

# 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 March 22-23 Third Sunday of Lent

### 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



The Catechism of the Catholic Church begins to speak of the first commandment in these words: “The first commandment embraces faith, hope, and charity. When we say “God” we confess a constant, unchangeable being, always the same, faithful and just, without any evil. It follows that we must necessarily accept his words and have complete faith in him and acknowledge his authority. He is almighty, merciful, and infinitely beneficent... Who could not place all hope in him? Who could not love him when contemplating the treasures of goodness and love he has poured out on us?” (CCC # 2086).

Notice the reference here to faith, hope and love. These virtues are presented as the correct response to God’s revelation and love in our life. These virtues are seen as a way of honoring God and putting him first in our lives. We will now look a little deeper into these three virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity to see how they fulfill this first commandment.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.

*Stations of the Cross will be offered every Friday of Lent in the Our Lady of the Desert Church at 11:30 a.m.*

## Lenten Preparation for Easter

One of the ways the Church recommends for us to prepare for the celebration of Easter, is by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or Confession. There are a series of Penance services happening throughout our Vicariate. You are more than welcomed to attend any of them you wish

Thursday, March 27th: St. Mark the Evangelist 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 8th: St. Thomas the Apostle 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 9th: St. Odilia 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 10th: St. Christopher 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 1st: Santa Catalina 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 12th: Our Lady of the Desert 11:00 a.m.

## 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.”**







Redemptorist  
Renewal Center  
ANNUAL EASTER

Brunch

April 20th  
Immediately following Mass  
Parishners - \$40.00  
Children under 12 - \$30.00  
Non-Parishners - \$60.00

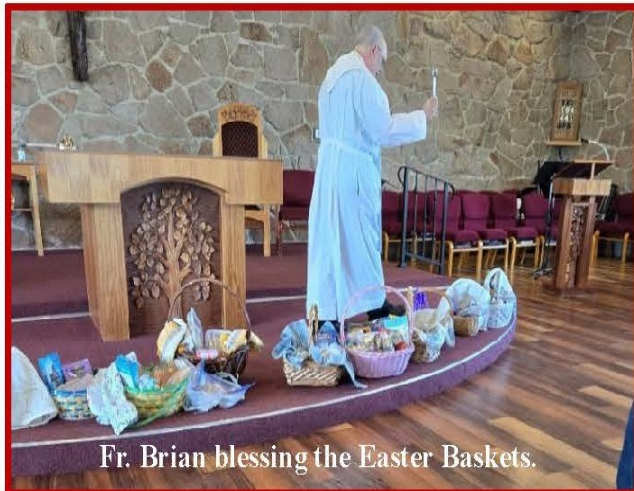
Available in the Office

# It's Easter Basket Blessing Time!

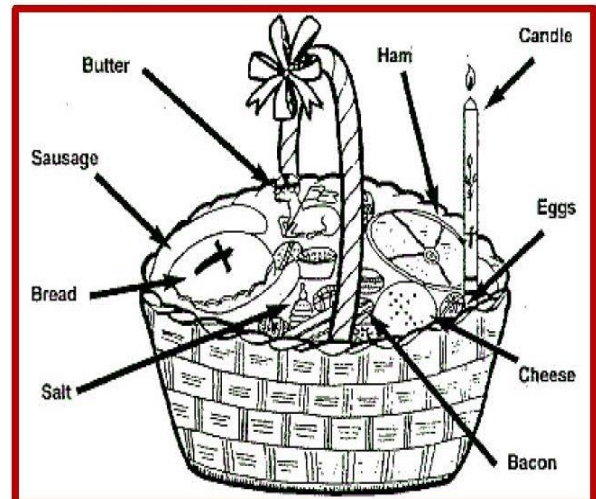
Once again, we are performing the Eastern European Tradition of Blessing Easter Baskets. On Holy Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM in the Our Lady of the Desert Church, Fr. Brian will perform the Easter Basket Blessing.

Bring your Easter Basket containing your traditional foods and items.

For additional information call Ray Obral at 520-403-5003.



Fr. Brian blessing the Easter Baskets.





An icon of the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be the centerpiece of a special Sacred Heart Holy Hour at Our Lady of the Desert Church at 5PM on Friday, April 4, 2025. The holy hour, flowing from the jubilee for the 350th anniversary of the apparitions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (Dec. 27, 2023 – Jun. 27, 2025) and inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Dilexit Nos* (He Loved Us), is sponsored by Knights of Columbus (Our Lady of the Desert Council 15704). During the holy hour, an icon depicting the most famous image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, painted in 1767 by Pompeo Batoni and now venerated in the Church of the Gesù in Rome, will be displayed. This reproduction of the original image bears the blessing of Pope Francis and is one of more than 300 icons traveling across the world as part of the Knights of Columbus Pilgrim Icon Program. Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly has said that as Knights bring these icons across the world to their parishes, he

hopes “they will invite their families — and all families — to consecrate their homes and themselves to the Sacred Heart.” He further said that “In the heart of Christ, we see the heart of the Father. And we ask Our Lord to help us make his heart our own, so that we may see and love in others what he sees and loves in us.” The Sacred Heart Holy Hour will include readings from Sacred Scripture and reflections from Pope Francis on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, as well as the Divine Mercy Chaplet, prayers to the Sacred Heart, and time for silent prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The prayer service will lead all present to grow in their love of God and devotion to his Most Sacred Heart. Please Spread the Word, everyone is welcome.



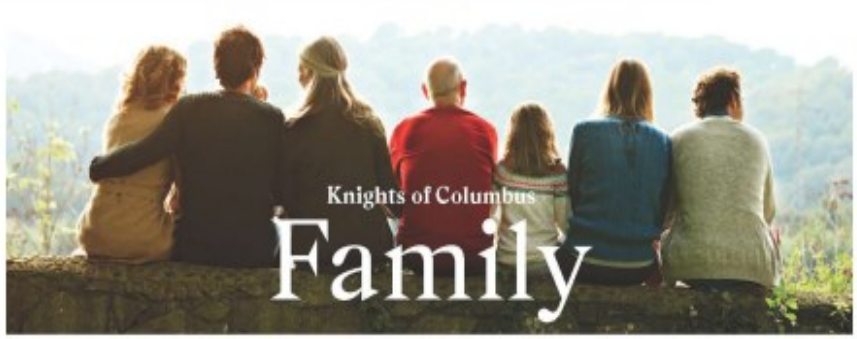
**Purchase Easter Lillies**

**In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_**

**Envelopes are in the back of the Church**

**Make checks out to OLOD**





# Family of the Month

Awarded to the family of

Bob and Chris Francis

*who has served as an inspiration to our parish, community and council by supporting and strengthening Catholic Family Life*

Dave VanderLinde

*Grand Knight*

15704

Council Number

03/16/2025

Date



Faith in Action

Family

Our parish KofC #15704 council is kicking off a 'Family of the Month' program; the intent is to promote and support the development of strong and vibrant families. Each month, the council 'Family of the Month' committee selects a parish family that models Christian family values and visibly lives them every day. Once a year, the council will select one of the previous twelve Family of the Month winners to represent the council/parish as the potential international 'Family of the Year'.

**Please join us in congratulating our 'Family of the Month' - the Francis, Bob and Chris.**

Long time parish members, Bob was active in our KofC Council 15704 as Financial Secretary. Together, Bob and Chris serve as Sacristan and Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound and are participants in the Diocese of Tucson annual 'March for Life', while Chris leads a faith formation women's group.

## CTSO Announcement—Our Lady of the Desert Church

Reminder 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.

Please use our CTSO Donation Form, when submitting your donation. The form is located at the back of the church and 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.

*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          | 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)  
Catherine Connolly (2/25)  
Robert (Bob) Dorr (7/24)  
Fr. Tom Fransiscus C.Ss.R.  
(2/25)  
Joe Fernando (2/24)  
Gabby Juteau (10/24)  
Marilyn Mallberg (2/25)  
Mary Sloan (7/24)  
Deacon Scott Pickett (3/25)  
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, March 21**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Jim Shea

\*\*Tess Coscos (d)

### **Saturday, March 22**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed— Fr. Brian Johnson

\*\*Larry (d) & Karen Benkert

### **Sunday, March 23**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

\*\*Fr. Brian Johnson - Birthday

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

\*\*Mont Murry (d)

### **Monday, March 24**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

\*\*Roberta Miller Brown - Birthday

### **Tuesday, March 25**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Peter Connolly

\*\*Jane Orth

### **Wednesday, March 26**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

\*\*Spiritual Gift for Healing

### **Thursday, March 27**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Jim Shea

\*\*Carol Burba (d)

### **Friday, March 28**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Brian Johnson

\*\*Fr. Charlie Wehrley C.Ss.R. - Birthday

### **Saturday, March 29**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed—Fr. Brian Johnson

\*\*Eric Hilton (d)

### **Sunday, March 30**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

\*\*Edda Jean Leffelman (d)

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

\*\*Maria D Arellano (d)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

Please help our local community by donating today. We collected 67bs so far for the month of March. 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

### **New Bible Study Update**

The new Bible Study, “Jesus the Way, the Truth and the Life” will begin on Monday, **March 24th meeting will be in the Agave room** located in Building # 7.

### **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.



**March**

March 2025

| 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 |    |    |    |    |    |

**BOOKSTORE  
NEW LOCATION  
OFFICE**

HOURS ARE THE SAME AS THE OFFICE  
MONDAY-SATURDAY 8 AM-4 PM  
SUNDAY 8 AM-3 PM

**This weeks Flower were donated by**

**The McIntosh Family & Friends**

**In Loving Memory of**

**Catherine Connolly**

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 : March 10-17, 2025 ~ \$3,337.00

**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:

<https://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>.

# 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.**



# Dear Padre,

**May I receive Communion if I'm divorced and haven't gotten an annulment?**

Yes, you may. Divorce, in itself, is not an impediment to the reception of Communion. Divorce, although regrettable because of the many ramifications that may be part of the experience, is not in itself a sin. There are situations when divorce may be the most loving choice and make it possible for all parties involved to live the lives God is calling them to live.

Remarriage, when a person is not free to marry because of the presence of a previous bond, is an impediment to the reception of holy Communion. Although this situation is more and more common, it does not mean that the law of the Church, representative of the teaching of Jesus, can be set aside. As part of the process of healing from your divorce and moving on with your life, you may want to seek an annulment, particularly if you think you might want to marry again. The annulment process can often be healing and a source of great blessing. It also provides a rare opportunity to reflect on what was lost as a result of the original divorce and what can be learned as a way of moving forward and building a second marriage that is strong and life-giving. ●



**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                      | Tuesday                                       | Wednesday                 | Thursday                   | Friday                     | Saturday                | Sunday                                               |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| March 24                    | March 25                                      | March 26                  | March 27                   | March 28                   | March 29                | March 30                                             |
| <i>Lenten Weekday</i>       | <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i>           | <i>Lenten Weekday</i>     | <i>Lenten Weekday</i>      | <i>Lenten Weekday</i>      | <i>Lenten Weekday</i>   | <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>                         |
| 2 Kgs 5:1-15b<br>Lk 4:24-30 | Is 7:10-14; 8:10<br>Heb 10:4-10<br>Lk 1:26-38 | Dt 4:1, 5-9<br>Mt 5:17-19 | Jer 7:23-28<br>Lk 11:14-23 | Hos 14:2-10<br>Mk 12:28-34 | Hos 6:1-6<br>Lk 18:9-14 | Jos 5:9a, 10-12<br>2 Cor 5:17-21<br>Lk 15:1-3, 11-32 |



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*I like to think that a nice name for God could be “the God of another possibility”.... [God] does not look at the achievements you have not yet reached, but the fruits you can still bear. He does not keep track of your shortcomings but encourages your potential. He does not dwell on your past, but confidently bets on your future.*

ANGELUS, ROME, MARCH 20, 2022