



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



“Have you come to believe
because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have
not seen and have believed.”

John 20:29



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APRIL

24

2022

SECOND SUNDAY

OF

Easter
(OR SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)

Mercy Sunday- April 23

Our Lord is not dead but alive!

The Sunday after Easter Sunday was once known as *Dominica in Albis* because the newly baptized in Rome would process in their white baptismal robes to the Basilica of Saint Pancras. Another designation for this Sunday was *Quasimodo Sunday*, so named from the Latin entrance antiphon *Quasimodo geniti infantes...*, a verse from 1 Peter. 2:2: *Like newborn babes, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.* The newborn babes are those who were reborn in the waters of baptism at the Easter Vigil. The focus during Lent on preparing the catechumens for baptism and accompanying them when they are newly baptized is a striking characteristic of Lent and Easter. In fact, all the faithful renew their baptismal promises at Easter. During the Easter Season the Church celebrates the sacraments of initiation- Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Ordinations to the priesthood are also celebrated at this time.

The Church especially rejoices in hope during the Easter Season. *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 1Peter 1:3.* What a beautiful and divinely revealed statement this is. This *living hope* is the merciful gift of God the Father.

Thanks to Pope St. John Paul II, the Sunday after Easter is now designated Mercy Sunday. The decree designating Mercy Sunday stated that Christians today in many parts of the world wish to praise divine mercy in divine worship, particularly in the celebration of the Paschal Mystery, in which God's loving kindness especially shines forth. "The mercies of the Lord I will sing forever," Ps 89. "What good would life have been to us if Christ had not come as our Redeemer?" As Christians we know that we have a future, and the future is incredibly good. Our encounter with the Risen Christ changes our lives because of the living hope He gives us. We know that we have a future, that our life will not end in emptiness. Precisely because we have this assurance that hope gives, it becomes possible to live good and virtuous lives. The one who has hope lives differently; the one who hopes has been granted the gift of new life. Christ did not bring a social revolution or political liberation. An encounter with the Lord of all lords is an encounter with a hope stronger than death that transform life and the world from within. The fact that the future exists changes the present. The present is touched by this reality. It is as if eternal life spills over into the present. As the Vietnamese martyr, St. Paul Le-Bao-Tinh, wrote in a letter, "In the midst of the storm, I cast my anchor towards the throne of God, the anchor that is the lively hope in my heart." Or, as St. Paul the Apostle says, "This hope will not leave us disappointed because the love of God has been poured on our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given us." This is God's magnificent work of mercy, the living hope that will not leave us disappointed. This is the audacity of hope- the soul obtains from God all that she hopes for from Him. We hope in His mercy. This is the meaning of the words that accompany the image of Divine Mercy: "Jesus, I trust in you."

We have until Pentecost to rejoice in this season of hope. This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. We give witness to this hope every Sunday of the Year. Truly, Sunday is the Lord's Day.

Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks for a reason for your hope, 1Peter 3:15.

Let us journey together in hope.

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



SANTA CRUZ CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 de la Familia on May 14th and May 15th!** This is a wonderful way to bring our community together in a peaceful, fun, and spirited manner. All of 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
- 500-16OZ SOLO CUPS
- 300-8OZ FOAM CUPS
- 300-FOAM BOWLS OR BOATS FOR NACHOS
- 1000 COUNT OF NAPKINS
- 2 BOXES OF FORKS
- 2 BOXES OF SPOONS
- 5 TO 6 BOXES OF FOIL SHEETS
- 4 BOXES OF EXTRA LARGE TRASH BAGS
- 5 BOXES OF PLASTIC GLOVES
- 10 SMALL INDIVIDUAL HAND SOAP
- 3 DISH SOAP
- 5-50 BOX OF FACE MASKS

ON THE DAY OF FIESTA:

LETTUCE, CHEESE, SNOW CONE SYRUP, NACHO CHEESE, CHIPS, CAKES ALREADY MADE.

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!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

It was an immense joy to celebrate the Easter Triduum this year after two years of restrictions due to the pandemic. *(In 2020 we had no public celebration of Easter.)* I want to thank you for your active, prayerful, and loving participation. I especially want to thank all who rendered special service enabling us to participate so devoutly. I thank those who cleaned and adorned the church, which requires much work. The altar servers are back and deserve special thanks. I thank the cantors and musicians who helped us in the praise of our merciful God. I thank those who brought lilies to beautify our church. I thank the Knights of Columbus who provided security and other services, and our ushers who ensured good order. I thank the lectors and Eucharistic ministers who lent nobility and decorum to the services. I thank the Grupo Guadalupano for the Pésame. I thank the many anonymous people who helped in any way. God knows who you are which is the only thing that really counts. Remember, the Easter season is 50 days long. Let us continue with the spirit of joy and gladness with our Risen Lord. Fr. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.



Presentation on the Only Church-Approved Marian Apparition in the United States Offered by Martha Valukas, OCDS Shrine Volunteer Ambassador

One year after our Blessed Mother appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous in

Lourdes, France, the Mother of our Savior came to the United States in the same humble way, appearing 3 times in 2 days near Green Bay, Wisconsin. The year was 1859. Our Blessed Mother spoke a message to a young Belgian woman by the name of Adele Brise, a message that everyone in the United States needs to hear. Her words will fill you with renewed purpose and hope. Come and experience a multi-media presentation of the only Church-Approved Marian apparition in our country.

Where: **Santa Cruz Catholic Church**
When: **Saturday, May 7, 2022**

Light refreshments will be available after the 8:00 Mass in the courtyard. The presentation will begin at 9:00AM and continue till 10:15AM with questions after that.

CEUs: CEUs will be provided for Teachers and Catechists who attend and who would like to receive credit for Level 1 Certification.

Saturday, April 23rd

8:00am Delma Huggins/R.I.P.
5:30pm In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/
Int. Nieves Ortiz & Family

Sunday, April 24th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners
8:00am Maria Jesus Portugal Flores/R.I.P.
10:00am Special Int./Amaro & Martinez Families
12:00pm Alan Garcia/R.I.P.
6:00pm Ignacio & Hilda Vega & Walter Vega/R.I.P.

Monday, April 25th

Kim Tran/R.I.P.
8:00am Juan R. Lopez/R.I.P.

Tuesday, April 26th

Michel Patron/R.I.P.
8:00am Carlos Lopez/R.I.P.

Wednesday, April 27th

Beatriz Leal Aguirre/R.I.P.
8:00am Special Int./Perscilla Lopez

Thursday, April 28th

In Honor of San Pedro
8:00am Josephina M. Valenzuela/R.I.P.

Friday, April 29th

Mary Helen Cassidy/R.I.P.
8:00am Dr. William Ornelas/Happy Birthday

Parish Collection April 10th, 2022

Collection: \$ 7,390.80

Holy Thursday—Poor \$ 358.61

Good Friday—Holy Land \$ 563.80

Easter Collection April 17th, 2022

Collection: \$ 8,871.07



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 santacruzparish@hotmail.com ~

Sign up for Flock Notes text [santacruzaz to 84576](tel:52084576)

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. 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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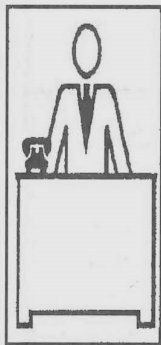
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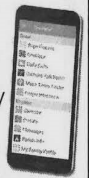
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