

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

*We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.* Romans 8:29.

Lent is a time when we prepare for the holiest of Christian holy days, namely, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord. This year, Lent has taken on a special significance due to the **Coronavirus**. It is not the kind of Lent we are used to. As you surely know by now, we will not be having public Masses until April 6 which is Monday of Holy Week. That means there will be no Sunday Masses until Easter Sunday and even Easter Sunday Mass could be canceled if things get worse. Of course, you are dispensed from the Sunday Mass obligation. Also, there are to be no public Church events or gatherings, such as parish religious education programs, Stations of the Cross, Communion services, etc. You can observe Sunday by spending additional time in prayer, watching a Catholic Mass via television or internet, or simply reflecting on the Sunday readings and other devotional practices. Please check our website for links to Masses.

Financial hardship will be inevitable, and Catholic parishes are no exception. I am praying for all, especially those in the service industry. Santa Cruz Parish will certainly have difficulty paying the bills with the loss of our Sunday collections. So, we're setting up an online option which you can continue your Sunday offering by going to the parish website: <https://santacruzchurchtucson.com>. There you will find a "donate" button to make your donation automatically to the church. Or, you can simply mail your offertory envelopes as some of you now do. In fact, if you are not using these envelopes, this is a good time to start.

God has arranged Lent and Easter differently this year. We can still pray and do the works of mercy. This is a time for us to really practice charity and look out for one another. And Christ is still our Passover lamb who has been sacrificed to save us from our sins and reconcile us to God. Perhaps this Coronavirus pandemic will help us reflect on the greatness of God's love, that He would send his only begotten Son into our sin infested world to save us. Let us be as intent on loving God as we are intent on avoiding the virus.

The word Easter derives from an old Germanic word meaning 'dawn'. Every Sunday is the celebration of the dawn of that new day when Christ rose from the dead victorious over sin and death. Please God, we are all able to come together on Easter Sunday, rising from the darkness of the coronavirus and the isolation it has imposed upon us.

May God and the Blessed Virgin Mary bless your families and keep you safe.

~Fr. Stephen F. Watson, O.C.D.

Estimados Feligrés y Amigos,

*Sabemos que Dios trabaja por el bien de todos cual aman al señor, han sido llamados en acuerdo a su propósito.* Romanos 8:29

La cuaresma es el tiempo en cual nos preparamos para los días más santos de los cristianos, siendo domingo de pascua de la resurrección de Jesús Cristo. Este año, la cuaresma ha tomado una significación especial debido a el **Coronavirus**. No es la cuaresma en que estamos impuestos. Como han de saber, no tendremos misas públicas hasta el 6 de abril cual es lunes de Semana Santa. Eso indica que no habrá misa en los domingos hasta el domingo de pascua y también esta misa pudiera ser cancelada si las cosas se ponen peor. Por supuesto, se le dispensa de la obligación de asistir la misa dominical. También no habrá eventos públicos en la iglesia o juntas, como catecismo, estaciones de vía cruz, servicios de comunión. Ustedes pueden observar los domingos rezando más, mirando la santa misa católica en la televisión o internet o reflexionando en las lecturas del domingo y otras prácticas de devoción. Por favor, consulte nuestro sitio web para encontrar y obtener enlaces por web.

Dificultades financieras serán inevitable y las parroquias católicas no tienen excepción. Estoy orando por todos, especialmente para los que trabajan en la industria de servicio. La parroquia de Santa Cruz de seguro tendrá dificultad en poder pagar las cuentas, con la pérdida de la colección de cada domingo. Entonces, estamos configurando una opción para que usted pueda continuar con su oferta dominical yendo al sitio web de la parroquia: <https://santacruzchurchtucson.com>. Allí encontrará un botón de "donar" para hacer su donación automáticamente a la iglesia. Los detalles serán paso por paso serán incluidos. También simplemente pueden enviar por correo sus sobres de oferta como algunos ya lo hacen. Si no están usando estos sobres, hoy es un buen tiempo de comenzar.

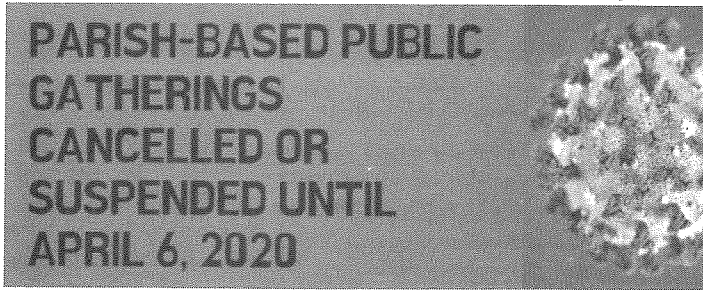
Dios ha arreglado la cuaresma y domingo de pascua diferentemente este año. Siempre podemos orar y hacer trabajos de misericordia. Este es el tiempo de practicar caridad y ver uno por el otro. Cristo es siempre nuestro cordero de pascua cual ha sido sacrificado para salvarnos de nuestros pecados y reconciliarnos con Dios. Quizás esta pandemia de coronavirus nos ayudará a reflexionar en el gran amor de Dios, que nos mandó a su hijo único a nuestro mundo infestado en pecado para salvarnos. Seamos tan decididos a amar a Dios como lo es evitar el virus.

La palabra 'pascua' viene de una palabra germánica anciana que quiere decir 'amanecer'. Cada domingo es la celebración del amanecer del nuevo día cuando Cristo resucitó victorioso sobre el pecado y la muerte. Por favor, Señor, que todos podamos juntarnos el domingo de pascua, salir de la obscuridad del Coronavirus y el aislamiento que han impuesto sobre nosotros.

Dios y la Santa Virgen María bendigan a sus familias y los mantengan seguros.

~Padre Stephen F. Watson, O.C.D.

**DIOCESE OF TUCSON GUIDELINES  
FOR CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**



The Diocese of Tucson, under the direction of Bishop Edward Weisenburger, is currently following LEVEL 3 protocols.

**Parish-based Public Gatherings Cancelled or Suspended until April 6.**

- No public Masses after (3/16/2020)
- The Sunday Mass obligation is dispensed for all Catholic people residing in or visiting the territory of the Diocese of Tucson. Catholics are urged to observe Sunday in accord with our teachings, which may include spending additional time on Sunday in prayer, observing a Catholic Mass via television or internet, or other pious practices.
- Confirmations scheduled during this time period are suspended and will be rescheduled.
- There are to be no public Church events or gatherings, such as parish religious education programs, Stations of the Cross, Communion services, Quinceañeras, parish missions, dinners, etc.
- Mass of the Holy Oils, "Chrism Mass," will be celebrated privately with Holy Oils to be distributed privately to priests.
- Weddings should be restricted to 10 persons, and if Mass is celebrated only the bride and groom, if Catholic, are to receive Holy Communion.
- Funeral Masses should be restricted to 10 persons, and the congregation should not receive Holy Communion.

**Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Tucson planning to close until March 27.**

**Saturday, March 21**

- 8:00am In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/  
Int. Lily Contreras
- 5:30pm Jose G. Bernal & Deceased Family Members/R.I.P.

**Sunday, March 22**

- 6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners
- 8:00am Jesus Alfredo Franco/R.I.P.
- 10:00am Ramona Bravo/R.I.P.
- 12:00pm Filiberto, Sr., Filiberto, Jr. & Felisa Franco &  
Oscar & Billy Franco & Virgie Garcia/R.I.P.
- 6:00pm Robert Sturgeon/R.I.P.

**Monday, March 23**

- 6:30am Josephine Encinas/R.I.P.
- 8:00am In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/  
Int. Nieves Ortiz & Family
- 7:00pm Sylvia & Orlando Encinas/Improved Health

**Tuesday, March 24**

- 6:30am Josephine Encinas/R.I.P.
- 8:00am Luis Balderas/R.I.P.
- 7:00pm In Honor of San Peregrino/  
Int. Maria Rosa Ytubalde Improved Health

**Wednesday, March 25**

- 6:30am Josephine Encinas/R.I.P.
- 8:00am In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/  
Int. Lily Contreras
- 7:00pm Luis Balderas/R.I.P.

**Thursday, March 26**

- 6:30am Josephine Encinas/R.I.P.
- 8:00am Nellie F. Pain/R.I.P.
- 7:00pm Luis Balderas/R.I.P.

**Friday, March 27**

- 6:30am Josephine Encinas/R.I.P.
- 8:00am Valerie Valenzuela/R.I.P.
- 7:00pm In Honor of San Peregrino/Int. Debbie Improved Health

**Parish Collection March 15th, 2020**

1st Collection: \$ 4,243.64

Lenten Offering: \$ 11.76

Total: \$ 4,255.54

*Thank you and God bless your generosity!  
¡Gracias y que Dios bendiga su generosidad!*

Most Rev. Edward J. Weisenburger  
Diocese of Tucson (520) 838-2500

Santa Cruz Catholic Parish  
1220 South Sixth Avenue  
Tucson, Arizona 85713

Parish Office (520) 623-3833 Fax (520) 903-2742

~ Website santacruzchurchtucson.com ~

~ Email avemariasc@hotmail.com ~

Business Hours Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Closed for lunch 12:45pm - 1:45pm

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.  
Associate Pastor: Rev. Godfrey Chandya Lega, O.C.D.  
In Residence: Rev. Jose Luis Ferroni, O.C.D.  
In Residence: Rev. David Costello, O.C.D.

**New Parishioners: Always welcome!**

Please register by using our forms available in our parish office.

~ Masses ~

**Sun. 6:30 am, 8 am (Spanish), 10 am, 12 noon, & 6 pm**

Mon. - Fri. 6:30 am & 8:00 am Sat. 8 am & 5:30 pm (Vigil)

Confession: Sat. 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Baptisms: 2nd Sunday of the Month (English) / 4° Domingo del Mes (Español)

Matrimony: Please call at least six months in advance.

Por favor de llamar con seis meses de anticipación.

Parish Administrative Assistant: Hada Reyes (520) 623-3833  
Religious Education: Martin Doe, Director (520) 882-9687  
Santa Cruz Catholic School: Angelina Schmidt, Director  
(520) 624-2093