

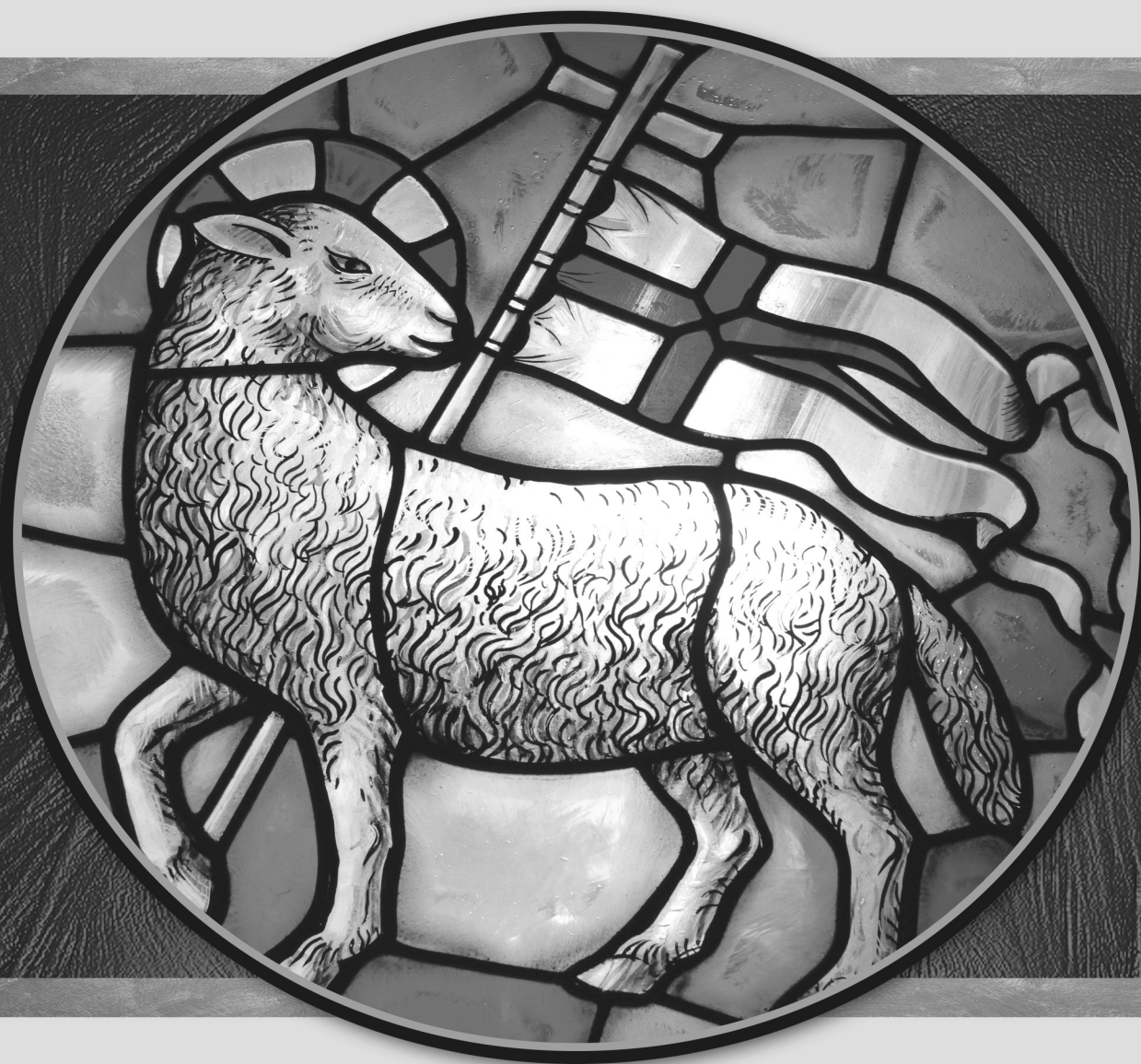


SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



JANUARY 17, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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AS JOHN THE BAPTIST WATCHED
JESUS WALK BY, HE SAID,

"Behold, the Lamb of God."

JOHN 1:36

January 17th 2021

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

It feels like a new beginning as the priest puts on a green vestment for Mass for the first time since November 28 of last year. Priests wear green vestments for Masses in Ordinary Time. Green symbolizes hope and life. Our Liturgical Year, that is, our year of public worship in the church, always begins with the Advent Season followed by the Christmas Season. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which we celebrated last Sunday, concluded the Christmas Season. It takes the place of the First Sunday of Ordinary Time. The past week was the First Week of Ordinary Time. So, this Sunday is the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time and the rest of the week is referred to as the Second Week of Ordinary Time.

What is ordinary about Ordinary Time? This is a good question because it does not mean what most people may think, namely, a time with nothing special or distinctive about it, only plain normal. By the way, I might mention that “plain normal” is not so ordinary nowadays, and not just because of the coronavirus pandemic, but because of a lot of other things too. We may be longing for the “plain normal.” Let us remember, all time belongs to Christ. As the priest says when he prepares the Easter Candle, “Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him and all the ages, to him be glory and power through every age forever. Amen.” Every moment is precious and all time is special. It is a gift and treasure from God and we should not take time for granted.

The word "ordinary" as used when we refer to Sundays and weeks of Ordinary Time comes from the ordinal numerals- 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc., by which the weeks are identified or counted, from the 1st week of Ordinary Time in January to the 34th week that begins toward the end of November. Ordinary Time is interrupted by Lent and Eastertide. We know it is Ordinary Time when the priest wears a green vestment while celebrating Mass.

This year, beginning on the 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Gospel of St. Mark will be proclaimed. This week, however, the Gospel of John is proclaimed. As John the Baptist watched Jesus walk by, he said, “Behold, the Lamb of God.” Two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come, and see.” We ought to ask ourselves “what are we looking for when we follow Jesus?”

Something else that is special about this year of worship is the observance of the Year of St. Joseph. I will tell you more about that in the weeks to come. We will want to make the Solemnity of St. Joseph, March 19, extra special this year. We pray that the worst of the pandemic will be over and we will be back in our church for public worship.

On another note, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins this week, January 18 and concludes on January 25 which is the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. It has a history of over 100 years, in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. By annually observing this special week of prayer, Christians move toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper "that they all may be one." (cf. John 17:21)

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

In light of substantial spikes in Covid-19 virus transmission, along with substantially increased critical hospital census numbers, the following changes to Diocese of Tucson protocols are in effect as of January 8, 2020. They shall remain in effect for four weeks, until February 5th, with a review taking place early in the week of February 1st.

- Both Sunday and weekday indoor Masses or gatherings are suspended. Masses may be celebrated outdoors in accord with existing protocols.
- Funerals and weddings may be celebrated indoors but are limited to a maximum of 25 persons; baptisms are limited to a maximum of ten persons. No gatherings before or following these celebrations are allowed on parish or church property.
- Pastors are strongly encouraged to provide pastoral care through Masses celebrated for the people via the internet as well as providing Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Penance outdoors.
- During this same four-week period, parish offices must close to the public.
- Parish staff shall work from home (exceptions permitted); calls left on the answering machine will be checked regularly.
- Those persons identified in the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines as "high risk" are strongly encouraged to receive the Church's ministry mediated through the internet while remaining at home.

In view of these directives, we will no longer celebrate Sunday Mass inside the church. The Masses in the school field will continue on Saturday (English) and Sunday (Spanish) at 3 p.m. In addition, there will be a 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays in the church patio-fountain area, and a live-stream Mass at 11:00 a.m. Although the live-stream Mass is not open to the public, you may receive Holy Communion in the patio at noon.

Confessions will continue Saturday at the regular time, 3:30-5p.m. outdoors in the church patio.

Please check our Website
santacruzchurchtucson.com

&

Facebook: **Stephen Watson**
for the latest updates.

Want to receive direct messages from Fr. Stephen?

Sign up for Flock Notes:

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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.

In Residence:

Rev. Jose Luis Ferroni, O.C.D.

In Residence:

Rev. David Costello, O.C.D.

Mass Intentions

Mark Cabrera/R.I.P.

In Honor of San Pedro

Santa Cruz Parishioners

Ayala & Casanova Deceased

Family Members/R.I.P.

Special Int./Pueblo High School,

Administration & Community

Mary & John Maxwell/R.I.P.

Epifanio C. Valenzuela/R.I.P.

In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Armando Gonzalez/R.I.P.

Hildo Alabado/R.I.P.

Hildo Alabado/R.I.P.

Dora Perez/R.I.P.

In Honor of San Pedro

Rudy & Eloida Villascuesa/R.I.P.

In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Chuck Thornbug/R.I.P.

In Thanksgiving to Saint Jude

Parish Collection January 10th, 2021

Collection: \$ 3,122.50

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

**Thanking You for Your
Service to Our Parish**

New Parishioners: Always welcome!

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

~ Masses ~ Note these are suspended during COVID-19

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

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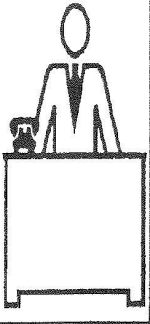
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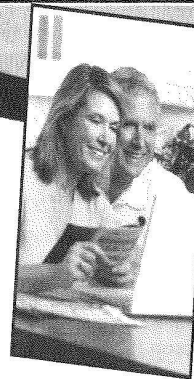


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