

Our Lady of the Desert Church

7101 West Picture Rocks Road, Tucson, AZ 85743
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Website: www.desertrenewal.org

December 3, 2017

First Sunday of Advent

CHURCH STAFF

Rector

Rev. Paul Coury, C.Ss.R.

Associates

Rev. Charles Wehrley, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Greg Wigst, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Peter Connolly, C.Ss.R.

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Ken McNally

Redemptorist Community

Rev. Larry Sanders, C.Ss.R.

Choir

Hope Sullivan, Music Director

Marlo Nottingham-Smith, Pianist

Liturgical Ministers/ Compliance Officer

Kelly Mooney

Bulletin Editor

Alexis Murrigta

Knights of Columbus

Ray Obral & George Rigney

Weekend Sacristans

Mike & Annette Thompson

Bud & Mary Carter

Pedro & Maria Diaz

Bob & Christine Francis

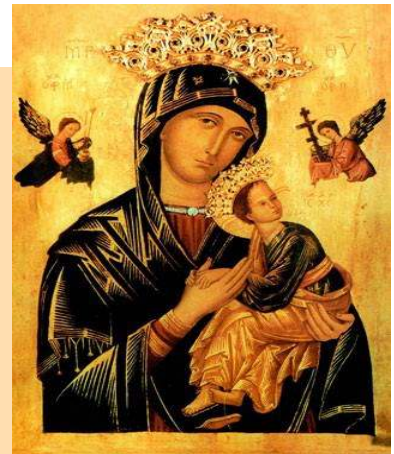
Dave & Hedy Miller

Jack & Diane Lehmkuhl



Welcome: The Redemptorist Community and Pastoral Staff of the Redemptorist Renewal Center extends a warm and loving welcome to all who come here to pray and worship in our church. We are a community that welcomes all people as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ. Together we are the body of Christ, living and active today.

Fr. Paul's Ponderings.....



Advent Begins

Yes, this is the First Sunday of Advent. The readings are calling us to get ready for the coming of Christ into our hearts and into our world this Christmas, 2017. Within all the shopping, eating, partying and Christmas movies, will you make a space in your heart for Jesus to arrive? Why not come to daily Mass, or Morning Prayer at 7:15 am during Advent? Why not take ten minutes of quiet during the day and invite Jesus to speak to you and then just be still? Why not do an "intentional" act of kindness every day: visit someone who is sick, give a couple of dollars to a street person, phone a distant family member or lost friend. Choose an Advent spiritual practice and let's make our heart a good place for Christ to be born again!

Fr. Paul Coury

Solidarity with the Redemptorists-Thank you all for your generosity in the special collection for the work of the world wide Redemptorists. Some of this money will be used to help rebuild the Redemptorist churches and schools that were destroyed in the earthquake in Mexico, the Hurricanes in the Caribbean Islands, Puerto Rico and Haiti. Bless You!

New Resurrection Statue-We had about 25 people join us for the unveiling and blessing of the Resurrection Figure on the Outside Way of the Cross. I wish to thank our anonymous donor, the Knights of Columbus and Pedro Rosales and his crew for cleaning the area and installing the statue!

Sacrament of Anointing, This Weekend-We will offer the Sacrament of Anointing after all Masses this weekend. Please stay in the seats after Mass if you wish to be anointed.

Advent Penance Service-Our Advent Penance Service will be on Saturday, December 9 at 10:30 am....don't leave those sins at home, bring them to Church, leave them there, and you will be sparkling for Christmas!

Volunteer Party, Monday December 11 at 3:00 pm-Mark your calendars! Santa and his elves have been contacted and they will be here on **Monday, December 11 at 3:00 pm** for the **Volunteers Christmas Party**. Make sure that you are there also. Ho Ho Ho !

Christmas Poinsettias-We are now selling poinsettia's for the Holiday season. Envelopes are at the back of the Church and in the office. These Poinsettias will decorate our altar for Christmas. We will include the names of those you love in the Christmas bulletin.

Religious Education-We would like to begin gathering names for those who wish to receive First Communion or Confirmation in 2018. There are signup sheets in the office.

New Sanctuary Lamp-The beautiful new Sanctuary Lamp, next to the Tabernacle, was given to us through the generosity of Gus and Rosa. Thank you for this gift!

Calling all Voices -Practices for our Lessons and Carols program will be held between 1-3 pm at Our Lady of the Desert. On December 9th practice will be in the Petroglyph room across from the chapel, building #10.

Sunday Flowers-Our church relies on you to decorate the Sunday Altar with flowers. Please stop by the office and offer a donation for the Sunday flowers in the name of someone you love! We will include their name in our bulletin.

Please remember in your prayers



OUR SICK

Virginia Brown
Kurt Cummings
Carolyn Hasenoehrl
Kim Judkins
Suzanne Kraft
Chris & Terri Kanitt
Ray Kovash
Kurt Lowman
Billie Marshall
Philip Oberstar
Jim Oliver
George Parada
Mark Paris
Gladys Pope
Alice Rigney
Gerardo Rosales
Jessica Sayles
Aidan Martel Santoyo
Mark Taube

Please pray for **Billie Marshall** she is recovering from heart surgery.

Alice Rigney is home from the hospital and asks for our prayers for her complete recovery.

Prayers for **Gladys Pope** who is in recovery at TMC hospital.

Please remember **Kurt Cummings** (Jane Duquette Cummings' husband). He is now home and continuing to recover. He and Jane thank you for your many prayers.

Please pray for others in our community who are struggling with various illnesses.

OUR DECEASED

Carmela Oliver, passed away on Tuesday, October 31. Bless her husband Jim and her family. The Memorial Mass will be on **Saturday December 9, at 1:00 pm.** If you plan on attending please call Michelle Oliver 732.804.8523.

Sergio Castro passed away and we had his funeral Mass on Saturday, October 21. His family attends our church.

Please pray for **Fr. Pat O'Brien, C.Ss.R.** Fr. Pat passed away last week from liver cancer. He was 78 years old. Fr. Pat was the director here from 1994-1999. We bless Fr. Pat for his years of service to the Redemptorists and to us.

Please remember in your prayers:

Karen Bahill (2/17)
Barbara Bartels (8/17)
Sergio Castro (10/17)
John Cieslinski (11/16)
Ann Fallon (7/17)
Judy Filirecki (11/16)
Virginia Flanigan (10/17)
Ken Hasenoehrl (11/16)
David Hill (9/17)
Tom Johnson (10/16)
Nancy Long (5/17)
Robert Marshall (12/16)
Teri McGuinness (12/16)
Bob Medina (5/17)
Fr. Pat O'Brien, C.Ss.R. (10/17)
Carmela Oliver (10/17)
Anne Ramsey (9/17)
Frank Randaisi (1/17)
Bob Scheffel (2/17)
Ed Snyder (9/17)
Patricia Thibodeaux (4/17)
Virginia Thompson (4/17)

"The desert will lead you to your heart where I will speak."

THIS AND THAT

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to be a place where the contemplative spirit of the human person may be discovered, fed and nourished. It is a place, an oasis in the Sonoran Desert, where individuals encounter God and "feel the burn" of the Holy Spirit.

SoulShine

A Codependents Anonymous Support Group

SoulShine is a 12 Step group designed to meet the needs of recovering addicts. The primary focus is on codependency, but we are open to all persons suffering from any type of addictive behavior. Our meeting format follows that of A.A. and includes recovery readings. Come learn to love yourself better, free yourself from addictive thinking and allow your soul to shine! Every **WEDNESDAY, 7:00- 8:30 pm** in the RRC Office Conference Room. All are welcomed! This group is facilitated by Fr. Charlie Wehrley.

This week's flowers were

donated by

Bob Jones

in celebration of

Joan Jones-Birthday

SUNDAY COLLECTION

\$5,944.00

November 25-26, 2017

BUILDING FUND

150,335.00

YOU MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL ENVELOPES OR
PICK UP YOUR ENVELOPES ON THE TABLE IN THE REAR OF THE CHURCH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 2

4:00 Mass - Fr. Greg Wiest

**Eva Maria Kieanas (d)

Sunday, December 3

7:30am Mass- Fr. Greg Wiest

**Bob Christianson (d)

10:00 Mass - Fr. Greg Wiest

**Tony Garcia (d)

Monday, December 4

7:30 Mass - Fr. Paul Coury

**Virginia Flanigan (d)

Tuesday, December 5

7:30 Mass - Fr. Greg Wiest

**Redemptorist Community

Wednesday, December 6

7:30 Mass - Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**Bub Molsom (d)

Thursday, December 7

7:30 Mass - Fr. Peter Connolly

**Russell Zinchuk (d)

Friday, December 8

7:30 Mass - Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**Mary Ostrowski

**Jim Long (d)

Saturday, December 9

7:30am Mass - Fr. Peter Connolly

**Deceased Members of the Teresian Association

4:00pm Mass - Fr. Paul Coury

**James McMorrow (d)

Sunday, December 10

7:30 Mass -Fr. Paul Coury

**Marion Nardo (d)

**Jim Long (d)

**10:00 Mass - Fr. Paul Coury

**Bonifacio A. Hernandez (d)

Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00 pm, 4:10 pm, 7pm

Christmas Day: 10:00 am

New Years Day: 10:00



**** Mass Intention**

Monday - Friday

6:45 AM - Silent Contemplative Prayer

7:15 AM - Morning Prayer

Saturday

7:30 AM—Eucharist with devotional prayers of Our Mother of Perpetual Help

The Gospel According to Disney— We will explore some of the life-giving messages that are hidden below the entertainment surface of Disney films like *Frozen*, *Aladdin* and *Zootopia*. This retreat begins with dinner at 6 pm on Friday, December 8, and ends Saturday evening December 9 after dinner. If you would like to register or need more information, please call the front desk at 520.744.3400.

ICS: Holiday Gifts of Love Adopt A Family—Help make this season brighter for some of Tucson's less fortunate people. Gather your friends, family, or other members at Our Lady of the Desert to adopt a family for the holidays. Please call ICS at 297.6049 for more information or email: icedeno@icstucson.org or lkayden@icstucson.org for a family of your choice with clothing sizes and gift suggestions. **December 8, 2017 is the last day to submit donor's information.**

SEEDS OF THE WORD BOOK CLUB— All are welcome Wednesday, January 31, from 2-3 pm in the Ironwood Room. We'll be discussing Br. David Steindl-Rast's new book, *The Way of Silence: Engaging the Sacred in Daily Life*. "Silence," Br. David declares, "is not the absence of word or sound ... [but] a presence too great for words." Dr. Pauline Albert will moderate the discussion. Copies of the book are available in the bookstore. Please join us, even if you have not read the book!

Grief Support Group Thursday, December 7, Last Meeting—The Last Grief Share meeting for this season will be Thursday, December 7. The Group meets in the office conference room from 5pm-7pm.

Calendar

Monday

December 4
Advent Weekday
Is 2:1–5
Mt 8:5–11

Tuesday

December 5
Advent Weekday
Is 11:1–10
Lk 10:21–24

Wednesday

December 6
Advent Weekday
Is 25:6–10a
Mt 15:29–37

Thursday

December 7
*St. Ambrose, Bishop and
Doctor of the Church*
Is 26:1–6
Mt 7:21, 24–27

Friday

December 8
*Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary*
Gn 3:9–15, 20
Eph 1:3–6, 11–12
Lk 1:26–38

Saturday

December 9
Advent Weekday
Is 30:19–21, 23–26
Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8

Sunday

December 10
*Second Sunday
of Advent*
Is 40:1–5, 9–11
2 Pt 3:8–14
Mk 1:1–8

Dear Padre,

Why do we have Advent?

Advent as we know it today developed many centuries after Jesus' life on earth. Because of the number of persons being baptized in the early Church, a practice developed of having another time for baptism in addition to the Easter Vigil. Christmas was chosen as another baptismal season. Since Lent served as a time of preparation for the baptisms at the Easter Vigil, the weeks leading up to Christmas became a time of penance and preparation.

Combined with this penitential practice, of course, was the preparation for Christmas. The Sunday and weekday Scriptures during Advent recall the centuries of longing for the coming of the Messiah, the conception of John the Baptist, and the family history of Mary and Joseph. Today

the writings of the prophet Isaiah are featured during Advent because they so eloquently speak of Israel's longing for salvation.

Among the special signs and symbols that the Church uses to recall and enter into these central parts of our Christian heritage are the Advent wreath, vespers, reconciliation services, the O Antiphons, Scripture readings, the Jesse tree, the giving tree, the Christmas tree, the crèche, gift-giving, and of course, Midnight Mass. Hopefully, these symbols of the season will remind you of your own birth in baptism and your own commitment to living a life filled with peace and love.

Fr. Thomas Santa, CSSR,
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



SHUTTERSTOCK/MALEO



A Word From Pope Francis

The Lord comes...into our life as a liberator; he comes to free us from all forms of interior and exterior slavery. It is he who shows us the path of faithfulness, of patience and of perseverance because, upon his return, our joy will be overflowing. Christmas is near,...[and] outward signs invite us to welcome the Lord who always comes and knocks at our door, knocks at our heart, in order to draw near to us.

—Angelus, December 11, 2016