



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



December 26, 2021



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The Holy Family

OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

After three days Jesus' parents found him in the temple,
sitting in the midst of the teachers,
listening to them and asking them questions.

Luke 2:46

Reflection on the Feast of the Holy Family

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. Col. 3:12-14

On the Sunday after Christmas the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family. It is wonderful to think that Jesus was born into a family, the family established by Joseph and Mary when they were married. It is God's original plan that every person who comes into this world is born into a family. Just as the Divine Word, Jesus Christ, sanctified our humanity by assuming our human nature, He has also sanctified the family by being born into a family. Jesus was obedient to his parents, Joseph and Mary. In the home in Nazareth, he advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. Joseph and Mary would have remembered and kept all the memories of Jesus growing up in Nazareth.

Marriage and the family constitute one of the most precious of human values. Jesus was born to redeem and renew the human family, to give it a rebirth, so to speak. The Blessed Virgin Mary is His helpmate in the reborn human family. "Amen, amen I say to thee, unless a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God," Jn. 3:3. We become part of this new family through baptism. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. Behold, the new has come," Gal. 6:15.

Forty years ago, Pope St. John Paul II gave the Church a beautiful reflection on the family. (APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION- **FAMILIARIS CONSORTIO: *On the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World, November 22, 1981.***) It begins with these words: "The family in the modern world, as much as and perhaps more than any other institution, has been beset by the many profound and rapid changes that have affected society and culture. Many families are living this situation in fidelity to those values that constitute the foundation of the institution of the family. Others have become uncertain and bewildered over their role or even doubtful and almost unaware of the ultimate meaning and truth of conjugal and family life. Finally, there are others who are hindered by various situations of injustice in the realization of their fundamental rights." The situation has only gotten more difficult for families in the last forty years.

If only we could appreciate more fully the truth concerning the great value of marriage and the family and their deepest meaning. "Willed by God in the very act of creation, marriage and the family are interiorly ordained to fulfillment in Christ and have need of His graces in order to be healed from the wounds of sin and restored to their "beginning", that is, to full understanding and the full realization of God's plan," *On the Family, n.3.*

Today the family is the object of numerous forces that seek to destroy it or in some way to deform it. But the well-being of society is intimately tied to the good of the family. In a *Letter to Families* written Pope St. John Paul in 1994, he says: "A person normally comes into the world within a family and can be said to owe to the family the very fact of his existing as an individual. When he has no family, the person coming into the world develops an anguished sense of pain and loss, one which will subsequently burden his whole life. The Church draws near with loving concern to all who experience situations such as these, for she knows well the fundamental role which the family is called upon to play."

As we begin another year let us each do our part to foster family life. There are, indeed, many challenges and obstacles, even forces of destruction, working contrary to the families mission to be a school of love for a civilization of love. Let us take St. Paul's exhortation to heart and put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another.

May God bless you abundantly in the Coming Year.

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

Santa Cruz New Year's Mass Schedule

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

(It is not a Holy Day of Obligation this Year.)

Friday, December 31st, 2021

New Year's Eve

Confessions from 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Mass at 5:30 p.m.



Saturday, January 1st, 2022

8:00 a.m. Spanish Mass at church

10:00 a.m.

(There will be no evening Mass.)



Sunday, January 2nd, 2022

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord -

Regular Sunday Schedule

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 25th

8:00am Ignacio & Hilda Vega & Walter Vega/R.I.P.

5:30pm Special Int./Amaro & Martinez Families

Sunday, December 26th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am Magdalena Gleuwritz/R.I.P.

10:00am Evan Zarate & Joseph R. Valencia/R.I.P.

12:00pm Oscar & Frank Leon/R.I.P.

6:00pm Special Int./Pueblo High School, Community & Administration

Martin Gleuwritz/R.I.P.

8:00am John Christ/R.I.P.

Carol Close/R.I.P.

8:00am Special Int./Terry Pina & Family

Lily Contreras/R.I.P.

8:00am Bernard Lonergan/R.I.P.

Aurora Few & Ramiro Loza/R.I.P.

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

In Thanksgiving to the Holy Family

8:00am Special Int./Franco & Reyes Families

The new year begins, let us pray,
It will be a year with a new peace,
New happiness, & the abundance of friends,
God bless you through out the new year



happy
New Year

Parish Collection December 12th, 2021

Collection: \$ 5,410.60

Immaculate Conception: \$ 807.92

2nd Coll. Priests Retirement: \$ 951.64

Total: \$ 7,170.16

Thank You
and
Merry Christmas.

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:
In Residence:

Rev. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.
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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