



St. Rita in the Desert Catholic Church

Phone: (520) 762-9688

13260 E. Colossal Cave Road

Vail, AZ 85641

Website: stritainthedesert.org

July 13, 2025

PASTOR

Rev. Alonzo Garcia

DEACON

Ron Desmarais

SECRETARY

Mrs. Veronica Garcia

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ms. Barbara Scott

OFFICE HOURS | Horario de Oficina

Monday/ Lunes—8:00 am-2:00 pm

Tuesday/ Martes—8:00 am-2:00 pm

Wednesday/ Miércoles—8:00 am-2:00 pm

Thursday/ Jueves—8:00 am-2:00 pm

Friday/ Viernes—**Closed**

Office closed 12:00 pm—1:00 pm daily

MASS SCHEDULE | Horario de Misas

SATURDAY/ Sábado

5:00 pm—English

SUNDAY/ Domingo

8:00 am—English

10:00 am—English

12:00 pm—Spanish

DAILY MASS IN SHRINE | Misa Diaria en el Santuario

Monday to Friday / De Lunes a Viernes

8:00 am —English

Confessions | Confesiones

Saturday | Sábado

3:30 pm—4:30 pm

In the church or by appointment

En la iglesia o por cita

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
“A Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight.” - Lk 10:33

15º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO
“Pero un samaritano que iba de viaje, al verlo, se compadeció de él.” - Lc 10, 33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCD. Leccionario II © 1987 Comisión Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano. GLPI

Welcome to St. Rita in the Desert Catholic Church | Bienvenido a la Iglesia Católica de Santa Rita en el Desierto



MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday July 12

5:00 pm † Anthony & Monica
Peace in the Middle East

Sunday July 13

8:00 am † Dean Richins
10:00 am Peace in the Ukraine
12:00 pm (SI) Paul Johnson

Monday July 14

8:00 am † Virginia Detroit

Tuesday July 15

8:00 am † James & Margaret Daly

Wednesday July 16

8:00 am † Mr. & Mrs. Bert Reed

Thursday July 17

8:00 am Living & Deceased of St. Rita

Friday July 18

8:00 am First Responders



DIOCESE OF TUCSON NEW OUTLOOK

The Diocese of Tucson invites you to stay in touch with the Church via your phone and/or email. Every week the diocese publishes the New Outlook, our local newsletter with links to news, events, and so much more! To sign up, you can text DOTNEWS to 84576 or go to <https://news.diocesetucson.org/subscribe>

Readings for the Week of July 13, 2025

Sunday: Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 (see 33)/Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

Monday: Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday: Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27/Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Ex 11:10—12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18/Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Ex 12:37-42/Ps 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday: Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/Col 1:24-28/Lk 10:38-42

Las lecturas de la semana del 13 de julio de 2025

Domingo: Dt 30, 10-14/Sal 68, 14. 17. 30-31. 33-34. 36. 37 (ver 33)/Col 1, 15-20/Lc 10, 25-37

Lunes: Ex 1, 8-14. 22/Sal 123, 1-3. 4-6. 7-8/Mt 10, 34—11, 1

Martes: Ex 2, 1-15/Sal 68, 3. 14. 30-31. 33-34/Mt 11, 20-24

Miércoles: Ex 3, 1-6. 9-12/Sal 102, 1-2. 3-4. 6-7/Mt 11, 25-27

Jueves: Ex 3, 13-20/Sal 104, 1 y 5. 8-9. 24-25. 26-27/Mt 11, 28-30

Viernes: Ex 11, 10—12, 14/Sal 115, 12-13. 15 y 16. 17-18/Mt 12, 1-8

Sábado: Ex 12, 37-42/Sal 135, 1 y 23-24. 10-12. 13-15/Mt 12, 14-21

Domingo siguiente: Gn 18, 1-10/Sal 14, 2-3. 3-4. 5 (1)/Col 1, 24-28/Lc 10, 38-42

SAFE ENVIROMENT Important tele- phone numbers:

911

Child Protective Services: 1-888-SOS-CHILD (1-888-767-2445)

Adult Protective Services: 1-888-SOS-ADULT (1-888-767-2385)

Diocese of Tucson - Office of Child, Adolescent, and Adult Protection:

520-838-2315 or 520-838-2500

Child Protective Services: 1-888-SOS-CHILD (1-888-767-2445)

Adult Protective Services: 1-888-SOS-ADULT (1-888-767-2385)



CONTACT US

For a complete listing of contact information for all our organizations, please visit our website.

stritainthedesert.org

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ABOUT US

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Friday after the 8:00am Mass for an hour; First Sunday of the month at 4:00 pm for an hour in the John XXIII.

Anointing of the Sick:

Every First Friday at the 8:00 am Mass

Baptisms:

Please visit our website under the tab LITURGY/SACRAMENTS and fill the *Intent to Baptize Form*.

Confirmation:

Contact Youth Minister or OCIA coordinator

Marriage:

Marriage arrangements must be made at least 4 months in advance. Contact the parish office.

Crossing the Street

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

It takes a cold, hard, godless heart to step over a wounded man on the street.

But in the parable of the Good Samaritan, the priest and the Levite didn't step over the half-dead traveler. I think we picture them doing so, in our collective imagining of this well-known story, but the words of the Gospel are quite clear. "When he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side," Jesus says of both.

So they saw him. They saw his need. It made them uncomfortable; it confused them — many scholars have said that Judaic law concerning the touching of dead bodies might have made them reluctant to approach — and so they decided the simplest way to file this situation in the Not My Problem category was to cross the street.

But that still leaves a half-dead guy on the road. And we all, 2,000 years later, still think of the priest and the Levite as cold and hard and godless — even if they didn't *want* to be, even if they didn't think of themselves that way — because the bottom line is, they didn't see the half-dead guy as their problem.

As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading.

Well, I don't know about you, but I find myself crossing the street a lot more than I should.

There is so much pain and suffering in the world. We certainly can't begin to alleviate it all. But we have to start with the pain and the suffering that we see, that's right in front of us — even if it's something we really, really want to ignore. Even if we find it inconvenient or confusing or scary or weird.

The heroism of the Good Samaritan wasn't in his selfless actions, although those were certainly commendable. It was in his courage. "He approached the victim," Jesus said.

Can we approach the victims we see? Do we have that courage? ©LPi



St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, when Jesus asks, "Which of these three, in your opinion, was the neighbor to the robbers' victim?" the scholar of the law answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus then said, "Go and do likewise." This week, you can also "treat the poor with mercy" by making a financial gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

For more information about becoming a member, call (520) 501-1386.

Devotions, Explained!

Spiritual Direction, Explained!

Spiritual direction is the practice of seeking counsel from someone who is trustworthy and learned in the faith for the purpose of discerning the will of God in one's life and for more effectively living out one's baptismal calling. All Christians are commanded, in a way, to provide spiritual aid to one another ("Go, make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" —

Matthew 28:19), but a spiritual director is usually an individual who has received some form of training or formation for this specific purpose. The Catholic Church, however, does not have explicit requirements, professional standards or a formal certification process for spiritual directors. Spiritual directors can be lay, religious or ordained persons.

Spiritual direction is not to be confused with the sacrament of Penance, though the latter does usually include some spiritual counsel. ©LPi

Collection/Colecta

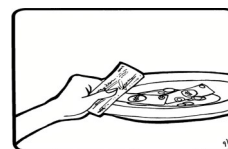
We would like to thank all of our parishioners and visitors for being generous with your donations. We depend on your generosity to meet the financial needs of our parish.

SUNDAY OFFERING

July 6, 2025

Offertory: \$ 4,716.00

Online: \$ 3,053.95



May God bless you for your continued support!



CAMPUS MAINTENANCE/ DEBT REDUCTION SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND JULY 19-20

We must beg the Holy Spirit, with ardent longing, to give us these fruits. The Holy Spirit alone, knows how to bring to light, the sweetness hidden away under the rugged exterior of words of the Law. We must go to the



Holy Spirit for interior guidance.

~ St. Bonaventure
(1221-1274), Bishop,
Doctor of the Church,
Feast Day July 15

GOSPEL MEDITATION

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 10:25-37

I used to be a bad neighbor. I'd get wrapped up in my life and ignore those around me. Then I found sage advice from Benjamin Franklin to this effect: to be a better neighbor, ask someone to do a favor for you. It's counterintuitive, isn't it? Tell strangers that I need their help? Yuck. I'll risk looking needy. Worse, I'll be indebted to them. But I tried it, and it works like a charm. Recently I asked my neighbor Alan for a hack-saw, and Inga for an egg. They kindly obliged, and our friendship is growing.

This week we hear a scribe of the law cynically ask Jesus, **"And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:29)**. Like him, we prefer to keep the list of our "neighbors" as short as possible. It requires less interruption and inconvenience. But when Jesus tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, he exposes the lonely, cold-heartedness tendency of the scribe's (and our) heart. My "neighbor" is anyone I encounter who manifests a concrete need. There isn't time to require any other credential because human need opens us to the happy reciprocity which is love.

Jesus' words challenge us this week to ask a neighbor for help in some small way. How marvelous that God himself shows us how. He moves into our world and asks us to love Him with small deeds of love. Maybe that's where Ben Franklin got the idea.

— Father John Muir ©LPI



June 9—July 28, 2025

MON-THUR 8:00 AM—2:00 PM
FRIDAY CLOSED
Office Closed 12 PM—1:00PM
DAILY



Gentleman, Join the Men's Catholic Brotherhood Group

Do you want to improve your prayer life? Do you want to gain a deeper understanding of your Catholic faith? If so, please consider joining the St Rita's Men's Catholic Brotherhood Group. This group exists to help men deepen their faith through prayer, formation, and fellowship. Our goal is to help each other become the men that Christ has called us to be.

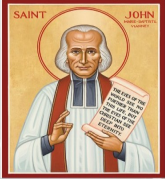
Our first meeting will take place on **August 18th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm** in the Oscar Romero Room. Thereafter, we will meet every second, third, and fourth Monday of the month. We will also meet for the first Saturday for 8 am Mass in the Shrine and breakfast afterwards.

For more information, please get in touch with Jayme Kahle at jkahle25@gmail.com or 520-664-4467.

EVERY 2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

SONS OF Vianney Tucson


January 08
February 12
March 12
April 09
May 14
June 11




July 09
August 13
September 10
October 08
November 12
December 10

6:30 pm - 8 pm
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
8650 N Shannon Rd, Tucson, AZ 85742
Open to young men discerning priesthood
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Registration required
vocations@diocesetucson.org - (520) 838 2537
<https://forms.office.com/r/quP7PL1vKK>



OFFICE OF VOCATIONS
Diocese of Tucson



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
8650 North Shannon Road
Tucson, AZ 85742



"How does St. Kateri Tekakwitha greet her turtle friends?"



"Shell-o!"



Fun Fact! St. Kateri Tekakwitha was a Native American woman whose holiness led to her canonization. Her father was a Mohawk Chief, belonging to the Turtle Clan, so she is sometimes depicted with a turtle in art.

SAVE THE DATE

3RD ANNUAL

CATHOLIC NIGHT

FRIDAY, SEPT. 19, 2025
- AT CHASE FIELD -

 VS 

BUY TICKETS NOW!
GoFevo.com/event/CatholicNight1

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PHOENIX

\$5 OF EVERY TICKET WILL BE DONATED TO

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ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

Please consider contributing to our fresh altar flowers. Cut out and put in collection basket or use envelopes that are in pews.

Name: _____

Envelope #: _____ \$ _____

*Please print clearly
Thank you for your generosity*

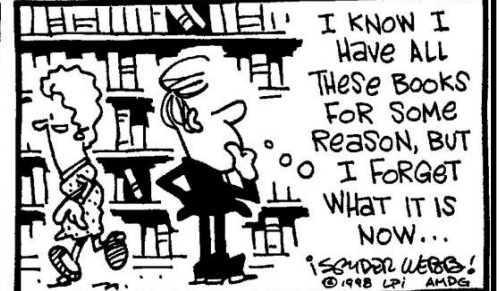


Fry's Community Rewards Program Benefits St. Rita in the Desert

Do you shop at Fry's and have a VIP shopper's card? If so, please consider registering your card for the Fry's Community Rewards Program, and they will donate to St. Rita in the Desert.

1. Go to www.frysfood.com
2. Select "Sign In," and sign in to your Fry's online account (or create an account).
3. Put the cursor on your name and click on "My Account".
4. On the left side select "Community Rewards".
5. On the Fry's Community Rewards Page, click "Enroll Now".
6. In the "Find an Organization" box, enter St. Rita in the Desert
7. In the search results look for St. Rita in the Desert; then click on "ENROLL".

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



REQUEST
A
MASS
INTENTION

Mass for: _____

Living _____ Deceased _____

Mass Date/Time: _____

Requested by: _____

Phone Number: _____

The stipend for a Mass intention is \$10.
Two weeks advance notice is required.
Please fill out this for and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office.



Silent Auction bidding for the two Reserved Parking Spaces begins this weekend! ALL proceeds will go to our ever vigilant Porter's of St. Joseph. Two prime parking spaces in front of the St. John XXIII Center for one year, starting August 1st.

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- ♦ In *Find your Parish* enter **ST. RITA IN THE DESERT**
- ♦ Click **NEXT**
- ♦ Complete your information



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ST. RITA IN THE DESERT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

OFFICE OF THE PASTOR

...With God, all things are possible! (Matt 19:26)

July 13, 2025

"Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life." (John 6:63c, 68c)

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood. This is a very familiar theme for those of us who grew up in the early 1970s when Mr. Roger's Neighborhood was on air. While it might seem a bit corny and old-fashioned, there is still something good about being reminded of what it means to be a good neighbor. When we get along, respect, and care for one another, the world is a better place to live.

Our scriptural texts all indicate some very tangible realities of both the ethical and moral law on how we ought to treat one another. While some may argue that the Law of Moses, the Torah, and the Ten Commandments are outdated, they still have an effect because these laws are considered divinely inspired. Ironically, no matter how we justify our poor and negative behaviors, the law of God, the natural law, is written upon our hearts. In some sense, we are all accountable for what we do, whether good or bad, and we are aware of the difference, whether we want to admit it or not.

If we consider today's Gospel about the Good Samaritan, a half-breed Jew of sorts understood what it meant to be a good neighbor. We have to keep in mind that the Jews despised Samaritans because they were considered heretics of their time. Having a scholar of the law explain to Jesus who was the good neighbor to the man who had fallen ill by robbers was painful and excruciatingly embarrassing for the Jewish authorities. Here, we see Jesus tearing down the walls of division, prejudice, and hatred. Jesus arguably was not well received and was rejected outright by the religious elites.

In our volatile world of indifference, intolerance, apathy, and selfishness, what kinds of behaviors do we need to express intentionally as Roman Catholic Christians to continue tearing down those walls? We should ask ourselves if we are truly being good neighbors to one another. What are our prejudices, biases, and personal issues that get in the way of loving and accepting others in a way that gives rise to the dignity of each human being? As parishioners, volunteers, and ministers, how do we curtail our tendency to gossip, criticize, judge, and defame each other? How do we become true brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ? We may need to examine our imperfections before attempting to fix those of others.

Our calling as Christians is to work toward creating a world of brotherhood and sisterhood where we are recognized for our love and care for one another. How else are we going to build a neighborhood of peace, joy, and love if we do not begin with ourselves first? May we have the courage to self-reflect and ask Jesus to remove the areas of our lives that cause us division, prejudice, and hatred to order our hearts and minds to His. Lord, give us the courage to change and choose the good to build up your kingdom within our hearts, homes, and parishes. We ask this in Jesus' name! It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood.

Lastly, I have been prayerfully discerning a new liturgical direction in the way we currently worship. Liturgical worship is unique in itself, but what is most interesting is that this was something the Holy Spirit revealed to me one day while I was celebrating the Sunday Liturgy. While I am very intrigued by the notion of praying *ad orientem*, I will have my team of parishioners, who are assisting me with *Amazing Parish*, join me in prayer on this revelation. It is through prayer and discernment that the Lord reveals His will for us. The change would be to place the altar by the wall and celebrate Mass with all of us focused on God through His Son, Jesus Christ. Granted, this will be something new for us to get used to, but it is something to consider because, if we read the documents of the Second Vatican Council, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, there is no mention of removing altars or even facing the people. However, we will pray before taking any action. I also ask for your prayers in this regard. Peace and all good!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Alonzo M. García, Pastor



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

OFFICE OF THE PASTOR

...With God, all things are possible! (Matt 19:26)

13 de julio de 2025

"Tus palabras, Señor, son Espíritu y vida. Tú tienes palabras de vida eterna." (Juan 6:63c, 68c)

Estimada familia parroquial:

Es un hermoso día en el vecindario. Este es un tema muy familiar para aquellos de nosotros que crecimos a principios de la década de 1970, cuando el programa *Mr. Roger's Neighborhood* estaba al aire. Aunque pueda parecer un poco cursi y anticuado, sigue habiendo algo valioso en que nos recuerden lo que significa ser un buen vecino. Cuando nos llevamos bien, nos respetamos y cuidamos los unos a los otros, el mundo es un lugar mejor para vivir.

Nuestros textos bíblicos indican realidades muy concretas, tanto de la ley ética como de la ley moral, sobre cómo debemos tratarnos unos a otros. Aunque algunos puedan argumentar que la Ley de Moisés, la Torá y los Diez Mandamientos están desfasados, todavía tienen efecto porque estas leyes son consideradas divinamente inspiradas. No importa cuánto justifiquemos nuestros comportamientos pobres y negativos, la ley de Dios, la ley natural, está escrita en nuestros corazones. En cierto sentido, todos somos responsables de lo que hacemos, sea bueno o malo, y somos conscientes de la diferencia, lo queramos admitir o no.

En el Evangelio de hoy se nos habla del Buen Samaritano, un mestizo judío, quien entendió lo que significaba ser un buen vecino. Debemos tener en cuenta que los judíos despreciaban a los samaritanos porque los consideraban herejes de su tiempo. Hacer que un doctor de la ley le explicara a Jesús quién fue el buen vecino para el hombre que había caído en manos de los ladrones fue doloroso y sumamente embarazoso para la autoridad judía. Aquí vemos a Jesús derribando los muros de división, prejuicio y odio. Se podría decir que Jesús no fue bien recibido y fue rechazado abiertamente por las élites religiosas.

En nuestro volátil mundo de indiferencia, intolerancia, apatía y egoísmo, ¿qué tipos de comportamientos debemos expresar intencionalmente como cristianos católicos romanos para seguir derribando esos muros? Debemos preguntarnos si realmente estamos siendo buenos vecinos los unos con los otros. ¿Cuáles son nuestros prejuicios y problemas personales que nos impiden amar y aceptar a los demás de una manera que eleve la dignidad de cada ser humano? Como feligreses, voluntarios y ministros, ¿cómo podemos frenar nuestra tendencia a chismear, criticar, juzgar y difamar a los demás? ¿Cómo llegamos a ser verdaderos hermanos y hermanas en Jesucristo? Tal vez necesitemos examinar nuestras propias imperfecciones antes de intentar corregir las de los demás.

Nuestro llamado como cristianos es trabajar para crear un mundo de fraternidad y hermandad donde se nos reconozca por nuestro amor y cuidado los unos por los otros. ¿De qué otra manera vamos a construir un vecindario de paz, alegría y amor si no comenzamos primero con nosotros mismos? Que tengamos el valor de reflexionar sobre nosotros mismos y pedirle a Jesús que elimine las áreas de nuestra vida que causan división, prejuicio y odio para ordenar nuestro corazón y nuestra mente a los suyos. Señor, danos el valor de cambiar y elegir el bien para edificar tu Reino dentro de nuestros corazones, hogares y parroquias. ¡Te lo pedimos en el nombre de Jesús! Es un hermoso día en el vecindario.

Por último, he estado discerniendo en oración una nueva dirección litúrgica en la forma en que actualmente adoramos. La liturgia es única en sí misma, pero lo más interesante es que esto fue algo que el Espíritu Santo me reveló un día mientras celebraba la Liturgia dominical. Aunque me siento muy intrigado por la idea de orar *ad orientem*, contaré con mi equipo de feligreses, que me asisten con *Amazing Parish*, para que me acompañen en oración sobre esta revelación. Es a través de la oración y el discernimiento que el Señor nos revela Su voluntad. El cambio consistiría en colocar el altar junto a la pared y celebrar la Misa con todos nosotros enfocados en Dios a través de Su Hijo, Jesucristo. Por supuesto, esto será algo nuevo a lo que tendremos que acostumbrarnos, pero es algo a considerar porque, si leemos los documentos del Concilio Vaticano II, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, no se menciona la eliminación de los altares ni siquiera el hecho de que el sacerdote deba mirar hacia el pueblo. Sin embargo, oraremos antes de tomar cualquier acción. También les pido sus oraciones al respecto. ¡Paz y todo bien!

Sinceramente Suyos en Cristo,

Reverendo Alonzo M. García, Pastor