

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 23-24 Fourth 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

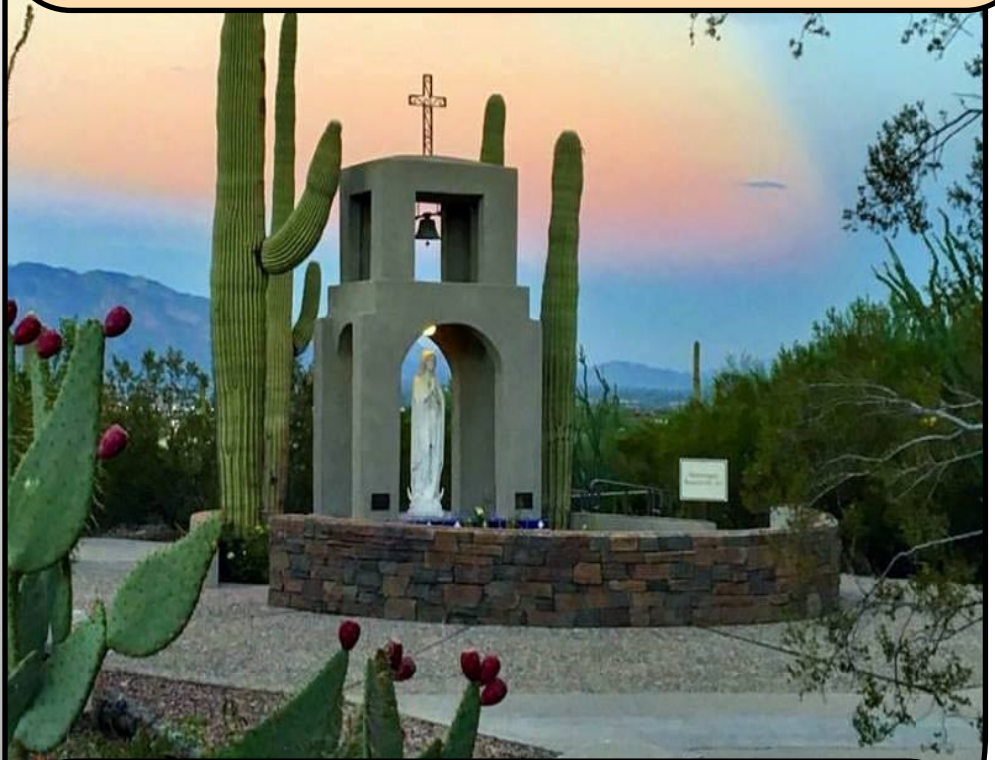
Bulletin Editor

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 24th Rom 16:25-27

Paul praises God today for His plan for Salvation for all people. Hints of this plan can be seen in the Old Testament writings. The fulness of the plan is made visible in the death and resurrection of Jesus. God's plans are eternal, and they are life-filled. In Jesus, all people find life and redemption.

December 25th Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

Merry Christmas!! In today's reading from The Acts of the Apostles, Paul speaks of God's plan of salvation. Paul says it started with the call of the patriarchs, continued through the time when the people were in Egypt, through the time of David, where God promised that one of David's sons would sit on his throne forever. Jesus is this son of David who reigns forever as our Lord and King.

December 26th Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59

On this Feast of St Stephen, we have the story of his martyrdom. Luke records that Stephen was filled with a wisdom that could not be overcome by his foes. This led them to great anger. When Stephen shared with them a vision he had of Jesus standing in power at the right hand of God, their fury overtook them. They attacked Stephen and stoned him to death. Luke also introduces us to a man named Saul (the future Paul) who concurs in the death of Stephen.

December 27th 1 Jn 1:1-4

John today declares that the plan and love of God that we have heard from the beginning has now been seen by the Apostles in the life of Jesus. The Apostles faithfully shared with all around them what they saw and heard in the life of Jesus. They did this because it was God's will to draw all people into union with Himself and with each other. Only in such fellowship will we ever experience true joy.

December 28th 1 Jn 1:5—2:2

John today writes that in God there is no darkness but only light. If we claim to have fellowship with him, but continue to walk in darkness (sin), we are liars. But, Jesus' blood, shed for us on the cross, brings us forgiveness and cleanses us from all darkness and sin. We are now called to live only in the light, to overcome sin in our lives. Yet, if we do sin out of weakness, Jesus pleads for us before God, and will win forgiveness for us.

December 29th 1 Jn 2:3-11

John writes today that we can know we are in Christ if we walk in light and sin has no place in our lives. He says we are called to love our brothers and sisters. In this love we fulfill God's law and plans. It is only through love that we can find our way to God.

December 30th 1 Jn 2:12-17

John writes today calling us to love God and not the world. If we love the world, it means the light of God does not dwell in us. He equates loving the world with things such as sensual lust, enticement for the eyes, and a pretentious life. These things are not from God and must not be allowed to operate in our lives. The power of the world and sin is passing away through the grace of Jesus Christ. If we remain in the light of God, we will last forever.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.



Our Lady of the Desert



Merry Christmas!

Today we celebrate a great day! We celebrate the birth of our Savior. The process of our salvation began with this event. The baby born this day grew up and offered his life on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. We are called to follow his example by reaching out to give of ourselves in service to all our brothers and sisters, just as he did. The Christmas presents we share with family and friends are to remind us of this fact. It is not just a baby we celebrate. We celebrate the Redeemer!

May the fulness of God's blessings be with you and yours as we celebrate this wonderful day! Merry Christmas!



Dear Our Lady of the Desert Parishioners,

Thank you

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt gratitude for the sympathy, love and support you have extended to my family during our time of loss. With all our heart we thank you for your prayers, love, and support during this difficult time.

Blessings and Merry Christmas to all,

Bob Jones & Family



Our Lady of Guadalupe

Father Tom Franciscus planned a beautiful service for Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12. The morning started with 6:00 AM Hispanic hymns ('Manzanitas'), followed by Mexican sweet breads ('Convivencia') at 6:30, and hot cocoa was served too. Then, the celebration concluded with Mass, which was said in Spanish. What a beautiful celebration on a very special day. Thank you, Father Tom!

Taizé-Advent-Meditation

The same day, at 7:00 PM, a beautiful Meditation took place at the O.L.D. as preparation for the coming of the Christ Child.

Our choir director was leading the evening with 7 musicians. Taizé prayer is a



simple and short service; nonetheless, it is deeply spiritual. Originally named after a village in France known for prayer, components include prayer, Bible readings, congregational singing and silence.



THE JIM CLICK

**MILLIONS
FOR TUCSON**
RAFFLE

Jim Click Millions for Tucson

On behalf of Knights of Columbus Council 15704, a big **THANK YOU** to all of you who purchased tickets over the last few months for the Jim Click Millions for Tucson. The drawing was held last Thursday at Reid Park Zoo. While the official list of winners has not yet been published, we can report that our Council did not sell the winning tickets! However, the Tucson community will benefit from the over \$1,870,000 that was raised. In addition, the Jim Click family will donate another \$200,000 that will be divided between the 330+ charities that sold tickets. Our Council has already distributed funds to the following charities or organizations:

- \$2,000:** For the support of four Redemptorists Seminarians in formation in the Bronx
- \$1,500:** Women's ReachOut Pregnancy Center
- \$1,000 ea.:** - Tuition Support of students for their Catholic Education in Nigeria; - Christ Child Society- Tucson Chapter; - Feed My Starving Children; - Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona.
- \$500 ea.:** - Casa Maria Catholic Worker; - Courney's Courage (Families experiencing pediatric brain cancers); - Youth On Their Own; - Gospel Rescue Mission; - St. Vincent de Paul Society; - GAP; - Hands of Hope; - Sister Jose Women's Center

→ So far this year, you've allowed us to contribute **\$11,500** to good causes. **THANK YOU!**

David VanderLinde, Grand Knight, Our Lady of the Desert Council 15704

web: kofc15704.org



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	Stan Wood
Michael Dunlap	Aubrey Scarborough
Lee Morrison	Joanna Crawford
Fr. Jim Shea	Scott Milligan
Rachel Flint	Joe Fernando
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 22

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

****Trish Mowry— Birthday**

Saturday, December 23

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

****Abe Seigel (d)**

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus

****Lidia G. Hernandez (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

****Robert Heyer (d)**

3:15-Christmas Caroling

4:00 p.m. –Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

4:05 p.m. –Fr. Tom Fransiscus –Overflow-
Petroglyph

Monday, December 25

Merry Christmas

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**** Mauricio G. Hernandez (d)**

10:00 a.m. –Fr. Charlie Wehrley

****Denny Mallory (d)**

Tuesday, December 26

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

****Carole McAlees (d)**

Wednesday, December 27

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

****Francis Michael Conolly (d)**

Thursday, December 28

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

****David Bushwald (d)**

Friday, December 29

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

****Lloyd J. McCrory (d)**

Saturday, December 30

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Peter Connolly

****Dennis Terrill (d)**

Sunday, December 31

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

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

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus

****Bill Abatecola (d)**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Grief Share Support Group

Grief share is a friendly group of caring people, who share the experience of the loss of a loved one. Next Program is upcoming see next weeks bulletin for next meeting details. For more information contact, June or Stan Wood at 520.219.2919. or at Jwls1@earthlink.net.

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.

Christmas Poinsettia's

Weekly Stewardship for Our Lady of the Desert

Weekend of December 11-13, 2023 \$5,537.00

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/>



*Our Lady of the Desert Poinsettia's
Honor & Remember
The Following Loved Ones*



Kensie & Anna Gift
Shane Olsen
Michael Daughy
Daniel Devere
Past & Present Murrieta Families
Schaefer & Gates Families
Reilly & Riley Families
Harold & Clarise Stolz
Josephine & Lawrence McIntosh
Klein & Vanderlinde Families
Israel
Jesus, Alexis, Cruz & Camilo Murrieta
Schaefer & Gates Families
Our Youth's Lifelong Devotion to Christ
Walter & Helen Ingalls
Julia Ingalls
Marian & Clem Vayda
Geri Vayda
Helen Nelson
Roxanne (Helen) Dilts
Kylie Burdin
Mary Vigh
Mildred Hoft
Henry Hoft
Anonymous
Thomas & Claire Judy
Albert & Florence Goulet
Constance Fournier

Denny Mallory
Dennis Terrill
Gabriel & Eva Bruno
Ross & Helen Terrill
Catalina Rivera
Ivan & Lavina Kramer
Bob Kramer
Glen Kramer
Richard Portwood
Abatecola Family
Donlon Family
Rapecis Family
Joan, Danny & Jimmy Jones
Lewandowski & Popiel Families
Annette Thompson
Duffner & Jones Parents
Carroll & Neely Families
George & Rose Sheehan
David & Dorothy McLachlan
Ryan Hanley
David Spears
William Metzger
Jackie Misuraca
Patrick John Martin
Elmer & Virgil Ensrude
Dick & Grace Keller
Joan Crose & Michael Crose
Cleo Moore



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

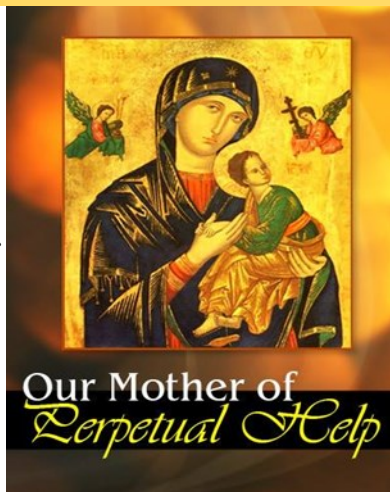
Saturday – Sunday 23/24	CLOSED
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HAPPY NEW YEAR ~ Continued Blessings all the Year Thru

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,

The Bible talks about Jesus' brothers and sisters. Is there scriptural proof that Jesus was Mary's only child?

The Catholic Church's position is that Mary had only one child; her son called Jesus. Yet there are at least ten scriptural references to "the brothers of Jesus" or to his "sisters" (see Matthew 13:55–56, Mark 6:3, and Luke 8:19–21).

The difficulty is that the meaning of the term "brothers" (translated from the Greek *adelphos*) isn't restricted to the sharing of a parent. On the contrary, it may not only refer to other relatives, including cousins, but also to close relationships, such as disciples. This is not unlike how we might refer to "brothers in arms" as those who fought in a war together, or a religious order of brothers or sisters.

Recall, too, that Jesus and his disciples spoke Aramaic, and there is no equivalent for the meaning of "cousins" as we know it in that language. Instead, the word for brother or sister was used when referring to cousins. Thus, when St. Jerome (*circa* 340–420) translated the Bible from Hebrew into Church Latin, he considered "the brothers of Jesus" as cousins, not siblings. After all, it would have been the rightful responsibility of these male relatives of Jesus to take care of Mary when Jesus died. Yet Jesus entrusts his mother to the care of his beloved disciple John (John 19:26). ●



VIRGIN AND CHILD, ASIA (ARTIST UNKNOWN)

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
December 25 <i>Nativity of the Lord</i> Is 52:7–10 Heb 1:1–6 Jn 1:1–18 or 1:1–5, 9–14	December 26 <i>St. Stephen, the First Martyr</i> Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59 Mt 10:17–22	December 27 <i>St. John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> 1 Jn 1:1–4 Jn 20:1a, 2–8	December 28 <i>Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i> 1 Jn 1:5–2:2 Mt 2:13–18	December 29 <i>Christmas Weekday</i> 1 Jn 2:3–11 Lk 2:22–35	December 30 <i>Christmas Weekday</i> 1 Jn 2:12–17 Lk 2:36–40	December 31 <i>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph</i> Sir 3:2–6, 12–14 Col 3:12–21 or 3:12–17 Lk 2:22–40 or 2:22, 39–40

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us ask our Lady for a grace...that she kindle our enthusiasm for the ideal of holiness which is not a matter of holy cards and images, but is about living what happens each day, humbly and joyfully...with our eyes fixed on God and the neighbor we meet.

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 8, 2021