A Story of Faith and Love

For generations, the Shrine of Santa Rita has stood as a quiet testament to faith, love, and the generosity of one woman's vision.

Nestled in the desert community of Vail, this historic chapel welcomes all who seek a moment of peace, a place for prayer, or the comfort of God's presence.

Whether you are visiting for the first time or returning to a familiar place, there is a place for you here.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Come as you are.
Stay awhile.
Find a quiet moment with God.





A Place of Prayer

Come experience the quiet beauty of the Shrine of Santa Rita, where generations have gathered in faith.

Daily Mass at the Shrine
Monday–Friday · 8:00 AM

St. Rita in the Desert Parish
13260 E. Colossal Cave Road
Vail, AZ 85641
(520) 762-9688

www.stritainthedesert.org

SHRINE OF

Santa Rita

PRAY • REFLECT • BELONG



"A quiet place for every prayer."

VAIL, ARIZONA

A Cherished HISTORY

The Shrine of Santa Rita was **built in 1934–1935** through the vision and generosity of Caroline Takamine Beach, who sought to provide a permanent place of worship for the families and workers of Vail.

Caroline also wished to honor the memory of her first husband, Dr. Jokichi Takamine, a distinguished Japanese scientist.

The Shrine was dedicated on March 31, 1935

Today, the Shrine remains a lasting testament to Caroline's faith, generosity, and devotion to the Vail community.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2015.



Historic Shrine of Santa Rita



SAINT Rita OF CASCIA

Known as the **patron saint of impossible causes**, Saint Rita (1381–1457) was a wife, mother, widow, and Augustinian nun whose life was marked by suffering, forgiveness, and unwavering trust in God.

Her example reminds us that even in life's most difficult moments, hope is never beyond our reach.

Through her intercession, we bring our burdens, our gratitude, and our seemingly impossible prayers before God.

"Saint Rita, pray for us."



The Sacred TREASURES OF THE SHRINE

The Shrine's beautiful stained-glass windows were purchased in 1931 by Caroline Takamine Beach from Tucson's historic First Methodist Church, built in 1906. Their graceful arches inspired the design of the Shrine itself.

Inside, a hand-carved Bavarian crucifix, a green marble baptismal font, and an altar and tabernacle fashioned from local mountain stone reflect the craftsmanship and devotion woven into this sacred place.

Together, these treasures preserve the faith and generosity upon which the Shrine was built.