

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 September 7-8 Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Redemptorist Community

Church Rector

Rev. Brian Johnson, C.Ss.R.

Director of Renewal Center

Rev. Stephen Rehrauer, C.Ss.R.

Associates

Rev. Charlie Wehrley, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Jim Shea, C.Ss.R.

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

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Choir

Charles Lohr, Music Director

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Ken McNealy

Liturgical Ministers/ Compliance Officer

Kelly Mooney

Bob Jones

Bulletin Editor

Alexis Murrieta

Knights of Columbus

David VanderLinde



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



One of the other important ideas behind the Eucharist is that of a meal. Meals are so commonplace that often we take them for granted. When Jesus wanted to call repentant sinners back to him, he oftentimes sat down to eat with them. This occurrence angered the Jewish Authorities, because they knew well what a meal symbolized. It showed that all who shared in the meal were one with each other. Eating together implied union in friendship and love. So, they were convinced Jesus was becoming sullied by his relationship with those sinners.

Perhaps a way to see this is to ask a question of yourself. Suppose you are in a cafeteria for lunch. You see 2 chairs available. One is at a table with a bunch of people you don't like. The other is at a table with friends. Where do you sit? With the friends, of course! To sit with those you do not like will leave you with a loss of appetite very quickly. There is something in the very nature of a meal that speaks of unity, of oneness, of friendship. Meal sharing is a natural sign of being at peace with another person. So, Jesus saw the meal-sharing as a way for being reunited in love with the others at his table. It was a sign of reconciliation.

So it was with Jesus, both then and now. The Eucharist takes on the appearance of a meal because Jesus wants us to know that even though we have sinned, he loves and forgives us. To eat with him brings about reconciliation. The Church has always insisted that to receive communion forgives sins. Through the Eucharist, our relationship with God is repaired and strengthened.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.

Bible Study on The Acts of the Apostles

We will meet in the Agave room in building #7 on Monday, September 9.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Our Lady of the Desert-will once again be offering the RCIA program in the Fall. This is a program for adults who wish to join the Catholic Church. Interested parties should call Fr. Brian Johnson 520.744.3400 X 7112.



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
September 2024**

Erin Neely	Bill Liscum
Miguel Quijada	Grace Carroll
Tim McDonald	Jerry Linton
Chuck Peterson	Aubrey Scarborough
Linda Peterson	Joanna Crawford
Michael Dunlap	Lee Morrison
Joan Forgue	Jim Whitten
Terry Bahill	Ashleigh McIntosh
Rachel Flint	Emily Hernandez
Bob Garcia	JC Martinez
Fr. Jeff King-Healing	Kurt Cummings
David Donofrio	Jack Friedman
Winnie Levoch	Sally Falzone
Merle Margelofsky	Pat Celentano
Hayden Spencer	Mark Yowell
Walter McCulloch	
Linda Whitten	

**OUR LADY OF THE
DESERT**

DECEASED MEMBERS
Last 12 Months

(Month/Year)

Melissa Bandelt (5/24)
Fr. Rich Boever C.Ss.R. (1/24)
Bill Berry (3/24)
Olive 'Punken' Berry (4/24)
Carol Boerner (9/23)
Bernie Burba (11/23)
Peter Castillo (2/24)
Larry Cobble (5/24)
Fr. Ricardo Elford, C.Ss.R. (9/23)
Joe Fernando (2/24)
Theresa Fitzpatrick (10/23)
Dave Forgue (10/23)
Tony Iavagnilio (1/24)
Joan Jones (11/23)
Mary Johnson (1/24)
Pierrette (Petra) Juteau (11/23)
Edward Kenyon (1/24)
Mary Ann Monte
Scott Milligan (11/23)
Linda Obenauf (11/23)
Dan Sullivan (11/23)
Phyllis Spence, OSB (11/23)
Elaine Tolentino (8/24)
Dorie Zimmerman (9/23)

"The desert will lead you to your heart where I will speak."

****Mass Intentions/Presiders**

Friday, September 6

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

**Rita West - Healing

Saturday, September 7

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

** Pedro Rosales & Family - Healing

Sunday, September 8

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

**Bob & Edie Rohr (d)

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**Anne M. Ramsey (d)

Monday, September 9

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

**Joe Fernando (d)

Tuesday, September 10

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

**Jane Orth

Wednesday, September 11

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Jim Shea

**Deceased Redemptorist

Thursday, September 12

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

**Fr. Greg Weist - Happy Birthday

Friday, September 13

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

**Robert Lynch - Healing

Saturday, September 14

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

**Lidia G Hernandez (d)

Sunday, September 15

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**The Grant & Mowry Families Healing

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**The Milligan Family - Prayers

UPCOMING EVENTS

Interfaith Community Service Food Bank

Please help our local community by donating today. We have collected a total of 91 lbs. for the month of July. The bin is located in the veranda near the bookstore. Thank you for your generosity. ~*Marge Mauzer*

Grief Share Support Group

Grief share is a friendly group of caring people, who share the experience of the loss of a loved one. For more information contact, June or Stan Wood at 520.219.2919. or at Jwls1@earthlink.net.

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 on the 3rd Thursday, 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.

Adoration –First Friday of Every Month

For Adoration updates please visit our website <https://desertrenewal.org/our-lady-of-the-desert-church/>

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.



Bookstore hours

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Open: 1/2 HR After all
weekend Masses
Open: M-T-Th-F
10 am-2 pm
Saturday 11:30am-1:30pm
CLOSED WEDNESDAYS
SPECIAL
CHRISTMAS GIFTS AVAILABLE

This weeks Flower were donated by

Dr. Asokan

in Loving Memory of

Joseph N. Fernando

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 Collections : August 26-September 2, 2024 - \$7,618.00

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/>



During the Easter Vigil liturgy, the single flame of the Easter candle shines through the darkness. That small flame spreads as each person's candle is lit and the light of Christ is shared with others. Before we know it, the entire Church is ablaze with the warm glow of candlelight and the darkness has been vanquished.

We are each called by God to be that light of Christ that breaks through the darkness. We are called to be his disciples, continually transformed by our encounter with him and sharing in his mission. Jesus came that we might have *life*.

Part of the impetus for the Eucharistic Revival was a concern that some Catholics do not believe, or at least do not understand, that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. Even though our human senses perceive bread and wine, the Eucharist is Jesus—body, blood, soul, and divinity. Similarly, many people do not realize or acknowledge the sanctity of human life when it is hidden in the womb. Both instances call for us to help others recognize these sacred gifts that may not be perceivable through our human senses. We need to help others understand that just because something may not be apparent to our eyes does not mean that it is not there or that it is not important.

We live in a society that rejects those who are weak, fragile, or vulnerable. Yet, it is precisely within these conditions that a person is most in need of our care and protection. Pope Francis reminds us that “every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world’s rejection”¹

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”
John 1:5

The U.S. bishops have affirmed that, while it is important to address all the ways in which human

life is threatened, “abortion remains our pre-eminent priority as it directly attacks our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, destroying more than a million lives each year in our country alone.”²

As Pope St. John Paul II wrote, “we are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the ‘culture of death’ and the ‘culture of life’. . . .we are all involved, and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life.”³

“I am with you always, until the end of the age.”
Matthew 28:20

In the face of challenges such as abortion and physician-assisted suicide, we may feel that we are not equal to the task of overcoming the darkness. Yet, we are not alone. Jesus tells us, “I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20).

The God who became man to save us still dwells among us. For Christ is “the light [that] shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it” (John 1:5). He is the one who overcame death and continually raises us to new life. He remains close to us always, seeking us out in each moment of our lives.

Jesus gave his very flesh to give us the gift of eternal life and invites us to the most profound experience of this gift in our celebration of the Eucharist. When we meet Jesus in the Eucharist, this encounter has the power to transform the depths of our hearts and the heart of our culture. United to the power of his Eucharistic Presence, may we work to ensure that each person has life—and has it in abundance.



¹ Pope Francis, “Address of Holy Father Francis to Participants in the Meeting Organized by the International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations,” September 20, 2013 (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2013).
² *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political*
³ Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1995), no. 28.

1 Pope Francis, “Address of Holy Father Francis to Participants in the Meeting Organized by the International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations,” September 20, 2013 (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2013).
2 *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political*

Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible, revised edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C. and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All rights reserved. Excerpts from *Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life)*, © 1995 and “Address of Holy Father Francis to Participants in the Meeting Organized by the International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations” © 2013, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Copyright © 2024, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities | usccb.org/prolife



fb.com/usccbrespectlife

[X@usccbprolife](https://twitter.com/usccbprolife)

[X@ProjectRachel](https://twitter.com/ProjectRachel)

[@walkingwithmoms](https://instagram.com/walkingwithmoms)

Brief Encounter



**When God brings
two people
together to
transform their
lives**

People who didn't receive the attention and affection they needed as children often grow up to be overly independent or codependent. They don't develop a good self-image and sometimes don't know who they really are inside.

They became self-alienated in their childhoods and then never thought to look inside to learn who they really are. Instead, they looked outside of themselves and chose to become whomever others told them they should be.

Some were forced into the role of good boy or good girl. Others learned to act-out to be noticed. Either way they grew up into adulthood not knowing who they really are and too afraid to go inside and discover their real nature.

Many adults in this situation have few friends because they don't know who they are and even if they have some idea, they are too afraid to expose themselves and be rejected.

There are times when God comes to the rescue, however, placing two people on the same path just long enough for them to both learn from each other, open up and learn it's ok to be their natural selves.

This retreat will study a brief encounter, just one day, in which two women transform each other's lives helping them to uncover the lost person inside.

**\$55 per person
includes lunch and materials**



Fr. Charlie Wehrley, C.Ss.R.

Retreat Director

September 21, 2024

9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Redemptorist Renewal Center

**7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd
Tuscon, AZ 85743**

**Call 520-744-3400
for reservations**



The Gospel According to Disney will examine spiritual and life-changing truths found in Disney movies. Many of these spiritual truths are found in Scripture and they contain psychological and emotional value for those of us who are faced with real life problems daily.

As adults today, we need to regain our childhood sense of wonderment that was lost along the way of growing into adults. We have lost the innocence and amazement that we once marvelled at in the simple beauty and wonder of life.

Come regain your lost sense of play as you open your eyes to the true meaning of loving relationships with ourselves and others.



FR. CHARLIE WEHRLEY, C.S.S.R.
Retreat Director

October 12, 2024
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

\$55

includes lunch and handouts



Redemptorist Renewal Center

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



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 the “gospel of prosperity”? Does it mean that being rich is a sign of God’s favor?

That’s a good question, as this month we listen to the challenging words of St. James. If there is a “gospel of prosperity,” Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John didn’t write it, and it isn’t about Jesus. If anything, the Gospels would be called “Gospels of poverty.” Jesus himself was born in poverty. Had he wished to extol riches and prosperity, he would have been born into the lap of luxury. But God chose the poverty of a stable.

Although the subject of riches and poverty appears in all the Gospels, Luke writes about it the most. It is thought that Luke was concerned about this topic because he came from wealth and dealt with people of means. Luke sees money and goods as dangerous to salvation. Although “nothing will be impossible for God” (Luke 1:37), Luke uses the image of a camel passing through the eye of a needle to explain that this impossible task is easier than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven (Luke 18:25). Scary words. Yet, poverty itself is not hailed as good, nor are riches condemned in themselves. It’s what wealth does to people that is the core issue. When we focus on riches and possessions, we risk turning from God and growing deaf to the cries of the poor. Possessions and wealth are to be shared, not hoarded. ●



IMAGEFLOW / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org



FIZKES / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us ask ourselves: how is my capacity to listen going?Think about family life: how many times do we talk without listening first, repeating the same things, always the same things!....
The healing of the heart begins with listening....
We hear the words of Jesus addressed to us:
“Ephphatha, be opened!” Open your ears.

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

Monday

September 9
St. Peter Claver, Priest
1 Cor 5:1–8
Lk 6:6–11

Tuesday

September 10
Weekday
1 Cor 6:1–11
Lk 6:12–19

Wednesday

September 11
Weekday
1 Cor 7:25–31
Lk 6:20–26

Thursday

September 12
Weekday
1 Cor 8:1b–7, 11–13
Lk 6:27–38

Friday

September 13
St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
1 Cor 9:16–19, 22b–27
Lk 6:39–42

Saturday

September 14
The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Nm 21:4b–9
Phil 2:6–11
Jn 3:13–17

Sunday

September 15
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 50:4c–9a
Jas 2:14–18
Mk 8:27–35