



# Monthly Newsletter

January 2024 | Maria Santissima Lauretana Society – Arizona Chapter

## Quaresima 2024

“Impariamo a coltivare il dono della pace.  
Costruiamo con coraggio la civiltà della amore.  
Percorriamo insieme il cammino della pace per  
un sviluppo integrale della vita reale, delle  
persone, delle famiglie e della società.”

Mons. Francesco Lomanto  
Arcivescovo di Siracusa

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## Mother that Came from the Sea....Article 3: The Devotion to Our Lady

Devotion means to donate or to give of oneself. Saint Thomas Aquinas taught that “true devotion is the complete surrender to our Lord,” and St. John Paul II wrote in the Apostolic Rosarium Virgins Mariae Letter: “the most perfect of all the devotions is the one that incontestably confirms, joins and consecrates us to Jesus Christ.” Being that Mary is the Mother of Jesus Christ, it stands to reason that, among all the devotions, the one that most surrenders one’s soul to our Lord, is the devotion to Mary. The more one consecrates him/herself to Her, the more he/she will be consecrated to Jesus Christ.

Since the early years of the Church, Marian devotion has existed. In the New Testament we note the love and deep respect that Jesus’ disciples had shown Mary; especially from the moment She received the Maternal mission from Her Son at Calvary: “Here’s Your Son – Here’s Your Mother.”

Mary is the spiritual Mother of the Church and the true faithful’s devotion is one that comes from the Spirit and from the heart; devotion which comes from estimation and faith in Her, from the deep awareness of Her magnitude and the daughterly love that She conveys.

“Every day, look for Mary’s protection, mother of the Lord and mirror of His Holiness: She will help you to be a faithful disciple of Her Son Jesus”

*Pope Benedict XVI*



True devotion to Mary is filled with faith and total abandonment to Her. Faith and total abandonment approach the person in his needs of body and soul, and he does so with the simplicity of a child; knowing that he is never alone as he has a vigilant and attentive Mother, ready to support him, advise him, guide him, protecting him and providing assurance. Encountering our Lady, relying on Her, asking for Her protection, receiving consolation and assurance, are all things that guide the pilgrim to Marian Shrines. With her gaze, she tells all of them, “Don’t be afraid, open your hearts to my Son, do what He tells you. We will always be with you and never abandon you.”

Aside from all the various expressions beyond devotional practices and traditions, such as kissing or touching her image, making pilgrimages, following the procession barefoot, wearing symbolic clothing, offering flowers, etc. true devotion occurs in the imitation of Mary’s virtues, modeling maternity, discipleship, compassion and total surrender to God’s will.

**NEXT GET-TOGETHER  
WILL NOT BE UNTIL  
MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> 2024**

**FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>  
Annual St. Valentine Dinner Dance**

**MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>  
Annual St. Joseph Table**

**APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>  
Annual Picnic & Bocce Tournament  
(Details in future newsletter)**

**MEETING**

**February 21<sup>st</sup> 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**

**St. Joseph Hall**

**11001 N. 40<sup>th</sup> 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 [mariasslauretanaaz@gmail.com](mailto:mariasslauretanaaz@gmail.com)**

**St. Joseph Ministry Fair**

Did you know St. Joseph Catholic Church has over 20 different ministries? Our Society is part of that community and we were given the opportunity on January 21<sup>st</sup> to solicit help from other parishioners in an effort to sign on additional members; alongside the other ministries. One thing we have in common with all the other ministries is that we need help in running our respective organizations.

**We need new people, new faces, new ideas to help keep our society going.** Our society was represented by Apollonia, Franca, Rosaria and Lina and we signed up three new members that day!

One last thing I would like to mention is that there is a lot of opportunity within our own membership if we could just tap into existing family members. If your adult child, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, friend etc. is not a member, have them sign up!



# Annual Dinner Dance & Fund Raiser

Our Annual St. Valentine's Banquet & Fund Raiser will be held on **Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> 2023**. This year, the banquet will be at **Maggiano's Little Italy at 16405 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ. 85254**. I'd say pencil it in on your calendars, but we penciled it in for you on the calendars we provided! 😊 Music by DJ Hankster. **PLEASE invite your family and friends and get a whole table to yourselves!** Come join us for a great night out! **Price per person = \$75.00. \$25.00 for children between the ages of 4 and 11 years old.**

Price includes 2 Appetizers, (*Calamari & Bruschetta*) 2 Salads, (*Chopped Salad & Caesar Salad*) 2 Pastas, (*Lasagna & Ravioli*) 2 Entrees, (*Chicken Piccata and Beef Medallions*) Vegetable (*Grilled Asparagus*), Dessert, (*Chocolate Cake & Apple Crostada*) Bread, Wine, Tea, Coffee, Soda, Wine Bar, & Entertainment!

We are asking all members to PLEASE reach out to FAMILY AND FRIENDS to have them come to this once per year event.

To get your tickets, please contact any of the following Board Members:

President	Apollonia Scianna	623-695-5254
Treasurer	Rosaria Ippolito	602-410-0397
General Secretary	Sam Scimeca	602-622-5171
Trustee	Lina Davi	602-418-5679

## POPE FRANCIS' ADVICE FOR LENT



1. Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
2. Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
3. Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
4. Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
5. Fast from worries and have trust in God.
6. Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
7. Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
8. Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
9. Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.
10. Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
11. Fast from words. Be silent and listen.