

January 7, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord

# RENEWAL

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



*image from: Creche Festival 2023*

5802 East Lincoln Drive • Scottsdale, Arizona 85253 • Phone 480.948.7460 • [thecasa.org](http://thecasa.org)

## PASTORAL REFLECTION



This weekend, during the Christmas Season, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The word Epiphany means the appearance, the manifestation, to show.

Matthew (2:1-12) provides the story of the magi arriving in Bethlehem. They discover the newborn King, fall prostrate, and do Him homage. After offering Him their gifts, they return home by another way. The lives of the magi were changed.

The Child of Bethlehem has been born in time. The Word has become flesh. The gift of the Incarnation is His gift to us. As we encounter the Son of God and the Son of Mary, how do we go about our lives differently? Are we changed? Do we see ourselves in the Light of the Incarnation? Do we believe, accept, and act like those over whom His glory shines? How do we manifest kindness, patience, compassion, forgiveness, and mercy? Not only with ourselves but with others?

The Epiphany invites us all year long to manifest God's love and care. In the Eucharistic Prayers ( 3 and 4) for Various Needs, these words might provide us with guidance and encouragement.

From Prayer 3: Grant that all the faithful of the Church, looking into the signs of the times by the light of faith, may constantly devote themselves to the service of the Gospel. Keep us attentive to the needs of all that, sharing their grief and pain, their joy and hope, we may faithfully bring them the good news of salvation and go forward with them along the way of the Kingdom.

From Prayer 4: Open our eyes to the needs of our brothers and sisters; inspire us in words and actions to comfort those who labor and are burdened. Make us serve them truly, after the example of Christ and at His command. May your Church stand as a living witness to truth, freedom, peace, and justice so that all people may be raised up to a new hope.

Let's open our hearts and eyes... Let's go home by another way.

*Fr. Page Polk, OFM, Rector*

Fr. Page Polk, OFM, Rector

## 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 <a href="https://www.youtube.com/theCasaFRC">YouTube.com/theCasaFRC</a>		
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/](https://www.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

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Br. Matt Ryan, OFM      [brothermatt@thecasa.org](mailto:brothermatt@thecasa.org)

### 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/about-the-casa](https://www.thecasa.org/about-the-casa) 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)

### Holy families ... for anyone facing hardships ...

The Gospel stories about the Holy Family give us wonderful examples to follow, particularly in times of personal challenge. From the beginning, Mary and Joseph had their share of difficulties. They were unsettled by the news of her pregnancy, and in the days before Jesus' birth, they had to take an arduous journey to Bethlehem. Without proper accommodations, Mary had to give birth in very inconvenient circumstances. Instead of returning home, they had to escape at night to a foreign land to keep the baby safe, having to proceed carefully for fear of the new king.

Yet at every step, God watched over them, and they kept faith.

May we also know that same consolation and keep the faith in our own challenging times.

### Epiphany

Today we recall the magi, who, drawn by the star, journeyed from distant lands to find the newborn king and present him with their finest gifts. We each make our own journey to the Lord, and we offer our finest gifts — our prayers, our lives, our future. And we walk alongside others who are on their own journeys, too.

When Isaiah wrote the poem that we hear today, the Israelites had just returned from decades of exile. Judah was devastated and left desolate, but Isaiah saw it through eyes of faith:

*Arise! Shine, for your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
Though darkness covers the earth,  
and thick clouds, the peoples,  
upon you the Lord will dawn,  
and over you his glory will be seen.*

Light is an invaluable resource for those on a long journey. For millennia, the stars enabled travelers to navigate at night and light from the moon enabled them to see their way. When the Israelites' long exile ended, Isaiah pointed to Jerusalem as a beacon, shining radiantly to draw families, rulers, and foreigners to its glory, even as it was still rebuilding after years of desolation.

So too the star above nearby Bethlehem drew the magi, though it was to a humble stable, inhabited by a family that to Herod would have looked absolutely unremarkable.

We may feel that we have nothing radiant in us or in our lives, but with the light of Christ in us we are in fact blessed with a source of light for ourselves and others.



Director of Liturgy & Music	Norbert Zwickl	<a href="mailto:norbert@thecasa.org">norbert@thecasa.org</a>	480.355.0346
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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 Ministry

For ALL members of the community and for all ages



## Sign Up Here!:



### In Spotlight

Interested in sacraments for you and/or your children?

## WE DO THAT HERE!

**Baptism**

**Confirmation**

**Eucharist**

**Reconciliation**

### COME & SEE!

*Use QR Code to Inquire*

### 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](mailto:cheryl@thecasa.org)
- **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults):** Session 9 is Thursday, January 11 at 7 pm in the Liturgy Room. Topic: *Eucharist*
- **OCIT (Order of Christian Initiation for Teens)** is this coming Thursday, 1.11.23 | 7 pm – 8:30 pm | Capistrano Room
- **Year One Sacrament Preparation** | First Reconciliation | Sunday 1.21.23 | 10:30 am – Noon | Piper Hall, Garces Room
  - **Year Two Sacrament Preparation** | First Eucharist | Sunday, 1.7.23 | 10:30 am – Noon | Piper Hall, Garces Room
  - **Year Two Sacrament Preparation** | First Eucharist | Sunday, 1.14.23 | 10:30 am – Noon | Piper Hall, Serra 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.
- **Young Family Sunday:** Young Family Sunday | Sun, Jan 14 | 10:30 am. Any family with children between birth and 5 years of age, stop by to say hello, meet other parents, hear Bible stories, and let your children play.



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

**Young Adult Ministry**

*For young adults ages 18 – 39*



- **Courtyard Convos | Fri, Jan 19 | 6:30 pm** Young adult evening | Dinner | Friends | Conversations



*Please use this QR Code to RSVP*

To find out how to get involved, visit our Casa Faith Formation Online Portal: [www.casafaithformation.org](http://www.casafaithformation.org)



**DISCOVER THE VISION**

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

**Thursdays**

February 1      11:00 am

April 1      11:00 am

**Friday**

March 8      11:00 am

**Reserve Your Spot Today**

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

**phone:** 480.355.5631

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

**ART DOCENT TOURS**

*Explore the Art of the Casa*

**Treasures of Franciscan Art**

*No Registration Required*

1st & 3rd Wednesday  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

1st & 3rd Sunday  
12:30 – 1 pm

**Tour Requests**

**online:** [thecasa.org/art-docent-tours](http://thecasa.org/art-docent-tours)

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

**phone:** 480.948.7460

*Contact to arrange tour.*



Director of Development  
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480.355.5634  
480.355.5630  
480.355.5631

**JustScripture**  
**Virtual Conversation: January 13**  
All are welcome.



WORD OF GOD Sunday is celebrated on January 21. Pope Francis reminds us the Bible “is the book of the Lord’s people, who, in listening to it, move from division towards unity”.

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 [kgarast@aol.com](mailto:kgarast@aol.com) for the Scripture readings that will be discussed.

Find out more. Speak with Representatives.  
January 20 and 21 after all Masses.

In this *New Year*, do you take time to pause and pray with, and discuss, the Word of God? Would you like to? Find out more about how you can with JS.

**Contemplation in the Desert**



**Weekly Nature Meditation**  
**Monday, 11 am – 12:15 pm**  
*Healing Garden*

Contemplate the New Year and learn to love nature. Through shared readings, prayer, silent wandering, and reflection amongst our beautiful grounds, you will learn to gently appreciate all of God’s creation.

Contact: [powell14@cox.net](mailto:powell14@cox.net)

All are welcome.

*Need to Restock for the New Year?*

**Café Justo**  
**Selling after Mass**  
**January 13 and 14**



Try our delicious, fair-trade, organic, shade-grown, recently roasted (fresh) coffee. The cost of the coffee is \$10 per one-pound bag. Your purchase helps families in the Cafe Justo Farmers’ and Roasters’ Cooperative continue to work their ancestral lands and support and educate their extended families.

**Anytime:** Find the most popular varieties of Café Justo available at these two venues on campus: • The *Books and Blessings* Gift Shop • The FRC Lobby *Guest Services Desk*.

**We need you!** *To join this ministry and become part of the after-Mass selling team, contact [casagrounds@thecasa.org](mailto:casagrounds@thecasa.org).*

**GUAYMAS ANNUAL APPEAL**

Featuring Mariachis and the “Folkloric Dancers”

Please join Fr. Martin and the CFO Volunteers

**JANUARY 27-28**

After All the Weekend Masses at Casa



The Friars and Mission Staff ask for your support to continue the programs that feed, clothe, educate and provide much needed medical care to the children and the poorest of the poor living in Guaymas!



CASA FRANCISCANA OUTREACH  
*Illuminating pathways from the injustice of poverty to God’s abundance*

Co - Manager, Faith in Action

Victor Jaimes

[victor@thecasa.org](mailto:victor@thecasa.org)

480.306.4027

Co - Manager, Faith in Action

Laura Libertore

[laura@thecasa.org](mailto:laura@thecasa.org)

480.355.5645

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

## COMMUNITY CONNECTION



We learned today about the Solemnity of the Epiphany. One of the important items we learned is that Jesus Christ came for all people, and nobody was to be excluded from the Grace of God. In other words, ALL ARE WELCOME!

We say this at the Casa all the time, and we are focused on making sure people—all people—know this. The board of directors at the Franciscan Renewal Center focuses on this as well. As we begin the new calendar year, we are making sure we are focusing on the long-term success of the Casa. How are we doing this?

First, we celebrate the past. The past is important to celebrate and to remember where we came from to know where we are going.

Second, we are working on a new master plan. Did you know there was a master plan created in 2000? It was a 25-year master plan that helped shape and build the new beautiful church, update the beautiful grounds of the Casa, improve the rooms for overnight guests, build the community life center, strengthen our Franciscan ministries, and much more. Now, it is time to create the next 25-year master plan. We will use this plan to create our strategic plan every five years and to help us plan our annual budget each year.

We are excited about the future of the Casa, and we hope you are too. The Casa will be here for a very long time thanks to all those involved—from the past, present, and future!

— Diane Catlin, Board Chair of the Franciscan Renewal Center

### 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, LMSW

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)

*The Conventual Church of*

## OUR LADY of the ANGELS

4 <sup>th</sup> Sun. Advent Offerings		Christmas Offerings	
12.24.23	\$8,865	12.25.23	\$62,022
12.18.22	\$29,139	12.25.22	\$63,664

4 <sup>th</sup> Sun. Advent Attendance		Christmas Attendance	
12.24.23	594	12.25.23	3990
12.18.22	1120	12.25.22	3740



### FAST TALK THEOLOGY

Sunday January 14, 9 – 10:30 am | Auditorium

Fr. Garrett Galvin, OFM, PhD

*"St. Francis 'Lived in the Scriptures': The Biblical Roots of Franciscan Spirituality"*

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

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

EDUCATION, RETREATS, AND EVENTS — Pre-registration required.

#### 4 WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

### Empathetic Communication

**Wednesday 6:30 – 8:30 pm, Jan 10, 17, 24, 31**

*Joseph Martinez*

This is a series of independent workshops: 1. Habitual Reactions That Block Connection (Jan. 10, 2024) 2. The Practice of Self-Empathy (Jan 17, 2024) 3. Giving Others Empathy (Jan. 24, 2024) 4. Making Requests, Letting Go, the Pitfalls fo NVC (Jan. 31, 2024).

**Fee: \$20 per person for single session. Pre-registration required.**

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

To register for all four evenings, please call the Front Desk at 480.948.7460 to register. Fee is \$80 for all four evenings. Image by: Nathan Redwood, *Temporium*, 2020



#### WORKSHOP

### Learning to Play the Native American Flute

**January 27, 9 am – Noon**

*Nathan Tsosie 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. Join us for this fun, hands-on Beginner Class. This beautiful instrument is very player-friendly, and reading music is not required.

**Fee: \$30, plus \$60 materials fee (payable at class) incl Authentic Native American Flute. Register: [frc.retreatportal.com](http://frc.retreatportal.com)**



### The Gospel of Peace: An Evening with John Dear

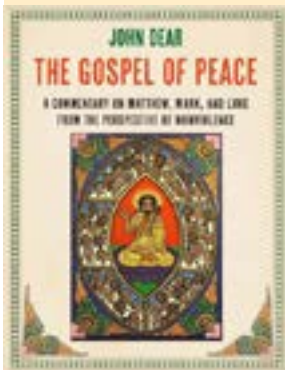
**February 1, Thursday 7 – 8 pm**

*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).

**Fee: \$20**

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



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





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



**RETREAT - NEW!**

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



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

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

## Mass Intentions January 7, – January 13, 2024

<b>Sunday</b>	
<i>Theresa McManus</i>	7:30 am
<i>Gloria Kotecki</i>	9:15 am
<i>Alice Greene</i>	11:00 am
<b>Monday</b>	
<i>Mike Carlson</i>	8:00 am
<b>Tuesday</b>	
<i>George Berkner</i>	8:00 am
<b>Wednesday</b>	
<i>Gloria Kotecki</i>	8:00 am
<b>Thursday</b>	
<i>Gloria Kotecki</i>	8:00 am
<b>Friday</b>	
<i>Jidith Delaney</i>	8:00 am
<b>Saturday</b>	
<i>Thomas Burns</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 Meditation Chapel every Monday at 7 – 8 am. Beginning November 6, the group will meet in the Healing Garden at 11 am.

[CareforCreation@thecasa.org](mailto:CareforCreation@thecasa.org)

**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: [jorapp25@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:meninspirit@thecasa.org)

**Prayer Partners** petition prayers and prays for our human family. Send requests to: [casaprayerpartners@thecasa.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



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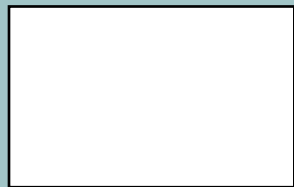
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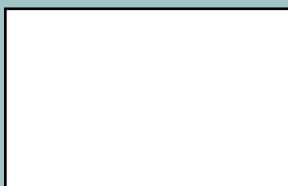
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