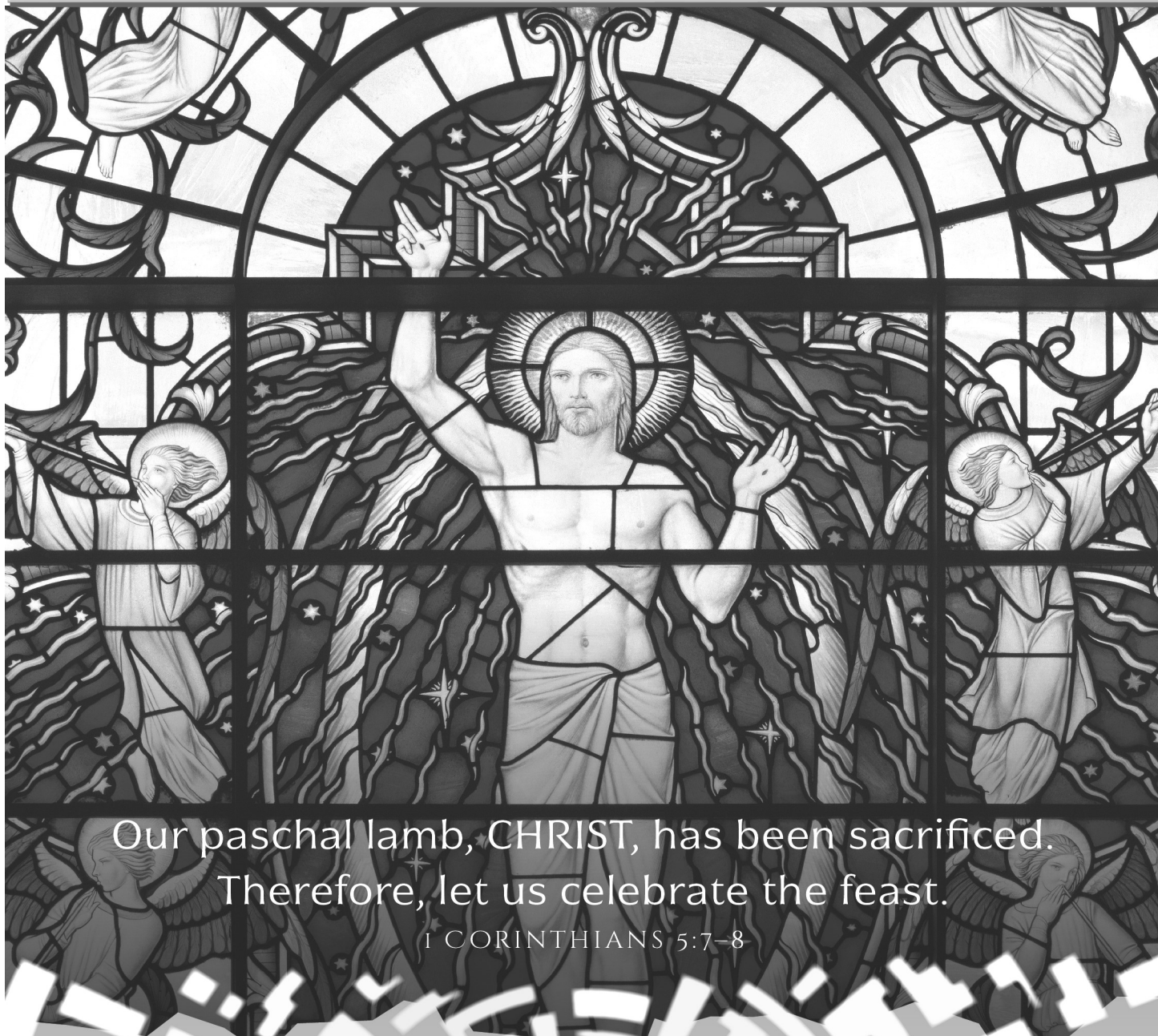




SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



Our paschal lamb, CHRIST, has been sacrificed.  
Therefore, let us celebrate the feast.

1 CORINTHIANS 5:7-8

# EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 4, 2021

## EASTER SUNDAY

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Happy Easter! !Felices Pascuas!

This year, Easter feels like the dawn of a new day. We are awakening and rising from a difficult year of isolation, fear, and death. Verses from the Song of Songs come to mind: *My beloved spoke and said to me, "Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, come with me. See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land, Songs, 2:10-12.*

Jesus of Nazareth, born of Mary, has conquered death. This is the Good News which we must be eager to share with others. One of the ways we witness to our faith is by gathering every Sunday as a community. Although we are still under no obligation to gather as a community to worship God on Sunday, it is still the Lord's Day. On this day we Christians ponder and live the event of Easter, true source of the world's salvation. Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord gives profound meaning to our entire existence. For this reason, St. Augustine calls Sunday "a sacrament of Easter." Our public Christian worship throughout the year revolves around Easter Sunday. Sunday is the supreme day of faith and worship.

In these difficult times we live in, it should be clear why it is important to protect and live the Lord's Day in all its depth of meaning. St. Pope John Paul II wrote a beautiful letter (1998) to the Church about Sunday titled: *On Keeping the Lord's Day Holy*. He writes, "The Lord's Day has structured the Church through two thousand years: how could we think that it will not continue to shape the future? The pressures of today can make it harder to fulfill the Sunday obligation; and with a mother's sensitivity, the Church looks to the circumstances of each of her children. She feels herself called to a new catechetical and pastoral commitment, to ensure that none of her children are deprived of the rich outpouring of grace which the celebration of the Lord's Day brings.... **Given its link to the very foundations of the faith, the celebration of the Christian Sunday remains an indispensable element of our Christian identity.**"

Our Christian identity is linked to Christ's victory over sin and death. There is much suffering in our world, a suffering that touches each one of us. Our Lord wants us to share in His great victory. Make no mistake; Jesus is the only true Victor who has conquered Evil. It may be a challenge for us to get back into the rhythm of attending Mass on Sunday, especially since there are still legitimate concerns about Covid-19. But we must do our best. It is the Lord's Day.

The world needs the witness of Christians more than ever even as it turns away from God more and more. As St. Paul says, "We work hard with our own hands. When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; when we are slandered, we answer kindly. We have become the scum of the earth, the garbage of the world--right up to this moment." 1Cor. 4:12-13. Let it be. Jesus says, "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me," Matt.5:11. Let us be Easter People.

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

Estimados Feligreses y Amigos, ¡Felices Pascuas!

Este año, la Pascua se siente como el amanecer de un nuevo día. Estamos despertando y resurgiendo de un año difícil de aislamiento, miedo y muerte. Me vienen a la mente versos del Cantar de los Cantares: *Mi amado me habló y me dijo: Levántate, amada mía, hermosa mía, ven conmigo. ¡Mira! El invierno ha pasado; las lluvias se acabaron y se fueron. Las flores aparecen en la tierra; ha llegado la temporada de cantar, el arrullo de palomas se oye en nuestra tierra, Canciones, 2: 10-12.*

Jesús de Nazaret, nacido de María, ha vencido a la muerte. Esta es la Buena Nueva que debemos compartir con ganas con los demás. Una de las maneras en que damos testimonio de nuestra fe es reuniéndonos todos los domingos en comunidad. Aunque todavía no tenemos la obligación de reunirnos en comunidad para adorar a Dios los domingos, el domingo sigue siendo el Día del Señor. En este día los Cristianos reflexionamos y vivimos el acontecimiento de la Pascua, verdadera fuente de la salvación del mundo. El Domingo de la Resurrección del Señor da un profundo significado para toda nuestra existencia. Por esta razón, San Agustín llama el domingo "un sacramento de Pascua." Nuestra adoración pública Cristiana durante todo el año gira en torno al Domingo de Pascua. El domingo es el día supremo de fe y de adoración.

Nuestra identidad Cristiana está atada a la victoria de Cristo sobre el pecado y la muerte. Hay mucho sufrimiento en nuestro mundo, un sufrimiento que nos toca a cada uno de nosotros. Nuestro Señor quiere que compartamos Su gran victoria. No cometan el error; Jesús es el único Vencedor verdadero que ha conquistado el mal. Puede ser un desafío para nosotros volver al ritmo de asistir a misa el domingo, especialmente porque todavía existen preocupaciones legítimas sobre Covid-19. Pero debemos hacer nuestro mejor esfuerzo. Es el día del Señor.

El mundo necesita el testimonio de los Cristianos más que nunca, incluso cuando se aleja cada vez más de Dios. Como dice San Pablo, "Trabajamos duro con nuestras propias manos. Cuando somos maldecidos, bendecimos; cuando somos perseguidos, lo soportamos; cuando nos difaman, respondemos amablemente. Nos hemos convertido en la escoria de la tierra, la basura del mundo--hasta este momento." 1Cor. 4: 12-13. Deja que sea. Jesús dice: "Bienaventurado eres cuando la gente te insulta, te persigue y dice falsamente todo tipo de mal contra ti por mi causa," Mateo 5:11. Seamos un Pueblo de Pascua.

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

## Mass Intentions

Santa Cruz Parishioners  
Ignacio & Hilda Vega & Walter Vega/R.I.P.  
Fernando Villaman/R.I.P.

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

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

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

Leon 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.  
Marcelo & Viola Martinez/R.I.P.

Holy Souls in Purgatory, most in need  
of our Prayers/R.I.P.  
Marcelo & Viola Martinez/R.I.P.

**Parish Collection March 21st, 2021**

**Collection: \$ 5,893.56**

*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** avemarias@hotmail.com ~

**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 our parish office.

~ **Masses** ~ Note these are suspended during COVID-19

**Sun. 6:30 am, 8 am (Spanish), 10 am, 12 noon, & 6 pm**

Mon. - Fri. 6:30 am & 8:00 am Sat. 8 am & 5:30 pm (Vigil)

**Confession:** Sat. 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

**Baptisms:** 2nd Sunday of the Month (English) / 4° Domingo del Mes (Español)

**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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