

# 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 April 20-21

## Fourth 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 21st 1 Jn 3:1-2

John writes to a people who have known great persecution in their lives. John tells them that such persecution should be expected, because, after all, Jesus himself was found unacceptable to the leaders and therefore persecuted. John bids them, and us, when we feel persecuted for the faith, to hold on in hope. One day it will be all worth it when we see God face to face in his kingdom.

April 22nd Acts 11:1-18

One of the biggest obstacles to the Faith in the early days was the conversion of Gentiles. The Jews always hung their prestige on the fact that they were the chosen people of God. Therefore, they believed that if a Gentile wished to follow Christ, that person should become a Jew first. Peter, however, shares a vision he had received about this idea. He learned through this experience that God accepted the Gentiles as Gentiles! The Jewish people were God's chosen ones not as an exception, but rather they were called first so that they in turn could call unbelievers to join them in the kingdom. They were chosen as instruments of universal salvation!

April 23rd Acts 11:19-26

Today, we see that persecution in Jerusalem has driven many Christians into other parts of Israel and the surrounding area. They share the word about Jesus being the Messiah as they go. The Apostles in Jerusalem hear of this and send Barnabas to see what is happening. His report sends waves of joy over the Apostles. Barnabas then finds Paul, and the two of them work at teaching and forming the new Christian community in Antioch. Once again, we see that God is working through pain and struggle to bring His love more fully into our world.

April 24th Acts 12:24—13:5a

Antioch became a great center of early Christianity. Paul, Barnabas, and several others have labored to found the Christian Faith there. Now, the Holy Spirit tells Paul and Barnabas that they must go out and spread the Faith throughout the wider area. So, the great Missionary career of Paul begins. He will go out to teach and serve the people of many nations.

April 25th 1 Pt 5:5b-14

Peter today begs the Christian Community to be humble. After all, they are to see themselves as servants of one another. Pride, where they think they are better than others, or that others should serve them, is a temptation of the devil that must be avoided. If we stay true to Jesus's word, we will be exalted in heaven.

April 26th Acts 13:26-33

Paul preaches the resurrection of Jesus today in the first of the cities he will visit. He points out that through the rejection of Jesus by the Jewish Leaders, salvation came into the world. It was all part of God's plan. Had Jesus not died, there would be no resurrection at work in the world.

April 27th Acts 13:44-52

Paul and Barnabas have shared the message of the Gospel with the people of the city. The Jewish leaders there oppose them. So, Paul and Barnabas announce that they will now turn to the Gentiles. And so, the great work of calling Gentiles to Christ begins. This makes the Gentiles rejoice, but it pushes the Jewish leaders to persecute the Faith. So, Paul and Barnabas head elsewhere to proclaim the Gospel.



~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.

### **Knights of Columbus Scholarships**

We thank you the parishioners of Our Lady of the Desert Church for shifting \$32,000 last year from the State of Arizona general fund to CTSO to support our children who are in catholic schools. If you are a registered member of Our Lady of the Desert Church and are a parent, grandparent, or another sponsor of a child who attends a catholic school in the Diocese of Tucson, then you may nominate them for one of our scholarships. We are now accepting applications. Forms are available at the back of the Church, at the church office, and from Terry Bahill, at 520 742-5469 or [terry@sie.arizona.edu](mailto:terry@sie.arizona.edu). The deadline for receipt of these applications is May 1, 2024. This scholarship fund is administered by the Knights of Columbus Council 15704 of Our Lady of the Desert Church.





## REDEMPTORIST RENEWAL CENTER

7101 W PICTURE ROCKS RD., TUCSON, AZ 85743

[www.desertrenewal.org](http://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](mailto: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...

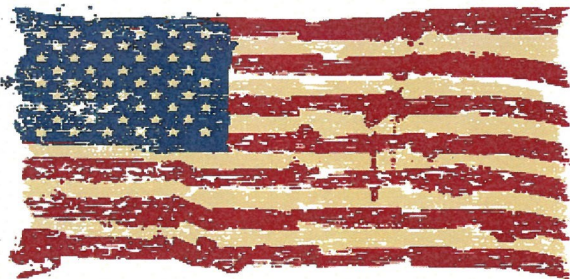
Regrets haunt us from time to time.  
They appear as ghosts from the  
past and they have the power to  
emotionally devastate us for days.

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 28<sup>th</sup>, 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*



### **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](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 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**

### **Monday, April 22**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

**\*\*Gisela Aguilar (d)**

### **Tuesday, April 23**

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

**\*\*Joe Fernando (d)**

### **Wednesday, April 24**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\*Administrative Professional Day**

### **Thursday, April 25**

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

**\*\*The Murray Family Healing**

### **Friday, April 26**

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

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

### **Saturday, April 27**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed– Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\*Carol Van Schaick (d)**

### **Sunday, April 28**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

**\*\*Joe Fernando (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

**\*\*Joseph Malatesta - Healing**

## **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 125 lbs. of food for the month of April 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](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 Flower were donated to honor  
Our Lady of the Deserts  
Sacristan's, EMS, Lectors, Ushers, and Church Mice**

**Thank You :)**

**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 April 8-15, 2024      \$ 4,424.00

**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,

***My son was raised Catholic and still claims he is Catholic, but he and his wife go to a Protestant church. How should I deal with my frustration?***

Many parents and grandparents today share your frustration. They raised their children Catholic, maybe even sent them to Catholic schools, but the children have grown up and chosen not to continue to be faithful Catholics. A recent survey showed that nine out of ten people say they believe in God, but often they are not committed to a single religion or house of worship. About half of the people questioned attend religious services less than once a month, or never. The loyalty to one Church that was evident in our own lives, or in our parents' and grandparents' lives, is lacking in today's people under age fifty-five.

What can one do about this situation? Certainly pray for your children and continue to give a good example through your own loyalty to the Catholic Church and attendance at Sunday Mass. Invite your son and his wife to attend with you when they visit. As your children age, they may become more interested in your family's history and traditions, and the religion of their childhood may again appear attractive. Try to be patient and continue to pray that your children will return to the Church of their roots. ●



M-PRODUCTION / SHUTTERSTOCK

**The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 22	April 23	April 24	April 25	April 26	April 27	April 28
<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>St. Mark, Evangelist</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>
Acts 11:1-18 Jn 10:1-10	Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30	Acts 12:24- 13:5a Jn 12:44-50	1 Pt 5:5b-14 Mk 16:15-20	Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6	Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14	Acts 9:26-31 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***Christ's love is not selective; it embraces everyone.... He is everyone's shepherd. Jesus wants everyone to be able to receive the Father's love and encounter God....The Father entrusts everyone to Jesus the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for everyone. Brothers and sisters, Jesus defends, knows and loves all of us.***

REGINA CAELI, ROME, APRIL 25, 2021

ZVONIMIR ATLETIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

### Timely Topics Viewed with a Catholic Perspective

**Catholic Update** explores contemporary issues through the lens of Catholic teaching and traditions.

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