

June 21, 2026



# ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

## *Catholic Church*

### CLERGY

**Pastor:**

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

**Deacon:**

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

### 12TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

*"Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." (Mattheo 10:31)*

*"No tengan miedo; ustedes valen más que muchos gorriones." (Mateo 10:31)*

**Reflection:**

In this passage, Jesus reassures us of our immense worth in God's eyes. He acknowledges our fears but invites us to trust in His loving care. Just as He watches over the sparrows, He lovingly guides us through life's challenges, reminding us that our value is beyond measure. Reflect on the deep love God has for you and let it encourage you to live confidently and fearlessly as His beloved child.

**Socratic Question:**

How does recognizing your worth in God's eyes empower you to overcome fear and embrace His call in your life?

**Reflexión:**

En este pasaje, Jesús nos asegura de nuestro inmenso valor a los ojos de Dios. Reconoce nuestros miedos pero nos invita a confiar en Su cuidado amoroso. Así como Él cuida de los gorriones, nos guía amorosamente a través de los desafíos de la vida, recordándonos que nuestro valor es incalculable. Reflexiona sobre el profundo amor que Dios tiene por ti y deja que te anime a vivir con seguridad y sin temor como Su hijo amado.

**Pregunta socrática:**

¿Cómo el reconocer tu valor a los ojos de Dios te capacita para superar el miedo y abrazar Su llamado en tu vida?

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

**CLOSED**

*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

June 14, 2026



Offertory: \$5,707.79  
Rectory Debt: \$1,117.50  
Campus Maint: \$295.35

Thank you for your support.  
*God bless you!*

<https://www.osvhub.com/stritainthedesert/giving/funds>

### ST. RITA STAFF

(520) 762-9688

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

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**Maintenance:** Bill Cline

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[hsyouth@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:hsyouth@stritainthedesert.org)

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

### ORGANIZATIONS & MINISTRIES

**Music Ministry:** Nancy Campman Crofts  
[music@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:music@stritainthedesert.org)

**Catholic Brotherhood Group:** Jayme Kahle  
[jkahle25@gmail.com](mailto:jkahle25@gmail.com)

**Women's Bible Study:** Irene Toews  
[irenetoews@cox.net](mailto:irenetoews@cox.net)

**Guild of St. Rita:**  
[guild@stritainthedesert.org](mailto:guild@stritainthedesert.org)

### 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

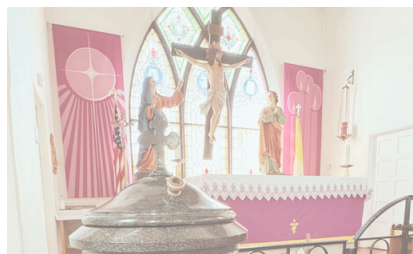
### MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

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.



#### 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



#### 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.

## OFFICE OF THE PASTOR

June 21, 2026

*The Spirit of truth will testify to me, says the Lord; and you also will testify.*

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

Speaking the truth in ancient and modern times can cause considerable discord and enmity. Our readings today prepare us to become the prophetic voice of God. The prophet Jeremiah was sent to call the nation of Israel back to true and pure worship of God. His reward was beatings, rejection, and gossip. Despite the challenges Jeremiah faced, he faithfully and boldly called Israel back to God.

Like Jeremiah, we are called to be prophetic in our own lives. Being a prophetic voice does not always mean delivering grand speeches or confronting crowds. It can be as simple and concrete as standing up to gossip at work or school, reaching out to someone who is marginalized, or gently correcting harmful practices in our families with love and patience. We can be prophetic by sharing our faith with others when the opportunity arises, praying for courage to defend the truth, and making decisions that reflect our Gospel values, even when it is difficult. In these everyday ways, we carry forward the courage of the prophets and become God's voice in the world.

When we consider how much our God loves us, who wouldn't want to boldly proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ? Jesus knows full well that there would be resistance in preaching the Good News. When we consider what it takes, we have to be fearless in standing up for Gospel principles, regardless of who may offend. We are told by the Lord not to be afraid of anyone who can take our physical lives! That seems so outrageous when you think about it, but the flesh itself cannot give us everlasting life like the spirit of God can. Moreover, if we remain unchanged and unrepentant of our sins against God and each other, then be afraid, because only God can destroy the soul. It is to Him who created our souls, and if we want to be enemies of God due to sin, then that is on us.

But the hope and comfort we have is that God's mercy is always greater than our weakness. No matter how many times we fail or fall short, when we turn back to God with sincere hearts, His forgiveness and love are freely given. He does not leave us alone in our struggles, but promises to strengthen and support us on our journey. We can always trust in the Lord's goodness and know that His grace is enough to help us live faithfully, even in difficult times. Let us take heart and be encouraged, because the One who calls us is utterly faithful and full of compassion.

This weekend is Father's Day, and fathers are integral to the life of the domestic church and to society. Fathers have a unique spiritual role as leaders, protectors, and teachers of faith within their families. By praying with and for their children, modeling a life rooted in Scripture and Gospel values, and encouraging family conversations about faith, fathers help build a strong foundation of love and trust in God at home. In the wider community and the Church, fathers can offer service, support fellow fathers, and actively participate in parish life, setting an example of commitment and generosity. On this special day, we offer encouragement to all fathers to embrace their call to spiritual leadership and to be steadfast witnesses of God's love in their homes and communities.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Very Reverend Alonzo M. García, Dean



## OFICINA DE PASTOR

21 de junio de 2026

*El Espíritu de verdad dará testimonio de mí, dice el Señor, y también ustedes serán mis testigos.*

Estimada familia parroquial y amigos:

Decir la verdad, tanto en tiempos antiguos como en los modernos, puede causar gran discordia y enemistad. Las lecturas de hoy nos preparan para convertirnos en la voz profética de Dios. El profeta Jeremías fue enviado para llamar a la nación de Israel a volver a una adoración verdadera y pura de Dios. Su recompensa fue los golpes, el rechazo y las murmuraciones. A pesar de los desafíos que enfrentó, Jeremías llamó fiel y valientemente a Israel a regresar a Dios.


Al igual que Jeremías, nosotros también estamos llamados a ser proféticos en nuestras propias vidas. Ser una voz profética no siempre implica pronunciar grandes discursos ni enfrentarse a multitudes. Puede ser algo tan sencillo y concreto como oponerse a los chismes en el trabajo o en la escuela, acercarse a quienes son marginados o corregir con amor y paciencia prácticas dañinas dentro de nuestras familias. Podemos ser proféticos compartiendo nuestra fe con los demás cuando se presente la oportunidad, pidiendo a Dios la valentía para defender la verdad y tomando decisiones que reflejen los valores del Evangelio, incluso cuando hacerlo resulte difícil. De estas maneras cotidianas, continuamos el legado de los profetas y nos convertimos en la voz de Dios en el mundo.

Reconociendo cuánto nos ama nuestro Dios, ¿quién no querría proclamar con valentía la Buena Nueva de Jesucristo? Jesús sabía perfectamente que habría resistencia al anuncio del Evangelio. Debemos ser valientes al defender los principios evangélicos, sin importar a quién incomodemos. El Señor nos dice que no tengamos miedo de quienes pueden quitarnos la vida física. Esto puede parecer extraordinario, pero la carne por sí sola no puede darnos la vida eterna como sí lo puede hacer el Espíritu de Dios. Además, si permanecemos sin cambiar ni arrepentirnos de nuestros pecados contra Dios y contra nuestros hermanos, entonces sí debemos preocuparnos, porque solo Dios tiene poder sobre el alma. A Él le pertenecen nuestras almas, pues Él las creó. Si decidimos convertirnos en enemigos de Dios debido al pecado, esa será una elección nuestra.

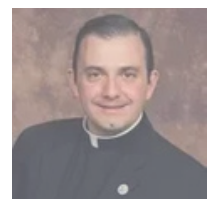
Sin embargo, la esperanza y el consuelo que poseemos son que la misericordia de Dios siempre supera nuestra debilidad. No importa cuántas veces fallemos, cuando volvemos a Dios con un corazón sincero, Él nos ofrece gratuitamente su perdón y su amor. No nos abandona en nuestras luchas, sino que promete fortalecernos y sostenernos en nuestro camino. Siempre podemos confiar en la bondad del Señor y saber que su gracia es suficiente para ayudarnos a vivir con fidelidad, incluso en los momentos difíciles. Animémonos y mantengamos la esperanza, porque Aquel que nos llama es infinitamente fiel y lleno de compasión.

Este fin de semana celebramos el Día del Padre. Los padres son fundamentales para la vida de la Iglesia doméstica y de la sociedad. Los padres tienen una misión espiritual única como líderes, protectores y maestros de la fe en sus familias. Al orar con sus hijos y por ellos, al dar ejemplo de una vida fundamentada en las Escrituras y en los valores del Evangelio, y al fomentar conversaciones familiares sobre la fe, ayudan a construir en el hogar una sólida base de amor y confianza en Dios. En la comunidad y en la Iglesia, los padres también pueden servir generosamente, apoyar a otros padres y participar activamente en la vida parroquial, dando ejemplo de compromiso y entrega. En este día especial, ofrecemos nuestro apoyo y aliento a todos los padres para que acepten su llamado al liderazgo espiritual y sean testigos firmes del amor de Dios en sus hogares y comunidades.

Sinceramente en Cristo,



Very Reverend Alonzo M. García, Dean



## WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

### MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

*Saturday June 20*

5:00 pm

†Judy Wolf

†Michael James Brown

*Sunday June 21*

8:00 am

SI Joan Nevins

10:00 am

SI Fr. Alonzo & Fr. Stan

12:00 pm

†Maria Guadalupe Tamayo

*Monday June 22*

8:00 am

Poor Souls in Purgatory

*Tuesday June 23*

8:00 am

†Jack & Rachel Solorzano

*Wednesday June 24*

8:00 am

†Dan Kean

*Thursday June 25*

8:00 am

St. Rita Parish Volunteers

*Friday June 26*

8:00 am

First Responders

### THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

*Sunday, June 21*

12th Sunday of Ordinary  
Time

- *Saint Aloysius Gonzaga*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

10:00 am - Mass (English)

12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

3:00 pm - Shrine

*Monday, June 22*

- *St. Paulinus of Nola*

- *Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

*Tuesday, June 23*

- *St. Joseph Cafasso*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

*Wednesday, June 24*

- *Nativity of Saint John the Baptist*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

9:00 am Women's Scripture Study (Oscar Romero Room)

*Thursday, June 25*

- *St. William of Vercelli*

- *St. Prosper of Reggio*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

*Friday, June 26*

- *Sts. John and Paul*

- *St. Josemaria Escrivá*

8:00 am - Mass

8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

*Saturday, June 27*

- *St. Cyril of Alexandria*

5 pm - Vigil Mass (John XXIII)

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

### READINGS & OBSERVANCES

**FIRST READING:**

"But the Lord is with me, like a mighty champion." (Jer 20:11)

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

"Lord, in your great love, answer me." (Ps 69:14c)

**SECOND READING:**

"For if by the transgression of the one, many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many." (Rom 5:15)

**GOSPEL:**

"Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid." (Mt 10:30-31)

*Sunday, June 21*

Jer 20:10-13 | Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 | Rom 5:12-15 | Mt 10:26-33

*Monday, June 22*

2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18 | Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13 | Mt 7:1-5

*Tuesday, June 23*

2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36 | Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11 | Mt 7:6, 12-14

*Wednesday, June 24*

Is 49:1-6 | Ps 139:1-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15 | Acts 13:22-26 | Lk 1:57-66, 80

*Thursday, June 25*

2 Kgs 24:8-17 | Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 | Mt 7:21-29

*Friday, June 26*

2 Kgs 25:1-12 | Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 | Mt 8:1-4

*Saturday, June 27*

Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19 | Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21 | Mt 8:5-17

## 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](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.

#### *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):** Summer Break  
**Spanish choir:** Wed | 6:15 pm

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

**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*

Support 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*

Interested in joining submit your [Welcoming Team request form](#) online.

#### *Guild of St. Rita*

Join us every **2nd & 4th Wed** of the month | **6pm** | Mother Teresa Rm | 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)*

Mujeres de Fe se reúne el segundo y cuarto jueves de cada mes, de 6 a 8 p. m., en el salón. Para mas Informacion Coordinadora: Norma Escoto [patriciasct26@gmail.com](mailto:patriciasct26@gmail.com)

#### *Marian Book Club*

All are welcome to join. Meet us in the Oscar Romero Room every **Thursday** from **4:30 pm - 6 pm**

#### *Women's Scripture Study*

**Wednesday** mornings **9am**  
Oscar Romero Room  
All women are welcome  
[irenetoews@cox.net](mailto:irenetoews@cox.net)

### EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



## Knights of Columbus®

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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 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](mailto:legiondemaria@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.



### 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

**RECTORY DEBT PAYOFF UPDATE**

As of Sunday, June 7, 2026

\$131,884

**\$345,000**  
GOAL



147

**500**  
FAMILY PLEDGED/DONATED GOAL

Scan to Pledge



**ARE YOU FOLLOWING US?**  
*click here*

**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.



**VISITA DE LA VIRGEN PEREGRINA**

¿Desea recibir la visita de la Virgen Peregrina en su hogar? Complete la solicitud y deposítela en la caja ubicada en la entrada de la iglesia. Un miembro de la Legión de María se comunicará con usted.

**VIRGIN'S VISIT TO HOMES**

Would you like to welcome Our Blessed Mother into your home? Complete the request form and place it in the *Virgin's Visit to Homes* box located in the Narthex. A member of the Legion of Mary will contact you.

Nombre|Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telefono|Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



**THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

In the Gospel today, we hear Jesus say:

*“Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.”*

This week, know that you will be bringing hope to the poor by your gifts to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and that God will surely acknowledge your generosity with many blessings.

**KNIGHTS BABY BOTTLE DRIVE**

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

- Pick up a bottle after Mass
- Fill with change, cash, or checks (payable to Knights of Columbus)
- Return by **October 1st** to a representative at the door.



**HARVEST FESTIVAL 2026**

**A Village Built for Children**  
Imagine seeing the world through a child's eyes.

A place filled with laughter.

A place where bubbles float through the air.

A place where glowing treasures appear after sunset.

A place where families make memories together.

One corner of this year's Harvest Festival is being designed entirely around wonder and joy.

We're calling it the **Children's Village**.

And it's only the beginning.

*Next week: We'll reveal where the grown-ups may find themselves lingering a little longer than expected...*

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### MATTHEW 10:26-33

In this Gospel passage, Jesus addresses the fears and anxieties that come from following Him. He speaks with tenderness, reminding us that God, who cares for even the sparrows, cares even more for each of us. This assurance of divine love and protection invites us to trust deeply and live boldly as disciples of Christ. As we reflect, let us consider how often fear holds us back from living out our faith fully. Jesus calls us to acknowledge Him openly, promising that His love and support are steadfast. Today, let His words encourage us to step out in faith, knowing our worth is immeasurable in the eyes of God.

#### **Socratic Reflection:**

In what areas of your life do you feel fear or hesitation in living out your faith, and how can trusting in God's care transform your approach?

### MATEO 10:26-33

En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús aborda los temores y ansiedades que vienen de seguirle. Habla con ternura, recordándonos que Dios, quien cuida incluso de los gorriones, cuida aún más de cada uno de nosotros. Esta garantía de amor y protección divinos nos invita a confiar profundamente y vivir valientemente como discípulos de Cristo. Al reflexionar, consideremos cuántas veces el miedo nos impide vivir plenamente nuestra fe. Jesús nos llama a reconocerlo abiertamente, prometiendo que Su amor y apoyo son inquebrantables. Hoy, dejemos que Sus palabras nos alienten a dar pasos en fe, sabiendo que nuestro valor es inconmensurable a los ojos de Dios.

#### **Reflexión:**

¿En qué áreas de tu vida sientes miedo o dudas para vivir tu fe, y cómo puede el confiar en el cuidado de Dios transformar tu enfoque?

## DID YOU KNOW...

### 12TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

June 21, 2026, marks the Summer Solstice in the northern hemisphere, which is the longest day of the year. This day has been celebrated in various cultures throughout history as a time of light and festivity. In many Christian traditions, the increase in light is seen as a symbol of Christ, the Light of the World, triumphing over darkness.

Within the Church's liturgical calendar, this day falls on the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings this Sunday encourage us to trust in God's providential care and boldly live out our faith, regardless of the challenges we face. The Gospel from Matthew reminds us of our worth and the call to fearlessly proclaim Christ, echoing the light and hope often symbolized by the summer solstice.

**Historical Context:** In some regions, Christian celebrations during this time have been integrated with local customs, leading to unique traditions that honor both cultural heritage and the Christian faith. The intertwining of liturgical significance and natural phenomena like the solstice reflects the Church's appreciation of creation and God's hand in the world.

**Socratic Question:** How can you let the light of Christ shine more brightly in your life and illuminate the world around you this season?

*via truthly app*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Happy Father's Day!

*(MT 10:38) "And whoever does not take up his cross, and follow me is not worthy of me."*

Learn how you can share the cross of Christ in your marriage by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

**July 11-12, 2026, in Phoenix**

For more info go to: [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call 520-661-3644

*Early registration is highly recommended.*



### ALZHEIMER'S AND OTHER DEMENTIAS

#### CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

An opportunity to gather with other caregivers to exchange ideas and suggestions for those trying to understand and cope with the challenges of caring for a loved one with dementia. Caregivers only. Sessions will be held the second and fourth Tuesday each month, 3:00 – 4:15 PM in the Chapel. First meeting is **Tuesday, June 23**. Facilitator: Ellie Arnold, Alzheimer's Association. Please **RSVP** to the parish office at 520.751.4235. 300 N. Tanque Verde Loop Rd. – Tucson.

### St. Andrew's Concert Series

## A Salute to America

Featuring

### The Seipp/Fickley Duo



Join Chuck Seipp, Trumpet and Todd Fickley, Organ as they perform Patriotic songs and stirring Hymns celebrating USA250! Including an audience Sing-A-Long and a Tribute to our Veterans and Active Duty Military.

**Friday, July 10, 2026 at 7:00 PM**

**St. Andrew the Apostle Church**

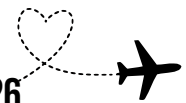
**800 Taylor Drive, SierraVista, AZ 85635**

*There is no charge to attend this concert, a freewill offering will be accepted. Please call 520-458-2925 for more information.*

### 12-DAY PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND & EASTERN

EUROPE

NOVEMBER 3–14, 2026



Join us as we visit **Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Krakow, Wadowice, Auschwitz, Czestochowa, and Warsaw** while deepening our faith and exploring our Catholic heritage.

**All-Inclusive Cost: \$4,649**

Includes airfare, hotels, taxes, daily breakfast, most dinners, motor coach transportation, tour guide, admission fees, and gratuities.

**Only a few seats remain! Registration deadline: July 15.**

For a brochure, itinerary, or more information, call 520-631-1408 or visit [www.vineofgrace.org](http://www.vineofgrace.org).

## SAINT SPOTLIGHT



### SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

**Feast Day:** June 24th

**Patronage:**

Saint John the Baptist is the patron saint of conversion, baptism, and he is also invoked for protection against seizures.

**Story:** John the Baptist was born to Zechariah and Elizabeth, who were advanced in years and had long awaited a child. His birth was miraculous and foretold by the angel Gabriel. John played a pivotal role as a precursor to Jesus, preparing the way for the Messiah by calling people to repentance and baptizing them in the River Jordan. He lived an austere life in the desert, wearing camel's hair and subsisting on locusts and wild honey, which symbolized his commitment to truth and his mission.

John's bold proclamation of the need for repentance and his fearless denunciation of wrongdoing, especially in the case of Herod Antipas and Herodias, ultimately led to his imprisonment and martyrdom. Despite his untimely death, John the Baptist fulfilled his role, heralding the coming of the Savior and recognizing Jesus as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

**Legacy:** Saint John the Baptist is revered as the last and greatest of the prophets and the forerunner of Christ. His call to repentance and preparation for the Lord has resonated throughout Christian history, reminding believers of the continual need for conversion and commitment to live out the Gospel authentically. The Church honors his unique role as a bridge between the Old and the New Testament.

**Reflection Question:** How does the example of John the Baptist's courage and unwavering commitment to truth challenge you to live more authentically according to your faith?

### KIDS CORNER



**Feast Day:** June 24th

**Who Was Saint John the Baptist?** Saint John the Baptist was a special person who had an important job. He was born to Zechariah and Elizabeth when they were quite old, and his birth was announced by an angel! John grew up knowing that he had a mission from God. He lived simply in the desert, wearing clothes made of camel's hair and eating locusts and honey.

**What Did He Do?** John's mission was to help people get ready for Jesus by telling them to repent, which means to say sorry for their sins and turn back to God. He baptized many people in the River Jordan, including Jesus! He spoke the truth even when it was difficult, and he helped everyone understand that Jesus was the Savior they had been waiting for.

**Why Is He Important?** John the Baptist is important because he prepared the way for Jesus. He helps us remember that we should always be ready to welcome Jesus into our hearts and lives.

**Something Cool:** John the Baptist is often called the "forerunner" of Jesus because he came before Jesus to prepare the people for His coming.

**Question to Think About:** How can you, like John the Baptist, help others get ready to meet Jesus and share His love with everyone you meet?

Source: *Truthly App*