

# Saint Margaret Mary Catholic Church *Iglesia Católica Santa Margarita Maria*



1691 North Oatman Road  
Bullhead City, AZ 86442  
(928) 758-7117

[www.stmargaretmarybhc.com](http://www.stmargaretmarybhc.com)

Pastor: Father Dan Vollmer  
Deacons: John DelQuadro  
Anthony Picciano (Retired)

## Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time, February 15, 2026

### St. Margaret Mary Mission Statement:

With the Holy Eucharist as the Source and Summit of our lives, we strive to act justly, to love God and neighbor, and to walk humbly with God in order to bring Jesus to the world by our words and actions, while fulfilling our Lord's command to "...make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

### Parish Office

**(928) 758-7117**

Maria Iniguez: Administrative Assistant.....Ext 100  
Bernardo Badilla: Facility Manager..... Ext 101  
Edson Estrada: Hispanic Ministry.....Ext 107  
or (928) 758-8875  
Deacon John DelQuadro: Religious Education Director.....Ext 109  
Rose Gilbert: Advertising/Ghight Shop.....Ext 106  
Marsha Ratliff: Bulletin, Annulment, Weddings.....Ext 104

### The Parish Office Hours

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

### Hispanic Ministry Office Hours

4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

### Ghight Shop Hours

**Tuesday:** 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Thursday:** 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Saturday:** 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Sunday:** 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

### Eucharistic Adoration

**Thursdays:** 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
**First Fridays: September—May**  
After the 8:00 am Mass until 6:00 pm

### Hora Santa

*Los Martes después  
de la Misa de 7:00 pm*

### Mass Schedule

#### Saturday Anticipatory Masses:

**English:** 5:00 pm  
**Español:** 7:00 pm

#### Sunday Masses:

**English:** 8:00 am  
10:00 am  
**Español:** 12:00 pm

#### Daily Masses:

**Monday:** 8:00 am  
**Tuesday (Bilingual):** 7:00 pm  
**Wednesday:** 12:10 pm  
**Thursday:** 8:00 am  
**Friday:** 8:00 am  
**First Saturdays** 8:00 am

### Confession Schedule

**English / Español:**

**Wednesday:** 11:00 am – noon  
**Thursday:** 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Friday:** 8:30 am – 9:00 am  
**Saturday:** 3:30 pm – 4:45 pm

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – YRA 2026

In last week's Gospel, Jesus told us that we are supposed to be "salt of the earth" and "light to the world." We are to publicly live our faith in order to flavor the world with Christianity, and illuminate the world with God's love and mercy. Today's Gospel passage continues where last week's Gospel passage ended.

Jesus affirmed the fundamental necessity and goodness of God's law. Because of our fallen human nature, human beings tend to reject the world in which God created it to be, and try to re-create it according to our fallen human nature. Jesus is revealing to us how we are supposed to be living in this world. We are not happy when someone withholds information from us which would have prevented us from making a bad decision. God is sharing His infinite wisdom and love with us. He is withholding nothing from us. His Law helps us to love, even in the most difficult situations, so He has given us the Law so that we can live in harmony with Him and with one another. Thus, to teach someone to reject the Law, is to lead them down a path of misery because life without God and His Law is hell.

In the passage we heard today, Jesus indirectly admits His divinity. Moses was known as the Law giver. However, he never said that he was the author of the Law. He received the Law from God. In addition, the prophets never claimed to be the author of the prophecies they were proclaiming. A phrase used frequently by Moses and the prophets was: "Thus says the Lord..." They were not teaching from their own authority, but from God's authority.

However, not once in today's passage did Jesus say, "Thus says the Lord." He repeatedly said, "But I tell you..." He claims to have the same authority as God. Thus, Jesus is indirectly telling us that He is God, and He is telling us that we need to raise our moral standards, not lower them. Raising our moral standards is an act of love because the less we sin, the less we negatively impact others with our sin. Thus, loving our neighbor should cause us to raise our moral standards. From time-to-time when hearing a Confession someone will tell me, "I'm doing pretty good. I haven't killed anyone." That is not the moral standard that Jesus has in mind. If we think we are a good Christian because we have not killed anyone, our moral standards are too low.

Jesus told us that the bad things we do while we are angry are a violation of God's law. Anger is an emotion. Thus, anger itself is not a sin. However, what we do while we are angry is what Jesus is concerned about. Do we curse, say hurtful things, or do mean things while we are angry? It is the anger that often leads us to sin. Jesus wants us to work on that. We are not flavoring the world with goodness and illuminating it with God's love when we say or do hurtful things when we are angry. Jesus is clear; anger is never an excuse for saying or doing mean things. Thus, we cannot use our quick temper as an excuse for what we say or do when we are mad. We are liable for judgment for the mean things we say or do when we are angry.

Jesus expects us to be Christians even when we are angry. How do we do that? It means we must think, even when we are angry. Too often we allow ourselves to lose control, and say and do whatever hurtful thing comes to mind. In fact, that might be our default mode when we are mad. We have to mentally shut off that "automatic pilot" mode when we are mad. When we feel ourselves becoming angry, we need to begin coaching ourselves mentally by saying to ourselves something like, "Be careful what you say and do. Calm down. Don't do and say what you normally do." That's one suggestion for turning off our "automatic pilot" when we are angry. It takes practice, so do not give up if it does not work the first time. We need to put in the effort so that little by little our behavior changes for the better when we are mad. Jesus wants Christians to take a serious look at how we behave when we are angry.

Jesus also wants us to take a serious look at lust in our lives. Lust and disordered desires have been in the world since the first sin. In God's kingdom, avoiding adultery is not good enough. We need to bring our disordered desires back into proper order. There is no sin in noticing an attractive woman or a cute guy, and then moving on mentally. The sin is when we keep thinking about that attractive woman or cute guy and fall into lust. The moment lust enters our heart, we are treating that person as an object or thing, rather than a child of God.

Beautiful things on this planet should lead us to give thanks to God for creating beautiful things. When beautiful things lead us to want to possess them for ourselves and use them for our pleasure, then our desires have become disordered. In addition, our inability to say "no" to certain things in our lives also illustrates our disordered desires. There is nothing wrong with us when we enjoy something delicious to eat or enjoy a favorite beverage. However, the inability to do that in moderation, demonstrates our disordered desires. The season of Lent is when we practice saying "No" to all of our disordered desires.

The image of cutting off body parts is meant as a hyperbole. Jesus is not advocating the literal removal of body parts in order to avoid sin. What He means is that we need to remove those things from our lives that lead us to sin. What do we need to give up during Lent that leads us to sin? Some of our sin is an unhealthy response to stress and/or loneliness. During Lent, work on healthier responses to stress and loneliness.

Pornography is an unhealthy and sinful response to stress and loneliness. In a 2022 report by Common Sense Media, 71% of teenagers reported intentionally viewing pornography in the week prior to the survey. On average, participants in the survey viewed pornography for the first time at age 12, with 15% seeing it for the first time at age 10 or younger. Pornography can be addictive; watching pornography releases a surplus of dopamine in the brain that leads your body to crave even more dopamine, creating a cycle of addiction. In addition, pornography can shape unrealistic expectations and potentially impact the development of healthy intimate relationships. Like most of the immoral entertainment on-line, what pornography presents are not normal relationships, and not normal behavior. Unfortunately, many people viewing pornography do not realize that. Thus, they expect their relationships to be like the unhealthy and dysfunctional relationships that they see in the pornography.

Parents need to restrict access to the internet. A child should never have a computer in their room with access to the internet. A family computer should be in the living room, and positioned so that anyone walking into the living room can see what is on the computer screen. Children and those adults who find themselves spending too much time on their phone, should not have a smart phone. The best dumbphone on the market is probably Wisephone (wisephone.com). It permits calling, messaging, photos, and maps, but no surfing the net. When children go to bed, they should give their parents their phone, computer game controls, and any other computer or device that can access the internet. The children will complain, but parents need to do what is best for their children.

Because pornography is so easy to find on the internet, both men and women confess that sin. It is a form of lust. When that sin is confessed, I do not yell at the person confessing that. I gently encourage them to work on strategies that will help them say "no" when tempted to view pornography. Please, if you view pornography, work on quitting that habit. Do not support an industry that is morally evil and corrupt.

The sin of lust also causes some people to fall into the mortal sin of adultery. Anyone who commits adultery against their spouse is not thinking clearly. To vow to be true to someone in good times and bad, in sickness and in health, and then cheat on them is a very serious matter. That is why many of those marriages end in divorce. The spouse that was cheated on feels a huge amount of betrayal, and finds it very difficult to trust their unfaithful spouse. However, marriages can survive adultery. With time, and with counseling, trust can be earned back, and those marriages can thrive once more. I've seen it happen, so I know it's possible. The Retrouvaille retreat is a Catholic based retreat for marriages on the brink of divorce. If your marriage is on the brink of divorce because of infidelity, or any other reason, then attend a Retrouvaille retreat. They are offered in English and Spanish in Phoenix. (Go to [helpourmarriage.org](http://helpourmarriage.org) for more information. Those leading the retreat were once in your shoes.)

To be so overcome by lust that you are tempted to cheat on your spouse is a dangerous place to be. That is why Jesus is so stern about cutting lust out of our life. It destroys marriages, and that affects children. Lust is serious business, and Jesus exhorts us to not take it lightly.

Lust leads to another serious sin: having sex when not married, and yes that is still a sin. It is a mortal sin. The bible calls it fornication. If you believe that is no longer a sin, then you are listening to the culture rather than God. You are living in our culture's kingdom rather than God's kingdom. That means you cannot receive Holy Communion if you are engaging in sex while not married, and you must go to Confession in order to receive Holy Communion. Having sex while not married has always been a sin, and it is still a sin. Remember, Jesus raised the moral standards, He did not lower them.

Jesus even raised the standards on divorce. At the time of Jesus, the men were allowed to file for a divorce, but the women were not. Jesus raised the standards by saying that neither the men nor the women should file for a divorce. For many people the Catholic Church's teaching on divorce is harsh. However, the teaching was given to us by Jesus. The Catholics are the only Christians who are biblical when it comes to divorce. How do we undo something that Jesus taught? We are stuck between a rock and a hard place. We do not want to get in the habit of ignoring what Jesus taught. In fact, Jesus told us that those who divorce and remarry commit adultery.

Do we respond to that teaching by ignoring it? Will ignoring our Lord's teaching on divorce lower the divorce rate? Will it strengthen marriages? No. The response to our Lord's hard teaching on divorce should be to find a way to strengthen marriages, not to ignore His teaching. If your marriage is struggling, then look for help. You can begin with me. Make an appointment to speak with me. However, let me be clear, you do not need to stay in an abusive marriage, or in a marriage where one spouse is constantly unfaithful. That's another reason to speak with me so that we can discuss your options.

So, what can we do to strengthen marriages? What can we do to lower the divorce rate? Many people feel that cohabiting before marriage is the solution. However, studies show that cohabiting before marriage does not lower the divorce rate. In addition, those who are cohabiting are constantly committing the mortal sin of fornication.

If we lived the high moral standards that Jesus taught us, would that help lower the divorce rate? It would make sense that Jesus would want us to encourage couples to raise their moral standards rather than lowering them. What is the divorce rate for married couples who attend Mass together, give generously to their parish and other charities, and practice Natural Family Planning? It is less than 10%. Married couples who try to live by high moral standards have very low divorce rates. That's good for families, that's good for children, and that's good for the community. So, before you begin dating someone seriously, they should be attending Mass with you every Sunday, and be willing to refrain from sex until you are married.

It is obvious that the moral standards in our culture have fallen considerably in the last 65 years. Are women, men, families, children, marriages, and our culture better or worse because of it? Worse. Clearly, Jesus raised the moral standards. We need God's help to live those higher moral standards. Because of our fallen human nature and disordered desires, we need daily prayer, Mass at least once a week, and frequent Confession (perhaps once a month). Use the season of Lent to establish this necessary routine that you will continue after Lent.

Today, we heard Jesus tell us (Mt 5:19b-20), "Whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven. I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." Are we listening? Does Jesus have our attention? Are we ready to flavor the world with Christianity, and illuminate the world with God's love? Are we ready to do that by raising our moral standards?



*"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

— MATTHEW 5:16

## **Charity and Development Appeal**

With more than 70 CDA-supported ministries and charities throughout the Diocese of Phoenix, there are many opportunities for you to carry the light of Christ to others! Check out the many ministries supported by the CDA at <https://dphx.org/cda/grants-and-allocations/> and see what impact you might have.

## **Campaña de Caridad y Desarrollo**

*Con más de 70 ministerios y organizaciones benéficas apoyadas por la CDA en toda la Diócesis de Phoenix, ¡hay muchas oportunidades para que llesves la luz de Cristo a los demás!*

*Visite <https://dphx.org/cda/grants-and-allocations/> para leer sobre los numerosos ministerios apoyados por el CDA y descubre qué impacto podrías tener.*

# ParishLife

## LENTEN GUIDELINES FOR FASTING, ABSTINENCE & PENANCE

It is time to review the Catholic discipline concerning fasting, abstinence, and penance. All Catholics are obliged to do penance during the season of Lent. By custom this has usually meant giving something up for Lent which is legitimate for us. (Giving up sinning is always a good idea but isn't penance.) Lent is a season of penance; therefore, we should do some act of penance, prayer, works of charity or devotion on each day.

**FASTING:** On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, we are to observe fasting and abstinence. All Catholics from age 18 to 59 must fast on these two days. Fasting allows for one full meal and two smaller meals which do not equal together a full meal, and no eating between meals. Those of us 60 years and older or 17 years and younger are not bound to observe fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

**ABSTINENCE:** Those who are 14 years of age or older are to abstain from meat, no beef, chicken, pork, etc. on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays during Lent. However, fish is permitted on those days.

### Instrucciones Cuaresmales para el Ayuno, la Abstinencia y la Penitencia

*Es hora de revisar la disciplina católica con respecto al ayuno, la abstinencia y la penitencia. Todos los católicos están obligados hacer penitencia durante el tiempo de Cuaresma. Por costumbre, esto general mente ha significado dejar algo durante la Cuaresma que es legítimo para nosotros. (Dejar de pecar siempre es una buena idea, pero en realidad no es penitencia). La Cuaresma es una temporada de penitencia, por lo tanto, debemos hacer algún acto de penitencia, oración, obras de caridad o devoción durante cada día.*

**Ayuno:** *El Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo debemos observar el ayuno y la abstinencia. Todos los católicos de 18 a 59 años deben ayunar en estos dos días. El ayuno permite una comida completa y dos comidas más pequeñas que no equivalen juntas a una comida completa, y no comer entre comidas. Aquellos de nosotros de 60 años o más o 17 años o menos no estamos obligados a observar el ayuno Miércoles de Ceniza y Viernes santo.*

**Abstinencia:** *Aquellos que tienen 14 años de edad o más deben abstenerse de comer carne, no carne de res, pollo, puerco, etc. el Miércoles de Ceniza y todos los viernes de Cuaresma. El pescado si está permitido comer durante estos días.*

### No Religion Education on Ash Wednesday

Religious Education classes will not meet this Wednesday (2-18-26) to allow parents to take their children to Mass and experience the great Catholic tradition of getting ashes, on our forehead, to start Lent. Classes will resume at their regular time on Wednesday (2-25-26).

### No hay Educación Religiosa en Miércoles de Cenizas

*No tendremos clases de Educación Religiosa este miércoles (2-18-26) para permitir que los padres lleven a sus hijos a Misa y experimenten la gran tradición católica de tener cenizas puestas en la frente para comenzar la Cuaresma. Las clases se reanudarán a su hora normal el miércoles (2-25-26).*

### Cursos Bíblicos

*Les recordamos que todos los lunes a las 7:00pm. en el salón parroquial el grupo CERS imparte cursos bíblicos o estudio de biblia para conocer nuestra Fe católica.*

*El próximo 23 de febrero comenzarán nuevamente desde el primer curso. Todos están invitados y si ustedes conocen a alguien que quiera conocer a Jesucristo Nuestro Señor y Salvador por favor invítenlos a estos cursos. Gracias*

*Para mas información comuníquense con las siguientes personas:*

*Guadalupe Hernández. Tel: 928-201-7147*

*Juanis Salgado. Tel: 928-444-9115*

*Agustin Espinosa. Tel: 928-542-6392*



### **Stations of the Cross**

During Lent will be on Fridays  
February 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27  
English: 3:30 pm      Spanish: 6:30 pm

### **Las Estaciones de la Cruz**

durante la Cuaresma será los viernes  
20, 27 de FEBRERO y 6, 13, 20, 27 de marzo  
Inglés: 3:30 pm      Español: 6:30 pm

A close-up photograph of a white plate containing a serving of fish and french fries, garnished with a sprig of green herbs.

# Lenten Fish Fry Dinners

**Friday Evenings**  
**Feb. 20 & 27, March 6, 13, 20  
& 27, 2026**  
**4:00 PM—6:30 PM AZ Time**  
St. Margaret Mary Parish Hall

Sponsored by: Knights of Columbus & Columbian Ladies

# Prayers, Devotions, & Reflections

## Mass Intentions February 16—February 22

**Monday, February 16**  
8:00 am No Mass

**Tuesday, February 17**  
7:00 pm Souls in Purgatory

**Wednesday, February 18**  
12:10 pm People of the Parish  
5:00 pm +Salvador Calumno Jr.  
7:00 pm Souls in Purgatory

**Thursday, February 19**  
8:00 am +Tom Wiles

**Friday, February 20**  
8:00 am Julie Ryan

**Saturday, February 21**  
5:00 pm +Mary Godek  
7:00 pm People of the Parish

**Sunday, February 22**  
8:00 am +Dora Esparza  
10:00 am +Tom Wiles  
12:00 pm Souls in Purgatory

There will be no 8:00 am Mass on  
Monday, February 16, 2026,  
Father Dan will be out of town.

*No habrá Misa a las 8:00  
de la mañana el lunes 16 de febrero de 2026,  
El Padre Dan estará fuera de la ciudad.*

### In Observance of Presidents Day

The Parish Office will be closed on  
Monday, February 16, 2026.

### Día de Presidente Day

*La Oficina Parroquial estará cerrada el  
lunes 16 de Febrero de 2026.*

### Mass and Confession Schedule for Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026

#### **Masses:**

English: 12:10 pm & 5:00 pm

Spanish: 7:00 pm

Ashes will be distributed during Mass.

**Confessions:** 11:00 am—12:00 pm

### Horario de Misa y Confesiones para el Miércoles de Ceniza 18 de febrero de 2026

#### **Misas:**

Inglés: 12:10 pm y 5:00 pm

Español: 7:00 pm

Las cenizas serán distribuidas durante la Misa.

**Confesiones:** 11:00 am—12:00 pm

## **Lord Hear Our Prayer:**

♥ Fred Holguin ♥ Jim Benson ♥ Frank Hargitay  
♥ John Pisacane ♥ Charlotte Carr ♥ Isabel Valdez  
♥ Alicia Allan ♥ Mary Alvarez ♥ Nash Benson  
♥ June Longdon ♥ Jerome Micka ♥ Curtis Spolar  
♥ Sanchez Family ♥ Steven Garcia ♥ Aiden Garcia  
♥ Jack & Joyce Nilsen ♥ Karen Glenn ♥ Denice M.  
♥ Jose Lizarraga ♥ Donna Zamora ♥ Michael Barlow  
♥ Jacob Abeytia ♥ Stella D'Agostino ♥ Kim Engvall  
♥ Juan Encinas ♥ Linda Ronjak ♥ Sephanie Allen  
♥ Jorge Perez ♥ Aaron E. Zapien ♥ Louie Marin  
♥ Lexi Padilla ♥ Rose Marquez ♥ Annie Kroll  
♥ Sharon Kadowaki ♥ Lourdes Farias ♥ Michelle Lieber  
♥ Jennifer Ingvaham ♥ Rob Miller ♥ Ester Manzano  
♥ Sawyer Stevens ♥ John Paul & Jeanette Farley  
♥ Jennie Chmielewski ♥ Allison Mueller  
♥ Trish Minnick

## **Let the Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them**

+Cody Ferguson +Mary Godek +Dennis Webb  
+Robin Hill +Javier Kane Moto +Yoshio Kane Moto  
+Jesus Farias +Fadua Duañas Cortez +Ernesto Calma  
+Joseph Diaz +Mike Regan  
+Maria Aurora Murillo De Vergara

### **Scriptural Readings**

**First Sunday of Lent Year A  
February 22, 2026**

**1st** Gn 2:7-9, 3:1-7  
**2nd** Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19  
**Gospel** Mt 4:1-11



**The Sanctuary Candle Burns  
to honor in the presence of  
Christ in the Blessed Sacrament  
In Memory of  
Tom Wiles**



### **Parish Reminder:**

There are no flowers or decorations in the church during lent. You are welcome to place flowers at the statue of our Blessed Mother outside in front of the parish office.

### **Recordatorio parroquial:**

*No se permitirá poner flores ni decoraciones en la iglesia durante la cuaresma. Le puede poner flores a la estatua de nuestra Santísima Madre que se encuentra enfrente de la oficina parroquial.*

# Stewardship – Sharing The Gifts We Have

## Another Way To Make A Donation:

Scanning this QR code will take you to our electronic giving portal where you can give to our normal Sunday collection or you can give to help pay down our church mortgage, also known as our construction loan. Thank you for your generosity.



## Otra forma de hacer una donación:

Al escanear este código QR, te llevara a nuestro portal electrónico de donaciones, donde puedes donar a nuestra colecta dominical normal o puedes donar para ayudar a pagar la hipoteca de nuestra iglesia. Gracias

## GHIPHT Shop Highlights

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## Our Gifts to God - Registered Families 1,364

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
2/7/2026—2/8/2026

Church Offering Envelopes (152)	\$5,095.00
Church Offering Loose	\$3,590.62
On-line giving	\$1,060.00
<b>Total Church Offering Collection:</b>	<b>\$9,745.62</b>
Construction Loan Envelopes (78)	\$8,615.00
Construction Loan Loose	\$370.00
On-line giving	\$540.00
<b>Total Construction Loan Collection:</b>	<b>\$9,525.00</b>

Construction Loan Balance As of 1/31/2026:  
\$2,482,722.94

Scheduled Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$15,248.53  
January Mortgage Donations Received: \$15,610.00

Minimum We Want To Pay Monthly: \$17,000  
January Interest Paid: \$9,528.78  
January Principal Paid: \$10,471.22

Original Amount Borrowed 2011: \$3,733,176.00

## Coming Soon

PRO-LIFE

Baby Bottle

Fundraiser Drive

March 7th to April 12th

Help Support Our

Pregnancy Centers



## We are selling Raffle Tickets for a Car

We are selling raffle tickets for the 2017 Ford Fusion after all the weekend Masses (February 21 –22). You do not need to be present for the drawing.

## Estamos vendiendo boletos de rifa para un carro

Estamos vendiendo boletos para la rifa del Ford Fusion 2017 después de todas las Misas del fin de semana (21–22 de febrero). No necesitas estar presente durante el sorteo.

## The Parish Book Club

Begins Tuesday, February 24th, at 4:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Our first selection will be *The Day Christ Died* by Jim Bishop - please purchase a copy in advance. Our opening meeting will be a potluck fellowship and orientation. Feel free to bring a dish if you'd like and be ready for fun and good conversation. For questions or more information please contact Robert or Malissa Ames at 928-632-2025.

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Lois Davis, President landa3721@gmail.com

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