

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 January 11-12

The Baptism 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



The Sacrament of Holy Orders results in the existence of three different offices in the Church Community, namely Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. We now look a little closer at these three offices.

The Bishop receives the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Through his ordination he becomes a successor to the Apostles. As a bishop, a man becomes the recognized visible head or pastor of the local Church entrusted to his care. In his fullness of priesthood, the bishop is tasked by Christ with the fulfillment of all the ministerial deeds of the Church. He is empowered to celebrate all seven of the sacraments. He is the chief minister of the Word of God in his diocese. He is in charge of the priests and deacons who assist him in his ministry.

By ordination, “Priests are united with the bishops in (priestly) dignity and at the same time depend on them in the exercise of their pastoral functions; they are called to be the bishops’ prudent co-workers (CCC # 1595). The bishop appoints priests to parishes or other special ministries. They receive faculties for functioning as priests from the bishop. Priests assist bishops by leadership in the smaller parish communities of the diocese. They share in the tasks of celebrating the liturgy, preaching the Gospels, and celebrating most of the sacraments (Holy Orders and Confirmation are reserved to the bishop, although in certain circumstances, priests can receive delegation to Confirm).

Next week we will look at Deacons.

*~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.*

## Bible Study

*We will meet in the Agave room at 10:00 a.m. on Monday January 13, 2025.*



*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  
January 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      | Sue Cobble         |
| Linda Whitten         | Robert Keogh       |
| Marty Lopez           | George Sheehan     |
| Carol Bruzzi          | Mike Ortiz         |
| Fr. Pat Grile         | Sonali Fernando    |
| Eva Quijada           |                    |

**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 Barry (4/24)  
Olive 'Punken' Barry (3/24)  
Carol Burba (9/24)  
Peter Castillo (2/24)  
Pat Celentano (12/24)  
Larry Cobble (5/24)  
Joe Fernando (2/24)  
Tony Iavagnilio (1/24)  
Mary Johnson (1/24)  
Gabby Juteau (10/24)  
Edward Kenyon (1/24)  
Concepcion Quijada (2/24)  
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 10**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Arturo & Elaina Diaz—80th Birthday

### **Saturday, January 11**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed— Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Eric Bearup (d)

### **Sunday, January 12**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*Patricia Poutson (d)  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Ken & Margaret McNealy - Healing

### **Monday, January 13**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Jim Shea  
\*\*Mary Gausepohls (d)

### **Tuesday, January 14**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Fran & Monica Roach

### **Wednesday, January 15**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Deceased Redemptorist

### **Thursday, January 16**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Tom Fransiscus  
\*\*Barry W. Conroy III (d)

### **Friday, January 17**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Jim Shea  
\*\*Margaret Forah (d)

### **Saturday, January 18**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed— Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*JoAnn Hohmann (d)

### **Sunday, January 19**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Helen & Ray Millen (d)  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Maria D. Arellano (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 December we collected 108 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.**

### January 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 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

## JANUARY



Open: 1/2 hr after all w/e Masses  
 Monday-Thursday-Friday  
 10 am-2 pm  
 Tuesdays 11 am – 2 pm  
 Saturdays 11 am – 1 pm  
 Closed Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>  
**CLOSED WEDNESDAYS**

**This weeks Flower were donated**

**In Celebration of**

**Fr. Peter Connolly's 80th Birthday**

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 : December 30, 2024-January 6, 2025 ~ \$11,693.00

**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/>



### Baby-Bottle-Drive (BBD) for the Reachout Women's Center



Thank you for your participating in the BBD, between **January 4**, and **January 26!**

Many needy mothers will be grateful for your generosity and your prayerful support. Thank you! **Do you need an empty bottle?** You'll find it on the tables near the exits of the church.

**Returning the bottles:** Please bring them back, at the latest, at the weekend of January 25-26, and insert them in the big white wooden deposit box at the main entry. All the bottles with their content will be blessed by the priest. If you forgot to bring them back at the mentioned weekend, please bring them to the RRC's office. Thank you!

**For checks: make them out to: 'Knights of Columbus 15704'.**



### 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual March for Life

At the 'St. Augustine Cathedral' in Tucson

Saturday, **January 18, 2025, 9:00 AM**

**Mass with Bishop E. Weisenburger at 9:00 AM**

March for Life begins at the Cathedral at 10:00 AM.

**Walk of 4 miles** to Holy Hope cemetery (about 1.5 hours).

12:00 AM: Rose Ceremony for deceased children.

Do you want a ride? Please inscribe in the list laying on the glass table in the chapel near the main exit!

Any questions? Please contact Mike Horner at (520) 975-4188



# FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Every day, hunger claims the lives of over 6,000 children all over the world. One way you can help is by volunteering to package essential meals for these children. This year, the goal of **FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN** is to package 1.55 million **MannaPack**® meals. In order to meet this goal, your help is needed. You, your family, and/or friends can volunteer to hand-pack nutritious **MannaPack**® meals through this well-organized program. You will volunteer for a two-hour shift that includes the training and sanitation. When you are done, you will have and enjoy, a sense of total satisfaction.

The Knights of Columbus Council No. 15704, here at Our Lady of the Desert, invite you to join us in this worthwhile program. You will be volunteering for the **MobilePack**™ events here in Tucson at the Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene, 500 W Calle Concordia, Oro Valley, AZ, 85704. This year the events will be held February 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025. If you want to volunteer and/or have any questions, please contact John or Marsha Smithhisler at 620-339-5342.







## 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**



**AS** we face a year of sweeping changes--  
in an ever more unsettled world—  
the Holy Father urges us to  
“**Lead with the Heart.**”

*Our Lady of the Desert Circle of  
Redemptorist Associates*  
invites you to a discussion of excerpts  
from the Papal Encyclical,  
**DILEXIT NOS (He loved us):  
ACTIONS AND WORDS  
OF LOVE**

**When:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 from 5-6:00pm

**Where:** The St. Alphonsus Kitchen and via Zoom\*

**COME PRAY WITH US! ALL ARE WELCOME!**

\*Please contact John Davenport at [john@davenport.net](mailto:john@davenport.net) for the  
Zoom link.



**HEAR YE, HEAR YE, HEAR YE!!**



It is that time, once again, to ask all the Catholic Men, 18  
years of age or older, and their Families who attend the Our  
Lady of the Desert Church, to join the Knights of Columbus!


**We need you and you need US!!**

The Our Lady of the Desert Council No. 15704 will hold a Membership Drive on  
Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, after the 4 PM Mass and on Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, after  
the 7:30 and the 10 AM Masses. There will be Knights outside the church where  
they will answer any questions you may have about the Knights of Columbus.

Also, you can call me, Ray Obral, at 520-403-5003, if you want to talk about  
being a Knight of Columbus! Help us help our Local Charities!

## Knights of Columbus Council #15704 CTSO Tuition Assistance Program

The time of year is upon us to remind our parish members to take advantage of the State of Arizona's Tuition Tax Credit. The State Allows taxpayers to receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit on their 2024 state taxes while providing much-needed funding for deserving students enrolled in Catholic schools in the Diocese of Tucson and other private schools within Arizona. Arizona's CATHOLIC TUITION SUPPORT ORGANIZATION (CTSO) commitment to Catholic education could not be fulfilled without your support. CTSO uses these tax credit funds to help children in receiving a Catholic education by assisting with their tuition expenses.




Please use our CTSO Donation Form when submitting your donation. The form should already indicate our Parish Family Referral Plan ID# 1699. This ID# assures that your tax credit contributions through CTSO will be designated for distribution towards our parish family members that apply for Tuition Assistance using our CTSO Scholarship Application Forms.

If you have or know of a student from our Parish or a student that is being sponsored by a Parish Member that will begin attending a Catholic School in 2025, please make sure they get a copy of the CTSO Scholarship Application Form that needs to be completed and returned to the Parish Office. The Parish Office will forward the application to the Knights of Columbus CTSO Committee Council #15704 for processing by the end of May 2025. So please don't delay in submitting your CTSO Scholarship Application Form.

CTSO Donation Form and a return envelope are available at the back of the church between now and the end of tax season.

CTSO Application Forms for 2025 School Year will be available at the parish office.



# Dear Padre,

***We are told that we are baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection, and that baptism is necessary for our salvation. But why was Jesus baptized?***

Jesus was baptized, not because he needed saving, but so that others might be saved. By accepting baptism, he established this act as the normative path for salvation. Saint John Chrysostom addressed this question: "Though [Christ] needed not baptism for his own sake, yet carnal nature in others had need thereof." Or as St. Gregory Nazianzen said more poetically: "Christ was baptized that he might plunge the old Adam entirely in the water."

Another reason Jesus accepted baptism is suggested by St. Augustine. He said our Lord was baptized "because he wished to do what he had commanded all to do." This is true servant leadership—not asking of others what one is not willing to do oneself. Or as St. Ambrose said, "This is justice, to do first thyself that which thou wishest another to do, and so encourage others by thy example."

Perhaps as we launch into a new year, we might try to remember our baptismal promise to "put on Christ" and imitate Jesus in this way: to not ask of anyone—our children or parents; employers or employees; teachers or students; principals or pastors; or even presidents—what we do not ask of ourselves, especially when it comes to honesty, dedication, civility, and charity. ●



SWEET MARSHMALLOW / SHUTTERSTOCK

***The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org***

## **Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://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>                         |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| January 13     | January 14     | January 15       | January 16      | January 17                | January 18      | January 19                            |
| <i>Weekday</i> | <i>Weekday</i> | <i>Weekday</i>   | <i>Weekday</i>  | <i>St. Anthony, Abbot</i> | <i>Weekday</i>  | <i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> |
| Heb 1:1–6      | Heb 2:5–12     | Heb 2:14–18      | Heb 3:7–14      | Heb 4:1–5, 11             | Heb 4:12–16     | Is 62:1–5                             |
| Mk 1:14–20     | Mk 1:21–28     | Mk 1:29–39       | Mk 1:40–45      | Mk 2:1–12                 | Mk 2:13–17      | 1 Cor 12:4–11                         |
|                |                |                  |                 |                           |                 | Jn 2:1–11                             |



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## **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***Let us thank the Lord for baptism. Let us also thank him for the parents who brought us to the font, for those who administered the sacrament...for the community in which we received him.... Do I acknowledge, in my life, the light of the presence of God, who sees me as his beloved son, his beloved daughter?***

**ANGELUS, ROME, JANUARY 7, 2024**