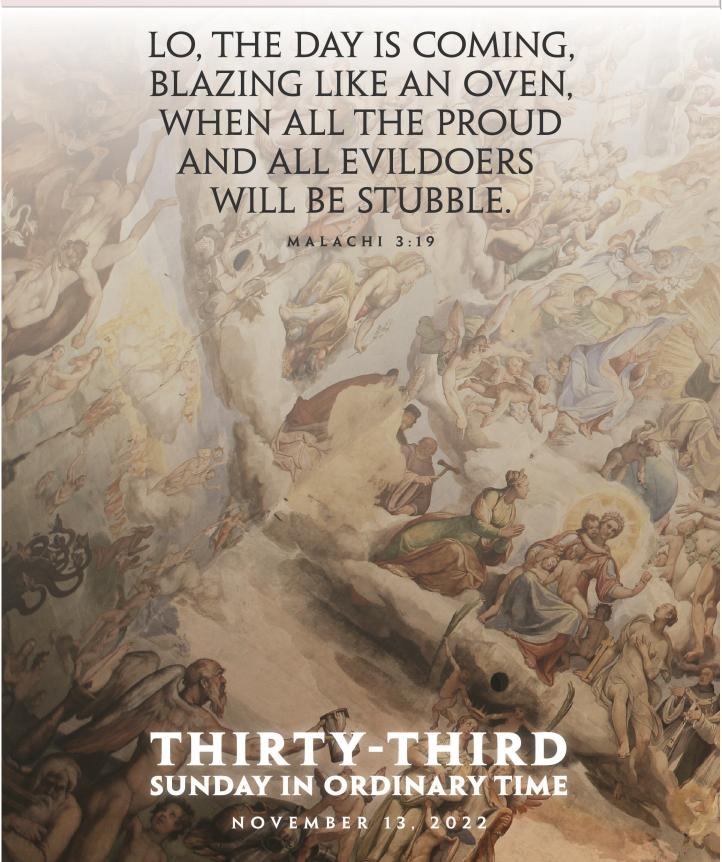


# SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS





#### Oh death where is thy sting? 1 Corinthians 15:55

Fr. David last week mentioned that November is a time we pray for our beloved dead so let us explore that subject a bit further, taking a look at what is the experience of death, what is purgatory, and why do we pray for our loved ones who have passed.

For those of us who have recently experienced the death of a beloved, we know death can be a very difficult and painful experience both for the person who passes and for the ones who remain on earth. Realize that death was never part of God's original plan for us. There was no death in the Garden of Eden. Our fall in the Garden brought about death and many other sufferings and brokenness in our lives.

Among all of God's creatures, we humans are unique. We are the only ones consisting of a body and a soul. Plants and animals only have a body, angles are only spirit, but we have both. Death then, among other things, is a separation of the body from the soul. We care for the body of the deceased and tenderly bury it, but what is the experience of the soul after death? And what is purgatory. We tend to think of it as a mini-hell. A place of fire and punishment.

Perhaps a small analogy may help to understand this better. Suppose you are working outside in your garden. You put on your grubby clothes and kneel down on the ground and begin to work the soil. You get really sweaty and dirty as you proceed. Finally, after much hard labor you return to your house and enter. Surprise! It is a surprise birthday party. Everybody is dressed in their finest outfits, the house is beautifully decorated and there in the center is that special guest awaiting you. He shines like the sun and is dazzling white all over. What is your reaction? You look at your filthy clothes and think "I am not ready for this". You excuse yourself and go to your room to shower, to get cleaned up, and properly dressed.

The soul gazes on the beauty of the Lord and sees perfect absolute love. To be in the presence of such love, one must become perfect love as well. Purgatory then is not so much a time of punishment as a time of purification and preparation. One must put on perfect love to experience perfect love. And our prayers help that soul to prepare. Our prayers which emanate from love shower the soul with love.

And mind you, it is not as though the soul is sad. It knows what awaits it and anticipates it joyfully. It just needs time to prepare, and it needs our prayers for that preparation. There is great joy and hope here.

So we return to the subject of death as the separation of body and soul. When we recite the Apostle's creed, we declare our belief in the "resurrection of the body". The story of the body we have just buried is not over yet. Death has been conquered, it no longer has a sting. There will come a time when the body will rise and be reunited with the soul. The process of death will be reversed. And this gives us great hope.

In fact, there is one person that has already experienced this reunion of body and soul or rather she never experienced the separation. That is the message of the Assumption. Our blessed Mother never did undergo this separation process. She ascended into heaven body and soul. She leads and it is our great joy and hope to one day follow her.

Death can be very painful, yes. We grieve, yes. But we also believe. Jesus has conquered death. It has lost its sting. Lovingly we pray for our beloved who have gone before us to help them prepare for perfect love. Above all, we have hope.

~Rico Chapa

Grupo Guadalupano—
Bilingüe
Meets every MONDAY
at 6pm at Capilla de
Guadalupe. Come pray
the Rosary, Spiritual
Talks and Spiritual
Growth. Every First
Friday of the Month: Holy Mass &
Benediction.

Also, the Grupo Guadalupano is asking for help in raising funds for the Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration by buying raffle tickets. They are raffling off:

- (1) Our Lady of Guadalupe Banner
- (1) Horseshoe Cross
- (1) Gift Basket

Tickets are being sold after the Sunday Masses and at the 8:00am Capilla Sunday Mass. The drawing will be held Sunday, December 11th, winner need not to be present.

Mass for the Holy Souls. We must empty Purgatory with our prayers." – St. Padre Pio. Join us for a special Mass celebrated by Fr. Amal Sebastiar, for the repose of the souls of all our departed loved ones, at 6:30 pm, Thursday, November 10, at St Frances Cabrini, 3201 E. Presidio Rd., Tucson. If you cannot attend in person, join on Zoom, meeting ID: 814 4930 0841 Pass code: 352734 (For help, text 520-981-8800). Send prayer requests, or see Zoom instructions, at <a href="https://TucsonCCR.org">https://TucsonCCR.org</a>.

Kor C Sup

Catholic Men
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Fr. Ignacio / Bro. Angel Santa Cruz Council 14139 For more information on upcoming meetings please call the parish office 520-623-3833.

### KofC.org/JoinUs

The Religious Education office number is (520) 882-9687 and it is open Tuesday to Saturday from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

ADULTS needing to receive sacraments, please call the Religious Education office for registration information.



## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

**Bereavement Meeting Update** 

Because of the Thanksgiving Holiday, for the month of November the Bereavement group will hold its meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month instead of the 4<sup>th</sup>. We will meet on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

#### **LEGION OF MARY**

You are invited to the Legion of Mary Group that meets every Monday at Capilla de Guadalupe at 4:00pm. For more information call Martha Flores (520) 704-5047.

#### **LEGION DE MARIA**

Estás invitado a las juntas del Grupo Legión de María, todos los lunes en la Capilla de Guadalupe a las 4:00pm. Para más información llame a Martha Flores al (520) 704-5047.

A Novena of Masses for our Faithfully

Departed will be offered by one of the Carmelite priests from November 15<sup>th</sup> to November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please write your beloved's names in the book of remembrance and deposit an envelope with your donation in the candle box inside the church.

Uno de los sacerdotes carmelitas ofrecerá una **Novena de Misas para nuestros Fieles** 

**Difuntos** del 15 al 23 de noviembre. Por favor, escriba los nombres de sus seres queridos en el libro de recuerdos y deposite un sobre con su donación en la caja de velas adentro de la iglesia.

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 santacruzparish@hotmail.com ~

Sign up for Flock Notes text santacruzaz to 84576 Business Hours Monday - Friday 8:30am - 3:00pm

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Watson, O.C.D. In Residence: Rev. David Costello, O.C.D.



#### Saturday, November 12th

8:00am Carlota Ramirez/R.I.P.5:30pm Carlos Lopez/R.I.P.

#### Sunday, November 13th

**6:30am** Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am In Honor of Our Lady of Fatima/

Int. Souls of infants, victims of abortion/R.I.P.

10:00am Daniel Amaro/R.I.P.12:00pm Susana G. Rodriguez &

Tilly Cardenas/R.I.P.

**6:00pm** Carlos Estrada, Richard & Angie Rodriguez/R.I.P.

#### Monday, November 14th

In Honor of All Souls in Purgatory/R.I.P. 8:00am Special Int./Sonia Zarate

#### Tuesday, November 15th

In Honor of All Souls in Purgatory/R.I.P. 8:00am Special Int./Roy Felix

#### Wednesday, November 16th

In Honor of All Souls in Purgatory/R.I.P. 8:00am Elda Salcido/R.I.P.

#### Thursday, November 17th

In Honor of All Souls in Purgatory/R.I.P. 8:00am Isaiah Felix/Happy Birthday

#### Friday, November 18th

In Honor of All Souls in Purgatory/R.I.P. 8:00am Special Int./Felix Family

Parish Collection November 6th, 2022 Collection: \$ 6,437.46

# Thanking You for Your Service to Our Parish

New Parishioners: Always welcome!

Please register by using our forms available in the church.

Masses: Sun. 6:30 am, 10 am, 12 noon & 6 pm 8 am Spanish at Capilla de Guadalupe (409 E. 31st Street)

Mon. - Fri. 8:00 am, Sat. 8 am & 5:30 pm (Vigil) **Confessions:** Sat. 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Baptisms: Call the parish office / Llame a la oficina parroquial 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: (520) 624-2093



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and then ... refuses to ADVERTISE believing it doesn't pay. Later if business is poor he ADVERTISES it for sale. WHY IS IT?

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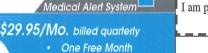
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