**2024 DDF update. We received an additional $20,000 this past week. Our new total is $43,890!!!!**

**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!!**

**Border Compassion 2nd Annual Mother's Day Celebration, May 10, 2024 in Mexicali, Mexico.**  
**Help us to honor and gift each mother living in the shelter.**

**The goal is to provide 200 wallets with $50 in each! “Faith Communities” from all over the valley are participating in the program.**

**You are invited to donate a wallet or make a cash donation on “behalf of your mother”. Bring wallets and donations (Make checks payable to Border Compassion (memo area Mother’s Day Wallets) to Christ of the Desert.**

**Sisters Phyllis and Geneva are coordinating the collection starting on April 21st ,28th & May 5th.They will be available each Sunday, after Mass, at the entrance to the Chapel to accept your donation and answer any questions you might have about this wonderful program.**

**The mission of Border Compassion is to invite faith-communities to Cross-Over at the border to offer a compassionate humanitarian response to families living at the Posada del Migrante Shelter, which houses up to 300 people.**

**Border Compassion is a non-profit, faith-based, grassroots effort to respond to the needs of families who have migrated to the border crossing at Calexico, CA and Mexicali, Mexico. These asylum seekers left their homes to escape violence, poverty and climate disasters.**

**Make checks payable to: Border Compassion (memo area Mother’s Day Wallets) or donate on line** [**https://border-compassion.org**](https://border-compassion.org)**.**

**For information, contact Suzanne Jabro (**[**sjabro@csjla.org**](mailto:sjabro@csjla.org)**) or Damaris Molina (**[**dmolina@csjorange.org**](mailto:dmolina@csjorange.org)**).**

**43376 Cook Street, Unit 10, Palm Desert, CA 92211 (**[**www.border-compassion.org**](http://www.border-compassion.org)**)**

**Border Compassion is a non-profit 501c3, Tax id 94-1605666.**

**ENKINDLING THE FLAMES OF GOD’S LOVE:**

**Sacred Heart Women’s Challenge Weekend Retreat!**

**May 3 - 4th, 2024**

**To empower women in building God’s Kingdom with speaker sessions, reflection, group discussion, prayer, praise and worship!**

**Sacred Heart Church - St. Andrew’s Room**

**Schedule: Friday: 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Cost: $45: Includes breakfast, lunch and dinners**

**Call or email: Judy Foudy: 949-436-8759; Judyfoudy @gmail.com; or Ellie Ragonese: 213-369-5650; ellieragonese.com**

**Music by: Ellie Ragonese Prayer & Music Ministry**

**Grief to Grace Bereavement Program at Sacred Heart:**

**Grief has no timeline, no set rules, no defined reaction, and is as different for each of us as your fingerprints.**

**Grief to Grace is a support program with Sr. Mary Aloysius on Wednesdays Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.**

**Registration Not Required. All meetings are held in the Saint Andrews Room next to the Sacred Heart parish office.**

**“In His Heart” ($20 cash) booklet you will find a daily reflection for each day of the year. Woven into the liturgical life of the Church and the seasons of the year, we hope to share with you the lessons we are learning along the way. Every day holds the potential to grow closer to the Heart of Jesus – come along with us on the journey!**

**ATTENTION: Next Ladies Guild Members luncheon is May 8th:**

**Christ of the Desert Women’s Guild:**

**The next gathering will be on Wednesday, May 8th at 11:30. Menu TBD. Cost is $5 and if you are unable to afford the lunch, please see Crys Mueller or Cindy privately and we will take care of the cost for you. We don’t want anyone to miss out!**

**Cindy will be taking signups starting April 21st, after Mass. You can also make a reservation by calling the office (760-346-0089) or emailing Cindy at** [**chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com**](mailto:chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com)

**MAY Upcoming Events:**

* **May 3rd - Thursday FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **May 8th - Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon at 11:30.**
* **May 11th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program & wine bottles. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **May 12th – Mother’s Day**
  + **Solemnity of the Ascension. The Solemnity replaces the Seventh Sunday of Easter.**
* **May 19th, 2024 - The Spring Combined Collection**

**In 2024 the following will be observed as Holy Days of Obligation:**

* **Sunday, May 12, 2024 - Solemnity of the Ascension. The Solemnity replaces the Seventh Sunday of Easter.**
* **Thursday, August 15 – Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
* **Friday, November 1 – Solemnity of All Saints**
* **Please Note: In 2024, December 8 occurs on a Sunday and will be observed in the Roman Calendar as the Second Sunday of Advent. The liturgical observance of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, Dec. 9, 2024. However, the obligation to participate in Mass for the Immaculate Conception is not transferred.**
* **Wednesday, December 25 – Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**
* **Wednesday, January 1, 2025 – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

**Why do we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday and Vocation Sunday on the same day?**

**Pope St. Paul VI saw a problem toward the end of the Second Vatican Council. Among the numerous challenges the Church faced, one of the most disturbing was a drop-off in the number of men entering seminary and women entering convents. And so, just seven months as Pope, on a Saturday, April 11, 1964, the eve of the Sunday called The Good Shepherd Sunday, he established the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. For this reason, this day is also known in the Catholic Church as Vocations Sunday.**

**In this Pope St Paul VI reminds us WHY we need vocations: namely, because our world is in need of salvation! And thus we need men and women who will radically dedicate 100% of their lives to spreading the Gospel of Jesus. This means we must be ready to leave behind whatever would keep us tied down and prevent us from making a definitive choice.**

**A Call to Action and the Need for Vocations:**

**Thus Vocation Sunday not just about praying for more priests and nuns, rather, it is a call to action and not a “feast day,” per se. In essence, the Holy Father is saying to all Catholics around the world, “People of God, let us pray for what we need and let us take up this challenge!” We are called to be bold and decisive in seeking God’s plan for our lives and in responding to the Lord’s call involves putting ourselves on the line and facing a great challenge.**

**This call to action of Pope St Paul VI was not for something he saw in the sixties, but it is actually very relevant today. It does take a lot of courage to say ‘yes’ to a vocation especially in today’s culture. But by the same token people are looking for contentment and fulfilment. And where do they go and seek it? That’s the question, and Jesus is saying to you, ‘come to me to the Good Shepherd.’ Will you hear His voice and be His sheep or Shepherd?**

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

**April 21, 2024**

**4th Sunday of Easter. Good Shepherd Sunday**

**Recently I was with my little dog Libby at a retreat center in the Arizona desert. I sat in a chair near a ravine filled with shrubs. Unbeknownst to me, Libby wandered down there and disappeared. Suddenly an animal’s wild shriek erupted from the area. Without thinking, I bolted down into the ravine fully expecting to see coyotes, javelinas, or rattlesnakes. I didn’t care. I desperately wanted to get Libby out of there, without any self-regard. Before I could face whatever danger lay hidden, my dog blissfully trotted out from an entirely different area, utterly unaware that I had (quite heroically) just placed my life on the line.**

**When the adrenaline wore off, I thought to myself: how far would I have been willing to go to save her? I don’t know. But I do know, if I had literally died, my friends and family would have certainly thought me insane for dying for a dog. No offense, Libby.**

**How passionately Jesus wants us to know him and his willingness to die for us! This week he says, “I know my own and my own know me,” and “I lay down my life for the sheep.” Here we encounter an insanely excessive love for us. Christianity is a relationship and not simply a religion or ethical code. In Jesus, God rescues and saves us. He laid down his life for you and me — and he has taken it up again. So often we are like Libby — blissfully ignorant of the reality of both our spiritual danger and his saving love. This Easter season, the risen Jesus calls us to be more conscious than ever before about his love. He never ceases to lay down his life for us.**

*— Father John Muir*

**April 21st – 4th Sunday of Easter. Good Shepherd Sunday.**

The readings for the 4th Sunday in Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday) demonstrate that Jesus Christ cares for us as a shepherd cares for his flock. Jesus explains that he is the good shepherd who knows his sheep and will do anything to save them.

The 4th Sunday of Easter, also known as Good Shepherd Sunday, brings together themes that are central to understanding our relationship with Jesus and our identity as Christians.

**Mass Readings for** **4th Sunday of Easter. Good Shepherd Sunday.**

* **First Reading** - [Acts 4:8-12](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/salvation-through-jesus-alone/): Peter declared the healing of a man came through Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom they crucified but God raised. He emphasized that salvation can only come through Jesus, the cornerstone the builders rejected.
* **Responsorial Psalm** - [Psalm 118](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/cornerstone-of-faith/): “**The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone”.**
  + Acknowledging God's unfailing kindness, we find solace in His shelter, surpassing human or leader reliance. The once-rejected stone now underpins our faith, a divine act that fills us with awe. Blessed by God's response and rescue, we celebrate His eternal mercy.
* **Second Reading** - [1 John 3:1-2](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/children-of-god-now-and-forever/): We are already God's children, loved deeply by the Father. The world doesn't know us, as it didn't know Him. In the future, we'll fully become like Him, seeing Him as He truly is.
* **Gospel** - [John 10:11-18](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/the-good-shepherd-2/): I am the good shepherd who sacrifices his life for the sheep, unlike a hired hand who runs when danger comes. I know my sheep and they know me. I also have other sheep not of this pen; they will listen to my voice, making one flock under one shepherd. I lay down my life voluntarily, with the authority to take it up again, as commanded by my Father.

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

**The Spring Combined Collection will take place on May 19th, 2024.**

* **Catholic Relief Services**
* [**Catholic Communication Campaign**](http://www.archmil.org/giving/Combined-Collections/CCC.htm)
* [**Peter’s Pence**](http://www.archmil.org/giving/Combined-Collections/Religious.htm)
* [**Catholic Campaign for Human Development**](http://www.archmil.org/giving/Combined-Collections/CCHD.htm)

**FINANCIAL SECTION:**

**MAY 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: $148,391 or 110.1% of annual budget. Last week’s collection was: $2,519\*.**

**\*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 $11,250 per month or $33,750 per quarter. $135,000 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 APRIL: For the role of women.**  
**We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.**

**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 APRIL & 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.**

**APRIL BIRTHDAY SECTION:**

**Bob Ruehl - April 3rd.**

**Mary Lindstrom – April 3rd.**

**Louise McCall - April 7th**

**Betty Schultz - April 17th.**

**Joyce Sosebee - April 18th.**

**Jim LaBaugh – April 18th.**

**Bob Smith – April 20th.**

**Carol Anderson – April 21st**

**Howard Lincoln – April 23rd.**

**Dan Smith – April 29th.**

**Dave Bannon – April 30th.**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS IN HEAVEN:**

**Jamie Rogers – April 3rd, Brother of Crys Mueller.**

**Max Gregory Sosebee - April 16th, son of Joyce Sosebee**.

**APRIL HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SECTION:**

**Carl & Lois Hickey – April 17th.**

**Jan & Patrick McCoy – April 30th.**

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

**Christine Smith, mother of Daria Smith, passed away on April 1st.**

**Larry Bean, husband of Louella, passed away on April 13th.**

**Daniel Pepper, husband of JoAnn, passed away on April 22nd, 2018.**

**John Schumaker, son of Jesse Schumaker, passed away on April 30, 2017.**

**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.**

**The Parish prays for the following parishioners:**

**Carol Lee Evans.**

**Would you please add prayers for my friends Arnie, Ted, Karen and Mira!!! Thank you, Roxanne**

Please add prayers for my High School classmate who recently had a stroke leaving her paralyzed on her left side? Dolores Kent

**Please continue to prayer for Carrie Clay as she recovers from a broken knee cap and is suffering from a slow healing process.**

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

**PAVER ORDERS:**

**Pavers can still be purchased. Installation will be within 30 days of your order. I have the tools to do the install myself now. Forms are available from the Parish Office or back of the church. If you are not sure what you want to say on the paver, let me assist you!!**

**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**](mailto: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**](tel: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**](mailto: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.**

**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.  Palm Desert, CA  92260**

**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 Parish Walk Coordinator

SHC East Valley Food Distribution Coordinator

SHC East Valley Outreach Program Coordinator

CELL NUMBER 760-777-3745