



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



SECOND SUNDAY OF

# Advent



DECEMBER 4, 2022

John the Baptist appeared,  
preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,  
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

MATTHEW 3:1

## Second Sunday of Advent, December 4, 2022

The season of Advent gives us a wonderful array of biblical characters who inspire and challenge us to grow in faith. We have biblical writers such as Isaiah the prophet, St Paul and St Matthew; married couples – Mary and Joseph, and Elizabeth and Zachary; the Archangel Gabriel and a company of his fellow angels; shepherds and kings; John the Baptist and our Savior and Lord, Jesus.

In the second and third Sundays of Advent John the Baptist is highlighted. He is one who always gets our attention. No wonder Jesus referred to him “no one greater than he has been born of woman”. He comes from the desert wilderness in traditional Old Testament clothing of camel skin tunic and belt: he has the austerity of one who fed on wild honey and berries. He must have had a gaunt face and eyes sharpened by fasting. He is not gentle like Jesus, nor persuasive like Paul – in fact he could be described, as we often say in Ireland, as “a holy terror”. Others refer to him as “God’s rottweiler”. He was not a man to trifle with. Yet amazingly the crowds flocked to him from miles around to listen to his call to serious repentance and denouncing the evils of society.

He challenged the motivation of the scribes and pharisees who came from Jerusalem to hear him, “Brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the retribution that is coming? **If you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit!**” Yet when Jesus appeared before him in the river Jordan, he was surprised and confused, but Jesus insists, and the words from above, “This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased”, were powerful and affirming for John as well as for the many others who came to be baptized by him. Later John questioned the report that Jesus was friendly with sinners and even had meals with them. Yet he knew his place and he stepped back.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; **he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire**”.

Jesus now steps forward to center stage, while the greatest prophet that ever lived, fades into the background. John had done his work. He had convicted us of our evil; he bore witness to the Savior. We are grateful for John’s startling presence in our world. But we cannot remain with John. Our religion is not a gospel of fear, **but of confidence in the mercy of God**. We are called to repent and to bear fruit, but above all to be merciful as our heavenly Father and His Son are merciful.

Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! Come Holy Spirit! Come Loving Father!

Enjoy your Advent by bearing rich fruit. ~ Fr David OCD

## *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Thursday, December 8th*



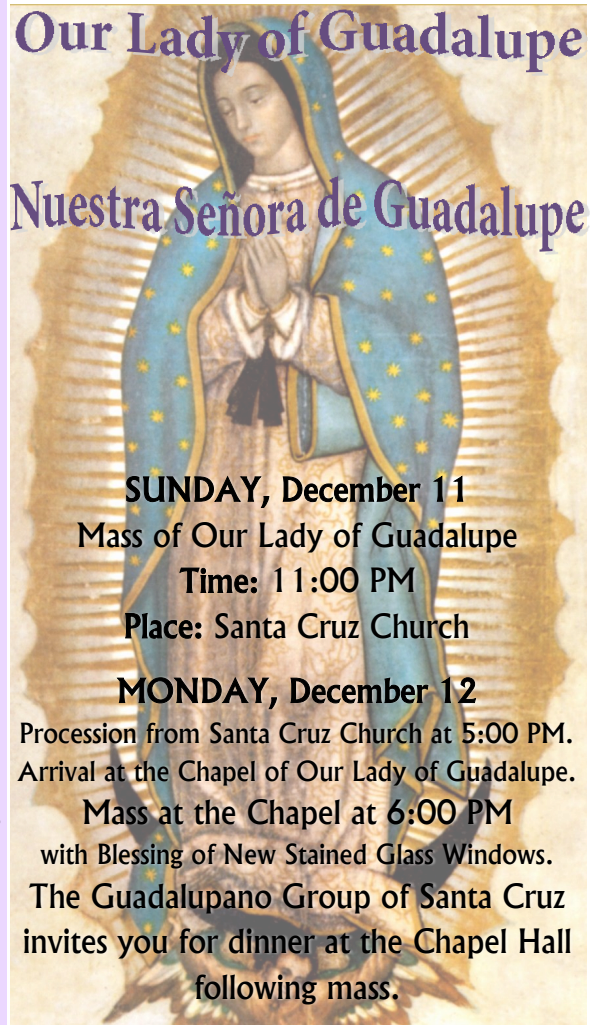
*Masses:*

**6:30am • 8:00am • 6:30pm**

This is a holy day of obligation.  
The parish office will be closed.

## **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

## **Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe**



**SUNDAY, December 11**

**Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**Time: 11:00 PM**

**Place: Santa Cruz Church**

**MONDAY, December 12**

**Procession from Santa Cruz Church at 5:00 PM.**

**Arrival at the Chapel of Our Lady of Guadalupe.**

**Mass at the Chapel at 6:00 PM**

**with Blessing of New Stained Glass Windows.**

**The Guadalupano Group of Santa Cruz  
invites you for dinner at the Chapel Hall  
following mass.**

### **HOW TO REPORT ABUSE**

- **Call 911** to make a report.
- **If the abuse happened in Arizona, call the Police or Sheriff's Office in the specific area.** If the abuse happened in any other state, call the Police or Sheriff's Office in the specific area of that state.
- **Call the diocese in which the abuse happened.** If the abuse happened in the Diocese of Tucson, call the Victim Assistance Program of the Diocese of Tucson at 520-623-0344 or (1-800-234-0344 in Arizona) and/or the Office of Child, Adolescent and Adult Protection of the Diocese of Tucson at 520-838-2513.



The Annual Catholic Appeal –  
**Our parish goal is \$40,340**, currently we have collected **\$22,556** that is (56% of our goal). The **Deadline is December 31<sup>st</sup>**. Please prayerfully consider making your pledge to help us meet our parish goal. **To give use your smart phone and Text ACA to 41444 ~ OR ~ visit [www.cathfnd.org/donate](http://www.cathfnd.org/donate)**  
**Thank you and God bless you Fr. Stephen.**

Campaña Católica Anual – Nuestra **meta parroquial es \$40,340**, actual hemos **colectado \$22,556** esto es el (56% de nuestra meta). **La fecha limite es el 31 de diciembre**. Por favor oren y consideren hacer su compromiso para ayudarnos alcanzar nuestra meta. Gracias y que Dios los bendiga.

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

### Grieving during the Holidays

The Our Lady of Mount Carmel Bereavement Group at Santa Cruz Church has developed a video on the topic: "How to cope during the holidays while grieving". If you are interested in viewing this video here is the link:  
<https://youtu.be/DgMM1IK1AvY>



## Posadas Navideñas 2022

The posadas will take place from **December 20-23**. We will gather at Our Lady of Guadalupe Capilla on 409 E. 31st Street at 6pm on December 20. The first night we will be received by the Limon Family on 237 E. 23rd Street. Details of the other nights will be in next weeks bulletin.

**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](http://santacruzchurchtucson.com) ~

~ Email [santacruzparish@hotmail.com](mailto:santacruzparish@hotmail.com) ~

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

Pastor:  
 In Residence:

Rev. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.  
 Rev. David Costello, O.C.D.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 3rd

**8:00am** Rose Vega/Happy Birthday & Happy Retirement

**5:30pm** Arthur Espree/R.I.P.

### Sunday, December 4th

**6:30am** Santa Cruz Parishioners

**8:00am** In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe

**10:00am** Grace Lohr/R.I.P.

**12:00pm** Johnny Lopez, Jr./R.I.P.

**6:00pm** Casimiro & Josephine Bonillas & Their Deceased Daughters/R.I.P.

### Monday, December 5th

Mother Maria, O.C.D./Improved Health

**8:00am** Special Int./Pueblo High School, Administration & Community

### Tuesday, December 6th

Mother Maria, O.C.D./Improved Health

**8:00am** Alana Gonzales/Improved Health

### Wednesday, December 7th

Mother Maria, O.C.D./Improved Health

**8:00am** Deacon Richard Ornelas/R.I.P.

### Thursday, December 8th

Mother Maria, O.C.D./Improved Health

**8:00am** Armando C. Audelo/R.I.P.

### Friday, December 9th

Mother Maria, O.C.D./Improved Health

**8:00am** Armando C. Audelo/R.I.P.

**Parish Collection November 27th, 2022**

**Collection: \$ 4,322.24**

**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



## COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICE

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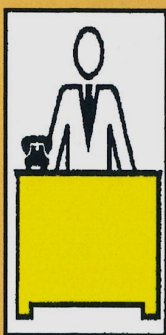
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