

On a Wing and a Prayer

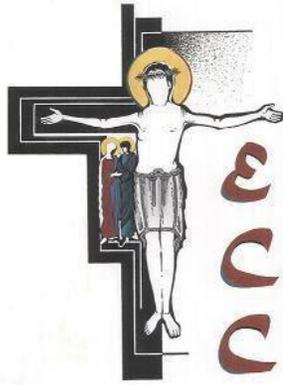
July 2017

Guardian Angels Catholic Community – Just. Faithful. Catholic.

www.guardianangelscatholiccommunity.org

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

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



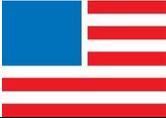
THE ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC COMMUNION -- A Wonderful Way of Being Catholic!

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



G.A.C.C.

Guardian Angels Calendar July 2017

 JULY 2017						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					30 4-6 PM I-HELP	JULY 1
2 13TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME MASS 9AM PRESIDER/PREACHER: ED	3	4 4TH OF JULY 	5 MASS 7AM	6	7	8 HUMANE BORDERS TODAY
9 14TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME MASS 9AM PRESIDER: SUE *DIALOGUE HOMILY*	10	11	12 MASS 7AM	13	14	15
16 15TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME MASS 9AM PRESIDER/PREACHER: ED LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING AFTER MASS TODAY  PAZ DE CRISTO 4P – 7P	17	18	19 MASS 7AM	20	21	22 DCN. MARISA WERNER'S ORDINATION 
23 16TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME MASS 9AM PRESIDER/PREACHER: SUE	24	25	26 MASS 7AM	27 BOOK DISCUSSION AT DEACON JOAN'S HOUSE MORE INFO IN THE NEWSLETTER	28	29
30 17TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME MASS 9AM PRESIDER: SUE, PREACHER: JOAN REFUGEE CRAFT SALE TODAY	31	AUGUST 1 	2 MASS 7AM	3	4	5
6 FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD MASS 9AM PRESIDER/PREACHER: ELAINE	7 	8	9 MASS 7AM	10	11	12
13 19TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME MASS 9AM PRESIDER/PREACHER: ED	14	15 FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY	16 MASS 7AM	17	18 <i>Be Transformed</i>	19



1- Barb Moen

9- Rena Maas

12- Chris Crowl

15- Ann Ross



15- Sam and Chris Crowl 7/15/1995

26- Marie Renner's son Patrick received his Angel wings 7/26/2006

Let Pastor Sue know if you'd like a directory of Fellow Angels! She can email it to you.

Send your birthdays/anniversaries/other remembrance days to Becky: rgkeck1@yahoo.com





Hello!

My name is Jeff Strand, and I am very excited to be joining you all at Guardian Angels as your new Music Minister! When I had the opportunity to attend Mass with you all, I was immediately struck by the sense of community and the incredibly welcoming spirit of all in attendance. I was even further moved by the stories of compassion and commitment to enacting positive change in the world that were shared before, and during, Mass.

I also loved the energy and interest in congregational singing! That is absolutely something I hope to continue to foster as Music Minister. In that spirit, I want to invite you to please let me know what interests you, and what you feel helps you connect most in worship. I have plenty of thoughts and music I want to bring from my experiences, but first and foremost, my job is to lead and encourage you, and I look forward to hearing from you. I can tell you from experience, I have been in front of large congregations that didn't make NEARLY the amount of sound as you all do! Let's keep that going!

If you have ever thought about participating in the choir, on an instrument, or in other ways in music ministry, please do not hesitate to contact me. Even if you have never sung in a choir, we can show you the ropes (I'm plenty used to teaching!)

Finally, I thought I would give you just a bit of background about where I come from. I am currently an Adjunct Professor of Voice and Worship Music at Grand Canyon University, and I have been on staff at a number of churches in the Phoenix area, as well as in Flagstaff and Oklahoma. I also teach voice and piano at the Salvation Army Kroc Center in south Phoenix, and at Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran School of the Arts in Scottsdale. I grew up here in the East Valley, before heading off to do my Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance at NAU up in Flagstaff. From there, I went to the University of Oklahoma to complete a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance, and was a Young Artist at Tulsa Opera. I have now been back in Mesa for the past few years, working in music ministry, teaching, and performing with Phoenix Opera, as well as a number of other arts organizations. My wife Sandra is also a singer, church musician, and teacher. You may see her around now and then.

I have not been able to join you right away, as I am currently singing two engagements in Canada, first in Ottawa and then in Toronto. But, I will be back in town mid-July, and I can't wait to get started then. Thank you, I look forward to getting to know you, getting to worship with you, and to be part of the team at Guardian Angels!

Sincerely, Jeff

A BIG THANK-YOU to everyone who donates to our Emergency Food Pantry. **Our Keeley who staffs the office at Community Christian during the week will be away July 6 – August 1. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Can you staff the office for an hour on either Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday in order to give out lunches/water to our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness, hunger and thirst?** If you can help contact either Kay kaywright13@cox.net or Pastor Sue, irreverendsue@gmail.com. **Our Church Pantry is in need of peanut butter cups, fruit cups, chips, crackers, applesauce, Vienna sausages and granola bars. Thank you again!**



A DIFFERENT MIRROR



A HISTORY OF MULTICULTURAL AMERICA



RONALD TAKAKI Author of *Sonagers from a Different Shore*



WINNER OF AN AMERICAN BOOK AWARD

“...most people don’t know the fact that they don’t know, because of the complete lack of information.” Ronald Takaki

Summer Reading Selection

A Different Mirror*

By

Ronald Takaki

From Amazon’s website: “Upon its first publication, *A Different Mirror* was hailed by critics and academics everywhere as a dramatic new retelling of our nation’s past. Beginning with the colonization of the New World, it recounted the history of America in the voice of the non-Anglo peoples of the United States--Native Americans, African Americans, Jews, Irish Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, and others--groups who helped create this country’s rich mosaic culture.

Now, Ronald Takaki has revised his landmark work and made it even more relevant and important. Among the new additions to the book are:

- The role of black soldiers in preserving the Union
- The history of Chinese Americans from 1900-1941
- An investigation into the hot-button issue of "illegal" immigrants from Mexico
- A look at the sudden visibility of Muslim refugees from Afghanistan.

This new edition of *A Different Mirror* is a remarkable achievement that grapples with the raw truth of American history and examines the ultimate question of what it means to be an American.”

Books and CDs can be purchased on Amazon or www.betterworldbooks.com

*The latest edition is preferred but if it is not available, any edition will suffice.

We will gather to discuss in June, July and August. For our July discussion, read up to page 291 – or as much as you can! (Even if you have not read much of the book, you’ll still be enlightened by our honest & lively discussion.)

Come to 1, 2, or all 3 gatherings!

Second Gathering, Thursday – July 27 @ 7pm
 Deacon Joan’s Home
 1663 N Camellia St, Tempe AZ/773-680-7686



Your next chance to help fill water stations is on **Saturday, July 8.** Let Robert, Kay or Pastor Sue know if you'd like to join us!



Craft Sale after our mass on July 30th Help local Syrian Refugees

Ramia Miro has two teenagers. Her daughter who has a rare neurological disease attends special ed classes. She was just released from Phoenix Children's Hospital where she was hospitalized for nearly a month for brain surgery. Her husband hours at the Holiday Inn were cut in half during the summer and he was unable to work while his daughter was in the hospital as she was in critical condition. The family is from Damascus, Syria. Her husband lost brothers and sisters during the war in Syria. Ramia's family fled Syria for refugee camps in northern Jordan. Conditions were horrible with unsafe water, where people frequently got sick and were hungry because of lack of food. Her son had to work and didn't attend school for five years.

Ruba Raslan is a mother of four young children from Homs, Syria. Due to bullets, bombing and lack of food, they fled Syria and went to camps in Almafryk, Jordan for five difficult years. The family has been in Mesa for 10 months. Recently her husband stopped working because of health issues. He will be having surgery the first week of July. Ruba is recovering from second degree burns on her face and hands. Your purchase of craft items will help pay for the rent and put food on the table.

Please bring cash to pay for items ranging from \$5 to \$100. Checks are also welcome. Crocheted items include baby sweaters, booties, caps, women's dress hats, scarfs, mats and customized goods. Aprons, pot holders, tote bags and placemats are sewn. Please contact marciaheller@gmail.com for questions.

Another way to support Syrian Refugees:



A delicious way to support Refugees

Through the Syrian Sweets Exchange bake sales around the valley in the past few months, a few talented bakers have taken serious interest in establishing their home business. The bakers are refugees from Syria who have been recently resettled in Phoenix. Give our bakers a chance to introduce their business to the community by ordering baklawas from us for your parties, meetings and events. 100% of the proceeds go to families of the bakers.



Traditional Baklava
Walnut
Full Tray - 54 pieces
\$45*



Finger Baklava
Walnut
Full Tray - 75 pieces
\$45*



Assorted Baklava
Walnut, Pistachio
Full Tray - 60 pieces
\$50

**Add \$10 for pistachio*

To order:

- Email order@SyrianSweetsAZ.com or call 858-610-2751
- Order must be placed at least 3 days before delivery.
- Pick up from baker or flat delivery fee of \$10

www.SyrianSweetsAZ.com

Christ's hands

In World War II, bombs destroyed a church in Strasbourg, France. As parishioners cleared the rubble, they discovered a statue of Jesus that was now missing both hands.

A visiting sculptor later offered to make repairs, but church members declined, saying Christ "has no hands to minister to the needy or feed the hungry or enrich the poor – except our hands. He inspires. We perform."

St. Teresa of Avila wrote:

Christ has no body but yours;
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours.



Saint Michael the Archangel Ecumenical Catholic Church
Reverend Delores J. Kropf, Pastor

joyfully invites you
to join us in celebrating
the ordination of

Marisa Julia Werner

to the Priesthood of Christ
through Imposition of Hands
and Prayers of Ordination

led by The Most Reverend Francis Krebs
Presiding Bishop of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion

Saturday, July 22, 2017
Ordination Mass at 10:00 AM
Reception to follow

First Christian Church
740 East Speedway Boulevard
Tucson, Arizona 85719

RSVP by July 14, 2017
(520) 419-2006
mwerner@iliff.edu

*"The kingdom of heaven is
like yeast that a woman
took and mixed in with
three measures of flour
until all of it was
leavened."*



-Words of Jesus in the
Gospel of Matthew, chapter 13,
verse 33 (NRSV Bible)

Ramona's Flat Jesus

Flat Jesus

Take me with you
on vacation
To the beach, camp,
the park even
the gas station.
Snap a pic and
include me too!
Remember I am
always with you.



**Flat Jesus on a break
at work with Rudy!**



**Flat Jesus out
in the
wilderness
with Sandy,
Barb, Kay
(CKGO),
and Becky.**



Flat Jesus joined Angels as we broke the Ramadan Fast at an Iftar Dinner with our Muslim Friends.

Nancy and Ken were off to Chicago for a beautiful wedding...with Flat Jesus! Thanks for the wonderful pictures of your Adventures with Flat Jesus!



Angels at the Summer Book Study...with Flat Jesus – Jeanie, B, Joan, Barb, Elsa and Sandy taking the picture!

Our Ann on a road trip with Flat Jesus from AZ to her beloved Michigan. We are so happy that the doctors released her to travel in time for her to celebrate the 4th of July with her people!



Dcn. Joan with Flat Jesus after delivering an awesome homily – Dcn. Joan delivered the homily, not Flat Jesus. 😊



[Man Who Attacked GOP Was a Product of American Logic of Violence](#)

June 14, 2017/in [Peace & Violence](#) /by [Adam Ericksen](#)

Violence continues to run rampant in the United States. This time it struck against Republican lawmakers playing some early morning baseball. We've just learned that the attacker was an outspoken Bernie Sanders supporter, and a critic of Hillary Clinton, the GOP, and Donald Trump.

The shooter was 66-year-old James Hodgkinson. He shot into the baseball field, where more than a dozen Republican lawmakers were playing, along with some staff members. Steve Scalise, a member of the House of Representatives, was shot and remains in critical condition at a local hospital. Two others were wounded, but are in stable condition.

President Trump called the attack a "[brutal assault](#)." Bernie Sanders also [made a statement](#), "I am sickened by this despicable act. Let me be as clear as I can be. Violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society and I condemn this action in the strongest possible terms."

The president is right. This was a brutal assault. Along with Bernie Sanders, I hope our nation is "sickened by this despicable act." But being sickened isn't enough. And I'd like to point out that Sanders' following statement is patently false and unhelpful. If we are going to end these acts of violence, then we must face the truth about American culture.

Contrary to Sanders' statement, violence *is* acceptable in our society. Paul Ryan [called the attack](#) "a senseless act of violence." But tragically, the shooting makes perfect sense within American culture.

The Logic of Violence

Violence makes "sense." In fact, violence has a logic of its own, and America is a nation that believes in the logic of violence. If you hit us, we have every right to hit you back. In fact, the American logic of violence doesn't even have to wait for anyone to hit us. We believe preemptive war is an appropriate way to defend ourselves against a perceived attack that we believe is imminent.

In this way, violence makes sense. Violence is logical in that it sets out to defend ourselves from a threat. And there's a peculiar thing about humans and violence. No matter which side we are on, we always think that our violence is "good" and "defensive," and that our enemy's violence is "bad" and "aggressive." This logic of violence keeps us trapped inside its vicious cycle.

James Hodgkinson was a product of the logic of violence that is deeply ingrained in American society. He believed his violence was good. Why? Because he believed he was protecting Americans from the "evil" Republicans. Where did he get the idea that his violence was good? He got it from America's resolute faith in violence as a means to solve our problems.

In his book [*Battling to the End*](#), [René Girard](#) claims that violence is escalating to extremes. In the face of modern violence, warfare, and nuclear weapons that could destroy the planet, Girard writes, “The worst thing one can now do is believe in violence.”

Belief in violence is the worst thing one can do because violence is supremely mimetic. In other words, belief in violence spreads like a contagious disease. Faith in violence as a means to defend ourselves, along with easy access to guns, means that we will continue to see these acts of terror. In fact, Hodgkinson mass shooting is just one of the [152 mass shooting](#) so far in 2017.

The Alternative to Faith in Violence

Girard claimed that we already have the answer to violence. The Judeo-Christian tradition has within it the nonviolent alternative that is ultimately seen in Jesus Christ. The one who explicitly named the destructive logic of violence as, “Those who live by the sword will die by the sword.” The alternative is to refuse to mimic the logic violence and instead follow in the footsteps of the nonviolent love of Christ.

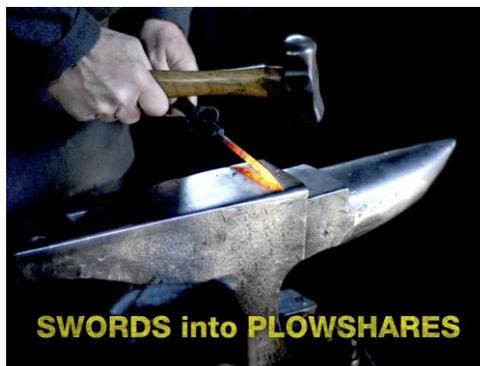
Christ’s call to nonviolence sets us free from the reciprocal nature of violence. “Turn the other cheek” teaches us to stop the cycle of revenge. But it also teaches us to stand up for justice. Jesus didn’t advocate either fight or flight. Rather, he advocated a nonviolent pursuit of justice.

One of Jesus’s most famous followers was a man named Paul. He claimed that our fight is not against flesh and blood, but against the powers and principalities – against injustice, greed, and oppression.

James Hodgkinson’s underlying complaint wasn’t against the GOP or Donald Trump. It was against the powers of injustice he thought were destroying our country. Under the logic of violence, he thought he was defending the United States. But violence only “works” to reinforce our faith in the power of violence.

We can stand up to those powers nonviolently, no matter our faith. We do so by lifting up the voices of the downtrodden while remembering those ensnared by the forces of oppression. By remembering their humanity and speaking the truth in love, we urge our lawmakers to remember the humanity of those they serve.

*Change your view; change the world! [Subscribe to the Raven ReView](#) and never miss an article! New subscribers receive the free e-book, *Dodging the Parenting Trap* by Rev. Adam Ericksen and the MP3 “*Before I Take A Stand*” by singer-songwriter and Raven Board Member Michael McLean.*



The power of weakness

In *Tramp for the Lord*, Corrie ten Boom describes traveling to Russia during the Cold War – when Christians were being persecuted – to thank an old woman who’d been secretly translating Christian books (including ten Boom’s). Ravaged by multiple sclerosis, the woman could move only an index finger. Yet with it she typed constantly, translating words while praying for people who’d eventually read them.

Ten Boom’s reaction was, “Oh Lord, why don’t you heal her?” But the woman’s husband said God had a purpose in his wife’s suffering. Although the secret police closely watched *other* Christians, they left this woman alone, assuming she couldn’t accomplish anything.

Jesus works through our weaknesses, making his power perfect in them (see 2 Corinthians 12:9). He doesn’t ask if we’re capable – only if we’re willing.



In case you were not aware of how much FUN we have at Paz de Cristo every month, Rudy put this collage together. You know you want to go now, right? Our next opportunity to serve at Paz is on Sunday, July 16, 4 PM – 7PM.



We had such fun at the Roller Rink on Pastor Sue's Anniversary! See if you can find the cotton-candy cake.





I-HELP Angels – Bob and Jeanie are not in the pictures 'cause they were home grillin' the burgers for our meal on June 30th – EVERYONE LOVED the burgers and fixins!



KINDNESS by Naomi Shihab Nye

Before you know what kindness really is
you must lose things,
feel the future dissolve in a moment
like salt in a weakened broth.
What you held in your hand,
what you counted and carefully saved,
all this must go so you know
how desolate the landscape can be
between the regions of kindness.
How you ride and ride
thinking the bus will never stop,
the passengers eating maize and chicken
will stare out the window forever.

Before you learn the tender gravity of kindness,
you must travel where the Indian in a white poncho
lies dead by the side of the road.
You must see how this could be you,
how he too was someone
who journeyed through the night with plans
and the simple breath that kept him alive.

Before you know kindness as the deepest thing inside,
you must know sorrow as the other deepest thing.
You must wake up with sorrow.
You must speak to it till your voice
catches the thread of all sorrows
and you see the size of the cloth.

Then it is only kindness that makes sense anymore,
only kindness that ties your shoes
and sends you out into the day to mail letters and purchase bread,
only kindness that raises its head
from the crowd of the world to say
It is I you have been looking for,
and then goes with you everywhere
like a shadow or a friend.



