October 04, 2026



St. Rita in the Desert
Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:
Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:
Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

WEEKEND MASS
Horario de Misas

SATURDAY | Sabádo
5:00 pm—English
SUNDAY | Domingo
8:00 am—English
10:00 am—English
12:00 pm—Spanish

WEEKDAY MASS
IN SHRINE | Misa Diaria en el Santuario

MONDAY-FRIDAY | De Lunes a Viernes
8:00 am —English

ADORATION
FRIDAY | Viernes
8:30 am—9:30 am
In the church or by appointment
En la iglesia o por cita

CONFESSION
Confesiones

SATURDAY | Sabádo
3:30 pm—4:30 pm
In the church or by appointment
En la iglesia o por cita



PARISH OFFICE
Horario de Oficina

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY | De Lunes a Miércoles
8:30 am-4:00 pm

THURSDAY | Jueves
8:00 am-2:00 pm

FRIDAY | Viernes
CLOSED

Office closed
12pm—1pm daily

NEED TO CONTACT US?
Scan Here:

27TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." (Matthew 21:42)

"La piedra que desecharon los constructores es ahora la piedra angular." (Mateo 21:42)

Reflection:
In this Gospel passage, Jesus tells the parable of the tenants, illustrating how the vineyard owner sends his servants, and ultimately his son, to collect the fruits, but they are rejected and harmed by the tenants. The parable symbolizes God's sending of prophets and ultimately His Son, Jesus, to His people, who often face rejection. Yet, Jesus becomes the cornerstone, the essential foundation upon which God's kingdom is built. This story challenges us to examine our own openness to God's messages and His presence in our lives. It invites us to recognize Christ as the cornerstone of our lives, urging us to live in gratitude and responsibility for the gifts of faith and life we've received.

Socratic Question:
What are the "cornerstones" in your life, and how does embracing Jesus as the ultimate cornerstone transform the way you live and make decisions?

Reflexión:
En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús relata la parábola de los viñadores, ilustrando cómo el dueño de la viña envía a sus siervos y, finalmente, a su hijo para recoger los frutos, pero estos son rechazados y maltratados por los viñadores. La parábola simboliza el envío por parte de Dios de profetas y, finalmente, de Su Hijo Jesús a Su pueblo, quien a menudo es rechazado. Sin embargo, Jesús se convierte en la piedra angular, el fundamento esencial sobre el cual se construye el reino de Dios. Esta historia nos reta a examinar nuestra propia apertura a los mensajes de Dios y su presencia en nuestras vidas, invitándonos a reconocer a Cristo como la piedra angular de nuestra existencia y motivándonos a vivir con gratitud y responsabilidad por los dones de la fe y la vida que hemos recibido.

Pregunta socrática:
¿Cuáles son las "piedras angulares" en tu vida, y cómo transforma tu forma de vivir y tomar decisiones el aceptar a Jesús como la piedra angular por excelencia?

Source: ***Truthly App***

STAFF DIRECTORY

Parish Office

Administrative Assistant:
adminassist@stritainthedesert.org

Secretary:
secretary@stritainthedesert.org

Office Assistant:
officeassistant@stritainthedesert.org

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bulletin@stritainthedesert.org

Facilities Manager:
maintenance@stritainthedesert.org

Religious Education

Director of Religious Education:
dre@stritainthedesert.org

Youth Ministry:
youthministry@stritainthedesert.org

OCIA Coordinator:
ocia@stritainthedesert.org

Parish Directory

COLLECTIONS | COLECTA

September 27, 2026

Offertory: $8,176.15
Rectory Debt: $2,672.67
Campus Maint: $607.20

Thank you for your support.
God bless you!

https://www.osvhub.com/stritainthedesert/giving/funds

BULLETIN DEADLINE & QUESTIONS

Email bulletin request(s) to:
bulletin@stritainthedesert.org
By **10am** on the **Wednesday** before the *Sunday* you want it published.

HOMEBOUND EUCHARIST

If you have a family member or know of a parishioner in the St. Rita area in need of having the Eucharist brought to them regularly, please contact the Parish Office.

EMERGENCY ANOINTING OF THE SICK

520-543-8415

MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

In accordance with Canon 948, if any faithful would like the Mass to be offered for their individual intention only, please make your request at the Parish Office.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

•Fridays following 8am Mass for 1hr
•1st Sunday of each month at 3-4pm in the John XXIII



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Every 1st Friday at 8am Mass

BAPTISMS

Visit stritainthedesert.org LITURGY|SACRAMENTS|BAPTISM and complete the *Intent to Baptize* Form



CONFIRMATION

Contact Youth Minister or OCIA director

MARRIAGE

Marriage arrangements must be made 4 months in advance. Visit https://www.stritainthedesert.org/marriage for more information.

OFFICE OF THE PASTOR | OFICINA DE PASTOR

October 04, 2026

I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord,
to go and bear fruit that will remain. (John 15:16)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Sunday the Lord speaks of a vineyard leased to tenants. When the landowner sends for his fruit, they beat the servants and kill the son, thinking the inheritance is theirs. They were never owners. They were stewards who chose to live as lords.

That is our place. This parish, these buildings, even our breath are not ours to keep. God planted the vineyard. Then He gave what no tenant deserved: His Son, given for us. Because Christ gave Himself completely for us, we can sacrifice something—time, treasure, and the work of cultivating this corner of the Kingdom. Stewardship is the answer the tenants refused.

We felt that on Saturday, September 12, when someone trespassed onto parish property, stole components from the air-conditioning unit behind the Shrine, and left the system inoperable. We are working with Diocesan Insurance, adding cameras, and repairing concrete by the hall and two south doors damaged in attempted break-ins. The combined repairs and security improvements are estimated at $17,000 to $20,000. That is why the campus-maintenance second collection matters. Thank you for helping keep this vineyard standing.

This week I will gather with the Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. Our annual meeting will be held in San Diego this year. Please pray for us and for peace in the Holy Land.

The owner is still coming. May He find us at work—not grasping the inheritance, but loving the vineyard because we have first been loved.

St. Rita, pray for us.

Peace and all good,



Very Reverend Alonzo M. García, Dean



4 de octubre de 2026

Yo los he elegido del mundo, dice el Señor,
para que vayan y den fruto, y su fruto permanezca.
(Juan 15,16)

Queridos feligreses:

Este domingo el Señor nos habla de una viña arrendada a unos labradores. Cuando el dueño envía a recoger su fruto, ellos golpean a los siervos y matan al hijo, pensando que la herencia será suya. Nunca fueron dueños. Eran administradores que eligieron vivir como señores.

Ese es también nuestro lugar. Esta parroquia, estos edificios, incluso nuestro aliento, no son nuestros para retenerlos. Dios plantó la viña. Luego dio lo que ningún labrador merecía: a su Hijo, entregado por nosotros. Porque Cristo se entregó completamente por nosotros, también nosotros podemos sacrificar algo: nuestro tiempo, nuestros bienes y nuestro trabajo para cultivar este rincón del Reino. La corresponsabilidad es la respuesta que aquellos labradores rechazaron.

Lo sentimos de manera muy concreta el sábado 12 de septiembre, cuando alguien entró sin autorización a la propiedad de la parroquia, robó componentes de la unidad de aire acondicionado detrás del Santuario y dejó el sistema inoperable. Estamos trabajando con el seguro diocesano, instalando más cámaras y reparando el concreto junto al salón y las dos puertas del lado sur dañadas durante intentos de allanamiento. El costo total estimado de las reparaciones y mejoras de seguridad es de $17,000 a $20,000. Por eso es tan importante la segunda colecta para el mantenimiento de nuestro campus. Gracias por ayudarnos a mantener en pie esta viña.

Esta semana me reuniré con los Caballeros y Damas del Santo Sepulcro de Jerusalén. Nuestra reunión anual se llevará a cabo en San Diego este año. Les pido que oren por nosotros y por la paz en Tierra Santa.

El dueño sigue viniendo. Que nos encuentre trabajando, no aferrándonos a la herencia, sino amando la viña porque nosotros fuimos amados primero.

Santa Rita, ruega por nosotros.

Paz y bien,

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:
"My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside." (Isaiah 5:1)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
"The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel." (Psalm 80:15)

SECOND READING:
"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." (Philippians 4:6)

GOSPEL:
"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." (Matthew 21:42)

Sunday, October 4
Is 5:1-7 | Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20 | Phil 4:6-9 | Mt 21:33-43

Monday, October 5
Gal 1:6-12 | Ps 111:1b-2, 7-9, 10c | Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday, October 6
Gal 1:13-24 | Ps 139:1b-3, 13-15 | Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday, October 7
Gal 2:1-2, 7-14 | Ps 117:1bc, 2 | Lk 11:1-4

Thursday, October 8
Gal 3:1-5 | Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75 | Lk 11:5-13

Friday, October 9
Gal 3:7-14 | Ps 111:1b-6 | Lk 11:15-26

Saturday, October 10
Gal 3:22-29 | Ps 105:2-7 | Lk 11:27-28

MASS INTENTIONS
INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday October 3
8:00 am
SI Laura Trujillo

5:00 pm
SI George G. Jochum Family
SI Tim & Yadira Berigan

Sunday October 4
8:00 am
Men & Women in the Military
✝Bernard Floor

10:00 am
✝José Arteaga, María Peña Carmen, Victor, Armando Cancino
✝Frank & Frances Barrios

12:00 pm
Living & Deceased of St. Rita

Monday October 5
8:00 am
✝James W. Logan
✝Jeffrey Roberts
✝Jessie Holguin

Tuesday October 6
8:00 am
First Responders
SI Ajena John

Wednesday October 7
8:00 am
✝Louisa & Joe Moreno & Family

Thursday October 8
8:00 am
✝Angie Willmer
✝Doug Fiscella
✝Ed Fiscella

Friday October 9
8:00 am
✝Jack O'Donnell
SI Seth Svob
✝Francisco Sanchez y Familia

PARISH NEWS

Rectory Debt Payoff
As of Sunday, September 27, 2026

$216,431 — $345,000 GOAL

149 — 500 FAMILY PLEDGED/DONATED GOAL

📖 THE HARVEST JOURNAL

The Wait Is Almost Over

Can you picture it?

Children laughing.

Music drifting across the parish grounds.

Friends greeting one another.

Lanterns beginning to glow beneath the evening sky.

After months of planning...

The vision is almost reality.

Just 19 more days until

Friday, October 23 | 4–10 PM
Saturday, October 24 | 2–10 PM

📖 *Join us next Sunday for another page from The Harvest Journal.*

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The good news of this Gospel is that
all we need to do is let God tend us and bring us to produce good fruit. All we need do is be faithful. God will take care of the rest.

Please help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to bring the love and mercy of Jesus to those who feel left out and abandoned.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS





MEALS TO GROW — VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Outreach needs a volunteer to help deliver **Meals** to **Grow food bags to Acacia Elementary** and **Old Vail Middle School** beginning **October 22.**

Just one hour Thursday mornings, partnered with another volunteer. **Truck or SUV helpful!**

To volunteer: outreach@stritainthedesert.org

BUILDING ON OUR PAST SECURING OUR FUTURE

Over the coming weeks, St. Rita will introduce our **Building on Our Past – Securing Our Future** program as we look toward the continued mission and ministries of our parish.

We ask each parish family to **prayerfully reflect on their participation** as we prepare for **Commitment Weekend, October 24–25.**

Questions? Please contact the Parish Office.

ST. RITA'S GUILD GIFT SHOP REOPENS!

October 4th | 9am–12:00 noon

Stop by and shop with us!

The Gift Shop will be open on the **1st and 3rd Sunday** of each month, from 9:00 AM–12:00 noon.

WELCOME TEAM POTLUCK

October 10th | 6pm

Welcome Team invites you to a Costa Rican Dinner (***Free***)

We look forward to seeing you there!

Donations go toward debt reduction

Coffee and Pastries
After all Masses, Sunday, **Oct 11.**

NEED A PLACE TO GATHER?

St. Rita Hall is available for receptions, celebrations, meetings, and other special occasions. Seats up to 70 guests.

For availability: 520-762-9688
secretary@stritainthedesert.org



SHRINE HOST VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Help us welcome Festival guests to the Shrine of Santa Rita!

We're looking for **volunteers** to simply welcome visitors, share our beautiful Shrine, and assist guests who wish to light a candle during the Harvest Festival.

No heavy lifting—just a warm welcome and a little of your time!
Interested? Email
festival@stritainthedesert.org

HELP BUILD OUR SILENT AUCTION

Donations of new, unused items, gift cards, certificates, services & experiences are needed!

DROP OFF: Parish Office through **Oct. 16**

Thank you for supporting our Harvest Festival!

SAINTS & FAITH-BASED COSTUME CONTEST

Come dressed as your favorite saint, biblical figure, angel, or faith-inspired character during the Harvest Festival! Children, teens, adults, and families are invited to participate. Costumes may be homemade, traditional, simple, or creative. Participants may even be asked to share a fun fact about the person they portray!

HARVEST FESTIVAL NEEDS YOU!

Two hours can make a difference.
Pick a shift. Bring a friend.
Bring your spouse.
Volunteer as a family.

We have the plans.
We have the Festival.
Now we need the people.

Knights of Columbus®

MASS FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

St. Rita in the Desert Catholic Church
October 11, 2026 | 8:00 am

Contact: Jim Grayson
Email: rtl@stritainthedesert.org
Phone: (815) 546-4944

FARM FRESH EGG SALES RETURN

The Knights of Columbus will resume selling farm fresh eggs after all Masses on the **first and third weekends of each month.**

This Month: **October 3-4 & 17-18**
Next Month: November 7-8 & 21-22

Proceeds will support youth programs at St. Rita, including St. Joseph Youth Camp, altar server retreats, Religious Education scholarships, and our new Youth Ministry.

Thank you for supporting the youth of our parish!

American Red Cross

Every 2 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.
Help save lives.

Give blood.

Blood Drive
Saint Rita in the Desert Church

Bloodmobile
13260 E. Colossal Cave Place
Vail, AZ 85641

Sunday, October 11, 2026
7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The American Red Cross is busier than ever trying to alleviate the suffering of others. One way that we do that is by making sure we have enough blood available...WE CAN'T SAVE LIVES WITHOUT YOU!!

Please make your appointment TODAY!! Sponsor Code: saintrita

Fall into the habit of donating! Get a $15 e-gift card when you come to give blood Sept. 21-Oct. 18.

TUCSON ROADRUNNERS HOCKEY NIGHT

Saturday, October 3 • 7:00 PM
Tucson Convention Center

Join the Knights of Columbus Council #14230 for the Roadrunners' season opener and

First Responders & Public Safety Night!
Tickets: **$26** — all fees & tax included.
Net proceeds benefit first responder & public safety charities.

Purchase tickets after Mass at the Knights table in the courtyard. Cash, check, debit & credit accepted.

ARIZONA ROSARY CELEBRATION

Join Catholics from across Arizona for the annual Arizona Rosary Celebration honoring

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Saturday, October 17 • 10:00 AM–12:15 PM
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
8650 N. Shannon Rd., Tucson

Featuring guest speaker **Most Rev. Arthur Bubnevych & Monsignor James Patrick Shea**

Free admission • All are welcome!



CORPUS CHRISTI FALL ARTS & CRAFTS BOUTIQUE

Saturday, October 17 • 9:30 AM–6:00 PM
Sunday, October 18 • 8:30 AM–2:00 PM

Shop art, handmade crafts, baked goods, plants, and more, plus enjoy the Food Court and raffle.

All are welcome!

More information: *cccctucson.org.*

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Holiday Shopping Boutique – **Vendors Wanted!**

St. Francis de Sales Parish will be hosting a Holiday Shopping Boutique on
December 5 and 6
and is looking for vendors!

If you are interested in becoming a vendor, please contact the Parish Office at 520-885-5908 or email office_mgr@sfdstucson.org.

We would love to have you join us for this fun holiday event!

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

YOUR GENEROSITY IS ALREADY AT WORK
Funds received through the 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal are already being allocated to serve people, parishes, and ministries throughout Southern Arizona.

· $400,000 toward the formation and support of our seminarians
· $405,000 to Native American and other parishes with limited financial resources
· $350,000 for outreach and assistance to individuals and families in need
· $125,000 for the care of our retired priests
· $80,000 to provide spiritual and pastoral care to men and women who are incarcerated
· $2 million to diocesan ministries and services supporting Catholic schools, evangelization, formation, vocations, youth and young adults, and parish life throughout our Diocese

Another $331,191 is needed so that our shared mission to provide spiritual, pastoral, and charitable care throughout Southern Arizona can be fully supported.

If you have an outstanding pledge, have not yet participated, or would like to make an additional gift, your participation still matters.

Give Today
www.cathfnd.org/aca

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
FOR THE DIOCESE OF TUCSON

GOSPEL MEDITATION

MATTHEW 21:33-43

In the parable of the tenants, Jesus presents a vivid image of God's vineyard, entrusted to tenants who were called to nurture and protect it. The owner's repeated attempts to collect the fruits, even sending his beloved son, reflect God's persistent mercy and desire for our collaboration in His work. Despite rejection and violence, God's plan prevails, and the stone rejected by the builders, Jesus, becomes the cornerstone. This meditation calls us to consider how we respond to God's constant invitations in our lives. It invites us to act as faithful stewards of the gifts He has given us, ensuring our actions bear the fruits of love, justice, and mercy, rooted firmly in Christ, our cornerstone.

Socratic Reflection:

In what ways can you cultivate and manifest the fruits of God's kingdom in your everyday life, and how does recognizing Jesus as the cornerstone influence your role as a steward of God's vineyard?

MATEO 21:33-43

En la parábola de los viñadores, Jesús presenta una imagen vívida de la viña de Dios, confiada a viñadores que fueron llamados a cuidarla y protegerla. Los repetidos intentos del dueño de recoger los frutos, incluso enviando a su hijo amado, reflejan la misericordia persistente de Dios y su deseo de nuestra colaboración en su obra. A pesar del rechazo y la violencia, el plan de Dios prevalece, y la piedra desechada por los constructores, Jesús, se convierte en la piedra angular. Esta meditación nos invita a considerar cómo respondemos a las constantes invitaciones de Dios en nuestras vidas. Nos invita a actuar como administradores fieles de los dones que nos ha dado, asegurando que nuestras acciones den frutos de amor, justicia y misericordia, enraizados firmemente en Cristo, nuestra piedra angular.

Pregunta Socrática:

¿De qué maneras puedes cultivar y manifestar los frutos del reino de Dios en tu vida cotidiana, y cómo influye el reconocimiento de Jesús como la piedra angular en tu papel como administrador de la viña de Dios?

DID YOU KNOW...

27TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

On October 4, 1582, the Gregorian calendar was introduced by Pope Gregory XIII, reforming the Julian calendar that had been in use since 45 BC. This change was made to correct a discrepancy between the calendar year and the astronomical year, caused by inaccuracies in the Julian system which led to errors in the dating of the equinoxes and the seasonal calendar.

The shift to the Gregorian calendar involved dropping 10 days to realign dates with the solar year. Thus, in countries adopting the new calendar, the day after October 4, 1582, was October 15. This reform gradually spread across the world, though some countries adopted it much later, leading to varying historical records for certain events.

The introduction of the Gregorian calendar standardized timekeeping across much of the world, improving the calculation of dates, holidays, and liturgical events, and providing a uniform framework that facilitated global communications and scheduling.

Reflect on how this historical change in timekeeping emphasizes the importance of accuracy and consistency in our own lives. How might adopting a more precise and disciplined approach in your daily life bring about positive changes?

via truthly app



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY

Feast Day: October 7

Patronage:
Our Lady of the Rosary is the patroness of the Rosary and is also invoked for protection and victory in battles, particularly naval battles.

Story:
The feast of Our Lady of the Rosary was established by Pope Pius V in 1571 in thanksgiving for the decisive victory of the Christian forces over the Ottoman Empire at the Battle of Lepanto. This victory was attributed to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary through the prayers of the Rosary. Pope Pius V, having asked all of Christendom to pray the Rosary for this intention, believed that the victory was thanks to her powerful intercession.

The Rosary itself is a form of prayer that uses meditation on important events in the lives of Jesus and Mary, known as the mysteries. This devotion has its roots in the monastic practice of reciting the 150 Psalms and was adapted over time to the 150 Hail Marys within fifteen decades.

Legacy:
Our Lady of the Rosary continues to inspire devotion among Catholics, promoting prayer, meditation, and the remembrance of the pivotal events in salvation history. The Rosary is considered a powerful tool for spiritual warfare and a pathway to contemplative prayer, helping the faithful grow closer to Jesus Christ through Mary.

Reflection Question:
How does the practice of praying the Rosary help you deepen your relationship with God, and what benefits might you experience by dedicating time to meditate on the mysteries of Christ's life?

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: October 7

Who was Our Lady of the Rosary?
Our Lady of the Rosary is a special friend for those who pray the Rosary, and she helps protect people, especially during battles.

Her Story:
A long time ago, in 1571, there was an important sea battle called the Battle of Lepanto. The Christians were worried because they were fighting against a strong enemy. The Pope at the time, Pope Pius V, asked everyone to pray the Rosary for help. The Rosary is a special prayer that helps us think about important times in the lives of Jesus and Mary. Thanks to everyone's prayers, the Christians won the battle! Afterward, Pope Pius V decided to thank Mary for helping them and made October 7 a special day to honor her as Our Lady of the Rosary.

Her Legacy:
Even today, many people love to pray the Rosary because it helps them feel closer to Jesus and Mary. It's a way to remember exciting and sad times in their lives and to ask for Mary's help. People say the Rosary is powerful and can help us when we're worried or need to feel peaceful.

Question to Think About:
How do you think praying the Rosary could help you feel closer to Jesus, and what's one small thing you could do to start praying a little bit of the Rosary every day?

Source: *Truthly App*

SAINTS THIS MONTH

October 1
- St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus (Thérèse of Lisieux)

October 2
- Holy Guardian Angels

October 3
- St Candidus of Rome

October 4
- Saint Francis of Assisi

October 5
- Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos
- St. Faustina Kowalska

October 6
- St. Bruno
- Bl. Marie-Rose Durocher

October 7
- Our Lady of the Rosary
- Pope St. Mark

October 8
- St. Pelagia

October 9
- St. Denis
- St. John Leonardi
- St. John Henry Newman
- Abraham the Patriarch (OT)

October 10
- St. Francis Borgia
- St. Paulinus of York

October 11
- St. John XXIII, pope
- St. Philip the Deacon

October 12
- Bl. Carlos Acutis (to be canonized in 2025)

October 13
- St. Theophilus of Antioch

October 14
- Pope St. Callistus I

October 15
- Saint Teresa of Avila

October 16
- St. Hedwig
- Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque

October 17
- St. Ignatius of Antioch
- Hosea the Prophet (OT) or July 4

October 18
- St. Luke, Evangelist

October 19
- Saints John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues and Companions, Canadian Martyrs
- St. Paul of the Cross
- Joel the Prophet (OT) or July 13

October 20
- St. Acca of Hexham

October 21
- St. Gaspare de Bufalo
- St. Hilarion

October 22
- Pope St. John Paul II

October 23
- St. John of Capistrano
- St. Severinus Boethius

October 24
- St. Anthony Mary Claret

October 25
- Sts. Crispin and Crispinian

October 26
- St. Cedd

October 27
- St. Frumentius

October 28
- St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles

October 29
- St. Narcissus of Jerusalem

October 30
- St. Germanus of Capua
- St. Alphonse Rodriguez – or Oct 31

October 31
- St. Quentin
- St. Alphonse Rodriguez – or Oct 30

All underlined text is clickable *source: young-catholics.com*

PARISH CONNECTIONS

📞 CONTACT US

- **Main Office** - (520)762-9688

- **Office Hours**
  - Mon-Wed: 8:30 am-4:00 pm
  - Thur: 8:00 am-2:00 pm
  - Fri: CLOSED
  - Daily: Closed: 12pm—1pm

- **Staff Directory**

⛪ WORSHIP

- **Mass Times**
  - M-F (Shrine) - 8am
  - Sat (St. John XXIII) - 5pm
  - Sun (St. John XXIII) - 8am | 10am | Noon (Sp)

- **Confession**
  - Sat (St. John XXIII) - 3:30p-4:30p

- **Adoration**
  - Fri (Shrine) 8:30a-9:30a
  - 1st Sunday of each month (St. John XXIII): 3-4pm

🙏 SACRAMENTS

- Baptism
- Marriage
- Annointing
  - Every 1st Friday at 8am Mass
- Funerals

🌱 GROW IN FAITH

- OCIA | Adult Formation
- Children's Formation ~ *coming soon*

🤝 GET INVOLVED

- Ministry Directory
- Music Ministry
- Parish Leadership Team (PLT)

❤️ PRAYER & CARE

- Prayer Requests (online)
- Request a Mass Intention (online) ~ *coming soon*
- Pastoral Care

💝 STEWARDSHIP

- Online Giving
- Parish Support
- Reserve a Legacy Bench

🏡 NEW TO ST. RITA?

- Join St. Rita Parish
- New to the Catholic Faith

🌐 STAY INFORMED

- Calendar
- Weekly Bulletin
- Website

STAFF DIRECTORY

Parish Office

Administrative Assistant:
Chris Metzger

Secretary:
Veronica Garcia

Office Assistant:
Priscilla Molinar

Business Manager:
Louise Azzopardi

Compliance:
Mary Morgan

Bulletin & Web Editor:
Kathy Lockard

Facilities Manager:
Norm Scheopner

Maintenance:
Bill Cline

Religious Education

Director of Religious Education:
Geraldine Durman

Youth Ministry:
Leah Sides

OCIA Coordinator:
Michelle Quinn Crowley

Parish Directory

📍 *Campus Map*



All underlined text is clickable. Can't find what you're looking for? Visit stritainthedesert.org or contact the Parish Office.

ST. RITA HARVEST FESTIVAL
VAIL • ARIZONA
OCTOBER 23-24, 2026

THE HARVEST FESTIVAL NEEDS YOU

October 23 & 24 are almost here.

Our Festival teams have been working for months to create a wonderful weekend for our parish and community. Now we have reached the point where **we need more hands to make it** happen.

You don't have to plan an event.
You don't have to volunteer all weekend.
You just need to give us a couple of hours.

WHERE WE NEED HELP MOST

🎃 Children's Village — SATURDAY EVENING
Our greatest volunteer need. Help with games, activities and families. Especially needed after 4 PM.

🎟️ Harvest Hall
Help with the Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle and guest assistance. Multiple shifts available Friday & Saturday.

🤝 Hospitality & Volunteer Check-In
Be one of the friendly faces welcoming guests and helping Festival volunteers get where they need to go.

✨ Glow Garden
Help welcome guests into one of the Festival's quieter, reflective experiences.

🎤 Main Stage
We still need parishioners willing to join the fun as game-show contestants and participants.

TWO HOURS CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.
Pick a shift. Bring a friend. Bring your spouse. Volunteer as a family.

We have the plans.
We have the Festival.
Now we need the people.

Click HERE to Learn More or
SCAN TO VOLUNTEER

Still have questions?
Email: **festival@stritainthedesert.org**

Help us welcome more than 1,500 guests to St. Rita in the Desert.

ST. RITA IN THE DESERT
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

HOW ARE YOU LIVING YOUR VOCATION?

Our Catholic faith reminds us that holiness is not just a destination, but a way of life — lived in love, in our daily responsibilities, and in service to those God has entrusted to us.

MY RESPONSIBILITY TO GOD

- Do I make time for prayer and Sunday Mass?
- Do I thank God for the gifts He has given me?
- Do I ask Him how He wants me to use those gifts?

Lord, teach me to serve You with a generous heart.

MY RESPONSIBILITY TO MY SPOUSE

- Do I give my spouse my time, attention, patience, and affection?
- Do I pray for — and with — my spouse?
- Do my words and actions help my spouse grow closer to God?

Lord, help me love as You love.

MY RESPONSIBILITY TO MY CHILDREN & FAMILY

- Am I teaching the faith not only with my words, but by my example?
- Do my children see me pray, serve, forgive, and participate in parish life?
- Am I showing them what it looks like to be part of the Body of Christ?

Lord, make our home a place of faith, love and service.

MY RESPONSIBILITY TO MY CHURCH

- Do I see St. Rita simply as the church I attend... or as a community to which I belong?
- Do I offer my time and talents as well as my treasure?
- When my parish needs helping hands, do I consider whether I might be one of the people God is asking to step forward?

Lord, help me be Your hands and feet in our parish community.

PERHAPS THIS WEEK,

THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE.

Our Harvest Festival needs many hands to welcome our community.

A few hours. One small job. One willing heart.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

OCTOBER 23 – 24

SCAN TO SIGN UP

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another."
1 PETER 4:10

ST. RITA IN THE DESERT
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Inspired by the USCCB Examination of Conscience for Married Persons.

ST. RITA HARVEST FESTIVAL
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Welcome to the Harvest Festival!

We're glad you're here. Explore, eat, play & enjoy the Festival!



- Children's Village Beer Garden
- Harvest Hall Main Stage
- Harvest Market Glow Garden
- Vineyard Retreat Hospitality
- Historic Shrine Built in 1935
- Restrooms
- Photo Op

ST. RITA IN THE DESERT
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Welcome to St. Rita in the Desert

Come for the Festival. Stay for the community.

We're so glad you're here.

Good Food Great People Brighter Together