

April 12, 2026



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:

Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." (John 20:29)

"Dichosos los que creen sin haber visto." (Juan 20:29)

Reflection:

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, we reflect on the story of Thomas, who doubted until he saw the risen Jesus. His encounter reminds us that faith often involves belief without seeing. Jesus calls those who believe without seeing truly blessed. This message encourages us to trust in God's presence and mercy in our lives, even when we can't see it with our eyes. As we celebrate Divine Mercy, let us open our hearts to His love and share the peace and forgiveness we have received with those around us.

Socratic Question:

How can you embrace the challenge of believing without seeing in your journey of faith, and how can this strengthen your trust in God's mercy?

Reflexión:

En este Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, reflexionamos sobre la historia de Tomás, quien dudaba hasta ver a Jesús resucitado. Su encuentro nos recuerda que la fe muchas veces implica creer sin ver. Jesús llama verdaderamente dichosos a quienes creen sin haber visto. Este mensaje nos anima a confiar en la presencia de Dios y su misericordia en nuestras vidas, aun cuando no la podamos ver con nuestros ojos. Al celebrar la Divina Misericordia, abramos nuestros corazones a su amor y compartamos la paz y el perdón que hemos recibido con los demás.

Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo puedes abrazar el desafío de creer sin ver en tu camino de fe, y cómo puede esto fortalecer tu confianza en la misericordia de Dios?

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

April 5, 2026



Offeratory: \$11,650.00
Rectory Debt: \$3,168.23
Campus Maint: \$562.80

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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adminassist@stritainthedesert.org

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hsyouth@stritainthedesert.org

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ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

Music Ministry: Nancy Campman Crofts
music@stritainthedesert.org

Catholic Brotherhood Group: Jayme Kahle
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

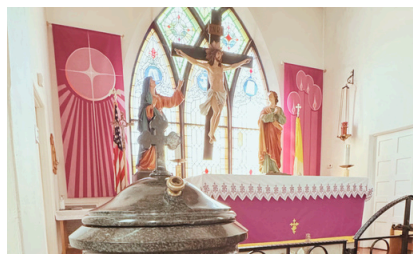
MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

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

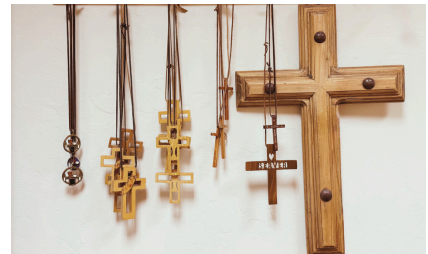


ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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.

OFFICE OF THE PASTOR

April 12, 2026

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

Today, we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with great joy and gratitude for the Resurrection of our Lord. This beautiful feast invites us to reflect on the depth of God's love and the mercy He so freely gives us. If we truly pause to consider the greatness of His love, we would be in awe, knowing it is something we can never fully comprehend.

With this in mind, I invite each of you to set aside a quiet moment each day this week to thank God for His mercy. Offer a simple prayer, such as, "Jesus, I trust in You," and look for opportunities to extend that same mercy through small acts of kindness to those in need.

Today's readings also give us a glimpse into the life of the early Church. We see the joy that filled the first Christian communities after the Resurrection. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, gathered in prayer, and broke bread together. In many ways, this is exactly what we continue to do at every Mass. How closely we are connected to Peter, James, John, and the early Church!

In the Gospel, we hear that the disciples were gathered behind locked doors out of fear. Jesus had only recently been crucified, and the news of His Resurrection was spreading—news that was not easily accepted and even threatened those in power. Yet, despite their fear and the locked doors, Jesus came to them and offered them His peace. And more than peace, He gave them His mercy.

Fear, doubt, and even locked doors cannot stop the love and mercy of Christ. We see this clearly in Thomas, who is given another opportunity to believe. In the same way, Jesus continually gives us opportunities to return to Him, especially through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

May we always rejoice in knowing that no matter how fearful, sinful, or doubtful we may be, we have a loving God who is always ready to pour out His mercy upon us.

As we conclude this Easter celebration, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all who helped make our liturgies so beautiful and prayerful. Thank you to our Altar Society for their care in preparing our sacred spaces, to our choirs for enhancing our worship through music, and to our liturgical ministers, ushers, lectors, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion for your faithful service. I am also deeply grateful to our parish staff for their dedication and hard work during the Triduum.

And to all of you, our parish family at St. Rita in the Desert—thank you for your continued prayers, support, and commitment to our community. Together, we continue to build something truly special in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

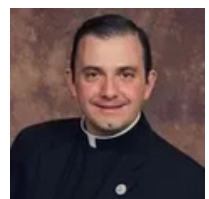
Finally, I ask for your prayers as I will be out of the office next week attending a gathering of pastors participating in the Amazing Parish program. This year, the meeting will be held at the Augustine Institute in St. Louis. I look forward to this opportunity to grow alongside other priests who are striving to better serve their parishes. Please pray for safe travels and that the Holy Spirit may fill us with wisdom and renewed zeal for our mission.

Peace and all Easter joy be yours,

God bless you,



Very Reverend Alonzo M. Garcia, V.F.
Vicar Forane



OFICINA DE PASTOR

12 de abril de 2026

Estimada familia parroquial y amigos:

Hoy celebramos con gran alegría el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, dando gracias por la Resurrección de nuestro Señor. Esta hermosa celebración nos invita a reflexionar sobre la profundidad del amor de Dios y la misericordia que nos ofrece tan generosamente. Si realmente nos detenemos a pensar en la grandeza de su amor, quedaríamos asombrados, sabiendo que nunca podremos comprenderlo por completo.

Con esto en mente, los invito a que, durante esta semana, aparten un momento de silencio cada día para darle gracias a Dios por su misericordia. Recen una oración sencilla, como: “Jesús, en Ti confío”, y busquen también la oportunidad de compartir esa misma misericordia con los demás mediante pequeños actos de bondad.

Las lecturas de hoy también nos muestran cómo vivía la Iglesia primitiva. Vemos la alegría que llenaba a las primeras comunidades cristianas después de la Resurrección. Se mantenían fieles a la enseñanza de los apóstoles, se reunían para orar y compartían el pan. De muchas maneras, eso es exactamente lo que seguimos haciendo hoy en cada Misa. ¡Qué tan cerca estamos de Pedro, Santiago, Juan y de la Iglesia primitiva!

En el Evangelio, escuchamos que los discípulos estaban reunidos, con las puertas cerradas, por miedo. Jesús había sido crucificado hacía poco y la noticia de su Resurrección comenzaba a difundirse, una noticia que no todos aceptaban y que incluso inquietaba a quienes tenían el poder. Sin embargo, a pesar del miedo y de las puertas cerradas, Jesús se presenta en medio de ellos y les ofrece no solo su paz, sino también su misericordia.

El miedo, la duda, e incluso las puertas cerradas, no pueden detener el amor y la misericordia de Cristo. Lo vemos claramente en Tomás, a quien se le da una nueva oportunidad para creer. De la misma manera, Jesús continuamente nos ofrece oportunidades para regresar a El, especialmente a través del Sacramento de la Reconciliación.

Que nunca olvidemos que, sin importar cuán llenos de miedo, pecado o duda estemos, tenemos un Dios amoroso que siempre está dispuesto a derramar su misericordia sobre nosotros.

Al concluir estas celebraciones de Pascua, quiero expresar mi más sincero agradecimiento a todos los que hicieron posible que nuestras liturgias fueran tan hermosas y llenas de oración. Gracias a nuestra Sociedad del Altar por su dedicación a preparar los espacios sagrados, a nuestros coros por elevar nuestras celebraciones con su música, y a nuestros ministros litúrgicos, ujieres, lectores y ministros extraordinarios de la Sagrada Comunión por su fiel servicio. También agradezco profundamente a nuestro personal parroquial por todo el trabajo y esfuerzo durante el Triduo Pascual.

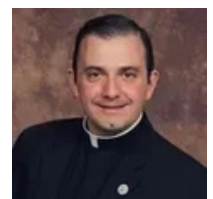
Y a todos ustedes, nuestra familia parroquial aquí en St. Rita en el Desierto, gracias por sus oraciones, su apoyo y su compromiso con nuestra comunidad. Juntos seguimos construyendo algo muy especial en el nombre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

Finalmente, les pido sus oraciones, ya que la próxima semana estaré fuera de la oficina participando en un encuentro de sacerdotes que forman parte del programa Amazing Parish. Este año nos reuniremos en el Augustine Institute en St. Louis. Espero con alegría esta oportunidad para crecer junto a otros sacerdotes que buscan servir mejor a sus parroquias. Les pido que oren por un viaje seguro y para que el Espíritu Santo nos llene de sabiduría y un renovado entusiasmo para nuestra misión.

Que la paz y la alegría de Cristo resucitado permanezcan con ustedes.

Dios los bendiga,

Muy Reverendo Alonzo M. García, V.F.
Vicario Foráneo



GOSPEL MEDITATION

IN THE JOHN 20:19-31,

As we ponder the Gospel reading for Divine Mercy Sunday, we witness Jesus appearing to His disciples, offering them peace and showing His wounds as proof of His resurrection. Thomas, who was absent, doubts until he encounters Jesus and sees His wounds firsthand. This moment highlights the beauty of faith that goes beyond sight. Jesus' words, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed," challenge us to embrace a deeper trust in Him. On Divine Mercy Sunday, we are reminded of Jesus' boundless love and forgiveness, inviting us to live out that mercy in our daily lives. How can we cultivate a trusting heart that believes in God's presence and mercy even when we can't see it?

Reflection Question:

In what ways can you deepen your faith and trust in God's mercy, especially when you face doubts or uncertainties?

EN JUAN 20:19-31,

Al reflexionar sobre el Evangelio del Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, vemos a Jesús apareciendo a sus discípulos, ofreciéndoles paz y mostrando sus heridas como prueba de su resurrección. Tomás, quien estaba ausente, duda hasta que se encuentra con Jesús y ve sus heridas de primera mano. Este momento resalta la belleza de la fe que va más allá de la vista. Las palabras de Jesús, "Dichosos los que creen sin haber visto," nos desafían a abrazar una confianza más profunda en Él. En el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, recordamos el amor y el perdón ilimitados de Jesús, invitándonos a vivir esa misericordia en nuestra vida diaria. ¿Cómo podemos cultivar un corazón confiado que crea en la presencia y misericordia de Dios, incluso cuando no la podemos ver?

Pregunta de reflexión:

¿De qué maneras puedes profundizar tu fe y confianza en la misericordia de Dios, especialmente cuando enfrentas dudas o incertidumbres?

DID YOU KNOW...

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter. This liturgical celebration was established by Pope Saint John Paul II in the year 2000 during the canonization of Saint Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun whose revelations about God's divine mercy were recorded in a diary.

The devotion to Divine Mercy originates from the mystical experiences of Saint Faustina, who reported visions of Jesus in which He asked for a feast dedicated to Divine Mercy. Jesus expressed His deep desire for souls to trust in His infinite mercy. The Divine Mercy image, which depicts Jesus with rays of red and white light emanating from His heart, symbolizes His blood and water shed for humanity's salvation and grace.

Divine Mercy Sunday emphasizes the unconditional love, forgiveness, and mercy of Christ extended to all people, reflecting the newness of life offered through His resurrection. The celebration encourages Catholics to practice mercy in deeds, words, and prayers.

REFLECTION QUESTION

How can you embrace and extend God's mercy to others in your daily life, inspired by Divine Mercy Sunday?

This day provides a profound opportunity for the faithful to trust in God's mercy and to be instruments of His compassion in the world.

via truthly app

WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday April 11

5:00 pm

SI Francisco Javier Anaya
SI Tye & Kathy Lockard

Sunday April 12

8:00 am

†Louise & Joe Moreno &
Family
†Elizabeth & James Cuddy
†James & Thomas Cuddy

10:00 am

†Stanley & Mary Zobel

12:00 pm

Living & Deceased of St.
Rita

Monday April 13

8:00 am

St. Rita

Tuesday April 14

8:00 am

SI Neil O'Donnell

Wednesday April 15

8:00 am

First Responders

Thursday April 16

8:00 am

†Kenneth Glembin

Friday April 17

8:00 am

†John Zobel

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, April 12

Divine Mercy Sunday

- *Pope St. Julius I*
- *St. Zenobius of Verona*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

10:00 am - Mass (English)

12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

3:00 pm - Shrine

Monday, April 13

- *Pope St. Martin I*
- *St. Hermenegild*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Tuesday, April 14

- *Sts. Tiburtius, Valerianus,
and Maximus*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday, April 15

- *St. Abbondio of Como*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

9:00 am Women's Scripture

Study (Oscar Romero Room)

Thursday, April 16

- *Saint Bernadette
Soubirous*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday, April 17

- *St. Simeon of Seleucia*

8:00 am - Mass

8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

Saturday, April 18

- *St. Galdinus*

5 pm - Mass (John XXIII)

source: young-catholics.com

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:

"The community of
believers was of one heart
and mind." (Acts 4:32)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"His mercy endures
forever." (Ps 118:2)

SECOND READING:

"Whoever is begotten by
God conquers the world."
(1 Jn 5:4)

GOSPEL:

"Blessed are those who
have not seen and have
believed." (Jn 20:29)

Sunday, April 12

Acts 4:32-35 | Ps 118:2-4, 13-
15, 22-24 | 1 Jn 5:1-6 | Jn 20:19-
31

Monday, April 13

Acts 4:23-31 | Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a,
7b-9 | Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday, April 14

Acts 4:32-37 | Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2,
5 | Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday, April 15

Acts 5:17-26 | Ps 34:2-3, 4-5,
6-7, 8-9 | Jn 3:16-21

Thursday, April 16

Acts 5:27-33 | Ps 34:2, 9, 17-18,
19-20 | Jn 3:31-36

Friday, April 17

Acts 5:34-42 | Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 |
Jn 6:1-15

Saturday, April 18

Acts 6:1-7 | Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-
19 | Jn 6:16-21

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

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 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



Knights of Columbus®

Lead with Faith.
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Catholic Men 18+

visit our website:
<https://www.kofc14230.org> or
contact John Cuddy at:
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!

WOMEN'S SCRIPTURE STUDY

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

Rectory Debt Payoff Update

As of Sunday, April 5, 2026

\$115,326 **\$345,000**
GOAL

142 **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.



CRAVING ITALIAN?

PIANIST NEEDED – ST. RITA'S MUSIC MINISTRY

St. Rita's Music Ministry is seeking a pianist to serve our Saturday 5:00 PM Mass. We are deeply grateful to **Teri Hurley** for her faithful service at Mass and rehearsals; she will be returning home later this month. Music at the Saturday 5:00 PM Mass will be suspended until a pianist is found. Stipend available.

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.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life. Please support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the poor as they carry their cross of suffering and pain.

REMINDER: Steak Fry Tickets on sale after all masses
\$25 Steak | \$10 Sloppy Joe

WELCOME TEAM

WELCOME SUNDAY
Coffee and pastries
April 12th
After all masses

PARISH RUMMAGE SALE

April 18, 8am-1pm
Mark your calendars!
Volunteers Welcome - Contact:
christie.isabel@gmail.com

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday, April 12th
3pm in the Shrine
Join Us



Knights of Columbus®

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

April 19th (Full Pancake Breakfast)

May 17th (Pancake Breakfast)

Mark your calendars and join the
Knights for Breakfast

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – KNIGHT OF THE YEAR



The Knights of Columbus Council 14230 are pleased to announce that David Crowley has been named *Parish Knight of the Year*.

David, who joined the Knights shortly after entering the Catholic Church, has quickly become a dedicated and active member of both the council and our parish. Over the past year, he has generously served at numerous events including fundraisers, parish breakfasts, fish fries, and Special Olympics initiatives. He also assists with OCIA, serves as an usher, and regularly volunteers his time wherever needed.

Known for his joyful spirit and willingness to serve, David truly embodies the Knights' core values of **Charity, Unity, and Fraternity**.

As our parish honoree, David will now be submitted as a nominee for State Knight of the Year. Please join us in congratulating him!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our crawfish is freshly air-shipped from Louisiana! Crawfish, fresh mussels, and shrimp are cooked on-site with bold Cajun seasoning for a true Vietnamese Southern fusion seafood experience.

WHEN AND WHERE

Our Lady of La Vang Parish
St. Frances Cabrini Church
 3201 E. Presidio Road Tucson,
 AZ 85716

Friday, **April 17, 2026** | 5:00-10:00 PM
 Saturday, **April 18, 2026** 11:00 AM -
 10:00 PM

FREE ENTRY — Open to the
 Public!

FOOD

- Our famous crawfish!
- Egg rolls
- Mussels & Shrimp
- Potato & corn
- Grilled Pork Skewers
- Vietnamese desserts
- Fresh Pressed Sugar Cane Juice
- Boba



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.

TRUE CONCORD VOICES & ORCHESTRA

featuring True Concord Choir & Chamber Players
 West Side Story & The Great American Songbook

Highlights from Bernstein's West Side Story &
 Choral Arrangements of Hits from The Great
 American Songbook

Friday, April 17, 2026 / 4pm – Valley Presbyterian
 Church, Green Valley

Saturday, April 18, 2026 / 4pm – Grace St. Paul's
 Episcopal Church

Sunday, April 19, 2026 / 3pm – Catalina Foothills H.S.
 Music Hall, Tucson



Are you looking to put Christ in your marriage? Deepen your communication, rekindle your romance and renew your sacrament by attending an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on
 May 30-31, 2026 in Tucson
 July 11-12, 2026 in Phoenix.
 For more info go to:
wwme.org or call 520-661-3644



St. Rita in the Desert - Lenten Food Drive

We're collecting the following items to help our neighbors: *cooking oil, jelly, canned tuna, & canned chicken*

† Your Support is a Blessing †

In this season of sacrifice and charity, your contributions will provide essential nourishment to those in our community struggling with food insecurity. With requests for assistance rising, your generosity will help sustain our outreach efforts well into the year.

Donate Today & Share the Love of Christ
 Together, we can ensure that no one in our community goes hungry.

PLEASE RETURN BAG BY: *TODAY, April 12th*

"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat..." – Matthew 25:35

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, April 12 – St. Joseph Catholic Church – PARISH OFFICE at 1:30p – 215 South Craycroft, Tucson (North side of campus – in the office building behind the Church)

Sunday, April 26 – St. Odilia Catholic Church – PARISH MINISTRY CENTER at **12:15p** 7570 N Paseo del Norte, Tucson (North end of campus, through gate and across patio)

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

SAINT SPOTLIGHT



SAINT MARTIN I

Feast Day: April 13th

Patronage:

Saint Martin I is the patron saint of those wrongly accused and imprisoned.

Story: Saint Martin I was born in Todi, Italy, and became Pope in 649. His papacy was marked by his defense of orthodox Christian doctrine during a time of theological controversy. One significant issue was the Monothelism heresy, which proposed that Christ had only a divine will and not a human one. Pope Martin I convened the Lateran Council of 649 to condemn this heresy officially and affirm the Chalcedonian definition that Jesus Christ has both a divine and human will.

The Byzantine Emperor Constans II, who supported Monothelism, retaliated by ordering Martin's arrest. Despite his ill health, Martin was taken to Constantinople, imprisoned, and subjected to harsh treatment. Eventually, he was banished to Crimea, where he endured severe hardships until his death in 655. Martin is considered a martyr for the faith because he suffered persecution for standing up for Christian truth.

Legacy: Saint Martin I's unwavering commitment to doctrinal truth and his courageous stand against imperial pressure left a lasting legacy in Church history. His life reminds us of the cost of defending the truth and the importance of faithfulness to Church teachings, even in the face of adversity. His martyrdom underscores the virtue of steadfastness in the face of worldly power.

Reflection Question: How does the example of Saint Martin I challenge you to remain steadfast in your beliefs, even when facing opposition or misunderstanding?

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: April 13th

Who He Helps:

Saint Martin I is the special helper for people who are wrongly accused or put in jail when they didn't do anything wrong.

Story:

A long time ago, in a place called Italy, there was a man named Martin who became the Pope, or leader, of the Church in 649. Being a leader was not easy because some people were teaching things about Jesus that weren't true. They said Jesus only had a divine will, not a human one too, which means they thought Jesus wasn't fully human. Martin wanted everyone to know that Jesus is both fully God and fully human, just like the Church teaches.

Because Martin stood up for what was right, the emperor, who didn't like this, had him arrested. Martin was taken far away and treated very badly. Even though he was sick and in a tough situation, he never gave up on telling the truth about Jesus. Eventually, he passed away in a place called Crimea because he was so brave in standing up for his faith.

Why He's Important:

Saint Martin I teaches us about being brave and standing up for what is right, even when it's really hard. He showed us that telling the truth about our faith is important, no matter the challenges we face.

Question for You:

How can you be brave like Saint Martin I, standing up for what you know is right, even if others don't understand or agree?

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: _____