

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>

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

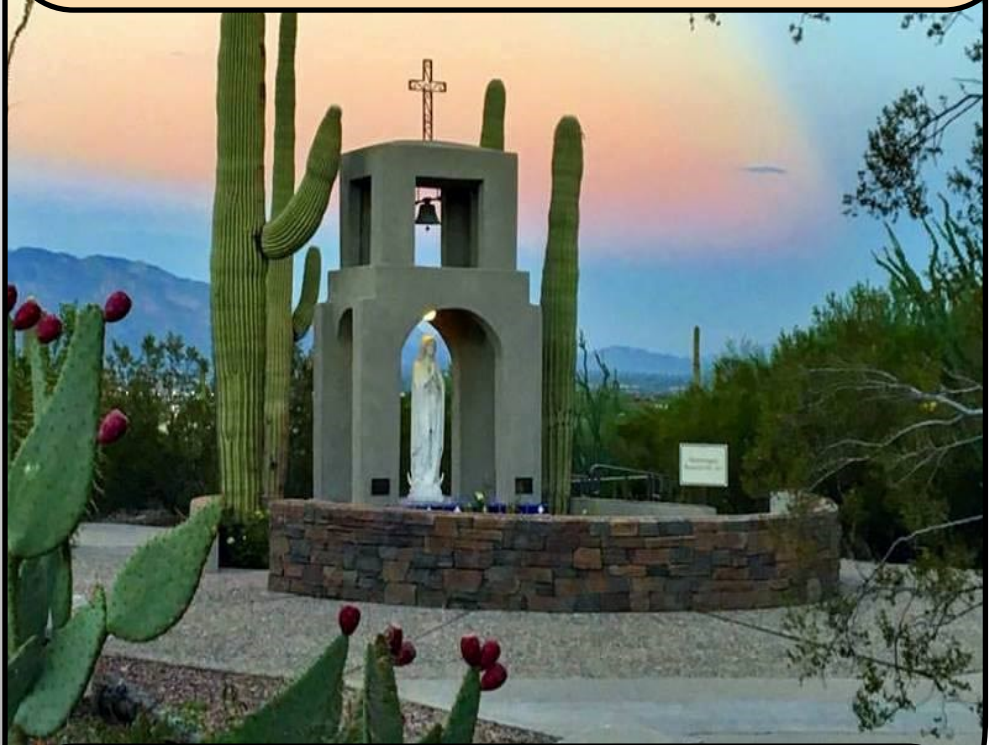
Steve Spain

*Grand Knight*

Joe Weinand

*Deputy Grand Knight*

## Weekend of August 23-24 Twenty-first Sunday In Ordinary Time



**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



Last week we started viewing the 5th Commandment. We saw that we were made in God's image, and how we must respect human life because it is sacred to God.

The catechism next turns to see ourselves as having this sacred gift of life. The catechism says, "Love towards oneself remains a fundamental principle of morality. Therefore, it is legitimate to insist on respect for one's own right to life" (CCC #2264). To defend oneself against violence is not necessarily sinful, even if the death of the other person is caused by my defense. However, the death of the other must never be our aim. As the catechism says, "The act of self-defense can have a double effect: the preservation of one's own life; and the killing of the aggressor... the one is intended, the other is not" (CCC # 2263). If we can defend ourselves without causing the death of our attacker, that is what we are called to do. Self-defense must always be about protecting myself, never about the killing of another.

The same idea speaks towards the duty of the state to protect its citizens. As the catechism says, "Preserving the common good of society requires rendering the aggressor unable to inflict harm" (CCC # 2266). The catechism continues, "If bloodless means are sufficient to defend human lives against an aggressor... public authority should limit itself to such means." (CCC #2267). Even murderers possess human life which must be held as sacred. While not directly ruling out capital punishment, the catechism says it must be used only when there is no other less lethal way of insuring the common good.

~Fr. Brian Johnson C.Ss.R.

## Choir

OLOD is looking for choir members for the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass. No experience is required but would be a plus. Current or new compliance would be needed for this ministry. If you love to sing, this is the ministry for you! Please contact Charles at [charles.lohr@comcast.net](mailto:charles.lohr@comcast.net)



JUBILEE YEAR 2025

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.  
May your grace transform us into  
tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within both  
humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure  
expectation of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.  
May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.  
May that same grace spread the joy and peace  
of our Redeemer throughout the earth.  
To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever. Amen



[www.CatholicPrayerCards.org](http://www.CatholicPrayerCards.org) 1-800-244-2780 Email: [orders@CatholicPrayerCards.org](mailto:orders@CatholicPrayerCards.org) Card #905





*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 August 2025**

|                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Miguel Quijada        | Jerry Linton             |
| Tim McDonald          | Aubrey Scarborough       |
| Chuck Peterson        | Joanna Crawford          |
| Linda Peterson        | Lee Morrison             |
| Michael Dunlap        | Erin Neely               |
| Charles Lohr          | Ashleigh McIntosh        |
| Terry Bahill          | Emily Hernandez          |
| Rachel Flint          | JC Martinez              |
| Bob Garcia            | David Donofrio           |
| Fr. Jeff King-Healing | Gayle Dorr               |
| Jack Friedman         | Merle Margelofsky        |
| Winnie Levoch         | Anita Fearday, ASC       |
| Sonali Fernando       | June and Stan Wood       |
| Hayden Spencer        | John Smithhisler         |
| Walter McCulloch      | Robert Keogh             |
| Marty Lopez           | Virginia (Ginny) Wuebold |
| Carol Bruzzi          | Mike Ortiz               |
| Fr. Pat Grile         | Linda Lowman             |
| Ray Obral             |                          |

### **OUR LADY OF THE DESERT**

#### **DECEASED MEMBERS**

*Last 12 Months*

**(Month/Year)**

Bob Box (3/25)  
Carol Burba (9/24)  
Pat Celentano (12/24)  
Patricia Conley (12/24)  
Catherine Connolly (2/25)  
Bob Dionne (5/25)  
Josie Earhart (5/25)  
Fr. Tom Fransiscus C.Ss.R.  
(2/25)  
Bettie Hunchis (8/25)  
Gabby Juteau (10/24)  
Marilyn Mallberg (2/25)  
Sebastian Quijada (8/25)  
George Sheehan (5/25)  
Deacon Scott Pickett (3/25)  
Elaine Tolentino (8/24)  
Patricia Wayne (10/24)  
Jim Whitten (7/25)  
Margaret Zeches (2/25)



**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>.

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

**Hoshea 2:16**

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

### **Friday, August 22**

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

**\*\*Spiritual Gift of Healing**

### **Saturday, August 23**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed- Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**\*\*Ruth Reed - Miller (d)**

### **Sunday, August 24**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**\*\*Daniel Arico (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Peter Connolly

**\*\*William Bandelt (d)**

### **Monday, August 25**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Charlie Wehrley

**\*\*Wayne Lindquist (d)**

### **Tuesday, August 26**

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

**\*\*Maricela Jimenez - Healing**

### **Wednesday, August 27**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\*Mary Klopp (d)**

### **Thursday, August 28**

7:30 a.m. - Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

**\*\*Margaret Holdahl (d)**

### **Friday, August 29**

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

**\*\*Cecil Beatty (d)**

### **Saturday, August 30**

4:00 p.m. livestreamed-Fr. Peter Connolly

**\*\*Irena Capar (d)**

### **Sunday, August 31**

7:30 a.m. – Fr. Stephen Rehrauer

**\*\*Maryann Higgins (d)**

10:00 a.m. – Fr. Brian Johnson

**\*\*George Sheehan (d)**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

Please help our local community by donating today. We collected 26 Lbs. so far for the month of June. The bin is located in the veranda near the Dining room.

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 From 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.**

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.**

## Our Lady of Perpetual Help Gifts & Books



Hours are:

MONDAY – SATURDAY: 8:00 am—4:00 pm

SUNDAY 8:00 am—3:00 pm

This weeks Flowers were donated in  
Celebration of  
**Kirk & Jane Pielow - 57th  
Wedding Anniversary**

## Weekly Stewardship for Our Lady of the Desert

Week of August 11-18, 2025 Collection Total : \$3,563.00

**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/>



**Sunday, August 24, 2025**

## **Blessing Procession Participants Wanted for the Arizona Rosary Celebration**

Make plans to join others on **October 18, 2025**, as the Arizona Rosary Celebration celebrates its 50th year statewide and 15th year in the Diocese of Tucson. The Event will be held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church located at 8650 N. Shannon Road, Tucson, AZ 85742 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Parishes wishing to participate in the Blessing Procession need to submit the registration form found on the website, [www.AzRosary.net](http://www.AzRosary.net). The completed form can be submitted to [kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com](mailto:kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com) or by contacting Sonya Gutierrez, 520-869-0944 or [msgs93@gmail.com](mailto:msgs93@gmail.com).



### **Arizona Rosary Celebration**



*Bring family, friends, and your heartfelt prayer petitions.*

**Saturday  
October 18, 2025  
10:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**  
8650 N. Shannon Rd.  
Tucson, AZ 85742

**Information**  
John McNulty (602) 568-7047  
[info@AzRosary.net](mailto:info@AzRosary.net) | [www.AzRosary.net](http://www.AzRosary.net)

**FREE ADMISSION**



**Guest Speaker**  
**Fr. Emanuel**  
**Franco Gomez**



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF PHOENIX



***Let's Pray the Rosary, Arizona!***

**Domingo, 24 de agosto de  
2025**

### **Se Buscan Participantes para la Procesión de Bendición para la Celebración del Rosario de Arizona**

Haga planes para unirse a otros el 18 de octubre de 2025, cuando la Celebración del Rosario de Arizona celebra su 50. aniversario a nivel estatal y su 15. aniversario en la Diócesis de Tucson. El evento se llevará a cabo en la Iglesia Católica St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, situada en 8650 N. Shannon Road, Tucson, AZ 85742, de 10:00 a. m. a 12:15 p. m. Las parroquias que deseen participar en la Procesión de Bendición deben enviar el formulario de inscripción que se encuentra en el sitio web [www.AzRosary.net](http://www.AzRosary.net).

El formulario completo se debe enviar a [kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com](mailto:kofcrick.garrison@gmail.com) o poniéndose en contacto con Sonya Gutiérrez, 520-869-0944 o [msgs93@gmail.com](mailto:msgs93@gmail.com)

## Right to Life Month

Every October, the Church in the U.S. celebrates Respect Life Month. We reflect on the gift of *every* human life and how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. We invite you to use this prayer during this week, as a way of beginning to reflect on the great gift of life that God has given us.

### A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life

Dearest St. Joseph,  
at the word of an angel,  
you lovingly took Mary into your home.  
As God's humble servant, you guided  
the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem,  
welcomed Jesus as your own son  
in the shelter of a manger,  
and fled far from your homeland  
for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector,  
you never hesitated to sacrifice  
for those entrusted to you.  
May your example inspire us also  
to welcome, cherish, and safeguard  
God's most precious gift of life.  
Help us to faithfully commit ourselves  
to the service and defense of human life  
—especially where it is  
vulnerable or threatened.

Obtain for us the grace  
to do the will of God in all things.

Amen.

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# The Prophets

*Messengers of God's Mercy*

SARAH CHRISTMYER and THOMAS SMITH

## New Bible Study

Lead by: Fr. Brian Johnson, C.Ss.R.

**“The Prophets: Messengers of God’s Mercy”** is a powerful Bible study that will draw you closer to Christ. The prophets afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted, calling us to return to our covenant relationship with God. They urge us to repentance, warn us of the dangers of sin, and announce the blessings of faithfulness. Their prophetic words speak to us even today, as they draw us closer to our heavenly Bridegroom and show us how to share him with others.

Classes begin October 6 at 10:00 A.M. There will be a total of 10 weekly classes. The cost of materials for this study will be \$32.00. Please call the office to register by August 25<sup>th</sup>.



# Emotional Healing

## Reclaiming Our Self-Worth

Self-worth is the value you place on yourself, which can be influenced by your experiences, societal expectations, and how you perceive your abilities and qualities. It reflects your self-esteem and can affect your overall mental health and well-being.

### *Positive Psychology*

Countless people struggle with having good self-worth. Generally, self-worth is something we are inherently born with. But some of us were deprived of developing a positive sense of self-worth because we grew up in dysfunctional household where one or both of our caregivers were suffering from poor self-worth.

As a result, they passed on their negative feelings about themselves, teaching us to see ourselves in a similar way to how they saw themselves.

Low self-worth in adulthood keeps us from feeling worthy of love, can interfere with our studies or job performance and has a tremendous negative impact on our personal relationships. We can't expect others are going to love us if we aren't willing to accept and love ourselves.

Self-worth, self-esteem, self-acceptance and self-love are all interconnected. Come learn to take your power back from the childhood trauma that told you that you weren't worthy of love or success.



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

September 6, 2025  
9:00AM- 3:00PM  
\$55 per person

*Redemptorist Renewal Center*

7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd  
Tucson, AZ 85743

Call 520-744-3400 for reservations



# **OVERTHINKING**

**in the New Age of Anxiety**



**Overthinking has become a daily nightmare for many people. And the average overthinker is generally creating problems in their minds that don't actually exist in reality.**

**We get stuck in the "what if this happens?" Or "I've really messed up things." Then we ruminate over these problems that we are creating for ourselves.**

**If you are an obsessive overthinker come learn to re-enter reality.**

**September 20, 2025**

**9:00 AM- 3:00 PM**

**\$55 per person**

*Includes lunch and Materials*

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

**Redemptorist Renewal Center  
7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd.  
Tucson, AZ 85743**

**Call 520-744-3400  
for reservations**

# Lost Without Love

## Living with Fear of Abandonment

**"Ultimately, childhood emotional neglect teaches you not only to abandon your emotions but also to abandon yourself."**

*Psychology Today*

Human relationships are difficult and messy for many reasons. One of those reasons is fear of abandonment. Many people grow up in families where one or both parents are emotionally unavailable.

Emotionally unavailable parents are unable to model emotional intelligence and meet the emotional needs of their children. As a result, the emotional development of those children is stunted.

Worse yet is the fact that when a parent isn't able to respond affectionately to the joys and sorrows of their children, those children begin to believe that their feelings and needs don't count.

When children are continually met with emotional coldness, they develop the belief that they are somehow unacceptable to their parents, feel like they have to earn love to be loved and develop a fear of abandonment if they aren't able to succeed at winning their parents approval.

Feeling unloveable, the child then abandons him or herself. As they grow older, the fear of being rejected haunts them and can destroy their relationships. No matter how much love and acceptance another person may offer them, the emotionally abandoned person is unable to believe it or accept it for fear of being left behind again.

Awareness is the key. This retreat will provide awareness into this problem and offer solutions to counter fear of abandonment.



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

**October 4, 2025**  
9:00 AM-3:00 PM

**\$55 per person**  
includes lunch and handouts

*Redemptorist Renewal Center*  
7101 W. Picture Rocks Rd.  
Tucson, AZ 85743

**Call 520-744-3400**  
for reservations

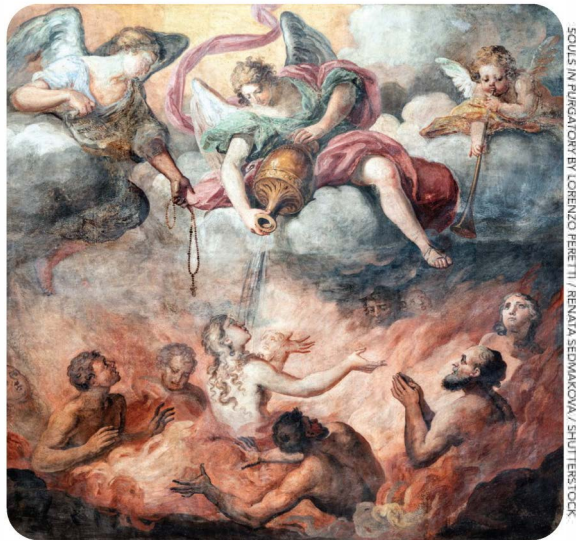


# Dear Padre,

***My wife mentioned that neither the Book of Mormon nor the Catholic Bible mentions purgatory. Please comment.***

A not-uncommon frustration is when a person searches the Bible for a particular word or phrasing. Frankly, it is expecting too much from the religious text to be able to faithfully record a particular word or phrase that originated hundreds of years after the ancient text was composed. Purgatory is one such example of this frustration. The concept of purgatory is referenced in the biblical text, particularly in 2 Corinthians 5:10 and 7:1, Hebrews 9:27 and 12:14, and 2 Maccabees 12:46, but the word is never used.

This should come as no real surprise because it was not until the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) that the concept was expanded and formed into a theological statement of belief that has become central to Roman Catholicism. And what is that belief? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is clear: “All who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned” (CCC, 1030, 1031a). The Book of Mormon never references purgatory, but it does speak about the afterlife and the experience of “waiting” in the spirit world for the completion of earthly time. ●



SOULS IN PURGATORY BY LORENZO PERETTI / RENATA SEDMAKOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK

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



LOSSERVATORE ROMANO / CNA

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***The narrow door is an image that could scare us, as if salvation is destined for only a select few, or for perfect people. But...a little further ahead, [Jesus] confirms, “Men will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.”***

***Therefore, this door is narrow, but is open to everyone!***

**ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 21, 2022**

### Monday

August 25

Weekday

1 Thes 1:1–5, 8b–10

Mt 23:13–22

### Tuesday

August 26

Weekday

1 Thes 2:1–8

Mt 23:23–26

### Wednesday

August 27

St. Monica

1 Thes 2:9–13

Mt 23:27–32

### Thursday

August 28

St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

1 Thes 3:7–13

Mt 24:42–51

### Friday

August 29

The Passion of St. John the Baptist

1 Thes 4:1–8

Mk 6:17–29

### Saturday

August 30

Weekday

1 Thes 4:9–11

Mt 25:14–30

### Sunday

August 31

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 3:17–18, 20, 28–29

Heb 12:18–19, 22–24a

Lk 14:1, 7–14