



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**The 8:00 am
Sunday, February 12th
Mass will be celebrated in
the church.**

**La misa del domingo 12 de
febrero a las 8:00 am se
celebrará en la iglesia.**



Your
light
must
shine

FEBRUARY 5

**before others, that they may
see your good deeds and
glorify your heavenly Father.**

Matthew 5:16

Reflection for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

You are the light of the world. Mathew 5:14

On March 25, 1983, I was ordained a deacon. That summer I was assigned to Santa Cruz Parish. It was my first experience in parish ministry. I did my first baptisms that summer. One day, Fr. Anastasio Font, OCD, took me to Colossal Caves. When our guide had taken us a good distance into the cave, he turned out the lights. Whatever experience I previously had of darkness was nothing compared to the total darkness in that cave. It was eerie, scary, disorienting, even disturbing. In the 3rd verse of the Bible, God says, "Let there be light," and there was light." What a relief when the lights were turned back on. (I went back to Colossal Caves a couple of years ago with Fr. David Costello and was disappointed that they no longer turn the lights out. Something to do with safety, I suppose.)

What do you think of darkness? Is it a negative and scary thing? St. John of the Cross, whose statue you see in our church, wrote a poem about darkness. "One dark night, fired with love's urgent longings— ah, the sheer grace! —I went out unseen, my house being now all stilled. In darkness, and secure, by the secret ladder, disguised,— ah, the sheer grace! —in darkness and concealment, my house being now all stilled." Just as night is cover for a lovers rendezvous with her beloved, so too, for St. John of the Cross the soul that is seeking union with God "walks by faith, not by sight," in a "cloud of unknowing." The light of faith is a supernatural light that is darkness to our natural way of understanding. We are secure when we go to God by faith even though it is like darkness to our normal way of seeing or understanding. "Understanding what?" you ask. Understanding life and what meaning it has for us, understanding God.

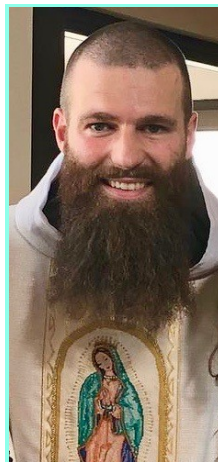
What, then, does our Lord mean when he says we are the light of the world? There are many beautiful verses in the Bible that talk about the divine light. "Blessed are those who walk in the light of your presence, Lord," Ps 89:15. "The people living in darkness have seen a great light," Is.9:2. The most important verse is what Jesus says of himself in the Gospel of John, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life," Jn.8:12. And again in John 9:5, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Jesus says to those who claim to see by the light of their own knowledge, i.e. science, that they remain in their sins, cf. Jn. 9:41. Only by Christ our Light do we truly see. The Easter candle reminds us that Christ our Light dwells within us.

Chiaroscuro in art is the use of strong contrasts between light and dark, usually bold contrasts affecting a whole composition. Perhaps we need darkness in our life to accentuate the light. I suppose we need darkness to realize how wonderful the light of Christ is. When Jesus tells us that we are the light of the world, -that is awesome.

Again, John of the Cross: "O guiding night! O night more lovely than the dawn! O night that has united the Lover with his beloved." In the poetic language of the mystic the "guiding night" is leading us to the Light which is Christ. "In your light we see light," Ps.36:9.

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light," Eph. 5:8. "Just so, your light must shine before other," Mat. 5:16.

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



Santa Cruz Church

= Mark Your Calendars =

LENTEN MISSION

We welcome Fr. Matthias back for a Lenten Mission to be held March 5th through March 8th. We will give you more information in the weeks to come.

FAMILY OF THE YEAR

It is that time of year again when Santa Cruz Parish celebrates its birthday, that is, the date of its canonical establishment on **February 12, 1919**. Once again, I have chosen a **FAMILY OF THE YEAR** to represent the parish in honor of all the families who are part of the **104 year** history of the parish. I have chosen the **Vincent and Sofia Sierra Family** on the **300 block of W. 32nd Street**. Next week's bulletin will feature an article about this multi-generational Santa Cruz Parish Family. I will especially recognize them at the **10 am Sunday live-stream Mass** on February 12. The Guadalupanos will be selling breakfast in the parish hall as part of the celebration of the parish's birthday.

Celebrating 2023

Marriage Anniversaries

Bishop Edward Weisenburger will celebrate the Mass for Marriage Anniversaries for 2023 on **Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 2:30 PM at St. Augustine Cathedral**. He will be available before the Mass to have pictures taken with each couple.

REGISTRATION WEBSITE: <https://tinyurl.com/2023marriageanniversary>

Please register by: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 If you have any questions, contact Ofelia James ojames@diocesetucson.org

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.



Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Mark 16:15. As Jesus' followers and friends today, we are called to care for one another and to share the good news of the Gospel with the world. The 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal, WE ARE THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH, begins at our parish. The ACA helps our educational, charitable, and spiritual ministries bring the heart and hands of Jesus to children, young adults, families, and neighbors throughout our Diocese. **Please prayerfully consider making a joyful sacrificial contribution to this year's Appeal. We are the Mission of the Church! Please make your gift today at www.cathfnd.org/donate.**

Vayan por todo el mundo y prediquen la buena nueva a toda la creación. Marcos 16:15. Como seguidores y amigos de Jesús hoy, nosotros también hemos de responder al llamado a cuidarnos unos a otros y a compartir la buena nueva del Evangelio con el mundo. La Campaña Católica Anual 2023, SOMOS LA MISIÓN DE LA IGLESIA, comienza en nuestra parroquia. La Campaña ayuda a nuestros ministerios educativos, caritativos y espirituales a llevar el corazón y las manos de Jesús a niños, adultos jóvenes, familias y vecinos en toda nuestra Diócesis. **Por favor, consideren en oración piadosa hacer una contribución sacrificial a la Campaña de este año. ¡Somos la Misión de la Iglesia! Por favor, hagan su donación hoy en www.cathfnd.org/donate.**

WAYS TO GIVE



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RETURN
COMPLETED
ENVELOPE

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 4th

8:00am Adolfo Martinez/R.I.P.
5:30pm Antonia Castrillo/R.I.P.

Sunday, February 5th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners
8:00am Eliseo Carrillo/R.I.P.
10:00am Mary Olga Leon/R.I.P.
12:00pm Mary Ann Bravo/R.I.P.
6:00pm Special Int./Yolanda Parra

Monday, February 6th

Special Int./Mother Regina Marie, of Jesus, O.C.D.
8:00am Special Int./Barbara Eckert

Tuesday, February 7th

Special Int./Laura Nicole Kraus
8:00am Special Int./Ruth Cox

Wednesday, February 8th

Eva Anaya/R.I.P.
8:00am Santiago Palafox/Happy Birthday

Thursday, February 9th

Stephen Gonzalez/Happy Birthday
8:00am Bert Rucker/Happy Birthday

Friday, February 10th

Khoi Tran/Improved Health
8:00am Special Int./Yolanda Parra

SECOND COLLECTION FOR CHURCH MAINTENANCE

THIS week's second Collection February 4 & 5 will be designated for church our maintenance.

La segunda colecta de ESTA semana Febrero 5 será designada para el mantenimiento de la iglesia.

Parish Collection January 29th, 2023

Collection: \$ 4,903.14

*Thank you and God bless your generosity!
¡Gracias y que Dios bendiga su generosidad!*

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:
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.

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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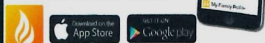
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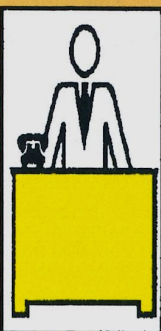
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