

OUR LADY OF THE DESERT



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—11:00am

Sunday Mass: Spanish - 11:30am

15385 Pierce Ferry Road
(Poste de milla número 4)
P.O. Box 337,
Dolan Springs AZ 86441

(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:

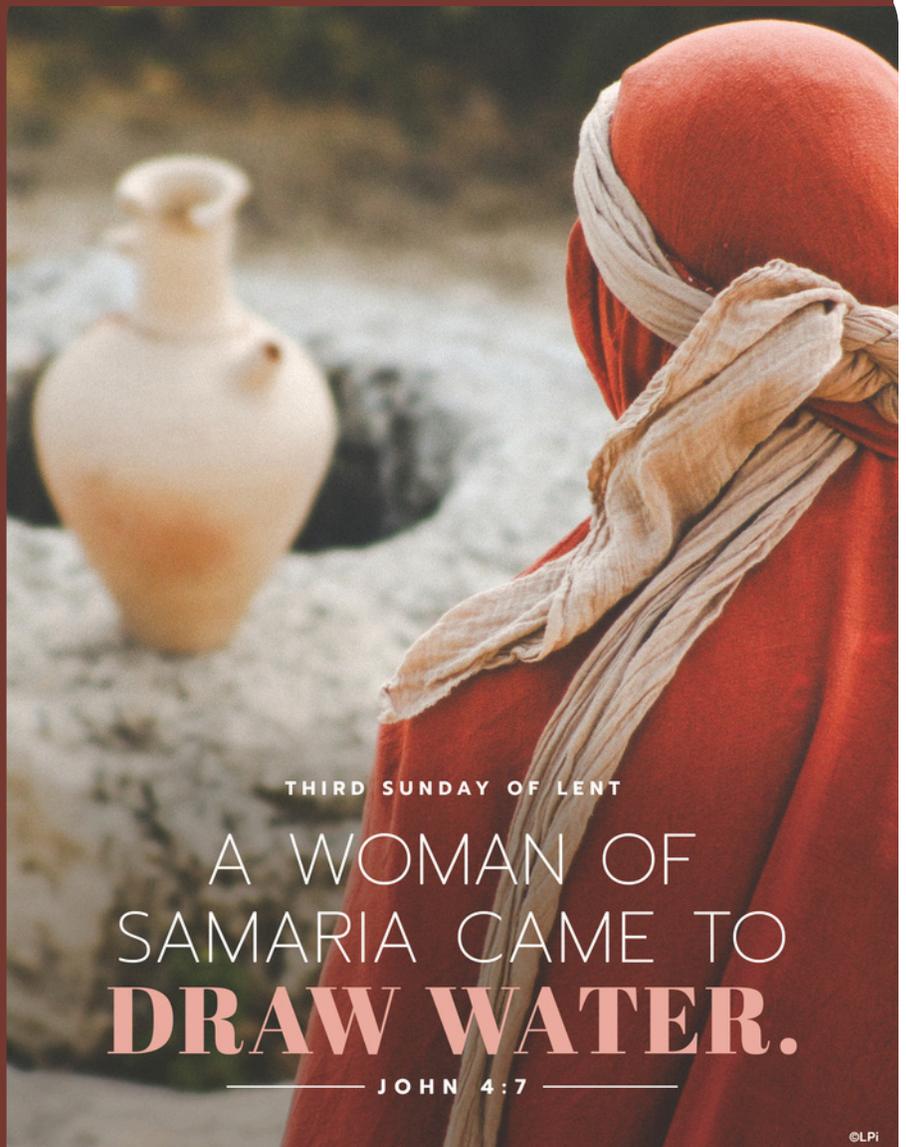
En la iglesia
(privadamente) 3:20pm

Misa el Sábado: (Vigilia) /
Inglés 4:00pm

Rosario el Domingo: Con
las Letanías de la Santísima
Virgen María— 11:00am

Misa el Domingo: Español -
11:30am

SUNDAY, March 8th, 2026



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

A WOMAN OF
SAMARIA CAME TO
DRAW WATER.

JOHN 4:7

Reflection for THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - March 08, 2026 Year A

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - MARCH 08, 2026

Tracy Earl Welliver

Readings: • Exodus 17:3-7 • Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 • Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

• John 4:5-42

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/030826.cfm>

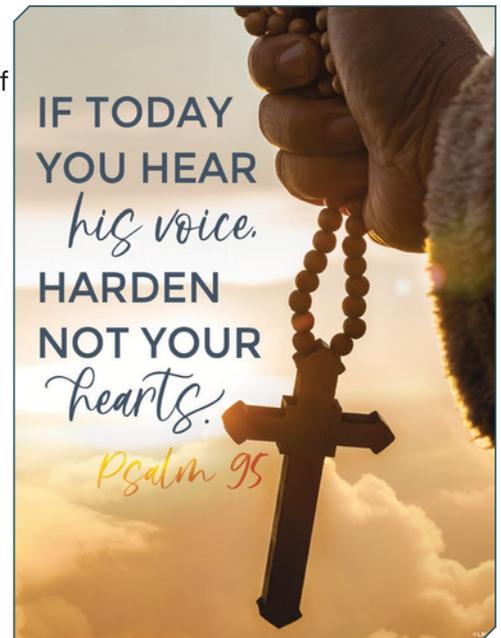
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Third Sunday of Lent

Paul reminded the Corinthians, "We proclaim Christ crucified." Christ's weakness is stronger than any human strength. The power of the cross is greater than anything the world or evil has to combat it.

The Lenten season is one of repentance, self-denial, almsgiving, and prayer. Many in our modern world do not see any wisdom in denying themselves anything. Those swept away in a consumer culture want more and they want it faster, bigger, and better. They also are looking for easy and quick satisfaction, unwilling to wait long.

Paul speaks of the "foolishness of God" and how it is wiser than any human wisdom. Lent is a time to put aside that which we feel and think as humans and put on the attitude of Christ. The cross of Christ is neither easy nor fleeting, and it will ask us to deny our very selves for him. To the human mind it makes no sense. However, by putting on Christ and seeing with his eyes, we see reality with clarity. Our sacrifice can lead to riches that only a "foolish" man would covet. But it is exactly there that we are satisfied and fulfilled. — Tracy Earl Welliver ©LPi



MAYORDOMÍA COTIDIANA - RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma

Pablo recordó a los corintios: "Nosotros proclamamos a Cristo crucificado". La debilidad de Cristo es más fuerte que cualquier fuerza humana. El poder de la cruz es mayor que cualquier cosa que el mundo o el mal tengan para combatirla.

El tiempo de Cuaresma es un tiempo de arrepentimiento, de abnegación, de limosna, Y la oración. Muchos en nuestro mundo moderno no ven la sabiduría en negarse nada. Quienes se dejan llevar por la cultura del consumo quieren más, y lo quieren más rápido, más y mejor. También buscan la satisfacción fácil y rápida, sin estar dispuestos a esperar mucho.

Pablo habla de la "locura de Dios" y de cómo es más sabia que cualquier Sabiduría humana. La Cuaresma es un tiempo para dejar de lado lo que sentimos y pensamos como humanos y revestirnos de la actitud de Cristo. La cruz de Cristo no es fácil ni efímera, y nos exigirá negarnos a nosotros mismos por él. Para la mente humana, carece de sentido. Sin embargo, al revestirnos de Cristo y ver con sus ojos, vemos la realidad con claridad. Nuestro sacrificio puede llevarnos a riquezas que solo un hombre "insensato" codiciaría. Pero es precisamente allí donde nos sentimos satisfechos y plenos.

Readings for the week of March 8, 2026

Sunday:

Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2,
5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-
42

Monday:

2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 42:3, 4/
Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday:

Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc,
8-9/Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday:

Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/
Mt 5:17-19

Thursday:

Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 11:14-23

Friday:

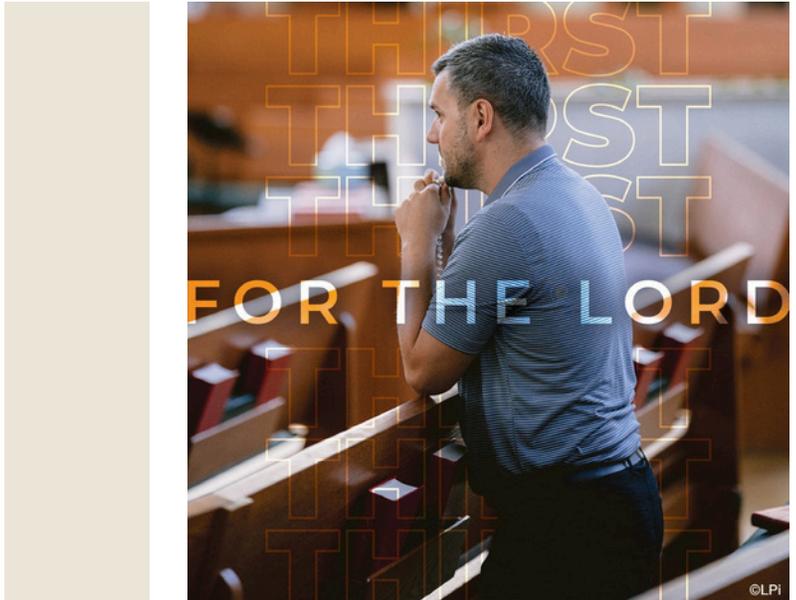
Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab,
14 and 17/Mk 12:28-34

Saturday:

Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab/
Lk 18:9-14

Next Sunday:

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4,
5, 6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17,
34-38



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Recently I received a note from a teenager I met years ago. He wrote, “Dear Father Muir, you probably do not remember me, but I wanted to thank you for your inspiring and humorous homilies at the parish. They helped me appreciate the beauty of Catholicism, which I have now embraced in a personal way.” That small note moved me more than he probably imagined. I had no idea my words had taken root in him. I was simply sowing seeds — week by week, Mass by Mass. Someone else — his parents, a youth minister, or God Himself — was doing the deeper work. Now this young man is joyfully reaping a harvest of faith.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus offers living water to a Samaritan woman whose life had been full of searching and disappointment. By the end of their encounter, she becomes a bold and joyful evangelist. Then Jesus turns to his disciples and says something easily overlooked: **“One sows and another reaps” (John 4:37)**. He is helping them — and us — understand how evangelization works. Often, the one who sows the seeds of faith is not the one who sees the fruit.

This Lent, ask yourself: Are you in a sowing phase or a reaping phase? If you are sowing — raising children, praying for someone, mentoring — be patient. Your work matters. If you are reaping — seeing someone come alive in faith — be grateful. You are standing on sacred ground, tilled and watered by others.

Lenten challenge: Thank someone who once sowed faith into your life. And keep sowing, even when the harvest is unseen.
— *Father John Muir*



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Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

"Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." (Ex 17:6)

Psalm:

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. (Ps 95)

Second Reading:

And hope does not disappoint because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. (Rom 5:5)

Gospel:

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." (Jn 4:13-14)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

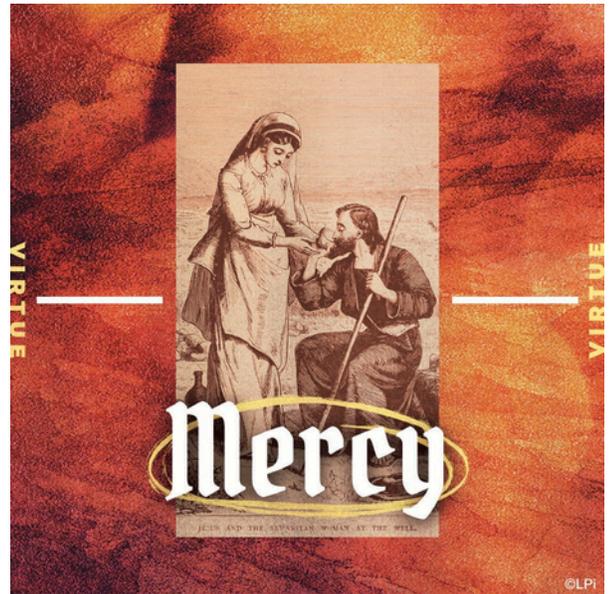
Jesus did not convert the Samaritan woman with miracles. He converted her with presence. He was not afraid of her sins or her failures. He listened to her. He sat with her. Let us learn from this: when we are present to others, we can show them the face of God.

Observances for the week of March 8, 2026

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Lent;
Daylight Saving Time begins

Monday: St. Frances of Rome, Religious

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Lent



Virtues, Explained!

True virtuous mercy is a choice governed by reason, not merely a feeling. God's mercy to us knows no bounds, but that mercy does not compel Him to grant us everything our appetitive passions desire. Rather, His perfect mercy is directed toward supplying our needs.

Blessing of Living Water

Lord, where there has been dryness in my life, bless me with Your living water!
Where I fear to dream of new hope and growth, bless me with Your living water!
Where I'm thirsty for new and abundant life, bless me with Your living water!
Drench the parched earth with Your promise, bless me with Your living water!
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: Before the Incarnation, God looked down from Heaven and said, “You are thirsty. Here is something to drink.” After the Incarnation, God sits down beside us and says, “I’m thirsty. Give me something to drink.”

When God asks for Water

One of my earliest memories is of my mother weeping. The last few months of her pregnancy with my little brother were tremendously painful for her, and more than once the pain brought her to tears. I have a hazy image of her in my mind, belly swollen with a 12-pound baby lying transverse in the womb, sitting on the edge of her bed, dabbing at her face with toilet paper. I had brought her the toilet paper. I would do that when I saw her crying, to wipe away her tears. I have a hazy memory of that, too — of the way my heart was wrenched by the sight of her suffering, of my desperation to do something to help, and of my immense satisfaction when she would take the toilet paper, smile and say, “Oh, thank you, sweetheart!” as if I had just airlifted her out of a war zone. What a powerful gift to give to a child still learning the meaning of compassion and selflessness — the gift of being able to feel that she has, even in some small way, “rescued” a person she worships. Her smile of gratitude lives, immortal, in my mind, along with the swell of satisfaction it produced in the deepest corner of my heart. This was when I learned that it feels good to help people, and this memory is a perpetually replenished well of living water for me. I draw from it daily, three decades later. This is a gift that Christ gives, over and over again, in the Gospels. He allows us to encounter him tired, afraid, sad and hungry. Omnipotent power subjected to the utter vulnerability of human form. Before the Incarnation, God looked down from Heaven and said, “You are thirsty. Here is something to drink.” After the Incarnation, God sits down beside us and says, “I’m thirsty. Give me something to drink.”

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

If we are all meant to be united in Christ, why is there so much division in the Church?

Answer:

Each Sunday, we profess that we believe in “one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.” The Church is indeed one because her source is the Trinity, and she is founded by Christ. The Church also exists in the fallen world and is made up of fallen people. Sometimes, there are tensions over what we believe as Catholics. Who is Jesus really? Are we affected by original sin? How do our traditional sexual ethics play out amidst medical and technological developments? Doctrinal disagreements are rarely just about ideas ... they occur within a context.

Tensions are influenced by various social and political factors of the time period. For example, Martin Luther’s attempts at reform gained followers, in part, as a reaction against poor moral practices within the Catholic Church. When the schism between the Eastern Orthodox Church and the Catholic Church occurred in 1028, tensions between the two culturally different regions had been brewing for centuries.

Division still occurs within the bounds of the Church today. Oftentimes, this is about pastoral or practical matters. These Questions can vary. Should we incorporate Latin back into the liturgy? What is the best way to reach the youth in our parish? These may not be articles of faith, but people have strong opinions about what ought to be done. We can remember the prayer of Christ — “*that all might be one*” — and do what we can to grow in understanding and respectful dialogue.

Parish News and Events

Pray with us on **Hallow** this Lent



Lent Pray40

Join us in a journey to return to our Father this Lent, guided by honestly some of my favorite people in the world: Sister Miriam, Mother Olga, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Mark Wahlberg, Chris Pratt, and of course the one and only Jonathan Roumie!

To really help bring the truths of this parable to life this Lent in Pray40, we'll dive into the incredible book, in my humble opinion the greatest novel of all time, *The Brothers Karamazov* by Fyodor Dostoevsky!

Kids Lent: Miracle Hunters

Join the Kids' Lent Challenge: Miracle Hunters! Follow Mia, Paul, Brad, and Grace as they set out to discover the truth about miracles and how God is always at work in our lives. Throughout the series, families will meet new friends, dive into Saints Alive-style saint stories, hear inspiring vocation journeys, play games, pray together, and enjoy episodes from the hit game show Holy Moly! Together we'll see that even when miracles don't happen the way we want or expect, God is still at work in His love for us.

This series is perfect for kids aged 6-12.



Teen Lent: The 180

Join Mark Hart, Sr. Josephine, Fr. Frankie Cicero and more for The 180, a Lent challenge for teens presented by Life Teen International. Designed for busy schedules, this challenge features short, 180-second sessions all designed to help you make a 180-degree turn towards Christ. Reflect on the daily Gospel readings, learn about the lives of the Saints, and take on a new fasting challenge each week. This Lent, don't just give

something up—take a step closer to Christ every day.



Cuaresma 2026: El Regreso (Spanish Lent)

Únete al retiro de Cuaresma de Hallow, "El Regreso" y vuelve al Padre en esta Cuaresma. Inspirados en la parábola del Hijo Pródigo, nos adentraremos en las profundidades espirituales de Los hermanos Karamázov de Fiódor Dostoyevski. Comenzamos el Miércoles de Ceniza, 18 de febrero. Este camino nos invita a mirar de frente el corazón humano inquieto y la misericordia que lo espera. A través de la Escritura, la literatura y la oración, reflexionaremos sobre el pecado y la responsabilidad, la libertad y la fe, la humildad y el amor, escuchando la invitación silenciosa a soltar aquello que nos aleja de Dios, dejarnos restaurar y empezar de nuevo. Muy pronto compartiremos más anuncios emocionantes sobre los guías y mucho más.

Parish News and Events



JOIN US FOR THE
**FISH FRY
THIS LENT!**

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

Fish fry dinner includes cod, fries, coleslaw, and a beverage.

Ticket price is \$15 for adults. \$5 for children under 10. Pre-sale tickets are available at each weekend Mass.

Fish Fries will be held on each Friday of Lent (02/20-03/27) from 4:30pm to 7pm at the St. Mary's Parish Center.

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Bishop Emeritus
Thomas Olmsted



Claire Dwyer

Horarios de Confesión CONFESSION TIMES OLPI

Between **February 24th & March 31st**, additional confessions will be held on **Tuesdays & Thursdays** from 11am-12:30pm at St. Mary's.

More Lenten Confessions
March 2nd, 6-7:30pm
(St. Mary's, Kingman)

March 9th 6-7pm
(St. Margaret Mary, Bullhead City)

March 23rd 5-6pm
(Our Lady of the Lake, Lake Havasu City)



AQUINAS

ALL CATHOLIC WOMEN AGES SIXTEEN THROUGH THIRTY-SIX ARE INVITED TO THE

Miriam Dinner

VOCATIONS EVENT

MARCH **23** 2026

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RSVP HERE

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Join us for bilingual Stations of the Cross in the St. Mary's church, each Friday of Lent at 5:15pm.

Religious Formation and Sacraments

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION



INSCRIPCIÓN PARA LA FORMACIÓN EN LA FE



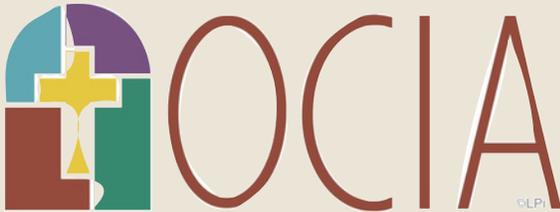
Registration for the 2025-2026 Religious Education session **has ended.**

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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