

# Our Lady of the Desert Church

7101 West Picture Rocks Road, Tucson, AZ 85743  
Phone: 520-744-3400 Email: [office@desertrenewal.org](mailto:office@desertrenewal.org)  
Website: [www.desertrenewal.org](http://www.desertrenewal.org)

Saturday 4 pm livestreamed Mass: <https://www.youtube.com/c/OurLadyoftheDesertChurch/playlists>

## Weekend of February 22-23 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary

### 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.

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



As with all sacraments, the Sacrament of Marriage involves efficacious signs. We now turn to those signs to help understand this sacrament.

The sign of the Sacrament of Marriage is a hearing sign. It can be found in the vows. In those vows, a man and a woman give themselves to another person. The vows declare that a man, by giving himself totally to a woman becomes one with her, and a woman giving herself totally to a man becomes one with him. There can be no separation if a person gives all of himself/herself to another. Their lives become intertwined and one. By thus giving themselves to the other, the couple become a sign of God Himself, the One who gives Himself away in love. In all their shared life, they are called to show us what true love looks like.

Of course, this union is between two people, both of whom are weak human beings. All of us fail in our efforts to selflessly love. Selfishness is indeed a strong drive within us! However, we need to remember something that is very important, and something that comes into effect in the Sacrament of Marriage. The man is not alone. Jesus lives in him because of Baptism. The woman is not alone either. Jesus lives in her because of Baptism. When a man and a woman seek to enter into the Sacrament of Marriage, Jesus is present with them. As the man states his vows and makes an unconditional and total gift of himself to the one who will become his wife, not only does he give himself to the woman, but Jesus uses the will of the man to once again give himself to the woman. The same dual exchange happens as the woman speaks her vows to the man. So, the couple actually shares not only their human lives with one another, but also, they share the life of Jesus with each other! The presence of this shared life of Jesus makes available to them Jesus's own strength to love, and that strength is total. It was out of love that Jesus chose to die that we might live. Jesus's love was not limited by human selfishness.

So, in the words of the vows, a man and woman signify that they give themselves to each other. Because of God's presence and gift of this sacrament, what they symbolize with their words indeed takes place. Their human lives are shared with each other along with the life of Jesus himself.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.

## **Fr Thomas Fransiscus, C.Ss.R**

We are sorry to inform you that Fr Tom Fransiscus passed away on Thursday, February 13th. Tom was on vacation up in Reno, when he began to feel ill. He was taken into the hospital there for some minor surgery. Following surgery, he went into cardiac arrest and died. Please remember him in your prayers. Tom had a wonderful life of priesthood in which he ministered to people through Diocesan Tribunals. He also worked with Spanish-speaking immigrants here in the States. A memorial Mass will be held for him on Saturday, February 22 at 11:00 in the Church. All are welcomed!



*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/March 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 | David Donofrio     |
| Jack Friedman         | Bob Dionne         |
| Winnie Levoch         | Merle Margelofsky  |
| Bob Box               | Sonali Fernando    |
| 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         |
| Charles Lohr          | Scott Pickett      |

**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)
- Fr. Tom Fransiscus C.Ss.R. (2/25)
- Joe Fernando (2/24)
- Gabby Juteau (10/24)
- Mary Sloan (7/24)
- Elaine Tolentino (8/24)
- Patricia Wayne (10/24)
- Margaret Zeches (2/25)

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



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

### **Friday, February 21**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Jane Orth

### **Saturday, February 22**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed– Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Winfield & Barbara Baker

### **Sunday, February 23**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Edward Thom (d)  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*David Ratay (d)

### **Monday, February 24**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Jim Shea  
\*\*James Orth (d)

### **Tuesday, February 25**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Deceased Redemptorists

### **Wednesday, February 26**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Jim (d) & Gene Rucker

### **Thursday, February 27**

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

### **Friday, February 28**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Spiritual Gift for Healing

### **Saturday, March 1**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed–  
Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Mike Thompson - Happy 90th Birthday

### **Sunday, March 2**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Kath Silvia - Birthday  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Larry (d) & Karen Benkert

## **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> and last week  
**CLOSED WEDNESDAYS**

**This weeks Flower were donated**

**By Velma Whittingham**

**In Memory of**

**Winfield & Barbara Baker**

**Weekly Stewardship for Our Lady of the Desert**

Weekend Collections : February 10-17, 2025 ~ \$4,154.00

**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>.

## Annual Catholic Appeal

Yes, we are back to the beginning of another Annual Catholic Appeal. This special fund-raising effort is very important to allow the Diocesan Ministries to continue to be active in all the parishes of the Diocese. All the Diocesan Offices exist to support the Pastors of our Churches in providing ministry to their people. I encourage you all to be as supportive of this Campaign as you can be.

Many of our parishioners here at Our Lady of the Desert seem not to understand the relationship between the Diocese and the Redemptorists. We are working with the permission of the Diocesan Bishop. As such, we are under his authority. This is especially true of Our Lady of the Desert. Without the Bishop's permission, Our Lady of the Desert could not be in existence. And, since he has allowed us to exist, we are bound by all Diocesan policies. Being part of this ACA is part of those policies. All of you, as members of a Conventual Parish in this Diocese have access to the ministries of the Diocese of Tucson. So, this appeal directly affects us!

Because of our status as a Conventual Parish, we are treated differently when a goal is assigned to us. Our goal is much lower than if we were a regular parish. This ACA is a way of us showing our gratefulness to the Diocese of Tucson. So, once again, I ask you to please be generous in your support of this year's ACA.

Sincerely,

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

## 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.



COPPER STATE HOSPICE  
presents  
“LIFE AFTER LOSS...  
A RETREAT DAY FOR THE BEREAVED”

5



-this retreat day will offer an educational focus to those experiencing the loss of a loved one-

Topics will include:

- Loss History
- Normal Grief Process
- Anger & Depression
- Guilt and Forgiveness
- Letting Go & Saying Goodbye
- Taking Care of Oneself & New Beginnings

Date: Saturday, March 8, 2025 (lunch is included)

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (please arrive no later than 9:45 a.m.)

Place: Redemptorist Renewal Center, 7101 W. Picture Rocks Road, Tucson

Fee: \$45.00

How to register:

- The registration deadline is Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>
- Email Donna-Marie Terranova (dterranova@copperstatehospice.com) with your interest in attending, prior to the registration deadline, as there will be a form to complete. After reviewing your registration form, and a conversation with Donna-Marie, you will receive an email confirmation if your registration is accepted, along with further information about the retreat day.
- Registration is limited to the first twenty people.

### **About the Facilitator**

Donna-Marie Terranova is a Chaplain and the Bereavement Coordinator at Copper State Hospice. She is a Pastoral Counselor and Spiritual Director with master's degrees in Marriage, Family & Child Counseling, as well as Pastoral Theology.



COPPER STATE HOSPICE



# The Root of Addiction

*How Addiction Begins. How Serenity Begins*

Although there is no cure for addiction, it can be managed. Taming the addictive personality requires living 12 Step spirituality, relying on a Higher Power and the determination to take back control of your life.

The addictive personality develops in childhood for most people. And it's fueled by the belief that we are "not good enough" to be loved-- by our family, God or anyone else.

As a result, we develop a fear of abandonment that quickly sabotages all of our relationships because we are so preoccupied with feeling inferior to those people we come to love. We then overthink everything when friends and partners don't make time for us. They may not return a text and it never occurs to us that they are simply busy. Instead we internalize it and decide we are not worth their time or love.

We then worry that they will terminate the friendship or love relationship and leave us. And so we become clingy and eventually smother them with our neediness.

Once we have driven them away, we need a means of emotionally medicating away our pain, so we turn to alcohol, drugs, shopping, gambling or any number of other addictive behaviors.

This retreat will study the root causes of our addictive personalities, and solutions for replacing our feelings of worthlessness with feelings of self-respect.

This retreat begins with dinner on Friday night at 6:00 pm and ends with lunch on Sunday at Noon.

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

*Retreat Director*



**February 28-March 2**

**\$200 for commuter**

**\$350 for a room**

**both include meals**



*Redemptorist Renewal Center*

**7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd**

**Tucson, AZ 85743**

**Call 520-744-3400**

**for reservations**



# Dear Padre,

*My ex broke up with me. I find myself hoping he gets subjected to the same emotional pain as I have. I hate feeling this way, so how do I ask God to take away this pain and help me forgive my ex?*

What you are sharing is your hurt and confusion. Although your boyfriend was ready to end the relationship, you were not. It seems you are still not ready to move on. That is OK. Everyone has his or her own manner of dealing with disappointment, and there is no perfect timeframe.

More than your boyfriend's suffering, you desire freedom for yourself and a return to a healthy sense of your own personhood. You perceive him as happy and perhaps wonder how that's possible while you are still struggling. This is all very normal, and it's part of the process we all experience when an important relationship changes.



VALENTINA SHUKINA / SHUTTERSTOCK

You will work through this. You will love again. You will no longer be triggered by strong feelings when you encounter him in the future. But you are going to have to do the hard work of growing, maturing, and learning to let go. Begin by praying for his well-being. And if you can't do that, ask God for the grace to want to pray for his well-being. Certainly, the Lord will help you, but he won't magically take away your pain. There are no shortcuts. ●

*Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org*

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

### Monday

February 24  
Weekday  
Sir 1:1-10  
Mk 9:14-29

### Tuesday

February 25  
Weekday  
Sir 2:1-11  
Mk 9:30-37

### Wednesday

February 26  
Weekday  
Sir 4:11-19  
Mk 9:38-40

### Thursday

February 27  
Weekday  
Sir 5:1-8  
Mk 9:41-50

### Friday

February 28  
Weekday  
Sir 6:5-17  
Mk 10:1-12

### Saturday

March 1  
Weekday  
Sir 17:1-15  
Mk 10:13-16

### Sunday

March 2  
*Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Sir 27:4-7  
1 Cor 15:54-58  
Lk 6:39-45



FIZKES / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Turning the other cheek is not the withdrawal of the loser, but the action of one who has a greater inner strength. [It] means defeating evil with goodness, which opens up a breach in the heart of the enemy, unmasking the absurdity of his hatred. And this attitude...is dictated not by calculation or by hatred, but by love.*

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 20, 2022