

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 February 1-2 The Presentation of the Lord

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

Rev. Stephen Huy Vu, C.Ss.R.

Pastor, Santa Catalina Parish

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#### 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

*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



We now turn our attention to the second of the Sacraments in the Service of Communion, namely The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, or Marriage.

The Church has always viewed God as the author of Marriage. In fact, the Catechism states, “The vocation to marriage is written in the very nature of man and woman as they came forth from the hand of the creator. Marriage is not a purely human institution...” (CCC 1603).

Genesis states that “God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female\* he created them” (Gen 1:27). In chapter two, after God creates Adam, he states that, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suited to him” (Gen 2: 18). This is a very profound statement about human beings. They are made in the image of God. Not only do they have intelligence and freedom as God does, but they also share in God’s fundamental essence of love. They are made as creatures who can give themselves away in love to another, just as God is the One who gives Himself in love to us. While most of us give ourselves to others in friendship and love, in marriage, we go further by giving ourselves wholly and forever to one person, in a most intimate type of giving, in imitation of God who gives Himself wholly to his people.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.

## Collection to help fire Victims

This weekend, we will be taking up a special collection to assist the victims of the fire in California, Envelopes are present today at the Church entrances. The monies will be distributed through Catholic Charities. If you use a check, please make it out to : Diocese of Tucson.” Envelopes may be put into the offertory basket along with your usual offering. Please be sure that it is in a specially marked envelope!





*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  
February 2025**

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 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         | Merle Margelofsky  |
| Bob Box               | Margaret Zeches    |
| Hayden Spencer        | June and Stan Wood |
| Walter McCulloch      | L. Cindy Otte      |
| Linda Whitten         | Sue Cobble         |
| Marty Lopez           | Robert Keogh       |
| Carol Bruzzi          | George Sheehan     |
| Fr. Pat Grile         | Mike Ortiz         |
| Sonali Fernando       |                    |

**OUR LADY OF THE  
DESERT**

**DECEASED MEMBERS**

*Last 12 Months*

**(Month/Year)**

- Melissa Bandelt (5/24)
- Bill Berry (3/24)
- Olive 'Punken' Berry (4/24)
- Carol Burba (9/24)
- Peter Castillo (2/24)
- Pat Celentano (12/24)
- Patricia Conley (12/24)
- Larry Cobble (5/24)
- Robert (Bob) Dorr (7/24)
- Joe Fernando (2/24)
- Gabby Juteau (10/24)
- Mary Sloan (7/24)
- Elaine Tolentino (8/24)
- Patricia Wayne (10/24)

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

## **\*\*Mass Intentions/Presiders**

### **Friday, January 31**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Jim Shea  
\*\*Spiritual Gift for Healing

### **Saturday, February 1**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed– Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*Bob Box - Healing

### **Sunday, February 2**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Robert McFeeters - (Birthday) (d)  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*John & Harriet Lewandowski (d)

### **Monday, February 3**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Ginny Below (d)

### **Tuesday, February 4**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*James Orth (d)

### **Wednesday, February 5**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Cindy Otte - Healing

### **Thursday, February 6**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Judy Lopez - Healing

### **Friday, February 7**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Jim Shea  
\*\*Jane Orth

### **Saturday, February 8**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed– Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Joseph Fernando (d)

### **Sunday, February 9**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*Jerimiah P. & Jeremiah J. Donovan (d)  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Elaine Tolentino (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. For the month of January we collected 64 lbs. of food.

Thank you for your generosity. ~*Marge Mauzer*

### **Grief**

Losing a loved one is painful.  
You do not have to do it alone.  
If you want to join support group, or talk to someone about your loss, call  
Dr. June Wood, PhD LICSW-Emeritus, Mn.  
(520)419.5962

### **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](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.

### **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.**

## February 2025 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 |    |



Open: 1/2 hour after all w/e Masses  
Monday-Thursday-Friday  
10 am-2 pm  
Tuesdays 11 am - 2 pm  
Saturdays 11 am - 1 pm  
Closed Feb 1<sup>st</sup>  
**CLOSED WEDNESDAYS**

**This weeks Flower were donated**

**In Memory of**

**Patricia Conley**

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 : January 20-27 2025 ~ \$5,193.00

**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/>

## Safe Environment



Our Lady of the Desert Church, along with The Diocese of Tucson under the leadership of Bishop Weisenburger remains committed to protecting our community against all forms of abuse and responding appropriately.

The mission of the Diocese of Tucson "Safe Environment Program" is to ensure the safety of children, young people and vulnerable who have been entrusted to our care in our parishes, schools, religious education classes, and other programs.

To find out more about the Diocese's Call to Protect, please click here: <https://diocesetucson.org/our-call-to-protect/>



**Report Abuse** If you or someone you know is a victim of abuse  
Contact law enforcement (911), call the Victim  
Assistance Program of the Diocese of Tucson (520-623-0344)  
or visit <https://diocesetucson.org/reportabuse>.



# LOTSAPASTA

February 1-28, 2025

Help ICS food banks collect:

- 5,000 packages of pasta and mac & cheese
- 5,000 cans of pasta sauce (no glass, please)

Northwest Food Bank  
2820 W. Ina Rd  
Mon-Thurs 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Fri-Sat 8-11 a.m.

Eastside Food Drop-off  
8701 E. Old Spanish Trail  
Contact Becky Lococo to  
schedule a drop-off  
[bloccoco@icstucson.org](mailto:bloccoco@icstucson.org)



[icstucson.org/lotsapasta](http://icstucson.org/lotsapasta)

**ICS**  
INTERFAITH  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICES

## Celebrating 2025 Marriage Anniversaries

Bishop Edward Weisenburger will celebrate the Mass for Marriage Anniversaries for 2025 on Sunday, February 16, 2025, at 2:30 PM at St. Augustine Cathedral.

If you have any questions, contact Ofelia James [ojames@diocesetucson.org](mailto:ojames@diocesetucson.org)

PLEASE REGISTER BY: Friday, February 7, 2025

ONLINE REGISTRATION: <https://forms.office.com/r/KmvdLX6Kbi>

## Shoes needed

Sister Jose's Womens Center is a nonprofit organization in Tucson, that exists to aid and transform the lives of women who are unhoused. These women spend a lot of time walking around Tucson to stay warm and safe. We are collecting "**gently used women's walking shoes**" as a first step in making them more comfortable and letting them know that someone cares and that they are not alone.

I have put a box in back of the Church where you can drop off shoes in February and March. If you need more info or need shoes to be picked up, please call Colleen @320.444.6152.

# SHAME AND CODEPENDENCY



**Fr. Charlie Wehrley, C.Ss.R.**

Retreat Director

**February 22, 2025**

9:AM-3:00 PM

\$55

includes lunch and handouts



Shame is the most devastating and deadly of all feelings. It can literally devour a person from within because shame is all about “I am inherently bad or defective” and there’s no way I can change who I am.

Shame is different from guilt. Guilt is solely about behavior and we can always change our behavior. We can take responsibility for it, make amends and learn new healthier patterns of behavior.

But shame is about who we are. It’s about the color of our skin, or our gender, or our sexual orientation, or our physical body or our mental abilities. It’s about the things we cannot change and must learn to accept and love.

Internalized shame leads to depression and addictive patterns of behavior as it destroys a person’s self-love, self-esteem and self-worth.

This retreat will focus on identifying areas of shame in our lives, facing them and taking our power back from them.

**Redemptorist Renewal Center**

7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd

Call 520-744-3400

for reservations





## REDEMPTORIST RENEWAL CENTER

7101 W PICTURE ROCKS RD., TUCSON, AZ 85743

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

### Contemplative Intensive Retreats with Fr. Stephen Rehrauer, CSsR

February 7-9, 2025   April 14-17, 2025   October 10-12, 2025

*Jesus taught that the Kingdom of God is within and among us. 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, and 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)

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

# Forgiveness

and the Power to Heal

Forgiveness sets us free from betrayal, anger and resentment. Forgiveness is the way of Jesus. It allows us to take back our personal power from those who have hurt us and it provides us with inner-peace.

Jesus Christ redeemed us through His great love and forgiveness. Forgiveness is central to His Great Commandment of Love: Love your God, love your neighbor, love yourself— even your enemy— as “I have loved you.” Yet, many of us reject this teaching. We refuse to forgive those who have abused and hurt us and we even refuse to forgive ourselves for our own mistakes.

When we are trapped inside unforgiving hearts, we are out of right-relationship with God, ourselves and others. And clearly, we can't expect God or others to forgive us for our failings if we remain unwilling to forgive.

Redemption begins in our hearts. It requires love, forgiveness and reconciliation. If you are suffering from an unforgiving heart, this retreat is for you. It will help you set your heart free from the pain of the past.



*Redemptorist  
Renewal Center*

7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85743

**February 8, 2025**

call 744-3400 to register



**9:00 AM– 3:00 PM**

\$55 per person, includes lunch and handouts

*Fr. Charlie Wehrley, C.S.S.R.,* **Retreat Director**

# First Friday Adoration

## Come let us adore Him!

February 7, 2025, 5-8 pm

At the altar of

Our Lady of the Desert Church

The monstrance will be placed on the altar at 5 pm and ends at 8 pm.

Please join us in adoration of the Christ!

Please spare 30-60 mins of your time or any amount you wish to adore our Lord Jesus.

This is such a blessing for us to actually spend time with our Lord and Savior.



In union with Christ's passion, we offer up as sacrifice upon the fleshy altars of our hearts all that we lack. In return we receive from on high the fullness of Christ's body, blood, soul and divinity in the Eucharist, and we see the Word become flesh in our own lives.

# Dear Padre,

***What happened to Candlemas? When I was a child, there was one day when everyone brought candles to church to have them blessed. At the end of Mass, the priest would bless everyone's throats with the candles.***

Candlemas is another name for our celebration of the Presentation of the Lord: the day Mary and Joseph presented their child to God in the Temple at Jerusalem in accordance with the law of Moses (Luke 2:22–38). We remember how the elderly believers Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as their longed-for Messiah and how, addressing God in a canticle, Simeon proclaimed Christ to be “a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel” (Luke 2:32).

Mass on this day often begins with the blessing and lighting of candles, which the priest and people carry into the church. The name Candlemas springs from this ritual blessing.

The day after the feast of the Presentation is the memorial celebration of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr. According to tradition, St. Blaise was instrumental in healing a person who was choking. The Church remembers this encounter and celebrates the intervention of the Spirit of God through the blessing of throats, using the blessed candles from the feast of the Presentation. It is a wonderful and very practical spiritual practice that is much appreciated and anticipated each year. ●



EMGAVRILOV / SHUTTERSTOCK

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / 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*.

| <b>Monday</b>                | <b>Tuesday</b>               | <b>Wednesday</b>                                           | <b>Thursday</b>                                                    | <b>Friday</b>                | <b>Saturday</b>                      | <b>Sunday</b>                                                 |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| February 3<br><i>Weekday</i> | February 4<br><i>Weekday</i> | February 5<br><i>St. Agatha,<br/>Virgin and<br/>Martyr</i> | February 6<br><i>St. Paul Miki and<br/>Companions,<br/>Martyrs</i> | February 7<br><i>Weekday</i> | February 8<br><i>Weekday</i>         | February 9<br><i>Fifth Sunday in<br/>Ordinary Time</i>        |
| Heb 11:32–40<br>Mk 5:1–20    | Heb 12:1–4<br>Mk 5:21–43     | Heb 12:4–7,<br>11–15<br>Mk 6:1–6                           | Heb 12:18–19,<br>21–24<br>Mk 6:7–13                                | Heb 13:1–8<br>Mk 6:14–29     | Heb 13:15–17,<br>20–21<br>Mk 6:30–34 | Is 6:1–2a, 3–8<br>1 Cor 15:1–11<br>or 15:3–8, 11<br>Lk 5:1–11 |



DANIEL IBAÑEZ / CNA

## **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***Like Simeon, let us also pick up this child, the God of newness and surprises.... Let us be restless, let us be moved by the Spirit, like Simeon and Anna.... If, like them, we live in expectation, we will embrace Jesus, who is the light and hope of life.***

**HOMILY, ROME, FEBRUARY 2, 2024**