**February 2nd, 2025 - Issue #253 - The Presentation of the Lord**

**OUR 2025 DDF GOAL IS $13,100.**

**OUR FIRST DDF COLLECTION WAS SUNDAY JANUARY 26TH.**

* **We collected an incredible $7,619. 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 23rd.**
* **Our Third collection will be on March 30th.**
  + **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 2024.**
* **Last year we raised $39,025. Over $26,825 was returned to us!!!**

**REMINDER:**

**We designate the last Sunday of the month as DDF Sunday. However, you can always donate at any time. Each Sunday will be have a collection basket available after Mass.**

**You can also drop off your donation during the week, into the slot of door #4 office.**

**You can also send us your donation at any time. 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.**

**February Special Events:**

* **February 2nd is “Ground Hog’s Day”.** **Punxsutawney Phil’s prediction will be in next week’s bulletin. February 6th is the Thursday FIND February 6th - Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **February 8th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **February 12th - Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon. (see details below).**
* **February 12th – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **February 23rd is the second DDF collection Sunday.**
* **March 30st is the last DDF Sunday collection. (if needed)**
* **January 26th was the first DDF Sunday collection!! We collected $7,619!!!**
  + **February 23rd is the second DDF Sunday collection!!**
  + **March 30th  is the last DDF Sunday collection!!**

**FATHER CONNOLE’S “EMERGENCY DOOR FUND” UPDATE: We have collected $46,695 towards our new goal of $58,000.**

**MESSAGE FROM CINDY:**

**Donation Tax Statements went out in the mail on Monday January 27th. For those of you that are snow birds and or have two homes, it is likely that your statement went to your main address. If you need a list of your donations because you will not be going home before you do your taxes, please call or email me at** [**chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com**](mailto:chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com) **and I can send you the information or copy and give it to you. If you live locally and did not receive your letter, please do the same. Also, if you need a letter and you donate cash, please call.**

**Cindy**

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

**February 2, 2025 - Presentation of the Lord - Luke 2:22-40**

**What is the secret to sharing in God’s power to overcome our difficulties? Mary teaches us this in the prophecy of her pierced heart. This Sunday, the old man Simeon prophecies that when her son faces opposition, Mary’s soul will be pierced by a sword. The seemingly pointless agony of a mother helplessly watching her son be mocked, tortured, killed and then cruelly desecrated in death by a spear — somehow this piercing of her heart releases a power by which “the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed” (Luke 2:35). What to make of this?**

**Whatever problems we currently face, the deepest threat is finally that evil thoughts are hidden in the human heart: hatred, envy, pride, lust, greed and so on. Behind every tyrant’s injustice, for example, is a heart unpierced by love. Evil hides in our hearts. Mary’s pierced heart, and its suffering love for her son, reveals and scatters these evil thoughts, and replaces them with love, forgiveness, generosity and peace.**

**This week, I invite us to ponder Mary’s pierced heart. Her heart is quietly at work for us in the Church and world, exposing our evil thoughts and making a path for her son’s divine love. This is how she gently cooperates in our salvation. Closed hearts are our biggest problem; love-pierced hearts are the ultimate power to overcome every difficulty.***— Father John Muir*

**What is Ordinary Time in Roman Catholic calendar?**

**Technically, Ordinary Time has two parts, but it remains one season. The first part begins right after the feast of the Epiphany and runs until Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday (when Lent begins). The second part begins the Monday after Pentecost and runs until the First Sunday of Advent.**

**February 2nd – Presentation of the Lord.**

**Mass Readings for the Presentation of the Lord.**

* **First Reading –**[**Malachi 3:1-4**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/the-lords-purifying-arrival/)**: The Lord announces the coming of His messenger, preceding Him. His arrival will purify and refine, making offerings righteous and pleasing, restoring ancient glory.**
* **Responsorial Psalm –**[**Psalm 24**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/proclaim-the-king-of-glory/)**: Open the gates for the powerful, valiant King of Glory. The Lord of armies, He reigns supreme.**
* **Second Reading –**[**Hebrews 2:14-18**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/human-to-redeem-humanity/)**: Jesus, fully human, died to conquer death and release humanity from its fear, not to aid angels. His humanity enables him to empathize and intercede as our high priest.**
* **Gospel –**[**Luke 2:22-40**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/presentation-of-jesus-at-the-temple/)**: Mary and Joseph presented Jesus at the temple, fulfilling the Law of Moses. Simeon, led by the Holy Spirit, recognized Jesus as the Messiah, prophesying his impact on Israel and a future sorrow for Mary. The prophetess Anna also acknowledged Jesus, sharing his significance with others. Jesus grew in wisdom and grace.**

**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.” (Spes Non Confundit 1 - Rom 5:5) Jubilee 2025 invites you to be a pilgrim of hope. For Christians, hope is anchored in the encounter with Jesus whose life, death, and resurrection reveals God’s transforming love. Our hope in God is renewed constantly in the gift of the Holy Spirit, the love of the Father and the Son, who is given, even now, to the community of believers.**

**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:**

**We will be having our next Ladies Guild Luncheon on Wednesday, February 12th 2025 at 11:30 AM.**

**Our menu is Italian Chicken Cacciatore. Dessert and sides 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, starting January 26th, to sign up and pay $5 per person. We do plan ahead for the amount of food so please make sure to pay when you signed up. March meeting date is on Wednesday the 12th.**

**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**

**Whenever January 1, the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, or August 15, the solemnity of the Assumption, or November 1, the solemnity of All Saints, falls on a Saturday or on a Monday, the precept to attend Mass is abrogated. Also, when December 8th falls on a Sunday, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday. While the day remains a solemnity, the faithful are not obligated to attend Mass.**

**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: $112,905\* or 75.3% of annual budget. Collection on Sunday the 26th was $4,168.**

**\*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 FEBRUARY: For vocations to the priesthood and religious life.  
Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.**

**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.**

**2025**

**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.**

**Diane Berwick – February 16th.**

**Max Sosebee – February 20th.**

**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.**

**Jesse Schumaker’s Brother, Juan Baco, passed away on February 28th, 2022.**

**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.**

**Please pray for Dee Howarth she recently had a stroke and bleeding in the brain. Sharon McCoy**

**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 Carrie Clay who had an “accident” and broke her right hip. Christ of the Desert Community**

**Please pray for Doug and Val. 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 Remembrance Square Coordinator

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

COD Remembrance Walk Coordinator CELL NUMBER 760-777-3745