**April 6th, 2025 - Issue #262 - 5th Sunday of Lent**

**URGENT PRAYER REQUEST: Sharon McCoy’s daughter, Terri, was hit by a car on Wednesday afternoon and is in the hospital with multiple fractures and a severe head injury. Sharon requests prayers for Terri and the entire family during this difficult time.**

**Note from Parishioner Paul Oliaro: Great perspective of our unique Community.**

**Hi Jay**

**I am sitting here prior to mass and listening to all the discussions and the chatter and the conversations that are taking place and realizing that this is what God really had in mind for worship - people talking to each other, listening to each other, caring for each other – it is one of the most special parts of this church– rather than the dead silence that we usually experience when we go into churches before Mass.**

**In fact the people behind me are talking about just how special this is because people care about each other, talk to each other and even share some of their concerns from the previous week.**

**I know it’s hard to get people to stay quiet at the start of mass but it’s really one of the most special pieces of Christ of the Desert!**

**April Upcoming Events:**

* **April 3rd - Thursday FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **April 9th – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **April 9th - the Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon.**
* **April 12th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **April 13th - Palm Sunday.**
* **April 20th - Easter Sunday.**
* **April 15th the Tax Man Cometh. Taxes are due.**

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE AT CHRIST OF THE DESERT & SACRED HEART CHURCH:**

* + **April 13th - Palm Sunday. Christ of the Desert: Mass at 9:30. Korean Mass at 11:15.**
  + **April 13th – Palm Sunday Masses at Sacred Heart Church.**
    - **Masses: 6:00AM,8:00AM,9:30AM,11:00AM,12:30PM (Spanish),2:30PM (Latin),5:30PM & 7:00PM (Spanish).**
  + **April 17th – Holy Thursday. No services at Christ of the Desert.**
  + **April 17th- Holy Thursday. Sacred Heart Church. Solemn Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 6:00PM.** 
    - **Adoration at Altar of Repose following 6:00PM Mass.**
    - **No 7:45 AM Mass on Holy Thursday.**
  + **April 18th - Good Friday. Stations of the Cross at Christ of the Desert, led by Paulette Quaid, at 12:00. No Healing Mass.**
  + **April 18th – Good Friday - Sacred Heart Church:**
    - **No 7:45AM Mass on Good Friday.**
    - **2:00PM – Liturgical Service including Unveiling & Veneration of the Holy Cross & Holy Communion.**
    - **6:00PM – Live presentation of the “Way of the Cross”. (Bilingual) in the Salta Center Gym.**
  + **April 19th – Holy Saturday – 8:00PM Easter Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart Church (Bilingual).**
    - **No 7:45AM Mass at Sacred Heart Church.**
    - **No Easter Vigil Mass at Christ of the Desert.**
  + **April 20th - Easter Sunday at Christ of the Desert. Mass at 9:30. Korean Mass at 11:15.**
  + **April 20th – Easter Sunday Masses at Sacred Heart Church.**
    - **Masses: 6:00AM,8:00AM,9:30AM,11:00AM,12:30PM (Spanish),2:30PM (Latin),5:30PM & 7:00PM (Spanish).**

**OUR 2025 DDF GOAL IS $13,100. We have met our goal!!**

**$24,545 has been collected to date!!**

**Another $3090.00 on Sunday the 30th.**

**Remember the following:**

* + **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 2025.**

**Thanks, in advance, for everyone’s continued DDF support.**

**FATHER CONNOLE’S “EMERGENCY DOOR FUND” UPDATE: Contract awarded. Work to begin after Easter. (Hopefully)**

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

**April 6, 2025 - 5th Sunday Lent - John 8:1-11**

**“The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery and made her stand in the middle” (John 8:3). Why do they make her stand in the middle? Why not expose her on the periphery? The reason is something that affects us practically every day.**

**The center is what stabilizes a community’s identity. We humans tend to center ourselves around an accused and condemned victim — though we rarely admit it. This renews our fragile communities and our power as those who weaponize the accusation. This is effective because it is often a victim who represents something truly dangerous for the group. In this case, adultery stands for the breakdown of a community and those within it, because it forces questions like: who is my father? Whose child is this? Is this child one of us, or that of an outsider? The accusers place the adulteress in the center because their community, like most, is built around turning an enemy into a victim.**

**Once you understand this, you’ll see it almost anywhere humans group together (families, politics, workplaces, sports, schools, etc.). The good news is Jesus exposes this dynamic by deftly pointing out the sin-infected hearts of everyone besides the woman. They all leave, symbolizing the breakdown of the old order, and she is “left alone before him.” A new community has begun, structured around the merciful love of Christ.**

**What is in your center? What is in the center of our parish and family communities? Strive to center on Christ’s forgiveness, and we experience the new, lasting community we call the Church.***— Father John Muir*

**April 6th – 5th Sunday of Lent:**

**Mass Readings:**

* **First Reading –**[**Isaiah 43:16-21**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/gods-promise-of-renewal-2/)**: God, who controls nature and armies, urges to forget the past and see His new works: paths in wilderness, rivers in deserts, providing for His chosen people, made to praise Him.**
* **Responsorial Psalm –**[**Psalm 126**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/joy-in-gods-restoration/)**: When the Lord restored Zion, our joy was like a dream, filled with laughter and praise. Nations recognized His great deeds. We pray for continued restoration and joyful harvest.**
* **Second Reading –**[**Philippians 3:8-14**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/pursuing-christ-above-all/)**: Everything is considered a loss compared to knowing Christ. Righteousness comes from faith, not law. Striving to know Christ’s power and share His sufferings, we press on towards eternal life with Him.**
* **Gospel –**[**John 8:1-11**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/jesus-and-the-adulterous-woman/)**: At the temple, Jesus encountered a woman accused of adultery, brought by scribes and Pharisees seeking to trap him. He responded wisely, suggesting only a sinless person should cast the first stone. This led her accusers to depart, and Jesus, left alone with the woman, chose not to condemn her, advising her to abandon her sinful life.**

**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.”**

**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:**

**The next Ladies Guild Luncheon will be on Wednesday, April 9th. Menu Tri Salad. Starting March 30th. Cindy will be collecting $5 after Masses to reserve a seat. Or you may email or call her at the office. 760-346-0089. We need to know how many will be joining us so we can plan how much food to prepare for our festive gathering!**

**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**

**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: $148,580\* or 99.1% of annual budget. Collection on Sunday the 30th  was $2,785.**

**\*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 APRIL: For the use of the new technologies:  
Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.**

**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.**

**2025**

**APRIL BIRTHDAY SECTION:**

**Bob Ruehl - April 3rd.**

**Mary Lindstrom – April 3rd.**

**Louise McCall - April 7th.**

**Barbara Dunn – April 14th.**

**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.**

**Hi Jay. Our prayer intentions: 1. For our 3-yr. old grandson, Terran, who is in Seattle Children’s Hospital with a central line infection (which he needs for nutrition and survival), and influenza A. We pray that he recovers with the antibiotics and be released soon.  
2. For our good friend Maureen, a holy and devout Catholic, that she recover from her pleurisy and pericarditis and live comfortably (she is only in her 50’s). For these intentions we pray to the Lord. Kathy Stambaugh**

**Please pray for Roger Gavin, new parishioner, who recently had a stroke. Betty**

**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 Ted, Sandy and Eva. 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**](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**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43-775+DEEP+CANYON+ROAD,+PALM+DESERT,+CA+92260?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+Deep+Canyon+Rd.+Palm+Desert,+CA+92260?entry=gmail&source=g)[**Palm Desert, CA**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775+Deep+Canyon+Rd.+Palm+Desert,+CA+92260?entry=gmail&source=g)[**92260**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775+Deep+Canyon+Rd.+Palm+Desert,+CA+92260?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