

# Our Lady of the Desert Church

7101 West Picture Rocks Road, Tucson, AZ 85743  
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>

## **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**

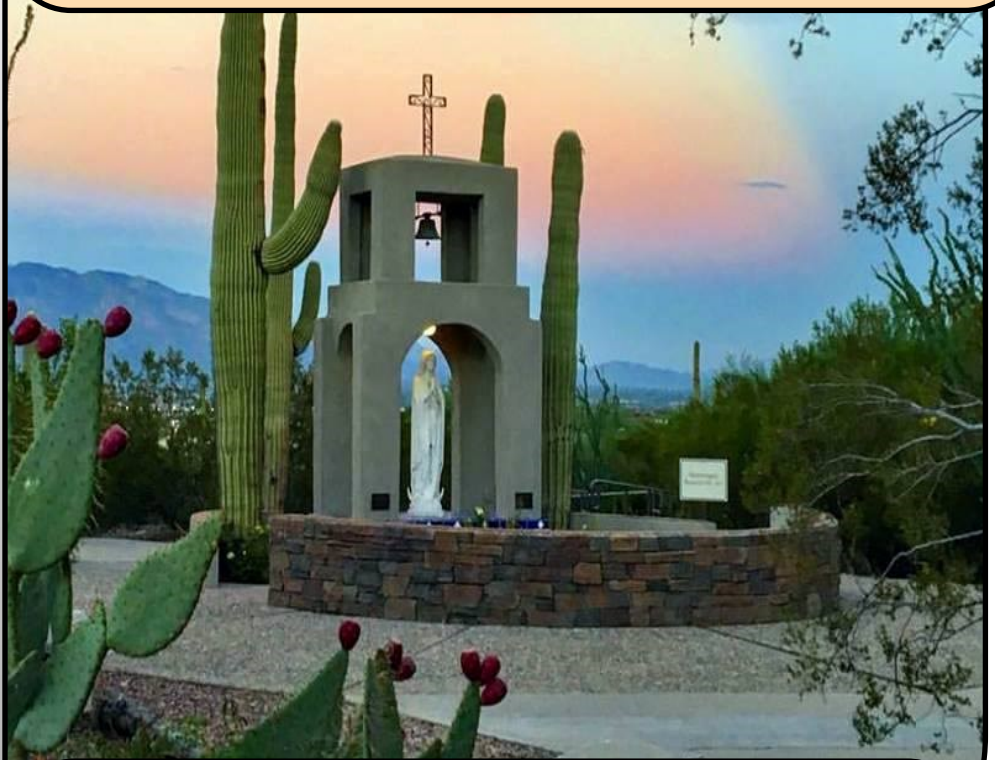
Alexis Murrieta

### **Knights of Columbus**

David VanderLinde

*Grand Knight*

## Weekend of December 30-31 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph



**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 31st Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

In today's reading from The Letter to the Colossians, Paul uses a clothing metaphor. This is very common for Paul. He advises that we dress ourselves in "compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another." Paul sees Baptism as being a clothing with Christ for the Christian. We need to therefore live the values that Jesus lived. For today's feast of the Holy Family, he goes on in a similar way as he calls for peace and cooperation within the family unit. Paul asks wives to be "submissive" and calls husbands to "love". (We always need to remember that love involves putting of the needs of another first (submission)).

January 1st Gal 4:4-7

Happy New Year! Paul today points out that God sent his son, born of a woman (Feast of Mary the Mother of God). By our union with the Son, (he became one of us in the incarnation,) we are made adopted children of God. Paul quickly points out that if we are children, we are heirs as well. We will inherit all the joys of heaven.

January 2nd 1 JN 2:22-28

John points out today that we have been made one with Christ and with the Father through our receiving of the Holy Spirit. He calls us all to be faithful to that union, to live as people united to God and each other. If we do, we will be ready to receive him when he appears again. Love is always the key!

January 3rd 1 JN 2:29-3:6

John encourages his readers to remain in Christ. He points out that sin separates us from Christ. We must never allow that to be our end. Rather, we need to trust in God's mercy and turn back to him in repentance. Then, we know we are still in Him!

January 4th 1 Jn 3:7-10

John calls people to act in righteousness. This involves treating one another with proper respect. It involves doing what is right and good for another person. If we are righteous, then we know we belong to God Who Himself is righteous. If we sin by not living righteously, we need to realize that we are no longer united with the Righteous One, and so repent!

January 5th 1 Jn 3:11-21

John writes today that we came to know love because God sent His Son who laid down his life for us. So, as children of God we too must love by laying down our lives for others. Thus, if we see a brother or sister in need, we must serve them. Love must show itself in deeds, not just in words.

January 6th 1 Jn 5:5-13

John writes that Jesus was God in the flesh. He points to the moment when Jesus was crucified and blood and water flowed out of his heart. Jesus was truly human, not God pretending to be human. Through Jesus, God gives us life. John writes, "God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever possesses the Son has life; whoever does not possess the Son of God does not have life." God offers us the life of Christ, we just need to accept it in faith. Then we will truly live!



~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.

# *Our Lady of the Desert*



## **Happy New Year!**

Monday, we, of course, celebrate New Year's Day. It is also a very important feast day for our Catholic Church Community. We celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Mary is always held up by the Church as being her Son's most perfect Disciple. We honor her openness to God's will, her prayerfulness, her spirit of willing service to those around her. We also celebrate that Jesus gave her to us as an example and a mother. As we start off the new year, we do it with an intention of growing through God's grace into better images of his mother and Son. Please note, this day is normally a Holy Day of Obligation, but this year, that is not so! However, we encourage all of you to join us in celebrating our Mother Mary at Mass at 7:30 A.M. Monday. Happy New Year's!!!



# First Friday Adoration

## Come let us adore Him!

**January 5, 2024, 5-8 pm**

**At the altar of Our Lady of the Desert Church**

**The monstrance will be placed on the altar at 5 pm and ends at 8 pm. Please contact the [office@desertrenewal.org](mailto:office@desertrenewal.org)**

**Please join us in adoration of the Christ! Please spare 30-60 mins of your time or any amount you wish to adore our Lord Jesus. This is such a blessing for us to actually spend time with our Lord and Savior.**



**In union with Christ's passion, we offer up as sacrifice upon the fleshy altars of our hearts all that we lack. In return we receive from on high the fullness of Christ's body, blood, soul and divinity in the Eucharist, and we see the Word become flesh in our own lives.**





**respect life**  
*month*



**9 DAYS FOR LIFE**

**Pray to Protect Human Life!**

**January 16 - 24, 2024**

An initiative of the



*radical*  
**solidarity**

to be courageously  
pro-woman, promoting a  
choice that truly protects,  
accompanies, and  
supports women and  
their children

9 Days for Life is an annual Novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life.

Sign up individually and to receive the daily prayers via email or text message!

[www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup](http://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup)

(also available in Spanish!)



**Baby-Bottle-Drive (BBD) during 3 weeks**  
**for the Reachout Women's Center**



Thank you for your participating in the BBD, between January 6, and January 28!

Many needing mothers will be grateful for your generosity and your prayerful support. Thank you!

Do you need an empty bottle? You'll find it on the tables near the exits of the church.

**Returning the bottle(s):** Please bring them back at the mass of the weekend of January 27-28. Put them in the basket in front of the Altar. The bottles with their content will be blessed by the priest.

If you forgot to bring them back at the mentioned weekend, please bring them to the RRC's office.

## 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Celebration and March for Life



At the 'St. Augustine Cathedral' in Tucson

**Saturday, January 20, 9:00 AM**



How does it work?

Mass with Bishop E. Weisenburger at 9:00 AM

March for Life begins at the Cathedral at 10:00 AM Walk of 4.2 miles to the Holy Hope cemetery.

12:00 AM: Rose Ceremony for deceased children.



# Forgiveness

and the Power to Heal

Forgiveness sets us free from betrayal, anger and resentment. Forgiveness is the way of Jesus. It allows us to take back our personal power from those who have hurt us and it provides us with inner-peace.

Jesus Christ redeemed us through His great love and forgiveness. Forgiveness is central to His Great Commandment of Love: Love your God, love your neighbor, love yourself— even your enemy— as “I have loved you.” Yet, many of us reject this teaching. We refuse to forgive those who have abused and hurt us and we even refuse to forgive ourselves for our own mistakes.

When we are trapped inside unforgiving hearts, we are out of right-relationship with God, ourselves and others. And clearly, we can't expect God or others to forgive us for our failings if we remain unwilling to forgive.

Redemption begins in our hearts. It requires love, forgiveness and reconciliation. If you are suffering from an unforgiving heart, this retreat is for you. It will help you set your heart free from the pain of the past.



*Redemptorist  
Renewal Center*

7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85743

**January 27, 2024**

call 744-3400 to register



**9:00 AM– 3:00 PM**

\$55 per person, includes lunch and handouts

*Fr. Charlie Wehrley, C.S.S.R.* **Retreat Director**



*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	Stan Wood
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 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**

#### **New Years Eve**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Victims of Coronavirus-Recovery and  
Wellness

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus  
\*\*Bill Abatecola (d)

### **Monday, January 1**

#### **Happy New Year**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*David Fergie (d)

### **Tuesday, January 2**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Sister Pat O'Brien (d)

### **Wednesday, January 3**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Edward A. Thom (d)

### **Thursday, January 4**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Louise M. Thom (d)

### **Friday, January 5**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Tom Fransiscus  
\*\*Elena Abatecola (d) 4th Anniversary

### **Saturday, January 6**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Gene & Marie Kraay

### **Sunday, January 7**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus  
\*\*Dorie Zimmerman (d)  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*Nina Islas (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](mailto: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](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.

### **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](mailto: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

Christmas Weekend Collection \$ 10,414.00

**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 Daughty  
Daniel Devere  
Past & Present Murrieta Families  
Schaefer & Gates Families  
Reilly & Riley Families  
Harold & Clarise Stolz  
Josephine & Lawrence McIntosh  
Klein & Vanderlinde Families  
Israel  
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  
Rosie Kubiak  
Kathy Albom  
Gwen Niemi  
Phyllis Spence, OSB  
Marcia Streichert  
Marcia Box  
Joan Crose & Michael Crose  
Cleo Moore

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  
Jesus, Alexis, Cruz & Camilo Murrieta  
Schaefer & Gates Families  
Our Youth's Lifelong Devotion to Christ  
Walter & Helen Ingalls  
Taraba Family





# THE BOOKSTORE IS OPEN AFTER EACH WEEKEND MASS

## January 2024

### Book Store Hours

Bookstore open after all weekend Masses.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR ~ Blessings All Year Thru**

Closed Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>

Friday, January 5 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday – Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> / 7 <sup>th</sup>	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am
Monday, January 8 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Tuesday, January 9 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thursday, January 11 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Friday, January 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday – Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> / 14 <sup>th</sup>	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am
Monday, January 15 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Tuesday, January 16 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thursday, January 18 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Friday, January 19 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday – Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> / 21 <sup>st</sup>	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am
Monday, January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Tuesday, January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thursday, January 25 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Friday, January 26 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday – Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> /28 <sup>th</sup>	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am
Monday, January 29 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Tuesday, January 30 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 2:00 pm



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



Our Mother of  
*Perpetual Help*

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,

***How much should we support our adult children? We have a niece and a daughter who are both healthy, capable, and in their twenties. We have set boundaries and continue to give to them but they just can't seem to get their act together. Would it be unchristian to cut them off?***

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes in detail the duties of family members toward each other (CCC 2214–33). Parents are responsible to ensure that their children grow up in faith and to meet their basic needs. Children should show respect toward their parents and, as they grow older, assist them as needed. As children become adults, they should take on responsibility for themselves and parents are not to pressure them into choices of a profession or a spouse, while at the same time, “giving their children judicious advice...” (CCC 2230). At some point, children need to become responsible adults, which brings us to your point.

You seem to have done what is required as parents. At the same time, you would not want to abandon young adults if physical, mental, or emotional factors prevent them from assuming the responsibility of adulthood. If they are healthy, capable young people they should be able to progress in life without your financial assistance. To help them toward this goal, you may want to set very specific limits, perhaps with the help of a counselor, and then consistently follow those limits. ●



SHUTTERSTOCK

**Fr. John K. Schmidt, CSSR / DearPadre.org**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
January 1 <i>Mary, Holy Mother of God</i> Nm 6:22–27 Gal 4:4–7 Lk 2:16–21	January 2 <i>Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church</i> 1 Jn 2:22–28 Jn 1:19–28	January 3 <i>Christmas Weekday</i> 1 Jn 2:29–3:6 Jn 1:29–34	January 4 <i>St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious</i> 1 Jn 3:7–10 Jn 1:35–42	January 5 <i>St. John Neumann, Bishop</i> 1 Jn 3:11–21 Jn 1:43–51	January 6 <i>Christmas Weekday</i> 1 Jn 5:5–13 Mk 1:7–11 or Lk 3:23–38 or 3:23, 31–34, 36, 38	January 7 <i>Epiphany of the Lord</i> Is 60:1–6 Eph 3:2–3a, 5–6 Mt 2:1–12

**Daybreaks inspires during our Church's holiest seasons.**

Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections & prayers for Advent and Lent. Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org).



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***In imitation of the Holy Family, we are called to rediscover the educational value of the family unit: it requires being founded on the love that always regenerates relationships.... [I]f you quarrel within the family, do not end the day without making peace.... And do you know why? Because a cold war, day after day, is extremely dangerous.***

**ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 27, 2020**

HOLY FAMILY WITH SAINTS ANNE AND JOHN THE BAPTIST (DETAIL), ANDREA MANTEGNA / WIKIMEDIA COMMONS