



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



DECEMBER 19, 2021



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FOURTH
Sunday
OF *Advent*

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country
in haste to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of
Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:39-40

Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

“Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” Lk.1:42-43

The Year of St. Joseph concluded on December 8, the Solemn Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The reason Pope Francis declared the Year of Joseph was to commemorate the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph as *Patron of the Catholic Church* by Blessed Pius IX (8 December 1870). What lesson have we learned from St. Joseph during this special year? I offer you four things we can learn from St. Joseph.

Silence- There is not one word of Joseph recorded in the Gospels.

Yet, this does not mean he was without any thought or feeling. We ought to ponder why not a single word was recorded of the man closest to Christ, for surely, he spoke. We know he was the first to utter the name Jesus since he was told to name the Divine Child. Pope Benedict XVI said, “St. Joseph’s silence does to express an inner emptiness, but on the contrary, the fullness of faith he bears in his heart and which guides is every thought and action.” In his Apostolic Letter, *Heart of a Father*, Pope Francis says, “His patient silence was he prelude to concrete expressions of trust.” Perhaps St. Joseph is imitating the heavenly Father of Jesus. “The Father spoke one Word, which was His Son, and this Word He always speaks in eternal silence, and in silence must It be heard by the soul,” St. John of the Cross.

Let us practice silent prayer and quiet contemplation. They will bring us not futility but fertility, and joyful anticipation of Christ’s coming into the word

Service and self-denial- In his Apostolic Exhortation titled, *Guardian of the Redeemer*, Pope St. John Paul II wrote, “His fatherhood is expressed concretely in having made his life a service, a sacrifice to the mystery of the Incarnation and the redemptive mission connected to it.” St. Joseph is the Patron and Guardian of the Church which is the Body of Christ. The measure of Joseph’s love for Jesus is the measure of his love for the Church. Inspired by the example of St. Joseph’s love and service, we must ask ourselves, “What am I doing to serve Christ and His Church?” Jesus said, “What you do for the least you do for me.” Do I see and serve Christ in others?

Simplicity- “Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet, and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support, and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation,” *Heart of a Father*. We learn from St. Joseph that his greatness is his humility and hiddenness. “St. Joseph is the model of those humble ones that Christianity raises up to great destinies; he is the proof that in order to be a good and genuine follower of Christ, there is no need of great things-it is enough to have the common, simple and human virtues, but they need to be true and authentic,” Pope St. Paul VI.

Sacrifice/suffering- The sword of sorrow that pieced Mary’s heart also pierced Joseph’s heart. He shared everything with his wife Mary. We learn from Joseph how to bear sorrow and suffering. We also learn to bear the sorrows of others. We bear one another’s burdens. We do so united first to Our Lord, and to Joseph and Mary.

(This reflection was inspired by an article by Fr. Michael Ackerman in OSV.)

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

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve (December 24)

5:30p.m. and 9p.m.

(Confessions available on Wed. Dec. 22 from 4-6pm)

Christmas Day (December 25)

6:30a.m.; 8a.m. at Capilla de Guadalupe, 10a.m. (live streamed) and 12 p.m.–with safety protocols (There will be **no** Mass in the evening of Christmas Day.)

Sunday, December 26

Feast of the Holy Family - Sunday Obligation, regular Sunday schedule.

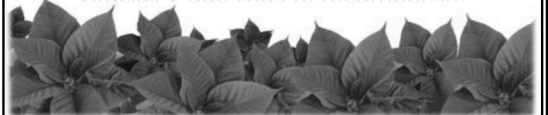


Poinsettia Donations

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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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**

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.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 18th

8:00am Roberto Lowe/R.I.P.

5:30pm Nathan Ramirez/Happy Birthday

Sunday, December 19th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am Douglas Doromal/R.I.P.

10:00am Fernando Pina/R.I.P.

12:00pm Manny & Greda Velazquez/
Happy 40th Anniversary

6:00pm Danny Estavillo/Happy Birthday

Danielle Cummings/Improved Health

8:00am Berry Sims/R.I.P.

Florence Schroeder/R.I.P.

8:00am Evan Zarate & Joseph R. Valencia/R.I.P.

Danielle Cummings/Improved Health

8:00am Delma Bustamante Huggins/R.I.P.

In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/
Int. Nieves Ortiz & Family

8:00am Evan Zarate & Joseph R. Valencia/R.I.P.

Sister Michael Marie Shoreline of the
Immaculate Heart of Mary, O.C.D./R.I.P.

8:00am Marcella & Gabriel Zepp/R.I.P.

Parish Collection December 12th, 2021

Due to the Holiday schedule, the contributions for the weekend of December 12th will be posted on Sunday, December 26th, 2021

*Thanking You for Your
Service to Our Parish*

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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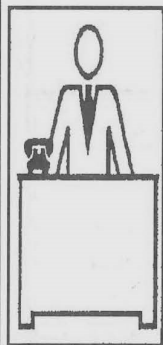
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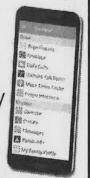
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