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

* **To date we have collected $10,527.**
* **Last year we raised $20,746. Over $10,000 was returned to us!!! Let’s beat last year’s amount!!**
* **Our Second collection will be this Sunday - February 25th.**
  + **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.**
* **Make checks payable to “Christ of the Desert”. Put DDF in lower left memo area.**
* **Cash $$$ is always acceptable.**
* **Our Third collection (if needed) will be on March 31st.**

**REMINDER:**

**We designate the last Sunday of the month as DDF Sunday. However, you can always donate at any time. Any Sunday (basket will be in the back of the church) 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.**

**ATTENTION: Ladies Guild Members luncheon is March 13th:**

**March’s luncheon is back to being on the second Wednesday of the month.**

**Our February Ladies Guild Luncheon was a great event. It was held in the Courtyard of the Church and everyone loved the perfect weather as well as the wonderful lunch, cooked by Kathy Ryan and Jan McCoy. We hope to be able to move back to Catholic Charities after the repair and construction has been completed but, weather permitting, we’ll enjoy the sun in the courtyard next month.**

**We’ll be serving a variation on the traditional corned beef and cabbage with Kathy’s homemade soda bread and a dessert (TBD).**

**Cindy will be taking signups starting February 25th, after Mass. You can also make a reservation by calling the office (760-346-0089) or emailing Cindy at** [**chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com**](mailto:chayward@sacredheartpalmdesert.com)

**Hope to see you there!!!**

**February & March Upcoming 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 predicts 6 more weeks of winter. He did not see his shadow.  YEAH!!!!**
* **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 results above)**
* **Lent started February 14th. Mass & Ashes were distribution at Christ of the Desert at noon.**
* **February 14th was Valentine’s Day**
* **Next Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon was 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.**
* **February 29th is the extra day every 4 years “called leap” year.**
  + **The Earth takes 365 days, five hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds to complete one revolution around the Sun. Thus, scholars, engaged by Roman General Julius Caesar in 46 BC, rounded the year to 365 days. They multiplied the remaining six hours by four to make it 24 hours (one day) and added it to every fourth year.**
* **March 7th is the Thursday FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **March 9th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **March 10th  is Day Light Saving Time. Change you clocks before going to bed. Spring forward.**
* **March 13th is the Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon.**
* **March 17th is St. Patrick’s day.**
* **March 20th – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **March 31st is Easter Sunday.**
* **March 31st is the last DDF Sunday collection.**
* **April 15th the Tax Man Cometh. Taxes are due.**

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

**February 25, 2024**

**2nd Sunday of Lent**

**As a college student, my prized possession was an after-market car stereo. It was my pride and joy: glorious audio, eye-catching display screen, and multi-disc CD changer. It drained my hard-earned dollars, but it was totally worth it. It drenched me in music everywhere I drove. On Ash Wednesday of my senior year of college, Father Tom, the Jesuit priest at my university said, “Pray for God to tell you what he wants you to sacrifice for Lent.” I did. In my heart, the answer came: “Give up listening to your car stereo for forty days.” I winced. Not possible, I thought. Can’t do it. I made other plans. The next morning, I was stunned to find that my car had been broken into, and my fancy stereo ripped out and stolen.**

**God’s command to sacrifice what we love is no joke. This week in Genesis 22, God says: “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love — Isaac — and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.” Believe me, I know. We like to be in control. It chaffs us that *God sets the terms* of what we must sacrifice, and how. But this is no impersonal, tyrannical process. Remember that God uses their names, Abraham and Isaac. God knows each one of us and the precious gifts He commands us to offer. Finally, our sacrifices are for our own good.**

**Lenten challenge: This week, I dare you to ask God: “What do you want me to give up?” He may ask for that which you love most. It will be something precious to you: time, money, a relationship, a dream, an opportunity. What matters is we trust Him and act sacrificially in line with His command. Whatever we sacrifice will of course come back to us as surely as the Risen Jesus — but that doesn’t make it easy.**

*— Father John Muir*

### February 25th – 2nd Sunday of Lent.

### The readings for the 2nd Sunday of Lent make us think of God's revelation of Jesus Christ as his beloved son and also how God loves us.

### The first reading tells of how Abraham prepared to sacrifice his son Isaac, but God stopped him.

### The gospel tells of the Transfiguration, where the voice from the heavens revealed Jesus as God's beloved son to Peter, James, and John.

### Mass Readings for the 2nd Sunday of Lent.

* **First Reading** - [Genesis 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/abrahams-faith-tested/): God tested Abraham's faith by asking him to sacrifice Isaac, his beloved son. At the moment of sacrifice, an angel stopped him, providing a ram instead. Abraham's obedience led to God's promise of countless descendants and blessings for all nations.
* **Responsorial Psalm** - [Psalm 116](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/devotion-amid-despair/): Despite despair, I recognize the Lord values His faithful. Freed from my burdens, I offer thanks and fulfill my vows publicly, choosing to dwell in God's presence throughout my life on earth.
* **Second Reading** - [Romans 8:31B-34](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/gods-unfailing-support/): If God is for us, no one can oppose us. He gave His Son for us and will freely give us all things. God declares us righteous, and Christ intercedes for us, ensuring no condemnation.
* **Gospel**- [Mark 9:2-10](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/the-transfiguration/): Jesus, accompanied by Peter, James, and John, underwent a miraculous transformation on a secluded mountain, where his appearance became dazzlingly white. There, Elijah and Moses appeared and conversed with Him. Overcome by the moment, Peter suggested building shelters for each. A divine voice affirmed Jesus as the beloved Son, urging them to heed His words. Following this profound experience, Jesus cautioned them to keep the event confidential until His resurrection, leaving them contemplative about its significance.

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

**FINANCIAL SECTION:**

**MARCH 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: $110,994 or 82.2% of annual budget. Last week collected $4,295.**

**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 $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.**

**Would you please add prayers for my friends Arnie, Ted, Karen and Mira!!! Thank you, Roxanne**

**Prayers for Tom who passed away last week. May he “rest in peace”. Roxanne**

**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.**

**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.**

**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