January 5, 2025 The Epiphany of the Lord RED REN EWAL

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PASTORAL REFLECTION



Epiphany, Manifestation, Revelation, Hope

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord...What is an Epiphany? According to the dictionary, Epiphany means an appearance, a showing forth, a manifestation. It is

the revelation of Jesus as the Christ.

"The Catechism of the Catholic Church", Paragraph 528, defines the Epiphany of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God, and Savior of the world. The Word has become flesh. The gift of the Incarnation has been born into time and history. It is a fact.

In our faith development, how has the Son of God and the Son of Mary been made known to us? How have we experienced His presence, love, and forgiveness?

The readings for the Feast of the Epiphany (Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6; and Mt. 2:1-12) each speak of hope in its own way. We are a people of hope.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has declared a Jubilee Year. It began on Dec. 24, 2024, and concludes on Jan. 6, 2026. The theme of the Year is Pilgrims of Hope...Hope Does Not Disappoint. We are asked to look for signs of hope in the world around us and work for peace and justice. In our faith community, we will honor the Jubilee Year in a variety of ways. Stay tuned!

I encourage us to enter the Year of Hope by prayerfully and quietly looking into our hearts to find what it is that we are hopeful.

After the magi encountered the Christ Child, they departed for their country by another way. After we encounter Him, how do we go about our lives in a different way? Hopefully, filled with hope.

In. Page & Polk ofm

Fr. Page E. Polk, OFM Rector

The Conventual Church of

Our Lady *of the* Angels

Sunday Mass	at the Franciscan Re Saturday	enewal Center 4:00 pm	
	Sunday 7:30 an	n; 9:15 am; 11:00 am	
Daily Mass	Monday – Friday	8:00 am	
Sat. 4 pm, Sun. 9:15 am, and Monday – Friday Daily Mass also available on <u>YouTube.com/theCasaFRC</u>			
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Taizé Prayer	2nd & 4th Wedn	esday 7:00 pm
Reconciliation	Saturday <i>isit the website for ad</i>	2:00 - 3:00 pm <i>ditional times in Advent</i>
Guest Services	Sun. – Sat.	6:00 am -7:30 pm
Adoration	1st Friday	6:00 pm
Bookstore	Sun. Mon. & Tu Wed. & Thu. Fri. Sat.	8:00 am - 1:00 pm Closed 10:00 am - 2:00 pm 10:00 am - 6:00 pm 11:00 am - 5:30 pm

Please see pg. 10 for this week's Mass Intentions. For weekly readings, visit <u>bible.usccb.org/</u>.

Our Lady of the Angels Church Pastoral Staff

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Franciscan Renewal Center Executive Administration

Executive Director		
Charles Brown	<u>casa@thecasa.org</u>	x175

Officers of the FRC Board

Diane Catlin, Chair	Richard Murphy, Secretary
Linda Christian, Treasurer	

Visit: thecasa.org/frc-board-of-directors for all board members and bios

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Thank You to our many volunteers for our Christmas liturgies

Each year, many people help to bring our Christmas liturgies to life, and we are all deeply grateful to each and every one!

Hospitality Ministers – for your warm smiles and enthusiastic welcome.

Art & Environment - to all who designed, created, built, and set up the beautiful decorations.

Eucharistic Ministers – for helping to serve Holy Communion with faith and charity.

Choir, Musicians, and Dancers - for leading and inspiring us through your talents.

Lectors - for proclaiming the readings with passion and devotion.

Behind the scenes – from the sacristans, ministry leaders, planners, cleaners, all who helped set up chairs, wash windows, and so much more.

Creche Festival - to the dedicated hands of the team who carefully set up and managed this year's beautiful display of over 300 nativity sets.

And more...any oversight is unintentional and simply reflects that this truly is a community effort, seen and unseen.

What a beautiful expression of goodness it is to witness so many people working together to create meaningful celebrations of our faith.

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

Holy families ... for anyone facing hardships ...

The Gospel accounts of the Holy Family provide us with inspiring examples, especially during times of personal struggle. From the very start, Mary and Joseph faced their own difficulties. They were unsettled by the news of Mary's pregnancy, and in the days leading up to Jesus' birth, they embarked on a difficult journey to Bethlehem. With no proper shelter, Mary had to give birth under challenging conditions. Rather than return home, they had to flee under the cover of night to a foreign land to protect the baby, carefully avoiding the new king's threat. Through it all, they trusted that God would watch over them, and they remained faithful. May we too experience that same comfort and hold onto our faith during our own trials.



In this Jubilee Year of Hope, we are invited to seek signs of hope in the world around us and reflect on how we can bring hope to others. As Pope Francis beautifully put it: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given

to us and help everyone gain new strength and confidence by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart, and a far-sighted vision."

"Taizé Prayer Around the Cross" 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7 pm

Join us this Wednesday, January 8

"Taizé prayer" consists of short sung chants, scripture readings, and periods of silence which give the service a meditative character. The service typically lasts about 35-40 minutes.

Director of Liturgy & Music
Assistant Director of Liturgy & Music
Executive Assistant to the Liturgy Office

Norbert Zwickl Richard Guerra Rosa Rodriguez-Saiz

<u>norbert@thecasa.org</u>	480.355.0346
richard@thecasa.org	480.355.0347
rosa@thecasa.org	480.355.5642

The 4 Elements Retreat Saturday, February 1

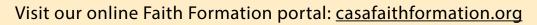
- A Day Hike Retreat
 - Led by a team of young adult & adult community members
 - Witness Talks
 - Small Group Discussion
 - Prayer

www.casafaithformation.org/four-elements-retreat

-FREE!



More Information and Registration Here!



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FAITH FORMATION



January 12, 2025 — For 10th–12th Graders



DISCOVER THE VISION *A one-hour introduction to the*

Casa's mission and ministries.

1st Thursdays of the Month

Upcoming dates:

February 6 11:00 am

March 6

11:00 am

Reserve Your Spot Today

online: <u>thecasa.org/</u> <u>discover-the-vision</u>

phone: 480.355.5631 email: <u>rsvp@thecasa.org</u>

Director of Development Development Manager The Conventual Church of OUR LADY of the ANGELS at the Franciscan Renewal Center

Mass Offerings 12.22.24 \$17,446

12.24.23 \$8,865

Mass Attendance

12.22.24 1,339 12.24.23 594

christopher@thecasa.org 480.355.5634 paula@thecasa.org 480.355.5631

Franciscan School of Theology at the UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

THE FRANCISCAN VISION LECTURE SERIES

For more information and a listing of future programs,

Sunday, January 12, 9 – 10:30 am | Auditorium "A Franciscan Vision of the Bible: St. Clare's Spirituality"

with Fr. Garrett Galvin, OFM

visit: frc.retreatportal.com

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Christopher Meyer Paula A Tobin

FAITH FORMATION — FAITH IN ACTION MINISTRIES— Visit: linktr.ee/socialconcerns



Hunger Action Winter Service Opportunities

Be part of the feeding and healing of our world.

Sign-up for Service Opportunities on FIA LinkTree

Serve every month, with these organizations. Please note that the day of the week for plating meals at SVdP has changed to Fridays.

- Wednesdays, January 8 and February 12 *w*/ Desert Mission Food Bank, 8:45–11 am.
- Fridays, January 17 and February 21 *w*/ St Vincent de Paul (*kitchen crew, plating meals*). 8:45–11:30 am.

February 1, 9 am–1 pm, *Special* **Saturday Service** at *St. Vincent de Paul Phoenix Dining Room.* Ages 16+, or ages 14–15 with adults, can volunteer. Volunteers create an experience for guests to feel welcome and part of a family.

Your Involvement Matters Questions? Email <u>hungeraction@thecasa.org</u>

Next Weekend (*January 11-12*): Support the St. Charles Apache School



For years, Casa community members have chosen to support the St. Charles Catholic school on the San Carlos Apache Reservation.

St. Charles qualifies for Arizona private school tax credit. As we approach the end of the year, the students want to thank you for your past support by coming to the Casa *next weekend (January 11–12)*.

Information on how to continue to support them (through tax credit donations) will be available at their table in the hospitality area after all Masses and also in a future bulletin. *In this New Year, do you take time to pause, pray with, and discuss the Word of God?*

Just Scripture Virtual Conversation: Saturday, January 11 All are welcome.



We consider Biblical issues of justice and mercy that impact our world today and talk about how the Sunday readings connect with daily life. Discussed from a perspective of Franciscan values, *Just Scripture (JS)* occurs *on Zoom* on the second Saturday of each month, **10–11:30 am.**

To register, please visit the FIA LinkTree. The session is free. No previous study of Scripture is needed. Contact Kathleen Garast <u>kgarast@aol.com</u> for the Scripture readings that will be discussed.

WORD OF GOD Sunday is celebrated on Sunday, January 26. Pope Francis reminds us the Bible "is the book of the Lord's people, who, in listening to it, move from division towards unity".

Need to Restock for the New Year?

Café Justo Selling after Mass January 11 and 12



Try our delicious, fair-trade, organic, shade-grown, recently roasted (fresh) coffee for only \$10 per 1lb bag! Your purchase helps families in the Cafe Justo Farmers' and Roasters' Cooperative continue to work their ancestral lands and support and educate their extended families.

Anytime: Café Justo also available at these two venues on campus: • The *Books and Blessings* Gift Shop • The FRC Lobby *Guest Services Desk*

On **Wednesday, January 22**, the Casa Grounds Ministry Sellers Team is meeting to discuss plans for the new year. If you are *seriously* interested in volunteering with the Casa Grounds ministry, please email <u>casagrounds@</u> <u>thecasa.org</u> to receive an invitation to this meeting.

Co - Manager, Faith in Action	Victor Jaimes	victor@thecasa.org	480.306.4027
Co - Manager, Faith in Action	Laura Libertore	laura@thecasa.org	480.355.5645
For volunteer opportunities and FIA event	s, visit: <u>linktr.ee/socialco</u>	oncerns	

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



Dear Friends in Christ,

With a heart full of gratitude, I give thanks to God for your generous support of the Franciscan Renewal Center's Annual Appeal. Through your faith-filled giving, we not only reached our goal—we exceeded it! This outpouring of generosity is a profound testament to the Spirit at work among us, uniting us as co-ministers in Christ's mission.

Because of you, the Casa will continue growing as a place of transformation in 2025, enhancing our Church as a sacred space where hearts are lifted in prayer and worship; our Retreats where opportunities for renewal that remain accessible to all; our Grounds as a sanctuary for encountering God's presence in creation; and our Ministries where acts of service and mercy reveal God's love to those in need.

I will share the Annual Appeal total in the coming week.

As Dutch priest and theologian Henri Nouwen reminds us, "The more we touch the intimate love of God which creates, sustains, and guides us, the more we recognize the multitude of fruits that come forth from that love." May you find joy in knowing that your loving and generous gift will touch many lives this year.

Please remember that you remain in my prayers of thanksgiving, and may the Lord bless you abundantly for your faithful heart.

— In Christ's peace, Charles Brown, Executive Director



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FRANCISCANA OUTREACH www.casafranciscana.org



ART DOCENT TOURS

"Treasures of Franciscan Art"

Through its commissioned art and architecture, the Conventual Church of Our Lady of the Angels tells the story of Christ through a Franciscan lens. There's so much to discover in its symbolism, natural building materials, and liturgical art glass!

Next tour: Wednesday, January 8 at 11:30 am

Please visit: thecasa.org/art-docent-tours for dates and registration.

To request a private tour, email churchtours@thecasa.org

Scan the QR code to give online.

Together We Can. Page 7 • RENEWAL • thecasa.org

EDUCATION, RETREATS, AND EVENTS — Pre-registration required.



RETREAT

Befriending Our Belovedness Saturday, February 15 | 9 am – 4 pm *Diane Millis, PhD*

It's easy to forget who we are and who we were created to be. This retreat is designed for all those who are seeking to claim their identity as God's beloved.

Fee, incl. lunch: \$100 per person. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



MEET THE AUTHOR

Bartimaeus, the Blind Beggar of Jericho Thursday, February 27 | 6:30 – 8:30 pm

George Sabol, OFS Meet the author and learn about this fascinating new novel! The author will provide a biblical and historical basis of the novel and answer readers' questions.

Fee: \$10 per person. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



WORKSHOP

Introduction to the Enneagram Saturday, March 1 | 9 am – 5 pm

Rev. Andrea Andress

Explore the Enneagram, a tool for understanding motivations behind actions. Enhance self-awareness and personal growth through lectures and group discussions.

Fee, incl. lunch: \$125 per person. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



WORKSHOP

RETREAT

Exploring Scripture with the Enneagram Sunday, March 2 | 1 – 5 pm

Rev. Andrea Andress

Connecting with God through Scripture is a great place to start. The Enneagram is an exceptional tool for gaining insight from reading the Bible.

Fee, incl. lunch: \$75 per person. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



If Only...Making Peace with Our Past to Heal Our Present March 28 – 30, Friday – Sunday

Fr. Charles Wehrley, C.Ss.R. This retreat will teach us how to fully grieve losses from past mistakes instead of simply replaying them and remaining stuck in regret.

Fee, incl. meals: \$300 single room; \$150 commuter. Register: frc.retreatportal.com

To see all upcoming programs and to register, visit <u>frc.retreatportal.com</u>. Registrations can also be made by visiting or calling our Guest Services Desk, or by emailing <u>lora@thecasa.org</u>.

EDUCATION, RETREATS, AND EVENTS — Pre-registration required.



RETREAT

Your Spiritual Legacy April 4 – 6, Friday – Sunday

Mary Dunn and Alanna Mack Deep in your soul is the story that wants to be told. In our weekend of guided reflections, we will help you open yourself to that story and discover the treasure that lies within.

Fee, incl. meals: \$300 single room; \$150 commuter. Register: frc.retreatportal.com

ICONOGRAPHY RETREAT

A Brush with God April 10 – April 13, Thursday – Sunday Peter Pearson, MDiv, ThD We will walk through the ancient process of creating an icon of the face of Christ, using this image which was created by a contemporary master as our guide. No experience required.

Fee, incl. meals: \$600 single room; \$400 commuter. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

Holy Week 2025 Part I: April 12 – 16 | Part II: April 17 – April 20

Fr. John Quigley, OFM Part I: Stay as many nights as you wish between April 12 –16. To register, email lora@ thecasa.org, call 480.948.7460, or visit the Casa's Guest Services Desk. Part II: The Paschal Triduum. Online registration available. Register: <u>frc.retreatportal.com</u>



RETREAT

Living Into the Truth of God's Extravagant Love April 25 – 27, Friday – Sunday

Roger L. Parks, Psy.D Join this contemplative retreat to realign your view of God with His true nature. Engage in meditation, prayer, and reflection for a more loving, biblical perspective.

Fee, incl. meals: \$300 single room. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



WORKSHOP SERIES

Protecting Our Own Well Being in Challenging Times Saturdays: Feb 8, Mar 8, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7 | 9 am – Noon

Wayne Tormala Workshops designed to build knowledge and skills for sustainable life balance and awakened decision-making amidst the many distractions and stressors in life.

Registration Details: frc.retreatportal.com

To see all upcoming programs and to register, visit <u>frc.retreatportal.com</u>. Registrations can also be made by visiting or calling our Guest Services Desk, or by emailing <u>lora@thecasa.org</u>.



An Invitation to Spiritual Growth

Our Spiritual Direction Ministry offers one-on-one listening and support for finding God in our lives and deepening that relationship. To set up an appointment with one of our directors, contact Cathy Olds, Coordinator of the Spiritual

Direction Ministry, at spiritualdirection@thecasa.org



Therapy, Support, and Counseling Ministry (TSCM)thecasa.org/tscm

TSCM offers donation-based professional behavioral health therapy to help individuals, couples, and families cope with life's challenges — such as relationship issues, stress, depression/anxiety, and personal growth.

Ryan Sheade, LCSW, Director of Therapy, Support and Counseling Ministry. counseling@thecasa.org

Faith Sharing Groups at the Casa

Centering Prayer meets Wednesdays at 8:45 am in the Meditation Chapel. SpiritualDirection@thecasa.org

Contemplation in the Desert gathers in the Healing Garden on Mondays at 11 am. CareforCreation@thecasa.org

Cornerstone Contemplative Meditation meets Wednesdays, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm, in the Spiritual Direction room between the Guadalupe and Tekakwitha conference rooms.

Interfaith Healing Prayer Group meets Fridays following 8 am Mass in the back of the church. Send prayer requests to HealingPrayers@thecasa.org

Men in Spirit. Christian men meet on the first Saturday of the month at 8 am for breakfast in the dining room, followed by discussion. Zoom available. MeninSpirit@thecasa.org

Rosary Group meets Tuesdays at 6 pm in the Meditation Chapel and on Zoom. Requests for meeting information, Zoom link, and prayer intentions, contact: Rosary@thecasa.org

The Order of Secular Franciscans (OFS) Peace Fraternity

meets on the second Sunday of the month. This Canonical Order of the Catholic Church is open to lay Catholics. Contact: John Elder, OFS, at johncelder@gmail.com or 480.580.7750.



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Mass Intentions January 5 - 11, 2025

Sunday Shayna Mansfield Dee Hlava Patrick West	7:30 am 9:15 am 11:00 am
Monday Lucinda Kelly	8:00 am
Tuesday Hannelore Keller-Daueri	8:00 am
Wednesday Fr. Thomas Herbst OFM	8:00 am
Thursday Anne Anderson	8:00 am
Friday Jim Wilkinson	8:00 am
Saturday Bill O'Brien	4:00 pm

The intentions listed here will be the intentions of the priest and will not be announced to the gathered assembly.

About the Franciscan Renewal Center

The Franciscan Renewal Center is a place for spiritual growth, healing, and community that is open to everyone, regardless of faith. Activities include:

- Weekday (Mon. Fri.) and Weekend Masses at Our Lady of the Angels Church
- Meetings and conferences for religious and nonprofit groups
- Therapy, counseling, and support groups
- Education, retreats, and events
- Family faith formation and Young Adult ministry
- Volunteer ministries, including those in service of the poor and vulnerable
- Spiritual direction

The Franciscan Renewal Center (the Casa) was founded in 1951 by the Order of Friars Minor as a Catholic retreat, called Casa de Paz y Bien. It remains an active religious community that seeks to follow in the footsteps of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi. The Casa works cooperatively with the Diocese of Phoenix.

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