

November 24, 2024

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

RENEWAL

The Franciscan Renewal Center • *Peace. Renewal. Good.*



5802 East Lincoln Drive • Scottsdale, Arizona 85253 • Phone 480.948.7460 • thecasa.org

PASTORAL REFLECTION



Dear Holy People of God,
The Gospel this Sunday reminds us of the truth in its portrayal of betrayal. "Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me." These words reveal the tragic reality that people can easily turn against the very one they once called their king. When the king fails to fulfill their vision of power, he is no longer the savior they seek but a failure to be discarded, or worse, an enemy to be destroyed.

The people's respect for their king is conditional, based not on who he is, but on what he can offer. When he fails to fit their image, their loyalty turns to betrayal. The one they once cheered is handed over to be crucified, for they cannot accept a king who challenges them rather than affirms their desires.

In our daily life, we may expect Jesus to act in specific ways—answering our prayers, providing our comfort, or guiding us through challenges. However, as the Gospel reminds us, our expectations can become dangerous when they limit our understanding of who Jesus truly is.

When our prayers seem unanswered or life takes unexpected turns, it can be tempting to feel disappointment or even doubt. In times like these, are we like the crowd who turned on their king when he didn't meet their expectations? What kind of king do we truly want Jesus to be in our lives?

May the Lord give you peace,

Father Vincent Nguyen, OFM
Vice-Rector

The Conventual Church of **OUR LADY of the ANGELS**

at the Franciscan Renewal Center

Sunday Mass	Saturday	4:00 pm
	Sunday	7:30 am; 9:15 am; 11:00 am
Daily Mass	Monday – Friday	8:00 am
	<i>Sat. 4 pm, Sun. 9:15 am, and Monday – Friday Daily Mass also available on YouTube.com/theCasaFRC</i>	
Taizé Prayer	2nd & 4th Wednesday	7:00 pm
Reconciliation	Saturday	2:00 - 3:00 pm
Guest Services	Sun. – Sat.	6:00 am - 7:30 pm
Adoration	1st Friday	6:00 pm
Bookstore	Sun.	8:00 am - 1:00 pm
	Mon. & Tu	Closed
	Wed. & Thu.	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
	Fri.	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
	Sat.	11:00 am - 5:30 pm

Please see pg. 10 for this week's Mass Intentions.
For weekly readings, visit [bible.usccb.org/](https://www.bible.usccb.org/).

Our Lady of the Angels Church Pastoral Staff

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Officers of the FRC Board

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

Visit: [thecasa.org/frc-board-of-directors](https://www.thecasa.org/frc-board-of-directors) for all board members and bios

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To receive RENEWAL and other Casa news by email, tinyurl.com/z8t2vj3a

Special Collection This Week
Catholic Campaign for Human Development

This weekend is the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the U.S. Catholic Bishops' national anti-poverty program. CCHD helps break the cycle of poverty by empowering low-income people to participate in decisions that impact their lives and communities, offering a hand up, not a handout.

To make a contribution online or for more information, follow this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/muj355rj>

Thanksgiving Day Mass
Thursday, November 28 ~ 10 am

For what we have received from God's bounty, we return to the Lord with gratitude! Join in this festive liturgy where the community gives thanks together.

The 5th Annual Casa Creche Festival
December 14 – 15

**Do you have a special nativity set
that you'd like to share?**

To loan your nativity set or get involved in the festival, email us at crechefestival@thecasa.org. You can help set up displays or host the event, which is open to the public. Join us in celebrating this important Franciscan story!

“Buon Natale, Greccio”
St. Francis & the Nativity

*Canticle
of Joy*

Performances:

Saturday, December 14 ~ 7 pm
Sunday, December 15 ~ 1:30 pm

Join us for a beautiful time of music and storytelling as we celebrate Saint Francis and his role in the creation of the Nativity scene tradition. The event will transport you to the small Italian village of Greccio, where Saint Francis, 800 years ago, brought the story of Jesus' birth to life in a way that has influenced generations around the world.

Through inspiring music, heartfelt stories, and reflections on the meaning of Christmas, we will honor the timeless legacy of Saint Francis and his dedication to spreading the love and message of Christ. This gathering will be a meaningful way to celebrate the season and reflect on the birth of Jesus, all while embracing the deep cultural and spiritual significance of the Nativity.

Don't miss this special event — it's a celebration of faith, tradition, and community, bringing people together in the spirit of Christmas.

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

Norbert Zwickl
Richard Guerra
Rosa Rodriguez-Saiz

norbert@thecasa.org
richard@thecasa.org
rosa@thecasa.org

480.355.0346
480.355.0347
480.355.5642

The Casa's Fair Trade Christmas Sale

Find Divine Chocolate and Café Justo coffee and other fair trade items.



Plan to Shop Fair Trade for Christmas.

Sunday Morning December 8

In the Hospitality area after the morning Masses.

Through fair trade, every purchase matters.
It's the easiest way to do the most good, every day.

- *Care for Creation ministry (CAC)* is offering insulated “FRC” water bottles (\$15) and reusable, foldable totes (\$10).
- *Casa Grounds for Solidarity Ministry* offers varieties of *Café Justo* organic, fair trade, shade-grown coffee for \$10 per one-pound bag.
- *Divine organic, fair-trade chocolate* is sold by the *Casa's Peace Ministry*, \$5 per bar or 5 bars for \$20.
- The *World Hunger Ecumenical Arizona Task-Force (WHEAT)* Fair Trade Store in Central Phoenix is offering ornaments, holiday cards, stocking stuffers, and fair trade honey.

See the flyer with all the details: <https://tr.ee/acQZlnjfk7>

Fair Trade Gifts make great holiday and hostess gifts.



Creation at the Crossroads

January 4 – March 16 | **Fee: \$100 | Register Now!**

A 10-week, small-group faith-sharing program spanning January through March. Groups gather in homes, on Zoom, or at the Casa to reflect on Scripture and *Laudato Si'*. *Sponsored by the Care for Creation ministry.*

Questions? Please email careforcreation@thecasa.org.

Visit our online Faith Formation portal: casafaithformation.org

Casa Faith & Science Series

Free presentations | All are welcome

*Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth
~ Pope John Paul II*



Wonder of Creation! — Explore the World of Bats!

Monday, December 2

5:30 – 6:30 pm

Free | All are welcome



Casa Faith Formation presentation: The Wonder of God's Creation

Join us to learn more about our Franciscan characteristic of our connection with creation, the wonder we experience of the universe God created, and our responsibility to care for creation.

Followed by special guests: Desert Foothills Land Trust and Arizona Bat Rescue

Explore the world of bats, learn about their essential role in our environment, and discover how we can help protect them. This engaging event is perfect for nature enthusiasts and anyone curious about these remarkable creatures. Reserve your spot today and gain a deeper understanding of the importance of bat conservation.

Register here!



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

Mass Offerings

11.10.24 \$20,588
11.12.23 \$19,296

Mass Attendance

11.10.24 1,413
11.12.23 1,375

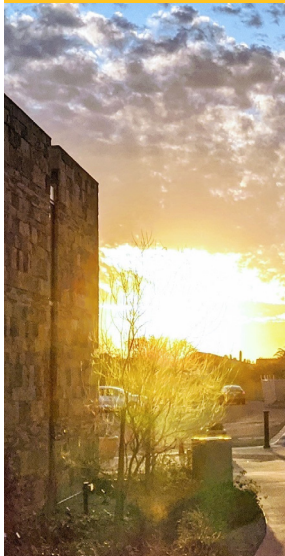


Franciscan School of Theology
at the UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

THE FRANCISCAN VISION LECTURE SERIES

Sunday, December 15, 9 – 10:30 am | Auditorium
"A Franciscan Vision of Spiritual Motherhood" with
Fr. Francis Lee, OFM

For more information and a listing of future programs, visit:
frc.retreatportal.com



DISCOVER THE VISION

A one-hour introduction to the Casa's mission and ministries.

Upcoming dates:

December 5 11:00 am

January 2 11:00 am

Reserve Your Spot Today

online: thecasa.org/discover-the-vision

phone: 480.355.5631

email: rsvp@thecasa.org

2025 Casa Calendars Are Now Available in the Narthex



Director of Development
Development Manager

Christopher Meyer
Paula A Tobin

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

Register now for this *online (virtual) course



**Franciscan Advent
Conversations with Padre Pio**
Humility. Simplicity. Charity.

Two Monday Evenings in Advent
December 9 & 16
6:30 – 8 pm | \$10

Take time to pause from the “holiday hustle and bustle” and to absorb the beauty of the Advent journey. The sessions include contemplative prayer, scripture and conversation. This program turns to early 20th century Capuchin Friar and priest, **Saint Padre Pio, for insight and encouragement.

Register online on the FRC Retreat Portal:
<https://tr.ee/qboHatdGqh>

You can also register at the Lobby Guest Services Desk.

Registration closes at 7 pm on Sunday, December 8.

See FIA *LinkTree* for detailed Flyer: tr.ee/zAyaijvcI9

* Participate in this 2-week program from the comfort of your own home. Held on Zoom, participants need to be able to access this course through the Zoom application on a PC, tablet/iPad or cell phone.

** We will be using the 2024 Advent pocket booklet published by Franciscan Media.

**The Casa Habitat
for Humanity
Ministry**



We need community members to help build our 24th Habitat Home.

We are building alongside St Patrick’s Community. Designated winter build dates:

- 12.7.24 – Drywalling
- 1.11.25
- 2.1.25

Other dates to be announced.

No experience is required to be a Habitat volunteer builder. Contact: thecasahabitat@thecasa.org. Visit *FIA LinkTree* for ministry flyer/details.

Habitat: Build a House and Change Lives.

**Casa Advent
Blanket Collection**

Benefitting *André House* of Arizona’s guests experiencing homelessness. We are in need of volunteers to make this drive happen.



Can You Help?

We are currently looking for volunteers to serve on the below dates after Mass:

- December 14 – 15
- December 21 – 22

For more information or to sign up as a Collection Volunteer, visit the **FIA LinkTree**.

Questions? Email Victor at victor@thecasa.org or call 480.306.4027.

Co - Manager, Faith in Action
Co - Manager, Faith in Action

Victor Jaimes
Laura Libertore

victor@thecasa.org
laura@thecasa.org

480.306.4027
480.355.5645

For volunteer opportunities and FIA events, visit: linktr.ee/socialconcerns

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



Get to know the Café Justo Cooperative's growers/farmers. These growers are co-owners in the coffee cooperative. They are a key reason why our Casa Grounds for Solidarity Ministry volunteers have been offering Café Justo coffee to our community since 2010.

- Jorge and his wife, Ofelia, grow organic shade grown coffee; thus, they provide for their eight children and keep the family living together. Jorge also works at Living Waters, the Water Purification System that is in the Café Justo Warehouse. The water plant provides free purified water to poor families, schools, churches, and the medical facility in Salvador Urbina.
- Luciano G. has been a supporter of the cooperative for over 20 years. He grows both Arabica and Robusta coffee. Through the cooperative, he makes a living wage for his family and also has health insurance. His small home is always open to visitors, and there is always coffee going on the stove. "I really love it here where it is cool, and you can sometimes see the ocean when it is clear in the mornings. Here I have my land, my family, and my history. Why would I want to be anywhere else?"

Café Justo coffee is sold after Mass to the community from October–May on the second full weekend of the month. It is also available at the gift shop and at the front Lobby desk. For information about the coffee or to join the ministry's selling team, contact casagrounds@thecasa.org. Please visit our table at the Fair-Trade sale on December 8.

Your annual appeal gift helps support our outreach ministries.

Annual Appeal 2024

Lifelong and Ongoing...Serving the Casa Community

Gifts can be made:

Online: thecasa.org/donate

Drop off: The Casa's Guest Services Desk

Mail: Franciscan Renewal Center
5802 E. Lincoln Dr., Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

For ACH recurring withdrawals, email lora@thecasa.org.

An IRA Required Minimum Distribution can be directed to the Franciscan Renewal Center.

Stock wiring instructions: Please contact Christopher Meyer for current details: christopher@thecasa.org or call 480.355.5634.

If you would like to speak with someone about your gift, please call 480.355.5634.

The Franciscan Renewal Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. All gifts must be postmarked or received by December 31, 2024. Please consult your tax advisor. Tax ID#: 86-0720036.



Together We Can.

Scan the QR code to give online



RETREAT

New Year's

December 30 – January 1, Monday – Wednesday

Peter Pearson, MDiv, ThD

Come away for a bit. Pause, breathe, and reflect. Make this ending/beginning an opportunity to live more intentionally.

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



RETREAT

Living Into the Truth of God's Extravagant Love

January 3 – 5, 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



CLASS

T'ai Chi

Mondays: January 6 – February 10 | 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Jake Zinn

Experience the health benefits of the Centuries-old practices of Qigong and T'ai Chi. These exercises engage the body and mind in slow, fluid movement and full breathing.

Fee: \$60 for six-week session. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



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

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

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



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 — NEW!

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



PRESENTATION

Greccio and LaVerna
Wednesday, March 26 | Morning and Evening Presentations

Fr. Steven McMichael, OFM, Conv

This presentation focuses on the last years of the life of Saint Francis in which Francis celebrated Christmas and the Easter Triduum in a unique way.

Fee, incl. lunch: \$20 Register: frc.retreatportal.com



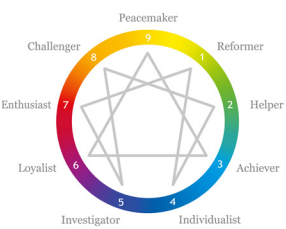
RETREAT

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



COMMUTER RETREAT

St. Francis and the Enneagram
May 16 – 17, Friday – Saturday

Steve Spilde

Dive into the Enneagram using stories of St. Francis to explore its nine personality types. Join this retreat for reflection and meaningful discussions for all levels.

Fee: \$140 pp incl. dinner on Friday, lunch on Saturday. Register: frc.retreatportal.com

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



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.

Spiritual direction or companionship is not counseling, it is holy listening and discernment

of God's voice in our lives. To set up an appointment with one of our directors, contact Cathy Olds, Coordinator of the Spiritual Direction Ministry, at spiritualdirection@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 7 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.

Mass Intentions November 24 – 30, 2024

Sunday	
<i>Leanna Dennings</i>	7:30 am
<i>Ann W. Fabric</i>	9:15 am
<i>Br. Scott Slattum, OFM</i>	11:00 am
Monday	
<i>George Fagan</i>	8:00 am
Tuesday	
<i>B. Paul Jones</i>	8:00 am
Wednesday	
<i>Mark Garvan</i>	8:00 am
Thursday	
<i>Frances Y. Powell</i>	10:00 am
Friday	
NO MASS	8:00 am
Saturday	
<i>Jean & Walt Mruz</i>	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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