



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



Third Sunday of
Advent

December 12, 2021

I am baptizing you with water,
but one mightier than I is coming.
I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

Luke 3:16

ADVENT 3RD SUNDAY 2021

Today is GAUDETE Sunday, the 3rd Sunday of Advent, using the Latin word for REJOICE. It is like the LAETARE Sunday of Lent and it encourages to be joyful in our faith and in the experience of the season. The lighting of the 3rd Rose colored candle of the wreath, the wearing of Rose vestments and the use of Rose cloths are all reminders to us to "lighten up" and always rejoice in the presence of God and especially in preparation for the Birth of Jesus at Christmas. In November and in the 1st Sunday of Advent there was a lot of readings about the end of the world with its frightening events, but now the message is **REJOICE**.

Advent does not deny the harsher realities of life but gives us new reasons for joy. These reasons are the Presence of God in every situation and the Birth of our Savior in Bethlehem. In the first reading Zephaniah reminds the people of Jerusalem who were suffering greatly at that time, "The Lord, your God is in your midst, a mighty savior; **He will rejoice over you** with gladness and renew you in his love." Likewise in the responsorial Psalm, Isaiah also calls for the people to rejoice, to sing praise and shout with exultation.

St. Paul in the second reading affirms repeatedly the importance of rejoicing and urges us to "**Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.**" Prayer is a powerful means of dealing with every difficult situation.

In The Gospel, John the Baptist links up the ritual of Baptism for Repentance to very practical ways of living good lives. The people are receptive to his message and ask, "**What should we do**?" He answers candidly in ways that make sense for us in our present day lives. Please check them out; see how they apply to our own parish, our families, and our personal lives.

God is with us in pain and anxiety, in prayer and worship, in repentance and expectation, and in living good lives.
REJOICE IN HIS PRESENCE.

~ Fr. David Costello, O.C.D.

A great big Thank You...
To all who came and generously donated their time to scrub, polish, dust and mop our beautiful church this past weekend.

Poinsettia Donations

Poinsettia donations are greatly appreciated to decorate the church for Christmas. If you would like to donate poinsettias or make a monetary donation, please bring them to the church by Wednesday, December 22nd. Thank you and God reward you!

Donaciones de Noche Buenas

Necesitamos y apreciamos donaciones de noche buenas para decorar la iglesia para la Navidad. Si puede donar flores o hacer un donativo en efectivo, por favor diríjase a la parroquia antes del miércoles, 22 de diciembre. Gracias y que Dios te recompense!



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FOR THOSE WHO ARE VULNERABLE

The formal dispensation from participation in Sunday Mass in person remains in place for all persons still at serious risk of the Covid-19 virus.

Homebound Eucharist

If you have a family member or know of a parishioner in the Santa Cruz area in need of having the Eucharist brought to them regularly, please contact the parish office at 520-623-3833.



Posadas Navideñas 2021

The Posadas re-enact Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of shelter; in Spanish, the word Posadas means "lodging." Please join us for our Santa Cruz Parish Posadas! We will start at **6:30 p.m.** at the following places:

Las Posadas recorren el difícil viaje de María y José desde Nazaret a Belén en busca de refugio; en español, la palabra Posadas significa "alojamiento". Por favor acompañenos en nuestras Posadas Navideñas! Empezarán a las **6:30 p.m.** en los siguientes sitios:

Monday, December 20th

Begin at: Capilla Guadalupe – 409 E. 31st St.
 Rejection at: Garcia Family – 325 E. 33rd St.
 Accept: Galindo Family – 207 E. 35th St.

Tuesday, December 21st

Begin at: Galindo Family – 207 E. 35th St.
 Rejection at: Teresa Family – 2206 E. 5th Ave.
 Accept: Aguilar Family – 331 E. 31st St.

Wednesday, December 22nd

Begin at: Aguilar Family – 331 E. 31st St.
 Rejection at: Casa Maria – 352 E. 25th St.
 Accept: Limon Family – 316 E. 23rd St.

Thursday, December 23rd

Begin at: Limon Family – 316 E. 23rd St.
 Rejection at: Carrillo Family – 140 E. 24th St.
**Accept & Mass: Santa Cruz Church –
 1220 S. 6th Avenue**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 11th

8:00am Charlie Stetz/R.I.P.
5:30pm Deacon Richard Ornelas/R.I.P.

Sunday, December 12th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners
8:00am Cathy Rucker Shemberger/R.I.P.
10:00am Jesus Alfredo Franco/R.I.P.
12:00pm Evan Zarate & Joseph R. Valencia/R.I.P.
6:00pm Ignacio & Hilda Vega & Walter Vega/R.I.P.

Charlie Stetz/R.I.P.

8:00am Lucia Reyes/R.I.P.

Jacob Vega/R.I.P.

8:00am Francisco Franco/Happy Birthday

Charles Kelly/R.I.P.

8:00am Lucy Flores/R.I.P.

Marcella & Gabriel Zepp/R.I.P.

8:00am Fernando Pina/R.I.P.

Charlie Stetz/R.I.P.

8:00am Joseph R. Valencia/R.I.P.

TODAY, 2nd Collection
will be designate to

2021 Diocese of Tucson
 Priests' Retirement Fund

BLESS
 THOSE WHO
 BLESS YOU

BENDICE
 A LOS QUE TE
 BENDICEN

Parish Collection December 5th, 2021
Collection: \$ 4,624.80

*Thanking You for Your
 Service to Our Parish*

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 - 4:30pm

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

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

New Parishioners: Always welcome!

Please register by using our forms available in the church.

***Please note that the 12 noon Mass is following full COVID protocols:**
 social distancing, masks required and distancing in pews

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 for more information / 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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