**FINAL DDF RESULTS FOR 2024: $23,890. GOAL WAS $12,200.**

**$11,690 WILL BE RETIRNED TO US WITH NO DIOCESAN TAXATION.**

**Thank you for your generosity!!!!!**

**We have a parishioner in need of a walker. If anyone has a used walker, they no longer need, please see or call Cindy. Thanks.**

**March 31th  – Easter Sunday Mass we had 220 people. Capacity is 195. SRO in the Chapel & 25 worshipers in the Courtyard.**

**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 7th, 14th , 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.**

**ATTENTION: Next Ladies Guild Members luncheon is April 10th:**

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

**The next gathering will be on Wednesday, April 10th at 11:30. Menu is Trio of Salads & Desert. 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 March 24th, 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)

**APRIL Upcoming Events:**

* **April 4th - Thursday FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **April 13th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program & wine bottles. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **April 10th  - Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon at 11:30.**
* **April 20th - Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**

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

**April 7, 2024**

**2nd Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

**A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope’s chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, “Holy Father, why do *you* get that special chair?” The group chuckled nervously at my friend’s audacious chide.**

**The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, “What do you think of my chair now?” My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them.**

**Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.**

**What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires.**

*— Father John Muir*

**April 7th – 2nd Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy).**

The readings for Divine Mercy Sunday (2nd Sunday of Easter) show us that the mercy of God is given to all of us, even though we turn away again and again.

In the gospel for this Sunday Jesus appears to the disciples. Then he comes back and lovingly helps Thomas overcome his doubts.

For Divine Mercy Sunday, the readings introduce several deeply intertwined themes that underscore the essence of Christian life, God’s infinite mercy, and the dynamics of faith and community.

**Mass Readings for** **2nd Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy).**

* **First Reading** - [Acts 4:32-35](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/shared-resources-in-early-church/): The early believers were united, sharing possessions and resources. The apostles' powerful testimony about Jesus' resurrection earned them high regard. They distributed funds from sold properties to meet everyone's needs, ensuring no one was in need.
* **Responsorial Psalm** - [Psalm 118](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/gods-mercy-endures/): Israel, Aaron's descendants, and the God-fearing proclaim God's enduring mercy. He answers in distress, providing strength and salvation. The rejected stone becomes the cornerstone, a marvelous act of the Lord.
* **Second Reading** - [1 John 5:1-6](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/faith-and-love-in-god/): Belief in Jesus as the Christ shows we are born of God. Loving God and His children means obeying His commandments, which are not burdensome. Our faith in Jesus as God's Son overcomes the world, affirmed by the Spirit of truth.
* **Gospel**- [John 20:19-31](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/jesus-appearance-and-thomas-faith/): In a locked room, Jesus appeared to his disciples, offering peace and showing his wounds, which brought them joy. He empowered them with the Holy Spirit and the authority to forgive sins. Thomas, absent initially, doubted their testimony. Later, Jesus appeared again, inviting Thomas to touch his wounds, leading to Thomas' declaration of faith. Jesus blessed future believers who wouldn't see yet believe. These events were recorded to affirm faith in Jesus as the Christ.

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

**FINANCIAL SECTION:**

**APRIL 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: $137,824 or 102.1.1% of annual budget. Easter week collection was: $6,676\*.**

**\*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.**

**Carol Anderson – April 21st.**

**Howard Lincoln- April 23rd**

**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 pray for Lois Hickey who recently fell and broke her hip. Jay Mueller & the entire community.**

**Please pray for Patrick McCoy, Jan’s husband, who recently fell which required surgery.**

**Please pray for Carrie Clay 2 weeks ago she had a freak accident and broke her knee cap.**

**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