

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 4-5

Epiphany 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 Church uses the term “order” for this sacrament. This term was used in the Roman Empire to refer to a governing group. In this sacrament, there are three orders: Bishops, Priests, and Deacons. All three involve a special sharing in the Holy Spirit. As the Catechism says, ordination “confers a gift of the Holy Spirit that permits the exercise of a Sacred Power... which can come only from Christ Himself through the Church” (CCC #1538).

From Old Testament times on, God has been active in the life of his people through priests. It is through priests like Melchizedek, Aaron and his sons, and through the Tribe of Levi, that God brought his saving mercy to his people. These priests offered sacrifices to God on behalf of the people. They proclaimed the word of God to the people so they could grow in their communion with God. However, they could not provide the fullness of salvation to their people. For this, Jesus was needed.

Jesus offered the sacrifice of himself upon the cross in a priestly act of perfect self-offering accepted by the Father and culminating in His resurrection from the dead. As Risen Lord and High Priest, he continues to offer salvation to all.

Jesus has called certain men to join him in his priesthood through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. To build up this priesthood, Christ gives to his Church the ordained ministries of Bishop, Priest, and Deacon. As the Catechism states, “Through the ordained ministry, especially that of bishops and priests, the presence of Christ as head of the Church is made visible in the midst of the Community of Believers” (CCC # 1549). This Sacrament does not preserve these ordained men from weakness and sin, but the Holy Spirit guarantees that the minister’s sin does not impede the effectiveness of the Sacrament and its graces. In fact, the Catechism insists that the sacrament and its graces calls the ordained to a holiness of life and an attitude of humility that conforms them to Christ whose priesthood they share. So, the ordained minister always acts in the person of Christ and in the name of the Church.

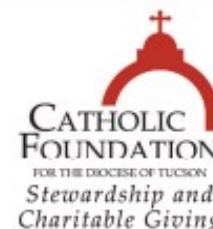
*~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.*

## Bible Study

*We will meet in the Agave room at 10:00 a.m. on Monday January 6, 2025.*



# Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Tucson



The Catholic Foundation is dedicated to inspiring and stewarding Catholic generosity in the Diocese of Tucson. The organization's core values are Faith, Stewardship, Integrity, Inspiration, Transformation & Discipleship.

The Catholic Foundation is a 501(c)3 charitable organization governed by an independent governing board and is the official fundraising entity for the Diocese of Tucson, including its parishes, schools, ministries and social service entities in Southern Arizona. They have provided philanthropic support for Catholic organizations in the area for more than 40 years, offering planned giving assistance and guidance through legacy gifts such as endowments, stock, annuities and bequests. The Catholic Foundation serves as a community foundation and a trusted charitable giving expert that partners with generous individuals, families and organizations to raise the quality of life in our Catholic community and beyond. They also foster a culture of collaboration, inspire action, and generate impactful outcomes that align with their mission. To learn more contact Elizabeth Bollinger, Executive Director directly at (520) 838-2506.



## QUICK FACTS

**Phone:** (520) 838-2504  
**Website:** [cathfnd.org](http://cathfnd.org)  
**Year Established:** 1981

**Budget:** \$6,569,000

**Impact:** 2024 Diocesan Grants: \$605,840. Healthcare Grants: \$406,000. Scholarships: \$24,000.

**Annual Fundraiser:** The Cornerstone Gala, Friday, Sept. 12, 2025

**Secure income** for yourself and your Catholic church, school, ministry or the **Catholic Foundation**.

### Charitable Gift Annuity

A gift annuity with the Catholic Foundation offers you fixed payments for life, and a way to support the Church.



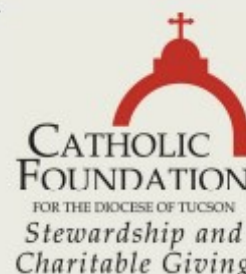
- Make a gift of \$10,000 or more using cash or securities.
- Receive fixed payments for life - for yourself or a loved one age 60 or older.
- Enjoy tax benefits, including an income tax deduction for a portion of your gift if you itemize, and part of each annuity payment is tax-free through life expectancy.
- Designate remaining funds to support your parish, school, ministry, or the Catholic Foundation.

### Gift Annuity Rates for One-Life\*

| Age  | 60   | 65   | 70   | 75   | 80   | 85   | 90+   |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Rate | 5.2% | 5.7% | 6.3% | 7.0% | 8.1% | 9.1% | 10.1% |


\*Effective January 1, 2024. Rates are subject to change.

To receive a free, no-obligation illustration of how you could benefit from a Charitable Gift Annuity, contact Elizabeth Bollinger at 520.955.2109 or [ebollinger@diocesetucson.org](mailto:ebollinger@diocesetucson.org)



## 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.





### **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 between the main entry and the Marial prayer corner. 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!

Photo of our visit at the ReachOut Women's Center in 2023: <https://reachoutwomenscenter.com>



## **52<sup>st</sup> Annual Celebration and March for Life**

At the '**St. Augustine Cathedral**' in Tucson



**Saturday, January 25, 2025, 9:00 AM**



### **How does it work?**

Mass with Bishop E. Weisenburger at 9:00 AM

March for Life begins at the Cathedral at 10:00 AM Walk of 4.2 miles to the Holy Hope cemetery.

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!

Do you have any questions? Please contact Mike Horner at (520) 975-4188



*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  
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      | L. Cindy Otte      |
| Linda Whitten         | Sue Cobble         |
| Marty Lopez           | Robert Keogh       |
| Carol Bruzzi          | George Sheehan     |

**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 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)  
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 3**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Fran & Monica Roach

### **Saturday, January 4**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed— Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*Guillermo Sanchez (d)

### **Sunday, January 5**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*JoAnn Hohmann (d)  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Robert McFeeters (d)

### **Monday, January 6**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*Carol Burba (d)

### **Tuesday, January 7**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Jim Shea  
\*\*Redemptorist Community  
(Fr. Peter Connolly's Birthday)

### **Wednesday, January 8**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Tom Fransiscus  
\*\*James Orth (d)

### **Thursday, January 9**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Jane Orth

### **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

## **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.

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**

# Christmas & New Year Poinsettia

## Weekly Stewardship for Our Lady of the Desert

Weekend Collections : December 21-22~\$7,238.00 Christmas ~\$4,082.00 December 28-29~\$5,376.00

**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  
Poinsettia's  
Honor & Remember  
The Following Loved Ones*



Taraba Family  
Joan Crose & Michael Crose  
Cleo Moore  
Lewandowski & Popiel Families  
Annette Thompson  
The Goulet Family  
William Metzger  
The Murrieta Family  
Schaefer & Gates Families  
Joan, Danny & Jimmy Jones  
Julia Ingalls  
Miriam & Clem Vayda  
Geri Vayda  
Roxanne (Helen) Dilts  
Helen Nelson  
Lisa Weagle  
Kyle Vayda  
Mr & Mrs Walter Ingalls  
Catalina Rivera  
Ryan Hanley  
Gabriel & Eva Bruno Family  
KJ Gift Family  
Mary & Joe Ostrowski  
Rapecis Family  
Donlon Family  
Ed Thelen  
J.R. Dominguez  
Klein & McCullough Families  
Lucy Roland  
Duffner Family  
Abatecola Family

Carter & Gallagher Families  
Carroll & Neely Families  
Jim Moore  
Betty Pate  
Shummon Family  
Thomas & Claire Judy  
Constance Fournier  
Bill Case  
Anne & Jack Ramsey  
Robert & Janice Francis  
Ernest Zebrowski  
Mary & Tony Donofrio  
David Donofrio  
David Spears  
Horacio & Lupe Clark & Sons  
Ivan & Lavina Kramer  
Bob Kramer  
Glen Kramer  
Komar & Rice Families  
Jack Lehmkuhl  
Dennis Terrill & Family  
Brunio Family  
Our Lady of the Desert Families  
Pat Celentano  
Mario Celentano  
Ensrude Family  
Gloria Garcia  
Tom Garcia  
Wienand Family  
Mlynarski Family  
Joe Fernando



# Dear Padre,

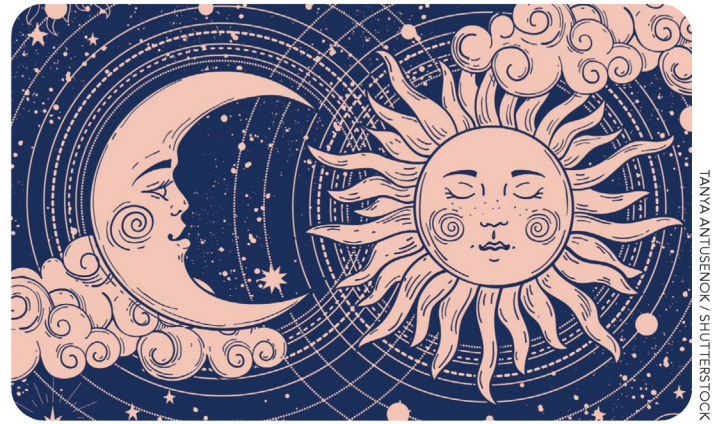
I'm into horoscopes. A friend told me that astrology is nonsense and against the Catholic faith. What do you say?

Stargazing is as old as the human race. We know with certainty that ancient Chaldea was known for its stargazers. Many of the constellations' names originated during that time. Some scholars believe that the three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the newborn Savior were themselves Chaldean stargazers.

Astrologers believe that the zodiac signs under which we were born largely control our human destiny. The Christian objection to astrology is that it insults almighty God, who alone knows the future. God alone, in cooperation with the free will of humans, controls the future. To suppose that stars, planets, animals, or inanimate objects can, independent of God, direct or influence our lives opposes the first commandment: "I am the LORD your God.... You shall not have other gods beside me" (Exodus 20:2-3).

The Old Testament clearly spells out that it is vain to imagine "either fire, or wind, or the swift air, or the circuit of the stars, or the mighty water, or the luminaries of heaven" as "the governors of the world" (Wisdom 13:2).

Don't give credit to or blame the stars for what you do and who you are. See past them to the God who made them, and who made us, and who cares for all creation. ●



TANYA ANTUSENOK / SHUTTERSTOCK

**The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org**

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*God made us: brimming with desire, directed, like the Magi, towards the stars.... We are what we desire. For it is our desires that...drive our lives forward, beyond the barriers of habit, beyond banal consumerism, beyond a drab and dreary faith, beyond the fear of becoming involved and serving others and the common good.*



CNS PHOTO

HOMILY, ROME, JANUARY 6, 2022

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://www.DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### Monday

January 6  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 3:22-4:6  
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

### Tuesday

January 7  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 4:7-10  
Mk 6:34-44

### Wednesday

January 8  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 4:11-18  
Mk 6:45-52

### Thursday

January 9  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 4:19-5:4  
Lk 4:14-22a

### Friday

January 10  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 5:5-13  
Lk 5:12-16

### Saturday

January 11  
Christmas Weekday  
1 Jn 5:14-21  
Jn 3:22-30

### Sunday

January 12  
The Baptism of the Lord  
Is 42:1-4, 6-7  
or Is 40:1-5, 9-11  
Acts 10:34-38  
or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7  
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22