## **Everyone:**

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:**

**December 8th (Friday) 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.**

**Mass at Christ of the Desert:**

**Come to the Healing Mass at 12:30 PM to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

**Masses at Sacred Heart are:**

**December 7th - Vigil Mass at 5:30PM.**

**December 8th - 7:45AM, 9:00AM, 12:10PM, 5:30 PM & 7:00PM (Spanish)**

**December Special Events:**

* **December 3rd – 2nd Collection for Christmas gifts for our priests.**
* **December 7th is FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **December 8th, Holy Day of obligation, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**
* **December 9th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **December 13th – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **December 14th – Finance Council meeting.**
* **December 17th - Christmas Luncheon after 9:30AM Mass at Desert Willow Golf Resort.**

## **Christ of the Desert will be collecting donations for Galilee Center until December 18th.**

## **December 24th – Regular 9:30AM Sunday Mass.**

## **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.**

## **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON:**

**We have secured additional tables. PLEASE GET TO CINDY ASAP IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND.**

**The Christmas luncheon (What a great way to start the holiday season.) is set for December 17th at Desert Willow Golf Course (again) right after Mass. The Parishioner cost is $35 per person. Actual cost is $45 per person. Christ of the Desert Finance Council voted on September 21st to cover the difference. Several Parishioners have approached me stating they are willing to cover the costs to attend, for any Parishioner who wants to attend, but is not financially able. As  I stated at Mass recently, I never want to hear anyone say again, “I wanted to go to the luncheon but could not afford it”. We are a community that takes care of everyone. If you fall into this category, please see Cindy privately so she can sign you up to attend.**

**You may make your reservation with Cindy or her assistants 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.**

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

**The luncheon will be held at Desert Willow Golf Resort at 38995 Desert Willow Drive in Palm Desert, right off Country Club between Portola and Cook.**

**Buffet includes**

**Spinach Salad and Tortilla Soup**

**Miniature Beef Steak W/ Shallot Sauce and Grilled Salmon**

**Steamed Vegetables and Garlic Mashed Potatoes**

**Assorted Fruit Pies**

**Freshly Brewed Regular and Decaf coffee, Ice Tea & water. No host bar**

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

## **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.**

## **We will be collecting food, toys and new/slightly used clothing until the December 18th. If you have a large load, please make arrangements with Cindy to bring them to the church office.**

## **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!**

**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 or Cindy will be collecting on Sunday November 26th, December 3rd & 10th. We will give your monetary gifts to the priests on Sunday December 17th 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.**

**December 3rd is the first Sunday of Advent.**

**What is Advent?**

**Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of**[**Christmas**](https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/christmas/index.cfm)**.**

**The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord’s birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus’ promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.**

**As we prepare for Christmas, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest wears violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose may be worn. Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.**

**The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.**

### **What is the Advent wreath?**

**The Advent wreath is a powerful symbol that helps us center our hearts and minds on the preparation for the coming of our Lord at Christmas. It typically consists of a wreath made of evergreen branches, with four candles placed on it. Each candle represents one week of the season, and they are lit progressively, one by one, as we journey through the season. As we light the candles, we say a prayer that often includes a scripture reference, deepening our reflection and anticipation. To enhance your experience, you can download a prayer sheet that provides guidance and inspiration for your daily Advent wreath prayers.**

**DECEMBER 3RD, 2023**

### **Themes for the 1st Sunday of Advent.**

The readings for the First Sunday in Advent are a call to be alert in waiting for the coming of the Lord.

The first reading begs the Lord to return to us and save us.

The psalm also asks God to look upon us and have mercy.

The second reading calls us to remain steadfast in our discipleship.

And in the gospel, Jesus warns us to be watchful. Not everyone will be ready in the final hour.

### **Mass Readings for the 1st Sunday of Advent.**

* **First Reading** – [Isaiah 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7](https://young-catholics.com/scripture-reading/?en=201&rp=3014): We acknowledge You as our eternal redeemer, yet we’ve strayed and become sinful. We long for Your mighty presence and deeds, as we are lost without Your guidance.
* **Responsorial Psalm** – [Psalm 80](https://young-catholics.com/scripture-reading/?en=202&rp=3014): Shepherd of Israel, hear us and save us. Look down, care for us, and let Your face shine upon us that we may be strong and faithful.
* **Second Reading** – [1 Corinthians 1:3-9](https://young-catholics.com/scripture-reading/?en=203&rp=3014): I thank God for the grace given to you, enriching you with knowledge and spiritual gifts as you await Jesus Christ, who will keep you steadfast until His return.
* **Gospel** – [Mark 13:33-37](https://young-catholics.com/scripture-reading/?en=204&rp=3014): Jesus advises his disciples to stay vigilant as no one knows when He will return. It’s likened to a man going on a journey who instructs his servants to be watchful in his absence, emphasizing the need to remain prepared at all times.

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

**FINANCIL SECTION:**

**NOVEMBER 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: $66,626 or 49.3 % of annual budget. Last week we collected $1,901.**

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

**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.**

**ATTENTION: Ladies Guild Members: No December luncheon!!**

**We will be having our next Ladies Guild Luncheon on Wednesday, January 10th 2024 at 11:30 am at the Catholic Charities building in the parking lot. Menu TBD. Please email Cindy at**[**chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com**](mailto:chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com)**or call 760-346-0089 to sign up or Cindy will be available after Mass to sign up and pay $5 per person. You may pay ahead at sign-up or pay at the door. We do plan ahead for the amount of food so please make sure to pay if you signed up, even if you don’t make it.**

**THE POPE’S INTENTION FOR DECEMBER: For persons with disabilities:  
We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.**

**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.**

**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 20th.**

**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:**

**Jackie Capitanelli has a birthday in heaven on December 16th.**

**DECEMBER HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SECTION:**

**Roger & Kathy Stambaugh – December 30th. 35 years!!**

**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**

**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**

**“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 put my friends on the prayer list as they are all ill. Arnie Tom Karen and Mira. Roxanne Reed**

**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.**

**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