

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 6-7

Second 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 7th 1 Jn 5:1-6

John writes today about salvation through Faith. He tells us that if we are people of Faith, if we open our hearts in Faith to the Spirit, we will be filled with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit will give us the grace to overcome the sinfulness of the world. Because of the Spirit of Jesus dwelling in us, we become children of God. We remain so as long as we follow God's commands, seeking to honor him because of His love for us.

April 8th Heb 10:4-10

The author of the Letter to the Hebrews speaks today about salvation. Being made right with God was a matter of sacrifice for the Jewish people. The author declares that sacrifices no longer are required, nor can a cultic sacrifice effect our relationship with God. There is only One sacrifice that was needed: the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Through the death of Jesus, we have been saved and we are in union of life and love with God.

April 9th Acts 4:32-37

In today's reading we are presented with a goal. The goal is to be a community where all have their needs met, because everyone is looking out for one another. The early Church did not reach this goal perfectly. Although we see a man today who sells his house and gives all his money to the Apostles to help others, we see in other places in Acts that such selfless love and charity was far from perfect. Yet, the goal of loving unity within the community is still something we need to strive towards. With the grace of God, we can grow a bit less selfish every day. Then, the love and unity of the Trinity will be clearly visible in the Church.

April 10th Acts 5:17-26

The Apostles have been arrested and thrown in jail by the Jewish religious leaders. God comes to their rescue and frees them. The Apostles return to the temple precincts and do the very same activity which got them in trouble in the first place. They are so dedicated to Jesus and the spreading of his Kingdom, that nothing can stop them. These Apostles are an example for us. Many times our sharing of the gospel, or our living out of the gospel, can get us in trouble with others. Jesus promises that he will always be there to sustain us and protect us. This doesn't mean that we will never be hurt by the world, but that salvation will be ours after this life.

April 11th Acts 5:27-33

As the Apostles are brought back before the Jewish officials, they bear testimony to Jesus. Even though they were ordered not to preach about Jesus, the Apostles still did, because it was God's will for them to do so. They must obey God rather than men. We too are called by Jesus to be witnesses of his love in the world. Nothing and no one should be able to stop us in this endeavor.

April 12th Acts 5:34-42

Today's reading contains a strange statement: the Apostles rejoice because "they had been found worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name." The apostles were happy to follow Jesus's example. His love led him to suffer for the sake of their salvation. So, now, they were willing to show their love for Jesus by suffering for him. Love always puts the good of the other first!



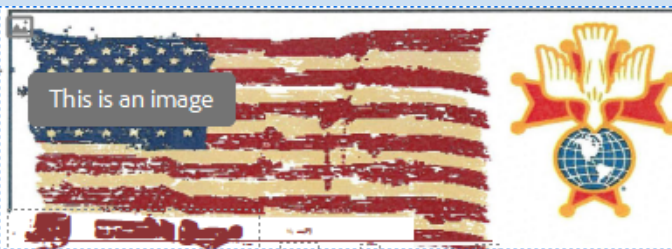
April 13th Acts 6:1-7

The early Church met a little different than we do today. Their public worship was a shared meal, followed by the Eucharist. However, once again we see that the early Christians were not perfect. Some members felt cheated in their sharing in the meal. They did not get as much as others. The Apostles appoint seven men whose job will be to ensure equality among the people gathered to eat. In a sense, we still have these special ministries within the Church. Various practical things are available to help us in our worship. For instance, we have Lectors, Servers, musicians, and Special Ministers of Communion to assist us when we pray. To assist and serve our brothers and sisters is a great privilege.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.

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 two more weekends, 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!



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.



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**



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.

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

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 5

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

****Dan Sullivan (d)**

Saturday, April 6

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Peter Connolly

****Diahn & Jack Lehmkuhl - 54th Anniversary**

Sunday, April 7

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

****Mary Johnson (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

****Josie Earheart - Healing**

Monday, April 8

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

****Phil & Rosie Treinen -65th Anniversary**

Tuesday, April 9

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

****Linda Obernauf (d)**

Wednesday, April 10

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

****Deceased Redemptorist**

Thursday, April 11

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

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

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)**

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 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.

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.



Easter Lilies

Weekly Stewardship for Our Lady of the Desert

Weekend Collection March 25-April 1, 2024 \$.9595.00

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 Divine Mercy Sunday?

Pope John Paul II declared Sr. Faustina Kowalska a saint of the Church on April 30, 2000, and in a decree dated May 23, 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that “throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that [we] will experience in the years to come.”

Saint Faustina was born in 1905 and spent most of her life in Poland, in the Congregation of the Virgin Mary of Mercy. She experienced an extraordinary union with God. She received exceptional graces, revelations, visions, hidden stigmata, the ability to read souls, and the gift of prophecy.

One of the images that was revealed to Faustina was that of the merciful Jesus, touching his Sacred Heart, from which beams of red and white light came forth. This image and her devotion to the divine mercies gathered thousands of supporters throughout the world. We still see the traditional image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in many of our churches today. In some churches, we might see the newer image, inspired by the saint. Saint Faustina Kowalska died in 1938 at the age of thirty-three, leaving an impressive mystical legacy. She is a disciple of God’s divine mercy for the twenty-first century. ●



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*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 8	April 9	April 10	April 11	April 12	April 13	April 14
<i>Annunciation of the Lord</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Easter Weekday</i>	<i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>
Is 7:10–14; 8:10	Acts 4:32–37	Acts 5:17–26	Bishop and Martyr	Acts 5:34–42	Acts 6:1–7	Acts 3:13–15, 17–19
Heb 10:4–10	Jn 3:7b–15	Jn 3:16–21	Acts 5:27–33	Jn 6:1–15	Jn 6:16–21	1 Jn 2:1–5a
Lk 1:26–38			Jn 3:31–36			Lk 24:35–48



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The story of Thomas is in fact the story of every believer. There are times of difficulty when life seems to belie faith, moments of crisis when we need to touch and see. Like Thomas, it is precisely in those moments that we rediscover the heart of Christ, the Lord’s mercy.

HOMILY, ROME, APRIL 24, 2022