

January 28, 2024

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RENEWAL

The Franciscan Renewal Center • *Peace Renewal Good*



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



There is one topic that you know better than anyone else in the world. Do you know what that topic is? Why, it's YOU of course! No one comes close to understanding the inner and outer workings of you than you.

If you agree with me on this, then you are ready to understand a very important component of this week's Gospel. Jesus speaks with authority because he knows who he is. He knows that his deepest self, his truest self is everything that God is and thus speaks with confidence. He seldom quotes outside sources because when he speaks, he is ultimately speaking about himself. Almost all his teaching comes from inside.

The Christian tradition claims that we have this same authority, that our deepest and truest selves are the images and the likenesses of God. Getting in touch with this reality would reveal that we too have "the words of everlasting life.

I am convinced that this is one of the main reasons why Jesus came: to authenticate us, to show us how to be in touch with that Inner Authority whom we call the Holy Spirit and thus speak Truth as a result.

Being able to quote Scripture and catechisms is all well and good, but if we cannot speak with inner authority based on self-actualization and honest contemplation, then I am afraid that those unclean spirits will never listen and obey.

Fred Mercadante
Director of Faith Formation

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. & Tues.	Closed
	Wed. - Fri.	10:00 am - 2:00 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

Fr. James Seiffert, OFM fatherjames@thecasa.org x152

DEACON

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

Friars in Residence

Br. Matt Ryan, OFM brothermatt@thecasa.org

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/about-the-casa 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 2022. All rights reserved.

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

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

Pastoral Ministers are available to visit registered members of the Church of Our Lady of the Angels who are homebound and cannot attend Sunday Mass. Please call the Casa at 480.948.7460 to request a visit. We look forward to your call and the opportunity to serve.

A lay minister will return your call and arrange for a visit. These lay men and women are commissioned to bring Eucharist to those who are unable to attend Mass because of sickness, disability or aging. These volunteer ministers provide prayer and an opportunity to receive Holy Communion — as well as fellowship time and sharing news from the Casa to help keep us all in communion with one another.

We are very grateful for the dedicated men and women of this beautiful ministry.

We hope everyone feels welcome when they come to Mass at the Casa. But what happens if you get sick, have surgery, or are just no longer able to get here for Mass? How do you still feel connected? What if a family member is stuck at home?

“One of the Corporal Works of Mercy is to visit the sick. When I bring Holy Communion to someone who is homebound, I feel like I am visiting a family member, even though we are not related.”

We are inviting you to consider if you might be called to serve in this ministry. Teams of two visit those who are homebound, and bring the Lord to our brothers and sisters when they need Him the most. Contact Norbert@thecasa.org to learn more about this ministry.



Charity and Development Appeal (CDA) Next Weekend

The Bishops Annual Charity & Development Appeal (CDA) supports more than seventy charities, ministries, and apostolates for the Diocese of Phoenix. The CDA has been in place since 1970. Once a year, we are asked to make a commitment to support the work being done beyond the boundary of any one parish or community. The CDA is an opportunity for us to work together to assist those in the larger community who need our care and support.

Please prayerfully consider your gift. For more information, please visit www.dphx.org/cda.

Director of Liturgy & Music	Norbert Zwickl	norbert@thecasa.org	480.355.0346
Assistant Director of Liturgy & Music	Richard Guerra	richard@thecasa.org	480.355.0347
Executive Assistant to the Liturgy Office	Rosa Rodriguez-Saiz	rosa@thecasa.org	480.355.5642

Whole Community Ministry

For ALL members of the community and for all ages



Sacrament Preparation Ministry

For adults, teens, children & their families preparing for Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation & Eucharist

- **Infant Baptism:** For more information about infant baptism preparation, contact cheryl@thecasa.org
- **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults):** Session 9 is Thursday, 2.1.24 at 7 pm in the Liturgy Room. Topic: *Tradition*
- **OCIT (Order of Christian Initiation for Teens)** We meet this coming Thursday, 2.1.24 | 7 pm-8:30 pm | Capistrano Room
- **Year One Sacrament Preparation** | First Reconciliation: Session Six | Sunday, 2.18.24 | 10:30 am – Noon | CLC A & B
- **Year Two Sacrament Preparation** | Confirmation: Session One | Sunday, 2.4.24 | 10:30 am – Noon | Piper Hall, Garces Room

Family Ministry

For families with children – birth to 6th grade

- **Children’s Liturgy of the Word:** Every Sunday at the 9:15 am Mass. Children ages 6 – 12 may come forward to be dismissed each week for age-appropriate reflection on the Readings.
- **Family Ministry Table in Hospitality** | Theme: Lent | Sunday, February 11, 2024 | After all the Sunday morning Masses.
- **Calling all Parents** | We are looking for your input regarding family sessions beginning in the fall of 2024! If you are interested in being part of a small focus group, please email Donna: donna@thecasa.org
- **Young Family Sunday** | Sun, Feb 11, 2024 | starts at 10:30 am but stop by anytime to meet other families, hear a Bible story, plus activities and play. Any family with children between birth and five years of age are invited to join us.

Fred Mercadante, Director of Faith Formation: fred@thecasa.org;
 Donna Kinzie, Sacrament Preparation, Family Catechesis: donna@thecasa.org;
 Cheryl Hentz, Youth, Young Adult, Young Family & Infant Baptism: cheryl@thecasa.org.

Young Adult Ministry

For young adults ages 18-39

Courtyard Convos

Friday, February 16 | 6:30 pm
No Meat Friday Game Night
Come out and join us!

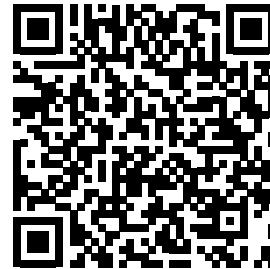


Please use this QR Code to RSVP

Adult Ministry

**Living the Liturgical Year:
Mardi Gras — Lent — Holy Week
Beyond Giving Stuff Up!**

Wednesday, February 7 | 6:30 to 8 pm
In Person or Online



Please use this QR Code to RSVP

To find out how to get involved, visit our Casa Faith Formation Online Portal: www.casafaitformation.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, 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.

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

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

Mass Offerings

1.14.24 \$19,851
1.15.23 \$22,846

Mass Attendance

1.14.24 1,491
1.15.23 1,375



Franciscan School of Theology
at the UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO
FAST TALK THEOLOGY

Sunday February 11, 9 – 10:30 am |
Garces Room, Piper Hall

Maureen Day, PhD
"A Spirituality of Parenting: Seeing God in the Blessed Mess"

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

Thank You for Supporting Casa Franciscana!

Your prayers and donations this weekend will go toward supporting the folks served by Casa Franciscana in Guaymas, Mexico.

To learn more about the work at the Mission, you are invited to go on the Casa Franciscana Pilgrimage **March 7 - 10**. For more information, contact pilgrimageteam@casafranciscana.org.



Gardening Sustainably in the Desert:

How will your Garden Grow?

Saturday, February 24
9 am - 2 pm, Fee: \$15

The Care for Creation ministry, in partnership with the Maricopa County Master Naturalist Chapter, is hosting educational workshops on growing native heat-and-drought-tolerant crops in your home gardens.



Register now on FRC.RetreatPortal.com

SolidariTea for Interfaith Peace



Wednesday, February 7
5 - 6:30 pm, Fee: \$10

Engage in facilitated dialogue and lively conversation with folks of different faith traditions. This event takes place during World Interfaith Harmony Week (as recognized by the United Nations). Share your story with others on how you found your faith.

Tea and snacks will be provided. A special *Taizé Prayer for Interfaith Peace & Unity* will follow at the Our Lady of the Angels Church at 7 pm.

Register now on the Casa Portal



Helping Those in Need Arizona Tax Credit

Casa Habitat Ministry

An FRC Outreach Ministry that benefits directly from your intentional AZ Tax Credit donation

Donate to Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona and indicate that your donation is on behalf of the Franciscan Renewal Center

- Donation by check: on the memo line, write Franciscan Renewal Center
- Donation online: choose “designate: families in need with my church” and then add Franciscan Renewal Center in the next box, and receive a dollar-for-dollar credit toward your Arizona income tax payment. habitatcaz.org/donate/.

Contributions to qualifying organizations of the low income and foster care programs can be claimed as separate credits with separate limitations for each. Details found on the State website www.azdor.gov/tax-credits.

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 events, visit: linktr.ee/socialconcerns

The friars, leadership, and staff of the Franciscan Renewal Center are

GRATEFUL, HUMBLLED, AND BLESSED

for the support and response we received for our 2023 Annual Appeal.



We are pleased to share we exceeded our Annual Appeal goal for another year! Thanks to the abounding generosity and devotion of our community, the Appeal finished with over \$530,000 raised — far surpassing our goal of \$450,000. We received 605 gifts and saw an increase of 29% participation from 2022. Truly a blessing!

These abounding gifts show your faith and dedication to our Franciscan mission of being a sanctuary for spiritual growth, healing and community. Despite challenging economic issues, we raised more funds this year than the last. By coming together, joining hearts

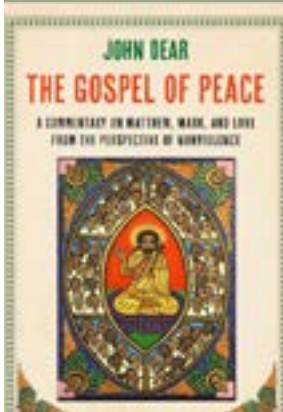
and hands, you provided funding for the good works the Casa will continue through 2024. We are GRATEFUL, HUMBLLED, AND BLESSED for each of you who walked alongside us, affirming that people will continue to grow and be inspired through our ministries and programs which include:

- Daily and Sunday Mass at Our Lady of the Angels Church
- Meetings and conferences for religious and nonprofit groups
- Individual therapy and counseling
- Education, retreats, and events
- Casa Faith Formation – providing programs for all stages of a faith journey
- Faith in Action - volunteer ministries in service of the poor and vulnerable

“Your generosity becomes an embodiment of the Divine’s love, guiding us toward a future where compassion flourishes and the Casa community continues to thrive.”

—Fr. Vincent Nguyen, OFM, Vice-Rector

Wholeheartedly we thank you for allowing us to achieve this goal. May this New Year bring the joy, blessings, and prosperity to you that you are bringing to others. God bless.



The Gospel of Peace: An Evening with John Dear

February 1, Thursday 7 – 8 pm

Fr. John Dear, SJ

Priest, peacemaker, author, and Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, Fr. John Dear, will discuss and sign copies of his new book, "The Gospel of Peace: A Commentary on Matthew, Mark and Luke from the Perspective of Nonviolence" (Orbis). Books will be available for purchase at Books and Blessing Bookstore and at the event.

Fee: \$20 Register: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

Mercy and Compassion in the Spirituality of St. Francis of Assisi

March 8 – 10, Friday – Sunday

Fr. Steven McMichael, OFM Conv

In recent years, Italian scholars have produced many books and articles on the theme of mercy and compassion in the writings of Francis of Assisi. This retreat presents the fruit of this research and writing. We will focus on Francis' writings such as the Earlier Rule, the Testament, the Admonitions, the Canticle of the Creatures and the Letter to a Minister.

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



RETREAT

Holy Week 2024

Fr. Greg Friedman, OFM

Part I: March 23 – 27, Saturday – Wednesday

Part II, The Paschal Triduum: March 28 – 31, Thursday – Sunday

For fees and registration information, visit: frc.retreatportal.com



RETREAT

A Brush with God

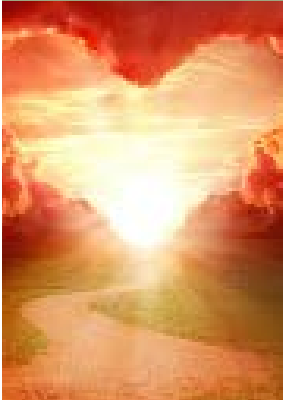
April 11 – April 14, Thursday – Sunday

Peter Pearson, MDiv & ThD

During our time together, we will paint the image of Christ, the Gardener and Lord of the Harvest. We'll follow the traditional, step by step process of Byzantine iconography in a prayerful atmosphere. No previous experience or innate talents are required. Come, learn to make a brushstroke your prayer and give yourself to an ancient way of proclaiming the gospel in color and lines.

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



RETREAT

The Spiritual Journey: A Process of Transformation

May 24 – 26, Friday – Sunday

Fr. Albert Haase, OFM

Explore the dynamics of the spiritual journey!

The spiritual journey is the communal process of being transformed by the Spirit of God to the image of Christ for the sake of others. This retreat will explore this dynamic of the spiritual life.

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



RETREAT

Your Spiritual Legacy: Reflections into the Heart of Who You Are.

June 7 – 9, 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. The treasure that is your true legacy to others.

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



RETREAT — NEW!

Dry Heat Retreat

June 14 – 16, Friday – Sunday

Peter Pearson, MDiv, ThD

Do you have questions about spirituality and the God Quest? After reading Sandra's Schneider's series, it occurred to Peter that we are all on that same journey as we live our lives. This lifelong search, inevitably leads us to questions about spirituality and the God Quest.

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



RETREAT — NEW!

Retirement & Purposeful Aging

August 23 – 25, Friday – Sunday

Jim Briggs

As you think about your retirement years and move into this next chapter of your life, this retreat will explore the benefits and joys as well as the challenges and concerns ahead. How do we live this stage of our life well and see aging as a blessing? Discover how we can share our Spirit-given gifts, talents, and experience in new ways.

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

Spiritual Direction Ministry



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 January 28 – February 3, 2024

Sunday	
<i>Helen Bole</i>	7:30 am
<i>Jack Stevens Mandala</i>	9:15 am
<i>Mark Coley</i>	11:00 am
Monday	
<i>Gloria Kotecki</i>	8:00 am
Tuesday	
<i>Kara Horvath</i>	8:00 am
Wednesday	
<i>Julie Guss</i>	8:00 am
Thursday	
<i>Scott Moffat</i>	8:00 am
Friday	
<i>Gloria Kotecki</i>	8:00 am
Saturday	
<i>Shayna Mansfield</i>	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 & Prayer Groups at the Casa

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

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

Cornerstone Contemplative Meditation Wednesdays, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm. We are located in the Spiritual Direction room between the Guadalupe and TK conference rooms. Joanne Rapp: jorapp25@gmail.com

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.

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. Steve Hempelman 602.821.7178. 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 Meditation Chapel. Requests for meeting information 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 johnelder@gmail.com or 480.580.7750.

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. 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.



Follow Us on Facebook
facebook.com/TheCasaFRC



Subscribe to YouTube
youtube.com/TheCasaFRC



Like Us on Instagram
instagram.com/TheCasaFRC