

## Mission Statement:

"We, the members of Santa Cruz Parish, diverse in culture and traditions, united with the Body of Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, follow Christ through faithful witness and discipleship in family and community."

"Nosotros, los miembros de la Parroquia de Santa Cruz, diversa en cultura y tradición, unidos con el Cuerpo de Cristo y guiados por el Espíritu Santo, seguimos a Cristo a través del testimonio fiel y discipulado en familia y comunidad."

## Masses / Misas

### Saturday Vigil Mass

5:30 p.m. - English

### Sunday / Domingo

6:30 a.m. - English

8:00 a.m. - Spanish

10:00 a.m. - English

12:00 noon - English

6:00 p.m. - English

### Monday - Friday

#### Lunes - Viernes

6:30 a.m. - English

8:00 a.m. - English

### Saturday / Sábado

8:00 a.m. - English

## Confessions / Confesiones

### Friday / Viernes

6:00 p.m.

### Saturday / Sábado

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Eucahristic Adoration

### Every Friday

3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

## Parish Office / Oficina

### Monday - Friday

#### Lunes - Viernes

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



### Pastor:

Rev. Marcos C. Velásquez

### Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Simon Muema, S.D.S.

### In Residence:

Rev. Showri R. Narra

### Deacon:

Rev. Mr. Ernesto Lujan

LUKE 3:1-6

Prepare  
the Way  
of the  
Lord

DECEMBER 8, 2024 • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Santa Cruz Catholic Parish • 1220 South Sixth Avenue • Tucson, Arizona 85713 • Parish Office (520) 623-3833 • Fax (520) 903-2742

~ Website: [www.santacruzchurchtucson.com](http://www.santacruzchurchtucson.com) • Email: [santacruzparish@hotmail.com](mailto:santacruzparish@hotmail.com) ~

A Parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Tucson

## **Message from the Pastor ...**

Dear Parishioners of Santa Cruz Parish,

The Advent season is a time of waiting, conversion and hope. Ask any child how many days do they have to wait until they can open their Christmas presents and they will probably be able to tell you exactly how many days and hours until Christmas. But they have to wait. The Church reminds us during the season of Advent that we are also waiting from the fulfillment of the promise of the Lord Jesus that He will return in glory and majesty. Although no one likes to wait for anything these days, we as Christians are called to wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Perhaps joy is not a quality we associate with waiting. Yet joy is a virtue that we can cultivate when things are going bad for us as well as when things are good. We can choose to be joyful in life as we wait not only for Christmas but also for the return of the Lord, whether its at the end of time or the end of our time.

We hail Jesus as the Newborn King, who came to establish the Kingdom of heaven on earth. St. John the Baptist is proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. He called the people to repent and prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight our paths. The first public words of the Lord Jesus in the Gospels are "Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand," (Mt. 4:17). This is a call to conversion on our part. Confession is an integral part of our personal conversion process. When we take the time to turn off the noise of the world and in silence reflect on our lives, and our relationship with God, we are able to see clearly our need for conversion and repentance. When we confess our sins and receive the absolution of God, we are reconciled with the Lord and we experience a peace that the world cannot give. Conversion in our lives allows the Lord to be the King of our lives in an ever deeper way. Advent calls us to conversion.

Advent is a time of hope. The hope of which the Church speaks is something much more substantial than just "hoping" it's a good day or anything temporary. Hope is a virtue and when it refers to God, we call it a theological virtue. "Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit. "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful." "The Holy Spirit . . . He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life," (CCC, #1817). Advent calls us to hope.

In Christ,  
Fr. Velásquez

## **Mensaje del Párroco . . .**

Estimados Feligreses de la Parroquia de Santa Cruz,

El tiempo de Adviento es un tiempo de espera, conversión y esperanza. Pregúntale a cualquier niño cuántos días tiene que esperar hasta poder abrir sus regalos de Navidad y probablemente podrá decirte exactamente cuántos días y horas faltan para Navidad. Pero tienen que esperar. La Iglesia nos recuerda durante el tiempo de Adviento que también estamos esperando el cumplimiento de la promesa del Señor Jesús de que regresará en gloria y majestad. Aunque a nadie le gusta esperar nada en estos días, nosotros como cristianos estamos llamados a esperar con gozosa esperanza la venida de nuestro Salvador, el Señor Jesucristo. Quizás la alegría no sea una cualidad que asociemos con la espera. Sin embargo, la alegría es una virtud que podemos cultivar tanto cuando las cosas nos van mal como cuando nos van bien. Podemos elegir estar alegres en la vida mientras esperamos no solo la Navidad sino también el regreso del Señor, ya sea al final de los tiempos o al final de nuestro tiempo.

Aclamamos a Jesús como el Rey recién nacido, que vino a establecer el Reino de los cielos en la tierra. San Juan Bautista proclama un bautismo de arrepentimiento para el perdón de los pecados. Llama al pueblo a arrepentirse y preparar el camino del Señor, a enderezar nuestros senderos. Las primeras palabras públicas del Señor Jesús en los Evangelios son: "Convertíos, porque el Reino de los Cielos está cerca" (Mt. 4:17). Este es un llamado a la conversión de nuestra parte. La confesión es una parte integral de nuestro proceso de conversión personal. Cuando nos tomamos el tiempo para apagar el ruido del mundo y en silencio reflexionar sobre nuestras vidas y nuestra relación con Dios, podemos ver claramente nuestra necesidad de conversión y arrepentimiento. Cuando confesamos nuestros pecados y recibimos la absolución de Dios, nos reconciliamos con el Señor y experimentamos una paz que el mundo no puede dar. La conversión en nuestras vidas permite al Señor ser el Rey de nuestras vidas de una manera cada vez más profunda. El Adviento nos llama a la conversión.

El Adviento es un tiempo de esperanza. La esperanza de la que habla la Iglesia es algo mucho más sustancial que simplemente "esperar" que sea un buen día o algo temporal. La esperanza es una virtud y cuando se refiere a Dios, la llamamos virtud teológica. "La esperanza es la virtud teológica por la que deseamos el reino de los cielos y la vida eterna como nuestra felicidad, poniendo nuestra confianza en las promesas de Cristo y apoyándonos no en nuestras propias fuerzas, sino en la ayuda de la gracia del Espíritu Santo. "Mantengamos firme la profesión de nuestra esperanza sin vacilar, porque fiel es Él que prometió." "El Espíritu Santo... lo derramó sobre nosotros abundantemente por medio de Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador, para que fuéramos justificados por su gracia y hechos herederos en la esperanza de la vida eterna" (CIC, #1817). El Adviento nos llama a la esperanza.

En Cristo,  
Padre Velásquez



"Yes, I am willing to spend one hour weekly with Jesus, who is truly present in the Blessed Sacrament."

*"Sí, estoy dispuesto a pasar una hora semanal con Jesús, quien está verdaderamente presente en el Santísimo Sacramento."*

## **Eucharistic Adoration Every Friday**

**3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

3:00 p.m. - Exposition

3:00 p.m. - Divine Mercy  
Chaplet

**6:00 p.m. - Confessions**

6:00 p.m. - Rosario

7:00 p.m. - Rosary

8:00 p.m. - Benediction

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

We are seeking volunteers for seasonal cleaning at the church, once or twice a week. Volunteers must be in compliance here at Santa Cruz. If you are interested please contact the parish office at 520-623-3833

Estamos buscando voluntarios para la limpieza de la iglesia, una o dos veces por semana. Los voluntarios deben estar en cumplimiento con las normas de Santa Cruz. Si está interesado, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial al 520-623-3833.



## **CALENDARS**

The Diocese of Tucson Catholic Cemeteries who are our sponsor for the 2025 Parish Calendars will be handing out our calendars next weekend December 14 and 15 after the Sunday Vigil Mass and the Sunday Masses. Please pick one up after Mass.

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**Sunday Collection - November 30 - December 1, 2024**

Sunday Collection:	\$5,361.65
Thanksgiving Collection:	\$ 511.24
Church Maintenance:	\$1,627.04
On-Line Giving:	+\$ 570.98
Total Sunday Offertory:	<b>\$8,070.91</b>

**Weekly Expenses:**

Income:	\$8,070.91
*Expenses:	-\$6,000.25
	<b>\$2,070.66</b>

\*Weekly operation expenses include utilities, payroll, maintenance and insurance. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated and are definitely needed. Thank you and God bless!



### Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena & Mass Celebration 2024

Tuesday, December 3rd to  
Thursday, December 12th

Join us as we gather for prayer,  
praises and meditations honoring  
Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Novena: December 3 to December 11  
at Capilla de Guadalupe  
(409 E. 31<sup>st</sup> Street) at 6:00 p.m.**

Monday, December 9 • Mass at 7:00 p.m.  
after the Novena

**Wednesday, December 11 • Las Mañanitas at 11:00 p.m.  
at Capilla de Guadalupe**

**Procession:** Thursday, December 12 at 5:00 p.m.  
(Capilla de Guadalupe to Santa Cruz Parish)

**Mass:** 6:00 p.m.

Followed by fellowship in the Carmelite Hall Please invite family and friends to join in the novena and Holy Masses that will be celebrated in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Donations Needed

Grupo Guadalupano of Santa Cruz is asking for donations of Styrofoam bowl plates, dessert plates, utensils, coffee cups, napkins and paper towels for the feast. Please bring items to the parish office. Thank you and God bless your generosity!

### Celebración a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Novena y Misas 2024

Martes, 3 de Diciembre a Jueves, 12 de Diciembre

¡Acompáñenos! Para reunirnos en oración, alabanzas y reflexiones. Honrando a nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

**Novena: Diciembre 3 a Diciembre 11 en Capilla de  
Guadalupe (409 E. 31st Street) a las 6:00 p.m.**

Lunes, 9 de Diciembre • Misa a las 7:00 p.m. después de la Novena

**Miércoles, 11 de Diciembre • Las Mañanitas a las 11:00  
p.m. en Capilla de Guadalupe**

**Procesión:** Jueves, 12 de Diciembre a las 5:00 p.m.  
(de Capilla de Guadalupe a la Iglesia Santa Cruz)

**Misa:** 6:00 p.m. en la Iglesia Santa Cruz

Seguido por un convivio en el Salón Carmelita. Invite a su familia y amigos a acompañarnos en la novena y las Santas Misas que se celebrarán en honor a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.

Se necesitan donaciones

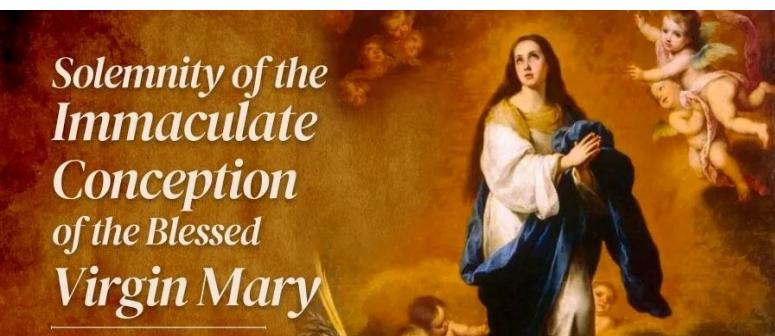
El Grupo Guadalupano de Santa Cruz solicita donaciones de platos hondos para el menú, platos de papel, utensilios, vasos para café, servilletas y toallas de papel para la fiesta. Por favor traiga sus donaciones a la oficina parroquial. ¡Muchas gracias y que Dios bendiga su generosidad!

### Diocesan Priests' Retirement Fund

2nd Collection this weekend will  
be designated to the 2024  
Diocese of Tucson Priests'  
Retirement Fund

Support for our  
Retired Priests

Please give for those  
who have given a  
lifetime



#### Mass Schedule

Monday, December 9th

- 6:30 a.m. English • 8:00 a.m. English • 6:30 p.m. English
  - 7:00 p.m. Spanish at Capilla de Guadalupe
- This is a Holy Day of Obligation

#### Horario de Misas

Lunes, 9 de Diciembre

- 6:30 a.m. Ingles • 8:00 a.m. Ingles • 6:30 p.m. Ingles
  - 7:00 p.m. Español en Capilla Guadalupe
- Este es día Santo de Obligación

#### Dedicated Christmas Poinsettias

We are asking for donations and contributions to help decorate the altar for Christmas. For just \$10.00 you can dedicate a Christmas Poinsettia in memory of your loved ones. Please come to office with your dedications. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated.

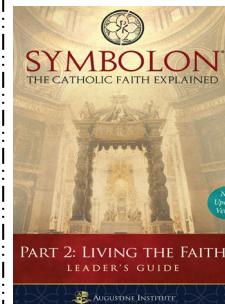
Thank you and God reward you!



#### Dedicadas Nochebuenas Navideñas

Estamos pidiendo donaciones y contribuciones para ayudar a decorar el altar para Navidad. Por solo \$10.00, puede dedicar una nochebuena navideña en memoria de sus seres queridos.

Por favor, venga a la oficina con sus dedicatorias.  
Sus generosas donaciones son muy apreciadas.  
¡Gracias y que Dios lo recompense!



### Santa Cruz Adult Faith Formation

Symbolon Part 2

10 Sessions

The Catholic Faith Explained

Starting January 9, 2025,

to March 13 2025

Thursdays – 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

In the Carmelite Hall

Topics: Sacraments; Moral Vision; Catholic Social Teachings  
Level One Credit

Any questions (480) 268-6909

Bring a Catholic Bible & Journal



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For more information

or inquiries contact:

Rose Vega cell (520) 240-2986  
email: [toulakat60@gmail.com](mailto:toulakat60@gmail.com)  
[barcelo54@aol.com](mailto:barcelo54@aol.com)



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here at Santa Cruz (520-623-3833)



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**Diocese of Tucson - Alive in Christ**

## Praise & Worship for the New Year!

**Thursday January 9, 2025 at 6:45 PM**

**"So, whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come."**

-2 Cor 5:17



- ❖ Lively Praise & Worship
- ❖ Praise reports & prayers for all your intentions
- ❖ Sharing the word gifts of the Holy Spirit
- ❖ Eucharistic Adoration

**Invite your family & friends!**

- **Attend in person at: Our Lady of La Vang Parish  
St. Frances Cabrini Church, 3201 E. Presidio Rd., Tucson**
- **Join on Zoom at: Meeting ID: 814 4930 0841  
Passcode: 352734**

View this using Zoom app on a computer / tablet / smart phone,  
Or listen on a traditional phone: Dial (346) 248 7799 or (669) 900 9128 (*not toll-free*).  
-If you have problems joining the meeting, please text Diana at: 520-981-8800.  
-For Zoom training videos, and videos of past meetings, go to [TucsonCCR.org](http://TucsonCCR.org)

## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, December 7th**

- 8:00 a.m. Miguel Angel Garcia, Jr./R.I.P.  
5:30 p.m. Deacon Richard Ornelas/R.I.P.

**Sunday, December 8th**

- 6:30 a.m. Santa Cruz Parishioners  
8:00 a.m. Jesus Abelais & Manuel Roberto Abelais/R.I.P.  
10:00 a.m. Peter Martinez, Juan A. Amaro, &  
Suzanna & Isaiah Leon/Happy Birthday  
12:00 noon In Honor of the Holy Spirit  
6:00 p.m. Special Int./Victor & Deborah Basurto & Boys

**Monday, December 9th, Immaculate Conception**

- 6:30 a.m. Jesus Abelais & Manuel Roberto Abelais/R.I.P.  
8:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving to St. Matthew/Prayers Answered  
6:30 p.m. Souls in Purgatory/R.I.P.  
Mass at Capilla de Guadalupe  
7:00 p.m. Efrain Aguilar/R.I.P.

**Tuesday, December 10th**

- 6:30 a.m. Jesus Abelais & Manuel Roberto Abelais/R.I.P.  
8:00 a.m. In Thanksgiving to St. Roman/Prayers Answered

**Wednesday, December 11th**

- 6:30 a.m. Alfredo Alonso Salvatierra/Improved Health  
8:00 a.m. Josephina M. Valenzuela/R.I.P.

**Thursday, December 12th, Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day**

- 6:30 a.m. Jesus Abelais & Manuel Roberto Abelais/R.I.P.  
8:00 a.m. Jesus Alfredo Franco/R.I.P.  
6:00 p.m. Jesus Joel Abelais/R.I.P.

**Friday, December 13th**

- 6:30 a.m. Lucy Flores/R.I.P.  
8:00 a.m. Lucia Reyes/R.I.P.