

February 8, 2026



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:

Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

5TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

"You are the light of the world."

(Matthew 5:14)

"Ustedes son la luz del mundo."

(Mateo 5:14)

Reflection:

In this Gospel passage, Jesus calls us to be the light of the world. Just as a lamp is placed on a stand to illuminate the entire room, we are meant to shine with the love and truth of Christ in our daily lives. Our actions and words should reflect His presence in us, guiding others toward the light of His love. As followers of Christ, we are invited to live authentically and courageously, allowing His light to dispel the darkness around us. Let us be mindful of the ways we can illuminate the lives of those we encounter, bringing hope and joy to the world.

Socratic Question:

How can you let your light shine brightly this week to inspire and uplift those around you?

Reflexión:

En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús nos llama a ser la luz del mundo. Así como una lámpara se coloca en alto para iluminar toda la habitación, estamos destinados a brillar con el amor y la verdad de Cristo en nuestra vida diaria. Nuestras acciones y palabras deben reflejar su presencia en nosotros, guiando a otros hacia la luz de su amor. Como seguidores de Cristo, estamos invitados a vivir de manera auténtica y valiente, permitiendo que su luz disipe la oscuridad a nuestro alrededor. Seamos conscientes de las formas en que podemos iluminar la vida de aquellos que encontramos, llevando esperanza y alegría al mundo.

Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo puedes dejar que tu luz brille intensamente esta semana para inspirar y elevar a los que te rodean?

Source: *Truthly App*

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

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY | De Lunes a Miércoles

8:30 am—4:00 pm

THURSDAY | Jueves

8:00 am—2:00 pm

FRIDAY | Viernes

9:00 am—1:00pm

*Office closed
12pm—1pm daily*

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

PARISH INFORMATION

COLLECTIONS | COLECTA



February 1, 2026

Offertory: \$8,515.85
Debt Reduction: \$1,875.00

Thank you for your support.
God bless you!

<https://www.stritainthedesert.org>
select "Giving" and then "Online Giving"

ST. RITA STAFF

(520) 762-9688

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jkahle25@gmail.com

Women's Bible Study: Irene Toews
irenetoews@cox.net

Guild of St. Rita:
guild@stritainthedesert.org

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 or click **HERE**.



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

February 8, 2026

“I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.” (John 8:12)

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

Our scriptural readings for the 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time prepare us for Lent by focusing on light, darkness, and living to glorify God. Today’s world is filled with much bitterness, disunity, misinformation, war, and poverty, making light seem distant. The scarcity of upright people—the salt of the earth—in areas like government, news, and higher education compounds this challenge. With these struggles, can we find hope? The key is that faith calls us to become the light of hope and models of righteousness, even in dark times.

Yes. God reminds us to make conscious, heartfelt choices to practice justice and mercy, regardless of our neighbor’s actions. We must care for the poor and sick, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and meet their needs. When we do what is right, God’s presence breaks through the darkness of our world. Choosing to disregard a selfish, depraved world benefits us. We choose light over humanity’s inhumanity.

Jesus reminds us that we are the world’s light and salt. Our faith and light must go beyond political slogans, protests, or violence. Being salt means preserving what has been taught and handed down. God’s law is unchanging and cannot justify the contradictions we encounter in society today. To be light and salt, we must use real justice and mercy. We must rise above the world’s noise, show compassion and understanding, and do what is right and just, not imitate the corruption we see at every level of society. Ultimately, we must ask: ‘Does my life glorify my heavenly Father?’ Am I a living testament to the Gospel, sharing God’s love with all? With these reflections in mind, let’s now consider some practical matters that impact our parish community.

Turning now from spiritual reflection to community matters: as promised, paving for our north and south parking lots will begin soon. I am pleased to report that on February 9, 2026, early in the morning, the south parking lot will be sealed and patched. After the south lot project is completed, the company will start work on the north parking lot. During north lot work, the north parking lot will be unavailable. Please use the south parking lot during this time and enter through the south entrance to walk to the office shrine.

It is truly amazing how many of our parishioners have responded to our request to pay down our debt. We are truly blessed to have so many generous and supportive parishioners who continue to light the way for our success here at St. Rita in the Desert Roman Catholic Church. In doing so, we are planting the seeds for future generations who will attend our amazing parish. Currently, 113 families are contributing to our request. We have thus far raised \$82,043.00! That is a great beginning, and I know we can get this paid down by July 2026! If you have not had a chance to contribute to our debt reduction, please see the flyers in the narthex or visit <https://www.osvhub.com/stritainthedesert/giving/funds/rectory-debt-payoff> to make a contribution. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Reverend Alonzo M. García, Pastor



OFICINA DE PASTOR

8 de febrero de 2026

“Yo soy la luz del mundo, dice el Señor; el que me sigue tendrá la luz de la vida.” (Juan 8:12)

Estimada familia parroquial y amigos:

Nuestras lecturas bíblicas para el Quinto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario nos preparan para la Cuaresma al centrarse en la luz y la oscuridad, y en vivir para glorificar a Dios. El mundo de hoy está lleno de amargura, desunión, desinformación, guerra y pobreza, lo que hace que la luz parezca lejana. La escasez de personas rectas —la sal de la tierra— en ámbitos como el gobierno, los medios de comunicación y la educación superior agrava este desafío. Ante estas luchas, ¿podemos encontrar esperanza? La clave es que la fe nos llama a convertirnos en la luz de la esperanza y en modelos de rectitud, incluso en tiempos de oscuridad.

Sí. Dios nos recuerda que debemos tomar decisiones conscientes y sinceras para practicar la justicia y la misericordia, independientemente de las acciones de nuestro prójimo. Debemos cuidar de los pobres y los enfermos, alimentar a los hambrientos, vestir a los desnudos y atender sus necesidades. Cuando hacemos lo que es justo, la presencia de Dios irrumpe en la oscuridad de nuestro mundo. Elegir no dejarnos llevar por un mundo egoísta y depravado nos beneficia. Elegimos la luz sobre la inhumanidad de la humanidad.

Jesús nos recuerda que somos la luz del mundo y la sal de la tierra. Nuestra fe y nuestra luz deben ir más allá de las consignas políticas, de las protestas o de la violencia. Ser sal significa preservar lo que ha sido enseñado y transmitido. La ley de Dios es inmutable y no puede justificar las contradicciones que encontramos en la sociedad actual. Para ser luz y sal, debemos practicar la verdadera justicia y la verdadera misericordia. Debemos elevarnos por encima del ruido del mundo, mostrar compasión y comprensión, y hacer lo que es correcto y justo, no imitar la corrupción que vemos en todos los niveles de la sociedad. En última instancia, debemos preguntarnos: “¿Glorifica mi vida a mi Padre celestial?” ¿Soy un testimonio vivo del Evangelio, compartiendo el amor de Dios con todos? Con estas reflexiones en mente, consideremos ahora algunos asuntos prácticos que afectan a nuestra comunidad parroquial.

Pasando ahora de la reflexión espiritual a los asuntos comunitarios: tal como se prometió, pronto comenzarán los trabajos de pavimentación de los estacionamientos norte y sur. Me complace informar que el 9 de febrero de 2026, temprano por la mañana, el estacionamiento sur será sellado y reparado. Una vez finalizado el trabajo en el estacionamiento sur, la empresa comenzará las labores en el estacionamiento norte. Durante los trabajos en el estacionamiento norte, este permanecerá cerrado. Por favor, utilicen el estacionamiento sur durante este tiempo y entren por la entrada sur para caminar hasta el santuario de la oficina.

Es verdaderamente asombroso ver cuántos de nuestros feligreses han respondido a nuestra solicitud para reducir nuestra deuda. Estamos verdaderamente bendecidos de contar con tantos feligreses generosos y solidarios que continúan iluminando el camino hacia nuestro éxito aquí en la Iglesia Católica Romana de Sta. Rita en el Desierto. Al hacerlo, estamos sembrando las semillas para las futuras generaciones que asistirán a nuestra maravillosa parroquia.

Actualmente, 113 familias están contribuyendo a esta iniciativa. ¡Hasta ahora hemos recaudado \$82,043.00! Este es un gran comienzo y sé que podremos reducir esta deuda para julio de 2026. Si aún no ha tenido la oportunidad de contribuir a la reducción de nuestra deuda, por favor consulte los folletos en el nártex o visite

<https://www.osvhub.com/stritainthedesert/giving/funds/rectory-debt-payoff> para hacer una contribución. ¡Gracias y que Dios los bendiga por su generosidad!

Sinceramente en Cristo,

Reverendo Alonzo M. García, Pastor



GOSPEL MEDITATION

IN THE MATTHEW 5:13-16,

In this passage, Jesus tells us that we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Salt enhances flavor and preserves foods, just as we are called to enhance and preserve the goodness in the world with our faith and actions. Being the light of the world means allowing Christ's love to shine through us, guiding others out of darkness and into His light. Imagine a city on a hill — it cannot be hidden, and neither should our faith be. Jesus encourages us to live our lives openly and boldly as His followers, so others may see our good deeds and give glory to our Father in heaven. Consider how your presence brings flavor and light to the world around you.

Reflection Question:

In what ways can your actions and words reveal the light of Christ to those you meet each day?

EN MATEO 5:13-16,

En este pasaje, Jesús nos dice que somos la sal de la tierra y la luz del mundo. La sal mejora el sabor y conserva los alimentos, de la misma manera en que estamos llamados a mejorar y preservar la bondad en el mundo con nuestra fe y acciones. Ser la luz del mundo significa permitir que el amor de Cristo brille a través de nosotros, guiando a otros fuera de la oscuridad hacia Su luz. Imagina una ciudad en una colina: no puede ocultarse, y tampoco debería nuestra fe. Jesús nos anima a vivir nuestras vidas abierta y audazmente como Sus seguidores, para que otros vean nuestras buenas obras y glorifiquen a nuestro Padre en el cielo. Considera cómo tu presencia aporta sabor y luz al mundo que te rodea.

Pregunta de reflexión:

¿De qué maneras pueden tus acciones y palabras revelar la luz de Cristo a quienes encuentras cada día?

DID YOU KNOW....

FEBRUARY 8TH

Feast of Saint Josephine Bakhita:

February 8th is celebrated as the feast day of Saint Josephine Bakhita. She was born in Sudan in 1869 and experienced great hardship, including being kidnapped and sold into slavery as a child. Despite her suffering, she eventually found freedom in Italy, where she joined the Canossian Sisters and became a Catholic. Known for her gentle spirit and profound faith, Josephine Bakhita was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2000. She stands as a powerful witness to forgiveness and healing, showing that hope and transformation are possible even in the most challenging circumstances.

Reflection Question:

How does the life of Saint Josephine Bakhita inspire you to find peace and hope, even amidst life's difficulties?

Source: *Truthly App*

WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday February 7

8:00 am

†Jerome R. Gillette

5:00 pm

SI Ginger Crawford

SI Dee Ann Altes

Sunday February 8

8:00 am

†Lt. Col. Stan Kwader

†Charlie & Sis Twardy

†Bill Gassoway

10:00 am

†John Dinolfo

†Dee Pheiffer

12:00 pm

SI Samantha Mata

Monday February 9

8:00 am

†James W. Logan

†Jeffrey Roberts

Tuesday February 10

8:00 am

SI Michael Ligon

Wednesday February 11

8:00 am

SI Michael Ligon

†Ginger Crawford

Thursday February 12

8:00 am SI Michael Ligon

Friday February 13

8:00 am SI Michael Ligon

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, February 8

5th Sunday of Ordinary

Time

- *St. Jerome Emiliani*
- *St. Josephine Bakhita*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

10:00 am - Mass (English)

12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

Monday, February 9

- *St. Apollonia*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Tuesday, February 10

- *Saint Scholastica*
- *Sts. Zoticus, Hyacinth and Amantius*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday, February 11

- *Our Lady of Lourdes*
- *St. Sotera*
- *Pope St. Gregory II*
- *Pope St. Paschal I*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Thursday, February 12

- *Sts. Saturninus and Companions, African Martyrs*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday, February 13

- *Bl. Jordan of Saxony*

8:00 am Mass

8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

Saturday, February 14

- *Sts. Cyril and Methodius*
- *St. Valentine*

5:00 pm - Mass (English)

source: young-catholics.com

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:

"If you share your bread with the hungry and satisfy the afflicted, your light shall rise in the darkness." (Is 58:7, 10)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"The just man is a light in darkness to the upright." (Ps 112:4)

SECOND READING:

"My message and my proclamation were not with persuasive words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of Spirit and power." (1 Cor 2:4)

GOSPEL:

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden." (Mt 5:14)

Sunday, February 8
(Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Is 58:7-10 | Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 | 1 Cor 2:1-5 | Mt 5:13-16

Monday, February 9

1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 | Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 | Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 10
(Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin)

1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 | Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10, 11 | Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 11

1 Kgs 10:1-10 | Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40 | Mk 7:14-23

Thursday, February 12

1 Kgs 11:4-13 | Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40 | Mk 7:24-30

Friday, February 13

1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 | Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-13, 14-15 | Mk 7:31-37

Saturday, February 14
(Memorial of Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop)

1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 | Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-20, 21-22 | Mk 8:1-10

PARISH MINISTRIES

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Boys

If your boy would like to become an Altar Boy, 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

Curious about our choirs? Love to sing sacred music? Join us, our rehearsals are open to everyone!

Adult choirs (18+): Tues at 6:30 pm
Youth choir (8-18): Wed at 4:30 pm
Spanish choir: Wed at 6:15 pm

Do you play piano, guitar, flute or clarinet? We want to meet you!

Coro español: ¡Queremos desarrollar nuestro coro! ¡Considere unirse a nosotros o volver a unirse a nosotros!
¡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

Join us as we provide support every week to our 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

If you are interested in joining the Welcoming Team, submit your [Welcoming Team request form](#) online.

Guild of St. Rita

Volunteers manage our beautiful Gift shop, plan our St. Rita's feast day celebration & host many other parish events as requested. Join us! 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)

Para mas Informacion
Coordinadora:
Gabriela Hrdlirka (915) 539-0985
gawoho@gmail.com

EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



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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



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

MARIAN BOOK CLUB

Every Thursday
4:30-6pm
Oscar Romero

All are welcome to join!

Rectory Debt Payoff Update

As of Sunday, February 8, 2026

\$80,899

\$328,000
GOAL

75

500
FAMILY PLEDGED/DONATED GOAL

We need your help! Until this phase is complete, we cannot seek Diocesan approval for a new church capital campaign. Let's come together as a faith family to make it happen

**Easter is just 55 days away!
Be part of our parish family's
exciting next chapter**



Scan to Pledge

With Grateful Hands and Hearts, your St. Rita's Outreach Ministry forwards this Thank You note from the Vail Food Bank:

Thank you to St. Rita in the Desert for your continued support of the Meals to Grow program. In 2025, over 18,000 weekend meals were provided to students in the Vail School District facing food insecurity. St. Rita's played a vital role through food drives, weekly donations of ramen and oatmeal, and 600+ volunteer hours delivering meals to 12 schools.

We are also grateful for the generous support of our 2025 holiday food drives, including \$2,400 in grocery gift card donations. Your generosity continues to make a meaningful difference.

Regina Tiedemann
Food Bank Assistant Manager

ALTAR SOCIETY QUILT RAFFLE

Support the purchase of a **new monstrance** for the Pope John XXIII Center by participating in the Altar Society's **quilt raffle!**

Tickets are available for the **king-size quilt** on display in the Narthex (108" x 108", 100% cotton, machine washable).

Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and will be sold after all Masses from February 8 through March 8. The drawing will be held after the 12:00 p.m. Mass on March 8. You do not need to be present to win.

Thank you for your generous support.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY, JESUS SAYS,

"You are the light of the world,"

He is calling us to live our Christian vocation in words and deeds. He calls each of us to be a "light" to those living in poverty by giving from our abundance.

So many are hungry not only for food but for peace in these troubled times.

VISITA DE LA VIRGEN A LOS HOGARES

El grupo de la Legion de Maria les recuerda que Nuestra Santisima Madre quiere visitar sus hogares, para que sientan su proteccion y compania, para que compartan con Ella las necesidades que tiene cada miembro de su familia, Ella quiere escuchar sus plegarias y llevarlas a su amado Hijo Jesus.

En el vestibulo estaran algunos miembros del grupo de la Legion de Maria, para tomar sus datos y programar la visita. Gracias.

WELCOME TEAM

WELCOME SUNDAY
Coffee and pastries
February 8th
After all masses

ST. RITA GUILD

Sunday, February 15th
Gift shop will be open
9:00 am until noon.

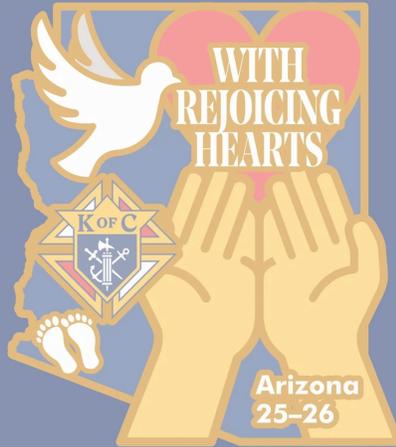
WOMEN OF THE WAY STUDY GROUP

February 11th

6-8pm
Oscar Romero Room

For more information:
jbrink1130@gmail.com

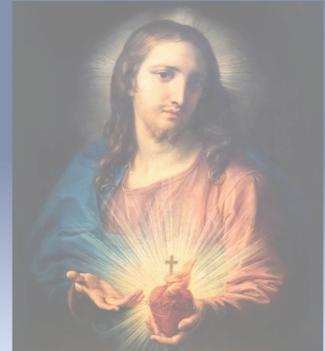
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With Rejoicing Hearts!



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ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING

Aluminum cans may be dropped off in the recycling barrels next to the St. Vincent de Paul donation shed. To ensure the program's success, please note:

- **Aluminum cans only** (no glass, paper, metal cans, or trash)
- Please place cans in **secure, tied trash bags**
- **No clothing donations**—please take clothing to the Vail Resources Thrift Store across the street

If you have cans to donate but need assistance, please ask a Knight wearing a maroon council shirt for help.

KNIGHTS FUNDRAISER FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Support a St. Rita Special Olympian competing with Arizona USA Softball at the Special Olympics USA Summer Games (June 20-26).

Help make a difference after Mass!
Roadrunners jersey raffle (\$5 or 5 for \$20) are available.

Pick up **farm-fresh eggs** for \$5/dozen and support a great cause.

Stop by the table to donate or learn more.



**Knights of
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diocese of Tucson - Alive in Christ

Preparing Your Heart for Lent

Thursday February 19th | 6:30pm

*“Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God, and
Renew a right Spirit Within Me”*

- Psalms 51:10

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Catholic Church
801 N. Grande Ave, Tucson Arizona

Make your Lent the best ever! Joyfully praise the Lord, pray for all your intentions, receive insights on how Lent can renew your spiritual life, and worship our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration. Join Fr Vincent Odoh. Hosted by the Diocese of Tucson Renewal Committee.



February | March Concerts

I Dream a World

Featuring True Concord Choir, Orchestra, Tucson Girls Chorus & Jeffrey Biegel, piano

Friday, February 27 | 4pm

Valley Presbyterian Church, Green Valley

Saturday, February 28 | 4pm

Catalina Foothills H.S. Music Hall, Tucson

Sunday, March 1 | 3pm

Catalina Foothills H.S. Music Hall, Tucson

LITURGICAL COLORS

Color	Season/Use	Meaning
Green	Ordinary Time	Hope, growth, life
Violet or Purple	Advent, Lent	Penance, preparation, repentance
Rose	3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete), 4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare)	Joy in the midst of penance
White	Christmas, Easter, feasts of the Lord & non-martyr saints, sacraments	Joy, purity, resurrection
Red	Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost, apostles & martyrs	Passion, sacrifice, Holy Spirit, blood of martyrs
Black	Funerals (optional)	Mourning, hope in resurrection
Gold	Solemnities (optional)	Triumph, festivity, glory



Now the child grew, and he was strengthened with the fullness of wisdom. And the grace of God was with him. Seek this wisdom in your marriage by participating in an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences on Feb 14-15, 2026 in Phoenix or April 18-19, 2026 in Tucson.

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



SAINT SPOTLIGHT



SAINT VALENTINE

Feast Day: February 14th

Patronage:

He is the patron saint of love, young people, beekeepers, and happy marriages.

Story: The details of Saint Valentine's life are not entirely clear, as there were several martyrs with the name Valentine who lived during the early centuries of Christianity. The most popular legend suggests that he was a priest in Rome during the third century. Emperor Claudius II had banned marriages for young men, believing that single men made better soldiers. Valentine defied the decree and continued to perform marriages in secret. For this act of defiance, he was arrested and eventually executed.

An additional story tells of Valentine restoring sight to the blind daughter of his jailer. He allegedly wrote her a letter signed "from your Valentine" before his execution, which may have been a precursor to the modern Valentine's Day tradition of romantic notes and gifts.

Legacy: Saint Valentine's legacy is tied closely to the celebration of love and affection. February 14th, Saint Valentine's Day, has become a widely recognized occasion for people to express love and devotion to partners, families, and friends. While the romantic aspects have overshadowed the religious origins, the day is still a reminder of the sacrificial nature of true love.

Reflection Question: In what ways can we show sacrificial love for others in our everyday lives, similar to how Saint Valentine risked his life to uphold the sanctity of marriage?

Moreover, considering Saint Valentine's example, how can living out one's faith lead to both acts of charity and personal sacrifice? Feel free to reflect on these questions deeply. If you're seeking further guidance or community support, I encourage you to speak with a priest, who can provide spiritual direction and counsel.

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: February 14th

Patronage:

Saint Valentine is the special friend of people in love, like if you're getting married, and also for young people and beekeepers (the people who take care of bees).

Story:

A long, long time ago, in a city called Rome, there was a kind priest named Valentine. The ruler of that time, Emperor Claudius, thought that if young men got married, they wouldn't make good soldiers. So, he made a rule that they couldn't get married. But Valentine believed that love and marriage were important, so he secretly helped couples get married. When the emperor found out, he was very upset, and Valentine was put in jail. Before he was eventually put to death, he sent a note to a little girl who he had helped, signing it "from your Valentine."

Legacy:

Today, we celebrate Valentine's Day on February 14th by telling our friends and family how much we love them. We can send cards, give flowers, or share sweet treats to show we care.

Question to Ponder:

How can you show kindness like Saint Valentine did, by helping others and showing love to your friends and family?

Think about different ways you can make someone feel special today! Remember, love and kindness are wonderful gifts you can share every day.

Source: *Truthly App*

DONATIONS



RECTORY DEBT PAYOFF

The Building Committee would like to invite all our parishioners to assist us with paying off the debt of our parish rectory. Please complete information and place in collection basket or bring to the office.

Name: _____

Amount: _____



CAMPUS MAINTENANCE

Please consider contributing to our Campus Maintenance. Please complete information and place in collection basket or bring to the office.

Name: _____

Amount: _____



ONLINE DONATIONS: [HTTPS://WWW.OSVHUB.COM/STRITAINTHEDESERT/GIVING/FUNDS](https://www.osvhub.com/stritainthedesert/giving/funds)



ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

Please consider contributing to our fresh altar flowers. Please complete information and place in collection basket or bring to the office.

Name: _____

Amount: _____



REQUEST A MASS INTENTION

The stipend for a Mass intention is \$10. **Two Week advance notice** is required. Please complete information and place in collection basket or bring to the office. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Mass for: _____

Living Deceased

Mass Date/Time: _____

Requested By: _____

Phone: _____

Note: The Bulletin is printed for Sunday-Saturday
Mass intentions for Saturday are found accordingly.
Questions? email: bulletin@stritainthedesert.org