



12990 E. Shea Boulevard ♦ Scottsdale, AZ ♦ 480.451.0860 ♦ www.st-anthony.net

# The Desert Breeze

February 1, 2012

## Lenten Practices to Satisfy our God Hunger

Our longing for God reflects our deepest desire to be reunited with something in the universe from which we feel cut off. This emptiness or hunger is at the core of our being and is something only God can fill. C.S. Lewis has this to say about our God hunger:

*"This hunger is better than any other fullness;  
this poverty better than all other wealth."*

While only God can fill this hunger it is our longing for God that prompts us to seek God's presence – to pursue spiritual practices that increase our awareness of God. As we enter the season of Lent there are several spiritual practices being offered at St. Anthony:

### The Bible Challenge

Entering into the "habit" of reading the Bible is a way of not only learning about God but of allowing God's Word to find its place within you. The Bible Challenge will be a parish-wide exercise where parish members will sign on and make a year-long commitment of daily reading of scripture. You set your own reading pace for the year. It might be the entire Bible, or the four Gospel accounts, or whatever portion seems attainable for you. Families might commit to reading the Bible together each day. *Weekly Bible Talk* sessions will be held each Sunday at 9:15 am in the parish hall for any who want help navigating challenging readings, to ask specific questions, or simply to share insights gleaned. Watch for **The Bible Challenge** poster to sign-up and for hand-outs on tips to help with your reading.

### Wednesday Evenings in Lent

(Dates – February 29<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>)

Last year's intergenerational program was so popular that we have decided to do it again. Our overall theme is – *Meeting Jesus* – and we will employ various meditations and creative hands on exercises to help us see and understand Jesus from different perspectives. The program for each week follows a consistent structure:

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|-----------|--|
| 5:30 p.m. | Contemplative Celtic Service in the Chapel       |
| 6:00 p.m. | Soup Supper sponsored by various ministry groups |
| 6:30 p.m. | Creative exercises in art, drama and beyond      |

Make Wednesday evenings a mid-week time to refresh and be nourished by God's Spirit with activities designed for all ages.

### Sunday Café – Exploring the Nature of Jesus

Continuing in our "*Systematic Theology*" discussions we will investigate the nature of Jesus and the significance of the Incarnation. Topics will relate significant times in Jesus' life to our own – wilderness, transformation, suffering, healing, and resurrection. Watch for bulletin announcements on the specifics for each week – beginning in mid-February.

May one or more of these spiritual practices begin to satisfy the hunger within.

In Christ,  
Dorian+

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

The Youth Group at St. Anthony is going on a mission trip this summer to help people in need. This is their ninth year of going to various locations around the United States to help the local communities. The past eight summers the youth have gone to Washington State, Maine, California, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Minnesota and New Mexico. The youth personally raise the money to fund these service missions. One of the youth's fund raising activities is the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner. These students take the time to plan, prepare, serve, and clean-up for the dinner. The event is to be held on Tuesday Feb. 21st. Please support your youth and your stomachs and join us for this celebration in our Parish Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 21st 2012 at 5:00 pm! Tickets will be sold on Sunday Feb. 5th and 12th after services, \$5 per individual or \$15 per family.

-Brett Barksdale, St. Anthony Youth Director

### **Compassion on the Border**

Many members of our parish have visited Nogales for the day tours of St Andrew's Children's Clinic. They left impressed by the wonderful care accomplished there and by the great needs of the children being treated. From these visits, a small ministry team has been formed at St Anthony's to facilitate our continued support of this work and to encourage our partnership with those volunteers serving the children's needs. This group meets regularly and calls itself "Kid's Klinik Partners". If you would like to follow this ministry's developments and plans, help in any way, you are invited to attend a monthly meeting or receive email reports; feel free to contact Mark Close 480-837-9044 or Grant Gilfeather 480-540-8480 or [cmarkone@cox.net](mailto:cmarkone@cox.net) or [g2feather@cox.net](mailto:g2feather@cox.net). Jesus said; "Let the little children come unto me..... For it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs." (Luke 18:15-16).

### **Join "COMPASSION ON THE BORDER" Sunday Café**

On Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup> during our regular Sunday Café after the 10 am service, we will host, as our guests, two volunteers who have been working at the St Andrew's Children's Clinic in Nogales. Deacon Jim Fitzsimmons and his wife Vicki have served the children of the clinic since 2001 and will present to us their special knowledge of the clinic and ways in which we as a parish may help. They will present a talk and brief description of the work done there and offer insights into the needs of the clinic and the children and their families. Come and hear about reaching across the border to help the children of Mexico and hear about our new St Anthony's ministry group called, "Kid's Klinik Partners", established to aid the clinic.

### **Seniors and Winter Residents**

Our February hosts, Janet Allen, Cathy Anderson, Lorna Bennett, Betty Mitchell and Miriam Pacham invite the Senior and Winter Residents to a celebration of Arizona's centennial, 1912 -2012. They will feature a "Chuckwagon Pot Luck" on Saturday evening, February 25th, at 5:30 in the parish hall. We will remember when Scottsdale was for many years known as "The West's most Western Town". Our hosts will provide steaming pots of stews and chili and we are asked to bring the "fixins". Western attire is suggested but not required. Look for the sign-up sheet on the *RSVP*, *please* bulletin board. Please respond by February 20th. If you have any questions call Betty Mitchell at 480-614-1257.

Mark your calendars for Saturday evening, March 17th, for a St Patrick's day celebration at CopperWynd Resort in Ft. Hills. Our hosts for this evening are Pat Schmid and Ron and Cindy Creamer. Between the hours of 5:00 and 7:00 the resort offers drinks and heavy appetizers. Everything...drinks and appetizers, are \$7.00 each. The setting is beautiful and if the weather is favorable you can watch the moon rise above Four Peaks. More details will follow.