



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer
and rise from the dead on the third day
and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,
would be preached in his name to all the nations.

LUKE 24:46-47

THIRD
SUNDAY OF
EASTER

APRIL 18, 2021

Third Sunday of Easter

“These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled. Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,” Lk.24:44-45.

These words of Jesus from today’s Gospel got me thinking about the importance of roots, roots in the sense of something that is an origin or source, a point at which something begins its course or existence. This applies to the things or persons from which something is ultimately derived. In 1977 there was a popular television series called **Roots** about the history and ancestry of Alex Haley, descended from an African man brought to America as a slave. In the last few years, Americans have shown a tremendous interest in genealogy. A popular TV show today is called "Finding Your Roots." I think it is important to know where we come from so we can have a better sense of who we are and where we are going.

Recently, I read a review of a book titled *Uprooted*. The review begins by stating, “Roots, in the literal sense, connect life and earth. They transfer nourishment, anchor against the winds, and bind things together.” The book is a reflection on the transient, frenetic life that has become the American ideal, and examines the things that make communities work, the things that built them, and the things that we have lost. What do I owe the past? What do I owe the places where I am from? A community is made of relationships between those who are living, those who are dead, and those who are to be born. When I was writing about the families of Santa Cruz, I began to appreciate the importance of multi- generational relationships and having a place to live, or to be from, or return to.

This past week, the oldest parishioner of Santa Cruz Parish passed away, Helen Aguilar Trevino. She was 99. She died in the house her father Pedro built on E. 24th St. Santa Cruz Church was still being built. From the house, Helen could see the church bell tower and hear the bells ring. Santa Cruz Parish still has a good number of families whose roots are as old, or nearly as old as the church. Funerals have made me aware of how many people stay in Tucson.

How did we get here? And where, exactly, are we going? These are fundamental questions. We are living at a time of great migrations and movements of people. Those who “stay put,” saying the place they are from is good enough are considered failures in a society where getting rich and climbing to the top is an ideal. But is rootedness really a failure? Even those who migrate experience homesickness.

Rootedness does not mean lack of growth or development. Sooner or later, change comes to all communities. How much of the past should we carry forward? It depends on how well we accommodate change. But it is important to know our past and that we come from somewhere. It is vitally important that we know our roots. If we cut ourselves off from our past, we put our future at risk. “Past, present, and future must encounter and penetrate one another in every human life.”

Christianity has its roots in the Judaism. As Christ said, everything written about him in the Scriptures, in the past, must be fulfilled. St. Paul says of the Jews, *“Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah,”* Rom. 9:4-5. *“Some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, (the historic Israel),”* Rom. 11:17.

Jesus was and always remained a Jew. Jesus is fully a man of His time, and His environment-the Jewish Palestinian one of the first century, the anxieties and hopes of which He shared. He is called Jesus of Nazareth. Who am I? Where do I come from? Where am I going?

We have received Christ Jesus as Lord and are rooted in Him.

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

SANTA CRUZ PARISH SCHOOL

I was so happy to see children coming back to our parish school this past week. This school year has certainly been challenging for parents and teachers. I am grateful to our Principal, Ms. Angelina Schmidt, and the teachers for their heroic work in providing a quality education under exceedingly difficult circumstances. I thank the parents who carried an extra burden in providing for their children's Catholic education. Allow me to take this opportunity to remind all Catholic parents of their duty to send their children to Catholic schools wherever this is possible and to give Catholic schools all the support in their power and to cooperate with them in their work for the good of their children. When your children are unable to attend a Catholic school, you must provide for their Catholic education in a suitable way. Santa Cruz Parish does provide religious education for children who attend public schools. I would like also to thank the Director of Religious Education, Mr. Martin Doe, and his faculty of catechists, for providing religious instruction this past year in an almost impossible situation. We look forward to First Holy Communion and Confirmation in May.

PLEASE, SUPPORT THE PARISH SCHOOL.

POR FAVOR APOYE A LA ESCUELA PARROQUIAL.

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

Sylvia Martinez, the facilitator who led the Divine Mercy workshop last year at Santa Cruz, sent me a link to her podcast on Divine Mercy. You'll find it on YouTube. Search for **oración formación y acción católica - Sylvia Mayer**

Fr. Kevin McArdle, O.C.D./R.I.P.
Maria Elena Calderon/R.I.P.

Santa Cruz Parishioners
Fr. Ignacio Bach, O.C.D./R.I.P.
Special Int./Pueblo High School,
Administration & Community
Josefa Perez/R.I.P.

Holy Souls in Purgatory, most in need
of our Prayers/R.I.P.

Holy Souls in Purgatory, most in need
of our Prayers/R.I.P.

Fr. Cyprian Killackey, O.C.D./R.I.P.

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Carla Yrigolla/Happy Birthday

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of our Prayers/R.I.P.

Romaine Christ/R.I.P.

Holy Souls in Purgatory, most in need
of our Prayers/R.I.P.

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

Parish Collection April 11th, 2021

Collection: \$ 5,113.37

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

*Thanking You for Your
Service to Our Parish*

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** hreyes@diocesetucson.org ~

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. Jose Luis Ferroni, O.C.D.
In Residence: Rev. David Costello, O.C.D.

New Parishioners: Always welcome!

Please register by using our forms available in the church.

Please note COVID protocols: masks required; distancing in pews

Sun. 6:30 am, 10 am, 12 noon,

5 pm school field (Bilingual) & 6 pm

Mon. - Fri. 8:00 am, Sat. 8 am & 5:30 pm (Vigil)

Confession: 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: Angelina Schmidt, Director

(520) 624-2093

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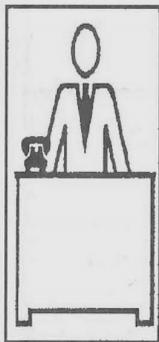
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