**OUR 2024 DDF GOAL IS $12,200.**

* **OUR FIRST DDF COLLECTION WAS SUNDAY JANUARY 28TH.**
* **We collected an incredible $8,685. Thank you all for your generosity!!!**

**Make checks payable to “Christ of the Desert”. Put DDF in lower left memo area.**

**Cash $$$ is always acceptable.**

* **Our Second collection will be February 25th.**
* **Our Third collection will be on March 31st.**
	+ **All monies collected (above $12,200) will be returned to us with no Diocesan taxation!!**
	+ **These additional funds will enable us to continue our facility improvement projects in 2024.**
* **Last year we raised $20,746. Over $10,000 was returned to us!!!**

**REMINDER:**

**We designate the last Sunday of the month as DDF Sunday. However, you can always donate at any time. Any Sunday or dropping off your donation during the week in the slot in the door on #4 office or sending in your donation.Our mailing address is “Christ of the Desert”: 43775 Deep Canyon Rd.  Palm Desert, CA  92260**

**Thanks, in advance, for everyone’s continued DDF support in the February & March collections.**

**ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 14TH.**

**Ashes will be distributed at the Noon Mass at Christ of the Desert.**

**“remember that you are dust and into dust you shall return”**

**ATTENTION: Ladies Guild Members:**

**February 14th is both Valentine’s Day and Ash Wednesday so we are moving the luncheon to Wednesday the 21st.**

**We will be serving a lunch with an  “Italian Flair” including salad and bread, and of course, dessert. Please put February 21st on your calendar and call, email (760-346-0089 or****chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com****) or sign-up with Cindy at Mass starting January 28th.  We have been having a wonderful time socializing and getting to know each other. We encourage everyone to come, especially if you are new to our parish.**

**Announcement: Sew & Serve Ministry:**

**Dress a Girl Around the World Program:**

**Since our Dress a Girl Around the World ministry began at Sacred Heart we have made 4000 dresses for needy girls locally, nationally, and internationally.  We invite you to open your heart by donating to this ministry.**

* **A $5 donation will provide materials for 2 dresses**
* **A $10 donation will provide materials for 4 dresses.**

**On February 11th - Anne Tufo (Sew & Serve Ministry) will have a table before and after Mass, in the courtyard, as you enter the Chapel to explain this ministry and accept your monetary donations. If you will be donating by check, Make checks to Sacred Heart Church – in the memo area (lower left) attention Dress a Girl.**

**You may also pick up a packet to sew on February 10th  in the Sacred Heart parking lot from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM.  For more information please call Anne at 760 899 0351.**

**Men's Retreat - Sacred Heart Men’s Challenge Weekend**

**Date: February 16-17th, 2024**

**Location:  Sacred Heart Church**

**Salta Pastoral Center, Room 333**

**Schedule:**

**Retreat begins Friday 5:30 PM to 9 PM**

**Saturday 7:30 AM through 7 PM**

**Wonderful retreat, specially designed for those who desire an annual retreat to renew and strengthen their relationship with God.**

**Organized by WorkLight formerly known as Christians in Commerce.**

**Call or email for more information**

**Phil Lavelle (916) 502-1924**

**Gary Gonsalves (858) 395-1111**

gonsalves1234@hotmail.com

**February Special Events:**

* **February 1st is the Thursday FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **February 2nd is “Ground Hog’s Day”.** **Punxsutawney Phil’s prediction will be in next week’s bulletin.**
* **February 10th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **February 11th - Sew & Serve Ministry - Dress a Girl Around the World Program collection: (see details above)**
* **Lent starts February 14th. Mass & Ashes distribution at Christ of the Desert at noon.**
	+ **Easter is March 31st.**
	+ **Ash Wednesday Masses at Scared Heart are: 7:45, 9:00, 12:10, 5:30 & 7:00 (Spanish)**
* **Next Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon is on Wednesday February 21st.**
* **February 21st – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **February 25th is the second DDF collection Sunday.**
* **March 31st is the last DDF Sunday collection.**

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

**February 4, 2024**

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Maybe I’m weird, but I like spending time in doctor’s offices, confession lines in churches, auto repair shops, prison cells, and support groups of various kinds. It’s refreshing to be with people who humbly admit something is wrong and forthrightly set out on a path toward a solution. When we ignore what is off kilter, we become alone and fragile. In places where people are honest and hopeful about brokenness, sturdy if subtle fellowship usually ensues.**

**Consider the image we see of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark. “...they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by a demon. The *whole town* was gathered at the door.” The entire human community is afflicted in various ways, and so it gradually forms a strange new community around Jesus. The healer from Nazareth is like a sun of health around which orbits a throng of humanity absorbing his healing rays. These blessed souls can’t fix themselves and become healthy, and they know it. But they have found in him the living source of all imaginable healing.**

**It’s the Church, isn’t it? A sin-sick community gathered and healed is what happens at the beginning of every Mass. We shuffle in through the door from everywhere and announce that we are not okay, and we can’t fix it. In doing so, we are drawn into the orbit of the healing power of Christ — and into a renewed community with the whole human family. It’s nothing to fear or rush. Maybe we can even learn to enjoy more how good it is to be in such a happy place.**

*— Father John Muir*

### February 4th – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

### Themes for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

### The readings for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time cause us to reflect on Jesus’ power to heal us, both physically and spiritually.

### In the first reading, Job laments that he is experiencing so much misery and despair.

### But the psalm reminds us to “Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted.”

### The Gospel tells how Jesus cured Peter’s mother in law, freed those possessed by demons, and preached in the area.

### Mass Readings for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

* **First Reading** – [Job 7:1-4, 6-7](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/jobs-lament-on-lifes-hardships/): Job laments life's hardships, comparing his suffering to a laborer's toil and a slave's longing for relief. His nights are restless, his days joyless, feeling his life fleeting like the wind.
* **Responsorial Psalm**– [Psalm 147](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/gods-healing-and-power/): Praise the Lord for His kindness and mercy. He restores and unites, heals the brokenhearted, and knows all creation intimately. He uplifts the humble, humbling the wicked.
* **Second Reading** –[1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/duty-and-reward-in-preaching/): Preaching the gospel is my entrusted duty, not a ground for pride. My reward lies in sharing it freely, adapting to serve all, with the hope of sharing in its blessings.
* **Gospel**– [Mark 1:29-39](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/healing-and-preaching-in-galilee-2/): Jesus healed Simon's mother-in-law at her home. That evening, many sick and demon-possessed were brought to him; he healed them, not allowing demons to speak. Seeking solitude, Jesus prayed in the early morning. Urged by his followers, he continued his mission, preaching and exorcising demons throughout Galilee.

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

**FINANCIAL SECTION:**

**FEBRUARY 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: $98,750 or 73.1% of annual budget. Last week collected $2,087.**

**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.**

**THE POPE’S INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY: For the terminally ill.**

**We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.**

**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 FEBRUARY & 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.**

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY SECTION:**

**CeCe Bogan has a birthday on February 13th.**

**John Kirsch has a birthday on February 14th.**

**Dolores Kent has a birthday on February 19th.**

**Zelina Ferenz has a birthday on February 20th.**

**Nancy Tapick has a birthday on February 26th.**

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS IN HEAVEN:**

**Andre Binns – February 2nd, Husband of Linda Binns.**

**Tom Washburn – February 21st, Husband of Carla Washburn.**

**FEBRUARY HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SECTION:**

**None submitted**

**Please provide Month, Date & Year**

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

**Seana Swanson’s son, Travis, passed away on February 2, 2021.**

**Carla Washburn’s Husband, Tom, passed away on February 4th2017.**

**John Maldonado’s mother, Nellie, passed away on February 17th.**

**Joyce Sosebee’s partner, Paul Aragon, passed away on February 26th  2023.**

**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, Katy Tomas & Mary Osborn.**

**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****. 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.**

**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 East Valley Food Distribution Coordinator

SHC & COD Parish Council Member SHC East Valley Outreach Program Coordinator

COD Remembrance Walk Coordinator SHC Parish Walk Coordinator

CELL NUMBER 760-777-3745