

January 11, 2026



## CLERGY

### Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia  
[fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org)

### Deacon:

Ron Desmarais  
[deaconron@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:deaconron@stritainthedesert.org)

## WEEKEND MASS

### Horario de Misas

**SATURDAY** | Sabádo  
5:00 pm—English  
**SUNDAY** | Domingo  
8:00 am—English  
10:00 am—English  
12:00 pm—Spanish

## 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*

## CONFESION

### Confesiones

**SATURDAY** | Sabádo  
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*

# ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

## Catholic Church

### BAPTISM OF THE LORD

*"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)*

*"Este es mi Hijo amado, en quien me complazco." (Mateo 3:17)*

#### Reflection:

The Baptism of the Lord marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry and is a profound moment of divine revelation. As Jesus rises from the waters of the Jordan, the heavens open, and the Spirit descends like a dove, affirming His identity as the beloved Son of the Father. This moment not only reveals the Holy Trinity but also inaugurates the path of our own baptismal calling. Through our baptism, we are invited to share in Christ's mission, to carry His light into the world, and to live as beloved sons and daughters of God. As you reflect on the meaning of your own baptism, consider how you are called to live out this identity daily, sharing God's love and grace with others.

#### Socratic Question:

How does understanding your identity as a beloved child of God shape the way you interact with others and embrace your mission in the world?

#### Reflexión:

El Bautismo del Señor marca el inicio del ministerio público de Jesús y es un momento profundo de revelación divina. Al salir Jesús de las aguas del Jordán, los cielos se abren, y el Espíritu descende como una paloma, afirmando su identidad como el Hijo amado del Padre. Este momento no solo revela la Santísima Trinidad, sino que también inaugura el camino de nuestra propia vocación bautismal. A través de nuestro bautismo, somos invitados a compartir en la misión de Cristo, a llevar su luz al mundo y a vivir como hijos e hijas amados de Dios. Al reflexionar sobre el significado de tu propio bautismo, considera cómo estás llamado a vivir esta identidad diariamente, compartiendo el amor y la gracia de Dios con los demás.

#### Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo entender tu identidad como hijo amado de Dios moldea la forma en que interactúas con los demás y abrazas tu misión en el mundo?

Source: *Truthly App*

# PARISH INFORMATION

## COLLECTIONS | COLECTA



January 04, 2026

Offertory: \$8,806.65

Debt Reduction: \$2,735.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$1,010.00

First Offering: \$365.00

Thank you for your support.

*God bless you!*

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

## BULLETIN DEADLINE & QUESTIONS

Email bulletin request(s) to:

[bulletin@stritainthedesert.org](mailto: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

• 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at 3-4pm in the John XXIII for 1hr



### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday at 8am Mass

### BAPTISMS

Visit [stritainthedesert.org](http://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.

## ST. RITA STAFF

**(520) 762-9688**

**Administrative Assistant:** Chris Metzger  
[adminassist@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:adminassist@stritainthedesert.org)

**Secretary:** Veronica Garcia  
[secretary@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:secretary@stritainthedesert.org)

**Business Manager:** Louise Azzopardi  
[businessmgr@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:businessmgr@stritainthedesert.org)

**Compliance:** Mary Morgan  
[compliance@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:compliance@stritainthedesert.org)

**Bulletin Editor:** Kathy Lockard  
[bulletin@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:bulletin@stritainthedesert.org)

**Facilities Manager:** Rob King  
[roh@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:roh@stritainthedesert.org)

**Maintenance:** Bill Cline

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

**Director of Religious Education:** Geraldine Durman  
[dre@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:dre@stritainthedesert.org)

**Youth Ministry:** Carolyn Reynolds  
[msyouth@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:msyouth@stritainthedesert.org)  
[hsyouth@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:hsyouth@stritainthedesert.org)

**OCIA Coordinator:** Michelle Quinn Crowley  
[ocia@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:ocia@stritainthedesert.org)

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

### FROM CHRISTMAS JOY TO DAILY DISCIPLESHIP

Today, the Church celebrates the Baptism of the Lord, a feast that brings the Christmas season to its close and opens the door to a new chapter in the liturgical year. At the Jordan River, Jesus steps into the waters not because He needs repentance, but to sanctify the waters of baptism and to reveal His identity as the beloved Son of the Father.

As Jesus rises from the water, the heavens open. The Holy Spirit descends. The voice of the Father proclaims love, pleasure, and mission. This moment is not only a revelation of who Jesus is — it is also a revelation of who we are called to be.

Through our own baptism, we were claimed by God, washed clean of sin, and welcomed into the life of the Church. The words spoken over Jesus echo over each baptized person: *You are loved. You belong. You are sent.*

### WHY THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD MATTERS

This feast reminds us that baptism is not simply a past event or a family celebration captured in photos. It is a **living reality** that shapes our identity every day.

In baptism:

- We become children of God
- We are united to Christ's death and resurrection
- We are called to holiness and mission

The Baptism of the Lord marks the moment when Jesus begins His public ministry. Likewise, it reminds us that our baptism calls us to live our faith openly — not only in church, but in our homes, workplaces, and communities.

### A TURNING POINT IN THE CHURCH YEAR

With this feast, the Church transitions from the mystery of Christ's birth to the mystery of His mission. Beginning **Monday, January 12, 2026**, we enter **Ordinary Time** — a season that invites us to walk with Christ in the ordinary rhythms of life.

Ordinary Time is not ordinary because it lacks meaning, but because it teaches us how holiness is formed slowly, faithfully, and consistently.

### A PRAYER TO CLOSE THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

*Heavenly Father,  
You revealed Your Son at the Jordan  
and called Him Your beloved.  
Help us to remember our own baptism  
and to live each day as Your sons and daughters.  
As we enter Ordinary Time,  
give us the grace to follow Christ  
in faithfulness and love.  
Amen.*

## ENTERING ORDINARY TIME:

# WHAT THIS SEASON TEACHES US

### What Does “Ordinary” Really Mean?

The word ordinary comes from the Latin *ordinalis*, meaning “ordered” or “numbered.” Ordinary Time is the season in which the Church reflects on the ordered, unfolding life and teachings of Jesus.

Rather than focusing on a single mystery (like Christmas or Easter), Ordinary Time allows us to grow steadily in discipleship, week by week.

### Why the Church Uses Green

The liturgical color for Ordinary Time is green, a symbol of:

- Growth
- Hope
- Life
- Steady spiritual renewal

Green reminds us that faith grows quietly and persistently — much like a plant taking root and maturing over time.

### Living Ordinary Time in Extraordinary Ways

#### At Home

- Revisit your baptism date and give thanks for that day
- Pray with the Sunday Gospel during the week
- Display a candle or holy water as a reminder of baptism

#### In Prayer

- Begin each day with a simple offering: “Lord, help me live my baptism today.”
- Practice brief moments of silence to listen for God’s voice
- Stay faithful to small, consistent prayer habits

### In Daily Life

- Choose one concrete act of charity each week
- Practice patience, forgiveness, and kindness
- Remember that holiness is formed in ordinary moments

Ordinary Time Is Where Saints Are Made  
Most of Jesus’ life unfolded quietly — in daily work, prayer, and relationships. Ordinary Time invites us to follow Him there.

As we move forward in the Church year, may we remember that God is pleased not only by grand gestures, but by faithful hearts living out their baptism one day at a time.



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### IN THE GOSPEL PASSAGE...

the Baptism of the Lord is a watershed moment, marking the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. As Jesus is baptized by John in the Jordan, the heavens open, the Spirit descends like a dove, and the Father's voice declares Jesus as His beloved Son. This powerful event reveals the profound unity of the Holy Trinity and sets the tone for Jesus' mission on Earth. Our own baptism is a participation in this mystery, signifying our entrance into the family of God, washed clean and reborn in the Spirit. It's a call to live out our identity as children of God, to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God. Let us reflect on how our baptism empowers us to emulate Christ's example of love and service in our community.

#### Reflection Question:

In what ways can you more fully embrace and live out your baptismal calling in your daily life, reflecting the love and mission of Christ to those around you?

### EN ESTE PASAJE DEL EVANGELIO,

el Bautismo del Señor marca un momento crucial, señalando el inicio del ministerio público de Jesús. Al ser bautizado por Juan en el Jordán, los cielos se abren, el Espíritu desciende como una paloma, y la voz del Padre declara a Jesús como su Hijo amado. Este evento poderoso revela la profunda unidad de la Santísima Trinidad y establece el tono del ministerio de Jesús en la Tierra. Nuestro propio bautismo es una participación en este misterio, indicando nuestra entrada en la familia de Dios, limpiados y renacidos en el Espíritu. Es un llamado a vivir nuestra identidad como hijos de Dios, a actuar con justicia, amar con ternura y caminar humildemente con Dios. Reflexionemos sobre cómo nuestro bautismo nos empodera para emular el ejemplo de amor y servicio de Cristo en nuestra comunidad.

#### Pregunta de reflexión:

¿De qué maneras puedes abrazar y vivir más plenamente tu llamado bautismal en tu vida diaria, reflejando el amor y la misión de Cristo a quienes te rodean?

Source: Truthly App

## MEN'S GROUP TESTIMONY

### MEET DAVID CROWLEY...



The Men's Ministry gives Catholic men an avenue to grow in Faith with a brotherhood of men who want to better themselves for their family and Parish. We learn more about Catholicism, prayer, and ourselves so we can become better fathers, husbands and sons, better members of the Body of Christ.

The Men's Ministry meets the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Mondays of the month in the Verhagen room and at the first Saturday Mass and then breakfast. The session that we just finished was my first. As a Neophyte, the Men's Ministry has helped me to grow in my Faith, provided me with direction and given me a bond with my Catholic brothers.

I would encourage all Catholic men to attend and be strengthened by God on your path to Sainthood. There is so much to learn and this will help you to do that with others who are looking for the same thing, give it a try. For more information contact Jayme Kahle at [jkahle25@gmail.com](mailto:jkahle25@gmail.com)

## WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

### MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

#### Sunday January 11

8:00 am  
†Richard Reichley

10:00 am  
SI Bob Necas

12:00 pm  
Living & Deceased of St. Rita

#### Monday January 12

8:00 am  
†Ted Golembiewski

#### Tuesday January 13

8:00 am  
†Salvador Panes

#### Wednesday January 14

8:00 am - Men & Women in  
the Military

#### Thursday January 15

8:00 am - St. Rita

#### Friday January 16

8:00 am - SI Sides Family

#### Saturday January 17

5:00 pm  
SI Sides Family  
†Edwardo Madrid

### THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

#### Sunday, January 11

##### *The Baptism of the Lord*

- [St. Paolinus of Aquileia](#)
- [Pope St. Hyginus](#)
- [St. Peter of Caesarea](#)

8:00 am - Mass (English)  
10:00 am - Mass (English)  
12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

#### Monday, January 12

- [St. Antonio Maria Pucci](#)
- [St. Arcadius](#)

8:00 am Mass (English)  
8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet  
6:00 pm Men's Group (Oscar  
Romero Room)

#### Tuesday, January 13

- [St. Hilary of Poitiers](#)
- [St. Remigius](#)

8:00 am Mass (English)  
8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

#### Wednesday, January 14

- [Saint Felix of Nola](#)

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

#### Thursday, January 15

- [St. Mauro](#)
- [St. John Calybite](#)
- [St. Paul of Thebes, First  
Hermit](#)
- [Habakkuk the Prophet  
\(OT\)](#)
- [Micah the Prophet \(OT\)](#)

8:00 am - Mass (English)  
8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

#### Friday, January 16

- [Pope St. Marcellus I](#)

8:00 am Mass  
8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

#### Saturday, January 17

- [St. Anthony the Great](#)

5:00 pm - Mass (English)

### READINGS & OBSERVANCES

#### FIRST READING:

"Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased." (Is 42:1)

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"The Lord will bless his people with peace." (Ps 29:11)

#### SECOND READING:

"I see that God shows no partiality." (Acts 10:34-35)

#### GOSPEL:

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Mt 3:17)

#### Sunday, January 11

##### *The Baptism of the Lord*

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 | Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 | Acts 10:34-38 | Mt 3:13-17

#### Monday, January 12

##### *Monday of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time*

1 Sm 1:1-8 | Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19 | Mk 1:14-20

#### Tuesday, January 13

##### *Tuesday of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time*

1 Sm 1:9-20 | 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd | Mk 1:21-28

#### Wednesday, January 14

##### *Wednesday of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time*

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 | Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 | Mk 1:29-39

#### Thursday, January 15

##### *Thursday of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time*

1 Sm 4:1-11 | Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 | Mk 1:40-45

#### Friday, January 16

##### *Friday of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time*

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a | Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 | Mk 2:1-12

#### Saturday, January 17

##### *Saturday of the 1<sup>st</sup> Week in Ordinary Time*

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a | Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Mk 2:13-17

Click on a Saint for more information via:

 [young-catholics.com](http://young-catholics.com)

# 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](mailto: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. We would love to have you. Every **2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month** at **2pm** in the parish hall.

### 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: Tues at 5 pm Children's choir: Wed at 4 pm Spanish choir: Thur 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](mailto: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](mailto:porters@stritainthedesert.org)

### Right to Life

Email: [rtl@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:rtl@stritainthedesert.org)

### Family Faith Formation

[www.watch.formed.org](http://www.watch.formed.org)

### Vocations

Contact Mr. Adam LaGuardia: [Vocations@stritainthedesert.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 (915) 539-0985

## EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



### Knights of Columbus®

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

### BECOME A KNIGHT

#### Catholic Men 18+

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



El praesidium de St.Rita se llama "Maria Puerta del Cielo" y se reune 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](mailto: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](http://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!

# PARISH NEWS

## WINTER CLOTHES DRIVE

St. Rita with Vail Unified School District (VUSD) are asking for your help to provide Vail Children (K-12) winter clothing throughout the month of **January**.

### Items Needed:

- Coats, Sweaters, Hoodies, Sweatshirts, Gloves
- Items should be NEW if possible. If Used, we ask that they are "Gently Used" & cleaned.
- Size(s): Children XS to Mens XXL

Please drop donations in the bins located in the **Narthex**. Items will be delivered to the VUSD weekly.

*Thank you for your support and generous donations.*

## MEN'S GROUP

Join us as we begin a new 12 session series called ***The Sacrament of Charity***. Our study will discuss the Eucharist and Pope Benedict XVI's Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Sacramentum Caritatis*, The Sacrament of Charity.

January 12<sup>th</sup> in the Oscar Romero room  
6pm to 7:30 pm.

If you need further information and are interested in attending, please email Jayme Kahle at:  
[jkahle25@gmail.com](mailto:jkahle25@gmail.com)

## WELCOME TEAM

Join us for Pastries & Coffee  
after all Sunday Masses

*January 11th*

Make a wonderful start to your Sunday!

## MUSIC MINISTRY

### New Year, New Time

The Adult Choir will practice in Church on

*Tuesdays at 6:30 pm*

effective **January 13**

All are welcome! Attend a practice or two to get the feel of it.  
No audition necessary!

## TOGETHER WE MARCH FOR LIFE & STAND FOR THE UNBORN

**SATURDAY**  
**JAN. 17TH**  
**10 AM**

- 9AM - MASS AT ST. AUGUSTINE CATHEDRAL
- 10AM - MARCH TO HOLY HOPE CEMETERY
- 12:00PM - ROSE CEREMONY

ST. AUGUSTINE CATHEDRAL  
192 S. STONE AVE  
TUCSON, AZ 85701



[TUCSONFORLIFE.ORG](http://Tucsonforlife.org) - FOR MORE INFO EMAIL CONTACT@TUCSONFORLIFE.ORG

## THANK YOU

Fr. Alonzo, Mary Morgan, the Welcome Team & my St. Rita's family for the caring & heartfelt Memorial Mass for my husband, Ted Golembiewski, on December 30th. All who attended, family & friends, were touched by the kindness and love of that day, from the beautiful liturgy and Father's homily to the music, & the delicious food. The comfort and support shown that day will always live in my heart and reinforce the fact that St. Rita's is my home. God bless & keep you!

*Valerie Golembiewski & family*



## THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

After Jesus was baptized, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and a voice was heard

*"This is my beloved Son,  
with whom I am well pleased."*

As we give to the poor, we also can hear these same words. Have you considered joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that you can live your Baptism more fully?

## MARIAN BOOK CLUB

**Thursdays**

**4:30-6pm**

Oscar Romero Room

All are welcome to join!

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**January 14th**

**6-8pm**

Oscar Romero Room

For more information:  
[jbrink1130@gmail.com](mailto:jbrink1130@gmail.com)

## “Culture of Invitation”, Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly



### JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FAITH • FAMILY • FRATERNITY • SERVICE

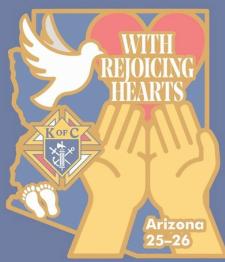
The Knights of Columbus is more than just a men's group. We are a brotherhood of Catholic men committed to:

- Deepening faith through prayer, devotion and service.
- Supporting families and building community
- Defending life from conception through natural death
- Serving the Church and those in need

Be the man who invites.

Be the man who **answers**.

Become a Knight of Columbus!



Join us today!

[www.kofc.org/join](http://www.kofc.org/join)

Promo Code: **BlessedMcGivney**



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BASKETBALL FREE THROW

Jan 18<sup>th</sup> 2026

*After each of the mass*

St Rita's Knights of Columbus  
Basketball Free Throw Championship  
Official Division ages 9-14  
St. Rita's Qualifying Round for  
District | State | Regional | National

Open Division: All other athletes, all ages, do  
NOT advance to District – Parish Bragging Rights Only!

## TUCSON ROADRUNNERS

### STAR WARS NIGHT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 @ 7:00 PM

The Tucson Roadrunners hockey team is partnering with the Knights of Columbus for a special fundraising night - Star Wars Night! This is typically one of the best attended games as many get dressed up as Star Wars characters for a fun evening.

Our St. Rita Knights are participating in this special event and have decided they will be donating all proceeds from the tickets sales to the Team AZ Special Olympics softball team. St. Rita has a Special Olympian who was selected to be on the team going to the US National games June 2026 in Minneapolis.

Our goal is to raise \$1,000 to help cover costs so these athletes can compete next year. There are tickets available in section 213 which is behind the goal. These tickets normally cost \$42.65 with all the taxes and fees.

The Knights can sell them to you for only \$25 which is over \$17 in savings. It's almost like BOGO (buy one, get one).

If you can't go but want to help, you can purchase a ticket and the Knights will be sure to provide it to the local S/O group so an athlete who can't afford it can attend the game.

If you have any questions, talk to any member of the St Rita Knights. You can call Wayne Glebin at (520) 449-7115 or email: [gkCouncil14230@gmail.com](mailto:gkCouncil14230@gmail.com).



**Knights of  
Columbus®**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TRUE CONCORD VOICES & ORCHESTRA

Featuring True Concord Choir, Chamber Players  
& Will Liverman, baritone

#### *Music of the Pioneers*

In partnership with Tucson Desert Song Festival

Selections from Copland's Old American Songs,  
the Sacred Harp Tradition, Stephen Foster songs,  
classic Hymns & African American Spirituals

Friday, January 16, 2026 | 4pm – Valley  
Presbyterian Church, Green Valley

Saturday, January 17, 2026 | 4pm – Catalina  
United Methodist Church, Tucson

Sunday, January 17, 2026 | 3pm – Catalina  
Foothills H.S. Music Hall, Tucson

### SINGLE CATHOLIC WOMEN 20-35

Franciscan Sisters invite you to an  
in-person & on-line  
Discernment Event designed for you.

Discover your calling and purpose.

Visit <https://fscc-calledtobe.org> or  
contact Sr. Julie Ann 920-323-9632.



### 8 DAYS PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO CITY

May 1 – 8, 2026

Visiting: Mexico City • Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Puebla – Teotihuacan – Ocotlan – Taxco  
Tlaxcala (the Lourdes of Mexico)

Cost: \$2699.

Guarantee your seat by January 20, 2026

For more information call 520.631.1408 or  
visit: [vineofgrace.org](http://vineofgrace.org) for brochure

### LAST INFORMATION MEETING

Saint Joseph Church – Parish Office

215 South Craycroft – Tucson

Sunday January 11, 2026 at 1:30 pm

**Diocese of Tucson - Alive in Christ**

### Charismatic Healing Mass 2026

**Thursday January 15, 2026 at 6:30 PM**

“Jesus went around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness.”

- Matt 9:35



- ❖ Lively Praise & Worship
- ❖ Praise reports & prayers for all your intentions
- ❖ Anointing of the sick



Fr Bala Kommathoti

**Invite your family and friends**

**St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Catholic Church**

801 N. Grande Ave, Tucson

YouTube recording of this event will be available after  
January 19 at [TucsonCCR.org](http://TucsonCCR.org) website

# SAINT SPOTLIGHT



## KIDS CORNER



**Feast Day:** January 14

**Patron Saint of:** Spiders, and for protection against bad things

**Story:** A long time ago, in a place called Nola in Italy, there was a kind and gentle priest named Felix. He loved helping people, especially those who were poor or in need. When Felix's father passed away, he gave away his share of the family money to those who didn't have enough to eat or a place to stay.

But during a time when Christians were being treated badly, Felix was caught because of his love for Jesus. He managed to escape, and when he hid in a cave, something amazing happened! A spider quickly made a web over the entrance. When the people looking for Felix saw the spider's web, they thought nobody could be inside because the web was undisturbed. This clever spider helped keep Felix safe!

After the danger was over, Felix went back to helping people in Nola and continued to be a caring and loving priest until he went to heaven.

**Why Is He Special?** St. Felix teaches us about being kind and generous. He reminds us that God is always watching over us, sometimes in surprising ways!

**Question to Ponder:** Can you think of ways you can be kind and share what you have with others, just like St. Felix?

## SAINT FELIX OF NOLA

**Feast Day:** January 14

**Patronage:** Spiders, against eye disease, and sometimes invoked for protection against thieves

**Story:** St. Felix of Nola was a priest in the 3rd century in the town of Nola, Italy. He was known for his humility and dedication to helping those in need. Felix chose to give up his share of the family inheritance to distribute to the poor after his father passed away. During periods of persecution against Christians, Felix was captured and tortured for his faith, but he managed to escape.

Legend has it that during one attempt to capture him, Felix hid in a cave, and God sent a spider to weave a web across the entrance, making it look like the cave hadn't been disturbed. This miraculous event saved his life. After the persecutions ended, Felix returned to Nola and continued his ministry, beloved for his kindness and unwavering faith.

**Legacy:** St. Felix's life is a testament to humble service and trust in God's providence. He is remembered for his deep commitment to the Church and for his gentle, caring nature toward those in need.

**Reflection Question:** How can St. Felix's dedication to serving others inspire you to share what you have with those in need, trusting in God's protection and care?

By reflecting on the life of St. Felix, we are reminded of the importance of humility and trust in God. Ask yourself: What can you do to reach out to those in need, imitating the kindness and compassion of St. Felix?

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