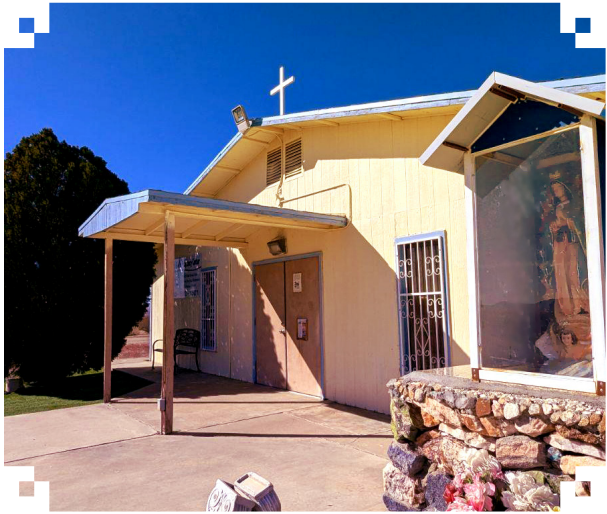


OUR LADY OF THE DESERT



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

Padre: Rev. Chris Axline,
Pastor

Padre: Rev. Johnson Vadakkumcherry,
Vicario Parroquial

Confesión el Sábado:
Con cita previa (Español y Inglés)

Rosario el Sábado: En la iglesia
(privadamente) 3:20pm

Misa el Sábado: (Vigilia) / Inglés 4:00pm
Rosario el Domingo: Con las Letanías de la
Santisima **Virgen María**— 9:40am
Misa el Domingo: Español - 11:30am

Liturgia en los Días de la Semana

Cada Día a las Doce: Angelus

Lunes, Martes, Miércoles, Viernes:
Adoración 7:30am y Misa 8:00am

Jueves: Misa 6:00pm Para Vocaciones:
Soltero Vida Consagrada, Matrimonio,
Sacerdocio

Viernes: A Las 6:00pm, Rosario Reina de la Paz
con Adoracion

Sábado: Adoración a las 7:30am y a las 8am.
Misa en honor a la Virgen María

Rev. Chris Axline, Pastor

Rev. Johnson Vadakkumcherry, Parochial Vicar

Confession on Saturday:
By appointment English/Spanish

Saturday Rosary: At the Church (privately) 3:20pm

Saturday Mass (Vigil): English -4:00pm

Sunday Rosary: With Litanies of the Blessed
Virgin Mary—9:40am

Sunday Mass: Spanish - 11:30am

Liturgy of the Weekdays

Every day at Noon: The Angelus

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday:
Adoration 7:30am & Mass 8:00am

Thursday: Mass 6:00pm for Vocations: Single
consecrated Life, Matrimony, Priesthood

Friday: 6:00pm Rosary of Queen of Peace with Adoration

Saturday: Adoration at 7:30am & at 8am. The Mass in
honor of the Virgin Mary

SUNDAY, December 14th, 2025



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John
what you hear and see." - Mt 11:4

Reflection for THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – December 14, 2025: Year A

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 14, 2025

Tracy Earl Welliver

Readings: • Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 • Psalm 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10. • James 5:7-10

• Matthew 11:2-11

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/121425.cfm>

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP – RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

What Makes You Special?

John the Baptist is truly an intriguing figure of history. He was a cousin of Jesus and literally prepared all those who would listen for this new way of life ushered in by a Messiah. Besides the key role he plays in the Gospel story, his depiction in Scripture, and then in literature, movies, and other media, gives us an image of a pretty unique person. How about locusts and wild honey for dinner? Can you imagine camel's hair as a staple in your wardrobe? He lived differently, and he stood out among the status quo. Of course, his look and cuisine didn't stand out nearly as much as his message.

How do you stand out? What separates you from the crowd? God has created each of us completely unique and with a combination of gifts like no one else. How can you uncover and understand your unique gifts? First, reflect on what makes you happiest in life. We are happiest when we are using the talents God gave us. Next, think about what comes naturally to you, whether it is a skill, task, or emotion. Recurring patterns in our behavior and experiences provide clues to our giftedness. Finally, what do other people see in you? The communities we live in, whether it is our family, parish, school, or workplace are filled with people who can provide clues to us by their observations. After these steps, can you say what makes you special? Now, let's start to grow that, lean on it, and stand out in a way that brings glory to God.

— Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPi



LA ORRESPONSABILIDAD DIARIA – RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

¿Qué te hace especial?

Juan el Bautista es sinceramente una figura histórica interesante. Era primo de Jesús, y preparó a todos los que oían de la nueva vida que predicaba el Mesías. Aparte del papel importante que tiene en la historia del evangelio, es representado como una persona única en la escritura, la literatura, las películas y otros medios de comunicación. ¿Qué tal las langostas y la miel para cenar? Imagínese el pelo del camello como parte de su vestuario. Él vivía de una forma diferente, y se destacaba de entre los demás. Claro, su apariencia y su dieta no se destacan tanto como su mensaje.

¿Cómo se destaca usted? ¿Cómo se distingue usted de entre los demás? Dios nos creó como individuos con una variedad de bendiciones y talentos únicos. ¿Cómo puede descubrir y entender usted sus regalos únicos? Primero, tiene que reflejar en lo que le alegra. Se dará cuenta de que somos más felices cuando estamos usando los dones que Dios nos ha dado. Luego, piense en lo es más natural para usted, sea una habilidad, una tarea o un sentimiento. Los hábitos recurrentes de nuestro comportamiento y nuestras experiencias proveen entendimiento a nuestros dones. Por último, ¿cuáles son los dones que otros notan en usted? Nuestras comunidades —nuestras familias, parroquias, escuelas, o lugares de trabajo— están llenas de personas que pueden ser testigos a nuestros dones. Después de todas las etapas, ¿puede decir qué es lo que le hace especial? Ahora puede aumentar sus dones, confiar en ellos, y nos destacamos para glorificar a Dios.

— Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPi

Readings for the week of December 14, 2025

Sunday:

Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
(see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday:

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday:

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday:

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/
Mt 1:1-17

Thursday:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/
Mt 1:18-25

Friday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday:

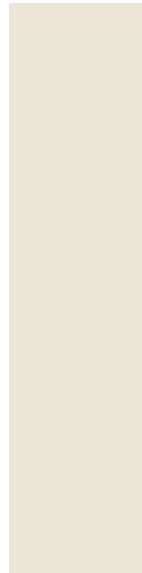
Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/
Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/
Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was 11, I was riding my bike on a Friday night in Scottsdale, Arizona. I saw giant spotlights swirling in the sky. Something amazing had to be happening. I pedaled after them with excitement. Sweaty and tired, I arrived, only to find a used car lot. Bright lights, flapping banners, inflatable balloon men swaying wildly in the wind. I stood there, heart sinking. All that spectacle, and all my effort ... for this?

As life proceeds, we learn what it is like to pursue promising but fruitless searches. This week we hear Jesus ask the crowds regarding John the Baptist: **“What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?” (Matthew 11:7).** He’s not just describing the crowd’s mis-aimed pursuit. He’s naming our tendency to chase after what’s flashy but flimsy.

What are our swaying reeds? For me, it is endless video reels on my phone, worldly pleasures, entertainment in sports, and the good opinion of others. Inflated distractions that bend whichever way the wind blows. But they can’t satisfy my soul. What are your flimsy reeds?

John the Baptist wasn’t a swaying reed. He was rooted, grounded, unafraid to speak the solid truth. The people went to see him because, deep down, they were starving for something real.

This Advent, the Church asks us to reassess: What are we really looking for? Are we chasing the dazzling but hollow? Or are we seeking what is solid and lasting — that which points to Christ?

— *Father John Muir*

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return
and enter Zion singing,
crowned with everlasting joy;
they will meet with joy and gladness,
sorrow and mourning will flee. (Isa 35:10)

Psalm:

Lord, come and save us. (Ps 146)
OR
Alleluia.

Second Reading:

Be patient, brothers and sisters,
until the coming of the Lord. (Jas 5:7)

Gospel:

Jesus said to them in reply,
"Go and tell John what you hear and see:
the blind regain their sight,
the lame walk,
lepers are cleansed,
the deaf hear,
the dead are raised,
and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."
(Mt 11:4-5)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"Go and tell what you have seen and heard,"
Jesus says. When it comes to proving who he
is, he always lets his actions do the talking. We
have heard. We have seen. We must go and
tell. Let's let our actions do the talking. Who
do we think Jesus is?

Observances for the week of December 14, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent



Devotions, *Explained!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Juan Diego in Mexico City in 1531. The Patroness of the Americas, Our Lady of Guadalupe is a beloved symbol of faith, motherhood and identity. Her feast day is Dec. 12.

Prayer for Advent - New Growth

Dear God,
Bring new life! Your love creates
and cultivates.
Bring Your power into the places I
think of as "deserts"
and your grace to the prayers I
fear may be "deserted."
You can redeem and restore,
bring a new song to my heart.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert. Why? What are we expecting to see?

What We See in the Desert

I've always wanted to see a real desert.

I know all about frigid, snowy winters and warm, wet summers. I grew up on rich soil that yields lush vegetation and bountiful harvests. But I've never experienced a desert, not in my own country or abroad, and I'm curious.

I know there must be something magical about the desert for it to feature so heavily in Scripture, for it to provide a backdrop to so many crucial moments of salvation history. The Israelites following the cloud, the temptation of Christ, the voice crying out: "Prepare the way for the Lord."

Why do these moments have to happen in a desert? Why do they make so much less sense in a tropical rainforest or a verdant forest?

I think it's because the desert doesn't have anything to offer us, at first glance. No one longs for the physical sensation of a dry heat and a beating sun. But the vast emptiness and the almost mystical harshness — even if we don't desire and delight in it, this is a setting that we understand, somehow, intrinsically. We know it deep within our soul. God is there.

We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert.

Why? What are we expecting to see?

If we expect to be entertained, we will be disappointed. If we expect reassurance, we will be disappointed. If we expect to feel pleasant and safe and sheltered, we will be disappointed.

The desert is there to challenge us. The desert is there to show us who we are, and who we can be.

So go.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

Our prayer group has been reading the lives of some saints, and we were struck by how some of them thought they were such sinners. Why would someone so holy think they had such serious sin?

Answer:

As Professional athletes practice the fundamentals of their sport over and over again, reaching for better form, consistency, and performance. They focus on the basics, review past performances, and visualize greater success. Practice makes better, if not perfect!

Spiritual masters such as the saints also looked for perfection. They practiced their faith in the search for holiness, grace, and virtue. Through sacraments, prayer, study, good works, and penance, they raised their level of awareness and their sensitivity to the presence of God, the demands of the Gospel, and the workings of the Holy Spirit. They examined their consciences daily, reviewing the day for moments of failure and times that they could have been more virtuous in one way or another. They resolved to do better, be more attentive, and alert!

Therefore, anything that would distract them or interfere with their relationship with God would be like a small black spot on a bright white wall — you can't miss it! The great saints were aware of sin and the presence of evil because they were so tuned into the struggle between good and evil that was fought in their own lives, hearts, and souls.

Parish News and Events

Advent Season & Christmas Decorations

Help St. Mary's make our church beautiful for our Christmas celebrations by donating a Christmas tree!

We would like to have 6-8 trees in the church, spanning from the narthex to the altar.

If you would like to donate a tree, please contact Olivia Torres in the Parish Office at secretary@stmarykingman.com or (928) 377-3435 Ext. 0.

Thank you for your generosity!

Help decorate,
**donate
a tree!**



St. Nick & Santa Meet & Greet

Belles hosted cookies with Santa! Children were so excited they were so adorable!

Thanks for bringing your children!



Religious Formation and Sacraments

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION



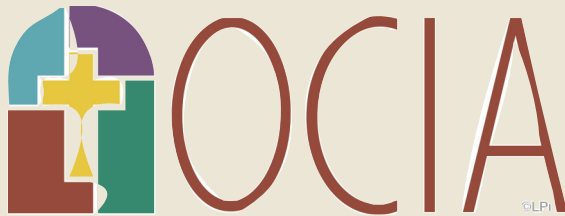
Registration for the 2025-2026 Religious Education session has ended.

Classes are held on Thursdays from 5:30-7:00pm at the St. Mary's Parish Center.

No payments will be accepted at class times. Payments can be made at the Parish Office during business hours, or online at this QR code —>



We look forward to a great year with our St. Mary's families!



OCIA Class

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults meets weekly on **Wednesdays at 7pm** in Rooms 5, 6, 7 at St. Mary's Parish Hall

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Thursdays: 5:30-7:00pm



Early Childhood (ages 4-6):

No sacramental preparation

Elementary Catechism, Year 1 (ages 7+):

1st Reconciliation (if baptized)

**Unbaptized children complete two years of catechism, with Baptism being received in the second year, along with Confirmation and 1st Holy Communion*

Elementary Catechism, Year 2 (ages 8-12):

1st Holy Communion, Confirmation, Baptism (if unbaptized)

Catecismo en Español, año 1 (7+ años):

1a Reconciliación (si está bautizado)

**Los niños no bautizados completan dos años de catecismo, recibiendo el bautismo en el segundo año, junto con la Confirmación y la Primera Comunión.*

Catecismo en Español, año 2 (8-12 años):

1a Santa Comunión, Confirmación, Bautismo (si no está bautizado)



BAPTISM INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS



Baptism Information

(children ages 6 and younger)



REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BAPTISM OF YOUR CHILD

To have your child baptized in our parish, a parent of the child to be baptized must come to the Parish Office to obtain an outline describing the required forms.

After submitting these required forms to the office, the parents and godparents will be scheduled to attend a pre-baptism class. Only after all requirements have been met can the baptism of your child be scheduled.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please call the Parish Office: (928) 377-3435.

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