

Our Lady of the Desert Church

7101 West Picture Rocks Road, Tucson, AZ 85743
Phone: 520-744-3400 Email: office@desertrenewal.org
Website: www.desertrenewal.org

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

Weekend of December 9-10 Second Sunday of Advent

Redemptorist Community

Church Rector

Rev. Brian Johnson, C.Ss.R.

Associates

Rev. Stephen Rehrauer, C.Ss.R.

Director of Renewal Center

Rev. Charlie Wehrley, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Jim Shea, C.Ss.R.

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Rev. Peter Connolly, C.Ss.R.

Padre Tomas Jose Fransiscus,  
C.Ss.R. JCL

*Diocese of Tucson Tribunal. Judge*

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

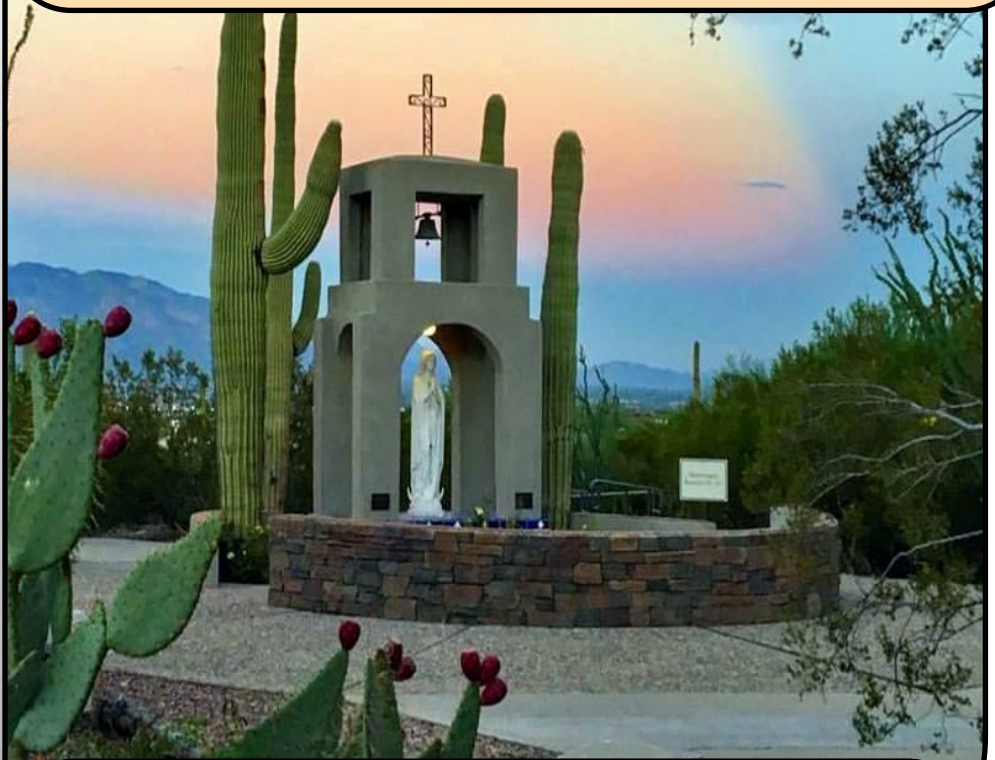
Bulletin Editor

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



December 10th 2 PT 3:8-14

Peter is writing today about the supposed “delay” in the return of Jesus. It was believed that Jesus’ second coming would happen very soon after the Ascension. Of course, that never happened, and the faith of many was shaken. Peter points out that God is not delaying, rather, He is patiently waiting for the conversion of the world. In His mercy, God wishes everyone to turn to Him in love. Peter does affirm that the end will eventually come, but it will happen in God’s time. Then, the old heaven and earth will pass away, and a new heaven and earth appear for us. This will be a place of perpetual happiness and peace.

December 11th Is 35:1-10

Isaiah uses an image of the desert coming to full bloom to speak about our future. He prophesies that God will come to the aid of his suffering people and bring them to a richness of life that they have never known before. All troubles will be gone, and all will be filled with joy. Because of God’s mercy, not because of our worthiness, will this happen. God’s love is stronger than our sin!

December 12th ZEC 2:14-17

Zechariah bids the people of Jerusalem to rejoice. God is coming to dwell with them. He will never leave them again. He has chosen Jerusalem as His own. For now, the people must wait and watch, for that day is coming. God will be their savior!

December 13th Is 40:25-31

Isaiah speaks to a group of people who are overcome by the burdens of life. They believe God has forgotten them. However, Isaiah insists that God could never forget His people. He can never be too tired to bring salvation. God’s love is stronger than all else. The strength of the people will be restored.

December 14th Is 41:13-20

Isaiah continues today to prophesy hope. He foretells the days when thirst will be no more. Rivers of water will flow in the barren heights. The desert will become a place of luxuriant springs that bring an abundance of life to the land. God’s loving hand will do this, because he loves His people, even in the face of their sins.

December 15th Is 48:17-19

Today, God identifies Himself as the Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. He will teach His people the ways of life that bring happiness and peace. If we follow his laws, we will find the fullness of life. Never could the God of love lead His people astray. He wants our happiness and well-being. We can trust Him.

December 16th Sir 48:1-4, 9-11

Sirach today praises the Great Prophet Elijah. Elijah was a powerful symbol of the mighty God at work in the world. Sirach says that Elijah will return at the end of the age, before the day of the Lord, the great day of salvation. The Church, of course, sees this prophesy fulfilled in the coming of John the Baptist to prepare the way before Jesus. “Elijah” has come and shown us Jesus, who is our Savior.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.



Our Lady of the Desert



RCIA

Last Sunday, at our 10:00 a.m. Liturgy, we welcomed 4 individuals into our community. They are in this year's RCIA class, preparing to enter fully into the Catholic Church this Easter. Their names are: Carolyn Lozano, Doyle Taraba, Emma Rens, and Jason Penna. We ask you to kindly keep these people in your prayers as they grow in their understanding and the Church.

Taizé Prayer

On Tuesday, December 12th, at 7 PM, OLOD will be presenting a Taizé Advent Prayer Service in the church. This is a time to prepare us for the coming of Christmas. The service will include scripture, song, and silence. Please join us for this prayer experience. The evening is sponsored by our own Knights of Columbus.



Advent Penance Service

Our Lady of the Desert will hold a Penance Service this coming Saturday, December 16th at 10:00 A.M. The service will start with a short prayer in church. Confessions will be heard afterwards both in Church and in the office building. All are invited to prepare for Christmas by celebrating this special sacrament.

Happy Advent

Today, we begin the celebration of Advent. This is a Liturgical Season during which we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christmas. One great way to prepare for Christmas is to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). There will be several Penance Services in our area. Below is a listing of some of them. You are welcomed to attend any service that works for you:

Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30 P.M. at St Odilia

Saturday, December 16th at 10:00 A.M. here at Our Lady of the Desert

Wednesday, December 20th at 6:00 P.M. at St Christopher

Upcoming Funeral for Bernie Burba

A Funeral Mass will be held on Monday, December 11, 11:00 am at Our Lady of the Desert Church for Bernie Burba. 7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd. Tucson, AZ 8574.3

Book of Revelation

The Bible Study on the Book of Revelation will begin Monday, **December 11, at 10:00 A.M** for all those who have signed up for it. We will meet in the Agave room Building #7.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Patroness of the Americas

We will celebrate her feast in the Our Lady of the Desert Church on Tuesday December 12.

Starting with: Mananitas-hymns to the Virgin at
6:00 a.m.



Convivencia (Mexican sweet bread) at 6:30 a.m. in the St. Alphonsus Kitchen

Holy Mass with Hymns at 7:30 a.m. in the Our Lady of the Desert Chapel



Arizona's Catholic Tuition Support Organization (CTSO) thanks the parishioners of Our Lady of the Desert for your tax credit contributions of \$41,526 for tax year 2022.

Your support enabled CTSO to make Catholic Education available, affordable, and accessible to those who want the opportunity of a quality education that nurtures faith development, provides strong academics, high expectations, promotes self-respect as well as respect for and service to others. Please consider supporting Arizona CTSO for the 2023 tax year.

Our Lady of the Desert
in conjunction with...

 **CHRIST CHILD SOCIETY OF TUCSON**
WHERE LOVE LEADS TO ACTION

 **ICS**
INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES
WHERE HELP BRINGS HOPE

presents
Christmas Gifts of Love

All Gifts are to be collected and dropped off in Fr. Brian's office this weekend.

No later than December 10th.



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 December 2023

Peter Castillo	Fr. Rich Boevor
Ed Kenyon	Tim McDonald
Chuck Peterson	June Wood
Linda Peterson	Aubrey Scarborough
Michael Dunlap	Joanna Crawford
Lee Morrison	Scott Milligan
Fr. Jim Shea	Joe Fernando
Rachel Flint	
Bob Garcia	
Fr. Jeff King-Healing	
Tony Iavagnilio	

OUR LADY OF THE DESERT

DECEASED MEMBERS
Last 12 Months

(Month/Year)

Carol Boerner (9/23)
Bernie Burba (11/23)
Art Davenport (4/23)
Thomas Doyle (12/22)
Carol Draper Burba (1/23)
Fr. Ricardo Elford, C.Ss.R. (9/23)
Theresa Fitzpatrick (10/23)
Dave Forgue (10/23)
Sharon Iavagnilio (1/23)
Joan Jones (11/23)
Pierrette(Petra) Juteau (11/23)
Harriet Lewandowski (5/23)
Linda Obenauf (11/23)
Virgil Roeder (5/23)
Edward Schafle (1/23)
Dan Sullivan (11/23)
Phyllis Spence, OSB (11/23)
Dennis Terrill (2/23)
Larry Waller (4/23)
Dorie Zimmerman (9/23)

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

Hoshea 2:16

****Mass Intentions/Presiders**

Friday, December 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

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

****Nancy Donahue (d)**

Saturday, December 9

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Brian Johnson

****Fr. Jim Shea-Healing**

Sunday, December 10

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

****Bonifacio A. Hernandez (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

****Ray & Ellen Miller**

Monday, December 11

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

****Fr. Ricardo Elford C.Ss.R. (d)**

Tuesday, December 12

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Tom Fransiscus

****Betty Carroll (d)**

Wednesday, December 13

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

****Joan Crose (d)**

Thursday, December 14

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

****Deceased Redemptorist**

Friday, December 15

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

****Francis Michael Connolly (d)**

Saturday, December 16

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Charlie Wehrley

****For Healing**

Sunday, December 17

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

****Gerardo Garcia (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus

****Lee Morrison - Birthday**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Surviving the Holidays

"Grieving during the Holiday Season" is the topic of our Grief Share Meeting from 2-4 P.M. on Sunday December 10th, 2023. Our group is composed of those who have lost a loved one. All in need are welcome. We'll meet in the Office/conference room. If you are interested in joining us, or have questions, please contact June or Stan Wood. 520-219-2919 .



Homebound Ministry

Do you have a loved one, a neighbor or friend that is currently Homebound, in a Care Center or in the Hospital? Do you think that person would like a visit from a Homebound Eucharist Minister? Our Lady of the Desert has trained (EMs), who would love to take Holy Communion to that special person. For more information call the office 520-744-3400.

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 (520-612-9873) for more information. If you would like to attend online, please contact John Davenport (john@davenport.net) for a Zoom link.

Monthly Rosary Prayer

December 13, 9am-10am. In Our Lady of the Desert Church. Please come and join us on the second Wednesday of every month.

Weekly Rosary Prayer

Every Wednesday starting at 6:00 p.m. In the Our Lady of the Desert Chapel. Please come join us.

Scripture Prayer Group

meets via zoom each Tuesday. For more details email John Davenport at: john@davenport.net, or call 440.478.1203.

Food Bank

The Marana Food Bank bin is located in the veranda near the bookstore. We collected a total of 101lbs of food for the month of November. Please help our local community by donating today. Thank you for your generosity. ~Marge Mauzer

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 by
John and Kelly Mooney
In Loving Memory of
Joan Crose**

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 November 27-December 4, 2023 \$ 10,639.00

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

December 2023

Book Store Hours

Bookstore open after all weekend Masses.

Friday, Dec 2 nd	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday Dec 3 rd	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday 3/4	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am
Tuesday, Dec 5 th	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thursday, Dec 7 th	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday Dec 9 th	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday – Sunday 9/10	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am
Saturday – Sunday 16/17	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am

MERRY CHRISTMAS ~ BLESSINGS TO ALL

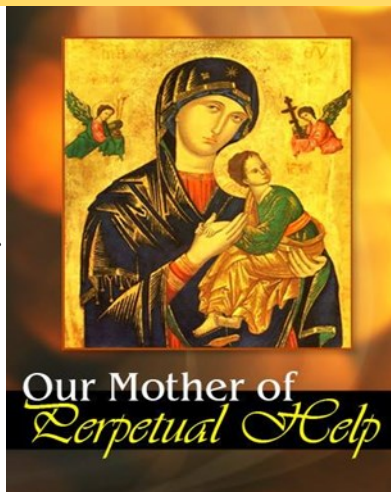
Saturday – Sunday 23/24	CLOSED
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HAPPY NEW YEAR ~ Continued Blessings all the Year Thru

Saturday – Sunday 30/31	CLOSED
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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,

Do Catholics have to marry in the Church? If a couple decides to marry outside of the Church, are they still allowed to receive Communion and other sacraments?

Catholics are obligated to follow the laws of the Church, including those laws regarding marriage. If a Catholic marries outside the Church, meaning that they did not follow Church law, then they may not receive the other sacraments until their marriage has been witnessed by the Church.

A wedding is a sacred ceremony for the couple, but it is also a ceremony for the Church. The Christian community is called upon to witness the ceremony, with the bishop, priest, or deacon called upon to bless the union in the name of the Church. The Church can dispense from the form, that is, the place of the wedding, for good cause, and does so when necessary. When a dispensation from the law is granted, then the person has followed the marriage laws of the Church and is free to receive the sacraments.

A wedding is a sacred ceremony in which a sacrament is conferred. While the park may be pretty or the church down the street may be bigger, neither is a sufficient reason to ignore marriage law and marry outside the Church. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



MDV EDWARDS / SHUTTERSTOCK

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
December 11 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 35:1–10 Lk 5:17–26	December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14–17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab Lk 1:26–38 or Lk 1:39–47	December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Is 40:25–31 Mt 11:28–30	December 14 <i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> Is 41:13–20 Mt 11:11–15	December 15 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 48:17–19 Mt 11:16–19	December 16 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Sir 48:1–4, 9–11 Mt 17:9a, 10–13	December 17 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Is 61:1–2a, 10–11 1 Thes 5:16–24 Jn 1:6–8, 19–28



CNS PHOTO/PAUL HARING

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

In the Bible [conversion] means, first and foremost, to change direction and orientation; and thus also to change one's way of thinking. In the moral and spiritual life, to convert means to turn oneself from evil to good, from sin to love of God. And this is what the Baptist was teaching.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 6, 2020