**FINAL SUNDAY FOR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR OUR PRIESTS:**

## **Every year we have a special Christmas collection for the priests who provide spiritual guidance every Sunday to our community. This year we are collecting your monetary gift outside the church after Mass. Crys will be collecting on Sunday December 8th is the final collection date. We will give your monetary gifts to the priests on Sunday December 15th at the Christmas luncheon. Cash is always acceptable. However, if you want to designate your gift to a particular priest, please make the check out to that priest not Christ of the Desert. Thank you in advance for your generosity as our way of thanking them for what they do for us throughout the year.**

## **END OF YEAR TAX DONATION CONSIDERATION:**

## **Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support during 2024.  Your support has meant that "Christ of the Desert" has done well financially again this year.**

## **As 2024 is coming to an end, some of you are considering year-end tax donations. Please consider "Christ of the Desert" in your giving plans. Your donation will assist us in defraying some of the costs of the “emergency exit doors project”. We will be replacing/enlarging all three doors. This project is near and dear to Father Connole. He wants to ensure our safety should an emergency evacuation situation arise. Estimated cost is about $50,000. If you are donating, please note in the memo section of your donation. “Emergency Door Project”.**

## **Thanks again, for being an active and generous member of our community.**

## **WHAT IS ADVENT:**

**Advent is the season before Christmas. It begins four Sundays before Christmas Day. The word *Advent* means “coming” or “arrival.” It reminds us of Jesus Christ coming into the world. Advent is a time of preparation. We prepare for the birth of Jesus, which we celebrate at Christmas.**

**Advent has deep roots in Church history. It started in the early centuries of Christianity. Early Christians used this time to prepare for baptisms at the Epiphany. Later, it became a season to prepare for Christmas. By the 6th century, Advent was officially part of the Church’s calendar.**

**The Church sets aside Advent for prayer and reflection. It is a time to focus on Jesus coming into our hearts. Advent also reminds us of Jesus’ Second Coming at the end of time. It is not only about remembering the past but also looking forward to the future. Advent helps us think about what Jesus’ coming means for our lives today.**

**The main purpose of Advent is to prepare our hearts. The Church encourages prayer, fasting, and acts of charity during this time. Advent is a season of waiting, but it is not empty waiting. It is filled with hope and expectation. We wait with joy, knowing that Jesus brings light and peace to the world.**

**JUBLIEE YEAR 2025 IS COMING:**

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

**Bishop Rojas has designated Sacred Heart Church, in Palm Desert, be named as one of the**

**special sites of Pilgrimage in the Jubilee year in our Diocese. More details to follow.**

**What is a Jubilee Year?**

**In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.**

**How often is a Jubilee Year?**

**A Jubilee Year is celebrated by the Church every 25 years. This has been the case since 1470, when Pope Paul II changed it from every 50 years.**

**A Pope can also proclaim an Extraordinary Jubilee, like the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2015.**

**What is the theme of the Jubilee Year in 2025?**

**The theme is Pilgrims of Hope. Pope Francis has invited Catholics to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world.**

**When does the Jubilee Year start and finish?**

**The 2025 Jubilee Year begins on December 24th, 2024 and concludes on January 6th, 2026.**

**What is the Biblical background for the Jubilee Year?**

**The word Jubilee comes from the Hebrew word *yobel*, which is a ram's horn. This wind instrument is blown to mark the start of a Jubilee Year in the Bible (Leviticus 25:9).**

**In the Bible the Jubilee Year occurred every 50 years and involved the cancelling of debts, a period of rest for people and the earth, and land being restored to the landless.**

**In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus makes clear his own mission is to bring Jubilee. In the synagogue at Nazareth he reads from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah, proclaiming the year of the Lord's favor:**

**The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the Lord's year of favor." (Luke 4:18-19)**

**After reading, Jesus announces: “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." Jesus shows us what God's Kingdom of justice, compassion and freedom looks like. He invites us join him in making it a reality.**

**REMINDER: HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:**

**December 9th (Monday) is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This holy day is often misunderstood. It celebrates the conception of Mary, not Jesus.  The Catholic Church teaches that through the grace of God, Mary was conceived without the stain of original sin, thus making her a worthy vessel for the Son of God.**

**Please Note: In 2024, December 8th 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.**

**Mass at Christ of the Desert:**

**Mass at 12:00 PM to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

**Masses at Sacred Heart are:**

**December 9th - 7:45AM, 9:00AM, 12:10PM, 5:30 PM & 7:00PM (Spanish)**

**CHRIST OF THE DESERT CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY MASS SCHEDULE**

**o December 24th – Christmas Eve Vigil Mass is at 5:00PM.**

**o December 25th - Christmas day Mass is at 9:30AM.**

**SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE:**

**Christmas Eve Mass Schedule**

**3:30 PM Carols – SHS Children’s Choir**

**4:00 PM Mass - SHS Children’s Choir**

**5:30 PM Carols - Contemporary Ensemble**

**6:00 PM Mass – Contemporary Ensemble**

**8:00 PM Spanish Mass - Español**

**December 25th Christmas Day Mass Schedule**

**12:00 AM Mass - Latin Midnight Mass**

**8:00 AM Mass - Cantor, Organ**

**9:30 AM Mass - Cantor, Organ**

**11:00 AM Mass - SHC Adult Choir**

**12:30 PM - Spanish Mass - Español**

**No Evening Masses**

**UPCOMING TRAFFIC ALERT:**

**If you come to church from the La Quinta area, please be aware there is a Triathlon on Sunday (December 8th) starting at 7AM. Signs are up everywhere alerting residents of potential congestion. Please plan your route to church accordingly.**

**Christ of the Desert will be collecting donations for Galilee Center throughout the holiday season.**

**Galilee Center is a non-profit organization working out of Mecca whose mission is to fulfill the needs of the underprivileged and disadvantaged by providing food, clothing, and other basic needs and affirm their dignity with love, compassion and respect.**

**UPDATE:**

**Our holiday Christmas Collection has started and is going great!!!. Thank you for your generosity.**

**Remember, we are looking for “new” toys, gently used or new clothing and food. See below for list of suggested items below.**

**Pick-up dates, at Christ of the Desert, by the Galilee Center will be on December 4th and December 13th.**

**Please have your donations to the church or Cindy’s office on or before the morning of December 13th. Donations received after the 13th cannot be guaranteed delivered in time for the Galilee Center Christmas distribution on December 16th.**

**Suggested items include:**

**Canned fruits and vegetables, pasta and pasta sauce, long-life milk and fruit juice, packaged pudding, canned fish/chicken/meat, tea, coffee, jam, soup/cereal, sweets for the holidays. Also, included are toiletries such as deodorant, shaving supplies, toothbrushes and paste, shampoo and soaps.**

**Please include toys for children of all ages and don’t forget the teens.**

**Thanks so much for your generosity. We had a terrific collection last year - let’s outdo it this year!**

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**Our Holiday Luncheon will be December 15th, 2024 after the 9:30 Mass. The luncheon will be held at Desert Willow Golf Resort at** [**38995 Desert Willow Drive**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/38995%2BDesert%2BWillow%2BDrive?entry=gmail&source=g) **in Palm Desert, right off Country Club between Portola and Cook.**

**The luncheon buffet consists of Caesar Salad and French Onion Soup, Bruschetta Chicken and Grilled Salmon with Tomato Confit, Steamed Vegetables, Forbidden Rice Risotto and dessert. Beverages provided include Coffee, Iced Tea and Water. There is a no host bar available.**

**Cost per person is $40 inclusive.**

**You may make your reservation with Cindy after Masses on Friday and Sunday, with payment at time of reservation. If you would like to make a reservation at a different time, please call the office to make an appointment. (760) 346-0089.  If you would like to have a table reserved for a group, please collect the names and payment for the group as a whole and sign all in at one time.**

**We hope you all will join us for this fun, holiday filled event. We had a great time last year and this should be even better!**

**This event is open to all. Spouses and any family members are welcome!!!!**

**ATTENTION: Ladies Guild Members:**

**UPCOMING LADIES GUILD DATES: NO DECEMBER GATHERING, JANUARY 8TH & FEBRUARY 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!!.**

**DECEMBER ACTIVITIES:**

* **December 1st – 2nd Collection for Christmas gifts for our priests.**
* **December 5th - FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **December 8th – 3rd and final collection for Christmas gifts for our priests.**
* **December 9th, Holy Day of obligation, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**
* **December 11th – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **December 14th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **December 15th - Christmas Luncheon after 9:30AM Mass at Desert Willow Golf Resort.**

## **Christ of the Desert will be collecting donations for Galilee Center until December 16th.**

## **December 18th – Father Connole’s 57th ordination anniversary.**

## **December 24th – Christmas Eve Vigil Mass is at 5PM**

## **December 25th - Christmas Day Mass is at 9:30AM.**

## **December 31st is New Year’s Eve. Feast of the Holy Family.**

## **January 1st- Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.**

## **January 26th – First DDF Sunday.**

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

* **January 1st - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**
* **May 29th - Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter - Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**
* **August 15th  - Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
* **November 1st  - Solemnity of All Saints (Saturday)**
* **December 8th - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**
* **December 25th - Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

**Whenever January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, or August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption, or November 1, the solemnity of All Saints, falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, the precept to attend Mass is abrogated. Also, when December 8th falls on a Sunday, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday. While the day remains a solemnity, the faithful are not obligated to attend Mass.**

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

**December 8, 2024**

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

**In the year 1995, in the seventeenth year of my life, when Fife Symington was governor of Arizona, Bill Clinton was president of the United States, Chuck Keiffer was pastor of St. Theresa parish in Phoenix, Arizona, and Ron and Mary were my parents, the word of God came to my youth minister Eric and through him I started to see the salvation of God. Soon, Christ came into my life never to leave. I’m thankful beyond words.**

**Why am I being so specific, you ask? Because in the Gospel this week we hear the specific names of people holding civic and religious authority in first century Palestine when “the word of God came to John the Baptist:” Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate, Herod, Philip, Lysanias, Annas, Caiaphas, and Zechariah. All this is meant to help us see that God breaks into our *history*, into real human events. Jesus is no mere myth. He is the Word-which-breaks-in, in concrete moments, you might say. And now we anticipate his coming once again in our specific situations.**

**Advent challenge: Name as many civic and religious leaders who are in authority currently in your life. Now, name who the potential John the Baptists may be. A spouse? A friend? A podcaster? A work colleague who brings God’s word to you? Spend a moment considering that this comprises the concrete, historical setting into which Christ wishes to come. Then, with these specifics in mind, pray: “Come, Lord Jesus. Come.”***— Father John Muir*

 **Mass Readings for Second Sunday of Advent.**

* **First Reading –**[**Baruch 5:1-9**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/gods-glory-for-jerusalem/)**: Jerusalem, take off your mourning and wear God’s eternal glory. God will reveal your splendor to the world, gather your children, and lead Israel with joy, mercy, and justice.**
* **Responsorial Psalm –**[**Psalm 126**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/the-lords-great-deeds/)**; When the Lord restored Zion, we were overjoyed. Nations acknowledged God’s great deeds for us. We pray for renewed fortunes and rejoice, knowing that sorrow will turn to joy.**
* **Second Reading –**[**Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/a-prayer-for-growth-in-love/)**: I joyfully pray for you, confident that God will complete His work in you. I pray your love grows in knowledge, so you can discern what is best and be righteous in Christ.**
* **Gospel –**[**Luke 3:1-6**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/johns-call-in-the-desert/)**: During Tiberius Caesar’s reign, God’s word came to John in the desert. He preached repentance and forgiveness, fulfilling Isaiah’s prophecy to prepare the way for the Lord and reveal God’s salvation.**

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

**FINANCIAL SECTION:**

**DECEMBER HAS 5 SUNDAYS FOR THOSE THAT GIVE MONTHLY.**

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

**Total monies collected to date: $82,278\* or 54.5% of annual budget. Last week’s Sunday collection was: $2,437.**

**\*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 DECEMBER: For pilgrims of hope,
We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.**

**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 DECEMBER & 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.**

**DECEMBER BITHDAY SECTION:**

**Loretta Schutten has a birthday on December 6th.**

**Louella Bean has a birthday on December 6th.**

**Jack McCall has a birthday on December 7th.**

**Lee Marie Junga has a birthday on December 8th.**

**Jo Falk has a birthday on December 11th.**

**Germaine Thompson has a birthday on December 12th.**

**Jim Grand has a birthday on December 15th.**

**Jesse Schumaker has a birthday on December 19th.**

**Joyce McIntyre has a birthday on December 21st.**

**Chris Anderson has a birthday on December 25th.**

**JoAnn Pepper has a birthday on December 26th.**

**Shirley Murphy has a birthday on December 31st.**

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS IN HEAVEN:**

**Bobby DeWeese, brother of Paulette Quaid, has a birthday in heaven on December 4th.**

**Christine Smith, mother of Daria Smith, has a birthday in heaven on December 11th.**

**Jackie Capitanelli, Matriarch of the Capitanelli Family, has a birthday in heaven on December 16th.**

**Seana Swanson’s son, Travis Swanson, has a birthday in Heaven on December 16th.**

**Mary Walbridge, Daughter of Betty Walbridge, has a birthday in heaven on December 17th.**

**Bill Kosic, husband of Betty Kosic, has a birthday in heaven on December 28th.**

**DECEMBER HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SECTION:**

**Roger & Kathy Stambaugh – December 30th.**

**Please provide Month, Date & Year**

**DECEMBER: REMEMBERING WEDDING ANNIVERSAY SECTION:**

**None submitted.**

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

**Michael Brauntz, Roseanne’s husband passed away on December 8th. No year provided**

**Father Connole’s mother passed away on December 9th, 2014.**

**Lesile Zannotti passed away on December 23rd, 2013.**

**Mary Mueller, Jay’ Mueller’s mother, passed away on December 31st, 2005.**

**Mary “Sissy” Grand, Jim Grand’s mother, passed away on December 31st, 2001.**

**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.**

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

**Please pray for Carrie Clay who had an “accident” and broke her leg. She had surgery on Tuesday. Christ of the Desert Community**

**Please pray for 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