

March 29, 2026



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:

Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

"Then Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and gave up his spirit." (Matthew 27:50)

"Jesús dio un fuerte grito y entregó el espíritu." (Mateo 27:50)

Reflection:

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, a time to deeply reflect on the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. In today's Gospel, we witness the ultimate act of love as Jesus willingly sacrifices Himself for the salvation of humanity. His cry from the cross is a profound reminder of His humanity and His divine mission. As we journey with Jesus through His suffering this week, may we remember that His sacrifice was for each of us personally. Let us open our hearts to His love and allow His passion to transform us, bringing us closer to Him and to one another in faith.

Socratic Question:

How does reflecting on Jesus' passion and sacrifice during Holy Week inspire you to grow in love and faith?

Reflexión:

El Domingo de Ramos marca el inicio de la Semana Santa, un tiempo para reflexionar profundamente sobre la pasión, muerte y resurrección de Jesús. En el Evangelio de hoy, somos testigos del acto supremo de amor cuando Jesús entrega su vida para la salvación de la humanidad. Su grito desde la cruz es un recordatorio profundo de su humanidad y su misión divina. Al acompañar a Jesús en su sufrimiento esta semana, recordemos que su sacrificio fue por cada uno de nosotros personalmente. Abramos nuestros corazones a su amor y permitamos que su pasión nos transforme, acercándonos más a El y entre nosotros en la fe.

Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo te inspira la reflexión sobre la pasión y el sacrificio de Jesús durante la Semana Santa a crecer en amor y fe?

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

9:00 am—1:00 pm

Office closed

12pm—1pm daily

PARISH INFORMATION

COLLECTIONS | COLECTA

March 22, 2026



Offertory: \$8,204.70
Rectory Debt: \$3,737.88
Campus Maint: \$518.60

Thank you for your support.
God bless you!

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

ST. RITA STAFF

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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.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of **Holy Week**, the most sacred time in the Church's liturgical year. On this day, we remember **Our Lord Jesus Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem**, where He was welcomed by crowds waving palm branches and crying out:

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Matthew 21:9)

Yet, within days, those same voices would cry out, “Crucify Him.” Palm Sunday invites us to enter into this profound mystery of joy and sorrow, glory and sacrifice.

Why Palms?

Palm branches are a symbol of **victory, triumph, and peace**. As we receive blessed palms at Mass, we are called to:

- Welcome Christ as King into our hearts
- Publicly witness our faith
- Reflect on our own fidelity to Him

Many families take their palms home and place them near a crucifix or sacred image as a reminder of Christ's kingship.

The Passion of the Lord

At every Palm Sunday Mass, the Church proclaims the **Passion Gospel**. This solemn reading recounts the suffering and death of Jesus.

We are not just listeners—we are participants.

When the crowd speaks in the Gospel, we too raise our voices, recognizing that **our sins are part of the story**, but so is Christ's infinite mercy.

A Week Like No Other

Palm Sunday opens the door to the sacred days ahead:

- **Holy Thursday** – The Last Supper & Institution of the Eucharist
- **Good Friday** – The Passion and Death of Our Lord
- **Holy Saturday** – Waiting in hope at the tomb
- **Easter Sunday** – The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

We encourage all parishioners to fully participate in these liturgies as we walk with Christ through His Passion into the joy of Easter.

Living Palm Sunday

This week, consider:

- Spending time in prayer with the Passion narratives
- Attending additional Holy Week liturgies
- Going to Confession to prepare your heart for Easter
- Practicing humility, sacrifice, and gratitude

A Final Reflection

Palm Sunday is not just about waving palms—it is about **choosing Christ as King**, even when the path leads to the Cross.

Let us not be fair-weather followers, but faithful disciples who walk with Him all the way to Calvary... and beyond, to the glory of the Resurrection.

Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

GOSPEL MEDITATION

IN THE MATTHEW 26:14–27:66,

As we enter Holy Week, the Gospel reading from Matthew takes us on a journey through the passion of Christ, from His betrayal by Judas to His crucifixion and death. This passage is a powerful reminder of the depth of Jesus' love and the immense sacrifice He made for our salvation. In His suffering, we see the fulfillment of God's plan of redemption. Jesus' willingness to endure the cross, despite His innocence, highlights His unending love and obedience to the Father. As we reflect on these events, let us ask ourselves how we can respond to such a profound gift. How can we bear our own crosses, following His example of self-giving love and trust in God's will?

Reflection Question:

In what ways can you draw closer to Jesus this Holy Week by reflecting on His passion and applying His example of sacrificial love in your life?

EN MATEO 26:14–27:66,

Al entrar en la Semana Santa, el Evangelio según Mateo nos lleva en un viaje por la pasión de Cristo, desde su traición por Judas hasta su crucifixión y muerte. Este pasaje es un recordatorio poderoso de la profundidad del amor de Jesús y del inmenso sacrificio que hizo por nuestra salvación. En su sufrimiento, vemos el cumplimiento del plan de redención de Dios. La disposición de Jesús para soportar la cruz, a pesar de su inocencia, resalta su amor interminable y obediencia al Padre. Al reflexionar sobre estos eventos, preguntémonos cómo podemos responder a tan profundo regalo. ¿Cómo podemos llevar nuestras propias cruces, siguiendo su ejemplo de amor abnegado y confianza en la voluntad de Dios?

Pregunta de reflexión:

¿De qué maneras puedes acercarte más a Jesús esta Semana Santa reflexionando sobre su pasión y aplicando su ejemplo de amor sacrificial en tu vida?

A LENTEN INVITATION: CONNECT, SERVE, & STEWARD

Dear Parish Family,

During this **Lenten season**, we are called to reflect on how we use the gifts God has entrusted to us. One small way to practice stewardship is by **choosing the digital bulletin** when it works for you.

Printed copies will still be available for those who prefer them, but the digital option helps the parish **redirect resources toward ministries, outreach, and programs that serve our community**. Each year, printing costs about \$12,000 — that's ~ *\$1 per bulletin*, funds that can go further when we make thoughtful choices together.

Benefits of the digital bulletin:

- Accessible anytime, anywhere
- Text can be enlarged for easier reading
- Easy to share with family and friends
-

If you need help accessing the bulletin digitally, **our staff and volunteers are happy to guide you**.

This Lent, consider this simple act of service as a way to live your faith generously and help our parish thrive.

St. Rita in the Desert Parish



<https://www.stritainthedesert.org/bulletin>

WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday March 28

5:00 pm

†Lenore Glembin
SI Cecilia Pham

Sunday March 29

8:00 am

†Eleanor G. Maturro

10:00 am

†Jimmie Murphy
†Kate Taylor

12:00 pm

Living & Deceased of St.
Rita

Monday March 30

8:00 am

SI Renee Michel
†Antoinette D'Aco

Tuesday March 31

8:00 am

†Louisa & Joe Moreno &
Family

Wednesday April 1

8:00 am

First Responders

Thursday April 2

8:00 am

SI Renee Michel

Friday April 3

8:00 am

SI Renee Michel

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, March 29

Palm Sunday

- *St. Eustace of Luxeuil*
8:00 am - Mass (English)
10:00 am - Mass (English)
12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

Monday, March 30

- *St. John Climacus*
- *Bl. Amadeus IX of Savoy*

8:00 am Mass (English)
8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet
6:00 pm Men's Group (Oscar
Romero Room)

Tuesday, March 31

- *St. Balbina*
- *St. Benjamin*

8:00 am Mass (English)
8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday, April 1

- *St. Hugh of Grenoble*
- *St. Venantius of Salona*
- *St. Mary of Egypt*

8:00 am - Mass (English)
8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet
9:00 am Women's Scripture Study
(Oscar Romero Room)

Thursday, April 2

Holy Thursday

- *St. Francis of Paola*
- 8:00 am - Mass (English)
8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet
6:00 pm - Mass (John XXIII)

Friday, April 3

Good Friday

- *Pope St. Sixtus I*
- *St. John of Naples*
- *St. Richard of Chichester*
- *St. Irene of Thessalonica*

8:00 am - Mass
8:30 am Eucharist Adoration
3:00 pm - Stations (John XXIII)
6:00 pm - Veneration of the Cross
(John XXIII)

Saturday, April 4

Holy Saturday

- *Saint Isidore of Seville*
 - *St. Benedict the Moor*
- 6:45 pm - Easter Vigil (John XXIII)

source: young-catholics.com

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

PROCESSION WITH PALMS:

"The crowds preceding him and those following kept crying out and saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David!'" (Mt 21:9)

FIRST READING:

"I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard." (Is 50:6)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" (Ps 22:2)

SECOND READING:

"He humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." (Phil 2:8)

GOSPEL:

"Then Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and gave up his spirit." (Mt 27:50)

Sunday, March 29

Mt 21:1-11 | Is 50:4-7 | Ps 22:8-9,
17-18, 19-20, 23-24 | Phil 2:6-11 |
Mt 26:14-27:66

Monday, March 30

Is 42:1-7 | Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 | Jn
12:1-11

Tuesday, March 31

Is 49:1-6 | Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-
6ab, 15, 17 | Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday, April 1

Is 50:4-9a | Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31,
33-34 | Mt 26:14-25

Thursday, April 2

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 | Ps 116:12-13, 15-
16bc, 17-18 | 1 Cor 11:23-26 | Jn
13:1-15

Friday, April 3

Is 52:13-53:12 | Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13,
15-16, 17, 25 | Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 |
Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday, April 4

Gn 1:1-2:2 | Gn 22:1-18 | Ex 14:15-
15:1 | Is 54:5-14 | Is 55:1-11 | Bar
3:9-15, 32-4:4 | Ez 36:16-17a, 18-
28 | Rom 6:3-11 | Lk 24:1-12

PARISH MINISTRIES

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Server

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

Altar Society

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

Eucharistic Ministry

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

Lectors

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

Music Ministry

Curious about our choirs? Love to sing sacred music? Join us, our rehearsals are open to everyone!

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

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

Spanish choir: Wed at 6:15 pm

Do you play piano, guitar, flute or clarinet? We want to meet you!

Coro español: ¡Queremos desarrollar nuestro coro!
¡Considere unirse a nosotros o volver a unirse a nosotros! ¡Voz, guitarra y bajo bienvenidos!

Ushers

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

PARISH MINISTRIES

Outreach Ministry

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

Pastoral Council

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

Porter's of St. Joseph

Email: porters@stritainthedesert.org

Right to Life

Email: rtl@stritainthedesert.org

Family Faith Formation

www.watch.formed.org

Vocations

Contact Mr. Adam LaGuardia: Vocations@stritainthedesert.org

Welcome Committee

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

Guild of St. Rita

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

Sewing Angels

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

Mujeres De Fe (Women of Faith)

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

EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



Knights of Columbus®

Lead with Faith.
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Serve Others.
Defend Your Values.
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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, March 22, 2026

\$109,733

\$345,000
GOAL

124

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

Easter is just 6 days away!
Be part of our parish family's exciting next chapter



Scan to Pledge

VISITA DE LA VIRGEN A LOS HOGARES

El grupo de la Legion de Maria les recuerda que Nuestra Santísima Madre quiere visitar sus hogares, para que sientan su protección y compañía, para que compartan con Ella las necesidades que tiene cada miembro de su familia, Ella quiere escuchar sus plegarias y llevarlas a su amado Hijo Jesus.

En el vestíbulo estarán algunos miembros del grupo de la Legion de Maria, para tomar sus datos y programar la visita.
Gracias.



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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

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

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 go on sale 4/11-4/12/2026 weekend
Volunteers Needed - Contact guild@stritainthedesert.org

A LENTEN INVITATION

During Lent, we reflect on how we use God's gifts. Choosing the **digital bulletin** when possible is a simple way to support our parish, allowing more resources to go toward ministries and outreach. Thank you for your generosity.



<https://www.stritainthedesert.org/bulletin>

ST. RITA MARIAN ROSE GARDEN



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.

PARISH RUMMAGE SALE

April 18, 8am-1pm

Mark your calendars!

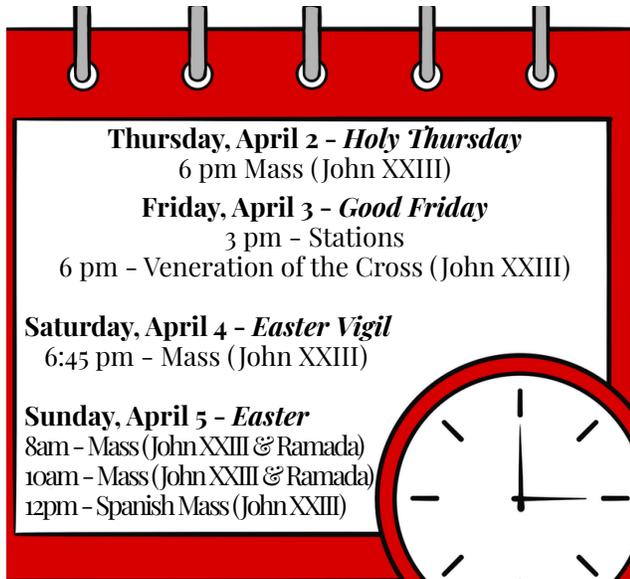
Volunteers Welcome - Contact:
christie.isabel@gmail.com

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday, April 12th
3pm in the Shrine

Join Us

PARISH NEWS

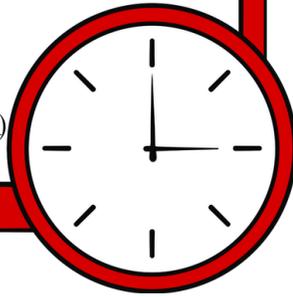


Thursday, April 2 - Holy Thursday
6 pm Mass (John XXIII)

Friday, April 3 - Good Friday
3 pm - Stations
6 pm - Veneration of the Cross (John XXIII)

Saturday, April 4 - Easter Vigil
6:45 pm - Mass (John XXIII)

Sunday, April 5 - Easter
8am - Mass (John XXIII & Ramada)
10am - Mass (John XXIII & Ramada)
12pm - Spanish Mass (John XXIII)



ST. RITA EASTER EGG HUNT

Begins when the whistle blows at **11:30 am**
Please bring your own basket

Ages 0-3 | Fountain area
(in front of the office)

Ages 4-6 | Mary's Rose Garden
(walled off area on the East side of the Shrine)

Ages 7-10 | area West of the Shrine & North
of the sidewalk leading to Colossal Cave
Road

PALM SUNDAY PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
as we carry our palms and remember Your Son's triumphant
entry into Jerusalem,
fill our hearts with faith and devotion.
Help us to welcome Jesus as our King,
not only in moments of joy, but also along the way of the Cross.
Grant us the grace to follow Him faithfully this Holy Week,
with humble hearts and steadfast love.
May we walk with Christ in His Passion,
so as to share in the glory of His Resurrection.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

St. Rita's Right to Life Ministry

Thanks to those for helping save & protect our most vulnerable
Your Right to Life Ministry Team



St. Rita in the Desert - Lenten Food Drive

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

† Your Support is a Blessing †

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

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

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

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



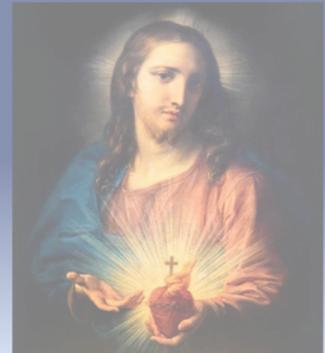
*Prayerfully consider
joining the
Knights of Columbus!*



*Together,
we serve
With Rejoicing Hearts!*



One Year FREE online Membership
<https://www.kofc.org/join>
Promo Code: BlessedMcGivney



Arizona Knights of Columbus Charity Raffle – Starts This Weekend!

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

Tickets are just \$5 each, 5 for \$20, or the best value—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

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

April 19th (Full Pancake Breakfast)

May 17th (Pancake Breakfast)

Mark your calendars and join the Knights for Breakfast



ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING

Aluminum cans may be dropped off in the recycling barrels next to the St. Vincent de Paul donation shed. 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.

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.



St Rita Red Cross
Blood Drive

May 10th, 2026

(sign up on Red Cross website)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PIMA- EAST LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES DATES

Corpus Christi
April 01, 2026 | 6:00pm Confessions



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.



We have a priest from the Diocese of Tucson that will be joining Catholic Mission Trips, Inc with teens, young adults, and seminarians from our area We ask that you consider 'Offering Up' your Lenten Sacrifice into almsgiving/ donations to send the Priest and the building materials for natural disaster help. For more information please visit Catholicmissiontrips.net or call 703-957-9313.

Monastic Experience Weekend

Santa Rita Abbey, a Cistercian community in the heart of Arizona, warmly invites women to experience the peace, prayer, and rhythm of monastic life.

WHO: Women ages 20-40 who are interested in or discerning religious life

WHEN: April 10 (Fri) at 4:00 pm - April 12 (Sun) at 6:00 pm, 2026

WHERE: Santa Rita Abbey, 14200 E Fish Canyon Rd Sonoita AZ 85637-6545

COST: No fee

REGISTER: Register for one of our 2026 Monastic Experience Weekends

CONTACT: santaritavocations@gmail.com | 520-604-7972



worldwide marriage encounter

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

St. Andrew's Concert Series Presents



Featuring
Billie Hayes 🎵 Francie Schofield

Friday, April 17, 2026 at 7:00PM

St. Andrew the Apostle Church

800 Taylor Drive, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

For more information please call (520) 226-5574

There is no charge to attend this concert. A freewill offering will be accepted.

PILGRIMAGE TO EASTERN EUROPE

12 Days NOVEMBER 3 - 14, 2026

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

With Vine of Grace Retreat Ministry
& Fr. Bala Kommathoti

Pilgrimage Informational Meetings

Please RSVP for meeting at 520.631.1408

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

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

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

Printable brochures & information: vineofgrace.org

SAINT SPOTLIGHT



SAINT FRANCIS OF PAOLA

Feast Day: April 2nd

Patronage:

He is the patron saint of boatmen, mariners, and naval officers.

Story: Saint Francis of Paola was born on March 27, 1416, in Paola, a small town in Italy. From a young age, he was inclined toward prayer and solitude. After a pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome with his parents, he decided to live as a hermit in a secluded cave near Paola at the age of 15. His life of austerity, prayer, and humility drew others to join him, leading to the formation of a new religious order known as the “Hermits of St. Francis of Assisi,” which later became known as the Minim Friars. The order emphasized humility and penance, with its members taking an additional vow of life-long abstinence from meat and animal products.

Saint Francis was known for his deep humility and many miraculous deeds. People from all walks of life, including royalty, sought his counsel. He became famous not only for his miracles but also for his powerful advocacy for peace and reconciliation.

Legacy: The legacy of Saint Francis of Paola extends beyond his miracles and the founding of the Minim Friars. He is remembered for his dedication to prayer, simplicity of life, and unwavering faith. His deep humility and love for God serve as a model for those seeking to live a life devoted to spiritual growth and service to others. The order he founded continues to exist today, spreading the values of humility, penance, and charity.

Reflection Question: How can adopting the virtues of humility and simplicity, as demonstrated by St. Francis of Paola, transform your approach to daily life and relationships?

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: April 2nd

Who He Helps:

Saint Francis of Paola is the special helper for people who work on boats, like boatmen and sailors.

Story:

Saint Francis of Paola was born in a small town in Italy in 1416. When he was a teenager, he decided he wanted to live a life focused entirely on God. So, he went to live in a cave to pray and be close to nature. People noticed his kind heart and strong faith, and they wanted to join him. This led to the start of a new group called the Minim Friars. These friars lived simply, prayed a lot, and did not eat any meat as a sign of their commitment to God.

Francis was known for being very humble and for performing many miracles. People came from far and wide to ask for his advice and prayers. Even kings and queens wanted to hear what he had to say. He always encouraged peace and being kind to one another.

Why He’s Important:

Saint Francis of Paola showed everyone that living simply and loving God and others can make a big difference. The group he started, the Minim Friars, still exists today, spreading his message of humility and kindness.

Question for You:

How can you be like Saint Francis of Paola by being humble and helping others every day?

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: _____