

Mount Claret Retreat Center Quarterly



Welcome to Mt. Claret

Greetings from Mt. Claret! Thank you for taking the time to read our first of what we plan to be a quarterly newsletter on Mt. Claret and our activities. We have much to report and share with you!

If you are a newcomer to Mt. Claret and have not had a chance to visit us we hope that this newsletter and photos will be the nudge to get you to come up here! Our mission statement nicely sums up what we do.

Many recognize our purpose of bringing people to Christ in this beautiful oasis.

We are blessed to be called home by many significant groups within the diocese. Cursillo Movement of Phoenix really the original purpose of Mt. Claret being turned into a retreat center continues to be a significant presence at Mt. Claret. Christ Child Society also calls this home. Engaged Encounter, Catholic Retreat for Young Singles, Catholic Singles Ministry, Beginning Experience, and Rachel's Vineyard are all regular users of our facilities. Additionally we host a variety of parish and Catholic school meetings and single day retreats. We have a small number of private rooms and a hermitage that is available for individual self directed retreats.

The Conference Center provides a flexible space for varied purposes. Used in its full size for large conferences or meetings, it can accommodate up to 250 people. It also may be divided into three

separate rooms for small groups of up to 80 people in each section.

Several available meeting rooms can accommodate 50-60 people with round tables. The Upper Room is arranged in conference style. Also, a small library may be used for a meeting of 8 to 12 people.

The center also has a large commercial kitchen available to accommodate groups that provide their own cooking teams and food.

The scenic mountain view which envelops the dining room adds much pleasure to fine dining. This room, in full size and accommodates approximately 125 persons. This space may be divided into two separate rooms by means of a folding door.

The Mt. Claret Retreat Center is an established event location in the Phoenix metro area for you or your organization to utilize. Call today to learn more about how we might help you in our mission to provide space for "spiritual growth, healing and conversion in the Catholic tradition."

OUR MISSION

A Christ-centered holy mountain providing an environment for spiritual growth, healing and conversion in the Catholic tradition.

Monsignor McMahon celebrates 89th birthday

On September 3rd Monsignor McMahon celebrated his 89th birthday! Monsignor McMahon has such an imprint on Mt. Claret! All that we touch and have today at Mt. Claret has Monsignor McMahon's

finger prints on it. All in the Diocese of Phoenix (and some in Tucson) are grateful for the many years of service he has given. We here at Mt. Claret selfishly call him "our own" as he continues to be such a

holy and spiritual presence to our regular mass attendees and retreat groups on occasion. Lá breithe sona!

Happy Birthday Monsignor!!

20th Anniversary Evening Under the Stars dinner held



Bishop Nevares shares a moment with Stan and June Szalay at the 20th annual dinner event.

Mt. Claret's annual Evening under the Stars Dinner auction was held with great success on October 9th. This year's chairpersons John and Anne Wuycheck led a dynamic group of committee members through this 20th annual event. "Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Future" was such an appropriate theme for Mt. Claret's event. So many hard working, committed, and faithful people have contributed to Mt. Claret's

success over the years and it was fitting to stop and acknowledge their great gift of time, talent and treasure to this beautiful retreat center. At the same time we are on a threshold of a new direction with Mt. Claret. We want to very deliberately introduce others to the spirit filled beauty that is Mt. Claret. It is our hope that we are introducing Mt. Claret to those who will help support Mt. Claret for the next 20 years!



Advisory Council update

Mt. Claret is blessed with a strong Advisory council. Our Chair is Fr. Mike Straley pastor of St. Paul's, other clergy on the council are Fr. Don Kline pastor of St Joan of Arc, Fr John Greb, pastor St Joseph, Fr. Killian McCaffrey pastor of St Vincent de Paul and Fr Paul Sullivan Director of Vocations for the Diocese of Phoenix. Also on the council, Dean Dwyer (Facility Chair), John Mulligan (Finance Chair), Teresa Ornelas (Pastoral Outreach Chair), Frank Rivera (Development and Marketing Chair), Jim Wilson, Peggy Frei, Seth Chalmers, and Monica Smith.

In June the Advisory Council completed a three year Pastoral Plan. The two day planning exercise led the council through developing strategies that will support and enhance the mission of Mt. Claret and insure its position as a diocesan centered retreat center. The goals that were identified will touch on the future of our facility use, retreat program offering's financial health and a development and marketing effort that will support all of the above. The council is committed to achieving these goals and has already begun work on them. We will share news of our accomplishments in this newsletter.

Eucharistic Adoration

In June Mt. Claret began Eucharistic adoration on Wednesday from 9AM – 4PM. This has been a great success with many faithful identifying with this beautiful tradition of prayer and worship before the Blessed Sacrament. Many people's lives have been transformed through regular worship with the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us if you can on Wednesdays and give a Holy Hour to the Lord! Many thanks to Dennis Keller for his gift of time and talent in providing us music for Benediction and Reposition.

Advent Retreat Series

Please mark your calendar for our Advent retreat series. We have a great lineup of priest presenters that will help you in your Christmas preparation. Please call our office to reserve your space. The retreat cost is \$30 and lunch is included.

First Week of Advent 12/2

RETREAT DIRECTOR: Fr. Billy Kosco
TOPIC: Advent for the whole Family
TIME: 10:00PM - 3:00PM

Second Week of Advent 12/9

RETREAT DIRECTOR: Fr. Doug Lorig
TOPIC: Focus on the Love of God
TIME: 9:00AM - 3:00PM

Third Week of Advent 12/15

RETREAT DIRECTOR: Fr. Charlie Goraieb
TOPIC: Our Life, Our Sweetness and Our Hope
TIME: 9:00AM - 3:00PM

November Month of the Holy Souls

In our great Catholic tradition we set aside November as a month to more prominently and deliberately recognize the passing of our loved ones. This can be an especially touching time for those who have lost someone in the past year. No matter the circumstances the death of someone close to us is painful and difficult. Through the gift of faith God gives us the wonderful consolation of His healing love and the knowledge that our loved ones rest in His loving arms in the everlasting kingdom! Our gift of prayer affirms this gift in a real and tangible way. Please join us in acknowledging by name someone close to you that you have lost over the years and you would like to remember in prayer. We will gather these names together and they will be present with us every time Mass is celebrated at Mt. Claret during the month of November.

Please use the enclosed card to provide us with your loved one's information.

Please remember Mt. Claret in your financial planning.