

# Our Lady of the Desert Church

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Phone: 520-744-3400 Email: [office@desertrenewal.org](mailto:office@desertrenewal.org)  
Website: [www.desertrenewal.org](http://www.desertrenewal.org)

Saturday 4 pm livestreamed Mass: <https://www.youtube.com/c/OurLadyoftheDesertChurch/playlists>

## Weekend of June 24-25 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Redemptorist Community

#### Church Rector

Rev. Brian Johnson, C.Ss.R.

#### Associates

Rev. Stephen Rehrauer, C.Ss.R.

*Director of Renewal Center*

Rev. Pat Grile, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Jim Shea, C.Ss.R.

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Rev. Peter Connolly, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Ricardo Elford, C.Ss.R.

*Borderlands Outreach*

Rev. Tom Fransiscus, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Stephen Huy Vu, C.Ss.R.

*Pastor, Santa Catalina Parish*

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#### Deacon

Rev. Mr. Ken McNealy

#### Liturgical Ministers/ Compliance Officer

Kelly Mooney

Bob Jones

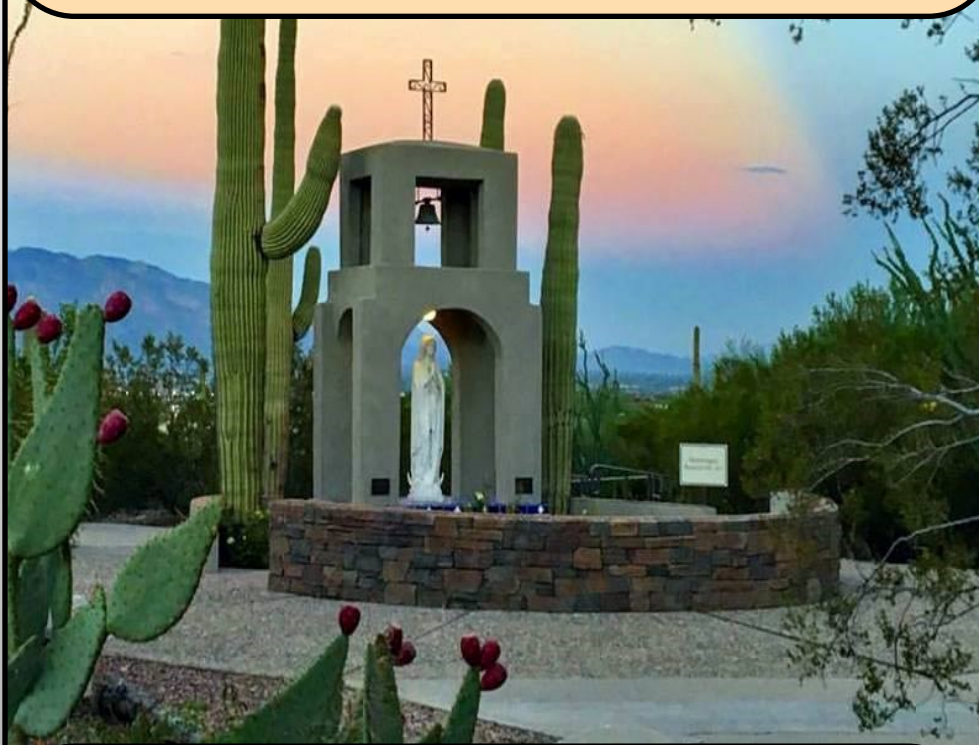
#### Bulletin Editor

Alexis Murrieta

#### Knights of Columbus

David VanderLinde

*Grand Knight*



**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.

# Our Lady of the Desert



Sunday, June 25 Rom 5:12-15

Paul today, uses a very pharisaic way of proving a point. It is a process where an inferior is compared to a superior. The superior always outshines the inferior. In this case, Paul is speaking of the fact that sin and death entered into our lives through the sin of Adam. However, now we have a new Man, Jesus Christ, through whom God's grace and salvation come into our lives. Paul thoroughly believes that Jesus' death and resurrection have flooded the world with God's peace and forgiveness. All we need do is be faithful to that life of Jesus within us.

Monday, June 26 Gn 12:1-9

Our reading today centers on the great promises God made to Abram. He promises land to his offspring. He promises that Abram will be a source of blessing for all peoples. Abram does nothing to deserve this gift. God simply chooses him. In the same way, God, in His mercy, chose each one of us. He has made us His adopted children and promised us eternal life. We do not deserve this. We have not and do not earn it. We have salvation only because God chose us to be His own!

Tuesday, June 27 Gn 13:2, 5-18

Abram, in today's reading separates from his nephew Lot. Their servants have been fighting over land. Abram gives Lot the choice of where he will go, and Abram says he will go to the other side of the area. Here, we see Abram's generosity. He does not insist on having the choice of land; he freely gives it to Lot for the sake of peace between them. Abram is a wonderful example for us today. We too should be willing to do what needs to be done for the sake of peace with others. Selfishness increases conflict, but humility and generosity can decrease conflict.

Wednesday, June 28 Gn 15:1-12, 17-18

Abram has a great doubt in today's reading! God has promised land to his descendants, but since he has no children and he is old, how can God's promise ever come to fruition? God takes him outside in the middle of the day (notice that it gets dark later) and asks him to count the stars. Of course, he is unable to do so, because he cannot even see the stars in the daylight. God replies that the same is true of the promise. Even if Abram cannot see a way for God to fulfill his promise, it will happen. Abram simply must have faith. The same is true for us. Even if we cannot see the signs of God's presence in our lives, he is there! We simply need to trust him!

Thursday, June 29 Acts 12:1-11

Today's first reading is a great example of what we saw yesterday. Peter is in prison and is tightly watched over by guards. He can see no way out of appearing before Pilate and suffering whatever pain Pilate wishes to send to him. Yet, miraculously, the chains fall off him. The cell door and the outer door of the building where he is held open by themselves, and Paul is set free. God has indeed protected him, even though Peter could not see a way it could happen! Faith still saved him.



# Our Lady of the Desert



Friday, June 30 Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22

God, today, promises Abraham a son by his wife Sarah. Sarah is 90 years old by this time! Abraham laughs at the idea of what God has promised can happen. Even though he laughs, God still promises a son who will be the father of a great nation. Once again, if God promises, he will bring it to fulfillment, even if we cannot see how it could possibly happen. Faith is needed. (An interesting joke is that God calls for him to be named Isaac, which means laughter!)

Saturday, July 1 Gn 18:1-15

Today is Sarah's turn to laugh! She overhears Abraham talking with three strangers who happen by. One of them says that Sarah will have a son in the length of a year. Sarah, of course, thinks this is ridiculous because of her age. God's response is not one of anger, but of understanding. He gently chides Sarah, but nevertheless assures her that she can trust God's word. God will get the last laugh (Isaac) in this situation! He understands Sarah's lack of Faith!

*~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.*



## **\*\*Mass Intentions/Presiders**

### **Friday, June 23**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

**\*\*Sr. Patricia Vereb**

### **Saturday, June 24**

4:00 p.m. (livestreamed) Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\* Victims of Coronavirus - Recovery and Wellness**

### **Sunday, June 25**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

**\*\*Mario Celentano (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

**\*\*Bertha Ortega (d)**

### **Monday, June 26**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus

**\*\*Hubert & Madeline Dompke (d)**

### **Tuesday, June 27**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Peter Connolly

**\*\*Fr. Ivan Levitsky & Fr. Bohdan Geleta  
Peace in Ukraine**

### **Wednesday, June 28**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Jim Shea

**\*\*Sadie Rice - You are not forgotten**

### **Thursday, June 29**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\*Marianna Geraty (d)**

### **Friday, June 30**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Pat Grile

**\*\*Bill Lewis**

### **Saturday, July 1**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed - Fr. Pat Grile

**\*\*Leonard Gentile (d)**

### **Sunday, July 2**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\*Mary Ann Monte (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus

**\*\*Jesus and Alexis Murrieta - Happy  
13th Wedding Anniversary**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Reminder** : The front office will be closed starting July 1-16, 2023. We will reopen for business on Monday July 17, 2023 from 8:00am-4:00pm.

### **RCIA**

Every year, our parish offers a process through which non-Catholics can join our Catholic Church. This process is called the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). This past year, we had two individuals who joined the Catholic Church at our Easter Vigil Service. Another opportunity will be starting this Fall. If you know of someone who is not presently Catholic, but who might be interested in joining our Church, we invite you to have them call Fr Brian at the office.

### **Marriage Help**

A Retrouvaille Weekend can help couples rediscover peace, hope, and purpose in their marriage. Register Now for a Retrouvaille Weekend scheduled, Friday evening, August 25 - Sunday, August 27, 2023. Visit: [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org), Call or Text (520) 762-4449.

### **Our Lady of the Desert Circle of Redemptorist Associates**

Please join us at one of our monthly meetings (3rd Thursday of the month, from 5:00-6:00pm). We'd love to see you in person or on Zoom. Please contact Diana Davenport at [diana@davenport.net](mailto:diana@davenport.net) (520-612-9873) for more information. If you would like to attend online, please contact John Davenport ([john@davenport.net](mailto:john@davenport.net)) for a Zoom link.

### **Scripture Prayer Group**

meets via zoom each Tuesday from 7-8pm. For more details email John Davenport at: [john@davenport.net](mailto:john@davenport.net), or call 440.478.1203.

### **Grief Share Support Group**

Grief share is a friendly group of caring people, who share the experience of the loss of a loved one. For more information contact, June or Stan Wood at 520.219.2919.

### **Food Bank**

The Marana Food Bank bin is located in the veranda near the bookstore. Please help our local community by donating today. We Collected 95lbs of food for the month of May. Thank you for your generosity.



*Please remember in your prayers*

### **OURSICK**

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

*If you would like to be added to our sick list, please call the  
office. 520.744.3400*

*The Scripture Prayer group that meets on Tuesday evenings  
prays for those on the sick list.*

### **Our Sick List June 2023**

Fr. Jeff King-Healing  
Ed Kenyon  
Tim McDonald  
Chuck Peterson  
Linda Peterson  
Margaret Zeches  
June Wood  
JoAnne Heinzl  
Lee Morrison  
Scott Milligan  
Rachel Flint

### **OUR LADY OF THE DESERT**

DECEASED MEMBERS  
*Last 12 Months*

**(Month/Year)**

Dcn. Joe Bogushefsky (6/22)  
Art Davenport (4/23)  
Thomas Doyle (12/22)  
Carol Draper Burba (1/23)  
Donald Figge (8/22)  
Katherine Gaboury (10/22)  
Sharon Iavagnilio (1/23)  
Pauline Kenyon (6/22)  
Harriet Lewandowski (5/23)  
Billie Marshall (9/22)  
Philip Oberstar (10/22)  
Lamont Ullrich (6/22)  
Virgil Roeder (5/23)  
Edward Schafle (1/23)  
Dennis Terrill (2/23)  
Frank Taylor (8/22)  
Larry Waller (4/23)

**"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.

Redemptorist Renewal Center office hours are as follows:

Monday - Saturday:

**8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Sundays:

**8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**



**This weeks Flowers were donated  
To honor  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

**To sponsor flowers in memory of or in  
celebration Please contact the office at 520-744-3400**

**Weekly Stewardship for Our Lady of the Desert**

**Weeks of June 12-19 2023**

**\$ 2,519.00**

**If you have requested additional envelopes, they will be available the following week in the box on the table by the side door in church.**

For your convenience, know that you may come during office hours to personally offer your stewardship, mail it in, or use the following link and specify your donation. Click here:

<http://desertrenewal.org/fees-and-rates/>



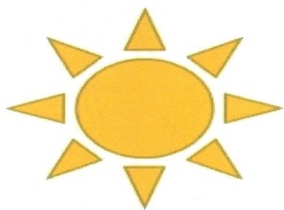


**THE BOOKSTORE IS**  
**OPEN**  
**AFTER EACH WEEKEND MASS**

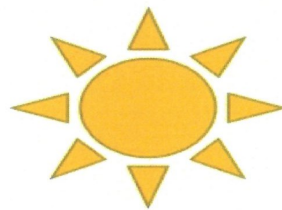
### Bookstore Hours

**JUNE 2023**

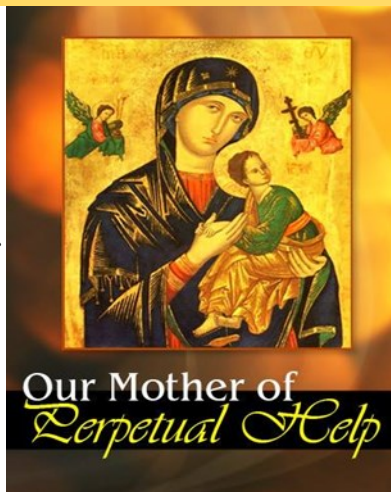
<b>JUN 1</b>	<b>10:00 - 2:00</b>
<b>JUN 3-4</b>	<b>After the weekend masses</b>
<b>JUN 6</b>	<b>10:00 - 2:00</b>
<b>JUN 8</b>	<b>10:00 - 2:00</b>
<b>JUN 10-11</b>	<b>After the weekend masses</b>
<b>JUN 13</b>	<b>10:00 - 2:00</b>
<b>JUN 17-18</b>	<b>After the weekend masses</b>
<b>JUN 20</b>	<b>10:00 - 1:00</b>
<b>JUN 22</b>	<b>11:00 - 1:00</b>
<b>JUN 24-25</b>	<b>After the weekend masses</b>



**JUNE**



## Novena Prayer to Our Mother of Perpetual Help adapted to be prayed in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic



Mother of Perpetual Help, with the greatest confidence we come before your holy picture to beseech your intercession. We think of you, Mother, at the foot of the Cross. Your heart must have bled to see your Son in agony. But your joy was great when He rose from the dead, victorious over the powers of evil. Mother of Sorrows, pray for us in this time of trial.

Help us not to lose heart. Intercede for your people who are afflicted with Coronavirus. Comfort your people who are vulnerable and anxious. Protect healthcare workers who put their lives at risk.

Inspire our leaders to make good decisions. Change our hearts so that we may act responsibly. Teach us to trust in God's love and mercy and to share with you the joy of having courageously faced up to all the challenges of Life. Amen



The *Act of Spiritual Communion*, by St. Alphonsus Liguori, may be a source of comfort at this time when we are separated from one another, but connected as the Body of Christ. Pray this prayer when you are not able to receive the Eucharist.



### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you into my heart. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself entirely to you. Never permit me to be separated from You. For this I pray. Amen.

Source: *Visits to the Most Blessed Sacrament*  
by St. Alphonsus Liguori



# Dear Padre,

## *A friend of mine wants to be cremated. Does the Church permit it?*

The Church permits cremation when extraordinary circumstances warrant it. There was never a direct canonical ban on cremation until 1886, simply because it was not widely practiced by the Christian Church; its members preferred inhumation—the traditional form of burial—in hopeful imitation of Christ, whose body was resurrected from the dead. The Church reacted to a proliferation of nineteenth-century cremation societies, primarily in Europe, with a decree that forbade Catholics from membership in these societies or from cremation (with obvious exceptions made in times of public crisis, plagues, wars, etc.). The Church restated the ban as late as 1926 out of concern that these groups were anti-religious in promoting cremation as an argument against belief in the resurrection.

The Vatican has allowed cremation as an acceptable alternative to burial since 1963, except in cases where irreligious motives are apparent (Canon 1176, No. 3). Nevertheless, “although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites” (No. 413, *Order of Christian Funerals*, “Appendix 2, Cremation,” 1997). Moreover, while the Church permits cremation, the scattering of ashes is forbidden. They are to be reserved with reverence in a sacred place. ●



SIMONTHESORCERER / SHUTTERSTOCK

**Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org**

### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS



*The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience.... God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades.*

**APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION, JOY OF THE  
GOSPEL (EVANGELII GAUDIUM),  
NOVEMBER 24, 2013**

#### MONDAY

June 26  
Weekday  
Gn 12:1–9  
Mt 7:1–5

#### TUESDAY

June 27  
Weekday  
Gn 13:2, 5–18  
Mt 7:6, 12–14

#### WEDNESDAY

June 28  
St. Irenaeus, Bishop  
and Martyr  
Gn 15:1–12, 17–18  
Mt 7:15–20

#### THURSDAY

June 29  
Sts. Peter and Paul,  
Apostles  
Acts 12:1–11  
2 Tm 4:6–8, 17–18  
Mt 16:13–19

#### FRIDAY

June 30  
Weekday  
Gn 17:1, 9–10, 15–22  
Mt 8:1–4

#### SATURDAY

July 1  
Weekday  
Gn 18:1–15  
Mt 8:5–17

#### SUNDAY

July 2  
Thirteenth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
2 Kgs 4:8–11, 14–16a  
Rom 6:3–4, 8–11  
Mt 10:37–42

#### Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective

*Catholic Update* explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions. Print and digital subscriptions! For more information, visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) or call 800-325-9521.