

# 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>

## Weekend of February 24-25 Second Sunday of Lent

### **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



February 25th Rom 8:31b-34

Paul writes today of Jesus's death. He points out that God loved us so much, that he was willing to have his Son die for the forgiveness of our sins. This fact shows Paul that "God is for us!" He points out that we need never fear. If God gave us the greatest gift He could give us (His Son) then how could he not give us all gifts that we need but which are less than the value of His Son? Finally, Paul closes this passage by stating that even now, Jesus is busy interceding for us. He intercedes that we might repent and return to God.

February 26th Dn 9:4b-10

Daniel declares in today's reading that God is always faithful in offering a covenant to his people. Even though we have sinned, the covenant is still offered. Compassion and forgiveness are always God's response to sin. If we turn from sin and become faithful to the commands of God, we will find forgiveness and peace. It is never God's will to punish, but to offer forgiveness. We just need to accept the forgiveness that is offered.

February 27th Is 1:10, 16-20

Isaiah prophesies that God is a God of mercy. God says through Isaiah, "Come now, let us set things right." He promises that if we turn our backs to sin and begin to do good, we will be forgiven. Faithfulness to God's way will bring about blessings. However, refusal to obey the way of the Lord will lead to judgement. The choice is ours!

February 28th Jer 18:18-20

Jeremiah cries out to the Lord today. He is being persecuted for speaking out against Israel. However, Jeremiah always insists that his job has been to intercede for the people with God. How can they be angry about this? In turning to God, Jeremiah presumably finds peace. The same is true for us. If we turn toward God and away from our sins, we will find peace.

February 29th Jer 17:5-10

Jeremiah speaks in God's name today. He points out that trust in God is what leads to happiness and fulfillment. After all, God knows the human mind and heart since he created them. If we do what God calls us to do, we will find happiness and blessings. Following the ways of human thought will lead to darkness and despair. Our reward or punishment will be according to how we choose.

March 1st Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Today we have the story of Joseph and his brothers. Joseph is loved by his father Jacob more than the rest of his children. They become envious of their father's love for Joseph. They allow this envy to sink deeper into their hearts. They decide the only way to deal with Joseph's favored-son existence is to get rid of him. This story shows us what dangers can await us if we allow jealousy, anger, and other evil attitudes to remain in our hearts. They will lead to extremely evil actions! Lent is about purifying our hearts by asking God's grace to be with us. Then, we will not need to fear evil actions sprouting up in our lives.



# Our Lady of the Desert



March 2nd Mi 7:14-15, 18-20

Micah calls upon God as the shepherd of the people. He remembers how God shepherded the Israelites coming out of Egypt. He asks that God now again show care and mercy for his people even though they have strayed into sin. Micah is confident that God's mercy and love are always stronger than His desire to punish. In that love, Micah bids God to cast our sins into the sea and treat us with compassion. Asking for such mercy is really the whole reason for Lent.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.



Redemptorist  
Renewal Center  
ANNUAL EASTER  
CELEBRATION

March 31st  
Immediately following Mass  
Tickets \$40.00

Available in the Office

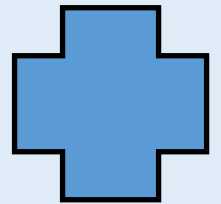
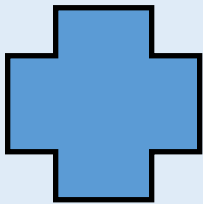
## Church Mission

This Lent Our Lady of the Desert will be offering a very special set of services. Fr Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R. will be leading us in a mission from March 3-5 at 3:30 in the afternoon each day. A mission is an opportunity for us all to renew our Catholic faith. The mission services consist of a proclamation of the word of God, preaching and reflection, singing, and praying together. It will be a grace-filled happening, an opportunity to experience in a special way the wonderful and incredible presence and love of God.

## Stations on the Cross

Will be held in the

Our Lady of the Desert Church  
at 11:00 a.m. every Friday of Lent





*By Your holy cross,  
You have redeemed  
the world.*



**Bring your family to the Good Friday  
Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion**

**Date: March 29, 2024**

**Time: 3:00 p.m.**

**Our Lady of the Desert Church**

**7101 W Picture Rocks Rd, Tucson, AZ 85743**

**Good Friday**

**Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**



**Faith in Action**

10638 3/22

**Family**





## RCIA News

Last Sunday, the members of our RCIA team were present at a special Liturgy in the Cathedral. We met with Bishop Weisenburger and Catechumen and Candidates for Full Communion from around the Diocese to celebrate the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion. This event was the ceremony wherein Bishop Weisenburger officially declared that these catechumen and Candidate should receive the Sacraments of Initiation at this year's Easter Vigil. *Pictured above: (left to right), Jason Della Penna (Candidate), Emma Rens, (candidate), Cindy Horner (Sponsor), Carolyn Lozano (Candidate), Bishop Weisenburger, Janet Bogushefsky (Sponsor), Fr Brian, Miki Abatecola, Sue Taraba (Godmother), and Doyle Taraba (Catechumen).* Please remember Doyle, Carolyn, Jason and Emma in your prayers as they complete their time of preparation!



## Visit of the charity 'Casa Maria' (Soup Kitchen)

KofC Members and Spouse recently visited Casa Maria Soup Kitchen Facility in South Tucson. We participated in filling recycled bread and grocery bags with lunch items consisting of a water bottle, fruit, energy bar, chips, sweets, and a couple of sandwiches.

We were there for only a couple of hours, but their volunteers do this every day of the year except two. They serve soup and give out up to 300 lunch bags a day. They also provide clothing, low-income shelter, and a Medical Clinic is on site as well. *Bob Garcia*



## Baby-Bottle-Drive 2024



A BIG thank you to all to 'Our Lady of the Desert' parishioners who once again supported our charitable works. Your Knights of Columbus Council 15704 recently presented checks to Reachout Women's Center for over \$3,200.00! Your support helps expectant mothers and infants in the Tucson area.

**Thanks again!**





# First Friday Adoration

## Come let us adore Him!

**MARCH 1, 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.**

# Lent

As you all know, we are now a few days into the Season of Lent. Lent is a time for us to take a hard look at our lives and see the areas where maybe our Christian beliefs don't shine forth in our life. It is a wonderful chance for us to start again. All are encouraged to pick a weak spot in our faith-life and work on making it stronger. We do this through a method that the Church encourages us to enter into, namely **fasting** (giving up something to remind ourselves that life is not about fulfilling our own wants), **prayer** (which reminds us that there is One Who is greater than ourselves and who is in charge), and **almsgiving** (sharing of our time treasure and talents with those around us as a way of reminding ourselves that we are called to serve, not be served). Using these disciplines well can help us grow as Christians.

We are also encouraged to make use of the sacrament of Penance during this season. To help with this, the parishes of our Vicariate will be holding Penance Services at the following times:

St Thomas the Apostle: March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 P.M.

St Elizabeth Ann Seton: March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.

St Odilia's: March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M.

St Mark's: March 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 P.M.

Santa Catalina: March 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M.

St Christopher's: March 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.

Our Lady of the Desert: March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 A.M.

## **Additional Lenten Regulations**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

**Christ Child Society of Tucson invites you to a free ½ day retreat at the Redemptorist Renewal Center**

**Address: 7101 W Picture Rocks Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85743**

**Phone: (520) 744-3400**

**Retreat Leader: Fr. Paul Coury C.Ss.R.**

**Date: Monday, March 11, 2024**

**Start time: 9:00 AM**

**(it will be over at noon and a lunch will be available for \$25.)**







*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 February 2024**

Miguel Quijada  
Tim McDonald  
Chuck Peterson  
Linda Peterson  
Michael Dunlap  
Joan Forgue  
June Wood  
Rachel Flint  
Bob Garcia  
Fr. Jeff King-Healing  
David Donofrio

Ann Marie Treinen  
Jerry Linton  
Aubrey Scarborough  
Joanna Crawford  
Lee Morrison  
Stan Wood  
Terry Bahill  
Emily Hernandez  
Larry Cobble  
Kurt Cummings

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

**DECEASED MEMBERS**  
*Last 12 Months*

**(Month/Year)**

Fr. Rich Boever C.Ss.R. (1/24)  
Carol Boerner (9/23)  
Bernie Burba (11/23)  
Peter Castillo (2/24)  
Art Davenport (4/23)  
Fr. Ricardo Elford, C.Ss.R. (9/23)  
Joe Fernando (2/24)  
Theresa Fitzpatrick (10/23)  
Dave Forgue (10/23)  
Nellie Hernandez (3/23)  
Tony Iavagnilio (1/24)  
Joan Jones (11/23)  
Mary Johnson (1/24)  
Pierrette (Petra) Juteau (11/23)  
Edward Kenyon (1/24)  
Harriet Lewandowski (5/23)  
Scott Milligan (11/23)  
Linda Obenauf (11/23)  
Virgil Roeder (5/23)  
Dan Sullivan (11/23)  
Phyllis Spence, OSB (11/23)  
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, February 23**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**\*\*Haydee De Jesus (d)**

### **Saturday, February 24**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Tom Donaldson

**\*\*Barbara & Winfield Baker (d)**

### **Sunday, February 25**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

**\*\*Jim Burba (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

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

### **Monday, February 26**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Tom Donaldson

**\*\*Mary Johnson (d)**

### **Tuesday, February 27**

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

**\*\*Everette Leon DeRousse (d)**

### **Wednesday, February 28**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\*Ramon Domke C.Ss.R.**

### **Thursday, February 29**

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

**\*\*Thelma Walter (d)**

### **Friday, March 1**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Jim Shea

**\*\*Ronnie Holosz (d)**

### **Saturday, March 2**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed– Fr. Tom Donaldson

**\*\*Joan Jones (d)**

### **Sunday, March 3**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**\*\*Joe Taraba (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\*Mary Johnson (d)**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Stations on the Cross**

**Will be held in the Our Lady of the Desert Church Fridays of Lent at 11:00 a.m.**

### **Upcoming-Grief Share Support Group**

Grief share is a friendly group of caring people, who share the experience of the loss of a loved one. Program every Sundays starting **April 7-June 23** from 2:00pm-4:00pm. In the front office conference room. 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 Church. Please come join us.

### **Monthly Rosary Prayer**

Please come and join us on the second Wednesday of every month. In the Our Lady of the Desert Church starting at 9:00 a.m.

### **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.



# 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 Velma Whittingham  
In Memory of  
Barbara & Winfield Baker**

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

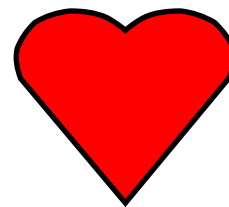
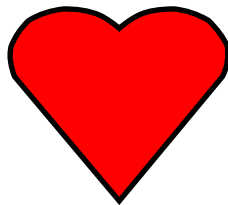
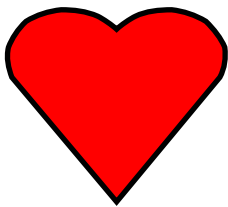
Weekend Collection February 12-19, 2024      \$ 4,087.00

**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/>

# Bookstore Hours



Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

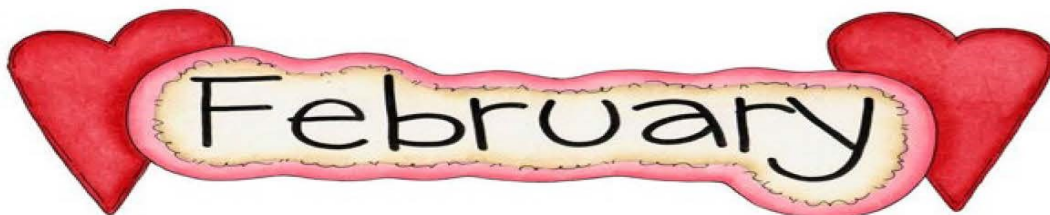
10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Saturday – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>

after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am

Monday, February 29<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,

***What are the guidelines for producing a passion play?  
My pastor said there are special guidelines to follow.  
What are they?***

Please read “Criteria for the Evaluation of Dramatizations of the Passion,” issued in 1988 by the Bishops’ Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of what was then called the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. (The document is located at [uscbb.org](http://uscbb.org).)

Passion plays should emphasize the saving action of Christ’s death and resurrection without becoming stumbling blocks to understanding the role of the Jewish people in salvation history. The document warns that “‘stock ideas,’ unfortunately, can become vividly alive in passion dramatizations. It is all too easy...to resort to artificial oppositions...to heighten interest or provide sharp contrasts between the characters.” We must avoid portraying the Jewish tradition as “a religion of only justice, fear, and legalism with no appeal to the love of God and neighbor.”

It is simplistic and incorrect to blame Christ’s death on certain historical groups and neglect the complexities of the Gospel portrait and of Christ’s life. Christ freely undertook his passion and death because of the sins of all, so that all might attain salvation. This is the truth that passion plays should strive to communicate most clearly. ●

**Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)**



GORA KAIWARIA, POLAND / STANISLAW TOKARSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

| MONDAY         | TUESDAY        | WEDNESDAY      | THURSDAY       | FRIDAY                     | SATURDAY          | SUNDAY                           |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| February 26    | February 27    | February 28    | February 29    | March 1                    | March 2           | March 3                          |
| Lenten Weekday | Lenten Weekday | Lenten Weekday | Lenten Weekday | Lenten Weekday             | Lenten Weekday    | Third Sunday of Lent             |
| Dn 9:4b–10     | Is 1:10, 16–20 | Jer 18:18–20   | Jer 17:5–10    | Gn 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a | Mi 7:14–15, 18–20 | Ex 20:1–17 or 20:1–3, 7–8, 12–17 |
| Lk 6:36–38     | Mt 23:1–12     | Mt 20:17–28    | Lk 16:19–31    | Mt 21:33–43, 45–46         | Lk 15:1–3, 11–32  | 1 Cor 1:22–25<br>Jn 2:13–25      |



THOOM / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***Our Father said this to these Apostles, and says it to us as well: “Listen to Jesus!” The Pope is not saying this, God the Father says it to everyone: to me, to you, to everyone, all people! It is like an aid for going forward on the path of Lent. “Listen to Jesus!” Don’t forget.***

**ANGELUS, MARCH 16, 2014**