

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 March 1-2 Eighth 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 we saw last week, the husband and wife become one because of the free gift of themselves to each other that they make in their vows. Because this gift is indeed caught up in the love of Jesus himself, the union of life must be total, and it must be forever. The couple themselves become a sign for us. As they strive to live a life of love, a life of putting the other first, God is with them and offering the grace to do a little bit better each day in living such love. The couple, of course, remain human beings, but now the grace of God is present in their relationship to assist them, if only they call upon God for such help. As the Catechism says, “The consent by which the spouses mutually give and receive one another is sealed by God Himself” (CCC # 1639).

Because they have entered into a covenant which is forever, their union must be forever. It is here that Jesus’s teachings about the permanency of marriage come into play. As the Catechism states, “The marriage bond has been established by God Himself in such a way that marriage concluded and consummated between baptized persons can never be dissolved” (CCC # 1640).

The marriage of a man and a woman, who struggle through all difficulty as they try to faithfully and fully love one another, mirrors the eternal love that God has for each one of us. God gives the couple all the graces necessary to day by day grow stronger in their covenant promises. They are graced to be able to grow in their ability to bear each other’s burdens with forgiveness and kindness. It is through the example of such a way of living, that their children share in their love, and are taught to love likewise.

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

## Funeral Announcement

Memorial Mass for **Margaret Zeches** will be on March 14, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Our Lady of the Desert Church.

## New Bible Study Update

The new Bible Study, “Jesus the Way, the Truth and the Life” was to begin this Monday, March 3rd.. However, due to the delay in the shipping of the materials, we will need to delay starting until Monday, March 10th. All who registered will receive their materials at the time of the first class.



## Lent

The Season of Lent will start this Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. Masses that day will be at 7:30 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Ashes will be distributed during each mass. All are invited and encouraged to join us for one of these masses. It is a great way to start the season! Each Friday of Lent, starting this coming Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate The Stations of the Cross at 11:30 A.M. All are invited to join in this celebration of our Lord's passion and death.

## Lenten Regulations

We remind you of the obligations for this Season of Lent. First, we are asked to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and on every Friday of Lent. This obligation exists for everyone over the age of 14 years old. In addition, on both Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, we are asked to fast. This fast means that we are allowed to eat two small meals, (which together would not add up to a normal sized meal), and then one full meal. This obligation to fast exists for all Catholics ages 15 to 59. However, the Bishops remind us, **“THOSE THAT ARE EXCUSED FROM FAST AND ABSTINENCE OUTSIDE THE AGE LIMITS INCLUDE THE PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY ILL INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING FROM CHRONIC ILLNESSES SUCH AS DIABETES. ALSO EXCLUDED ARE PREGNANT OR NURSING WOMEN. IN ALL CASES, COMMON SENSE SHOULD PREVAIL, AND ILL PERSONS SHOULD NOT FURTHER JEOPARDIZE THEIR HEALTH BY FASTING.”**

**BOOKSTORE 75% CLEARANCE ON ALL !**

**This weekend ONLY!**

**New location in the Office**

**opens on March 3, 2025**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

**Gifts & Books**





*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  
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      |
|                       | Anita Fearday, ASC |

**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 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

### **Monday, March 3**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*James Orth (d)

### **Tuesday, March 4**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Brian Johnson  
\*\*Redemptorist Community

### **Ash Wednesday, March 5**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*Giuseppe & Irma Gentio (d)  
4:00 p.m. - Fr. Charlie Wehrley

### **Thursday, March 6**

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

### **Friday, March 7**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Rachel Sigala (d)

### **Saturday, March 8**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed–Fr. Peter Connolly  
\*\*Benito Hernandez (d)

### **Sunday, March 9**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer  
\*\*Louise Thom (d)  
10:00 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley  
\*\*Dulce Kabia (d)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Interfaith Community Service Food Bank**

Please help our local community by donating today. We collected 75lbs for the month of February. 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.**

**This weeks Flower were donated**

**In Loving Memory of**

**Margaret Zeches**

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 : February 17-24, 2025 ~ \$5,022.85

**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/>



# First Friday Adoration

## Come let us adore Him!

March 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.

## 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>.



# Soul-Centered

Through Music as Prayer & Emotional Therapy



Music is the voice of God. This retreat will focus on using music as prayer as well as adding musical accompaniment to guided meditation practices.

In particular, we will focus on opening to the Holy Spirit and allowing God to take us to places within our hearts, souls and minds as we are experiencing musical pieces.

The primary focus will be on identifying feelings that the Spirit brings alive inside of you through the music. Guided meditations, set to music, will focus on enhancing self-love and self-esteem.

This retreat will begin at 9:00 AM and end at 3:00 PM. It will include lunch. The cost is \$55.

*Redemptorist Renewal Center*

7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd,  
Tucson, Arizona 85743

*Rev. Charlie Wehrley,*

Retreat Director

**April 5, 2025**

**Call 520-744-3400  
For reservations.**

## 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.



# Dear Padre,

## *Does pregnancy qualify as an exemption from abstinence and fasting in Lent?*

Yes, it does. Just to be clear, abstinence is not eating meat on the Fridays of Lent and applies to Catholics over the age of fourteen. On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine are obligated to fast, that is, eat only one full meal and two smaller meals that do not add up to a full meal. In addition to children and elders, exemptions from these disciplines include pregnant or nursing women and the physically or mentally ill, including those with chronic illnesses, like diabetes.

It is presumed that mature Catholics will seek balance and integration in the practice of the faith and will routinely make careful, informed decisions and apply them to spiritual practice. Obviously, being informed and aware of what the Church teaches, why the Church teaches something, and how it is to be applied and understood will only enhance a person's discernment.

The health of an unborn baby is a clear responsibility and of the utmost importance. Maintaining a healthy and balanced diet during pregnancy and adjusting any habitual practices that may endanger the health of the baby should be a primary concern. While exempt from fasting and abstinence, a pregnant woman may want to observe Lent by adopting another penitential discipline, something that would do no harm to the baby but would still be in the spirit of Lent. ●



SHVETS PRODUCTION / PEXELS

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

| <b>Monday</b>               | <b>Tuesday</b>             | <b>Wednesday</b>                                   | <b>Thursday</b>                 | <b>Friday</b>                 | <b>Saturday</b>                 | <b>Sunday</b>                          |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| March 3                     | March 4                    | March 5                                            | March 6                         | March 7                       | March 8                         | March 9                                |
| Weekday                     | Weekday                    | Ash Wednesday                                      | Thursday after<br>Ash Wednesday | Friday after<br>Ash Wednesday | Saturday after<br>Ash Wednesday | First Sunday<br>of Lent                |
| Sir 17:20–24<br>Mk 10:17–27 | Sir 35:1–12<br>Mk 10:28–31 | Jl 2:12–18<br>2 Cor 5:20–6:2<br>Mt 6:1–6,<br>16–18 | Dt 30:15–20<br>Lk 9:22–25       | Is 58:1–9a<br>Mt 9:14–15      | Is 58:9b–14<br>Lk 5:27–32       | Dt 26:4–10<br>Rom 10:8–13<br>Lk 4:1–13 |



VATICAN MEDIA

### **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

*What Jesus says is true: we always find reasons for blaming others and justifying ourselves. And very often we complain about things that are wrong in society, in the Church, in the world, without first questioning ourselves and without making an effort to change.... Every fruitful, positive change must begin from ourselves. Otherwise, there will be no change.*

**ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 27, 2022**