

April 26, 2026



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:

Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved." (John 10:9)

"Yo soy la puerta; quien entre por mí se salvará." (Juan 10:9)

Reflection:

In this Gospel passage, Jesus describes Himself as the gate for the sheep. Just as a shepherd guards and guides his flock, Jesus invites us to trust in Him as the pathway to eternal life. He promises safety, nourishment, and a fullness of life for those who follow Him. In our daily lives, we encounter many choices, but Jesus reminds us that true fulfillment comes from entering through Him. As the gate, He offers us an open invitation to experience His love and protection, leading us to the abundant life that only He can give. How are we responding to Jesus' call to walk through the gate and enter deeply into His care?

Socratic Question:

How can you embrace Jesus' invitation to enter through the gate and find safety and abundance in His care?

Reflexión:

En este pasaje del Evangelio, Jesús se describe a sí mismo como la puerta para las ovejas. Así como un pastor cuida y guía a su rebaño, Jesús nos invita a confiar en Él como el camino hacia la vida eterna. Promete seguridad, alimento y una vida plena para quienes lo siguen. En nuestra vida diaria, enfrentamos muchas decisiones, pero Jesús nos recuerda que la verdadera plenitud viene al entrar por Él. Como puerta, nos ofrece una invitación abierta a experimentar Su amor y protección, llevándonos a la vida abundante que solo Él puede dar. ¿Cómo estamos respondiendo al llamado de Jesús para pasar por la puerta y entrar profundamente en Su cuidado?

Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo puedes aceptar la invitación de Jesús para pasar por la puerta y encontrar seguridad y abundancia en Su cuidado?

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

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 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

PARISH INFORMATION

COLLECTIONS | COLECTA

April 19, 2026



Offertory: \$6,543.15
Rectory Debt: \$3,712.50
Campus Maint: \$1,755.35

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

Secretary: Veronica Garcia
secretary@stritainthedesert.org

Business Manager: Louise Azzopardi
businessmgr@stritainthedesert.org

Compliance: Mary Morgan
compliance@stritainthedesert.org

Bulletin Editor: Kathy Lockard
bulletin@stritainthedesert.org

Facilities Manager: Rob King
rob@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

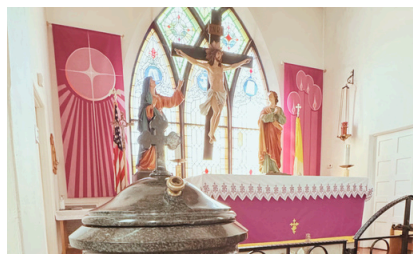
MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

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

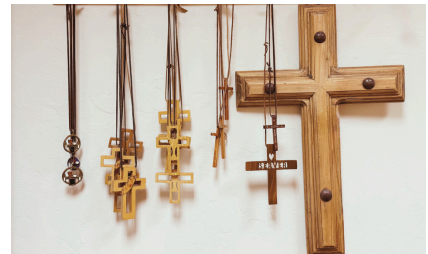


ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

April 26, 2026

Dear Amazing Parishioners and Friends of St. Rita in the Desert,

A good leader is essential for any mission to succeed. With the many types of leadership and voices vying for our attention, it can be inspiring to know that we are not left alone in choosing whom to follow. Amidst the many claims of expertise or enlightenment, we have the opportunity to seek leaders who act with discipline and genuine care, nurturing hope and clarity in our journey. This question of leadership is especially relevant as we consider our spiritual lives.

Today, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. Both our Psalms and Gospel reveal the heart of God and Jesus Christ. The Lord joyfully desires to lead us through love into a deeper relationship with Him and one another. Even when some try to lead us astray, we can be confident that God's love and guidance will help us overcome challenges and build a caring community together.

Jesus warns us of the wolves in sheep's clothing, who have robbed and stolen the flock from Him. Many try to mimic Jesus out of worldly wisdom and worldly desires, and are not willing to lay down their lives for one another. Unfortunately, the end result for them, and us, is that we are lost, and we lose our inheritance and relationship with our God.

It is through Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, and His Church that we are given new life, and that is given today! You see, Jesus is not only the Good Shepherd leading His flock to everlasting life; He, in turn, becomes the living Lamb of Sacrifice and willingly lays down His life for all. In a word, we have all been called, redeemed, and given new life. Our deeper question is: will we listen to His voice and follow His path? Who is your leader?

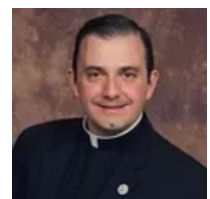
I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to all our parish ministries who helped make our Spring Rummage Sale a huge success! I would also like to express my appreciation to our event coordinators, Ms. Kat Lockard and Ms. Isabel Christie, for their leadership and logistical support in making this event so successful. Our Rummage Sale yielded **\$2,911.15** in Profit! Way to go, Amazing Parish team! These funds will assist us in paying down our parish debt and show the Diocese of Tucson that St. Rita in the Desert is ready to begin to build its new parish church. For with God, all things are possible!

Lastly, I wanted to share the joy I had at the Pastor's retreat last week in St. Louis, Missouri, with our parish family. The Amazing Parish platform gathered about 35 priests from around the country to sit, pray, and share about their priestly journeys. Moreover, our gathering was geared toward helping us listen to and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Our retreat theme was "Abide in Me". Abiding in the Lord is important for us as Pastors to continue the Church's work. Our theme comes from the Gospel of John, chapter 15, verse 4 and onward. Apart from Jesus Christ, we can do nothing. Moreover, this retreat helped reenergize us for our tasks at our local parishes. Therefore, I return energized, focused, and ready to continue working with you, our amazing parishioners, to make St. Rita in the Desert Roman Catholic Community an amazing parish! God bless and keep you always! Be assured of my appreciation of you and my prayers for you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Very Reverend Alonzo M. García, Dean



OFICINA DE PASTOR

26 de Abril de 2026

Estimada familia parroquial y amigos:

Un buen líder es esencial para que cualquier misión tenga éxito. Con los muchos tipos de liderazgo y voces que compiten por nuestra atención, resulta inspirador saber que no estamos solos al elegir a quién seguir. En medio de tantas afirmaciones de experiencia o iluminación, tenemos la oportunidad de buscar líderes que actúen con disciplina y un cuidado genuino, cultivando la esperanza y la claridad en nuestro camino. Esta cuestión del liderazgo es especialmente relevante al considerar nuestra vida espiritual.

Hoy celebramos el Domingo del Buen Pastor. Tanto nuestros Salmos como el Evangelio revelan el corazón de Dios y de Jesucristo. El Señor desea, con alegría, guiarnos con amor hacia una relación más profunda con Él y con los demás. Incluso cuando algunos intentan desviarnos, podemos confiar en que el amor y la guía de Dios nos ayudarán a superar los desafíos y a construir juntos una comunidad solidaria.

Jesús nos advierte sobre los lobos con piel de oveja, que han robado y dispersado el rebaño. Muchos intentan imitar a Jesús, movidos por la sabiduría y los deseos del mundo, y no están dispuestos a dar la vida unos por otros. Desafortunadamente, el resultado para ellos y para nosotros es que nos perdemos; perdemos nuestra herencia y nuestra relación con Dios.

Es por medio de Jesucristo, el Buen Pastor, y de su Iglesia que se nos da una vida nueva, ¡y esa vida se nos ofrece hoy! Jesús no solo es el Buen Pastor que guía a su rebaño hacia la vida eterna; El mismo se convierte en el Cordero vivo del sacrificio y entrega voluntariamente su vida por todos. En una palabra, todos hemos sido llamados, redimidos y recibimos una vida nueva. La pregunta más profunda es: ¿Escucharemos su voz y seguiremos su camino? ¿Quién es tu líder?

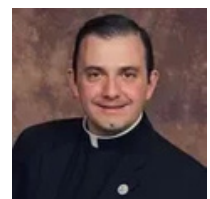
Deseo expresar mi profundo agradecimiento a todos los ministerios de nuestra parroquia que contribuyeron a que nuestra Venta de Primavera fuera un gran éxito. También quiero expresar mi reconocimiento a nuestras coordinadoras del evento, la Sra. Kat Lockard y la Sra. Isabel Christie, por su liderazgo y su apoyo logístico para alcanzar este éxito. Nuestra venta generó una ganancia de \$2,911.15. ¡Excelente trabajo, increíble equipo parroquial! Estos fondos nos ayudarán a reducir la deuda parroquial y a demostrar a la Diócesis de Tucson que Santa Rita en el Desierto está lista para comenzar la construcción de su nueva iglesia parroquial. Porque para Dios todo es posible.

Por último, quisiera compartir con nuestra familia parroquial la alegría que experimenté durante el retiro de párrocos de la semana pasada en St. Louis, Missouri. La plataforma Amazing Parish reunió a unos 35 sacerdotes de todo el país para orar, reflexionar y compartir acerca de sus vocaciones sacerdotales. Además, nuestro encuentro estuvo orientado a ayudarnos a escuchar y seguir la inspiración del Espíritu Santo. El tema de nuestro retiro fue "Permanezcan en mí". Permanecer en el Señor es fundamental para que nosotros, como pastores, podamos continuar con la misión de la Iglesia. Este tema proviene del Evangelio de Juan, capítulo 15, versículo 4 y siguientes. Separados de Jesucristo, no podemos hacer nada. Este retiro también nos ayudó a renovarnos para nuestras tareas en las parroquias locales. Por ello, regreso renovado, enfocado y listo para seguir trabajando con ustedes, nuestros maravillosos feligreses, para hacer de la Comunidad Católica Romana Santa Rita en el Desierto una parroquia ejemplar. ¡Que Dios los bendiga y los guarde siempre! Tengan la seguridad de mi aprecio y de mis oraciones por ustedes.

Sinceramente en Cristo,



Muy Reverendo Alonzo M. García, Dean



GOSPEL MEDITATION

IN THE JOHN 10:1-10,

In the Gospel passage from John, Jesus speaks of Himself as the gate for the sheep. This image of the Good Shepherd reminds us of the deep care and protection He offers to each of us. A shepherd knows each sheep by name and guides them safely to green pastures. Jesus promises that those who enter through Him will find salvation and the abundant life He offers. In a world full of distractions and false promises, Jesus' voice calls us to trust in His guidance and to follow His path. When we choose to walk through the gate of Christ, we discover true freedom and peace. How often do we pause to listen to the voice of the Shepherd in our lives?

Socratic Question:

In what ways can you more intentionally listen to and follow the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, in your daily life?

EN JUAN 10:1-10,

En el pasaje del Evangelio de Juan, Jesús habla de sí mismo como la puerta para las ovejas. Esta imagen del Buen Pastor nos recuerda el cuidado y la protección profunda que ofrece a cada uno de nosotros. Un pastor conoce a cada oveja por su nombre y las guía con seguridad hacia pastos verdes. Jesús promete que quienes entren por Él encontrarán salvación y la vida abundante que ofrece. En un mundo lleno de distracciones y promesas falsas, la voz de Jesús nos llama a confiar en Su guía y seguir Su camino. Cuando elegimos pasar por la puerta en Cristo, descubrimos la verdadera libertad y paz. ¿Con qué frecuencia nos detenemos a escuchar la voz del Pastor en nuestras vidas?

Pregunta Socrática en Español:

¿De qué maneras puedes escuchar y seguir más intencionalmente la voz de Jesús, el Buen Pastor, en tu vida diaria?

DID YOU KNOW...

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday" because the Gospel readings from the book of John focus on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. This imagery is deeply rooted in both Old and New Testament symbolism, where shepherds were seen as leaders and caretakers of their flocks. In the Old Testament, figures like King David, who was once a shepherd, exemplified this role.

Historical Significance:

Good Shepherd Sunday also marks a special emphasis on praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The Church encourages the faithful to reflect on the role of those who dedicate their lives to being shepherds of Christ's flock, guiding and nurturing communities worldwide. It's a day when many parishes will include special prayers or talks about how God calls each of us to follow Him in unique ways and how some are called to serve the Church more directly.

Reflection Question:

How does understanding Jesus as the Good Shepherd influence your perception of leadership and care within your own community and beyond?

This day highlights the importance of spiritual guidance and reminds us of the vital role of shepherds in the life of the Church and in our personal spiritual journeys.

via truthly app

WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday April 25

5:00 pm

SI Austin & Robin Boyd

Sunday April 26

8:00 am

†Marie S. Schultz

10:00 am

†Louisa & Joe Moreno & Family

12:00 pm

Living & Deceased of St. Rita

Monday April 27

8:00 am

SI Kathy Stuart

Tuesday April 28

8:00 am

†Mark Glembin

SI Michael Desmarais

Wednesday April 29

8:00 am

Men & Women in the Military

Thursday April 30

8:00 am

First Responders

Friday May 1

8:00 am

United States Armed Forces

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, April 26

4th Sunday of Easter

- *Pope St. Cletus*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

10:00 am - Mass (English)

12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

3:00 pm - Shrine

Monday, April 27

- *St. Simeon of Jerusalem*

- *St. Zita of Lucca*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Tuesday, April 28

- *St. Peter Chanel*

- *St. Louis Mary de Montfort*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday, April 29

- *St. Catherine of Siena*

- *St. Peter of Verona*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Thursday, April 30

- *Pope St. Pius V*

- *St. Marie of the Incarnation*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday, May 1

- *St. Joseph the Worker*

- *Jeremiah the Prophet (OT)*

8:00 am - Mass

8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

Saturday, May 2

- *St. Athanasius*

5 pm - Vigil Mass (John XXIII)

source: young-catholics.com

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:

“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.” (Acts 2:38)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

“The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.” (Ps 23:1)

SECOND READING:

“For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.” (1 Pt 2:25)

GOSPEL:

“I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.” (Jn 10:10)

Sunday, April 26

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 | Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 | 1 Pt 2:20b-25 | Jn 10:1-10

Monday, April 27

Acts 11:1-18 | Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 | Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday, April 28

Acts 11:19-26 | Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday, April 29

Acts 12:24-13:5a | Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 | Jn 12:44-50

Thursday, April 30

Acts 13:13-25 | Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27 | Jn 13:16-20

Friday, May 1

Acts 13:26-33 | Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab | Jn 14:1-6

Saturday, May 2

Acts 13:44-52 | Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 | Jn 14:7-14

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):

Mass music paused until filled. 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)

Para mas Informacion Coordinadora: Gabriela Hrdlirka (915) 539-0985 gawoho@gmail.com

EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



Knights of Columbus

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Catholic Men 18+

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



El praesidium de St.Rita se llama "Maria Puerta del Cielo" y se reúne los Martes a las 6:00 de la tarde en el salon Oscar Romero, o puedes contactar a Sandra (520)395-7225 or email: legiondemaria@stritainthedesert.org



Rachel's VINEYARD

Healing the pain of abortion - one weekend at a time

If you are interested in getting more information and/or registering for a Retreat Weekend, please call (520) 743-6777 or visit RachelsVineyard.org



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

If you need assistance from St Vincent de Paul or want to join the ministry to help others, contact James Mahaffey at (520) 307-3411

MARIAN BOOK CLUB

Every **Thursday**
4:30-6pm
Oscar Romero

All are welcome to join!

WOMEN'S SCRIPTURE STUDY

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

Rectory Debt Payoff Update

As of Sunday, April 19, 2026

\$121,064

\$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.

SAVE THE DATES

May 16, 2026 - 6:00pm - 8:30pm

"La primavera in Umbria"

4-Course Italian Wine Dinner with DJ & Dancing

Fundraiser for Rectory Payoff and New Church

May 22, 2026 at 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Solemnity of St. Rita of Cascia
Mass, Procession and Picnic



Tickets on sale now after mass or use the QR code here

Volunteers Needed - Contact guild@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.

WOMEN'S SCRIPTURE STUDY

Wednesdays at 9 AM in the Verhagen Building. All women are welcome—bring a friend!

Currently studying The Great Adventure Bible Timeline with Jeff Cavins, journeying from Genesis through Exodus and Leviticus.

Join our warm and welcoming group!

MAY CROWNING MASS

Saturday, May 2nd
8-9:30am

Mark your calendars Marian Mass at the Shrine. After Mass, we'll celebrate by crowning Mary, processing with incense, crosses, and candles to the prayer garden, saying a prayer, and crowning the Blessed Mother at the Center.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, May 10th

And Mother's Day Roses

Register for Blood Donation online with Red Cross to get preferred time, walk ins welcome if space available.

WELCOME TEAM

No Welcome Team
Potluck in May

We look forward to seeing you
Sunday, May 10th
for Coffee & Pastries
After all masses



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A New Beginning...

Join the Knights of Columbus FREE MEMBERSHIP*

For new online membership applications
submitted the entire month of April

*for 1-year of online membership, regular dues are \$30/year thereafter.

Visit kofc.org/joinus



Enter code

BLESSEDMCGIVNEY

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

May 17th (*Pancake Breakfast*)

Mark your calendars and join the Knights for Breakfast after 8am & 10am mass



ARIZONA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHARITY RAFFLE

Don't miss your chance to win the \$10,000 Grand Prize!
ends Monday 4.27.2026

Tickets \$5 each | 5 for \$20 | 30 for \$100.

Every ticket makes a difference. Half of all proceeds raised by St. Rita Knights stay right here in our community. In 2026, funds will support St. Rita Parish and the Vail School District Transition from School to Work program, helping special-needs students prepare for life after high school.

Visit the Knights' table after all Masses near the parish hall to get your tickets. Thank you for your continued generosity and support!

For more information, contact Wayne Glembin at (520) 449-7115 or gkcouncil14230@gmail.com

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 or bring your Aluminum Cans for recycling.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Rachel's Vineyard (Tucson) - Let Jesus Christ set you free from the emotional and spiritual pain of a past abortion at a co-ed Rachel's Vineyard retreat in Tucson, **May 15-17, 2026**. Visit: www.rachelsvineyardtucson.org or call/ Text to 520-743-6777.

PILGRIMAGE TO EASTERN EUROPE

12 Days NOVEMBER 3 - 14, 2026

Prague • Vienna • Budapest • Krakow • Auschwitz • Czestochowa • Warsaw • Wadowice

With Vine of Grace Retreat Ministry & Fr. Bala Kommthoti

Pilgrimage Informational Meetings
Please RSVP for meeting at 520.631.1408

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

Sunday, May 17 - St. Helen of the Cross Catholic Church PARISH HALL at **10:15a** 205 West 8th Street - Eloy

Printable brochures & information: vineofgrace.org



It is time to get your marriage in shape! Worldwide Marriage Encounter is better than any college course. In just one short weekend, you can learn a technique for communication that will keep your marriage on the right track to be healthy. Sign up for an upcoming 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.



Diocese of Tucson

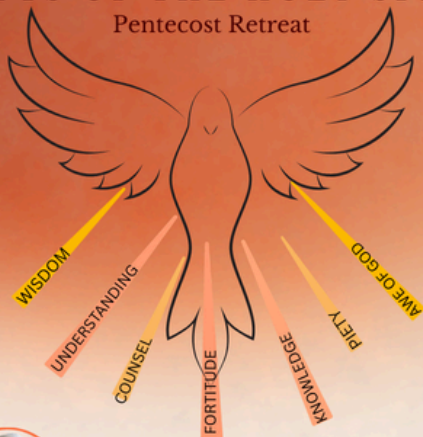
It's Faithful Friday! And we are so excited to bring you something new 🥰 Our very own Bishop of Tucson launched a podcast called Being Church with Bishop Misko. Let's walk together while we grow in...

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7 GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT Pentecost Retreat



Join Dominican Friar, Fr. Nathan Castle, OP, for a spiritual renewal experience focusing on Pentecost.

You will be guided along the journey of your own life story, filled with both its joys and challenges.

As you reflect on this Pentecost, what areas do you seek a greater abundance of the Holy Spirit's gifts to lead a truly passionate life of service?

May 2, 2026
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
hosted by St. Francis de Sales Parish,
1375 S. Camino Seco, Tucson, Arizona.
<https://sfdstucson.org>

"EMBRACING THE GREAT COMMISSION" FORMATION DAY

Hosted by the Augustine Institute and Corpus Christi Catholic Church, this one-day event for catechetical, faith formation, and ministry leaders takes place **Friday, May 1**.

Featuring Catholic speaker Austin Habash, the day includes presentations, discussion, and prayer focused on living out Matthew 28:19-20.

8:15 AM Mass | 2:30 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet

Breakfast & lunch provided • Free to attend

Register today to reserve your spot.

SAINT SPOTLIGHT



SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

Feast Day: April 29th

Patronage:

Saint Catherine of Siena is the patron saint of Italy, Europe, and nurses, as well as those who suffer from illness.

Story: Saint Catherine of Siena was born in 1347 in Siena, Italy, as the 23rd child in a large family. From a young age, she experienced mystical visions and dedicated herself to a life of prayer and sacrifice. Despite pressure to marry, she took a vow of virginity and joined the Third Order of Saint Dominic, allowing her to live at home while embracing a life of service.

Catherine became known for her deep spirituality and practical wisdom. She cared for the sick and poor and became a counselor to many, including Church leaders. During a time of great turmoil, Catherine courageously worked to reform the Church and encourage the return of the Pope from Avignon to Rome, highlighting her commitment to the unity of the Church.

Legacy: Saint Catherine's writings, especially her letters and "The Dialogue," reveal a profound theological insight and a burning love for Christ and His Church. She was recognized as a Doctor of the Church in 1970, highlighting her influential role in Catholic theology and spirituality. Saint Catherine is remembered as a model of holiness, courage, and unwavering commitment to the truth.

Reflection Question: How does Saint Catherine of Siena's example of courage and dedication to truth challenge you to live out your faith in the present day?

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: April 29th

Who She Helps: Saint Catherine of Siena is the special friend of people in Italy and Europe, as well as nurses and anyone who is sick or not feeling well.

Story: Saint Catherine of Siena was born in a very big family in Italy in 1347. She was the 23rd child! Even when she was little, she loved praying and felt close to God. Catherine decided she wanted to live for Jesus and didn't get married. Instead, she joined a group called the Third Order of Saint Dominic so she could help people while living at home.

Catherine became known for helping the sick and the poor. She was really wise, so even important Church leaders asked her for advice! During a tough time for the Church, Catherine worked hard to help bring the Pope back to Rome from a place called Avignon and to make the Church stronger and more united.

Why She's Important: Saint Catherine wrote many letters and a book called "The Dialogue" where she shared how much she loved Jesus and the Church. Later on, the Church called her a Doctor of the Church because her writings are so important and help teach people about faith. She showed great courage and love and is remembered for standing up for what is right and helping others follow Jesus closely.

Question for You: How can Saint Catherine's courage and love for Jesus inspire you to be brave and help others today?

Source: *Truthly App*

DONATIONS



RECTORY DEBT PAYOFF

The Building Committee would like to invite all our parishioners to assist us with paying off the debt of our parish rectory. Please complete information and place in collection basket or bring to the office.

Name: _____

Amount: _____



CAMPUS MAINTENANCE

Please consider contributing to our Campus Maintenance. Please complete information and place in collection basket or bring to the office.

Name: _____

Amount: _____



ONLINE DONATIONS: [HTTPS://WWW.OSVHUB.COM/STRITAINTHEDESERT/GIVING/FUNDS](https://www.osvhub.com/stritainthedesert/giving/funds)



ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

Please consider contributing to our fresh altar flowers. Please complete information and place in collection basket or bring to the office.

Name: _____

Amount: _____



REQUEST A MASS INTENTION

The stipend for a Mass intention is \$10. **Two Week advance notice** is required. Please complete information and place in collection basket or bring to the office. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Mass for: _____

Living Deceased

Mass Date/Time: _____

Requested By: _____

Phone: _____

