

May 31, 2026



ST. RITA IN THE DESERT

Catholic Church

CLERGY

Pastor:

Rev. Alonzo Garcia
fralonzo@stritainthedesert.org

Deacon:

Ron Desmarais
deaconron@stritainthedesert.org

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son."
(John 3:16)*

*"Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo que dio a su Hijo
único." (Juan 3:16)*

Reflection:

On this Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, we celebrate the mystery of one God in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God's love is the central theme of this Trinitarian relationship, perfectly united and self-giving. The Father's sending of His only Son for our salvation is the ultimate testament of love, inviting us to enter into this divine communion. Embracing the Trinity means living in love and unity, mirroring the relationship among the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in our lives. Today, reflect on how you can participate more fully in this communion of love, letting it transform your relationships and your view of the world.

Socratic Question:

How does understanding the love within the Trinity inspire you to live more lovingly and selflessly in your own life?

Reflexión:

En esta solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad, celebramos el misterio de un solo Dios en tres personas: Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo. El amor de Dios es el tema central de esta relación trinitaria, perfectamente unida y entregada. El envío del Hijo único por parte del Padre para nuestra salvación es el testimonio definitivo de amor, invitándonos a entrar en esta comunión divina. Abrazar la Trinidad significa vivir en amor y unidad, reflejando la relación entre el Padre, el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo en nuestras vidas. Hoy, reflexiona sobre cómo puedes participar más plenamente en esta comunión de amor, dejándola transformar tus relaciones y tu visión del mundo.

Pregunta socrática:

¿Cómo el entender el amor dentro de la Trinidad te inspira a vivir de manera más amorosa y desinteresada en tu propia vida?

Source: *Truthly App*

WEEKEND MASS

Horario de Misas

SATURDAY | Sábado

5:00 pm—English

SUNDAY | Domingo

8:00 am—English

10:00 am—English

12:00 pm—Spanish

CONFESSION

Confesiones

SATURDAY | Sábado

3:30 pm—4:30 pm

In the church or by
appointment

En la iglesia o por cita



PARISH OFFICE

Horario de Oficina

MONDAY-

WEDNESDAY | De

Lunes a Miércoles

8:30 am—4:00 pm

THURSDAY | Jueves

8:00 am—2:00 pm

FRIDAY | Viernes

CLOSED

Office closed

12pm—1pm daily

WEEKDAY MASS

IN SHRINE

Misa Diaria en el
Santuario

MONDAY-FRIDAY |

De Lunes a Viernes

8:00 am —English

ADORATION

FRIDAY | Viernes

8:30 am—9:30 am

In the church or by
appointment

En la iglesia o por cita

PARISH INFORMATION

COLLECTIONS | COLECTA

May 24, 2026



Offertory: \$8,045.95
Rectory Debt: \$570.00
New Church Bld: \$5,000.00
Campus Maint: \$10,433.60

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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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

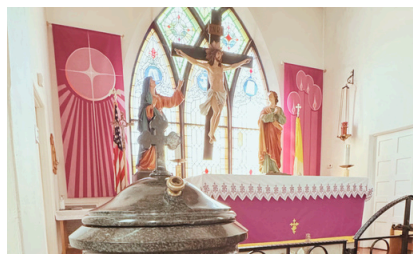
MASS INTENTIONS AVAILABLE

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

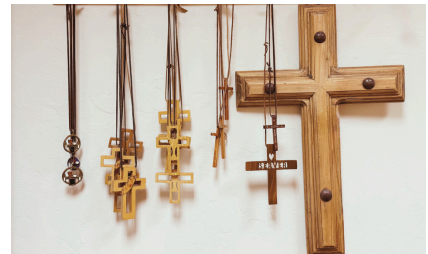


ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

IN THE JOHN 3:16,

On this Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, we are invited to contemplate the profound mystery of God's nature as three persons in one divine essence: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. John 3:16 reveals the depth of God's love for the world, demonstrating how each person of the Trinity works harmoniously for our salvation. The Father's gift of His only Son, Jesus, and the sending of the Holy Spirit are expressions of a love that is both personal and communal. The Trinity models perfect unity and love, challenging us to reflect this divine love in our interactions with others. As we meditate on this mystery, let us strive to build relationships rooted in self-giving love, embracing the unity that the Trinity exemplifies.

Socratic Question:

How can the model of love and unity within the Trinity guide your relationships and interactions with others in your daily life?

EN JUAN 3:16,

En esta Solemnidad de la Santísima Trinidad, se nos invita a contemplar el profundo misterio de la naturaleza de Dios como tres personas en una sola esencia divina: el Padre, el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo. Juan 3:16 revela la profundidad del amor de Dios por el mundo, demostrando cómo cada persona de la Trinidad trabaja en armonía para nuestra salvación. El regalo del Padre de su único Hijo, Jesús, y el envío del Espíritu Santo son expresiones de un amor tanto personal como comunitario. La Trinidad nos ofrece un modelo de perfecta unidad y amor, desafiándonos a reflejar este amor divino en nuestras interacciones con los demás. Al meditar sobre este misterio, esforcémonos por construir relaciones basadas en el amor desinteresado, abrazando la unidad que la Trinidad ejemplifica.

Pregunta Socrática en Español:

¿Cómo puede el modelo de amor y unidad dentro de la Trinidad guiar tus relaciones e interacciones con los demás en tu vida diaria?

DID YOU KNOW...

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

celebrates the central mystery of the Christian faith: the belief in one God in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This doctrine, while foundational to Christianity, is not explicitly outlined in the Bible as a developed concept. Instead, it was articulated and refined in the early centuries of the Church through ecumenical councils, such as the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and the Council of Constantinople in 381 AD.

Historical Significance:

The celebration of Trinity Sunday as a distinct feast day began in the medieval Church. It likely originated in monastic communities, where the mystery of the Trinity was meditated upon with great reverence. The feast became more widely celebrated across the Western Church in the 10th century and was officially adopted into the Roman Rite by Pope John XXII in the 14th century, cementing its place on the Sunday after Pentecost.

Trinity Sunday helps the faithful deepen their understanding and appreciation of God's nature as a communion of persons united in perfect love. It serves as a reminder of the mystery that lies at the heart of Christian revelation, inviting believers to be drawn into the life of the Trinity through faith, worship, and a commitment to live that unity and love in their own lives.

Reflection Question:

How does meditating on the mystery of the Trinity deepen your understanding of God's love and presence in your life?

via truthly app

WEEKLY CALENDAR, INTENTIONS, OBSERVATIONS & READINGS

MASS INTENTIONS INTENCIONES DE MISA

Saturday May 30

5:00 pm

†Dave Eibard

Sunday May 31

8:00 am

†Jimmy Murphy

10:00 am

St. Rita

12:00 pm

†Luis Gonzalez Octavio

Monday June 1

8:00 am

†Stanley & Alice Szczapa

Tuesday June 2

8:00 am

SI Marianne Siml

Wednesday June 3

8:00 am

SI David Camacho

SI Mary Beth Smith

Thursday June 4

8:00 am

†Louisa & Joe Moreno & Family

Friday June 5

8:00 am

†Jan Beal

SI Ava Hicks

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

Sunday, May 31

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

- *St. Felix of Nicosia*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

10:00 am - Mass (English)

12:00 noon - Mass (Spanish)

3:00 pm - Shrine

Monday, June 1

- *Saint Justin*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Tuesday, June 2

- *Sts. Marcellinus and Peter*

8:00 am Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Wednesday, June 3

- *St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Ugandan Martyrs*
- *St. Clotilda*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

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

Thursday, June 4

- *St. Francis Caracciolo*

8:00 am - Mass (English)

8:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday, June 5

- *Saint Boniface*

8:00 am - Mass

8:30 am Eucharist Adoration

Saturday, June 6

- *St. Norbert*
- *St. Claudius of Besançon*

5 pm - Vigil Mass (John XXIII)

source: young-catholics.com

READINGS & OBSERVANCES

FIRST READING:

"The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity." (Ex 34:6)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

"Glory and praise forever!" (Dn 3:52)

SECOND READING:

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you." (2 Cor 13:13)

GOSPEL:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." (Jn 3:16)

Sunday, May 31

Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9 | Dn 3:52-56 | 2 Cor 13:11-13 | Jn 3:16-18

Monday, June 1

2 Pt 1:2-7 | Ps 91:1-2, 14-15b, 15c-16 | Mk 12:1-12

Tuesday, June 2

2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18 | Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 and 16 | Mk 12:13-17

Wednesday, June 3

2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12 | Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef | Mk 12:18-27

Thursday, June 4

2 Tm 2:8-15 | Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 | Mk 12:28-34

Friday, June 5

2 Tm 3:10-17 | Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168 | Mk 12:35-37

Saturday, June 6

2 Tm 4:1-8 | Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22 | Mk 12:38-44

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

Support 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

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

Guild of St. Rita

Join us every **2nd & 4th Wed** of the month | **6pm** | Mother Teresa Rm | Email: guild@stritainthedesert.org

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

Marian Book Club

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

Women's Scripture Study

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

EXTERNAL MINISTRIES



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Protect your Family.
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

VISITA DE LA VIRGEN A LOS HOGARES

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

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



Rachel's VINEYARD
Healing the pain of abortion - one weekend at a time

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



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

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

RECTORY DEBT PAYOFF UPDATE

As of Sunday, May 24, 2026

\$129,863

\$345,000
GOAL



147

500
FAMILY PLEDGED/DONATED GOAL

Scan to Pledge



“And behold, I am with you always, even to the consummation of the age.”

Learn how to strengthen and celebrate your wedding vows by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience:

July 11-12, 2026, in Phoenix

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

Early registration is highly recommended.



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.



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.

A NEW CHAPTER FOR OUR PARISH BULLETIN

To help reduce rising printing costs and be good stewards of parish resources, our *printed bulletin* will transition to a more **concise format** featuring essential parish information and announcements.

Our **full expanded bulletin** will continue to be available online each week through the parish website and church QR codes, allowing us to share even more ministry news, event details, reflections, photos and parish updates digitally.

Printed copies will still be available. Thank you for your understanding and support as we continue working to serve our parish community well while being mindful stewards of parish resources.

NOVENA TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND ADORATION

Shrine of Santa Rita
June 3, 2026 - June 11, 2026
6pm

MASS FOR THE CONSECRATION OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS

St. Pope John XXIII Center
June 12, 2026
6pm

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!

WELCOME TEAM

No June Potluck

Welcome Sunday
Coffee & Pastries
After all Masses

June 14th

CORPUS CHRISTI ADORATION

June 7, 2026

Pope St. John XXIII Center
3-4pm

4pm Procession to the Shrine followed by Family Picnic under the Ramada

Picnic Sign-up sheet in the Narthax after mass

KNIGHT NEWS



Knights of
Columbus®

A New Beginning...

Join the Knights of Columbus
Visit kofc.org/joinus



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

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

- Pick up a bottle after Mass
- Fill with change, cash, or checks (payable to Knights of Columbus)
- Return by **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.

OUR 2026 NEWLY CONFIRMED TEENS



OUR 2026 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS



SAINT SPOTLIGHT



SAINT CHARLES LWANGA

Feast Day: June 3rd

Patronage:

Saint Charles Lwanga is the patron saint of African youth and Catholic action.

Story: Saint Charles Lwanga was born in the Kingdom of Buganda (part of modern-day Uganda) in the 1860s. He became a convert to Christianity and was educated by the Catholic missionaries known as the White Fathers. Lwanga was a catechist and served as a page in the court of King Mwanga II of Buganda.

King Mwanga began to persecute Christians after they refused to participate in immoral practices at court. Lwanga, known for his deep faith and moral integrity, became a leader among the catechumens and Christian converts at the king's court. He protected his fellow pages from the king's demands, encouraging them to remain faithful to Christ.

In 1886, Lwanga was one of the twenty-two Ugandan martyrs who were executed for their refusal to abandon their Christian faith. He was sentenced to death by burning and died on June 3rd, 1886, remaining firm in his faith until the end.

Legacy: Saint Charles Lwanga and his companions are remembered for their courage and unwavering commitment to their faith in the face of persecution. Their martyrdom inspired a strong and growing Christian community in Uganda and across Africa. Canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1964, they are celebrated as heroes of faith whose steadfastness has inspired countless others to live their faith with courage and conviction.

Reflection Question: How can the courageous example of Saint Charles Lwanga inspire you to stand firm in your faith, even when facing challenges or opposition?

KIDS CORNER



Feast Day: June 3rd

Who He Helps: Saint Charles Lwanga is a special friend to young people in Africa and to those who want to be strong in their faith.

Story: Saint Charles Lwanga was a young man from Uganda in Africa. He lived over a hundred years ago in a place called the Kingdom of Buganda. He learned about Jesus from missionaries and decided to become a Christian. Charles worked for a king who didn't like Christians and wanted them to do bad things.

But Charles was brave. He told his friends to stay faithful to Jesus and helped protect them from the king's bad orders. The king got really angry and punished them for their faith in Jesus. Charles and his friends were so brave that they chose to stay true to Jesus and were willing to die for their faith. Charles was burned alive for being a Christian on June 3rd, 1886.

Why He's Important: Saint Charles Lwanga and his friends showed incredible courage. Even when things got really tough, they didn't give up on Jesus. His bravery reminds everyone to stand up for what is right, no matter what. People all over Africa and the world are inspired by how strong and faithful Charles and his friends were.

Question for You: How can you be brave like Saint Charles Lwanga when it comes to doing what Jesus wants, even if others think differently?

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: _____