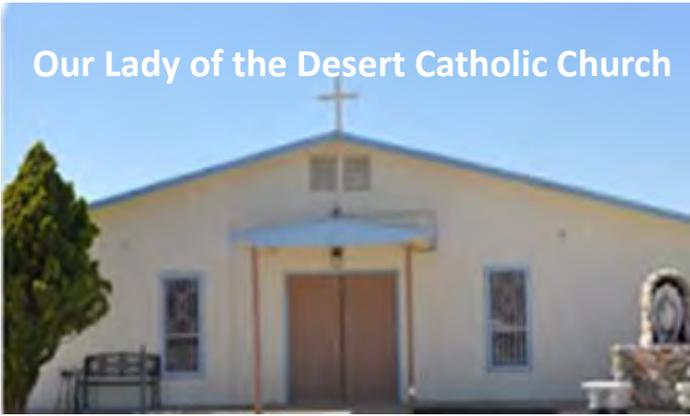


## Our Lady of the Desert Catholic Church



15385 Pierce Ferry Road  
(Poste de milla número 4)  
P.O. Box 337, Dolan Springs AZ 86441  
Teléfono: (928) 767-3397

Padre: Victor C. Yakubu,  
Administrador Parroquial

Padre: Julius Kayiwa, Vicario Parroquial

### **Confesión el Sábado:**

Por cita y será al aire libre (Español y Inglés)

Rosario el Sábado: Y letanías de la Santísima  
Virgen María—3:45pm

Misa el Sábado: (Vigilia) / Inglés 4:00 p.m.

Rosario el Domingo: Y letanías de la Santísima  
Virgen María— 9:45pm

Misa el Domingo: Español /10:00 a.m.

### **Liturgia en los Días de la Semana**

Cada Día a las Doce: Angelus/Regina Caeli

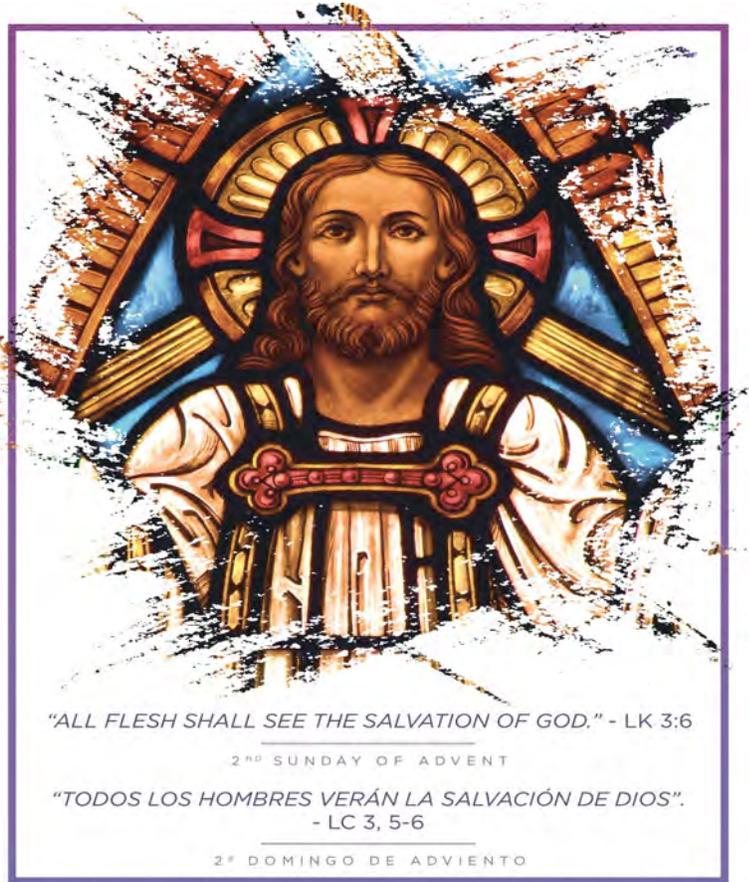
**Lunes:** Adoración: 7:00am y Misa 7:30am

**Martes y Miércoles:** Adoración 8:30am y Misa  
9:00am

**Jueves:** Adoración: 8:30am y Misa: 9:00 m o la  
Oración de la Evangelización a las 10:00am

**Viernes** Durante Quaresma: Camino de la Cruz a las  
3:00pm y concluyendo con Misa

**Sábado:** Adoración: 7:00am y a las 7:30am  
Misa en Honor de Virgen María



## DECEMBER 5th 2021

**Rev. Víctor C. Yakubu, Parochial Administrator**  
**Rev. Julius Kayiwa, Parochial Vicar**

### **Confession on Saturday:**

By appointment and it will be outdoors/English/Spanish

**Saturday Rosary:** And Litanies of the Blessed Virgin  
Mary 3:45pm

**Saturday Mass** (Vigil): English -4:00 p.m.

**Sunday Rosary:** And Litanies of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
9:45pm

Sunday Mass: Spanish 10:00am

### **Liturgy of the Weekdays**

Every day at Noon: Angelus/Regina Caeli

**Monday:** 7:00am **Adoration & Mass** 7:30am

**Tuesday & Wednesday: Adoration** 8:30am &  
**Mass** 9:00am

**Thursday: Adoration:** 8:30am & **Mass:** 9:00am  
or Prayer of the Evangelization at 10:00am

**Friday During Letn:** Way of the Cross 3:00pm  
concluding with Mass

**Saturday:** Adoration: 7:00 a.m. & 7:30 a.m.

Mass in Honor of the Virgen Mary

## December 8: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



I recently watched a YouTube video on Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany. The video was based on her contributions in uplifting the lives of Germans and other nations within Europe and elsewhere. Her country is enjoying an economic boom and her persona as woman speaks volumes to the world. The refugees from the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe are a challenge seeking the attention of the world. Germany is one place that the refugees yearn to find safe refuge.

Chancellor Merkel has received over nine prestigious awards for her immense contributions as leader of Germany. Apart from boosting the economy of Germany, she is a role model for women across the world often perceived as passive contributors to their societies. While I am a fan of Merkel, I do not want to be viewed as negligent of women role models within the United States. My doing so at this tense political period should save me from being labelled a liberal or a conservative. If you understand what I mean, then you will understand that I chose Merkel because she is already breaking grounds as a woman who got the opportunity, and she is influential as a leader. I belong to anything progressive without neglecting traditions. I intend to keep it that way for no determinate period.

Women can teach us important perspectives to life because of many reasons. As mothers, they can feel our pain, and their solution is swift and timely. As mothers, they can sense our fears, and go at length to encourage us. As mothers, they can mold our innocent minds by injecting love, real love into our souls that binds us to them forever.

When we consider that women can offer new perspectives to life, we can always listen to them not out of fear but due to their gift of maternal instinct. Consider the fact that God endowed them with the ability to nurture life, and so we must appreciate this initial step to human existence. The world cannot afford to dismiss feminine touch that affects every aspect of our lives.

Chancellor Merkel is one woman with that feminine touch that has brought glory to her country and exactly women to new heights. Such a rare leader is needed as a role model for women ready to learn lessons on leadership. Today's celebration is about Mary the Mother of Jesus who decided to say yes to God by accepting the opportunity to play a divine role in our salvation history. She opened herself up by linking her maternal gifts with a call to duty. Since she did not disappoint God, she also pleased us by being our hope in a hopeless world.

For this reason, Mary's name will be remembered in Christendom for using nurturing Jesus, a symbol of our salvation. In the Catholic Church, the Hail Mary prayer is a song of Mary's contributions. The essence of this celebration is to remind us that women are saliently offering respectable contributions our families and societies. The expectations of women are many and one of them is delightful to know -- the prosperity of their children. Chancellor Merkel is among a long list of salient women serving their families, nations, and societies with the best they can offer. Recognizing women as partners in progress can open their feminine touch that gives the world more opportunities as Mary did more than two thousand years ago. **Keep praying!**

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5, 2021

- Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
- Monday:** Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday:** Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday:** Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
- Friday:** Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday:** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Next Sunday:** Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

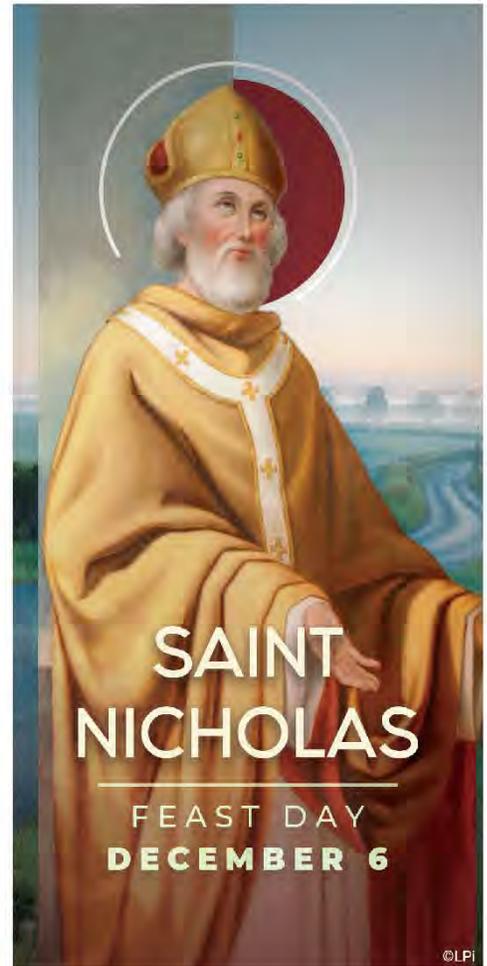
## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 5, 2021

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent
- Monday:** St. Nicholas, Bishop
- Tuesday:** St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Wednesday:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Thursday:** St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
- Friday:** Our Lady of Loreto
- Saturday:** St. Damasus I, Pope
- Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Advent

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

Sometimes, especially when life gets overwhelming and difficult, we can find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable. Wallowing in this uncomfortable darkness seems to be our norm and it's difficult to see a way out of, or through, this experience. If we listen carefully enough, we will hear God's voice calling out deep within, beckoning us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Faith tells us that God has already begun the creation of a good work in us and is with us, bringing it to completion, until Christ Jesus comes again. It is this light of God's glory for which we are asked to pave the way and straighten the paths of our lives so that it can shine. With all that life can ask of us and bring to us, it is our task to constantly discern what is of value. So that we do not get so weighed down by things that we no longer see, or feel, God's salvation.



## SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Nicholas of Bari (March 15, 270 – December 6, 343), the bishop of Myra in the fourth century, is the saint that Santa Claus is modeled after. Known for his kindness and generosity to the poor, the story has it that St. Nicholas once tossed bags of gold through the open window of a poor man's house to help his daughters avoid a life of prostitution.

According to legend, the gold landed in stockings dangling on the corners of the beds, which is why many of us celebrate St. Nicholas Day by hanging stockings and filling them with candy, fruit, and small toys.

Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues today.

## WORSHIP & MEDITATION



### FIRST READING

For God will show all the earth  
your splendor:  
you will be named by God forever  
the peace of justice, the glory of God's  
worship. (Bar 5:4)



### PSALM

The Lord has done great things for us; we  
are filled with joy. (Ps 126)



### SECOND READING

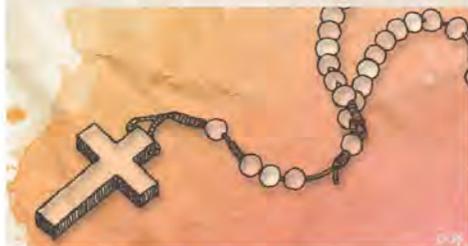
And this is my prayer:  
that your love may increase ever  
more and more  
in knowledge and every kind  
of perception,  
to discern what is of value,  
so that you may be pure and blameless  
for the day of Christ. (Phil 1:9-10)



### GOSPEL

*The winding roads shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.*  
(Mk 7:37)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,  
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# OPEN THE DOOR FOR CHRIST

### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. "You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him." When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort.

We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God's gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God's promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts' doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present.

We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God's simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.