

SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



Fourth Sunday

of

Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 2022

I will arise and go to my father, Lk. 15:18

The Parable of the Prodigal Son is one of the best-known parables of Jesus. Even non-Christians know and value this parable. This wonderful parable is found only in the Gospel of Saint Luke. It is preceded by two short parables about the joy that God has when we repent of our sins and seek his mercy. The first is about the lost sheep which the shepherd finds and carries home on his shoulders. Once arrived home, he invites friends and neighbors in and says, "Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep." Then Jesus says, "There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner repenting than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to repent." The other parable is about a woman who lost one of her ten silver coins and the joy she had when she found it. The joy before the angels of God over one sinner repenting will be like the joy of the woman who found her lost coin.

The Greek word for "repent" is *metanoia*. Literally, *metanoia* means *to change your mind*. Jesus calls us to *metanoia*, to a radical change of mind, body, heart, and soul. This is beautifully illustrated in the Parable of the Prodigal Son who squandered the inheritance he received from his father on a life of dissipation in a distant country. "Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger." The phrase, "coming to his senses" is equivalent to *metanoia*.

What made this young man "come to his senses"? It is the goodness of his father who would not even let hired workers go hungry. True repentance comes about when we come to understand how good God is. This divine goodness is especially attributed to the Holy Spirit who is sent among us for the forgiveness of sins as the priest says when absolves the repent sinner: *God the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins.* We would not repent if the Holy Spirit of divine goodness were not somehow present to us. It is not our misery that brings us to our senses. It is the Good Spirit. When we experience genuine repentance, we do what the prodigal son did, we return to our heavenly Father. *I will arise and go to my father*.

Jesus began his preaching saying: *Repent and believe the gospel* (Mk.1:15). These words are like a summation of the Christian life. The kingdom of God announced by Christ can only be entered by a change of heart (*metanoia*), through an intimate and total change brought about by becoming aware of the goodness of God. In the presence of Christ our minds are enlightened to recognize the goodness of God and the seriousness of sin. The repentant sinner will say, "I detest my sins because they offend you my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love." Repentance leads to reconciliation with our heavenly Father. *Re-con-cilia-tion* means, *again-with-eyelashes to eyelashes*. This is what the father of the prodigal son did when *he ran to his son*, *threw his arms around him and kissed him*, *Lk.* 15:20.

If you have not had a chance to go to confession this Lent, I hope reflecting on this wonderful Parable of the Prodigal Son will inspire you to seek reconciliation with your heavenly Father. He is full of compassion. That is why Jesus teaches us to be merciful "just as your Father is merciful," Lk 6:36. Let us journey together in faith. ~ *Fr. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.*

2022 Annual Catholic Appeal

Together in Hope and Charity

Each year, at this time, we are encouraged to consider the needs of our Church and of the Diocese as one family in Christ. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge or gift by May 31, 2022. Visit www.cathfnd.org/aca to learn more about the Appeal.



- Catholic Men – Support the Church and your community by joining the Knights of Columbus Fr. Ignacio / Bro. Angel Santa Cruz Council 14139 For more information on upcoming meetings please call the parish office 520-623-3833.



Santa Cruz Parish Friday Fish Fry Is Back!!! Enjoy Good Food And Fellowship Every Friday during Lent

@ 5pm on March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th & April 1st and 8th
Hosted by: Knights of Columbus #14139
Fr. Bach ~ Bro. Angel de Santa Cruz

Stations of the Cross

You are invited to join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6:30pm in the church.

Villa crucis

Los invitamos a que nos acompañen al villa crucis todos los viernes durante la cuaresma a las 6:30pm en la iglesia.





Syrian Sweets by Nihad Al Okla Tucson, Arizona Delicious, authentic middle eastern treats

prepared fresh and locally. Assorted and specialty platters. Nihad will be selling her deserts after the **5:30pm Mass** on Saturday, March 26th and after the **10am**

and 12noon Masses on Sunday, March 27th Order by text 520-850-8163 and or Facebook: sweetsbynihad





We strive to be a vibrant, welcoming and faith-filled community inviting all of our parishioners, our school families and our community to join us at our Annual Parish Fiesta on May 14th and May 15th! This is a wonderful way to bring our community together Sunday, March 27th in a peaceful, fun, and spirited manner. All of

SANTA CRUZ this is accomplished with your help and generosity. In order to accomplish our fundraising goal, we ask if you could help by donating items. Items that are needed:

400-3 SECTION FOAM PLATES 300-PAPER PLATES 500-160Z SOLO CUPS 300-FOAM BOWLS OR BOATS FOR NACHOS 100 ROLLS OF PAPER TOWELS 1000 COUNT OF NAPKINS 2 BOXES OF FORKS 5 TO 6 BOXES OF FOIL SHEETS 4 BOXES OF EXTRA LARGE TRASH BAGS 5 BOXES OF PLASTIC GLOVES 10 SMALL INDIVIDUAL HAND SOAP port is greatly appreciated by coming together.

Your support is greatly appreciated by coming together, we'll ensure another successful fiesta. Please turn in your donated items to the parish office. Thank you for your support and generosity!

Fiesta De La Familia Nana's Cottage is collecting slightly used house hold items

and clothing. If you would like to donate please call Yolanda Hernandez 440-3615 after 4:00 pm for pick up and any questions.



LEGION OF MARY

You are invited to the Legion of Mary Group that meets every Monday at Capilla de Guadalupe at 4:00pm. For more information call Martha Flores (520) 704-5047.

LEGION DE MARIA

Estás invitado a las juntas del Grupo Legión de María, todos los lunes en la Capilla de Guadalupe a las 4:00pm. Para más información llame a Martha Flores al (520) 704-5047.

~NOTICE ~

EASTER SCHEDULE Look in next week's bulletin for a complete Easter Sunday schedule.

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.

Saturday, March 26th

8:00am Charlize Cornejo/Happy Birthday **5:30pm** Veronica Wheatley/Happy Birthday

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am Rosemary Hernandez/R.I.P.

10:00am Michelle Carrizosa/R.I.P.

12:00pm Eva Cota/R.I.P.

6:00pm Josefa Niebla Perez/R.I.P.

Monday, March 28th

Dolores Bonillas Gomez/R.I.P.

8:00am Special Int./Brian Lee Rucker

7:00pm Maria Jesus Portugal Flores/R.I.P.

Tuesday, March 29th

Julie Bonillas Aragon/R.I.P.

8:00am Josie V. Bustamante/Happy Birthday 7:00pm Special Int./Lorelei Mia Martinez

Wednesday, March 30th

Marcella & Gabriel Zepp/R.I.P. 8:00am Alfred Padilla/R.I.P. **7:00pm** Special Int./Rosalie Martinez

Thursday, March 31st

LaRhonda Goatson/R.I.P.

8:00am Maria Jesus Portugal Flores/R.I.P. 7:00pm Henry Ochoa, Sr./R.I.P.

Friday, April 1st

LaRhonda Goatson/R.I.P. 8:00am Dolores Bonillas Gomez & Iulie Bonillas Aragon/R.I.P. 7:00pm Rene Lopez Tuccio/R.I.P.

Parish Collection March 20th, 2022 Collection: \$ 7,334.60

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

