

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 March 16-17

Fifth 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



March 17th Heb 5:7-9

Our reading from The Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that Jesus was one of us, that is, fully human. As such he experienced suffering in his life just like we do. The author tells us that by accepting the Father's will, even when that meant suffering, Jesus was perfected in obedience. It was because of his obedience that we have been saved. We too, are now called to trust God, and to obey him, even when it might be difficult to do so.

March 18th Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62

In today's reading, we have the story of Susannah. She is in her garden one day when two old men surprise her and try to get her to lie with them. Susannah, being a faithful wife and Jew, refuses. The men then accuse her of being intimate with a young man. Through out this whole ordeal, Susannah remains confident, trusting in God's power to save her from these men. Because of her faith, God reaches out through Daniel to save her. As we continue through these days of Lent, the church reminds us that we cannot save ourselves any more than Susannah could. It is only through faith in Jesus that we can be saved!

March 19th 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16

In today's reading, God promises David that when he dies, his son shall take his throne. David's throne will last forever. Of course, David's throne sat empty from after the exile all the way up to the time of Jesus. We see Jesus as the promised son of David who will sit on his throne forever. God always keeps his promises. As we celebrate this time of Lent, we remember that he will also keep the promise of salvation that he offered to those who followed him faithfully.

March 20th Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95

We read the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego today. These three Jewish men refused to do what God had forbidden. Instead, they gave up their very lives in death. However, God saw their faithfulness and brings them to everlasting life with him. The pagan king who sought to make them give up their faith now praises them for their faithfulness. Once again, God has saved his faithful.

March 21st Gn 17:3-9

God promises Abram that he will be the father of a host of nations. To symbolize this, his name is changed to Abraham. God states that Abraham and his descendants must always keep his covenant. We too are called to keep God's covenant, to live as his children. When we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, we too took on a new name to symbolize that we are called to a new life of grace as God's children.

March 22nd Jer 20:10-13

Jeremiah sees many enemies who seek to attack him and do him harm. Yet, he trusts that God will protect him. As we celebrate Lent, we see that many attacks on us in life come not from an external source, but from within our very selves. We are reminded that if we give ourselves to God in faith, he will give us the strength needed to triumph over all our temptations. We have nothing to fear!



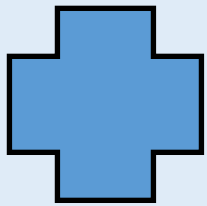
Our Lady of the Desert



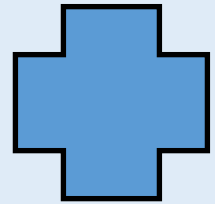
March 23rd Ez 37:21-28

Ezekiel writes today to a people who are in exile. He promises that they will return to Israel and again be God's people. Whereas before the exile they had been two nations under two different kings because of the unfaithfulness, now they would again be under the reign of David, the faithful one of God. We too know that we have been unfaithful to God. Yet, we are promised life in the kingdom of his Son Jesus (son of David). We simply need to repent from our sin and pride and return to the following of God's ways.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.



Stations on the Cross
will be held every Friday of Lent in the
Our Lady of the Desert Church
at 11:00 a.m.





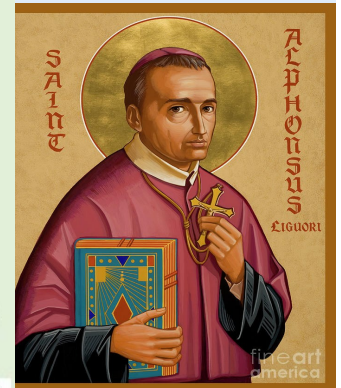
March 2024

Book Store Hours

Bookstore open after all weekend Masses.

Saturday – Sunday 16 th /17 th	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am
Tuesday, March 19 th	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Thursday, March 21 st	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday – Sunday 23 rd /24 th	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am
Friday, March 29 th	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Saturday – Sunday March 30 th /31 st	after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am

**March**



The Bible Study on Paul's Letter to the Galatians continues this Tuesday, March 19th at 10:00 **A.M.** in the Petroglyph Room, which is across from the Church.



Our Lady of the Desert Catholic Church Family and Friends
You are Invited to

St. Kateri Tekakwitha
Women's ACTS Retreat
May 16-19, 2024
Angela Schneider ~ Director



ACTS is a four-day, three-night Catholic Retreat, led for men or women by parishioners, serving to build a stronger Christian community in your parish. ACTS stands for Adoration, Theology, Community and Service.

ACTS helps reignite our faith by meeting us where we are in our spiritual journey. The retreat provides an opportunity for a personal, as well as communal encounter with God, and promotes Christ centered discipleship.

The retreat will be held May 16-19, 2024, at Redemptorist Renewal Center. We can only take a limited number of retreatants. If you are interested in attending this retreat or know someone who is, please contact Angela Schneider 520-400-4447, Veronica Ortiz 520-248-0189 or Eva Dorame 520-808-0326 to register for this retreat.

God Bless you all and your families.

SAVE THE DATE

Walking with
Moms in Need

Mother's Ministry Fair

March 21, 2024
4-6pm

Cathedral Pastoral Center
192 S. Stone Ave
2nd Floor

Contact: Ana Sanguinetti, MD
asanguinetti@diocesetucson.org
(520) 481-8624

Are you or someone you know pregnant or parenting young children? Are you looking for information, help, or support during a difficult time? We have many resources in Tucson through organizations eager to help you with material assistance, mentoring, pre-natal classes, post-abortion healing, and more. Come to the Mother's Ministry Fair at St. Augustine Cathedral Pastoral Center on Thursday, March 21 from 4-6:00pm and meet the people who run these agencies. We hope to see you there!



Redemptorist
Renewal Center
ANNUAL EASTER
CELEBRATION

March 31st
Immediately following Mass
Tickets \$40.00

Available in the Office

Tickets are non-refundable.

*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

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:

Santa Catalina: March 20th at 5:00 P.M.

St Christopher's: March 20th at 6:00 P.M.

Our Lady of the Desert: March 23rd 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.



Be Yourself!

**PUSH PAST YOUR COMFORT
ZONE BY LOVING YOURSELF!**

Everyone wants to attract the right people into their lives, but few of us want to be vulnerable. And it requires being vulnerable enough to be your **REAL** self in order to attract the right, authentic people that we want to be in relationships with.

When we are afraid to be ourselves we are forced to pretend we are someone we are not. And if our great fear is that we don't measure up to other people we admire, we will attract all of the wrong people, while pushing away the right ones.

God has a plan for you and your relationships. If you want authentic, healthy relationships, you have to be authentic. Now's your chance. to be that authentic person.

MARCH 23, 2024

Fr. Charlie Wehrley, Retreat Director

**Redemptorist Renewal Center
7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd
Tucson, AZ 85743**

9:00 am- 3:00 PM

**\$55 includes lunch and handouts
call 520-744-3400 for reservations**



United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3000
WEBSITE: WWW.USCCB.ORG

Nationwide Invitation to Prayer Announcement

Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio
President, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
Bishop Michael F. Burbidge
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

On March 26, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in a case that has the potential to make a major impact in the widespread accessibility of chemical abortion (abortion pills). Chemical abortions are now the most common form of abortion in the United States.

The case is in response to the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) promoting the availability of chemical abortion while ignoring risks to women and violating federal law. In short, the FDA has enabled a nationwide mail-order abortion industry and turned neighborhood pharmacies into chemical abortion providers.

While the Supreme Court case is not about ending chemical abortion, it can restore limitations that the FDA has overridden. When a Supreme Court decision is released, probably in June, we can expect a public and political reaction similar to the *Dobbs* decision that overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

The USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities is inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer for the end of abortion and the protection of women and preborn children, beginning on March 25, the eve of the oral arguments, and the anniversary of St. John Paul II's landmark, pro-life encyclical, *The Gospel of Life* (*Evangelium vitae*). In particular, we will invoke the intercession of *St. Joseph, Defender of Life* with this prayer ([en español](#)):

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

We ask Catholics to offer this prayer daily, from March 25 through June, when a decision is expected. Online and print versions of the prayer can be found at www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph.

Thank you for responding to this invitation to prayer for an end to all abortions and for the protection of women and preborn children. St. Joseph, Defender of Life, pray for us!



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 March 2024

Lydia Miranda	Ann Marie Treinen
Miguel Quijada	Jerry Linton
Tim McDonald	Aubrey Scarborough
Chuck Peterson	Joanna Crawford
Linda Peterson	Lee Morrison
Michael Dunlap	Stan Wood
Joan Forgue	Terry Bahill
June Wood	Emily Hernandez
Rachel Flint	Larry Cobble
Bob Garcia	Kurt Cummings
Fr. Jeff King-Healing	Elaine Tolentino
David Donofrio	

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."

****Mass Intentions/Presiders**

Friday, March 15

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

****Jim & Mary Orr (d)**

Saturday, March 16

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Jim Shea

****Gene Sierra Celebrate of Life**

Sunday, March 17

Happy St. Patrick's Day

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus

****Bob & Edie Rohr (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

****Giuseppe & Irma Genetin (d)**

Monday, March 18

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

****Ben & Madelyn Maestranzi (d)**

Tuesday, March 19

St. Joseph's Day

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

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

Wednesday, March 20

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

****Everette DeRousse (d)**

Thursday, March 21

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

****Bob & Angie Breister**

Friday, March 22

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

****Celia & Herbert Gottschalk (d)**

Saturday, March 23

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

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

Sunday, March 24

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Jim Shea

****Mary Johnson (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus

****Pierrette (Petra) Juteau (d)**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Stations on the Cross

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

Upcoming-Grief Share Support Group

A new series of GriefShare will be offered beginning April 7th from 2-4 in the conference room.

Please register at the front desk 520.744.3400 if you are interested. the workbooks are \$20.00.

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.

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, 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 for
The Milligan and Flint
Families**

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

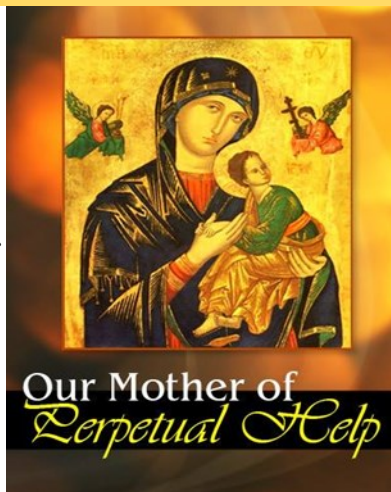
Weekend Collection March 4-11, 2024 \$ 6,256.00

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/>

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,

What is the difference between temptation and sin?

The temptations of Jesus, as they are recorded in the Gospels (Mark 1:12, Luke 4:1, and Matthew 4:1), give us the proper direction with regard to sin and temptation. Jesus was tempted three times, but he did not sin. More than that, Jesus put his trust in God during the temptations. Jesus' message is clear: if you feel tempted, call out to God!

The Church teaches that sin is a deliberative process. Temptation is something that happens to you without your consent: a thought or desire pops into your mind. For temptation to become a sin, you have to entertain that thought or desire, or plan to act on it, or do it. That's when temptation "turns a corner" and becomes sin.

Although the sacrament of penance is available throughout the year, the Church places a special emphasis on it during Lent. There may be a communal penance service in your area. Perhaps you can commit now to participating in the service. If it's been a while since you've been to confession or you're not sure what to do or say, just tell the priest. He will show you. ●



ANNA NASS / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 18 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62 Jn 8:1-11	March 19 <i>St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a	March 20 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 Jn 8:31-42	March 21 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Gn 17:3-9 Jn 8:51-59	March 22 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Jer 20:10-13 Jn 10:31-42	March 23 <i>Lenten Weekday</i> Ez 37:21-28 Jn 11:45-56	March 24 <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</i> Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 Is 50:4-7 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39

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](https://www.ScrupulousAnonymous.org).



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We are called to take on the paschal law of losing life in order to receive it renewed and eternal. And what does losing life mean?... It means to think less about oneself, about personal interests and to know how to "see" and to meet the needs of our neighbors, especially the least of them.

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 18, 2018