

May 24, 2026



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:

Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

PENTECOST SUNDAY

"And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues." (Acts 2:4)

"Todos quedaron llenos del Espíritu Santo y comenzaron a hablar en lenguas distintas." (Hechos 2:4)

Reflection:

On Pentecost, we celebrate the moment when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, empowering them to speak in different languages and boldly proclaim the Gospel. This extraordinary event marks the birth of the Church and emphasizes the unifying and transformative power of the Holy Spirit. The same Spirit dwells within us, guiding us to live as witnesses of Christ's love and truth in the world. Pentecost invites us to open our hearts to the Spirit, allowing His gifts to work through us, overcoming barriers and bringing unity and peace.

Socratic Question:

How can you open your heart to the Holy Spirit's guidance and let Him work through you to bring unity and love into the world?

Reflexión:

En Pentecostés, celebramos el momento en que el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre los apóstoles, dándoles poder para hablar en diferentes lenguas y proclamar el Evangelio con valentía. Este evento extraordinario marca el nacimiento de la Iglesia y resalta el poder unificador y transformador del Espíritu Santo. El mismo Espíritu habita en nosotros, guiándonos a vivir como testigos del amor y la verdad de Cristo en el mundo. Pentecostés nos invita a abrir nuestros corazones al Espíritu, permitiendo que Sus dones trabajen a través de nosotros, superando barreras y trayendo unidad y paz.

Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo puedes abrir tu corazón a la guía del Espíritu Santo y dejar que Él trabaje a través de ti para traer unidad y amor al mundo?

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

Office 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

May 17, 2026



Offertory: \$6,424.89
Rectory Debt: \$2,337.60
Campus Maint: \$1,782.75

Thank you for your support.
God bless you!

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

ST. RITA STAFF

(520) 762-9688

Administrative Assistant: Chris Metzger
adminassist@stritainthedesert.org

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secretary@stritainthedesert.org

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businessmgr@stritainthedesert.org

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bulletin@stritainthedesert.org

Facilities Manager: Norm Scheopner
maintenance@stritainthedesert.org

Maintenance: Bill Cline

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Director of Religious Education: Geraldine Durman
dre@stritainthedesert.org

Youth Ministry: Carolyn Reynolds
msyouth@stritainthedesert.org
hsyouth@stritainthedesert.org

OCIA Coordinator: Michelle Quinn Crowley
ocia@stritainthedesert.org

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

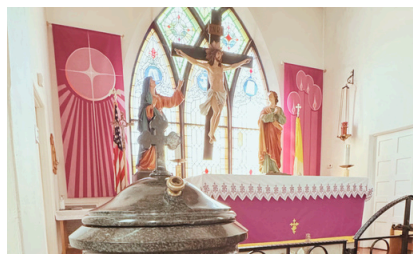
MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

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

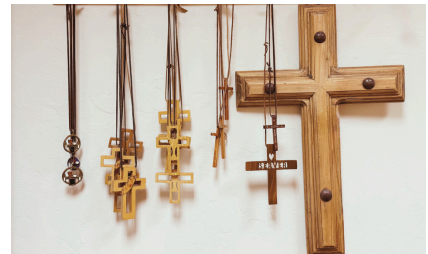


ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

May 24, 2026

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

Today marks the culmination of Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and Ascension into heaven. Pentecost, with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, is often described as the birth of the Church and the beginning of her mission: to proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the earth. This mission continues today in our parish. Like the first disciples, we are sent and empowered by the Holy Spirit to share God's love and make Christ present in our daily lives.

Pentecost is also a moment of restoration. The fallen world is renewed by the Holy Spirit—the same Spirit present at creation. Where sin brought division, as in the Tower of Babel, Pentecost brings unity. People of many nations are able to understand one another and glorify God together.

This same Holy Spirit has been given to us through Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist. These sacraments fill us with grace and draw us deeper into God's life. We are invited to grow in awareness of His presence. Even our breath can remind us of the breath of God within us. Taking time to pause, recollect ourselves, and pray helps us receive His love more fully.

A simple way to do this is through prayer. Pause, take a deep breath, and silently pray: "Come, Holy Spirit, fill me with Your love and peace." As you exhale, offer your worries to God. Even a few quiet moments can open us to His peace, strength, and guidance.

As we conclude our Religious Education year, I would like to thank our parents for faithfully bringing their children and living out the promises made at Baptism. I also extend my gratitude to our Director of Religious Education, Mrs. Geraldine Durman, our Youth Minister, Mrs. Carolyn Reynolds, and all of our catechists for their dedication in passing on the faith.

After 29 years of faithful service, Ms. Carolyn Reynolds has decided to retire. We are deeply grateful for her ministry to our youth. If you feel called to serve, please consider applying to become St. Rita's next Youth Minister through the Diocese of Tucson website.

Due to continued growth, classes will be offered on both Wednesdays and Sundays next year. Middle and high school students will meet Wednesdays from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Elementary students (K-5) and High School Confirmation will meet Sundays from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

Registration for Religious Education opens June 10. Forms will be available at the parish office and on our website. Please submit all forms and required sacramental documents by August 1 to ensure placement. Sponsors must be fully initiated and, if married, married in the Catholic Church. Submitting documents in advance helps us maintain an organized and smooth process.

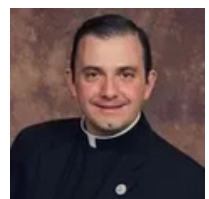
Lastly, I will be on vacation from May 26 through June 2. During my absence, please contact the parish office for any urgent needs. Ms. Veronica Garcia will be available to assist you. Please keep me in your prayers, as I will keep all of you in mine.

God bless you all, and I look forward to seeing you upon my return!

Sincerely in Christ,



Very Reverend Alonzo M. García, Dean
St. Rita in the Desert Roman Catholic Church, Vail, AZ.



OFICINA DE PASTOR

24 de mayo de 2026

Estimada familia parroquial y amigos:

Hoy celebramos la culminación de la vida, la muerte, la resurrección y la Ascensión de Jesús al cielo. La celebración de Pentecostés, con la venida del Espíritu Santo, es considerada el nacimiento de la Iglesia y el inicio de su misión: anunciar el Evangelio hasta los confines de la tierra. Esta misión no terminó hace dos mil años; continúa hoy en nuestra parroquia. Así como los primeros discípulos fueron enviados, nosotros también somos enviados y fortalecidos por el Espíritu Santo para compartir el amor de Dios y hacer presente a Cristo en nuestra vida diaria.

Pentecostés también es un momento de restauración. El mundo caído es renovado por el Espíritu Santo, el mismo Espíritu presente desde la creación. Donde el pecado trajo división, como en la Torre de Babel, Pentecostés trae unidad. Personas de diferentes naciones pueden entenderse y alabar a Dios juntas.

Este mismo Espíritu Santo se nos ha dado en el Bautismo, la Confirmación y la Eucaristía. Estos sacramentos nos llenan de gracia y nos acercan más a la vida de Dios. Se nos invita a crecer en la conciencia de su presencia. Incluso nuestra respiración puede recordarnos el aliento de Dios en nosotros. Tomarnos un momento para hacer una pausa, recogernos y orar nos ayuda a recibir su amor más profundamente.

Una forma sencilla de hacerlo es mediante la oración. Haz una pausa, respira profundamente y di en silencio: “Ven, Espíritu Santo, lléname de tu amor y tu paz.” Al exhalar, entrégale a Dios tus preocupaciones. Incluso unos momentos de silencio pueden abrir nuestro corazón a su paz, fortaleza y guía.

Al concluir nuestro año de Educación Religiosa, quiero agradecer a los padres de familia por traer fielmente a sus hijos y por vivir las promesas que hicieron en su Bautismo. También agradezco a nuestra Directora de Educación Religiosa, la Sra. Geraldine Durman, a nuestra Ministra de Jóvenes, la Sra. Carolyn Reynolds, y a todos nuestros catequistas por su dedicación en transmitir la fe.

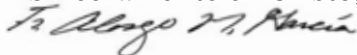
Después de 29 años de servicio fiel, la Sra. Carolyn Reynolds ha decidido retirarse. Le estamos profundamente agradecidos por su entrega a nuestros jóvenes. Si usted siente el llamado a servir y le gusta trabajar con jóvenes, lo invitamos a considerar la oportunidad de ser el (la) próximo(a) Ministro(a) de Jóvenes de Santa Rita. Las solicitudes están disponibles en el sitio web de la Diócesis de Tucson.

Debido al crecimiento de nuestro programa, el próximo año tendremos clases los miércoles y los domingos. Los estudiantes de secundaria y preparatoria se reunirán los miércoles de 5:00 pm a 6:30 pm. Los estudiantes de kínder a quinto grado y de Confirmación de preparatoria se reunirán los domingos de 2:00 pm a 3:30 pm.

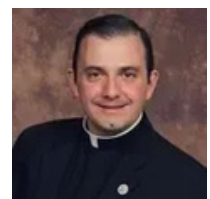
La inscripción para Educación Religiosa abrirá el 10 de junio. Los formularios estarán disponibles en la oficina parroquial y en nuestro sitio web. Les pedimos que entreguen todos los formularios y documentos sacramentales antes del 1 de agosto para asegurar el lugar de su hijo(a). Los padrinos deben estar completamente iniciados y, si están casados, estarlo por la Iglesia Católica. Entregar los documentos a tiempo nos ayuda a mantener un proceso organizado y sencillo para todos.

Por último, estaré de vacaciones del 26 de mayo al 2 de junio. Durante mi ausencia, por favor, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial ante cualquier necesidad urgente. La Sra. Verónica García estará disponible para ayudarles. Les pido que me mantengan en sus oraciones, así como yo los mantendré en las mías.

Sinceramente en Cristo,



Muy Reverendo Alonzo M. García, Decano
Parroquia Católica Santa Rita en el Desierto, Vail, AZ.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

PENTECOST

Pentecost marks the powerful moment when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, filling them with divine courage and the ability to share the Gospel with people from all nations. This event, often called the birth of the Church, highlights how the Holy Spirit empowers us to transcend cultural and language barriers. The Spirit unites us in our diversity, enabling us to be effective witnesses of Christ's love. As we reflect on Pentecost, let us invite the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts, fill us with zeal for our mission, and grant us the wisdom to embrace and celebrate our differences, working together as one body in Christ.

Socratic Question:

In what ways can you actively invite the Holy Spirit to guide your actions and decisions in daily life, fostering unity and love in your community?

PENTECOST

Pentecostés marca el momento poderoso cuando el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre los apóstoles, llenándolos de valentía divina y de la capacidad de compartir el Evangelio con personas de todas las naciones. Este evento, a menudo llamado el nacimiento de la Iglesia, destaca cómo el Espíritu Santo nos capacita para trascender las barreras culturales y lingüísticas. El Espíritu nos une en nuestra diversidad, permitiéndonos ser testigos eficaces del amor de Cristo. Al reflexionar sobre Pentecostés, invitemos al Espíritu Santo a renovar nuestros corazones, llenándonos de celo por nuestra misión y otorgándonos la sabiduría para abrazar y celebrar nuestras diferencias, trabajando juntos como un solo cuerpo en Cristo.

Pregunta Socrática en Español:

¿De qué manera puedes invitar activamente al Espíritu Santo a guiar tus acciones y decisiones en la vida diaria, fomentando la unidad y el amor en tu comunidad?

DID YOU KNOW...

PENTECOST

Pentecost, celebrated 50 days after Easter, is often referred to as the "birthday of the Church." This is because it marks the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, empowering them to begin their mission of preaching the Gospel to all nations. The name "Pentecost" comes from the Greek word "Pentēkostē," meaning "fiftieth," reflecting its occurrence 50 days after the Jewish feast of Passover.

Historical Significance:

Pentecost is a pivotal event in Christian history, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:1-13). The Holy Spirit's descent enabled the apostles to proclaim the Gospel in various languages, symbolizing the universal nature of the Church's mission to spread Christ's message to people of all cultures and languages. This universal call underscores the Church's mission to unite diverse peoples into one community of believers under the lordship of Christ.

Pentecost also fulfilled Jesus' promise to send the Holy Spirit as an Advocate and guide for His followers (John 14:26, 16:7-15). It affirms the life and mission of the Church, powered by the Holy Spirit, who continues to guide and animate the body of Christ today.

Reflection Question:

How does the celebration of Pentecost inspire you to embrace the Holy Spirit's transformative power in your life and share the Gospel's message of love and hope with others?

via truthly app

WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday May 23

5:00 pm

†Richard Serrano

Sunday May 24

8:00 am

†Patty Kline

†Barbara Deyo

10:00 am

†Wesley Claypool

†William D. Malloy

12:00 pm

SI Gabriela Wong & Family

Monday May 25

8:00 am

†Louisa & Joe Moreno & Family

Tuesday May 26

8:00 am

First Responders

Wednesday May 27

8:00 am

SI All Married Couples

Thursday May 28

8:00 am

Men & Women in the Military

Friday May 29

8:00 am

St. Rita

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, May 24

Solemnity of Pentecost

- **St. Vincent of Lérins**

8:00 am - Mass (English)

10:00 am - Mass (English)

12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

3:00 pm - Shrine

Monday, May 25

- **Saint Bede the Venerable**

- **Pope Saint Gregory VII**

- **Saint Mary Magdalene de Pazzi**

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Tuesday, May 26

- **Saint Philip Neri**

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday, May 27

- **St. Augustine of Canterbury**

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Thursday, May 28

- **St. Germain of Paris**

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday, May 29

- **Pope St. Paul VI**

- **St. Ursula Ledóchowska**

8:00 am - Mass

8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

Saturday, May 30

- **St. Ferdinand of Castilla**

- **St. Joan of Arc**

5 pm - Vigil Mass (John XXIII)

source: young-catholics.com

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:

"They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues." (Acts 2:4)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth." (Ps 104:30)

SECOND READING:

"For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body." (1 Cor 12:13)

GOSPEL:

"Receive the Holy Spirit." (Jn 20:22)

Sunday, May 24

Acts 2:1-11 | Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 | 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17 | Jn 20:19-23

Monday, May 25

Gn 3:9-15, 20 | Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7 | Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday, May 26

1 Pt 1:10-16 | Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 | Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday, May 27

1 Pt 1:18-25 | Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 | Mk 10:32-45

Thursday, May 28

1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12 | Ps 100:2, 3, 4, 5 | Mk 10:46-52

Friday, May 29

1 Pt 4:7-13 | Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 | Mk 11:11-26

Saturday, May 30

Jude 17, 20b-25 | Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6 | Mk 11:27-33

PARISH MINISTRIES

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Server

If your boy would like to become an Altar Boy, please review the [Altar Server Manual](#) together and complete the [Altar Server Application](#) online or email: travis71durman@gmail.com

Altar Society

The St. Rita Altar Society is looking for volunteers to maintain the Altar in the Shrine and St. John XXIII. If you love to decorate or enjoy floral arrangements, we invite you to glorify the Lord by your creativity.

Eucharistic Ministry

Interested in learning more about the role of an Extraordinary Minister or would like to be part of this vital ministry, Submit your [EOMHC Sign-up](#) form online.

Lectors

Become a Lector. Submit your [Ministry Request form](#) online.

Music Ministry - Join Us!

Love sacred music? Come sing or play!

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

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

Spanish choir: Wed | 6:15 pm

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

Pianist Needed (Sat 5pm Mass):

Stipend available.

Coro español: ¡Únete! Voz, guitarra y bajo bienvenidos.

Ushers

Ushers play a pivotal role in our parish, not only aiding others but also serving as the welcoming face to newcomers. For our regular parishioners, they provide a sense of familiarity and continuity across all Masses. Submit your [Usher Sign-Up](#) form online.

PARISH MINISTRIES

Outreach Ministry

Join us as we provide support every week to our Meals to Grow Program, Food Bank and other critical human needs in our community. Email: outreach@stritainthedesert.org

Pastoral Council

Currently on hold, seeking someone to assist in leading it. Contact front office if interested.

Porter's of St. Joseph

Email: porters@stritainthedesert.org

Right to Life

Email: rtl@stritainthedesert.org

Family Faith Formation

www.watch.formed.org

Vocations

Contact Mr. Adam LaGuardia: Vocations@stritainthedesert.org

Welcome Committee

If you are interested in joining the Welcoming Team, submit your [Welcoming Team request form](#) online.

Guild of St. Rita

Volunteers manage our beautiful Gift shop, plan our St. Rita's feast day celebration & host many other parish events as requested. Join us every **2nd & 4th Wed** of the month | **6pm** | Mother Teresa Rm | Email: guild@stritainthedesert.org

Sewing Angels

All are welcome to join. Meet us in the church hall every **Wednesday** from **9:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Mujeres De Fe (Women of Faith)

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

EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



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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, May 17, 2026

\$129,393

\$345,000
GOAL

145

500
FAMILY PLEDGED/DONATED GOAL

We need your help! Until this phase is complete, we cannot seek Diocesan approval for a new church capital campaign. Let's come together as a faith family to make it happen

Be part of our parish family's exciting next chapter



Scan to Pledge



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

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



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Today as we celebrate Pentecost, Jesus says to his disciples:

"Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me so, so I send you."

This month through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the love and care of Jesus to the poor by assisting them with food, rent, utility bills and other necessities. All of this is possible because of your generosity.

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.

MY HEARTFELT THANKS

To Fr. Alonzo and the entire parish for the many prayers, best wishes, gifts, and kindness shown to me on the occasion of my 55th Anniversary of Ordination. May God bless you all abundantly.

Fr. Stan

BE PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL

Our St. Rita Harvest Festival is in the works—and we need your help! Opportunities include setup, hospitality, children's activities, and more. No experience needed—just a willingness to help.

To get involved, contact:
Kathy Lockard
bulletin@stritainthedesert.org

Come be part of something truly special at St. Rita!

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Youth Choir will be on summer break for June and July and will return in August with Religious Education—details coming soon!

Over the summer, your child is warmly invited to join **Tuesday** rehearsals at **6:30 PM** and sing with the adult choir at any Mass.

SHRINE PARKING LOT

CLOSURE

Wednesday-Friday
May 27th-29th, 2026

Please use the back parking lot during this time.



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BLESSEDMCGIVNEY

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – THANK YOU



Please join us in thanking the **Catholic Veterans of America** for generously replacing the worn American flag at our church at no cost to the parish. We also extend our gratitude to our **High School Confirmation and Religious Education students and staff** for their quick and careful work preparing the church for the flooring crew—completed in under two hours (with only a few slices of pizza!).

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 BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

Begins May 2, 2026

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

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

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING

Aluminum cans may be dropped off in the recycling barrels next to the St. Vincent de Paul donation shed. To ensure the program's success, please note:

- **Aluminum cans only** (no glass, paper, metal cans, or trash)
- Please place cans in **secure, tied trash bags**
- **No clothing donations**—please take clothing to the Vail Resources Thrift Store across the street

If you have cans to donate but need assistance, please ask a Knight wearing a maroon council shirt for help.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



**ARE YOU
FOLLOWING US?**
click here

Backpack Supply Drive – Help Local Students Succeed!

Vail Christian Church is collecting school supplies for 500+ students in the Vail School District. All items go directly to students—nothing is wasted, and extra supplies are shared with schools in greatest need.

How you can help:

- Shop our **Amazon Wish List** (items ship directly to us)
- Purchase supplies locally (pencil boxes, notebooks, crayons, markers, colored pencils, graph paper)
- Donate **Amazon or Walmart gift cards**

Deadline: June 30

Thank you for supporting our students and being part of this community effort!



worldwide marriage encounter

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” Let the Holy Spirit infuse your marriage with increased trust and intimacy by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience

May 30-31, 2026, in Tucson

July 11-12, 2026, in Phoenix

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

Early registration is highly recommended.



ITALIAN WINE DINNER
SHRINE OF SANTA RITA



THANK YOU!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PRIZE WINNERS!

Happy Hour at the Rectory – Jim McCoy and Tom Carbone
\$400 Vivace Gift Certificate – Gilbert Martinez
50/50 Heads/Tails (\$463) – Karen Brown
Door Prize (2 Bottles of Shrine Wine) – Shaughn Gilman

*Your generosity raised over \$5,500
for the Rectory Payoff and New Church Fund!*

WITH MUCH GRATITUDE
THE GUILD OF ST. RITA
PARISH BUILDING COMMITTEE

13260 E. Colossal Cave Road • Vail, Az 81641 • Tel (520) 762-9688 • stritainthedesert.org

SAINT SPOTLIGHT



SAINT PHILIP NERI

Feast Day: May 26th

Patronage:

Saint Philip Neri is the patron saint of joy and humor, as well as the city of Rome and the United States Special Forces.

Story: Saint Philip Neri was born in Florence, Italy, in 1515. Known for his cheerful and joyful nature, he moved to Rome at the age of 18 and dedicated his life to serving God, initially working as a tutor. While in Rome, Philip experienced a profound conversion. He began ministering to the city's poor and sick, visiting hospitals, and engaging in heartfelt prayer and meditation.

He eventually founded the Congregation of the Oratory, a community of Catholic priests and lay brothers who live in a fellowship without formal vows. Saint Philip was known for his contagious joy, deep spirituality, and ability to relate to people from all walks of life. His unique approach often involved humor, which he used to encourage people on their spiritual journeys. sform suffering into grace.

Legacy: Saint Philip Neri is often called the "Apostle of Rome" for his dedication to the spiritual renewal of the city. He emphasized personal holiness, frequent reception of the sacraments, and heartfelt devotion. His joyful spirit left an enduring legacy, reminding Christians that holiness can be pursued with joy. The Oratory communities continue to reflect his approach of fostering deep love for God through joyful fellowship and service.

Reflection Question: How can you incorporate joy and humor into your spiritual life to deepen your relationship with God and share His love with others?

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: May 26th

Who He Helps: Saint Philip Neri is the special friend of people who love to be joyful and funny, and he also looks out for the city of Rome.

Story: Saint Philip Neri was born in Italy, in a city called Florence, a very long time ago in 1515. As a young man, he moved to Rome, where he really wanted to help people and show them God's love. He was known for being super joyful and fun, always making people smile and laugh. He liked helping the poor and the sick, and he believed that being happy and sharing a laugh was a great way to show people how much God loves them.

Philip started a group called the Congregation of the Oratory. This was a community of priests and friends who wanted to live together, pray, and help others without having to take special vows. His joyful and caring way of living inspired many people to follow God just like he did.

Why He's Important: Saint Philip Neri reminded everyone that being joyful is an important part of loving God. His happiness helped others want to know more about Jesus and be good Christians. Even today, people remember him as someone who showed love and kindness with laughter and joy.

Question for You: How can you add joy and laughter to your day to help others know God loves them too?

Source: *Truthly App*

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Come, Holy Spirit

Pentecost marks the moment the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, filling them with courage, wisdom, and zeal to proclaim the Gospel to all nations. It is often called the “**birthday of the Church,**” when fear was transformed into mission.

Just as the Holy Spirit empowered the Apostles, He continues to guide and strengthen each of us today—especially through the Sacraments.

“And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...” (Acts 2:4)

What Does Pentecost Mean for Us Today?

Pentecost is not just something that happened—it is something that continues.

- The Holy Spirit strengthens us in Confirmation
- The Holy Spirit transforms bread and wine into the Eucharist
- The Holy Spirit guides the Church and each of us in our daily lives

This weekend, we celebrate how the Spirit is alive in our parish through our young people receiving the Sacraments.

Symbols of Pentecost

- 🔥 Fire – God’s presence and transformation
- 🌬️ Wind – The unseen power of the Holy Spirit
- 🕊️ Dove – Peace and the Spirit of God

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit,
and they shall be created.
And You shall renew the face of the earth. Amen.

SACRAMENT CELEBRATION FEATURE

A Weekend of Grace in Our Parish

This Pentecost weekend, we are blessed to celebrate two beautiful Sacraments:

✦ First Holy Communion

We joyfully congratulate our children who will receive **Jesus in the Eucharist for the very first time.**

This is a sacred milestone where they encounter Christ in a deeply personal way.

“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in them.” (John 6:56)

Let us pray that their love for the Eucharist continues to grow throughout their lives.

🔥 Confirmation

We also celebrate our candidates receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, where they are sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

In this Sacrament, they are strengthened to live their faith boldly and become active witnesses of Christ.

🙏 A Message to Our Parish Community

As a parish family, we are called to support and pray for these young members of our Church.

- Pray for our First Communicants
- Pray for our Confirmandi
- Be an example of faith in action

Their journey is just beginning—and we walk with them.

❤️ A Note of Gratitude

We extend our heartfelt thanks to:

- Our catechists and volunteers
- Our families and sponsors
- Our clergy and parish staff

Your dedication helps form the next generation of our Church.

🌿 Closing Reflection

This Pentecost, we don't just remember the coming of the Holy Spirit—we **see it alive** in our parish.

In the Eucharist.
In Confirmation.
In our children.
In our community.

Come, Holy Spirit.

WELCOME NEWLY CONFIRMED TEENS



CELEBRATING THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION – MAY 23, 2026

On behalf of our entire parish community, we joyfully welcome the teens who received the sacrament of Confirmation on May 23, 2026. With hearts full of gratitude and hope, we celebrate your commitment to faith and your journey as disciples of Christ. May you always feel the warmth of God's love and the guidance of the Holy Spirit as you step forward in your spiritual life. Confirmed Teens:

Jonathan Paul Angal
Landon Bejarano
Dezi Briones
Roberto Brones
Zyla Briones
Milan Cazares
Braxton Darling
Isabella Dipasupil
Liliana Dipasupil
Charlotte Earp
Hannah Elizabeth Fryar
Andrew James Fujieda
Katalina Gonzalex
Madelyn Grupe
Lila Marie Haase
Jonathan Haywas
Jaslynn Hernandez
Alyissa Jollee Morales
Bailey Orozco
Janae Quijada
Victoria Rojas
Elijah Werner
William Werner
Sandra Zabaneh

As you begin this new chapter, we invoke the blessings and intercession of St. Sebastian, St. Joseph, St. Albertus Magnus, St. Brendan the Navigator, the Virgin Mary, St. John the Apostle, St. Joan of Arc, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, St. Maria Goretti, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Michael the Archangel, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Rita, St. Christopher, St. Raphael the Archangel, St. Paul the Apostle, St. Cecilia, and all the Angels and Saints. May their prayers inspire you to pursue holiness and to shine as lights of faith in the world.

We pray that the Holy Spirit continues to guide, strengthen, and encourage you. May you find joy in your faith, courage in your convictions, and love in your service. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, may you always strive for what is good, true, and beautiful, and may your journey be blessed with grace and peace.

SAINT RITA CORE VALUES



OUR AMAZING PARISH

Question: Why do we exist?

Answer: To help people get to heaven

Question: What we do?

Answer: Through our Catholic faith we form disciples of Christ

Question: How do we behave?

Answer: Contagious Joy | Enduring Faith | Humble Service

Question: How will we succeed?

Answer: Cultivating a culture of stewardship | Activate parish leaders | Future forward facilities | Ministries for all generations

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: _____

