

June 7, 2026

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

RENEWAL



Franciscan Renewal Center
Peace. Renewal. Good.

5802 East Lincoln Drive
Scottsdale, Arizona 85253

480.948.7460 phone
TheCasaFRC on social media

thecasa.org
All are welcome.

Renewing Lives through Spiritual Growth, Healing and Transformation, and Service to Others

PASTORAL REFLECTION



Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ—the great gift of the Eucharist. In today’s second reading (1 Cor. 10:16-17) St. Paul reminds us that the Eucharist is a way of participating in the life of Jesus himself. We become his Body by participating. We are also bound together, united, becoming “one body” that surpasses all the human divisions we arbitrarily enforce.

In praying about what to write, it occurred to me that in honoring this solemnity, our liturgical memory is not about a “nostalgic recall” of the past (like a Throwback Thursday) but is a true remembrance that we are all believers; united as members of the Body of Christ and continuing Jesus’ mission.

In the encyclical letter, *Deus Caritas Est*, Pope Benedict XVI wrote that:

“Union with Christ is also union with all those to whom he gives himself. I cannot possess Christ just for myself... Communion draws me out of myself towards him, and thus also towards unity with all Christians.” (God is Love, no. 14.)

Through Communion, we carry the Eucharist into the world. I wonder, shouldn’t a shared Eucharist create in us (in me) a sense of unease about any disunity, discrimination, and hypocrisy within our “one body?” And I revisit St. Teresa of Avila’s prayer. As the Body of Christ, we are called to be the hands and feet, the mouth and the heart, the compassion of Christ in our world today.

Peace and Good,

Laura Libertore
Faith in Action Manager

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 |

Sat. 4 pm, Sun. 9:15 am, and Monday – Friday Daily Mass also available on [YouTube.com/theCasaFRC](https://www.youtube.com/theCasaFRC)

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Taizé Prayer | 1st 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. | Closed |
| | Tue. – 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/.

Our Lady of the Angels Church Pastoral Staff

RECTOR

Fr. Page E. Polk, OFM fatherpage@thecasa.org x145

VICE-RECTOR

Fr. Vincent Nguyen, OFM fathervincent@thecasa.org x174

DEACON

Dcn. Hervé Lemire, OFM Affiliate deaconherve@gmail.com

Franciscan Renewal Center Executive Administration

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Charles Brown casa@thecasa.org 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

RENEWAL is published weekly by the Franciscan Renewal Center, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, 5802 E. Lincoln Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85253. Federal Tax ID 86-0720036 | Copyright 2026. All rights reserved.

To receive RENEWAL and other Casa news by email, qr.thecasa.org/RENEWAL

Welcoming All to the Table of the Lord Low-Gluten Hosts

As we celebrate the Body and Blood of Christ, we remember that the Eucharist is Christ's gift of himself for the life of the world, drawing us together as one body in faith.

Though some may have different health needs, we gather at one table and share in the one Bread of Life. We seek to make participation in the Eucharist accessible for those with medical sensitivities while remaining faithful to the Church's sacramental practice.

Low-gluten hosts are available for those who cannot consume regular wheat hosts. The bread used for Communion must contain some wheat in keeping with longstanding sacramental tradition. These hosts are therefore not completely gluten-free, but contain only a very small amount of gluten (less than 20 parts per million) and have been favorably reviewed as safe for most people with Celiac Sprue disease.

In the Eucharist, Christ feeds and unites his people, and low-gluten hosts are one way we seek to help everyone participate more fully in our shared sacramental life.

If you require a low-gluten host, please notify the sacristan at least five minutes before Mass so that one can be prepared for you. These hosts are prepared as needed and therefore may not be automatically available at every Mass.

Especially on this feast celebrating Christ's presence among us in the Eucharist, we remain mindful of helping all members of the community approach the altar with confidence, reverence, and peace.

Honoring Our Fathers This Father's Day

Father's Day is in two weeks, and at Mass that day we will remember and pray for the fathers who have given us life and love—those who walk beside us still, and those who now live on in our hearts. To honor these cherished men—fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, and stepfathers—we invite you to share a photo of them with us, whether living or deceased. These photographs will become part of a tribute shown during the Father's Day Mass as we celebrate their lasting impact on our lives. Please email your photos to rosa@thecasa.org before Monday, June 15.



Bringing Holy Communion To Those Who Aren't Able To Come To Church

Lay ministers are available to visit registered members of the Church of Our Lady of the Angels who are homebound and unable to attend Mass. If you or a loved one would like a visit, please contact the Casa office. A lay minister will return your call and arrange a time to visit. These commissioned lay men and women bring the Eucharist to those who are homebound because of illness, disability, or aging. Along with Holy Communion, they offer prayer, fellowship, and a reminder that we remain united as one community of faith.

We are deeply grateful for the dedicated men and women who share in this beautiful ministry of care and presence.

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



OCIA at Our Lady of the Angels

What is the OCIA?

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is a sacramental formation process that prepares individuals and communities for living the Christian life with full initiation into the Catholic Faith.

OCIA incorporates Franciscan values and the teachings of the Vatican Council II throughout the process in its rites, liturgical celebrations and the methodology and content of teachings.



Who is OCIA open to?

- Those who have not been baptized (Catechumens)
- Christians validly baptized in other denominations who seek full communion with the Catholic Church (Full Communion Candidates)
- Those who have been baptized in the Catholic Church but who have not received religious instruction nor completed their initiation through the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist (also Full Communion Candidates)

When does OCIA start?

The OCIA process begins for an individual whenever that individual comes forward (any time of the year) and includes a weekly Breaking Open of the Word as a part of dismissal from Sunday Mass.

The formal formation gatherings begin in September of each year, and the sacraments of initiation are celebrated at the Easter Vigil.

For inquiries about the year-round OCIA registration call 480.948.7460.

Director of Faith Formation
Family Minister
Administrative Associate for Faith Formation

Fred Mercadante fred@thecasa.org 480.355.0359
Donna Kinzie donna@thecasa.org 480.355.0344
Annissa Bañuelos annissa.fitch@thecasa.org 480.306.4043



Casa Inklings: The Brothers Karamazov

Tuesdays starting June 16 | 6:30 – 9 pm | Capistrano Room

Great books! Great topics! Great conversations! This invitation is open to those of any or no faith at all. Just note we will be using a Catholic/Franciscan lens as we discuss what we read.

For inquiries, please contact Anissa Bañuelos at annissa.fitch@thecasa.org or call 480.306.4043 x152



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

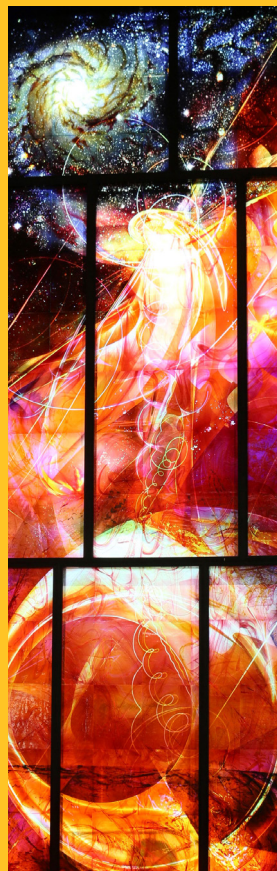
1st Thursdays of the Month

Upcoming dates:

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| August 6 | 11:00 am |
| September 3 | 11:00 am |
| October 1 | 11:00 am |

Reserve Your Spot Today

online: thecasa.org/DTV
phone: 480.355.0345
email: rsvp@thecasa.org



Art Docent Tours

"Treasures of Franciscan Art"

Public tours resume in October. To request a group tour of ten or more during the summer, email churchtours@thecasa.org

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!

For more information, visit: thecasa.org/art-docent-tours.

Director of Development
Development Manager
Development Manager
Development Admin.

Christopher Meyer
Paula A Tobin
Nicoy Alaniz
Isabella Ferrero

christopher@thecasa.org
paula@thecasa.org
nicoy.alaniz@thecasa.org
isabella.ferrero@thecasa.org

480.355.5634
480.355.5631
480.306.4104
480.948.7460 x166

Casa Grounds for Solidarity Ministry



During the hot summer months, Café Justo Fair Trade Coffee is available for purchase at the Casa Front Desk and the Books and Blessings Gift Shop.

Try our delicious, fair-trade, organic, shade-grown, recently roasted coffee that supports a grower's cooperative in Mexico. The cost of the coffee is \$15 per one-pound bag.

Casa Grounds for Solidarity Ministry will be back in the fall to sell coffee to the community.

Contact the ministry if you are interested in joining the coffee club or becoming a volunteer. casagrounds@thecasa.org

Magnifica Humanitas



Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas* ("Magnificent Humanity"), marks the 135th anniversary of Pope Leo XIII's landmark *Rerum Novarum* (1891). Encyclicals (in modern times "letters to people of good will") develop and share Church teaching (grounded in scripture and the Church's lived tradition) and seek to address the social issues of the current time and place.

Rerum Novarum addressed the impact of the industrial revolution. The consequences of people leaving family farms and working in factories affected society as a whole. Workers did not have rights, and public authorities did not protect the dignity of the workers, especially the poor and vulnerable. Into this, Pope Leo XIII asserted that the Church has a right to speak out on social issues.

This message has echoed and been expanded over the last 135 years and now Pope Leo XIV offers a document in recognition of the "second industrial revolution" which is defined by artificial intelligence (AI) and the digital transformation. Not viewed as technological novelties, but as a civilizational shifts comparable to industrialization, these demand the same quality of moral response that the Church offered to the upheaval of the 19th century. This document acknowledges the challenges (and future struggles) posed to human dignity, justice, and labor. Publishing this document on the 135th anniversary of *Rerum Novarum*, Pope Leo asks that we live with a moral clarity that includes care for the poor and vulnerable, promotes the dignity of all and upholds the common good.

Magnifica Humanitas can be found here: <https://qr.thecasa.org/8b391570>. Scott Hurd of Catholic Charities USA recently spoke at the FRC about AI, offered this resource written for CCUSA on the ethics of AI in the workplace: <https://qr.thecasa.org/d00764c7>.



Just Scripture Virtual Conversation Saturday, June 13 | 10 – 11:30 am

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 justscripture@thecasa.org for the JS readings that will be discussed.

All are welcome.

Manager, Faith in Action

Laura Libertore

laura@thecasa.org

480.355.5645

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

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



It was a joy for me to be part of the pilgrimage team alongside Fr. Joe Schwab, OFM, and Debbie Haug as we journeyed with 25 pilgrims to Assisi and Rome, including 20 members of the Our Lady of the Angels community.

In evaluations and personal conversations, pilgrims spoke deeply about the spirituality of place and the gift of taking time to pause, pray, and reflect at sacred sites in Rome, La Verna, Greccio, and Assisi. What stayed with many of us was not only the beauty of these holy places, but also the spirit of fellowship, prayer, music, shared meals, and meaningful conversation along the way. Perhaps another pilgrimage is already calling to us.

That same spirit of joy and reflection will continue here at the Casa on August 2, when the Franciscan Renewal Center hosts *Alla Famiglia*—an evening concert and dinner celebrating St. Francis’ “Canticle of the Creatures.” Our gifted music ministry, whose talents enrich our weekend liturgies, will lead this special gathering. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a memorable evening. Reservations may be made through our [website](#) or at the front desk.

I would love to hear about the ways the Casa has touched your life and the experiences that have stayed with you. The stories shared by our community help us better understand how lives are being renewed here through spiritual growth, healing, transformation, and service to others. Please feel free to share yours with me at charlie@thecasa.org.

—Charles Brown
Executive Director

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

One-on-One Therapy for 18+
Available by appointment.

Grief and Loss Support Group
Second Wednesday of Month | 5:30 – 7 pm
Facilitator: Joyce Brimhall, LCSW

Donations are suggested. No one is turned away for lack of funds.

For an immediate crisis, please call 911 or the Maricopa County Crisis Line at 602.222.9444.

Books and Blessings Gift Shop *at the Franciscan Renewal Center* Teresa & Craig Abernethy, Proprietors

For store hours see page 2.

Visit our website:
booksandblessingsgiftshop.com

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

| Mass Offerings | | Mass Attendance | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-------|
| 5.24.26 | \$ 15,923.05 | 5.24.26 | 1,543 |
| 5.25.25 | \$ 18,480.00 | 5.25.25 | 1,278 |

Ryan Sheade, LCSW, Director of Therapy, Support, and Counseling
email: counseling@thecasa.org phone: 480.948.7460, ext. 134



Photo by Peter Jordan

RETREAT

Dry Heat Retreat: Exploring the Mystics

June 12 – 14, Friday – Sunday

Peter Pearson, MDiv, ThD

Throughout the centuries, believers with a special perspective on the spiritual life have stepped forward in the midst of the community of believers. Sometimes their words brought comfort and sometimes they challenged the established order. In every case, they had a uniquely intimate sense of God's presence and action in the world.

Fee, incl. meals: \$325 single room; \$175 commuter. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

Grief and Loss Retreat

June 12 – 14, Friday – Sunday

Timothy Ringgold, MT-BC

Anyone who has known the joy of love has most likely experienced the pain of loss. Retreat leader Tim Ringgold provides a supportive setting where you will gain new insights into the grief process and discover ways to heal and move forward from this intense and painful period.

Fee, incl. meals: \$250 single room; \$135 commuter. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

Rediscover Your Center

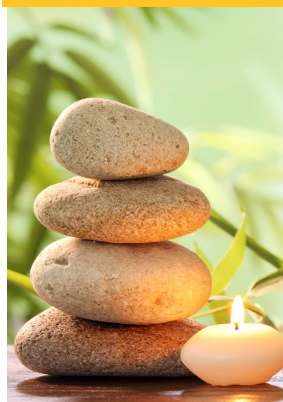
A Weekend of Ancient Wisdom and Modern Presence

June 19 – 21, Friday – Sunday

Julie Bevirt

This weekend is an invitation to retreat from the noise of our busy minds so we can listen to what the heart has to say. Drawing on the ancient Greek concept of Kairos, the qualitative moment, we explore flow states through present moment awareness.

Fee, incl. meals: \$325 single room; \$175 commuter. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

Spiritual Spa Getaway

Three Weekends Available | June 26 – 28; July 17 – 19; August 21 – 23

Pam Bork and Team

This flexible retreat lets you decide your schedule—this time is for you! Take time to pause, remember to breathe, and come back to your center. Maybe you need to be alone and sit in quiet prayer or simply rest. If you enjoy the companionship of others, you can do that, too. Or you may want a little of both.

Fee for each weekend, incl. meals and lodging: \$200. 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.



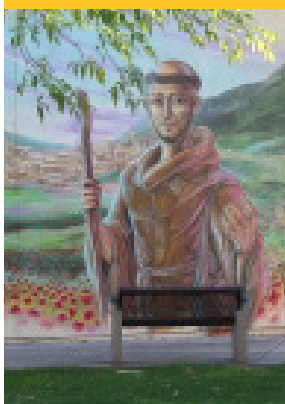
PROGRAM

Alla Famiglia: Dinner & a Canticle of Creation Experience Sunday, August 2 | 4 – 6:30 pm

Norbert Zwickl and Company

Join us for a lively, joy-filled Sunday afternoon as we gather alla famiglia — as one family — for great food, great music, and a spirited celebration of Creation. Enjoy contemporary music, engaging storytelling, and a touch of humor, performed by our own Casa musical family!

Fee, incl. dinner: \$35. Beer/wine available for purchase. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

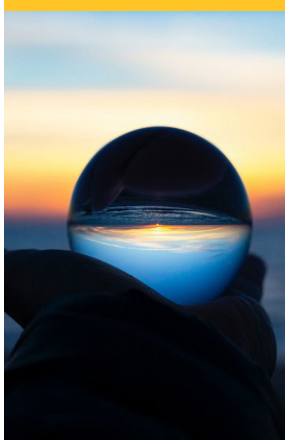
Becoming the Stories We Tell: Exploring A Franciscan Spirituality of Narrative and Imagination

October 2 – 4, Friday – Sunday

Dan Horan, PhD

We will explore the significance of narrative in expressing and passing on Franciscan tradition. We will examine how we can tell the Franciscan story eight hundred years after St. Francis' death and embody it in ways that respond to challenges we face today.

Fee, incl. meals: \$325 single room; \$175 commuter. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

Grief and Loss Retreat Part II

October 23 – 25, Friday – Sunday

Timothy Ringgold, MT-BC

This grief retreat is open to all who have attended the Casa's Grief & Loss Retreat at any time in the past. We will build on the themes of the first retreat related to the elements of grief, healing, and the holidays, all inside a safe, loving community that "gets it." You will be guided in the process of completing the past, creating a new normal, and how to treat yourself along the way.

Fee, incl. meals: \$250 single room; \$135 commuter. Register: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 11 – 13, 2026, Friday – Sunday

Arasely Rios, Monique González & Joseph Julian Gonzalez

Explore the deep spiritual meaning of Our Lady of Guadalupe through story, symbolism, and sacred art. This retreat offers a unique blend of faith and creativity, including the chance to craft your own devotional jewelry piece. Experience a meaningful weekend of reflection, inspiration, and connection rooted in a rich cultural and spiritual tradition.

Fee, incl. meals and materials: \$400 single room; \$250 commuter. 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.

Mass Intentions June 7 – June 13, 2026

Sunday

Bernice Smith

7:30 am

Cathie Nelson

9:15 am

J. Daniel Meyer

11:00 am

Monday

Estelle Osiol

8:00 am

Tuesday

Fr. Matt Ryan, OFM

8:00 am

Wednesday

Maryanne Costigan

8:00 am

Thursday

Miguel Uribe Turbay

8:00 am

Friday

Papa T and Betty Troller

8:00 am

Saturday

Rick Fichera

4:00 pm

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

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

Just Scripture meets on Zoom on the second Saturday of each month from 10–11:30 am. Sign up at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/vkh5twxv>. JustScripture@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

Singles40plus is a social group for singles, widows, widowers, and divorced individuals 40 or older. We meet on the second Friday. For more information, email us at Singles40plus@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 johnelder@gmail.com or 480.580.7750.

About the Franciscan Renewal Center

The Franciscan Renewal Center, affectionately known as the Casa, is a Christ-centered, compassionate place where hearts are opened, lives are transformed, and the Spirit of God is encountered in profound ways. Founded in 1951 by the Order of Friars Minor, the Casa is rooted in Catholic tradition and the rich spiritual heritage of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, whose lives of humility, simplicity, and deep love for Creation continue to inspire all.

Nestled in the beautiful Sonoran Desert on 25 acres of sacred grounds, the Casa offers a serene and prayerful environment for joyful worship with Franciscan friars; private, sponsored, and hosted retreats; and ministries that serve the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized. It welcomes seekers of all faiths who long for peace, love, belonging, and healing, and a deeper relationship with God, self, others, and the Earth.

Located in Scottsdale, Arizona, the Casa is part of and contributes to the 800-year Franciscan movement and the work of the Church in the world.

Discover more at thecasa.org.

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE CASA ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

@THECASAFRC



• RENEWAL • thecasa.org