicism - A Wonderful Way of Being Catholic

Do you have questions about Ecumenical Catholicism? The Mass? What we believe? Have you wondered why we do the things we do? Let us know! Send your questions to [irreverendsue@gmail.com](mailto:irreverendsue@gmail.com)

***Make a place to sit down.***

***Sit down. Be quiet.***

***You must depend upon***

***affection, reading, knowledge,***

***skill – more of each***

***than you have – inspiration,***

***work, growing older, patience,***

***for patience joins time***

***to eternity. Any readers***

***who like your poems,***

***doubt their judgment.***



***Breathe with unconditional breath***

***the unconditioned air.***

***Shun electric wire.***

***Communicate slowly. Live***

***a three-dimensional life;***

***stay away from screens.***

***Stay away from anything***

***that obscures the place it is in.***

***There are no unsacred places;***

***there are only sacred places***

***and desecrated places.***

***Accept what comes from silence.***

***Make the best you can of it.***

***Of the little words that come***

***out of the silence, like prayers***

***prayed back to the one who prays,***

***make a poem that does not disturb***

***the silence from which it came.***