

December 4, 2022

Second Sunday of Advent

RENEWAL

The Franciscan Renewal Center • *A Community of the Franciscan Province of Saint Barbara*



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



So much of my work involves attempting to create harmony. The formal definition of “harmony” is the *“the combination of simultaneously sounded musical notes to produce chords and having a pleasing effect.”*

In today’s first reading, we are presented an image of the idyllic harmony of paradise. A dramatic symbol of universal peace and justice, even among carnivores and their natural prey. Altogether a beautiful description of the reign of God.

In the second reading, Paul prays “May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another.”

Let’s be reminded of what harmony is not. It is not “unison,” which literally means “one sound” in Latin and directs participants to sing the same notes together, or “as one.” Harmony means “different” and directs participants to produce different notes together, creating a pleasant sound.

Some people have a natural gift for singing in harmony, whereas for others the developmental path from unison to harmony takes time. (Ask a choir member about the challenge of singing in harmony with one another.)

It is not a big leap to take this metaphor of musical harmony to the reality of our lives together.

I invite you to reflect on the idea of “thinking in harmony,” as the second reading says. Perhaps, thinking differently from others and allowing them to think differently, and then fine tuning that to create a pleasing sound. The responsibility belongs to each of us to create that harmony.

Norbert Zwickl
Director of Liturgy and Music

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	Wednesday	7:00 pm
Reconciliation	Saturday	2:00 - 3:00 pm
Guest Services Desk	Sun. - Sat.	6:00 am - 7:30 pm
Bookstore	Sunday	8:00 am - 1:00 pm
	Monday & Tuesday	Closed
	Wed. - Fri.	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
	Saturday	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

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Franciscan Renewal Center Executive Administration

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Charles Brown casa@thecasa.org x175

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Diane Catlin, Chair Mary Warren, Secretary

Michele Mencuccini, Vice Chair Steve O'Neill, Treasurer

Visit: [thecasa.org/about-the-casa](https://www.thecasa.org/about-the-casa) for all board members and bios

**Do you have a special nativity scene
that you'd like to share at the
3rd Annual Casa Creche Festival?
Dec. 17-18, 2022**

If you would like to loan us your special nativity set for this event, or be involved in the festival, please email Norbert@thecasa.org. Maybe you'd like to volunteer for the event. Christmas is such an important part of the Franciscan story. Let us know if you'd like to help with this unique event.

We will be collecting them starting next weekend.

Creche Festival 2022

Saint Francis wanted to see with his own eyes the simplicity, poverty and humility of Jesus' birth.

With the help of the townspeople of Greccio, Italy a manger was constructed in a forest clearing. Mangers are still assembled to this day as part of our Christmas tradition to recall St. Francis' vision and to celebrate the humble birth.

December 17-18, 2022

Sing
Joy to all the
World

"Buon Natale, Greccio: St. Francis & the Nativity"

Saturday, December 17, 2022 ~ 7 pm

This concert of beautiful Christmas music and stories is part of the *Casa Creche Festival*. Open to the public and free to attend, our Casa Choir and musicians will tell the story of St. Francis and his portrayal of Jesus' birth, which established the worldwide tradition of displaying nativity scenes. Bring the whole family ... bring neighbors and friends and introduce them to the Casa!

The Immaculate Conception of Mary Thursday, December 8th at 8 am

On this special solemnity, we celebrate that God prepared Mary for her role as Jesus' mother from the moment of her conception. Come and celebrate and share in her reverence, her awareness of who she was created to be, and her willingness to let God act in her life. Come and be inspired.

Advent Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available:
Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022 – 9 – 10 am
Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2022 – 1 – 2pm
Monday, Dec. 19, 2022 – 6 – 7pm

Christmas Eve Masses – Dec. 24
4, 6, 8 & 10 pm

Christmas Day Mass – Dec. 25
10 am

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

Norbert Zwickl
Richard Guerra
Rosa Rodriguez-Saiz

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Reflecting on the Word as a Family - Matthew 3: 1-11

John the Baptist tells us in today's Gospel to: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" and he recalls the words of Isaiah when he says, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his path." John the Baptist is reminding us what this season of Advent is all about: preparation. It is easy to get distracted by all the physical preparations for Christmas, but John the Baptist is reminding us to prepare our hearts for Jesus. We remember that Jesus came into this world over two thousand years ago, but we are also waiting for him to come again! If this is truly what we believe, then we must prepare! We must prepare our hearts, minds, and our souls so that when Jesus comes, he finds us ready and waiting for him!

Discuss the Word as a Family

- *On the way to Mass:* What big events have you prepared for in your life? What does preparation require of us?
- *On the way home from Mass:* What does the word "repent" mean? Why is this important as we prepare for Jesus to come?

Living the Word as a Family

As a family, take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this Advent season. At the Casa, there will be a communal reconciliation service on Monday, December 19 at 6 pm. Take the whole family so that you can be witnesses to one another of God's mercy and love. (*Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families*)

Family Movie Night

Saturday, December 17 | 6:30 pm
San Damiano Auditorium



Our Year One Sacrament Preparation students will celebrate the Sacrament of First Reconciliation this coming Saturday!

Please keep all of these students in your prayers this week!

<i>Bennett</i>	<i>Marc</i>	<i>Catherine</i>
<i>Luc</i>	<i>Gemma</i>	<i>Charles</i>
<i>Nami</i>	<i>Brooks</i>	<i>Cali</i>
<i>Karolina</i>	<i>Autumn</i>	<i>Camilla</i>
<i>Calvin</i>	<i>Gianna</i>	<i>Violet</i>
<i>Owen</i>	<i>Will</i>	
<i>Jack</i>	<i>Rex</i>	
<i>Luke</i>	<i>Giovanni</i>	
<i>Brandon</i>	<i>Paloma</i>	



**Children's Liturgy
of the Word**

Every Sunday | 9:15 am Mass



**Service Opportunity
For Casa Youth & Their Families**

Support our Faith In Action ministries on Sunday, December 11 after all Masses by signing up to help sell fair trade chocolate, coffee, and more.



Please let us know you are interested.
Email chentz@thecasa.org for more information.

For Sacrament Preparation, contact Patty Tafolla at dcm@thecasa.org;
for Family Catechesis & Infant Baptism, contact Donna Kinzie at donna@thecasa.org;
for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, contact Cheryl Hentz at chentz@thecasa.org.

Introducing Young Family Sunday!

December 11 from 10:30 am -12 pm
Capistrano Room & Hospitality Area

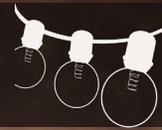
All families who have children between birth and 5 years of age are invited to our very first Young Family Sunday. After attending the 9:15 am Mass, head over to Capistrano room for Advent activity stations, fellowship with other young families, and coffee and donuts too.

Before you go home, make sure to pick up an Advent activity to use at home with your kids.

YOUNG
FAMILY MINISTRY



COURTYARD CONVOS



Young Adults ages 18-39

Advent Themed Faith Sharing

Friday, December 9
6 pm - 9 pm



STAY
CONNECTED
WITH
YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRY



OLAYYA



For Young Adult Ministry, contact Cheryl Hentz at chentz@thecasa.org

DISCOVER THE VISION

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

Thursdays

January 5	11:00 am <i>In person</i>
February 2	11:00 am <i>In person</i>
March 2	11:00 am <i>In person</i>
April 7	11:00 am <i>In person</i>

Reserve Your Spot Today

online: thecasa.org/discover-the-vision

phone: 480.355.5631

email: rsvp@thecasa.org



Franciscan School of Theology
at the UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

FAST TALK THEOLOGY

Sunday Lecture Series | 9 -10:30 am
in the San Damiano Auditorium

Dec. 11

Dr. Maureen Day, Ph.D.

Accompanying Young Adult Catholics

There is no fee or registration required.

ART DOCENT TOURS

Explore the Art of the Casa
Highlights of
Franciscan-Inspired Art

First and Third Sunday
12:30 -1:15 pm
(no tour New Year's Day)

First and Third Wednesday
11:30 am -12:30 pm

Tour Requests

online:
thecasa.org/art-docent-tours

email:
churchtours@thecasa.org

phone: 480.948.7460

Director of Development
Development Manager
Development Manager

Amy Jo Hutchison
Heidi Dwigun
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480.355.5634
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<https://tinyurl.com/mrx478ud>

**Shop Fair Trade
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Sunday Morning, December 11
In the after-Mass Hospitality area
8:30 am – 1 pm
Holiday and Hostess Gifts

- Divine Fair-Trade, Dark and Milk chocolate (many varieties)
- Cafe Justo Fair-Trade coffee.
- Handcrafted Apache jewelry and more.

Also, reusable washable 4-handled totes (buy as a gift or to help carry your products).

How does God speak to you through Scripture?

Just Scripture

**Virtual Conversation:
December 10**

To sign up, please visit the
FIA LinkTree.



We consider Biblical issues of justice and mercy that impact our world today and talk about how the Sunday readings connect with daily life and Franciscan Values.

Just Scripture occurs on Zoom on the second Saturday of each month from 10 – 11:30 am. The session is free. No previous study of Scripture is needed. Contact Kathleen Garast kgarast@aol.com for the Scripture readings that will be discussed.

All are welcome.



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St. Charles Apache Mission School
Box 339, San Carlos, AZ 85550

Deadline to receive tax credit: **April 18, 2023**
Questions? Paul Burgess, pburgess123@gmail.com

Register now for this online
(virtual) course

Renew Our Hearts: Franciscan Advent Conversations



Two Monday Evenings in Advent:
December 12 & 19 | 6:30-8 pm | Fee: \$10

Take time to pause from the holiday “hustle and bustle” and take a step back to renew your hearts in preparation to receive Jesus this Christmas. Details found here: <https://tinyurl.com/54brs4n4>

To register online, visit the FRC Programs Portal: <https://frc.retreatportal.com/events/>. You can also register at the Lobby Guest Services Desk: either in person or call 480.942.7460.

Advent Service Opportunity – helping alleviate hunger in the holiday season. Tuesday Morning December 13 (St. Mary's FB). Visit FIA LinkTree (below) to access the *Sign-up Genius* details and link.

Co - Manager, Faith in Action	Victor Jaimes	vjaimes@thecasa.org	480.306.4027
Co - Manager, Faith in Action	Laura Libertore	laura@thecasa.org	480.355.5645

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

Annual Appeal 2022

Founded by Franciscans. Formed by Community. Forward by Faith.

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. Please consult with your tax advisor.

If you would like to speak with someone about your gift, please call Development Director Amy Jo Hutchison at 480.355.5634.

To ensure proper tax reporting, please make certain any donations for 2022 are processed through PayPal, postmarked, or received on or before December 31, 2022. Please consult with your tax advisor.

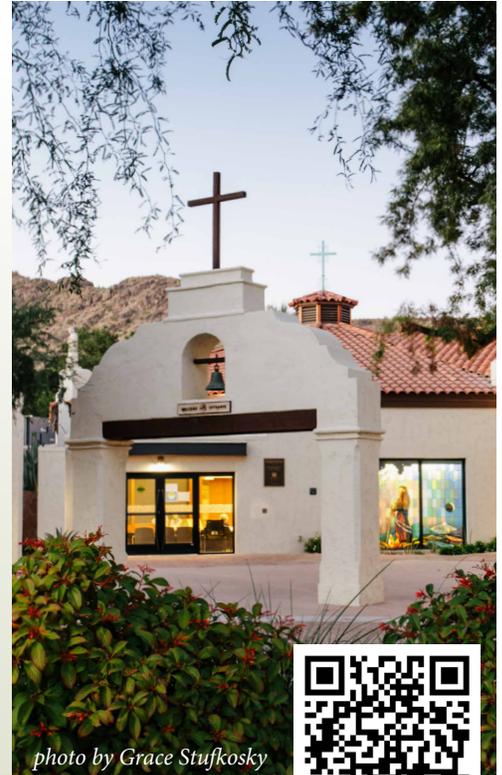


photo by Grace Stufkosky



Thank you!

Scan the QR code to give online



I considered myself a spiritual person until 2007 when I was diagnosed with cancer. Prior to that, I'd been in a spiritual recovery program for over 25 years and was a 'holiday' Episcopalian – Christmas and Easter. I called a friar that I knew from meetings, and he said he would pray for me and ask his brother friars to also pray. I've never been sure why I was so comforted by his words, but I was. When my physical recovery was complete, the friar shepherded me to RCIA to become a Catholic...and beyond.

I never meant to stay at the Casa, but I've never left. It has continued to strengthen me through good times and bad. And I've had the honor to sponsor three lovely women through to their Confirmation and work with amazing community members

and staff to build on the dream that began here in 1951.

I believe in the old saying that "actions speak louder than words." The Casa's Tau Society is a vehicle that allows me to put my love and gratitude into a measurable way of giving back. It is a multi-year giving program for unrestricted funds, so my pledge dollars go where they are needed most. To me, this is the spiritual underpinning of the tangible and intangible beauty created here since the 1950s. The responsibility for keeping this oasis in the desert going belongs to each of us who call this our spiritual home. — Sarah Privée, Tau Society since member 2013

Your gift to the annual appeal creates opportunities for spiritual growth, healing and transformation, and service to others. Please support the annual appeal.

Director of Development	Amy Jo Hutchison	amyjo@thecasa.org	480.355.5634
Development Manager	Heidi Dwigun	heidi@thecasa.org	480.355.5630
Development Manager	Paula A Tobin	paula@thecasa.org	480.355.5631



WEEKEND RETREAT

**Iconography Retreat: A Brush with God (Archangel Michael, Patron of Kyiv)
December 8 – 11, Thursday – Sunday**

Peter Pearson, M Div

Through the process of creating this image in the folk style of Byzantine iconography, we'll pray, follow step-by-step instructions, and learn about the history and spirituality of this ancient art form. All materials are provided. No experience necessary.

**Fee, including meals: \$575 single room; \$350 commuter incl. 2 dinners and 1 lunch.
Registration required. Visit: frc.retreatportal.com**



WEEKEND RETREAT

Emmaus Retreat for Grieving Parents

December 9 - 11, Friday - Sunday

with Marianne Gouveia and Greg Eckerman

The EMMAUS Ministry for Grieving Parents is a unique ministry that serves the spiritual needs of grieving parents. The retreat is offered by grieving parents who have lost children of their own.

**Fee: \$250 includes meals and lodging. \$135 per person commuter.
Registration required. Visit: frc.retreatportal.com**



WEEKEND RETREAT

Men's Retreat: Being at Home in My Own Skin— The Ultimate Gift.

December 9 – 11, Friday – Sunday

Terry Hershey and Deacon Phil LoCascio

This weekend will give you permission to be at home in your own skin, to embrace authenticity, to find your voice and the fire in your belly, knowing that vulnerability is not a weakness but a strength.

**Fee, including meals: \$250 single room; \$135 commuter
Registration required. Visit: frc.retreatportal.com**



WEEKEND RETREAT

Franciscan Music for the Soul

January 13 – 15, Friday – Sunday

Cathy Tisel Nelson

Deepen your relationship with God through the music of Franciscan composer Cathy Tisel Nelson. Our time together will include presentations, prayer, reflection, and group sharing.

**Fee, including meals: \$250 single room; \$135 commuter
Registration required. Visit: frc.retreatportal.com**

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



FIVE MONDAY SESSIONS —NEW!

T'ai Chi

January 23, 30, February 6, 13, and 20, Mondays | 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Jake Zinn

The centuries-old practice of T'ai Chi is often described as "meditation with movement." It serves to calm the mind and invigorate the body, while improving postural strength and stability, agility, and balance.

Fee: \$60 for 5 sessions.

Registration required. Visit: frc.retreatportal.com



FULL-DAY WORKSHOP

Learning to Play the Native American Flute

February 25, Saturday | 9am – noon

Ken Bogart and Sherry Vames

It has been said that the sound of the Native American Flute has the power to soothe and heal with its haunting tones. Learn to play fundamental notes, care for your flute, have finger/breath control, and create new songs.

Fee: \$30, plus \$60 materials fee (payable at class) includes an Authentic Native American Flute. Registration required. Visit: frc.retreatportal.com



WORKSHOP— NEW!

The Joy of Journaling

March 11, Saturday | 9am – noon

Bonnie Wasniewski

Writing is a powerful form of reflection, meditation, and/or prayer and can connect us to a deeper level of inner guidance. If you have gotten away from journaling or have never journaled, this workshop will give you guidance and tools to help you find the joy of journaling. If you have a favorite pen and journal, bring them along with you.

Fee: \$30. Registration required. Visit: frc.retreatportal.com



8-DAY RETREAT

St. Bonaventure's Journey Into God

May 4 – 12, Thursday – Friday

Fr. André Cirino, OFM & Josef Raischl, OFS

Based on St. Bonaventure's masterpiece, "*Itinerarium Mentis in Deum*" — his Journey Into God. Each day is dedicated to a chapter with a balance of instruction, reading, personal/community participation in Eucharistic liturgy, morning/evening prayer.

Fee, including meals: \$1,100 single room; \$850 double room; \$700 commuter.

Pre-registration required. Visit: frc.retreatportal.com

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

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, LMSW

Donations for one-on-one therapy and support group sessions 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.

Spiritual Direction Ministry

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 & Prayer Groups at the Casa

Men in Spirit. This faith sharing group of Christian men meets every other Saturday via Zoom for discussion, study, lectures and guidance. Contact Al Sapia-Bosch 602.748.6149, Chuck Jirauch 480.290.9687. MenInSpirit@thecasa.org

Prayer Partners petition prayers and prays for our human family. Send requests to: CasaPrayerPartners@thecasa.org.

Rosary Group Meets Tuesdays at 6 pm in the San Damiano Auditorium and on Zoom. Requests for meeting information and prayer intentions contact Elizabeth Marietti: emarietti@cox.net

Centering Prayer meets Wednesdays, 8:45 am in the Meditation Chapel. All are welcome.

Cornerstone Contemplative Meditation Wednesdays, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. We are located in the Spiritual Direction room located behind the East parking lot. Joanne Rapp: Joannemr@cox.net

Interfaith Healing Prayer Group meets every Friday following 8 am Mass in the back of the church. Contact Terri at healingprayer@thecasa.org. All are welcome.

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 December 4 – December 10, 2022

Sunday	
<i>Helen Powell</i>	7:30 am
<i>Mike Mansfield</i>	9:15 am
<i>Jean Mruz</i>	11:00 am
Monday	
<i>Dolores Poolman</i>	8:00 am
Tuesday	
<i>Nate Payne</i>	8:00 am
Wednesday	
<i>Frank Fischer</i>	8:00 am
Thursday	
<i>Loretto Wallace</i>	8:00 am
Friday	
<i>Maryjo Fronk</i>	8:00 am
Saturday	
<i>Maggie Barica</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 ("the Casa") is a place for spiritual growth, healing, and community that is open to everyone, regardless of faith. Activities at the Casa 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 in service of the poor and vulnerable
- Spiritual direction

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



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WHY IS IT?

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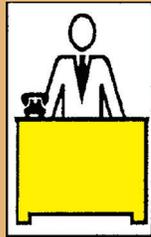
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