February 23rdh, 2025 - Issue #256 - 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Father Connole update:**

**Father Marlin is in the hospital and won’t be here for Friday or Sunday Mass.**

**He is in the hospital with internal bleeding, but getting the care he needs. He asks that you please keep him your prayers.**

**He is at Eisenhower but requests no visitors as he is getting tests done and doesn’t know when he will be released.**

**Father Seamus O’Brian will be covering Friday and Sunday Mass.**

**February Special Events:**

* **February 2nd was “Ground Hog’s Day”.** **Punxsutawney Phil’s prediction is 6 more weeks of winter.**
* **February 6th - FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **February 8th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **February 12th - Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon. (see details below).**
* **February 12th – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **February 14th is Valentine’s Day.**
* **February 23rd is the second DDF collection Sunday.**
* **March 30st is the last DDF Sunday collection. (if needed)**

**OUR 2025 DDF GOAL IS $13,100. $10,254 collected so far!!**

**DDF SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 23RD.**

**DDF stands for** [**Diocesan Development Fund 2025 - Diocese of San Bernardino. It is the Bishop’s annual appeal to all parishes to contribute money towards the various ministries (31) and administrative offices under his jurisdiction. Every Parish is assessed a certain dollar amount each year based on the ability to meet the defined assessment. In our case we are expected to meet his goal of $13,100 in 2025. Each year, for the past 20 years, Christ of the Desert has been the first Parish in the Diocese to meet its assigned goal. We take great pride in being #1. Our goal is to be #1 again this year.**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COrNou3eQsk)

**REMINDER:**

**We designate the last Sunday of the month as DDF Sunday. However, you can always donate at any time. Each Sunday we will have a collection basket available after Mass.**

**You can also drop off your donation during the week, into the slot of door #4 office.**

**You can  also send us your donation at any time. Our mailing address is “Christ of the Desert”: 43775 Deep Canyon Rd.  Palm Desert, CA  92260**

**Make checks payable to “Christ of the Desert”. Put DDF in lower left memo area.**

**Cash $$$ is always acceptable.**

* **Our Second scheduled collection will be February 23rd.**
* **Our Third scheduled collection will be on March 30th.**
	+ **All monies collected (above $13,100) will be returned to us with no Diocesan taxation!!**
	+ **These additional funds will enable us to continue our facility improvement projects in 2024.**
* **Last year we raised $39,025. Over $26,825 was returned to us!!!**

**Thanks, in advance, for everyone’s continued DDF support in the February & March collections.**

**FATHER CONNOLE’S “EMERGENCY DOOR FUND” UPDATE: We have collected $50,060 towards our new goal of $58,000.**

**Note from Father David regarding passing of Midge Nordella:**

**Midge (Marian) Nordella, former employee at Emmanuel House and longtime member of Christ of the Desert community, died on Tuesday, February 11, 2025. Funeral plans are private as per her family’s request.**

**May our beloved Midge, Rest in Peace. Amen.**

**When met at the pearly gates Midge said “Let’s party.”**

**Very Rev. David T. Fitzgerald, sP**

More sad news: Maryanne Dorniak’s sister, Susanne, passed away early Monday morning.  Please remember her and her family in your prayers.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

**February 23, 2025 - 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Luke 6:27-38**

**One of my favorite new singers/songwriters is Noah Kahan. I’m a little biased because, like me, he is originally from Vermont. In a fine song entitled “Stick Season,” he sings of his hope to “cancel out the darkness he inherited from dad.” This lyric articulates his painful recognition of a dark spiritual “inheritance” from his father, and his hope to be free of it. We all inherit some degree of evil from our earthly forebears. It’s easy to feel doomed to repeat their darknesses.**

**But we’re not so doomed, thank God. This week’s Gospel proclaims this. Whatever good or bad we received from our parents, we have a more definitive and perfect inheritance in God. Jesus commands us, “Be merciful just as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:36). We have a perfect Father in heaven and are destined to inherit and reflect *that*perfect and merciful love. We have an inheritance of light, not darkness, and thus a whole new possibility of magnanimous love. Like any inheritance, this is a free gift to us.**

**What are we destined to repeat? Not the darkness of our earthly parents. We are destined to be a reflection of *God’s*life. Jesus liberates us from the inevitability of repeating whatever evils and imperfections are in our familial or cultural upbringings. It’s time to claim that perfect inheritance.***— Father John Muir*

**February 23th – 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

 **Mass Readings for the 7Th Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

* **First Reading –**[**1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/david-spares-sauls-life/)**: David, finding Saul asleep, refuses to harm him, saying it’s wrong to strike the LORD’s anointed. He takes Saul’s spear and jug, proving his mercy and faithfulness from afar.**
* **Responsorial Psalm –**[**Psalm 103**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/remembering-gods-kindness/)**: I praise the Lord and remember His kindness: forgiving sins, healing ailments, and saving from despair, showing endless mercy and love, far surpassing our shortcomings.**
* **Second Reading –**[**1 Corinthians 15:45-49**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/from-earthly-to-heavenly/)**: The first Adam was earthly, the last Adam (Christ) a life-giving spirit. We, once earthly, will transform to bear the likeness of the heavenly man.**
* **Gospel –**[**Luke 6:27-38**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/teachings-on-love-and-mercy/)**: Jesus taught his disciples to love their enemies, do good to those who hate them, and bless those who curse them. He emphasized non-retaliation, treating others as you wish to be treated, and loving unconditionally like God. He urged forgiveness and generosity, promising reciprocal blessings.**

**Themes are gleaned from**[**www.young-catholics.com**](http://www.young-catholics.com/)

**JUBLIEE YEAR 2025: UPDATE**

**Pope Francis has started the 2025 Jubilee Year with the theme of “Pilgrims of Hope”.**

**The Holy Doors at Sacred Heart Church are the exterior entrance of the Padre Pio Adoration Chapel.**

**The Doors are open daily 6:00AM – 6:00PM.**

**In communion with and obedience to those desires promulgated by the Office of the Apostolic Penitentiary, the Diocese of San Bernardino has selected SACRED HEART CHURCH, Palm Desert as a Jubilee site whereat the faithful, having fulfilled the ordinary conditions for the reception of an indulgence, can receive the full remittance of any temporal effects due to sin, opening wide the doors of mercy and hope to an encounter with the risen Lord, in whom our hope “cannot disappoint.”**

**Jubilee 2025 invites you to be a pilgrim of hope. For Christians, hope is anchored in the encounter with Jesus whose life, death, and resurrection reveals God’s transforming love. Our hope in God is renewed constantly in the gift of the Holy Spirit, the love of the Father and the Son, who is given, even now, to the community of believers.**

**The norms for receiving an indulgence are that a person is "moved by a spirit of charity," is "purified through the sacrament of penance and refreshed by Holy Communion" and prays for the pope. Along with a pilgrimage, a work of mercy or an act of penance, a Catholic "will be able to obtain from the treasury of the Church a plenary indulgence, with remission and forgiveness of all their sins, which can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory."**

**ATTENTION: Ladies Guild Members:**

**We will be having our next Ladies Guild Luncheon on Wednesday, March 12th 2025 at 11:30 AM.**

**Our menu is TBD. Please email Cindy at****chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com****or call 760-346-0089 to sign up or Cindy will be available after Mass, starting February 23rd, to sign up and pay $5 per person. We do plan ahead for the amount of food so please make sure to pay when you signed up. March meeting date is on Wednesday the 12th.**

**REMEMBRANCE WALK – PAVER ORDER INFORMATION FOR NEW PARISHIONERS:**

**The “REMEMBRANCE WALK” IS LOCATED IS LOCATED TO THE RIGHT OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE CHAPEL. (behind the planter)**

**Forms are available from the Parish Office or back of the church. Installation will be within 30 days of your order. If you are not sure what you want to say on the paver, let me assist you!!.**

**In 2025 the following will be observed as Holy Days of Obligation:**

* **January 1st - Wednesday - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Not a Holy Day of Obligation in 2025.**
* **May 29th - Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter - Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**
* **August 15th  - Friday - Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
* **November 1st  - Solemnity of All Saints (Saturday)**
* **December 8th – Monday- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**
* **December 25th – Thursday- Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

**Ash Wednesday - March 5th with 12:00 PM Mass & ashes at Christ of the Desert Chapel.**

**Palm Sunday is April 13th and Easter Sunday is April 20th.**

**FINANCIAL SECTION:**

**FEBRUARY HAS 4 SUNDAYS FOR THOSE THAT GIVE MONTHLY.**

**Please make all checks payable to “Christ of the Desert” not Sacred Heart.**

**Total monies collected to date: $126,601\* or 84.4% of annual budget. Collection on Sunday the 16th was $1,767.**

**\*Monies collected each week reflect the Friday & Sunday Mass plus rental income from offices in the Courtyard, Weddings & Funerals.**

**This information is important for our community in order to understand where are financially throughout the year.**

        **Our Monthly expenses are budgeted at $12,500 per month or $37,500 per quarter. $150,000 annually.**

**Thanks for your continued generosity.**

**See instructions at end of Bulletin for ways to continue giving via your bank on-line service, there is likely a “setting” that will say “Autopay” or some other “Bill Pay” service.**

**THE POPE’S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY: For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.**

**The Christ of the Desert “Bulletin” now appears on**[**www.sacredheartpalmdesert.com**](http://www.sacredheartpalmdesert.com/)**website. Open up the site and click on “church”, look down on the bottom left for Christ of the Desert. Open up this site for the “bulletin” and other information about our community.**

 **CELEBRATION SECTION:**

**There will be an information providing sheet on the table near the Chapel exit/entrance area.**

**You can always email the information to me as well.**

**You can sign up for any month NOW. I will keep a record of your special month and enter it when that month arrives.**

**WHO HAS A DATE IN FEBRUARY & YOU WANT ME TO ADD TO THE NOTICES BELOW????**

**DISCLAIMER: If information below is incorrect, please let me know and I will correct the error.**

**2025**

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY SECTION:**

**CeCe Bogan has a birthday on February 13th.**

**John Kirsch has a birthday on February 14th.**

**Dolores Kent has a birthday on February 19th.**

**Zelina Ferenz has a birthday on February 20th.**

**Nancy Tapick has a birthday on February 26th.**

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS IN HEAVEN:**

**Andre Binns – February 2nd, Dear friend of J. & Crys Mueller.**

**Diane Berwick – February 16th.**

**Tom Washburn – February 21st, Husband of Carla Washburn.**

**FEBRUARY HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SECTION:**

**None submitted**

**Please provide Month, Date & Year**

**FEBRUARY REMEMBRANCE SECTION: “May their souls rest in peace”, Amen**

**Seana Swanson’s son, Travis, passed away on February 2, 2021.**

**Carla Washburn’s Husband, Tom, passed away on February 4th2017.**

**John Maldonado’s mother, Nellie, passed away on February 17th.**

**Joyce Sosebee’s partner, Paul Aragon, passed away on February 26th 2023.**

**Jesse Schumaker’s Brother, Juan Baco, passed away on February 28th, 2022.**

**Please provide Month, Date & Year & Relationship to family member being remembered.**

**“Who would you like to pray” for section:**

**Please send me your new updated petitions which will appear in green.**

**Many of you pray for special intentions at Sunday Mass. Please send me those intentions so the entire Parish can pray to the LORD with you.**

**Joe has lung cancer and will start three months of radiation and chemo on December 12th. We ask for healing prayers, and that the will of Our Lord be done.  Judy Farnan**

**Please pray for my friend Craig Richard who was recently diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Daria Smith.**

**Please pray for Doug and Val. Roxanne Reed**

**Please pray for my daughter, Lisa Gruebel, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer, Suzanne Cummings.**

**THIS WE PRAY TO THE LORD!!!**

 **Christ of the Desert office hours: 760-346-0089**

**Office hours are from 9:30 to 1:30 Monday- Friday. Please call first to be sure Cindy is available. When Cindy is in the office, the office door is locked. Please ring the doorbell “to get her attention”.**

 **SUPPORT OUR PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE SMALL BUSINESSES SECTION:**

 **If anyone else wants to advertise their business in the Bulletin, send me your information.**

 **Thinking about selling your house or condo? Call Crys Mueller at 760 989 8732. I have been with BD Homes for the past 15 years.**

**John Maldonado is a Mortgage Loan Originator with First West Financial, Corp & a member of Christ of the Desert congregation.**

**"Your Home Loan Made Simple" We help you buy your dream home by simplifying the mortgage financing process with personalized loan options that save you time and money. If you need assistance with any type of loan, I am here to help.**

**For every loan that closes, I will make a donation to Christ of the Desert.**

**Contact: John A. Maldonado at** **jam@firstwestfinancial.com** **or call 760 636-8266. Mortgage Loan Originator,**

**NMLS #1995783,**[**WWW.firstwestfinancial.com**](http://www.firstwestfinancial.com/)

 **Enedina Sutton, a Distributor of Nature Sunshine Products and a long time parishioner. Has Herbal Supplements, all kinds of Vitamins, ointments, essential Oils, disinfectant products and much more. I do the business from home. I can be reached at****760-345-3754****. I live in Sun City Palm Desert community.**

 **Invented by NASA engineers, used on astronauts returning from space to rebuild muscle, bone and heal wounds “red light therapy” is now available. I am a new parishioner. Please call or email me: Rom Partyka 805-673-9235 or email at****rom1942@msn.com****for more information or to set up an appointment.**

**Need a good Catholic housekeeper? Call Elvia Pantoja at 760 698 6050. 20 years’ experience in the Indian Wells & Palm Desert area. References provided upon request.**

**ON GOING MESSAGE SECTION:**

**Please continue to consider supporting our community with the following options:**

**Mail your weekly or monthly offering to Christ of the Desert. All our regular mail goes to Sacred Heart so you would need to use that address. Make checks payable to Christ of the Desert.**

**CHRIST OF THE DESERT c/o.**

**SACRED HEART CHURCH**[**43-775 DEEP CANYON ROAD, PALM DESERT, CA 92260**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43-775%2BDEEP%2BCANYON%2BROAD%2C%2BPALM%2BDESERT%2C%2BCA%2B92260?entry=gmail&source=g)**.**

**OR**

**Go to your bank on-line service, there is likely a “setting” that will say “Autopay” or some other “Bill Pay” service. You can set up an automatic payment directly from there. If you have any trouble doing this or don’t have a computer, just call your bank and they can help you.**

**Please make sure that you tell the bank to make the check payable to Christ of the Desert but send the check to Sacred Heart’s address:**

[**43775 Deep Canyon Rd.**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775%2BDeep%2BCanyon%2BRd.%2BPalm%2BDesert%2C%2BCA%2B92260?entry=gmail&source=g)[**Palm Desert, CA**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775%2BDeep%2BCanyon%2BRd.%2BPalm%2BDesert%2C%2BCA%2B92260?entry=gmail&source=g)[**92260**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775%2BDeep%2BCanyon%2BRd.%2BPalm%2BDesert%2C%2BCA%2B92260?entry=gmail&source=g)

**Jay Mueller**

**Stay Healthy! Do good work! Keep in touch!!!**

SHC & COD Finance Council Member

SHC & COD Parish Council Member

COD Remembrance Walk Coordinator

SHC Remembrance Square Coordinator

SHC East Valley Outreach Program Coordinator

CELL NUMBER 760-777-3745