

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 23-24

Palm Sunday of the Lords Passion

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 24th Phil 2:6-11

Paul writes about the humility of Jesus. Although he was the Son of God, Jesus did not cling to that glory. Rather he humbled himself to become a human being. He went even further, so as to be willing to die for the forgiveness of sins. Because of his humility and love, God glorified Jesus and exalted his name. God will repay us for our humility as well!

March 25th Is 42:1-7

Today we meet the mysterious Servant of the Lord from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. He is presented as a gentle person. He does not come in anger. He will not extinguish the smoldering flame of faith in the hearts of God's little ones by threats or meanness. Rather, he comes to open the eyes of the blind, and to clasp the hand of the weak to help them along. This humble and gentle savior is interpreted by the Church as a reference to Jesus.

March 26th Is 49:1-6

We have another of the famous Songs of the Servant today. We see the servant today as one who comes in the power and authority of God. Yet, when looking at his life, we are tempted to see his efforts to bring people back to God as a failure, since he was rejected by the religious leaders. Yet, God takes the servant and lifts him up so that he becomes a light to the nations. Jesus again fulfills this prophecy. His life seemingly ended in defeat, but in the resurrection, God revealed his life as a success.

March 27th Is 50:4-9a

Again, we meet the strange suffering servant. He is presented today as one who has confidence in the Word of God. He gives himself totally over to that word, even when it brings suffering. Because of his faithfulness, God rescues him and lifts him up. Again, we are encouraged to see this prophecy fulfilled in the passion and resurrection of Jesus.

March 28th 1 Cor 11:23-26

Today is Holy Thursday. Our second reading is centered on the Eucharist. Paul retells the story of Jesus' words of institution at the last supper. Jesus' blood will establish a new covenant, and new family bonding, if you will, between us and God. The effects of our sins will be gone. Every time we celebrate the Eucharist, we proclaim the death of Jesus through which we have been saved.

March 29th Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9

Hebrews calls us today to come to Christ who loved us enough to die for us. The author points out that Jesus was the great high priest who entered into the holy of holies to offer his death for our salvation. Because of his love, we have been saved. As we turn to Christ, he will help us to be obedient to the will of the Father.

March 30th Rom 6:3-11

Today we celebrate the Easter Vigil. We will look at the New Testament Epistle. Paul states that through our Baptism, we have died with Christ. Just as Christ was raised from the dead, so too will we be raised up. Death has no hold on us because of our union with Christ. Death is not an ending, but a transition to a new form of life. Because we already share this new life right now because of the Holy Spirit within us, Paul calls upon us to turn our backs on sin. We must be dead to sin and alive for God in Jesus Christ!

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.



Steps of the Passion

Holy Week is upon us! This is a time where it is recommended that we spend some time reflecting on Jesus' love for us which led him to be willing to suffer and die for our salvation. St. Alphonsus recommends praying about several different events of the passion. The following is an adaptation of his meditations on the Steps of the Passion.

Step I: Loving Jesus, in the garden, your fear was so great that your sweat became like drops of blood; even in such agony you raised your voice in prayer. Loving Jesus, enable us to be companions of all who are afraid and suffering.

Step II: Loving Jesus, you were betrayed by the kiss of a friend, abandoned by your disciples, and taken into custody as a criminal. Loving Jesus, console all those who suffer the pains of broken relationships; console them by your presence.

Step III: Loving Jesus. You were dragged into court on false charges and were condemned to death. Loving Jesus, give us the courage to denounce injustice. Make us mindful of those in prison, especially those condemned to die.

Step IV: Loving Jesus, you were stripped of your garments and cruelly beaten. Loving Jesus, make us mindful of those who suffer want because of our indulgence; of those for whom life is cruel and harsh.

Step V: Loving Jesus, you were crowned with thorns, clothed in a purple robe, and mocked and derided by the soldiers. Loving Jesus, forgive us our persistent prejudices, our mocking of the stranger, our heartless words and cold glances.

Step VI: Loving Jesus, the thief Barabbas was preferred to you and you were condemned by Pilate to the horrible death of the cross. Loving Jesus, forgive us the suffering we have caused by our indifference, our failures to act, our closing of our eyes and ears to those who suffer.

Step VII: Loving Jesus, you bore the wood of the cross and were led to your execution like a lamb led to slaughter. Loving Jesus, make us sensitive to those for whom life is a crushing burden and help us to relieve them in their need and lighten their load.

Step VIII: Loving Jesus, you were nailed on the cross between two thieves, and for three hours endured the terrible torments of the cross. Loving Jesus, make your presence felt by those who are ravaged by disease and who know in their own flesh the torments of the cross.

Step IX: Loving Jesus, your side was pierced by the lance and blood and water flowed out. Loving Jesus, from your open side was born the sacramental life of the church. Make us always grateful for the abundance of life that flowed from your suffering and death.

Step X: Loving Jesus, you were taken from the cross and placed into the arms of your mother. Loving Jesus, console all parents who feel themselves powerless before the sufferings of their children.

Step XI: Loving Jesus, marked by your five wounds, you were anointed for death and placed in the tomb. Loving Jesus, risen from the dead, your wounds are glorious, the sign of love's triumph over death.

Closing Prayer:

O my Jesus! I do not wish to live any longer ungrateful for such goodness. O wounds of Jesus! Wound me with love. O blood of Jesus, inebriate me with love! O death of Jesus! Make me die to every affection that is not for Thee! In mercy receive me, do not drive me from Thee, now that I give myself to Thee without reserve.

IT IS TIME FOR THE TRADITIONAL BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKETS!

Next week, on Holy Saturday, March 30th, at 10:00 AM, Fr. Brian will perform the traditional blessing of all the Easter Baskets that are placed at the front of the Altar at the Our Lady of the Desert Chapel.

Święconka, pronounced "shvyeen-son-kah", is the traditional blessing of the food in the Easter Basket. The Food is to be eaten on Easter Morning. It is a tradition near and dear to the heart of every Pole. These foods are what Polish people abstained from during Lent. Every member of the Family on Easter Morning partakes of each blessed food in the basket.

You do not have to be Polish to participate in this wonderful and blessed tradition. Put together an Easter Basket similar to the one shown in this article and bring it Saturday morning. Start your Easter Family tradition! Share with others.

This is the fifth year we at the Our Lady of the Desert participated in this tradition. We keep adding more and more Easter Baskets to the fold! Keep'm comin'!

Happy Easter! *Wesołych Świąt Wielkanocnych!*

Thank You! Dziękuję! (pronounced "Gin-coo-yah")



Redemptorist
Renewal Center
ANNUAL EASTER
CELEBRATION

March 31st
Immediately following Mass
Tickets \$40.00

Available in the Office
Tickets are non-refundable.



March 2024

Book Store Hours

Bookstore open after all weekend Masses.

Saturday – Sunday 16th /17th after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am

Tuesday, March 19th 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Thursday, March 21st 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Saturday – Sunday 23rd /24th after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am

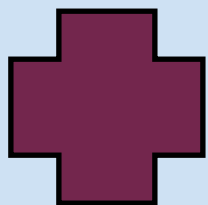
Friday, March 29th 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Saturday – Sunday March 30th /31st after all Masses 4 pm, 7:30 am, 10 am

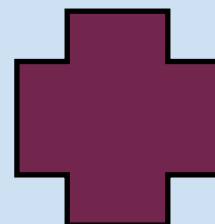


March





Good Friday Stations of the Cross will be held at 12:00 p.m. in the Our Lady of the Desert Church



EASTER FLOWERS

Please support our annual effort to adorn the Church with Easter flowers. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church and in the office.

Names honoring your loved ones will be in the Sunday Bulletin of Easter.



**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.

*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:

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.

Running Away

from God and Happiness



April 6, 2024

9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

\$55 per person

includes lunch and handouts

Fr. Charlie Wehrley, C.Ss.R.
Retreat Director

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

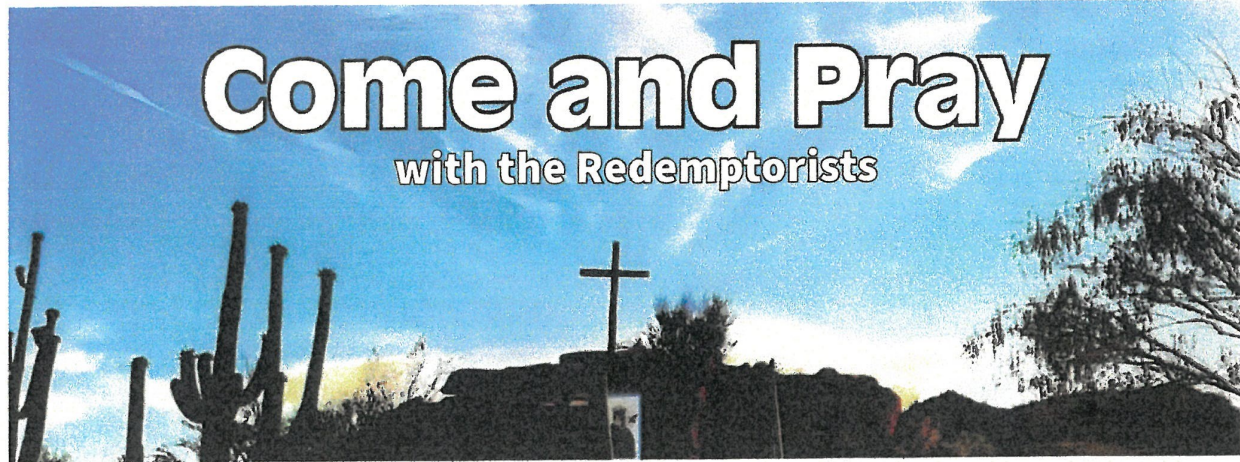
Call 520-744-3400
for reservations

Sometimes we look back over our lives and wonder why we never experienced the love or fulfillment we dreamed about when we were children.

At times, we witnessed everything seemingly falling into place by the grace of God, but then something happened and the dreams never became reality.

What or who got in the way? Is it possible to still move in the direction of fulfilling our life-long dreams?

Yes. It's possible. Once we realize what we've done wrong and partnership with God we can recover our dreams and experience them to the fullest.



Redemptorist Discernment Retreat for Young Men

All single men from 18-40 years old are invited to "Come and Pray" as they learn about the Redemptorist way of life.

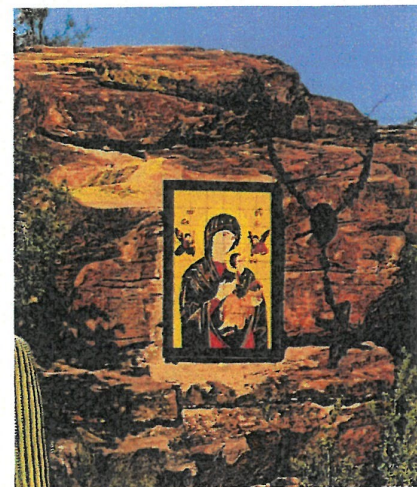
This weekend is for individuals who want to take a deeper, more serious look into religious life. If you are so interested, join us at the Redemptorist Renewal Center in Tucson, Arizona, to explore a vocation to the priesthood or to brotherhood. We will gather for two days of prayer, sharing and discernment.

The Come and Pray weekend will begin Friday evening with dinner and finish Sunday with lunch. We are offering two weekends. You can attend on the weekend of May 24-26 or May 31-June 2.

For more information, contact Redemptorist Vocation Director Fr. Chuong Cao, C.Ss.R. at (228) 223-6413 or (206) 470-9749.

To register for Come and Pray, call 520-744-3400. Or you can send an email to PIM1@Redemptorists-Denver.org or chuongcssr@yahoo.com. Once you contact us, we will send you more information about Come and Pray as well as the form you will need to complete your registration for the gathering. Space is limited.

The cost is \$250 for two days with room and board.



May 24-26 or
May 31-June 2





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

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, 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)

Monday, March 25

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Jim Shea
**Martin Reilly (d)

Tuesday, March 26

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Charlie Wehrley
**Bart & Adolph Maestranzi (d)

Wednesday, March 27

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson
**Filomena & Adolph Tonelli (d)

Thursday, March 28-Holy Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Fr. Charlie Wehrley
**Jane & Kurt Cummings - Healing

Friday, March 29-Good Friday

3:00 p.m. - Fr. Brian Johnson
**Lydia Miranda - Healing

Saturday, March 30-Holy Saturday

7:00 p.m. livestreamed– Fr. Stephen Rehrauer
**Romelia Valencia (d)

Sunday, March 31-Easter

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus
**Lydia Miranda - Healing
10:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly
**Denny Mallory (d)
10:35 a.m. (Petroglyph)- Fr. Charlie Wehrley
**Denny Mallory (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
By Family and Friends
In Loving Memory of
Pierrette (Petra) Juteau**

Weekly Stewardship for Our Lady of the Desert

Weekend Collection March 11-18, 2024

\$ 6,257.00

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



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,

I am the divorced mother of three young children. My daughter is making her first Communion and I want to go to Communion with her. But I haven't been to Mass in three years because of my divorce. I am nervous and embarrassed about returning to the Church. What can I do?



Sharing in your daughter's preparation for holy Communion is a lovely desire and a good chance to look closely at your own faith; it may be the "little push" you need. She needs to see in you someone who has faith and is committed to the Church. Taking your children to Mass each Sunday is a good start.

You mentioned that you haven't been to church in three years because of your divorce. You may be confused about the teachings of the Church concerning divorce. Divorced Catholics are still full members of the Church and can receive holy Communion. If you have remarried outside the Church, it is a more complicated issue, yet not hopeless.

Since you haven't been to Mass in three years, the first step is to talk to your pastor or another priest with whom you feel comfortable. Be honest. Explain why you have stayed away from the Church. Then set up a time to go to confession. And please don't be ashamed or embarrassed about coming back to church. No matter how long it has been, the Church welcomes you home. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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

What is most amazing about the Lord and his Passover? It is the fact that he achieves glory through humiliation. He triumphs by accepting suffering and death, things that we, in our quest for admiration and success, would rather avoid. Jesus—as St. Paul tells us—"emptied himself... he humbled himself" (Philippians 2:7–8).

HOMILY, ROME,
MARCH 28, 2021

MONDAY

March 25
Monday of Holy Week
Is 42:1–7
Jn 12:1–11

TUESDAY

March 26
Tuesday of Holy Week
Is 49:1–6
Jn 13:21–33, 36–38

WEDNESDAY

March 27
Wednesday of Holy Week
Is 50:4–9a
Mt 26:14–25

THURSDAY

March 28
Thursday of Holy Week (Holy Thursday)
Chrim Mass:
Is 61:1–3a, 6a, 8b–9
Rv 1:5–8
Lk 4:16–21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Ex 12:1–8, 11–14
1 Cor 11:23–26
Jn 13:1–15

FRIDAY

March 29
Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)
Is 52:13–53:12
Heb 4:14–16; 5:7–9
Jn 18:1–19:42

SATURDAY

March 30
Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)
Gn 1:1–2:2 or 1:1, 26–31a
Gn 22:1–18 or 22:1–2, 9a, 10–13, 15–18
Ex 14:15–15:1
Is 54:5–14
Is 55:1–11
Bar 3:9–15, 32–4:4
Ez 36:16–17a, 18–28
Rom 6:3–11
Mk 16:1–7

SUNDAY

March 31
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Acts 10:34a, 37–43
Col 3:1–4 or
1 Cor 5:6b–8
Jn 20:1–9 or
Mk 16:1–7

