



St. Rita in the Desert Catholic Church

Phone: (520) 762-9688

13260 E. Colossal Cave Road

Vail, AZ 85641

Website: stritainthedesert.org

September 7, 2025

PASTOR

Rev. Alonzo Garcia

DEACON

Ron Desmarais

SECRETARY

Mrs. Veronica Garcia

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ms. Barbara Scott

OFFICE HOURS | Horario de Oficina

Monday/ Lunes—8:30 am-4:00 pm

Tuesday/ Martes—8:30 am-4:00 pm

Wednesday/ Miercoles—8:30 am-4:00 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

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
“Anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.” - Lk 14:33

23ER DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO
“Cualquiera de ustedes que no renuncie a todos sus bienes, no puede ser mi discípulo”. - Lc 14, 33

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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 September 6

8:00 am (SI) Jim Greyson

5:00 pm † Lando Ahumada

Sunday September 7

8:00 am (SI) Michael Ligon

10:00 am † José Arteaga, Maria Peña,
Carmen, Victor, & Armando
Cancino

† William Olson

12:00 pm Living & Deceased of St. Rita's

Monday September 8

8:00 am First Responders

Tuesday September 9

8:00 am † Richard & Irene Lowe

Wednesday September 10

8:00 am Poor Souls in Purgatory

Thursday September 11

8:00 am St. Rita Office Staff

Friday September 12

8:00 am Men & Women in the Military

Readings for the Week of September 7, 2025

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

Monday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Las lecturas de la semana del 7 de septiembre de 2025

Domingo: Sab 9, 13-19/Sal 89, 3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14-17 (1)/Flm 9-10. 12-17/Lc 14, 25-33

Lunes: Miq 5, 1-4 o Rom 8, 28-30/Sal 12, 6. 6/Mt 1, 1-16. 18-23 o 1, 18-23

Martes: Col 2, 6-15/Sal 61, 6-7. 9/Lc 6, 12-19

Miércoles: Col 3, 1-11/Sal 144, 2-3. 10-11. 12-13/Lc 6, 20-26

Jueves: Col 3, 12-17/Sal 150, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/Lc 6, 27-38

Viernes: 1 Tim 1, 1-2. 12-14/Sal 15, 1-2 y 5. 7-8. 11/Lc 6, 39-42

Sábado: 1 Tim 1, 15-17/Sal 112, 1-2. 3-4. 5 y 6-7/Lc 6, 43-49

Domingo siguiente: Nm 21, 4-9/Sal 77, 1-2. 34-35. 36-37. 38/Flp 2, 6-11/Jn 3, 13-17

CONTACT US

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

stritainthedesert.org

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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>

SAFE ENVIROMENT



Important Telephone 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

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:

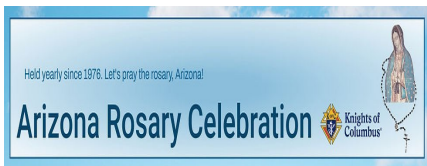
Please visit our website under the tab LITURGY/SACRAMENTS and fill the *Intent to Baptize Form*.

Confirmation:

Contact Youth Minister or OCIA coordinator

Marriage:

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



All Altar Servers Are Invited to the Arizona Rosary Celebration Altar Servers from throughout the Diocese of Tucson are invited to attend the Arizona Rosary Celebration in Tucson on Saturday, October 18, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.. This year, the Diocese of Tucson will hold the event at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, 8650 N. Shannon Road, Tucson, AZ. Altar servers throughout the Diocese have an important role in this celebration, and they will be gifted with a Miraculous Medal that has been blessed by Pope Leo 14. After the Celebration, Parish and School group photos will be taken with Bishop Kicanas. For more information, contact Zach Ferrell, 520-618-9481, or zferrell@diocesetucson.org or visit the website:

www.AzRosary.net.

New! Altar Servers may register online this year! Use this QR Code



St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus describes the cost of discipleship. The Mission Statement of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul states: "Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice...the Society makes no distinction in those served because, in them Vincentians see the face of Christ." Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

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



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The English Legion of Mary will be leading a Novena in honor of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary from August 30, 2025 to September 7, 2025. The Novena will begin at 6:30 pm and be held in the Shrine.

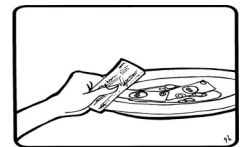
Collection/Colecta

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

August 31, 2025

Figures not available at the time of publication.



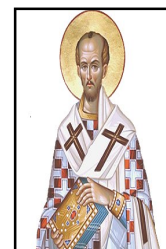
May God bless you for your continued support!

Prayer of Simplicity

Dear God,
In my desire for you, take away anything that keeps me from knowing You, myself, or my mission here on earth. Help me to remember what is truly important, and to seek and treasure that. Amen

@LPI

Let the mouth also fast from disgraceful speeches and railings. For what does it profit if we abstain from fish and fowl and yet bite and devour our brothers and sisters? The evil speaker eats flesh of his brother and bites the body of his neighbor.



~St. John Chrysostom (349-407), Patron of Public Speaking, Feast Day September 13

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

IF YOU'RE GOING TO SKYDIVE, YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE YOU CAN HANDLE IT BEFORE YOU JUMP.



THAT'S PRETTY MUCH WHAT THEY TOLD US IN SEMINARY.





Rachel's Vineyard (Tucson) – Are you a woman or man experiencing regret, grief, or sadness after an abortion? Come and receive God's love and mercy for emotional and spiritual healing on a Rachel's Vineyard retreat, Oct. 10-12, 2025. Visit: www.rachelsvineyardtucson.org

Rekindle the Fires of Love for Christ Retreat

St. Francis de Sales is hosting a retreat entitled "Rekindle the Fires of Love for Christ". This will be held on **Saturday, September 13 from 8am to 4:50pm**. Lunch is included and there is no cost. Please call the office at St. Francis de Sales to register at 520-0885-5908 or use the QR code below. **Registration ends September 2.** Sessions include: Sessions include: Facing our world (With Christ all things are possible) Facing our world with the Triune God Men and Women of the Church (How we can serve the Church) People of God (How we serve those who serve the Church) Reconciliation (Right the relationship with God) The Great commission (We are His hands and His Feet) Memory Creation (Personal Commitment and Pictures) Attend 5:00 Mass



GOSPEL MEDITATION

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 14:25-33

One hot Arizona summer afternoon my car ran out of gas. I phoned the parish office and begged for help. My secretary came and helped me fill the gas tank. She chided me, "If you can't manage getting your car from A to B, how can we expect you to guide the parish where it needs to go?" Point taken, Julie. I vowed to always make sure I have plenty of gas in my car.

The Lord Jesus chides us in this week's Gospel, too. He uses the two images of a man building a tower and a king marching soldiers into war to make this single point: acquire what is needed to follow him or look ridiculous. We rightly mock the builder who lacks money for his tower and the king with a short-handed army. But our mocking boomerangs back on us. How do we expect to follow Jesus to the end with insufficient detachment from our possessions and divided hearts?

The good news is, there is still time. Jesus is building a great tower to heaven—his own body. So we renounce all and give ourselves to him as his precious stones. Jesus is waging a battle against our enemy. So we forsake all and swear allegiance and march under his banner. In this way, we will finish what has begun in our discipleship. Or better put, our Lord will have the stones and soldiers required to see his great work through.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

Register Today!

SAINT RITA

A WOMAN OF VIRTUE &
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SATURDAY – SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

ST. RITA IN THE DESERT CATHOLIC CHURCH HALL

13260 E COLOSSAL CAVE RD, VAIL, AZ

8:30 AM REGISTRATION, COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP

9:00 AM RETREAT BEGINS & 4:45 PM RETREAT ENDS

This day of renewal will include fellowship, praise & worship, teachings, prayer, healing & a fresh touch of the Holy Spirit! Come and ignite the fire of God's love in your life! The cost is free but a love offering will be requested.

Lunch, beverages and snacks will be provided. Invite your friends to join you on this very special day retreat. To register online visit: www.vineofgrace.org or call Erin at: 520.631.1408

Diocese of Tucson - Alive in Christ *Healing Through The Cross*

Thursday September 11, 2025 at 6:45 PM

"The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God"
-1 Corinthians 1:18



- Lively praise & worship
- Praise reports
- Prayers for your intentions
- Eucharistic Adoration



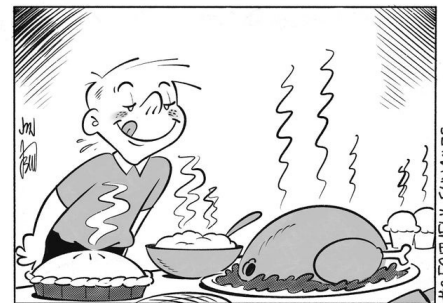
Fr Bala Kommathoti

Invite your family & friends!

Our Lady of La Vang / St. Frances Cabrini
3201 E. Presidio Rd., Tucson

YouTube recording of this event will be available after September 15 at TucsonCCR.org website

"What smells the best at Grandma's house for dinner?"



"Your nose!"



FUN FACT!
Tradition says that Mary's parents were named Anne and Joachim. They are the patron saints of grandparents, since they were Jesus' grandparents!



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



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.



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".



The Knights of Columbus Patriotic Degree is collecting toiletries for the Veterans Administration in Tucson. The Veterans Administration will distribute toiletries to homeless veterans in Tucson. The toiletries we seek are any that you may have collected during the year, whether for business or pleasure, at hotels or motels.



The Welcome Team will be back with the next POTLICK on September 13 in the Hall after the 5 pm Mass. Come join us for a wonderful meal and fellowship with your family.

After all Masses on Sunday, September 14, the Welcome Team will sponsor our monthly dessert and coffee. It is another opportunity to spend time with friends and soon-to-be friends. Please join us!



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- ◆ Click **NEXT**
- ◆ Complete your information





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Saint Rita in the Desert, Vail, AZ

A 4C 05-1788



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

OFFICE OF THE PASTOR

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

September 7, 2025

"Let your face shine upon your servant; and teach me your laws." (Psalm 119:135)

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

When we consider being a Christian or a disciple of Jesus Christ, much is expected of us in terms of how we serve the Lord. Of course, many want to serve the Lord just as long as it doesn't cost too much of our time and interfere with our creature comforts. Jesus is quite clear about our comforts and makes us uncomfortable in many ways.

There is much wisdom to be found in what Jesus speaks about in our Gospel, as it harkens back to our first reading from the Book of Wisdom. Who can honestly know God or offer Him any counsel? God is high above us, and understanding this can help us better comprehend our journey in Christ. As disciples of the Lord, we sometimes hinder God's call, His love, and His plan of salvation due to our narrow-mindedness and utter stubbornness. It is our failure to let go that becomes our own undoing. In the grand scheme of things, who do we think we are? Without God, we are nothing!

The readings for this weekend challenge us and re-focus on the path of authentic and intentional discipleship. Indeed, we will have burdens, crosses, and many sacrifices that we would rather not have to endure, but in the end, they are for our benefit! It is precisely through our crosses, sufferings, and disappointments of life that we encounter a Savior who gently and lovingly walks with us to carry these challenges because He chose to do the same on His way to Calvary for us! The question is, will we let go and let God, or will we stubbornly fight Him to the end of our days?

Thank everyone who spoke with me last Sunday regarding volunteer hours in our parish office. As you are aware, we have a limited budget for staff, and therefore, we are unable to meet all the needs of our parish families. That is why I asked some parishioners to volunteer for a few hours during the week, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, to help with messages, collecting for Mass intentions, or to drop off paperwork for various sacraments. Additionally, some asked about offering their skills to help with our parish website and assisting with our parish bulletin. I am grateful for your help. Please call the parish office so we can meet and discuss the details of when and where to begin. Once we have a plan of action in place, we can train you on using the phones, messages, and maintaining the receipt book. Thank you, and God bless!

As our parish looks to the future, our Parish Building Committee has been diligently working on many fronts. One of which is to put together a plan of action to help us move towards our dream. Next week, our Parish Building Committee will present the next phase for our consideration. We hope to present our current findings and demonstrate to the Diocese of Tucson that the family of St. Rita in the Desert is committed to moving forward and can, in fact, come together to raise capital—more details to come.

Lastly, as our OCIA journey begins, I ask that we, as a parish family, pray for those coming to know Jesus Christ. I also ask that we consider becoming spiritual sponsors to those who embark on the new journey of faith in OCIA. During September, the team and inquirers will meet on Wednesday evening in the Verhegen Building. During October, they will transition to Sunday mornings at 11:00 am. If you have a free moment, stop by the Verhegen building and say hello! Pray that our OCIA team and inquirers receive abundant blessings and graces from the Lord now and always!

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)

7 de septiembre de 2025

“Señor, mira benigne a tus siervos y enséñanos a cumplir tus mandamientos.” (Salmo 118:135)

Estimada familia parroquial:

Se espera mucho de nosotros, los cristianos o discípulos de Jesucristo, en cuanto a cómo servimos al Señor. Por supuesto, muchos desean servir al Señor siempre y cuando no les cueste demasiado tiempo ni interfiera con sus comodidades. Jesús es muy claro acerca de nuestras comodidades y, de hecho, nos incomoda de muchas maneras.

Hay mucha sabiduría en lo que Jesús nos dice en el Evangelio, ya que remite a nuestra primera lectura del Libro de la Sabiduría. ¿Quién puede conocer sinceramente a Dios u ofrecerle algún consejo? Dios está muy por encima de nosotros, y comprender esto puede ayudarnos a entender mejor nuestro camino en Cristo. Como discípulos del Señor, a veces entorpecemos el llamado de Dios, su amor y su plan de salvación debido a nuestra estrechez mental y terquedad. Es nuestro fracaso en soltar lo que finalmente nos derrota. En el gran esquema de las cosas, ¿quién creemos que somos? ¡Sin Dios no somos nada!

Las lecturas de este fin de semana nos desafían y nos reorientan en el camino del discipulado auténtico e intencional. En efecto, tendremos cargas, cruces y muchos sacrificios que preferiríamos no tener que soportar, pero al final ¡son para nuestro bien! Es precisamente a través de nuestras cruces, sufrimientos y desilusiones de la vida que encontramos a un Salvador que camina suavemente y con amor con nosotros para ayudarnos a llevar estos retos, porque Él eligió hacer lo mismo en su camino hacia el Calvario por nosotros. La pregunta es: ¿dejaremos que Dios obre en nosotros o lucharemos tercamente contra Él hasta el fin de nuestros días?

Quiero agradecer a todos los que hablaron conmigo el domingo pasado sobre las horas de voluntariado en nuestra oficina parroquial. Como saben, tenemos un presupuesto limitado para el personal y, por lo tanto, no podemos cubrir todas las necesidades de nuestras familias parroquiales. Por eso pedí a algunos feligreses que se ofrecieran como voluntarios por algunas horas durante la semana, de 5:00 pm a 7:00 pm, para ayudar con los mensajes, la colecta de intenciones de misa o la entrega de documentos para diversos sacramentos. Además, algunos preguntaron sobre la posibilidad de ofrecer sus habilidades para ayudar con la página web parroquial y el boletín. Estoy agradecido por su ayuda. Por favor, llamen a la oficina parroquial para que podamos reunirnos y conversar sobre los detalles de cuándo y dónde empezar. Una vez que tengamos un plan de acción, podremos capacitarlos en el uso de los teléfonos, los mensajes y el registro de recibos. ¡Gracias y que Dios los bendiga!

Sinceramente Suyos en Cristo,

Reverendo Alonzo M. García, Pastor