## **Everyone:**

## **REMINDER:**

**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: Healing oils will not be distributed this Friday.**

**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)**

## **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON:**

## **December 17th at Desert Willow Golf Resort in Palm Desert. Starts immediately after the 9:30 AM Mass.**

**PLEASE GET TO CINDY ASAP IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND.**

## **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 December 10th after Mass. 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 Special Events:**

* **December 1st is FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **December 10th – 3rd Collection for Christmas gifts for our priests.**
* **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.**

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

**December 10, 2023**

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

**We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.**

**It’s nothing new, of course. In Jesus’ day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you’re free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.**

**Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark’s gospel, “The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” It’s not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word “gospel” was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God’s son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It’s time to follow him and be truly free. This week let’s refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let’s rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.**

*— Father John Muir*

**December 10th - Second Sunday of Advent.**

**DECEMBER 10th, 2023**

### **Themes for the 2nd Sunday of Advent.**

### The readings for the 2nd Sunday of Advent tell us of John the Baptist and his call to repentance.

### The first reading foretells the coming of John the Baptist.

### The psalm reminds us that the Lord is kind and just.

### The second reading encourages us to grow in holiness.

### And in the gospel, John the Baptist is baptizing people in preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ.

### **Mass Readings for the 2nd Sunday of Advent.**

* **First Reading**– [Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11](https://young-catholics.com/scripture-reading/?en=286&rp=3060): Summary: God promises comfort and forgiveness to Jerusalem, declaring an end to her trials. A path is made for the Lord’s glory, as He comes with power and tenderness, like a caring shepherd.
* **Responsorial Psalm** – [Psalm 80](https://young-catholics.com/scripture-reading/?en=287&rp=3060): I listen for God’s words, for He promises peace to His people and salvation to the reverent. In our land, kindness and truth, justice and peace, shall unite under His blessings.
* **Second Reading** – [2 Peter 3:8-14](https://young-catholics.com/scripture-reading/?en=288&rp=3060): God’s time differs from ours; He’s patient, desiring all to repent. The Day of the Lord will bring transformation, urging us to live in holiness, awaiting a new righteous world.
* **Gospel** – [Mark 1:1-8](https://young-catholics.com/scripture-reading/?en=289&rp=3060): Isaiah prophesied a messenger, John the Baptist, who emerged in the wilderness calling for repentance and baptism for sin forgiveness. He foretold of one greater than himself, unworthy even to untie His sandals, who would baptize with the Holy Spirit, not just water.

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

**FINANCIAL 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: $70,509 or 52.2 % of annual budget. Last week we collected $3,883.**

**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.**

**Louella Bean 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 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:**

**Daria Smith’s mother, Christine Smith, will be celebrating her birthday in heaven on December 11th.**

**Seana Swanson’s son, Travis Swanson, will be celebrating his birthday in Heaven on December 16th.**

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

**Mary Walbridge will be celebrating her 60th birthday in heaven this year on December 17th.**

**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