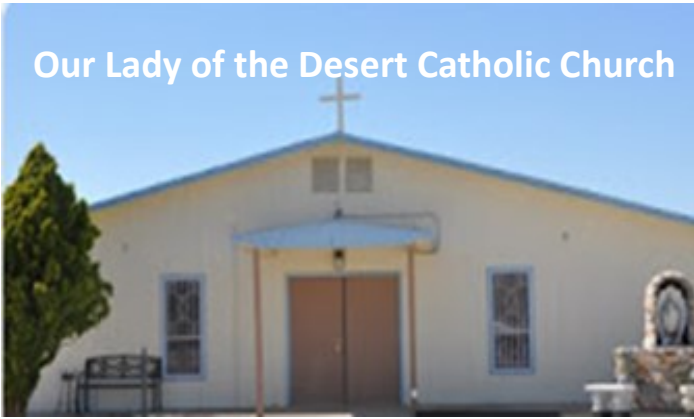


Our Lady of the Desert Catholic Church



15385 Pierce Ferry Road
(Poste de milla número 4)
P.O. Box 337, Dolan Springs AZ 86441
Teléfono: (928) 767-3397

Padre: Victor C. Yakubu,
Administrador Parroquial

Padre: Julius Kayiwa, Vicario Parroquial

Confesión el Sábado:

Por cita y será al aire libre (Español y Inglés)

Rosario el Sábado: Y letanías de la Santísima
Virgen María—3:45pm

Misa el Sábado: (Vigilia) / Inglés 4:00 p.m.

Rosario el Domingo: Y letanías de la Santísima
Virgen María— 9:45pm

Misa el Domingo: Español /10:00 a.m.

Liturgia en los Días de la Semana

Cada Día a las Doce: Angelus/Regina Caeli

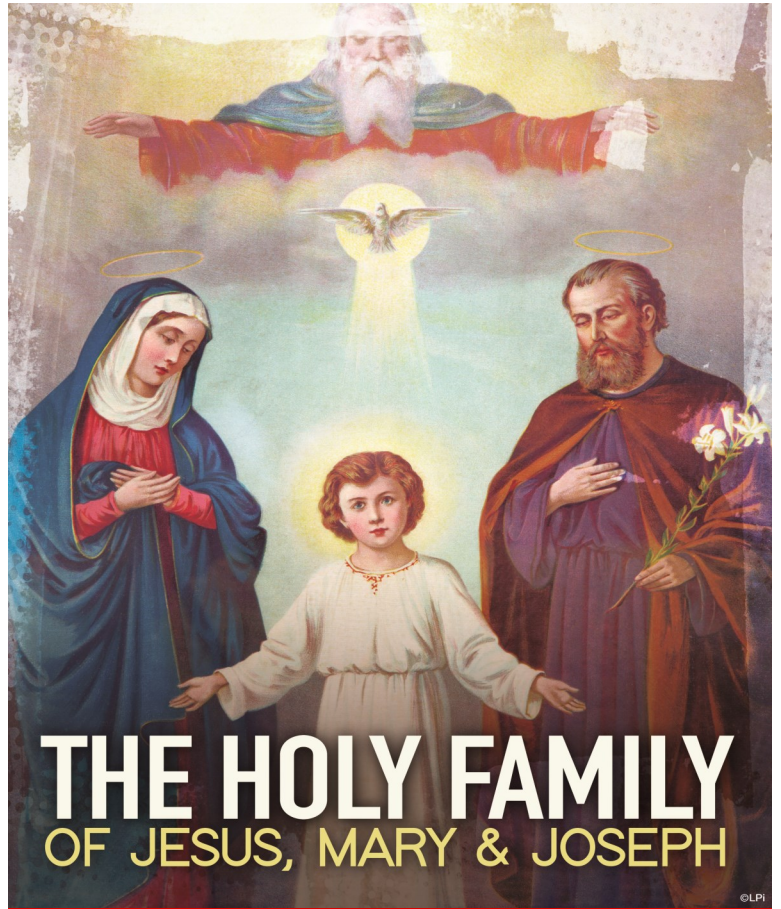
Lunes: Adoración: 7:00am y Misa 7:30am

Martes y Miércoles: Adoración 8:30am y Misa
9:00am

Jueves: Adoración: 8:30am y Misa: 9:00 m o la
Oración de la Evangelización a las 10:00am

Viernes Durante Quaresma: Camino de la Cruz a las
3:00pm y concluyendo con Misa

Sábado: Adoración: 7:00am y a las 7:30am
Misa en Honor de Virgen María



DECEMBER 26th 2021

Rev. Victor C. Yakubu, Parochial Administrator

Rev. Julius Kayiwa, Parochial Vicar

Confession on Saturday:

By appointment and it will be outdoors/English/Spanish

Saturday Rosary: And Litanies of the Blessed Virgin
Mary 3:45pm

Saturday Mass (Vigil): English -4:00 p.m.

Sunday Rosary: And Litanies of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9:45pm

Sunday Mass: Spanish 10:00am

Liturgy of the Weekdays

Every day at Noon: Angelus/Regina Caeli

Monday: 7:00am **Adoration & Mass** 7:30am

Tuesday & Wednesday: **Adoration** 8:30am &
Mass 9:00am

Thursday: **Adoration:** 8:30am & **Mass:** 9:00am
or Prayer of the Evangelization at 10:00am

Friday During Lent: Way of the Cross 3:00pm
concluding with Mass

Saturday: Adoration: 7:00 a.m. & 7:30 a.m.

Mass in Honor of the Virgin Mary

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph lived in Nazareth as a family. The kind of family life they lived was normal considering the standard of other families at that time. We all know that the trade of Joseph was carpentry and Jesus must have assisted in great measures while growing up. Of course, Mary did her best to cement the life in the family. The gospel of Luke tells us that they attended the yearly festival in Jerusalem. While returning to Nazareth, Jesus got separated from his parents and they had to search for him. When they found him, they said, “Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety.” This is the kind of anxiety you would expect from a parent whose child has been lost.

On his part, Jesus replied by saying, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” He went back with his family to Nazareth and remained obedient. The gospel tells us he grew in wisdom and age, and God’s favor was with him. Mary and Joseph treasured this incident in their hearts because families are everlasting.

Contemporary life is yielding challenges to family life as we know it in the traditional sense of father and mother building their lives together. Whatever opinion you have on contemporary life does not diminish the importance of a father and a mother bringing life into the world. The kind of support that Mary and Joseph offered Jesus is the kind of support that every parent should offer their children. At moments when they are lost because of personal difficulties, the parents offer sure support.



This is the day that we receive blessings for our roles in the family just as Moses blessed the people of Israel. Moses gave a formula for this blessing: “The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let his face shine upon you and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace! So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them.”

It is important on this day to cherish the bonds in our families. On the flip side, there may be difficulties that we experience in our lives, remember to turn to God. Hannah conceived Samuel after many years of marriage. As she visited the temple in Shiloh, the Lord saw her commitment and gave her a child of her own. Hannah in return dedicated this child to God. But Samuel went to live with Eli the priest of the temple.

In this celebration, let us learn to appreciate the support of our family members. Every bit of support goes a great way to add value to our lives and so it is important on this day to appreciation show. St. John writes that we are God’s children, and what we shall be in the future is not yet revealed. The secret is to live one day at time and enjoy what family life offers.

Keep praying

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

- Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
- Monday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
- Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
- Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
- Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
- Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Next Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

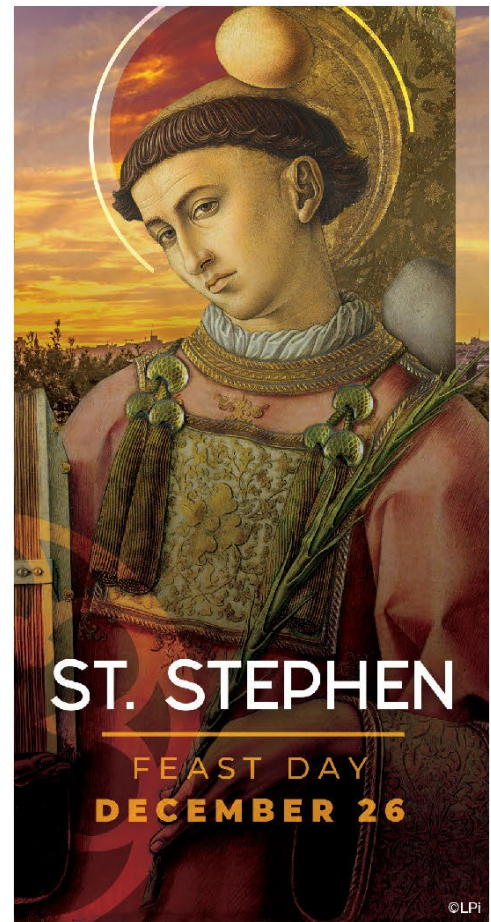
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2021

- Sunday:** The Holy Family
- Monday:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
- Tuesday:** The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
- Wednesday:** St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
- Friday:** St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve
- Saturday:** New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace
- Next Sunday:** The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.



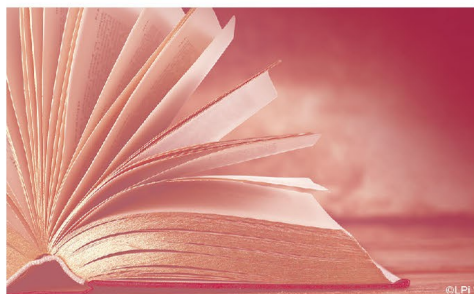
SAINT OF THE WEEK

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD
granted my request.
Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD;
as long as he lives, he shall be
dedicated to the LORD."
(1 Sm 1:27-28)



PSALM

Blessed are they who dwell in your
house, O Lord. (Ps 84)



SECOND READING

See what love the Father has
bestowed on us
that we may be called the children
of God.
And so we are. (1 Jn 3:1)



GOSPEL

After three days they found him in
the temple,
sitting in the midst of the teachers,
listening to them and asking them
questions. (Lk 2:46)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
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Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981,
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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.