

February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

# 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.*

*photo by: Peter Jordan*

## PASTORAL REFLECTION



Our first reading this Sunday warns us against relying on human power. Those who do so are like barren desert bushes, struggling to survive. But those who trust in the Lord are like trees planted by water, drawing life from God.

It's easy to think we're in control. But every day, we place our trust in others—without even realizing it. When we ride in someone else's car or on a plane, we put our lives in their hands. We don't dwell on it because if we did, we might drive ourselves crazy trying to control everything.

This truth hit me in a new way recently when my sister and her family visited. For the first time, we all rode in a Waymo. There we were, sitting in a car with no driver, trusting...well, trusting in what, exactly? It was unsettling (but also pretty exciting!) That experience made me think—if I can sit in a driverless car and trust a machine, how much more should I trust the God who created me?

Jesus echoes this lesson in today's Gospel. He blesses those who trust in God despite hardships, and he warns against seeking security in wealth or praise. True security is found in God. We all long for affirmation and sometimes seek the praise of others. What areas of our lives do we need to surrender to the Lord's control? This week, let's choose to trust in the Lord, not in fleeting comforts or praise. When we do, we will be like that tree planted by water—strong, secure, and full of life.

Peace and all good!

*Deacon Matt Ryan*

Deacon Matt Ryan, OFM

## 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      2nd & 4th Wednesday      7:00 pm

Reconciliation      Saturday      2:00 - 3:00 pm

Visit the website for additional times in Advent

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/](http://bible.usccb.org/).

### Our Lady of the Angels Church Pastoral Staff

#### RECTOR

Fr. Page E. Polk, OFM      [fatherpage@thecasa.org](mailto:fatherpage@thecasa.org)      x145

#### VICE-RECTOR

Fr. Vincent Nguyen, OFM      [fathervincent@thecasa.org](mailto:fathervincent@thecasa.org)      x174

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Dcn. Hervé Lemire, OFM Affiliate      [deaconherve@gmail.com](mailto:deaconherve@gmail.com)

### Franciscan Renewal Center Executive Administration

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Charles Brown      [casa@thecasa.org](mailto: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](https://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](https://tinyurl.com/z8t2vj3a)



## Mass with the Anointing of the Sick Saturday, February 22 at 10:30 am

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick seeks physical healing if it is God's will, but its primary purpose is spiritual healing, giving the sick person peace and courage through the Holy Spirit to face the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age.

## Black History Month & Liturgy

Doris Akers (1923–1995) was a biracial African-American gospel music composer, arranger, and singer, regarded as one of the most underrated gospel composers of the 20th century. She wrote over 500 songs and gained recognition for her work with the Sky Pilot Choir, an integrated choir featured on recordings, television shows, and radio broadcasts nationwide during the 1950s.

Doris received numerous awards, including Gospel Music Composer of the Year in 1960 and 1961, and was honored by the Smithsonian Institution as the foremost Black gospel songwriter in the United States. She co-wrote and recorded the hit song "Lord, Don't Move the Mountain" with Mahalia Jackson, which sold over a million copies. Her songs were also recorded by artists such as Aretha Franklin and Inez Andrews.

In 2001, Doris Akers was posthumously inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame. Today, we sing her hymn "Lead Me, Guide Me" in celebration of Black History Month, observed each February, honoring the achievements and history of African Americans, highlighting their contributions to society and the ongoing struggle for racial equality.



## Hope: Gift and Duty

As a church, we are in the Jubilee Year of hope. Pope Francis tells us that hope is both a **gift** and a **duty**. He tells us that "hoping is waiting for something that has already been given to us: salvation in God's eternal and infinite love."

In this Jubilee Year, we are invited to be *pilgrims of hope*. We have been given the gifts necessary for the moment, we only need to "do whatever he tells you." And whether we understand it or not, God will work out the rest.

What kind of hope do you have?  
Are they big hopes? Or small whispers?  
Are they a secret? Or do you share them publicly?  
Are they hidden treasures, barely expressible?  
Are they tender echoes of old hopes nearly gone?  
Are they seeds...or fully blossomed?

If hope is both **gift and duty**, what does that mean?  
Consider other things that are both **gift and duty**:  
Parenthood, Faith, Freedom, Leadership,  
Love, Citizenship, Health, Education,  
Friendship, Nature, Talent ...

All these *gifts* enrich our lives and inspire us, yet they also call us to *duty*: responsibility, requiring care, integrity, and a commitment to nurture and uphold what has been entrusted to us. Duty is an obligation to act in a certain way, guided by values that reflect a commitment to responsibilities that often benefit others or the greater good.

Then, what is hope calling you to do?  
You've been given the gift of hope.  
What now is your duty?

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Executive Assistant to the Liturgy Office	Rosa Rodriguez-Saiz	<a href="mailto:rosa@thecasa.org">rosa@thecasa.org</a>	480.355.5642



# WHOLE COMMUNITY SUNDAY

February 23 in the Liturgy Room

10:30 am – 12 pm

Information:

[www.casafaitformation.org/whole-community-sunday](http://www.casafaitformation.org/whole-community-sunday)



Visit our online Faith Formation portal: [casafaitformation.org](http://casafaitformation.org)



## FAITH FORMATION



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Family Minister

480.355.0344  
[donna@thecasa.org](mailto:donna@thecasa.org)



Fred Mercadante  
Director of Faith  
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Youth Minister

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Faith in Action Co-  
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### DISCOVER THE VISION

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

#### 1st Thursdays of the Month

Upcoming dates:

March 6                      11:00 am

April 3                        11:00 am

#### Reserve Your Spot Today

**online:** [thecasa.org/  
discover-the-vision](https://thecasa.org/discover-the-vision)

**phone:** 480.355.5631

**email:** [rsvp@thecasa.org](mailto:rsvp@thecasa.org)



Franciscan School of Theology  
at the UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

There will be a special collection at all Masses on February 22 & 23 to support the Franciscan School of Theology who come to us monthly to present on the Franciscan Intellect.

Please consider a special gift to develop the people and programs of the Franciscan School of Theology. Donate at: [shorturl.at/RFNgY](https://shorturl.at/RFNgY) or scan the QR code.



Founded in Berkeley, CA, in 1968, the Franciscan School of Theology is a seminary and a theology school that prepares lay people, religious and clergy for shared ministry in the Roman Catholic Church.

Director of Development  
Development Manager

Christopher Meyer  
Paula A Tobin

[christopher@thecasa.org](mailto:christopher@thecasa.org) 480.355.5634  
[paula@thecasa.org](mailto:paula@thecasa.org) 480.355.5631

Hospitality Table after  
Mass on March 1 and 2



## The Casa Habitat for Humanity Ministry

We need your help to build our 25th Habitat Home.

Stop by our table and learn what it means to be a builder/volunteer with the Casa Habitat Ministry:

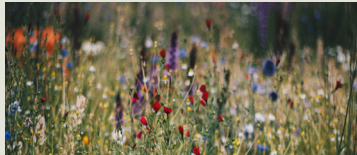
- What does building a house involve?
- What kind of skills can you learn?
- How much fun can you have with other members of our OLA community?

This Lent we will co-sponsor a home with the Caritas Catholic Coalition of builders. No experience is required to be a Habitat volunteer builder. Contact: [thecahabitat@thecasa.org](mailto:thecahabitat@thecasa.org). Visit FIA LinkTree for ministry flyer/details.

### Habitat: Build a House and Change Lives

## Gardening Sustainably in the Desert

Topic:  
*Desert Gardening  
for Pollinators*



**Saturday, February 22**  
9 am – 12 pm  
Fee: \$20

What pollinators exist in the Sonoran Desert? Want to add color to your garden to attract these critters? Learn about insecticides, herbicides, and invasive plant species that harm our pollinators.

Lunch will be provided at the event.

**Last chance to register at [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)**

Questions? Email Care for Creation at:  
[careforcreation@thecasa.org](mailto:careforcreation@thecasa.org)

**Two Mondays, mid-Lent, Virtual program on Zoom**  
March 31 & April 7, 6:30 – 8:15 pm, Fee \$10



### Franciscan Lenten Conversations: *"Not by Bread Alone" by Daniel Horan*

**Register Now at [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)**  
*Registration remains open until March 29.*

This program is offered in mid-Lent as a time to pause and reflect on our spiritual journeys. "Not by Bread Alone," daily reflections pocket booklet, offers an invitation to engage with Scripture and remember that Lent is always tied to the joy of Easter and the hope of the Resurrection.

Please note, the booklet is exclusive to registered participants. To receive your booklet *before* Lent begins: please register by Friday, February 28.



Friday, April 4  
**Popcorn, Pizza, &  
Peace Movie Night**  
5:15 – 8:30 pm, Fee \$15

### *"Disturbing the Peace"* Documentary

*"Love is more powerful than the most  
destructive weapons of war."*

Conclude the *Season for Nonviolence* on the anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jr.: view and discuss this documentary about everyday people in Palestine and Israel who took extraordinary actions to reach out to their "enemies" to work for peace.

**Register on the FRC Portal.** Fee incl. film, pizza/popcorn & additional refreshments. Register by Wed, April 2 at 7 pm.

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Co - Manager, Faith in Action

Laura Libertore

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480.355.5645

For volunteer opportunities and FIA events, visit: [linktr.ee/socialconcerns](http://linktr.ee/socialconcerns)

## COMMUNITY CONNECTION



### Franciscan Immersion Trip through the Lens of the Provincial Synod Priorities

Last month, I was honored to attend an Immersion Experience for Franciscan staff members at the San Solano Missions in Topawa, AZ. Father James, formerly a friar at the Casa, is now officiating there, along with Father John Gibbons and two brothers.

Earlier in January, many Franciscans met at a national provincial synod. The resulting report lists eight priorities, many of which have accompanying actions. I was interested to see that several of the priorities were put into action as I attended the four-day immersion trip in Topawa. Here's one:

(Priority 2) The Gospel compels us to respond to the needs of the poor, marginalized (including women), and vulnerable persons, and our common home. We learned that the four friars travel for hours to make trips to minister to residents of the Tohono O'odham nation—the expansive reservation across southern Arizona that is their region. Just the fact that they live on a reservation means the O'odham are marginalized. Many of them are vulnerable. Most are also Catholic. The dedication of these friars and their committed volunteer support ministers is above and beyond.

### Casa Volunteer Meetings

Upcoming Volunteer Handbook (Re-)Orientation meetings:

Tues. Feb. 25 at 11 am **or** Wed. Feb. 26 at 5:15 pm

These take place in person and are about an hour long. You are welcome to join whether you are a long-time volunteer, new, or are considering volunteering. Reserve a seat with me: 480.355.0350, [jenifer@thecasa.org](mailto:jenifer@thecasa.org).

—Jenifer Tull-Gauger, SHRM-CP, Human Resources Manager

### Therapy, Support, and Counseling Ministry (TSCM) [thecasa.org/tscm](http://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](mailto:counseling@thecasa.org)



Franciscan School of Theology  
at the UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO

### THE FRANCISCAN VISION LECTURE SERIES

Sunday, March 9, 9 – 10:30 am | Guadalupe Room

"A Franciscan Vision of Lent: Springtime for the  
Soul" with Sr. Mary Beth Ingham, CSJ

For more information and a listing of future programs,  
visit: [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)

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

#### Mass Offerings

2.2.25 \$24,533

2.4.24 \$22,325

#### Mass Attendance

2.2.25 1,612

2.4.24 1,541

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





### 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](http://frc.retreatportal.com)



### 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](http://frc.retreatportal.com)



### WORKSHOP SERIES

## Protecting Our Own Well Being in Challenging Times

Saturdays: Feb 8, Mar 8, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7 | 9 am – Noon

*Wayne Tormala*

Workshops designed to build knowledge and skills for sustainable life balance and awakened decision-making amidst the many distractions and stressors in life.

**Registration Details:** [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)



### RETREAT

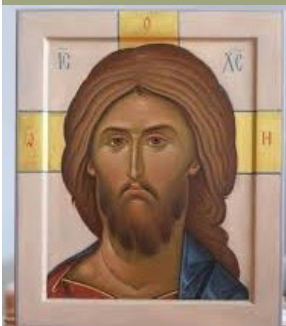
## If Only...Making Peace with Our Past to Heal Our Present

March 28 –30, Friday – Sunday

*Fr. Charles Wehrley, C.Ss.R.*

This retreat will teach us how to fully grieve losses from past mistakes instead of simply replaying them and remaining stuck in regret.

**Fee, incl. meals: \$300 single room; \$150 commuter.** Register: [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)



### ICONOGRAPHY RETREAT

## A Brush with God

April 10 – April 13, Thursday – Sunday

*Peter Pearson, MDiv, ThD*

We will walk through the ancient process of creating an icon of the face of Christ, using this image which was created by a contemporary master as our guide. No experience required.

**Fee, incl. meals: \$600 single room; \$400 commuter.** Register: [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)

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





**RETREAT**

**Holy Week 2025**

**Part I: April 12 – 16 | Part II: April 17 – April 20**

*Fr. John Quigley, OFM*

Part I: Stay as many nights as you wish between April 12 –16. To register, email [lora@thecasa.org](mailto:lora@thecasa.org), call 480.948.7460, or visit the Casa's Guest Services Desk.

Part II: The Paschal Triduum. Online registration available.

Register: [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)



**RETREAT**

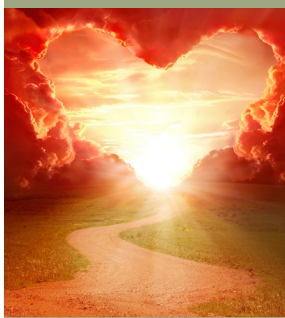
**Emmaus Retreat for Grieving Parents**

**April 25 – 27, Friday – Sunday**

*Marianne Gouveia and Greg Eckerman*

We provide an opportunity for parents to gather in a sacred, warm, and compassionate space with others who know their pain. All faiths are welcome.

**Fee, incl. meals: \$250 single room; \$135 commuter.** Register: [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)



**RETREAT**

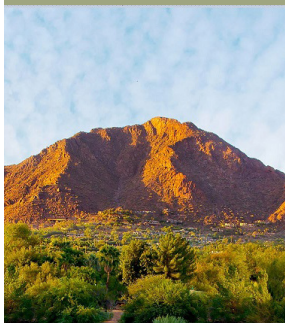
**Living Into the Truth of God's Extravagant Love**

**April 25 – 27, 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](http://frc.retreatportal.com)



**RETREAT**

**Grief and Loss**

**June 6 – 8, Friday – Sunday**

*Timothy Ringgold, MT-BC*

This retreat provides a supportive setting where you will gain new insights into the grief process and discover ways to heal from this intense and painful period.

**Fee, incl. meals: \$250 single room; \$135 commuter.** Register: [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)



**RETREAT**

**The Spirituality of Interdependence: Forging Peace by Being Franciscan**

**June 15 – 20, Sunday – Friday**

*Darleen Pryds, Ph.D.*

A retreat exploring Franciscan spirituality, focusing on relationality, peacemaking, and faith-based skills to rebuild meaningful relationships in a polarized world.

**Fee, incl. meals: \$500 single room; \$275 commuter. Reduced Fee for Religious.**

To see all upcoming programs and to register, visit [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com). Registrations can also be made by visiting or calling our Guest Services Desk, or by emailing [lora@thecasa.org](mailto: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](mailto:spiritualdirection@thecasa.org)

### Faith Sharing Groups at the Casa

**Centering Prayer** meets Wednesdays at 8:45 am in the Meditation Chapel. [SpiritualDirection@thecasa.org](mailto:SpiritualDirection@thecasa.org)

**Contemplation in the Desert** gathers in the Healing Garden on Mondays at 11 am. [CareforCreation@thecasa.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Rosary@thecasa.org)

**Singles40plus Group** is for widows, widowers, and divorced individuals 40 or older. For more information email us at [Singles40plus@thecasa.org](mailto: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](mailto:johnelder@gmail.com) or 480.580.7750.

### Mass Intentions February 16 – 22, 2025

#### Sunday

*Mary Geras* 7:30 am  
*Milone Family* 9:15 am  
*Dr. John "Jack" Corrigan* 11:00 am

#### Monday

*Clairette Calicis* 8:00 am

#### Tuesday

*Stephen Francis Concannon* 8:00 am

#### Wednesday

*Beverly Woodmansee* 8:00 am

#### Thursday

*Al Coury* 8:00 am

#### Friday

*Philip Chircop* 8:00 am

#### Saturday

*Patricia Always* 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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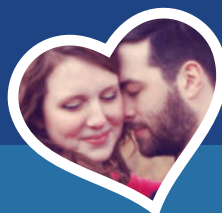
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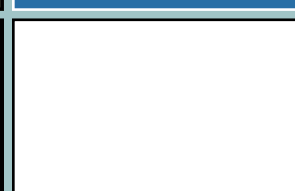
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