



Monthly Newsletter

July 2023 | Maria Santissima Lauretana Society – Arizona Chapter



HAPPY
Birthday
America!



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Father's Day Dinner Pics

A great time was had by all.



Meeting Summary from 06/21/23

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MEETING ON JUNE 21ST 2023

- We are getting closer on selecting a venue for St. Valentine Dinner Dance 2024. Among them are American Royal Palace, Elk's Lodge, and Embassy Suites in Scottsdale. Lina Davi is also researching additional options. Venue decision to be made on next meeting on July 19th.
- All future Get-Togethers will now be held on the SECOND Saturday of each month.
- Congratulations to our new members: Patsy Allison, Pasquale and Anna D'Alesio and Salvatore and Rosa Mulé
- Feast discussions initiated. Mass will be at 1:00PM on Sunday, September 24th with procession immediately following. Additional details will be provided in the next several newsletters. We will have access to St. Joseph Hall during the day to allow for people to rest and cool off. Cold water will be available. **We need volunteers to carry the Vara and/or flag bearers. Please call Sam Scimeca. Contact information is on Page 4**
- We had a good turn-out for Father's Day Get-Together. Thanks to all that came out!

Cancel Culture? Culture of Contempt?

American citizens have had the right of freedom of speech since 1791. However, these days, quick access to social media enable people to shield themselves with that right, to wound others. It seems like you can say whatever you want to whomever you want whenever you want. Freedom of speech now seems to have a dark shadow. It seems more like "Cheap Speech," in that, everyone can seem to speak with complete impunity; with zero regard of the consequences.

Besides the fact that it is easy, why do we engage? What is the attraction? I would say it is because it is too easy. Prior to this concept of social media, people had to speak in person or write a letter. That lent itself to one thinking about what he or she was going to say or whether to respond at all. Now there doesn't seem to be any thought. In addition, it has become a form of entertainment. Social media provides so many opportunities for engaging in insulting arguments that it is like watching an action movie.

This shift in culture seems to have also penetrated us Catholics. The Catholic Church identifies itself as an evangelizing culture in bringing persons towards Christ. Unfortunately, so many Catholics have fallen prey to this culture of contempt. No more are we forced to have to think about what we say before we say it.

As Catholics, when we feel we have been hurt by others, we need to turn to Jesus as the example. We should seek to correct an argument or make a better argument; versus retaliating. In addition, sometimes it is better to wait until the sting of the wound has gone away so that we can take a deep breath and then ask.... "Is what I am going to say an expression of love?" "Are my actions intended to help the other individual?" Will my response maintain peace? If the answer to any of those questions is "No," then we should hold back. Sometimes not responding at all is the best response. There is an old Sicilian saying, "*A megghiu paluora e chidda ka nun se dice.*" In Italian "*La meglio parola e quella che non se dice.*" In English "*The best words are those which are not spoken.*" Sir Thomas Aquinas also spoke of maintaining, what he called, "custody of the tongue." In other words, he meant to say that we should give ourselves time before responding or simply not respond at all. Let us pray to Maria SS Laetana that she may guide all of us in treating each other with respect and love as her Son Jesus did with everyone he encountered.

"Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin." - Proverbs 13:3

Sam Scimeca
General Secretary

**NEXT GET-TOGETHER
COME JOIN US FOR FOOD AND FUN!**

Saturday, July 8th, 2023

6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

at

St. Joseph Church – St. Joseph Hall

MENU

Sesame Dinner Rolls

Penne alla Norcina (sausage & cream sauce)

Mixed Greens Salad

Dessert

Water & Coffee

PRICE

\$25.00

PLEASE RSVP TO

Lina Davi > 602-418-5679

Board Meeting

July 19th 2023

7:00 PM

St. Joseph Catholic Church

St. Joseph Hall

11001 N. 40th Street

Phoenix, AZ. 85028

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any board member. Contact information is just below. Also, if you wish to email our general email, you may send it to

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In 2022 the Board revised our by-laws. All the changes made were posted on last year's newsletter at this time. In addition, new copies have been distributed at Get-Togethers. Since that time, there have been various questions asked. Going forward, we are going to post different sections of our by-laws in each newsletter so that all members can familiarize themselves with the by-laws. This month, I would like to post Article II of our By-Laws. If you have not received a copy, please do not hesitate to reach out Sam Scimeca. (General Secretary) at 602-622-5171.

Article Two Purpose

Sec. 1 - The mission of the Society of Maria SS. Lauretana of Altavilla Milicia is to maintain in the hearts of the faithful, the veneration of the Blessed Virgin and to promote the sentiments of fraternal brotherhood among the members, to keep the affection and love towards our mother country and to maintain the faith of the Roman Catholic Church in these United States of America and each year in September, the perpetual glory of our Protectress, Maria SS. Lauretana.

Sec. 2 - The Society of Maria SS. Lauretana will remain in full force and effect so long as four (4) members in good standing decide to maintain it. In the event of the dissolution, the entire sum existing in its treasury will go to the benefit of the Church, (improvements of the Church only) in Altavilla Milicia, where the Blessed Virgin is venerated. Funds will be disbursed upon the completion of needed work such repairs to the church located in Altavilla Milicia. The Society of Maria SS Lauretana will pay any travel expenses of the four good standing members to present the Maria SS Lauretana Sanctuary located in Altavilla Milicia the needed funds.

Sec. 3 - The expenses of the Feast will be met from the collections/donations received during the annual feast celebration. the remainder of the collections/donations will be turned over to the treasurer the same day of the feast.

Sec. 4 - If the Society decides to erect or purchase personal property for the greater glorification of the Protectress, then the Society will obligate itself to pay, in annual sums, the total cost until said debt is fully paid.

Sec. 5 - Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of Article Two must be retained as fundamental rules of our Society. Articles of the present By-Laws, after printing of same, may be amended, modified, or annulled in accordance with the provisions of these By-Laws, upon discussion and approval by the majority of the membership and its Board.

A Prayer for our Country



God of all nations,

Father of the human family,

We give you thanks for the freedom we exercise and the many blessings of democracy we enjoy in these United States of America.

We ask for your protection and guidance for all who devote themselves to the common good, working for justice and peace at home and around the world.

We lift up all our duly elected leaders and public servants, those who serve as president, legislators and judges, those in the military and law enforcement.

Heal us from our differences and unite us, O Lord, with a common purpose, dedication, and commitment to achieve liberty and justice in the years ahead for all people, and especially those who are most vulnerable in our midst.

In Jesus Name

AMEN



CONTACT US

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Maria SS Lauretana Society – AZ Chapter



Donate TODAY. Support our society by using your debit card, credit card via our website, (left) Zelle your donation using our email address, (left) personal check mailed to our PO box (left) or cash to one of our Board members

Zelle