

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 April 13-14 Third Sunday of Easter

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



April 14th 1 Jn 2:1-5a

John reminds us today that we should be striving to overcome the power of sin in our lives. Yet, if we do fall into sin, John reminds us that Jesus is our advocate with the Father. Through his intercession, and through his death and resurrection, forgiveness is always ours! We simply need to turn to him and persevere in trying to follow his teachings to the best of our ability.

April 15th Acts 6:8-15

Stephen, one of the seven chosen to wait on tables, is the center of today's reading. Stephen has been a dedicated servant of Jesus. He has spoken the teachings of the faith very faithfully. As a result, Stephen is arrested. Just like trumped up charges were filed against Jesus, so are lies used to convict Stephen. Yet, even in the face of this persecution and threat, Stephen's faith in Jesus is intact. Stephen is a witness that if we really have Faith in Jesus, we never have to fear. He will save us. Maybe not in this life, but definitely in the next life!

April 16th Acts 7:51—8:1a

Today we see the ending of the Stephen story. Stephen speaks the truth which upsets the authorities. In punishment, they begin to stone him to death. Stephen sees a vision of the heavens opened and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. Thus, Jesus is present to him even in his moment of suffering and death. Suffering and death will not be the final answer. God's love will prevail in eternal life.

April 17th Acts 8:1b-8

Saul (later to become Paul) saw the murder of Stephen in yesterday's reading. Saul was a faithful Jew, very zealous for his faith. He begins a fierce persecution of Christians in Jerusalem. To avoid his efforts, many Christians leave the area of Jerusalem and go throughout Israel. They spread the message of Jesus with them as they go. Phillip is one of these disciples. He was another of the seven men chosen to wait on tables. His preaching becomes very successful, because he also works great miracles. Through the life of Phillip, Jesus still works in the world. So too he wishes to work through us and through our acts of love.

April 18th Acts 8:26-40

The Spirit continues to guide Phillip. He is sent to the chariot of a man from Ethiopia. Phillip hears him reading a prophesy from Isaiah which was fulfilled in Jesus. After Phillip shares with him about Jesus, the Ethiopian gets baptized. Phillip goes off to preach in other places. The persecution in Jerusalem has now brought about the spread of the Church throughout the whole world. Persecution did not have the last say. God's will for the Salvation of all wins out!

April 19th Acts 9:1-20

Today, Paul is converted to Jesus. He has a vision of Jesus on the road. When the vision identifies himself as Jesus, Paul's world is turned upside down. How could someone who was dead be speaking to him? Through this experience, Paul comes to believe in the resurrection of Jesus and he will become perhaps the greatest preacher of the good news! Paul's ignorance and sin are overcome by the mercy of God and by his Baptism!



April 20th Acts 9:31-42

The persecution of the Church has quieted down. Today we see Peter out spreading the Word. The power of his message begins to bring new disciples into the Church. Peter, like Jesus (since he is filled with the Spirit) is shown to be a miracle worker. Today, he uses the same words that Jesus used when he brought life back to the 12-year-old girl in the Gospel. Once again, we see that through the lives of Christians, the life and power of Jesus continue to work wonders in the world! The world is filled with resurrection and life!

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.


Liguorian Article

The Article that was published in the March-April 2024 Liguorian about the stained glass windows in the back of the church, will be available on our website if you missed it. Also a laminated copy is hanging on the back wall in the church.

Reminder>>>

Soul-Centered

Music as Prayer



Music is the voice of God. This retreat will focus on using music as prayer to quiet our minds and listen for ways in which God speaks to us within the music.

In particular, we will focus on opening ourselves to the Holy Spirit and allowing God to take us to places inside our souls as we experience each musical piece.

Music featured will be by traditional Classical composers-- such as Mozart, Bach and Glazunov-- as well as by modern day film composers-- such as Patrick Doyle and Abel Korzeniowski.

We will also focus on guided meditations, set to music, that will enhance our self-love and self-worth.

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

April 20, 2024
9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

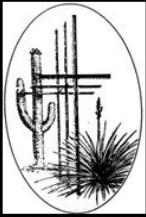
\$55 per person
includes lunch and handouts

Redemptorist Renewal Center
7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85743
Call 520-744-3400
for reservations

State Raffle Tickets

Council 15704, Knights of Columbus, would like to thank everyone for purchasing the Annual State Raffle Tickets. Tickets will be sold for one more weekend, that is through April 21. All stubs and money should be turned in by that date. The drawing is held on Saturday, May 18. Keep in mind, 50% of the ticket sales are returned directly to Our Lady of the Desert Church!

Good luck!



REDEMPTORIST RENEWAL CENTER

7101 W PICTURE ROCKS RD., TUCSON, AZ 85743

www.desertrenewal.org

Contemplative Intensive Retreat with Fr. Stephen Rehrauer, CSSR

April 26-28, 2024

Jesus taught that the Kingdom of God is within and among us. This Good News lives first and foremost at the very center of our being. To truly follow Christ from the depths of our lives we must seek “within” through quiet prayerful meditation and listen to his Spirit speaking there. Following Jesus Christ is not only a matter of doing; it is a way of being.

The intensive retreat is an opportunity for those new to contemplative prayer to begin a regular practice of Christian meditation. For those already practicing contemplative prayer, it affords an opportunity to deepen their practice and renew their commitment to this powerful prayer form. The retreat includes instruction and intensive practice of the form of meditation known as ‘Christian mindfulness’, or ‘Centering Prayer.’ We will learn the importance of body posture in prayer, of emptying the mind of thoughts and distractions, and other concentration techniques to attain a state of openness to the voice of God’s Spirit speaking to our spirits and teaching us to pray. In clearing the ground of our lives through Christian contemplation, the seed of God’s Kingdom sown there can flourish and produce a hundred-fold.



For more information or to make reservation, call 520.744-3400 or write

office@desertrenewal.org

Check in is at 3:00 pm ~ cost of retreat is \$325



Seeing God in the Ordinary: Cultivating an attitude of Contemplation

A vibrant spiritual life of deep prayer requires the cultivation of a contemplative attitude. Such an attitude requires that we learn to listen, to be open and observant, recognizing the presence and activity of God everywhere and in even the smallest of ordinary experiences. As we learn to allow God's word and presence to affect our interior reactions to even the most mundane of daily events we gain a sense of wonder, an ability to experience life as both mystery and gift, and always as a moment of Divine grace.

*Presented by Fr. Stephen T. Rehrauer, C.Ss.R.
Redemptorist Renewal Center
7101 W Picture Rocks Rd
Tucson, AZ 85743*

Saturday May 4, 2024

9:30 am – 1 pm (lunch included) \$45

Call 520.744.3400 to reserve a spot

If Only...

Making peace with our regrets to heal the past

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

May 11, 2024

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

\$ 55 per person
Includes lunch

Redemptorist Renewal
Center

7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd.
Tucson, AZ

Call
520-744-3400
for reservations.

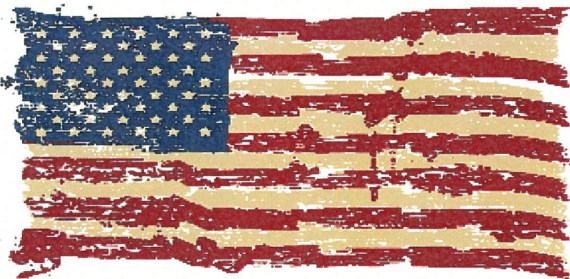
If only I hadn't been blind to love...
If only I hadn't left that job... If only
I'd taken time to pray... If only I'd
known you really needed to talk...
If only I had trusted you... If only I
had trusted myself...

Regrets haunt us from time to time.
They appear as ghosts from the
past and they have the power to
emotionally devastate us for days.

We want to return to the past and
relive it so as to change the
outcome. But we cannot. We feel
trapped and remorseful. And we
don't know how to heal these
wounds.

Before we can release past regrets,
we have to truly face them-- the
sorrow, sense of loss, the guilt and
shame. We need to build a new
relationship with them.

Learn to revision your mistakes and
to take your power back from your
past.



Knights of Columbus
F O U R T H
D E G R E E
Patriotic degree of the Order.

We have been collecting worn and/or torn American Flags in a box sitting in the back of the church. There are enough flags to hold a Flag Retirement Ceremony similar to the one we performed one year ago. So, on Sunday, April 28th, after the 10 AM Mass, the Knights of Columbus, Fourth Degree, Father Anthony Rey Assembly No. 3617, will perform an informative Flag Retirement Ceremony. Chairs will be set up between the Church and Mary's Garden for anyone who wants to watch the Ceremony. The Ceremony will explain the history of the American Flag and the steps of the Retirement Ceremony.

We will begin the Ceremony by lowering a 'ceremonial' American Flag flying on the flagpole in front of the Office. It will be replaced with a new American Flag. Then we will retire the ceremonial flag. The rest of the stockpiled American Flags will be retired in a similar fashion.

Please invite your relatives and friends to watch this Flag Retirement Ceremony. If you have questions contact Sir Knight Ray Obral, 520-403-5003.



APRIL
2024



Bookstore Hours



OPEN: After all weekend Masses

Open: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Mondays

Tuesdays

Thursdays

Fridays

CLOSED on Wednesdays



Please remember in your prayers



OUR SICK

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](tel:520.744.3400)

The Scripture Prayer group that meets on Tuesday evenings prays for those on the sick list.

**Our Sick List
April 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 Fogue | 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 |
| Sally Falzone | Merle Margelofsky |

**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 Fogue (10/23)
- 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, April 12

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

**Edward Eimes (d)

Saturday, April 13

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

**Patricia Obernauf (d)

Sunday, April 14

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

**Linda Malone (d)

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**Nellie Hernandez (d)

Monday, April 15

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**Jim & Mary Orr (d)

Tuesday, April 16

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

**Claire Eimes

Wednesday, April 17

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

**Kathy Nunnink (d)

Thursday, April 18

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

**Joe Fernando (d)

Friday, April 19

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

**Thelma Gallagher (d)

Saturday, April 20

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

**Everette De Rouse (d)

Sunday, April 21

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**Special Intentions Healing for Spiritual,
Physical & Emotional

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

**Bob & Angie Breister

UPCOMING EVENTS

Interfaith Community Service Food Bank

Please help our local community by donating today. The bin is located in the veranda near the bookstore. We have collected 122 lbs. of food for the month of December 2023, 131 lbs. of food for the month of January 2024, and 137 lbs. for the month of March 2024.

Thank you for your generosity. ~*Marge Mauzer*

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

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 Flower were donated to honor

**Phil & Rose Treinen
65th Wedding Anniversary**

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY !!

Weekly Stewardship for Our Lady of the Desert

Weekend Collection April 1-8, 2024 \$ 9,132.00

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 Easter Lilies

Honor & Remember the Following Loved Ones

Joan Crose, Michael Crose & Cleo Moore
Annette Thompson
Robert & Janice Francis
Harold & Anne Ramsey
Carroll & Neely Families
Patrick & John Martin
Joan, Jimmy & Danny Jones
Parents of Al & Marie Van Huis
Ed Thelen
Gallagher & Carter Families
Schaefer & Gates Families
John Zimmerman
William Metzger
Rosario & Adolfo Cordova
Gerardo Garcia
Denny Mallory
Pierrette (Petra) Juteau
Jack Lehmkuhl
Dick Herdegen
Popiel & Lewandowski Families
Duffner & Jones Families
Joseph Taraba
Tom Camp
The Families of Chillie & Sam Shummon
Mario Celentano
Carole Wexler
Joe Fernando
Reilly & Riley Families
Catalina Rivera
DeLorise Meeker
Bill Stelma
Bruce Tarpey & all our Family
David Spears
Ryan Hanley

Abatecola Family
Donlon Family
Murray Family
Andrews Family
Murrieta Family
Rice Family

Ostrowski Family
Rapecis Family
Tosoni Family
Silvia Family
Miranda Family
David Donofrio

Anthony & Mary Donofrio
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Handly
Elmer & Virginia Ensrude
Drok & Grace Keller



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 is a “covenant,” and how are marriage and covenant related?

“Covenant” is the word the Church employs to define and describe the sacrament of matrimony. It is clearly based on the idea of “covenant” contained in Scripture. In contrast, society uses the related word “contract,” as in the “marriage contract.” However, these two words do not mean the same thing.

The meaning of “contract” is too limited to contain the full commitment of Christian marriage. When you sign a contract, you are legally bound only to its terms. You need not do more or less than what is stipulated in its wording. Warmth and concern for the well-being of one party for the other are not stipulated in a contract.

A covenant, on the other hand, is different. Although it may contain some aspects of contract, it establishes a personal relationship of closeness, affection, and warmth, and it locks the couple into a mutual commitment to each other’s well-being.

As God freely chose Israel from all the nations possible, so do two people choose each other from all other people. As God declared, “I will take you as my people, and I will be your God” (Exodus 6:7). In the same way, a husband and wife pledge total commitment to each other.

Christian marriage bears the same characteristics of covenant commitment—the personal relationship of caring, loyalty, intimacy, exclusivity, permanency, and, above all, love; hence the use of “covenant” to define Christian marriage. ●



ANDRES SONNE / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 15	April 16	April 17	April 18	April 19	April 20	April 21
<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>
Acts 6:8–15	Acts 7:51–8:1a	Acts 8:1b–8	Acts 8:26–40	Acts 9:1–20	Acts 9:31–42	Acts 4:8–12
Jn 6:22–29	Jn 6:30–35	Jn 6:35–40	Jn 6:44–51	Jn 6:52–59	Jn 6:60–69	1 Jn 3:1–2
						Jn 10:11–18



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Eating, when we do so together, among family or friends, also becomes an expression of love, an expression of communion, of celebration. How often the Gospels present us with Jesus experiencing this convivial dimension! Even as the Risen One, with his disciples. To the point that the Eucharistic Banquet has become the emblematic sign of the Christian community.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 18, 2021

GIOVANNI CARDILLO / SHUTTERSTOCK