

May 10, 2026



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:

Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."
(John 14:15)*

"Si me aman, cumplirán mis mandamientos." (Juan 14:15)

Reflection:

In this Gospel passage, Jesus speaks about the connection between love and obedience. True love for Christ is expressed through our willingness to follow His teachings and commandments. This isn't about rules for rules' sake—it's about living in a way that reflects our deep relationship with Jesus. By living out His commandments, we open our hearts to the presence of the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus promises as our Advocate and guide. We are reminded that love and obedience are inseparable and essential in our journey of faith. How can we better embody the love of Christ in everyday actions and choices?

Socratic Question:

How does embracing Jesus' commandments lead you to a fuller expression of love in your life?

Reflexión:

En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús habla sobre la conexión entre el amor y la obediencia. El verdadero amor por Cristo se expresa a través de nuestra disposición a seguir Sus enseñanzas y mandamientos. No se trata solo de cumplir reglas, sino de vivir de una manera que refleje nuestra profunda relación con Jesús. Al vivir Sus mandamientos, abrimos nuestro corazón a la presencia del Espíritu Santo, a quien Jesús promete como nuestro Defensor y guía. Recordamos que el amor y la obediencia son inseparables y esenciales en nuestro camino de fe. ¿Cómo podemos encarnar mejor el amor de Cristo en nuestras acciones y decisiones diarias?

Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo te lleva a una expresión más completa del amor el abrazar los mandamientos de Jesús?

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

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 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

Office Closed

Office Closed

12pm—1pm daily

PARISH INFORMATION

COLLECTIONS | COLECTA

May 03, 2026



Offertory: \$ 7,905.05
Rectory Debt: \$ 1,739.67
Campus Maint: \$ 455.20

Thank you for your support.
God bless you!

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

ST. RITA STAFF

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music@stritainthedesert.org

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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

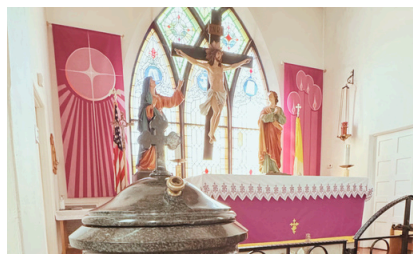
MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

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.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

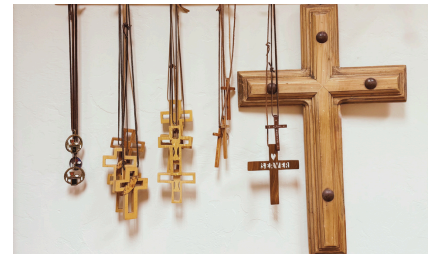


ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

IN THE JOHN 14:15-21,

In this Gospel passage, Jesus reassures His disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, who will always be with them. He speaks of the profound relationship between love and obedience, teaching us that if we truly love Him, we will naturally follow His commandments. This obedience isn't about mere duty; it's about a heart transformed by love, eager to live according to His will. With the Holy Spirit as our guide, we gain the strength and wisdom to embody Christ's love in our daily lives. Reflect on the deep connection between love and action, and consider how you can open your heart more fully to the Spirit's guidance.

Socratic Question:

How can you allow the promised presence of the Holy Spirit to shape your actions and deepen your love for Christ?

EN JUAN 14:15-21,

En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús tranquiliza a Sus discípulos con la promesa del Espíritu Santo, el Defensor, que siempre estará con ellos. Él habla sobre la profunda relación entre el amor y la obediencia, enseñándonos que si realmente lo amamos, naturalmente seguiremos Sus mandamientos. Esta obediencia no se trata solo de cumplir un deber; es sobre un corazón transformado por el amor, deseoso de vivir según Su voluntad. Con el Espíritu Santo como nuestro guía, obtenemos la fuerza y la sabiduría para encarnar el amor de Cristo en nuestras vidas diarias. Reflexiona sobre la conexión profunda entre el amor y la acción, y considera cómo puedes abrir tu corazón más plenamente a la guía del Espíritu.

Pregunta Socrática en Español:

¿Cómo puedes permitir que la prometida presencia del Espíritu Santo moldee tus acciones y profundice tu amor por Cristo?

DID YOU KNOW...

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Sixth Sunday of Easter marks an important moment in the liturgical year as it prepares the faithful for the upcoming Solemnities of the Ascension and Pentecost. It is a time when the Church reflects on the continuous presence of the Holy Spirit in guiding and strengthening believers.

Historical Significance:

In many places, this Sunday highlights the promise of the Holy Spirit given by Jesus in the Gospel of John. Historically, the Church has used these weeks of Easter to reinforce the teachings of the risen Christ, focusing on how His resurrection transformed His followers and established the early Church. This period emphasizes Jesus preparing His disciples for His ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, which radically empowered them to spread the Gospel.

Reflection Question:

How does the promise of the Holy Spirit encourage you to live out your faith more boldly and confidently?

This time offers an opportunity for the faithful to deepen their understanding of the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives and in the life of the Church, inspiring us to be courageous witnesses of the Gospel.

via truthly app

WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday May 9

5:00 pm

†Antoinette Liguori

Sunday May 10

8:00 am

†Dr Miguel Mike Hizon

SI Lana Jergovic

SI Tracy & Cauble

10:00 am

SI Dcn Ron Desmarais

12:00 pm

†Isabel Mendez Sotelo

Monday May 11

8:00 am

SI In Thanksgiving for 55 years of Ordination Fr. Stan

Tuesday May 12

8:00 am

†Ted Golembiewski

SI Joe & Chris Gillette

Wednesday May 13

8:00 am

Saint Rita

Thursday May 14

8:00 am

†Louisa & Joe Moreno & Family

Friday May 15

8:00 am

†Jack & Rachel Zubel

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, May 10

6th Sunday of Easter

- *Saint Damien of Molokai*
- *Saint John of Avila*
- *Job the Prophet (OT)*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

10:00 am - Mass (English)

12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

3:00 pm - Shrine

Monday, May 11

- *St. Anthimus of Rome*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

6:00 pm Men's Group (Oscar

Romero Room)

Tuesday, May 12

- *Sts. Nereus and Achilleus*

- *St. Pancras*

- *St. Germanus of Constantinople*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday, May 13

- *Our Lady of Fatima*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

9:00 am Women's Scripture

Study (Oscar Romero Room)

Thursday, May 14

- *Saint Matthias, Apostle*

- *St. Michael Garicoits*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday, May 15

- *Saint Isidore the Farmer*

- *St. Dymphna*

8:00 am - Mass

8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

Saturday, May 16

- *St. Ubald of Gubbio*

5 pm - Vigil Mass (John XXIII)

source: young-catholics.com

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:

"Peter and John went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit." (Acts 8:15)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"Let all the earth cry out to God with joy." (Ps 66:1)

SECOND READING:

"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope." (1 Pt 3:15)

GOSPEL:

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments." (Jn 14:15)

Sunday, May 10

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 | Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 | 1 Pt 3:15-18 | Jn 14:15-21

Monday, May 11

Acts 16:11-15 | Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b | Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday, May 12

Acts 16:22-34 | Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cd-e-3, 7c-8 | Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday, May 13

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1 | Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14 | Jn 16:12-15

Thursday, May 14

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 | Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 | Jn 15:9-17

Friday, May 15

Acts 18:9-18 | Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Jn 16:20-23

Saturday, May 16

Acts 18:23-28 | Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 | Jn 16:23b-28

PARISH MINISTRIES

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Server

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 - Join Us!

Love sacred music? Come sing or play!

Adult choirs (18+): Tues | 6:30 pm

Youth choir (8-18): Wed | 4:30 pm

Spanish choir: Wed | 6:15 pm

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

Pianist Needed (Sat 5pm Mass):

Mass music paused until filled. Stipend available.

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

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 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)

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

EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



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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!

WOMEN'S SCRIPTURE STUDY

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

PARISH NEWS

Rectory Debt Payoff Update

As of Sunday, May 3, 2026

\$126,578.53 **\$345,000**
GOAL

145 **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

Be part of our parish family's exciting next chapter



Scan to Pledge



Come Visit our Lady of the Desert Marian Rose Garden for prayer or Meditation.

Consider becoming a volunteer to revitalize our church grounds. If interested, please contact the office for more information.

SAVE THE DATES

May 16, 2026 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm

"La primavera in Umbria"

4-Course Italian Wine Dinner with DJ & Dancing

Fundraiser for Rectory Payoff and New Church



Tickets on sale now after mass or use the QR code here

Volunteers Needed - Contact guild@stritainthedesert.org

VISITA DE LA VIRGEN A LOS HOGARES

El grupo de la Legion de Maria les recuerda que Nuestra Santísima Madre quiere visitar sus hogares, para que sientan su protección y compañía, 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 vestíbulo estarán algunos miembros del grupo de la Legion de Maria, para tomar sus datos y programar la visita. Gracias.

ST. RITA'S GUILD

**May 22, 2026
5:30pm - 8:00pm**

Solemnity of St. Rita of Cascia
Mass, Procession and Picnic

FR. STAN CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 16th - 5pm Mass

Join us as we celebrate Fr. Stan's 55th Anniversary of Ordination & after mass, as our guest of honor at the Italian Dinner hosted by the Guild

Sunday, May 17th - 8am Mass

Join us as we celebrate at mass & after mass, as our guest of honor at the Knights Pancake Breakfast

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

TODAY - Sunday, May 10

And Mother's Day Roses

Register for Blood Donation online with Red Cross to get preferred time, *walk ins welcome* if space available.

WELCOME TEAM

TODAY - Sunday, May 10th

After all masses

We are excited to see you!

Join us for
Coffee & Pastries



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A New Beginning...

Join the Knights of Columbus FREE MEMBERSHIP*

For new online membership applications
submitted the entire month of April

*for 1-year of online membership, regular dues are \$30/year thereafter.

Visit kofc.org/joinus



Enter code

BLESSEDMCGIVNEY

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

May 17th *(Pancake Breakfast)*

Mark your calendars and join the
Knights for Breakfast



KNIGHTS BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

Begins May 2, 2026

Support REACHOUT Women's Center by helping us surpass last year's success!

1. Pick up a bottle after Mass starting May 2
2. Fill with change, cash, or checks (payable to Knights of Columbus)
3. Return by **June 13** to a representative at the door

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).

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

Stop by the table to donate or learn more.



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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Rachel's Vineyard (Tucson) – Let Jesus Christ set you free from the emotional and spiritual pain of a past abortion at a co-ed Rachel's Vineyard retreat in Tucson, **May 15-17, 2026**. Visit: www.rachelsvineyardtucson.org or call/ Text to 520-743-6777.

PILGRIMAGE TO EASTERN EUROPE

12 Days NOVEMBER 3 - 14, 2026

Prague • Vienna • Budapest • Krakow • Auschwitz • Czestochowa • Warsaw • Wadowice

With Vine of Grace Retreat Ministry
& Fr. Bala Kommathoti

Pilgrimage Informational Meetings
Please RSVP for meeting at 520.631.1408

Sunday, May 17 – St. Helen of the Cross Catholic Church
PARISH HALL at **10:15a** 205 West 8th Street – Eloy

Printable brochures & information: vineofgrace.org



Diocese of Tucson

It's Faithful Friday! And we are so excited to bring you something new 🙌 Our very own Bishop of Tucson launched a podcast called Being Church with Bishop Misko. Let's walk together while we grow in...

[facebookapp](#)



worldwide marriage encounter

It is time to get your marriage in shape! Worldwide Marriage Encounter is better than any college course. In just one short weekend, you can learn a technique for communication that will keep your marriage on the right track to be healthy. Sign up for an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

May 30-31, 2026, in Tucson

July 11-12, 2026, in Phoenix

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

Early registration is highly recommended.



ARE YOU FOLLOWING US?

[click here](#)



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel today, Jesus says to us: *“if you love me, you will keep my Commandments ...Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”* When we give to the poor, and when we serve the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace, and joy into our hearts, into our lives and through us into the hearts of those who are poor.

ST. RITA VOCATIONS MINISTRY

Altar Server Recognition

The St. Rita Vocations Ministry is presenting Certificates of Appreciation & gift cards for our Altar Servers before each Mass this weekend. This is in recognition of their efforts every weekend to assist our priests.

SAINT SPOTLIGHT



SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

Feast Day: May 14th

Patronage:

Saint Matthias is considered the patron saint of alcoholics, carpenters, and tailors.

Story: Saint Matthias was chosen as an apostle after the tragic betrayal and death of Judas Iscariot. He was selected by the remaining eleven apostles to take Judas' place, as they wanted to restore their number to twelve, symbolizing the twelve tribes of Israel. Matthias had been a follower of Jesus from the very beginning of His ministry, witnessing His baptism and His ascension. After his election, we hear little about Matthias in the Scriptures, but tradition holds that he zealously preached the Gospel. It is believed that he ultimately faced martyrdom for his faith.

Legacy: Saint Matthias exemplifies the theme of divine providence and faithful service. His selection by casting lots was seen as God's will, and it highlights the importance of trust in divine guidance. His faithfulness as an apostle reminds us that following Christ requires perseverance and dedication, even if it means facing great challenges or obscurity. Matthias' quiet yet significant role encourages us that our own service and witness, though perhaps unnoticed by the world, contribute profoundly to God's work.

Reflection Question: How does the example of Saint Matthias encourage you to embrace God's call, even when it leads to unexpected or humble paths?

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: May 14th

Who He Helps: Saint Matthias is a special friend to people who work as carpenters, tailors, and even for those who struggle with alcohol.

Story: Saint Matthias was chosen to be one of Jesus' special friends, called the apostles, after Judas left. The other apostles wanted to find someone who had been with Jesus from the beginning to take Judas' place. They prayed, and then they picked Matthias by drawing lots, kind of like a lottery, because they trusted God to choose the right person. Matthias loved Jesus very much and traveled to teach others about Him. Even though we don't hear much more about him in the Bible, people believe he was brave and faithful until the end.

Why He's Important: Saint Matthias teaches us about saying "yes" to God's plan, even if it means taking on a job that seems small or is hard. He shows us that everyone has an important part to play in God's big story, even if you don't get lots of attention. Being a follower of Jesus means trusting in God and being ready to help others learn about Him.

Question for You: How does Saint Matthias inspire you to listen to God's call, even when it might not be the most exciting or famous job?

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: _____

