

August 23, 2026



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:

Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

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

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

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

NEED TO CONTACT US?

Scan Here:



21TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

*"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."
(Matthew 16:16)*

"Tú eres el Mesías, el Hijo del Dios vivo." (Mateo 16:16)

Reflection:

In this Gospel passage, Jesus asks His disciples who people say He is, and Peter boldly declares, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." This moment is pivotal because it acknowledges Jesus' true identity and mission. Jesus responds by affirming Peter's answer and entrusting him with a special role in leading the Church. Peter's confession reminds us that recognizing Jesus as the Messiah is foundational to our faith. It calls us to deepen our relationship with Him and to acknowledge His presence and authority in our lives, following Him with trust and conviction.

Socratic Question:

How does recognizing Jesus as the Messiah shape your understanding of who you are and your purpose in life?

Reflexión:

En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús pregunta a sus discípulos quién dice la gente que es Él, y Pedro declara valientemente: "Tú eres el Mesías, el Hijo del Dios vivo". Este momento es crucial porque reconoce la verdadera identidad y misión de Jesús. Jesús responde afirmando la respuesta de Pedro y confiándole un papel especial en el liderazgo de la Iglesia. La confesión de Pedro nos recuerda que reconocer a Jesús como el Mesías es fundamental para nuestra fe. Nos llama a profundizar nuestra relación con Él y reconocer Su presencia y autoridad en nuestras vidas, siguiéndolo con confianza y convicción.

Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo influye el reconocer a Jesús como el Mesías en tu comprensión de quién eres y de tu propósito en la vida?

Source: Truthly App

PARISH INFORMATION

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday August 22

5:00 pm

SI George G. Jochum Family

Sunday August 23

8:00 am

United States Armed Forces

10:00 am

†Sister Agnes Ann Roberts

12:00 pm

Living & Deceased of St. Rita

Monday August 24

8:00 am

†Friar Ed Sarrazin, OFM

Tuesday August 25

8:00 am

Men & Women in the Military

Wednesday August 26

8:00 am

St. Rita Office Staff

Thursday August 27

8:00 am

SI Dave Boyd

Friday August 28

8:00 am

First Responders

COLLECTIONS | COLECTA

August 16, 2026



Offertory: \$7,189.99

Rectory Debt: \$7,600.50

Campus Maint: \$1,555.35

Assumption of Mary: \$804.00

Thank you for your support.
God bless you!

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

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](https://www.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 | OFICINA DE PASTOR

August 23, 2026

*"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it."
(Matthew 16:18)*

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

The primacy of St. Peter's role in the Church has been widely discussed throughout Christian history. While some recognize him as the leader chosen by Christ to shepherd His Church, others hold different views. Regardless of one's perspective, today's Scriptures invite us to look beyond a surface reading and discover the deeper meaning of God's plan.

The prophet Isaiah foretells a time when God will remove an unworthy steward and appoint one who will faithfully fulfill His will. Notice the reference to the key, a symbol of authority and responsibility entrusted by God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" While many offer different answers, Peter—despite his human weaknesses—is inspired by the Holy Spirit to proclaim, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!"

Together, these Scripture passages reveal God's promise to renew His covenant and appoint faithful stewards to protect and guide His people. The Holy Father has received the keys entrusted to Peter's ministry. Let us pray that he may faithfully lead the Church toward Christ in this life so that, one day, we may all share eternal life with Him.

At this time, I have no updates regarding our meeting with Bishop Misko. However, our Building Committee worked diligently to provide the Bishop and his leadership team with the most current information to assist in their discernment. We continue to place our trust in the Lord and in the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

St. Rita of Cascia, pray for us!

Lastly, our parish Harvest Festival promises enjoyable activities, excellent food, and quality entertainment for the whole family. Mrs. Kathy Lockard, our Festival Chair, and her team are working diligently to provide a fresh and welcoming experience for both our parish family and the greater Vail community.

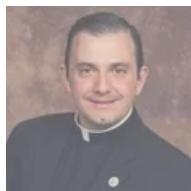
For more information, please visit:

<https://www.stritainthedesert.org/parish-festival/explore>

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Reverend Alonzo M. García, Dean



23 de agosto de 2026

*"Tú eres Pedro, y sobre esta piedra edificaré mi Iglesia; y las puertas del abismo no prevalecerán contra ella."
(Mateo 16:18)*

Estimada familia parroquial y amigos,

La primacía de San Pedro dentro de la Iglesia ha sido ampliamente debatida a lo largo de la historia del cristianismo. Mientras algunos lo reconocen como el líder elegido por Cristo para guiar a su Iglesia, otros tienen una opinión diferente. Sin embargo, más allá de esas diferencias, las Sagradas Escrituras nos invitan a descubrir un significado mucho más profundo.

El profeta Isaías anuncia el momento en que Dios quitará de su cargo a un administrador indigno y pondrá en su lugar a un servidor fiel que cumplirá su voluntad. Fijémonos en la referencia a la llave, símbolo de la autoridad y de la responsabilidad confiadas por Dios.

En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús pregunta a sus discípulos: "¿Quién dice la gente que es el Hijo del Hombre?" Después de escuchar distintas respuestas, Pedro, a pesar de sus debilidades humanas, inspirado por el Espíritu Santo, proclama con fe: "Tú eres el Mesías, el Hijo del Dios vivo."

Estas lecturas nos muestran la promesa de Dios de renovar su alianza y de establecer servidores fieles para cuidar y guiar a su Iglesia. El Santo Padre ha recibido las llaves confiadas al ministerio de San Pedro. Oremos para que continúe guiando fielmente a la Iglesia hacia Cristo en esta vida, para que un día todos podamos encontrarnos con Él en la vida eterna.

Por el momento, no tengo novedades sobre nuestra reunión con el Obispo Misko. Sin embargo, nuestro Comité de Construcción trabajó con mucho empeño para presentar al Obispo y a su equipo la información más actualizada que les ayude en su proceso de discernimiento. Seguimos confiando en el Señor y en la guía del Espíritu Santo.

¡Santa Rita de Casia, ruega por nosotros!

Por último, nuestro Festival de la Cosecha ofrecerá actividades para toda la familia, excelente comida y entretenimiento de calidad. La Sra. Kathy Lockard, coordinadora del festival, junto con todo su equipo, está trabajando con gran dedicación para brindar una experiencia renovada tanto a nuestra familia parroquial como a toda la comunidad de Vail.

Para obtener más información, visite:

<https://www.stritainthedesert.org/parish-festival/explore>

¡Esperamos contar con su presencia!

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:

"I will place the key of the House of David on his shoulder." (Isaiah 22:22)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands." (Psalm 138:8)

SECOND READING:

"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!" (Romans 11:33)

GOSPEL:

"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:16)

Sunday, August 23

Is 22:19-23 | Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 | Rom 11:33-36 | Mt 16:13-20

Monday, August 24

Rv 21:9b-14 | Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 | Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday, August 25

2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17 | Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 | Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday, August 26

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18 | Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 | Mt 23:27-32

Thursday, August 27

1 Cor 1:1-9 | Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Mt 24:42-51

Friday, August 28

1 Cor 1:17-25 | Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 | Mt 25:1-13

Saturday, August 29

1 Cor 1:26-31 | Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21 | Mk 6:17-29

THIS WEEK

St. Rita's Guild

The Guild of St. Rita begins its new fiscal year meetings, **Tuesday, August 25th, at 6pm** in the Mother Theresa Room. We welcome all parishioners to this vital ministry that supports many Parish events and manages our beautiful gift shop. Lend your heart and hands to help our amazing parish!

How Can You Help Colombia?

Those wishing to support relief efforts in Colombia may donate online through these organizations:

Colombian Red Cross — cruzrojacolombiana.org
ABACO – Food Banks of Colombia — bancodealimentos.org.co
World Central Kitchen — wck.org
Plan International Colombia — plan.org.co
UNICEF Colombia — donaciones.unicef.org.co

Welcome Team

Potluck: Sept 12th

Women of the Way Study Group

Wednesdays • 6 pm

Where: Oscar Romero Room
 Questions? Email Jessica Floyd: jbrink1130@gmail.com

Men's Prayer Group

Mondays • 6 pm

Where: Oscar Romero Room
 Questions? Contact Jayme Kahle at (520) 664-4467 or jkahle25@gmail.com.

*For more announcements
 please see our
 FULL bulletin online.*



PARISH NEWS

Rectory Debt Payoff

As of Sunday, August 16, 2026

\$209,380 **\$345,000**
GOAL

149 **500**
FAMILY PLEDGED/DONATED GOAL

THE HARVEST JOURNAL

New Traditions Begin Here

Think about your favorite family traditions.

Chances are...

Someone had to create them.

That's exactly what we're hoping to do this October.

Perhaps years from now a child will say,

"Remember when we always went to the Harvest Festival?"

That's how traditions begin.

Join us next Sunday for another page from *The Harvest Journal*.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Like Peter in today's Gospel, we can find that when we open our eyes to see, our ears to hear and our hearts to experience Jesus' presence in our daily lives, God reveals himself to us.

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

GOSPEL MEDITATION

MATTHEW 16:13-20

In this Gospel reading, we witness the profound moment where Peter recognizes Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of the living God. This declaration signifies not only Peter's faith but also the revelation of Jesus' divine mission. Jesus' response to Peter's confession is a powerful affirmation of his role as the rock upon which the Church will be built. This Gospel invites us to contemplate our own response to Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?" Our understanding of Jesus' identity shapes our faith journey, guiding our actions, decisions, and relationship with Him. By acknowledging Jesus as the Messiah, we commit to following Him with our hearts, trusting in His guidance and love.

Socratic Reflection:

Who do you say Jesus is, and how does this understanding influence the choices you make in your daily life?

MATEO 16:13-20

En este pasaje del Evangelio, presenciamos el momento profundo en que Pedro reconoce a Jesús como el Mesías, el Hijo del Dios vivo. Esta declaración no solo significa la fe de Pedro, sino también la revelación de la misión divina de Jesús. La respuesta de Jesús a la confesión de Pedro es una afirmación poderosa de su papel como la roca sobre la cual se edificará la Iglesia. Este Evangelio nos invita a contemplar nuestra propia respuesta a la pregunta de Jesús: "¿Y ustedes, quién dicen que soy yo?" Nuestra comprensión de la identidad de Jesús moldea nuestro camino de fe, guiando nuestras acciones, decisiones y relación con Él. Al reconocer a Jesús como el Mesías, nos comprometemos a seguirlo con el corazón, confiando en Su guía y amor.

Pregunta Socrática:

¿Quién dices que es Jesús, y cómo influye esta comprensión en las decisiones que tomas en tu vida diaria?

DID YOU KNOW...

21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

On August 23, 1966, the first photograph of Earth taken from the Moon was captured by the Lunar Orbiter 1 spacecraft. This historic photograph provided humanity with a new perspective of our planet, highlighting its beauty and fragility. The image, showing Earth as a small, distant, blue sphere, played a crucial role in shifting global awareness towards environmental conservation and unity among nations. It underscored the interconnectedness of life on Earth and the importance of caring for our common home.

Reflecting on this achievement, consider how seeing Earth from such a distance changes our appreciation for the planet and the call to steward it wisely. How does this perspective inspire you to contribute to the care and preservation of our world?

via truthly app

SAINT SPOTLIGHT



ST. AUGUSTINE

Feast Day: August 28th

Patronage: St. Augustine is the patron saint of theologians, printers, and brewers.

Story: St. Augustine was born in 354 AD in what is now Algeria. Despite being raised by a devout Christian mother, St. Monica, Augustine led a wayward life in his youth, indulging in various pleasures and pursuing secular philosophies. His intellectual journey led him to Manichaeism and later to Neoplatonism, but he found no true peace or fulfillment.

It was through the fervent prayers of his mother, St. Monica, and the powerful preaching of St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, that Augustine experienced a profound conversion to Christianity. In 387 AD, he was baptized by St. Ambrose. Augustine became a priest, then a bishop of Hippo, and one of the most influential theologians and Church Fathers. His extensive writings, including "Confessions" and "City of God," continue to shape Christian theology and philosophy.

Legacy: St. Augustine's legacy lies in his profound theological insights and his search for truth. His writings on grace, free will, and the nature of God offer deep reflections on the human condition and our relationship with the Divine. Augustine is celebrated for his ability to articulate the complexities of faith and reason, leaving a lasting impact on the Church and Western thought.

Reflection Question: How does Augustine's journey from seeking fulfillment in worldly pursuits to finding peace in God invite you to examine where you seek meaning and fulfillment in your own life?

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: August 28th

Who was St. Augustine?

St. Augustine is special to people who work with books, like teachers and printers, and even those who make drinks like soda and lemonade!

His Story: St. Augustine was born a long time ago in 354 AD in a place that is now called Algeria, in Africa. When he was young, Augustine didn't always make the best choices. He liked to have fun in ways that didn't make his mom, St. Monica, very happy. Despite her being a loving and prayerful mom, Augustine decided to follow different ideas and groups that weren't Christian.

But then something amazing happened! Augustine met a wise bishop named St. Ambrose, whose teachings and example helped Augustine realize that what he was really looking for was Jesus. With his mom's prayers and St. Ambrose's help, Augustine became a Christian and started to live a good and holy life. He eventually became a bishop and wrote many famous books about God and how to live well.

His Legacy: St. Augustine is famous for writing about God and for helping people understand their faith better. He taught that true happiness comes from knowing and loving God, not from things that only make us happy for a little while. His books are still important and read by many people today!

Question to Think About: Augustine found true happiness when he learned to love God. What brings you true happiness, and how can you find ways to share that joy with others?

Source: *Truthly App*

KNIGHTS NEWS



**Knights of
Columbus®**

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING

Recycle your aluminum cans in the collection barrels next to the St. Vincent de Paul donation shed.

Please remember:

- Aluminum cans only (no glass, paper, steel cans, or trash)
- Place cans in securely tied bags
- No clothing donations—please take clothing to the Vail Resources Thrift Store across the street

Need help?

Ask a Knight wearing a maroon council shirt.

FARM FRESH EGG SALES RETURN

The Knights of Columbus will resume selling farm fresh eggs after all Masses on the **first and third weekends of each month.**

Next Month: **September 5-6 & 19-20**

Proceeds will support youth programs at St. Rita, including St. Joseph Youth Camp, altar server retreats, Religious Education scholarships, and our new Youth Ministry.

Thank you for supporting the youth of our parish!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PILGRIM VIRGIN HOME VISITS VISITA DE LA VIRGEN PEREGRINA

Our Blessed Mother wishes to visit your home! The Legion of Mary invites families to welcome the Pilgrim Virgin into their homes for prayer and devotion.

To schedule a visit, complete a contact card and place it in the "Pilgrim Virgin Home Visits / Visita de la Virgen a los Hogares" box located on the table at the church entrance. A Legion of Mary member will contact you.

¡Nuestra Santísima Madre desea visitar su hogar! La Legión de María invita a las familias a recibir a la Virgen Peregrina en sus hogares para un tiempo de oración y devoción.

Para programar una visita, complete una tarjeta de contacto y deposítela en la caja de "Visita de la Virgen a los Hogares" ubicada en la entrada de la iglesia. Un miembro de la Legión de María se comunicará con usted.

Name | Nombre: _____

Telephone | Telefono: _____



GRUPO DE MUJERES DE FE

¡Te invitamos a caminar juntas en la fe!

El Grupo Mujeres de Fe de la Parroquia Santa Rita del Desierto invita a todas las mujeres a participar de nuestras reuniones, un espacio para acercarnos más a Dios, escuchar su

Reuniones: segundo y cuarto jueves de cada mes

Palabra, orar y fortalecer nuestra fe.

6:00 p. m. a 8:00 p. m.

Salón Parroquial

¡Invita a una amiga y comparte con nosotras!

Coordinadora: Norma Escoto

Tel. 760-994-7193

¡MUJERESDEFELENASDELESPIRITU SANTO!

NEED A PLACE TO GATHER?

St. Rita Hall is available for receptions, luncheons, showers, anniversaries, birthdays, funeral receptions, business meetings, and other special occasions. Seats up to **70 guests.**

For availability and scheduling, contact the Parish

Office: 520-762-9688 |

secretary@stritainthedesert.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

You don't have to walk through grief alone. Join Arista Healthcare's **Grief Support Group** on the **first Thursday of every month at 10:00 AM at 1636 N. Swan Rd., Suite 250, Tucson.** Open to anyone experiencing grief before, during, or after hospice care—you do not need to be an Arista patient or family member to attend.

Questions? Call (520) 333-0333.
www.aristahealthaz.com

STROKE SCAN SCREENING

Stroke Scan Plus will be at St. Rita in the Desert on **Saturday, September 12**, offering affordable vascular and organ ultrasound screenings. Early detection can help identify risk factors before symptoms appear.

Appointments are required. Call (832) 437-7355 to schedule your screening.

helpourmarriage.org
RETRouvaille®
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES
No Marriage is BEYOND HOPE!
Try A RETROUVAILLE Weekend
Upcoming Weekend Tucson, AZ
September 11-13, 2026
Confidential Inquires:
520-762-4449
4003r@helpourmarriage.org
R.O.S.A. ~ Retrouvaille of Southern Arizona



Rachel's Vineyard Retreat (Tucson) **September 4-6, 2026**

If the emotional and spiritual wounds of a past abortion have left you feeling isolated or strained in your faith, you do not have to carry that burden alone.

Sign up now for a confidential, supportive retreat open to men and women. Discover hope, healing, and renewal. Visit www.rachelsvineyardtucson.org.

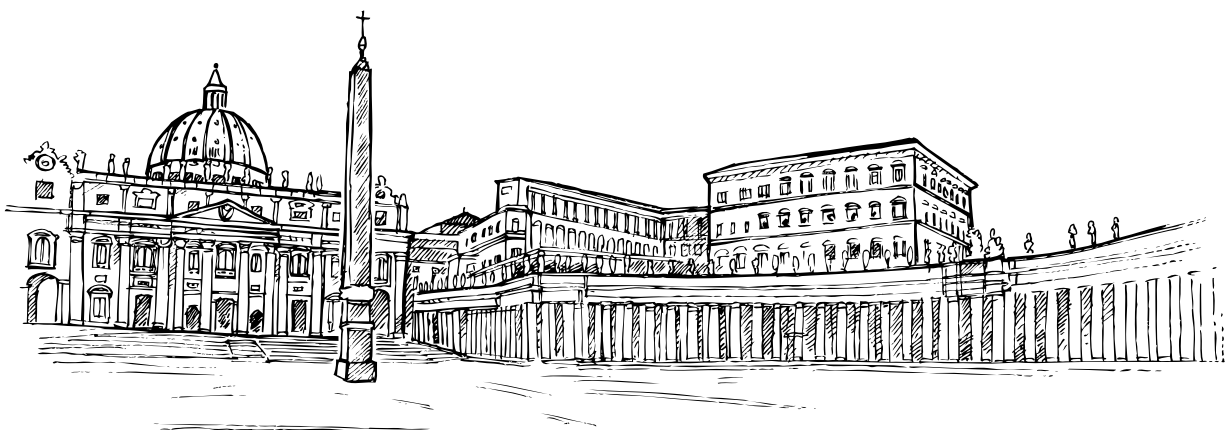
Call/Text: 520-743-6777.

FAMILY TREE HEALING MASS

Join the Family Tree Healing Mass on
Thursday, September 10, at 6:30 PM
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Catholic Church
(801 N. Grande Ave., Tucson).

Experience praise and worship, healing prayers, and prayer for generational healing through the power of Jesus Christ, led by Fr. Bala Kommathoti.

Invite your family and friends! For more information and to download the optional genogram, visit www.TucsonCCR.org.



SAINTS THIS MONTH

August 1

- [St. Alphonsus Liguori](#)
- [The Holy Maccabees \(OT\)](#)

August 2

- [St. Eusebius of Vercelli](#)
- [St. Peter Julian Eymard](#)

August 3

- [St. Lydia of Philippi](#)

August 4

- [Saint John Vianney](#)

August 5

- [Saint Mary Major](#)
- [St. Oswald of Northumbria](#)

August 6

- [Pope St. Hormisdas](#)

The [Transfiguration of the Lord](#) is also observed on August 6.

August 7

- [Pope St. Sixtus II and companions](#)
- [St. Cajetan](#)
- [St. Donatus of Arezzo](#)
- [St. Albert of Trapani](#)

August 8

- [St. Dominic de Guzman of Osma](#)

August 9

- [St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross](#)
- [St. Romanus of Rome](#)

August 10

- [St. Lawrence the Deacon](#)

August 11

- [Saint Clare of Assisi](#)
- [St. Tiburtius](#)
- [St. Susanna of Rome](#)

August 12

- [St. Jane Frances de Chantal](#)

August 13

- [Sts. Pontian and Hippolytus](#)
- [St. Cassian](#)

August 14

- [St. Maximilian Kolbe](#)
- [St. Eusebius of Rome](#)

August 15

- [St. Tarcisius](#)

August 15 is also the Solemnity of the [Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#).

August 16

- [St. Stephen of Hungary](#)
- [St. Roch](#)

August 17

- [St. Hyacinth of Poland](#)
- [St. Clare of Montefalco](#)

August 18

- [St. Helena](#)
- [St. Agapitus of Palestrina](#)

August 19

- [St. John Eudes, priest](#)
- [St. Magnus of Anagni](#)

August 20

- [St. Bernard of Clairvaux](#)
- [Samuel the Prophet \(OT\)](#)

August 21

- [Pope St. Pius X](#)

August 22

- [Sts. Timothy, Hippolytus, and Symphorian](#)

August 23

- [St. Rose of Lima](#)

August 24

- [St. Bartholomew, Apostle](#)
- [St. Emily de Vialar](#)

August 25

- [St. Louis of France](#)
- [St. Joseph Calasanaz](#)

August 26

- [Pope St. Zephyrinus](#)
- [St. Alexander of Bergamo](#)
- [The Priest Melchizedek \(OT\)](#)

August 27

- [St. Monica](#)

August 28

- [St. Augustine of Hippo](#)

August 29

- [Passion of St. John the Baptist](#)
- [St. Sabina of Rome](#)

August 30

- [St. Pammachius](#)
- [Sts. Felix and Adauctus](#)

August 31

- [St. Raymond Nonnatus](#)
- [St. Nicodemus](#)
- [St. Joseph of Arimathea](#) – or March 17

All underlined text is clickable

source: young-catholics.com

PARISH CONNECTIONS



CONTACT US

- **Main Office** - (520)762-9688
- **Office Hours**
 - Mon-Wed: 8:30 am-4:00 pm
 - Thur: 8:00 am-2:00 pm
 - Fri: CLOSED
 - Daily: Closed: 12pm-1pm
- **Staff Directory**



WORSHIP

- **Mass Times**
 - M-F (Shrine) - 8am
 - Sat (St. John XXIII) - 5pm
 - Sun (St. John XXIII) - 8am | 10am | Noon (Sp)
- **Confession**
 - Sat (St. John XXIII) - 3:30p-4:30p
- **Adoration**
 - Fri (Shrine) 8:30a-9:30a
 - 1st Sunday of each month (St. John XXIII): 3-4pm



SACRAMENTS

- Baptism
- Marriage
- Anointing
 - Every 1st Friday at 8am Mass
- Funerals



GROW IN FAITH

- OCIA | Adult Formation
- Children's Formation ~ *coming soon*



GET INVOLVED

- Ministry Directory
- Music Ministry



PRAYER & CARE

- Prayer Requests (online)
- Request a Mass Intention (online) ~ *coming soon*
- Pastoral Care



STEWARDSHIP

- Online Giving
- Parish Support
- Reserve a Legacy Bench



NEW TO ST. RITA?

- Join St. Rita Parish
- New to the Catholic Faith



STAY INFORMED

- Calendar
- Weekly Bulletin
- Website

STAFF DIRECTORY

Parish Office

Administrative Assistant:
Chris Metzger

Secretary:
Veronica Garcia

Office Assistant:
Priscilla Molinar

Business Manager:
Louise Azzopardi

Compliance:
Mary Morgan

Bulletin Editor:
Kathy Lockard

Facilities Manager:
Norm Scheopner

Maintenance:
Bill Cline

Religious Education

Director of Religious Education:
Geraldine Durman

Youth Ministry:
Leah Sides

OCIA Coordinator:
Michelle Quinn Crowley

Parish Directory



Campus Map



All underlined text is clickable. Can't find what you're looking for? Visit stritainthedesert.org or contact the Parish Office.

ST. RITA IN THE DESERT



Build Something They'll Remember

Choose One Experience. Make a Difference.

Our Harvest Festival is returning with a new vision—and a new way of serving.

We've listened to the feedback from past festivals. Instead of asking a few volunteers to carry the entire festival, we're inviting many parishioners to help create **one unforgettable experience**.

Choose One Experience. Join One Team. Help Build Something They'll Remember.

Children's Village - Confirmation

Magical fun for our youngest guests.

- Games
- Pumpkin Patch
- Prizes
- Family Activities

Hospitality - Welcome Team

Welcome every guest with a smile.

- Information
- Guest Welcome
- Volunteer Check-In
- Floater

Creative Corner - Confirmation

Hands-on fun for all ages.

- Face Painting
- Hair Tinsel
- Henna
- Crafts

Harvest Market - Altar Society

Support our vendors and artisans.

- Vendor Check-In
- Hospitality
- Market Support

Vineyard Retreat - Guild

Create a relaxing gathering space.

- Hospitality
- Décor
- Guest Experience

Harvest Beer Garden - Knights

Help serve our adult guests.

- Hospitality
- Entry
- Setup
- Cleanup

Main Stage - Liturgical Ministry

Keep the entertainment running smoothly.

- Performer Hospitality
- Stage Crew
- Seating
- Setup

Glow Garden - Marian Garden Chair

Help create the festival's evening magic.

- Lighting & Décor
- Lanterns
- Guest Experience

Logistics & Setup - Facilities

The team behind the scenes.

- Tents
- Tables & Chairs
- Signage
- Site Setup/Teardown
- Cleanup

There Is a Place for You.

Whether you have an hour, a weekend, or a special talent to share, we'd love to welcome you to the Harvest Festival Team.

Help us build something our parish—and our community—will remember.

One Experience. One Team. One Amazing Festival.

Click [HERE](#) to Learn
More About the Harvest
Festival Team



See the Vision

Each experience is planned and led by its own dedicated volunteer team.



 Children's Village
 Beer Garden

 Creative Corner
 Main Stage

 Harvest Market
 Glow Garden

 Vineyard Retreat
 Hospitality

Your Parish. Reimagined.

Imagine helping bring this vision to life.