

July 5, 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 | Sábado

5:00 pm—English

SUNDAY | Domingo

8:00 am—English

10:00 am—English

12:00 pm—Spanish

CONFESSION

Confesiones

SATURDAY | Sábado

3:30 pm—4:30 pm

In the church or by
appointment

En la iglesia o por cita



PARISH OFFICE

Horario de Oficina

WEEKDAY MASS

IN SHRINE

Misa Diaria en el
Santuario

MONDAY-FRIDAY |

De Lunes a Viernes

8:00 am —English

MONDAY-

WEDNESDAY | De

Lunes a Miércoles

8:30 am-4:00 pm

ADORATION

FRIDAY | Viernes

8:30 am—9:30 am

In the church or by
appointment

En la iglesia o por cita

THURSDAY | Jueves

8:00 am-2:00 pm

FRIDAY | Viernes

CLOSED

Office closed

12pm—1pm daily

14TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

*"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and
I will give you rest." ~Matthew 11:28*

*"Vengan a mí todos los que están fatigados y
sobrecargados, y yo les daré descanso."
~Mateo 11:28*

Reflection:

In this comforting message, Jesus invites everyone carrying heavy burdens to come to Him for rest and relief. It reminds us that we do not have to bear our struggles alone. Jesus offers His support and love, lifting our spirits. As you ponder this passage, consider what burdens you are carrying and how bringing them to Jesus might bring you peace and strength.

Socratic Question:

What burdens in your life can you bring to Jesus, trusting Him to provide rest and support?

Reflexión:

En este mensaje reconfortante, Jesús invita a todos los que llevan cargas pesadas a acudir a Él para encontrar descanso y alivio. Nos recuerda que no tenemos que soportar nuestras luchas solos. Jesús ofrece su apoyo y amor, levantando nuestro ánimo. Al reflexionar sobre este pasaje, considera qué cargas estás llevando y cómo al llevarlas a Jesús podrías encontrar paz y fortaleza.

Pregunta socrática:

¿Qué cargas en tu vida puedes llevar a Jesús, confiando en que Él te dará descanso y apoyo?

Source: *Truthly App*

PARISH INFORMATION

COLLECTIONS | COLECTA

June 28, 2026



Offertory: \$5,936.95
Rectory Debt: \$1,027.00
Campus Maint: \$295.60

Thank you for your support.
God bless you!

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

ST. RITA STAFF

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adminassist@stritainthedesert.org

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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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Director of Religious Education: Geraldine Durman
dre@stritainthedesert.org

Youth Ministry:
youthministry@stritainthedesert.org

Leah Sides

OCIA Coordinator:
ocia@stritainthedesert.org

Michelle Quinn Crowley

ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

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jkahle25@gmail.com

Jayme Kahle

Women's Bible Study:
irenetoews@cox.net

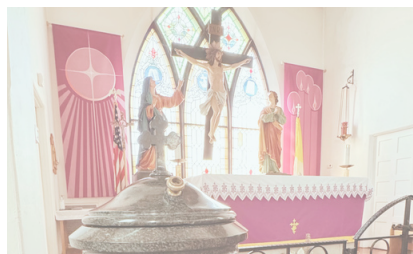
Irene Toews

Guild of St. Rita:
guild@stritainthedesert.org



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

July 05, 2026

*Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.*

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

Today's readings are rich with images of the Kingdom of God. As Americans celebrate 250 years of independence, the language of God's Kingdom may seem unfamiliar. Throughout our history, we have experienced both peace and conflict. Yet one truth remains: we are called to leave behind the ways of the flesh and live by the Spirit.

The Kingdom Jesus proclaims is unlike any earthly kingdom. He comes not in power or military strength, but in humility and peace. Through Baptism, we enter His Kingdom and become members of His Body, the Church. The more we fix our eyes on Christ and embrace His humility, the more we recognize His Kingdom already at work among us.

What most often separates us from Christ and one another are the desires of the flesh. This is why our world continues to struggle with war, violence, jealousy, and envy. When we honestly ask whether we are living for Christ or for the world, we may discover that pride has replaced the love and humility to which Jesus calls us. Let us take upon ourselves His gentle yoke so that we may experience the joy and freedom of living as God's beloved sons and daughters.

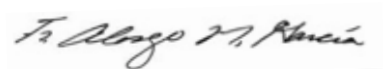
Our Religious Education program is now registering both new and returning families. I am grateful to our parents for faithfully bringing their children to grow in the Catholic faith and to our catechists for generously sharing that faith with the next generation.

Please join me in welcoming **Mr. Tony Hughes** as our new Confirmation leader and Ms. Leah Sides as our new **Youth Group leader**. Confirmation classes will meet **Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**, and the High School Youth Group will meet **Wednesdays from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

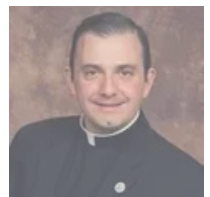
You may have noticed announcements about our upcoming Harvest Festival. Over the coming months, we'll share more details about this exciting event for our parish and the Vail community. I hope you'll join us as we prepare for this special celebration.

Finally, **Happy Birthday, America!** As our nation celebrates 250 years of independence, let us thank God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us. While no nation is perfect, the Lord has richly blessed our country. May we never take those blessings for granted, remembering that our dignity and our fundamental rights come from God. May He continue to bless our nation and guide us in truth, justice, and peace.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Very Reverend Alonzo M. García, Dean



OFICINA DE PASTOR

5 de julio de 2026

Te doy gracias, Padre, Señor del cielo y de la tierra, porque has revelado los misterios del Reino a la gente sencilla.

Estimada familia parroquial y amigos:

Las lecturas de hoy están llenas de imágenes del Reino de Dios. Mientras nuestro país celebra 250 años de independencia, el lenguaje del Reino puede parecernos un poco lejano. A lo largo de nuestra historia hemos vivido tiempos de paz y también de conflicto. Sin embargo, una verdad permanece: estamos llamados a dejar atrás las obras de la carne y vivir guiados por el Espíritu.

El Reino que Jesús nos anuncia es muy diferente a cualquier reino de este mundo. Él no viene con poder ni con fuerza militar, sino con humildad y paz. Por medio del Bautismo entramos en su Reino y pasamos a formar parte de su Cuerpo, que es la Iglesia. Mientras más fijamos nuestra mirada en Cristo y aprendemos a vivir con su humildad, más descubrimos que su Reino ya está presente entre nosotros.

Lo que con mayor frecuencia nos separa de Cristo y de los demás son los deseos de la carne. Por eso nuestro mundo sigue enfrentando guerras, violencia, envidia y rivalidades. Cuando nos preguntamos con sinceridad si vivimos para Cristo o para el mundo, podemos descubrir que el orgullo ha ocupado el lugar del amor y la humildad a los que Jesús nos llama. Aceptemos su yugo suave para experimentar la alegría y la libertad de vivir como hijos e hijas amados de Dios.

Nuestro programa de **Educación Religiosa** ya está recibiendo inscripciones para familias nuevas y para quienes regresan este año. Agradezco profundamente a los padres de familia por traer fielmente a sus hijos para crecer en la fe católica, y a nuestros catequistas por compartir con generosidad esa misma fe con la siguiente generación.

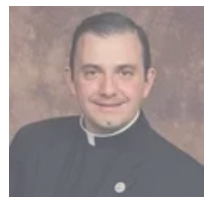
También me da mucho gusto dar la bienvenida a dos nuevos miembros de nuestro equipo de formación en la fe. El **Sr. Tony Hughes** será nuestro nuevo coordinador de Confirmación y la **Sra. Leah Sides** será la nueva coordinadora del Grupo Juvenil. Las clases de Confirmación serán los **domingos de 2:00 p.m. a 3:30 p.m.**, y el Grupo Juvenil de preparatoria se reunirá los **miércoles de 5:00 p.m. a 6:30 p.m.**

Seguramente ya han visto los anuncios sobre nuestro próximo Festival de la Cosecha. En los próximos meses les iremos compartiendo más información sobre este emocionante evento para nuestra parroquia y para toda la comunidad de Vail. Esperamos que nos acompañen mientras nos preparamos para esta gran celebración.

Por último, **¡feliz cumpleaños, Estados Unidos de América!** Al celebrar los 250 años de nuestra nación, demos gracias a Dios por las muchas bendiciones que nos ha concedido. Aunque ninguna nación es perfecta, el Señor ha bendecido abundantemente a nuestro país. Que nunca demos por sentadas esas bendiciones y recordemos siempre que nuestra dignidad y nuestros derechos fundamentales vienen de Dios. Que Él continúe bendiciendo a nuestra nación y nos guíe por los caminos de la verdad, la justicia y la paz.

Sinceramente en Cristo,

Very Reverend Alonzo M. García, Dean



WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday July 4

8:00 am

United States of America

5:00 pm

†Stan & Gail Zubel

SI Jilian Skog

Sunday July 5

8:00 am

†Men & Women in the Military

10:00 am

†José Arteaga, María Peña
Carmen, Victor, Armando
Cancino

12:00 pm

Estados Unidos de America

Monday July 6

8:00 am

†James W. Logan

†Jeffrey Roberts

Tuesday July 7

8:00 am

Living & Deceased of St. Rita

Wednesday July 8

8:00 am

Venezuela Earthquake Victims

Thursday July 9

8:00 am

First Responders

Friday July 10

8:00 am

SI Fr. Alonzo Garcia

SI Carolyn Brown

+ Richard Peterson

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, July 5

14th Sunday of Ordinary Time

- **St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria**

8:00 am - Mass (English)

10:00 am - Mass (English)

12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

3:00 pm - Shrine

Monday, July 6

- **Saint Maria Goretti**

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

6:00 pm Men's Group (Oscar
Romero Room)

Tuesday, July 7

- **Bl. Ralph Milner**

- **St. Fermin**

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday, July 8

- **St. Kilian**

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

9:00 am Women's Scripture Study
(Oscar Romero Room)

Thursday, July 9

- **Saint Augustine Zhao Rong
and Companions, Chinese
Martyrs**

- **St. Veronica Giuliani**

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday, July 10

- **Sts. Rufina and Secunda**

8:00 am - Mass

8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

Saturday, July 11

- **Saint Benedict of Nursia**

5 pm - Vigil Mass (John XXIII)

source: young-catholics.com

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:

"See, your king shall come to
you; a just savior is he,
meek, and riding on an ass."
(Zec 9:9)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"The Lord is gracious and
merciful, slow to anger and
of great kindness." (Ps 145:8)

SECOND READING:

"If by the Spirit you put to
death the deeds of the body,
you will live." (Rom 8:13)

GOSPEL:

"Take my yoke upon you and
learn from me, for I am
meek and humble of heart."
(Mt 11:29)

Sunday, July 5

Zec 9:9-10 | Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-
11, 13-14 | Rom 8:9, 11-13 | Mt
11:25-30

Monday, July 6

Hos 2:16, 17-18, 21-22 | Ps 145:2-
3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 | Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday, July 7

Hos 8:4-7, 11-13 | Ps 115:3-4, 5-6,
7-8, 9-10 | Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday, July 8

Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12 | Ps 105:2-3,
4-5, 6-7 | Mt 10:1-7

Thursday, July 9

Hos 11:1-4, 8-9 | Ps 80:2ac, 3b,
15-16 | Mt 10:7-15

Friday, July 10

Hos 14:2-10 | Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-
13, 14, 17 | Mt 10:16-23

Saturday, July 11

Is 6:1-8 | Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 | Mt
10:24-33

PARISH MINISTRIES

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Server

If your boy would like to become an Altar Server, please review the [Altar Server Manual](#) together and complete the [Altar Server Application](#) online or email: travis71durman@gmail.com

Altar Society

The St. Rita Altar Society is looking for volunteers to maintain the Altar in the Shrine and St. John XXIII. If you love to decorate or enjoy floral arrangements, we invite you to glorify the Lord by your creativity.

Eucharistic Ministry

Interested in learning more about the role of an Extraordinary Minister or would like to be part of this vital ministry, Submit your [EOMHC Sign-up](#) form online.

Lectors

Become a Lector. Submit your [Ministry Request form](#) online.

Music Ministry - Join Us!

Love sacred music? Come sing or play!

Adult choirs (18+): Tues | 6:30 pm
Youth choir (8-18): Summer Break
Spanish choir: Wed | 6:15 pm

Play piano, guitar, flute or clarinet? - welcome!

Coro español: ¡Únete! Voz, guitarra y bajo bienvenidos.

Ushers

Ushers play a pivotal role in our parish, not only aiding others but also serving as the welcoming face to newcomers. For our regular parishioners, they provide a sense of familiarity and continuity across all Masses. Submit your [Usher Sign-Up](#) form online.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Outreach Ministry

Support Meals to Grow Program, Food Bank and other critical human needs in our community. Email: outreach@stritainthedesert.org

Pastoral Council

Currently on hold, seeking someone to assist in leading it. Contact front office if interested.

Porter's of St. Joseph

Email: porters@stritainthedesert.org

Right to Life

Email: rtl@stritainthedesert.org

Family Faith Formation

www.watch.formed.org

Vocations

Contact Mr. Adam LaGuardia: Vocations@stritainthedesert.org

Welcome Committee

Interested in joining submit your [Welcoming Team request form](#) online.

Guild of St. Rita

Join us every **2nd & 4th Wed** of the month | **6pm** | Mother Teresa Rm | Email: guild@stritainthedesert.org

Sewing Angels

All are welcome to join. Meet us in the church hall every **Wednesday** from **9:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Mujeres De Fe (Women of Faith)

Mujeres de Fe se reúne el segundo y cuarto jueves de cada mes, de 6 a 8 p. m., en el salón. Para mas Informacion Coordinadora: Norma Escoto patriciasct26@gmail.com

Marian Book Club

All are welcome to join. Meet us in the Oscar Romero Room every **Thursday** from **4:30 pm - 6 pm**

Women's Scripture Study

Wednesday mornings **9am**
Oscar Romero Room
All women are welcome
irenetoews@cox.net

EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



Knights of Columbus®

Lead with Faith.
Protect your Family.
Serve Others.
Defend Your Values.
BECOME A KNIGHT

Catholic Men 18+

visit our website:
<https://www.kofc14230.org> or
contact John Cuddy at:
john.cuddy@yahoo.com or
(978)382-0742



El praesidium de St.Rita se llama "Maria Puerta del Cielo" y se reúne los Martes a las 6:00 de la tarde en el salon Oscar Romero, o puedes contactar a Sandra (520)395-7225 or email: legiondemaria@stritainthedesert.org

VISITA DE LA VIRGEN A LOS HOGARES

¿Desea recibir la visita de la Virgen Peregrina en su hogar? Complete la solicitud y deposítela en la caja ubicada en la entrada de la iglesia. Un miembro de la Legión de María se comunicará con usted.

VIRGIN'S VISIT TO HOMES

Would you like to welcome Our Blessed Mother into your home? Complete a request form and place it in the Virgin's Visit to Homes box located in the Narthex. A member of the Legion of Mary will contact you.



Rachel's VINEYARD
Healing the pain of abortion - one weekend at a time

If you are interested in getting more information and/or registering for a Retreat Weekend, please call (520) 743-6777 or visit RachelsVineyard.org



**THE SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

If you need assistance from St Vincent de Paul or want to join the ministry to help others, contact James Mahaffey at (520) 307-3411

PARISH NEWS

RECTORY DEBT PAYOFF UPDATE

As of Sunday, June 28, 2026

\$135,260

\$345,000
GOAL



Scan to Pledge

147

500
FAMILY PLEDGED/DONATED GOAL

NEED A PLACE TO GATHER?

St. Rita Hall is available for receptions, luncheons, showers, anniversaries, birthdays, funeral receptions, business meetings, and other special occasions. Seats up to **70 guests**.

For availability and scheduling, contact the Parish Office:
520-762-9688 | secretary@stritainthedesert.org

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING

Recycle your aluminum cans in the collection barrels next to the St. Vincent de Paul donation shed.

Please remember:

- Aluminum cans only (no glass, paper, steel cans, or trash)
- Place cans in securely tied bags
- No clothing donations—please take clothing to the Vail Resources Thrift Store across the street

Need help? Ask a Knight wearing a maroon council shirt.

ST. RITA'S OUTREACH MINISTRY July 11-12

Please use the **Yellow Outreach Envelope** and place it in the regular collection basket.

Your generous gift supports the **Vail School District's**:

- Annual School Supplies Backpack Program
- **Meals to Grow (MTG)** – providing weekend meals for more than **550 local students** experiencing food insecurity each week.

A \$20 donation helps provide 40 weekend meal bags.

Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors in the Greater Vail community through your generosity and compassion.

WELCOME TEAM

Next Potluck: September 12th

We look forward to seeing you
Sunday, July 12th
for Coffee & Pastries
After all masses



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today we hear Jesus tell us:

"Whoever gives a cup of cold water to one of these least of my brethren, that you do unto me."

We have served over 140 families this year (many of them more than once). Without your support this would be impossible.

KNIGHTS BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

Have you picked up your baby bottle yet?

There's still time to participate! Simply take a bottle after Mass, fill it with change, cash, or a check (payable to Knights of Columbus), and return it to a Knight by **October 1**.

Together, we can make a lasting difference for REACHOUT Women's Center.



HARVEST FESTIVAL 2026

The Vineyard Retreat

Not every festival moment needs to be loud.

Tucked away from the bustle will be a place to slow down.

A place to sit beneath the Arizona sky.

A place to enjoy conversation, reflection, and fellowship.

We're calling it the **Vineyard Retreat**.

And while we aren't revealing all the details just yet, we think it may become one of the most beloved corners of the festival.

Next week: After the sun goes down, the festival transforms...

GOSPEL MEDITATION

MATTHEW 11:25-30

In this Gospel passage, Jesus warmly invites all who are weary and burdened to find rest and comfort in Him. It is an open call to lay down our worries and struggles at His feet and embrace the gentle yoke He offers. This yoke is not a burden but a partnership with Jesus, who helps us carry our loads with love and grace. As you meditate on these words, think about areas in your life where you need relief and how allowing Jesus to share your burdens can bring you peace and renewal.

Socratic Reflection:

How can inviting Jesus to share in your struggles change the way you handle life's stresses and anxieties?

MATEO 11:25-30

En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús invita a todos los que están cansados y agobiados a encontrar descanso y consuelo en Él. Es una llamada abierta para dejar nuestras preocupaciones y luchas a Sus pies y aceptar el yugo suave que Él nos ofrece. Este yugo no es una carga, sino una asociación con Jesús, quien nos ayuda a llevar nuestras cargas con amor y gracia. Al meditar en estas palabras, piensa en las áreas de tu vida donde necesitas alivio y cómo permitir que Jesús comparta tus cargas puede traerte paz y renovación.

Reflexión:

¿Cómo puede invitar a Jesús a compartir tus luchas cambiar la forma en que manejas las tensiones y ansiedades de la vida?

DID YOU KNOW...

14TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

While July 5 itself may not be known for any major liturgical feast in the Catholic Church, it holds historical significance for those living in the United States, as it often follows the celebration of Independence Day on July 4. This proximity can serve as a reminder for American Catholics to reflect on the importance of religious freedom—a principle that allows individuals to practice their faith openly and without fear.

Historical Context: On July 5, 1937, Chancellor Adolf Hitler and his top military leaders in Nazi Germany held a secret meeting in Berlin, where they discussed and solidified plans for the eventual escalation that led to World War II. As the world later witnessed the immense consequences of these events, this date serves as a poignant reminder of the necessity for peace, justice, and vigilance against tyranny.

Liturgical Reflection: The readings on July 5, 2026, emphasize finding rest in Jesus and unburdening our souls by laying our troubles before God. In a world often troubled by conflict and unrest, this message remains timely and universal, inviting believers to seek refuge in their faith and embody the peace that Christ offers.

via truthly app

ANNOUNCEMENTS



marriage encounter

Summer is a great time to get your marriage in shape!

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is better than any weekend getaway you can plan. Time with your spouse on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is an investment that will pay dividends.

Sign up for an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience:

July 11-12, 2026, in Phoenix

For more info go to: wwme.org or call 520-661-3644

Early registration is highly recommended.

St. Andrew's Concert Series A Salute to America

Featuring

The Seipp/Fickley Duo



Join Chuck Seipp, Trumpet and Todd Fickley, Organ as they perform Patriotic songs and stirring Hymns celebrating USA250! Including an audience Sing-A-Long and a Tribute to our Veterans and Active Duty Military.

Friday, July 10, 2026 at 7:00 PM

St. Andrew the Apostle Church

800 Taylor Drive, SierraVista, AZ 85635

There is no charge to attend this concert, a freewill offering will be accepted. Please call 520-458-2925 for more information.



No Marriage is BEYOND HOPE!

Try A RETROVILLE Weekend

Upcoming Weekend Tucson, AZ

September 11-13, 2026

Confidential Inquires:

520-762-4449

4003r@helpourmarriage.org

R.O.S.A. ~ Retrouvaille of Southern Arizona



4th Annual Convocation

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in Mass, Home Bound, Nursing Home, Hospital and Prison Ministry
Saturday, July 25, 2026



Keynote Speaker: REV. LEON STRIEDER SLD

Associate Professor of Liturgy and Sacraments at the University of St. Thomas School of Theology at St. Mary's Seminary, Houston, Texas. Recently published *Evangelization: Building and Rebuilding the Kingdom, Issues of Language, Culture & Conversion*. And published in the April 2021 edition of *Worship, Poor Historical Methodology in Traditionalist Liturgical Studies*. Currently Chair of the Liturgical Commission of the Diocese of Austin

How the Eucharist transforms the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion in their ministry. How does the Eucharist transform the sick? How do you understand the Eucharist?



Bishop Kicanas Pastoral Center
192 S. Stone Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85701

8:30 – 9:00 am - Check in & Continental Breakfast
9:00 – Opening Prayer & Schedule for the Day
4:00 – Mass Celebrated by Rev. Leon Strieder

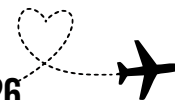
\$20.00 fee per person. Includes continental breakfast, lunch, snacks, drinks

RSVP to: Patsy Klein, Coordinator, St. Jagan Ministry with Elders
patsyk@ccc-socaz.org or (520) 392-4999
Deadline to register is Friday, July 17.

Made possible by Diane & Bruce Halle Foundation, Annual Catholic Appeal and the Catholic Foundation



12-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND & EASTERN EUROPE NOVEMBER 3–14, 2026



Join us as we visit **Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Krakow, Wadowice, Auschwitz, Czestochowa, and Warsaw** while deepening our faith and exploring our Catholic heritage.

All-Inclusive Cost: \$4,649

Includes airfare, hotels, taxes, daily breakfast, most dinners, motor coach transportation, tour guide, admission fees, and gratuities.

Only a few seats remain! Registration deadline: **July 15.**

For a brochure, itinerary, or more information, call 520-631-1408 or visit www.vineofgrace.org.

SAINT SPOTLIGHT



SAINT BENEDICT, ABBOT

Feast Day: July 11th

Patronage:

Saint Benedict is the patron saint of Europe and students. He is also invoked against poison, temptation, and witchcraft.

Story: Saint Benedict was born around 480 AD in Nursia, Italy. He is best known for his profound impact on monastic life through the establishment of the Rule of Saint Benedict, which became foundational for Western monasticism. Seeking a deeper spiritual life, Benedict became a hermit before gathering followers to form monastic communities based on principles such as prayer, work, and mutual support.

Benedict emphasized the balance of work and prayer, known as "ora et labora" (pray and work), within a community setting. His rule provided guidelines that promoted stability, humility, and spiritual growth, emphasizing obedience, simplicity, and hospitality.

Legacy: Saint Benedict's legacy has deeply influenced the spiritual and cultural development of Europe. The Benedictine Order has contributed much to education, agriculture, and healthcare throughout history. His rule not only shaped monastic life but also helped preserve Christian teachings and Western civilization during times of great upheaval.

Reflection Question: How might practicing the balance of prayer and work, as emphasized by Saint Benedict, transform your daily routine and spiritual growth?

KIDS CORNER



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Who was Saint Benedict?

- Saint Benedict was a man who lived a long time ago, around the year 480 AD, in Italy. He wanted to live a life that was all about loving God and helping others.
- He became very famous for starting a kind of lifestyle called monasticism, where people lived together in communities to pray, work, and learn about God.

What Did He Do?

- Benedict wrote a special guide called the "Rule of Saint Benedict" for people living in monasteries. This guide helped them know how to balance their days with praying, working, and helping each other.
- He believed in the idea of "pray and work," which means spending time talking to God and also working hard to help the community.

Why Is He Important?

- Saint Benedict's ideas were so powerful that they influenced many people and places in Europe, especially helping them learn and grow in tough times.
- Because of his great influence, he became the patron saint of Europe and students, and he's a special helper when we need protection against temptation and other troubles.

Question to Think About: How can you, like Saint Benedict, balance your time between talking to God and helping others every day?

Source: *Truthly App*