



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



No one has
greater love than this,
to lay down one's life
for one's friends.

JOHN 15:13

SIXTH
SUNDAY OF
EASTER

MAY 9, 2021

Have a Blessed Mother's Day

the loveliest MASTERPIECE
OF THE HEART OF GOD
IS THE HEART OF A *Mother*

St. Therese of Lisieux

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Remain in my love, John 15:9.

The Second Sunday of May is Mother's Day, a day of honoring the sacrifices mothers make for their children. It was President Woodrow Wilson who signed a measure in 1914 officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. While versions of Mother's Day are celebrated worldwide, traditions vary depending on the country. In Mexico, for example, Mother's Day is always celebrated on May 10. Some of the mothers of our parish, I suppose, are going to get a double celebration. Of course, every day should be Mother's Day, but it is nice to have a special day to honor mothers.

You can google the history of Mother's Day to learn how it came to be in its present form. I want to take a chance and offer a brief reflection of my own on what this day means to me. In these "modern times" with our "modern problems" it is risky for a man, especially an unmarried man, to talk about motherhood because it has to do with a woman's identity and vocation. In fact, to state that motherhood pertains to the identity and vocation of women is now debated. But I am going to stick with this view for the purpose of my reflection.

When I reflect on motherhood and what it means to me, I conclude that it is the most noble and necessary vocation there is. It is more important than any political office, any engineering or scientific work, any profession. In fact, the only thing that can equal the importance of the role of a mother is the role of a father, and, formerly, it was generally believed that the role of a mother was more important than that of a father.

Returning from Wyoming last week I was seated in front of a mother and her eighteen-month-old twin girls. The mother of the twins was assisted by her own mother. They had the seemingly impossible task of calming the babies. I say "seemingly impossible" because, in fact, the little girls were making a veritable racket, I mean, the loud noise of their wailing and crying. I had to brace myself. I did not dare look back. In fact, I never did see the mother, the grandmother, or the children because I did not look back in the process of exiting the plane. I must be honest and say it was unpleasant. But it got me thinking about how demanding the role of a mother is, especially in situations like the one this mother was in. And she had every right to travel with those children. The more I reflected about it, the more my admiration grew for this mother, outweighing the unpleasant sensations I was feeling. For one thing, I thought how uncomfortable the situation was for the mother. Yet, the mother never raised her voice, never showed any distress or agitation. She spoke in the most soothing voice to her babies. She remained calm so her babies could sense it. And there were blessed periods of silence. As we were deboarding there was a lovely chorus of praise coming from other women seated around us. As I said, I never looked behind me, so I did not even see the faces of these women giving their encouragement and compliments to the mother. I did not hear male voices in this chorus of praise. I wish I had turned around and complimented the mother and grandmother of the twins. What a coward.

Yes, we must have a national day to honor our mothers for the sacrifices they make for their children. The little incident I have written about here is for me only a little peek into the life of a mother. But it is my profound conviction that the vocation of motherhood is the most important in our human society. Although we can construe motherhood in various ways, the first meaning of motherhood is that of carrying, birthing, and rearing a child conceived in the mother's womb. Try as we may, there will never be any substitute for this kind of mother.

May God bless all mothers. May he grant eternal rest for our deceased mothers. **Amen.**

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



Our parish plays a vital role in the work of the Annual Catholic Appeal. We have an opportunity to act together as a Catholic family and impact the lives of others throughout the Diocese with selfless acts of love and generosity.

Your gifts and pledges impact our community by helping provide meals to the needy, masses and communion services for residents in nursing homes, hospices, and other facilities, by supporting the diocesan programs and services that share the teachings of the Church.

Please make your sacrificial commitment to the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal. Bishop Weisenburger is counting on the support of every parish family to meet our parish goal.

Text ACA to 41444 ~ OR ~ visit www.cathfnd.org/donate

Confessions Saturday, 3:30—5:00 pm (English/Español)

Confession in Church Courtyard. You must wear a mask.
Confesión en el patio de la iglesia. Debes usar una máscara.

Weekday Masses Mon-Sat 8:00 a.m. inside church

Saturdays

5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass inside church

Sundays

6:30 a.m. Mass inside church

8:00 a.m. Mass (Spanish) at Capilla de Guadalupe

10:00 a.m. Mass inside church

12:00 p.m. Live-stream and opened to the public Mass

5:00 p.m. Mass (Spanish) in the school field

6:00 p.m. Mass inside church

Please check our Website
santacruzchurchtucson.com
and Facebook page **Stephen Watson**
for the latest updates.

Want to receive direct messages from Fr. Stephen?

Sign up for Flock Notes:

text **santacruzaz** to **84576**

or go online to

santacruzchurch.flocknote.com

Mass Intentions

Jimmy, Jr. Vidal & Linda Vidal/R.I.P.
Antonia & Irene Bernal, Virginia Tellez,
Mercy Burruel & Rita Gastelo/R.I.P.

Santa Cruz Parishioners

In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Catherine Darmer/Improved Health
Oscar & Frank Leon/R.I.P.

Federico Acedo/R.I.P.

Catherine Darmer/Improved Health
Special Int./Hannah Rose

Catherine Darmer/Improved Health
Deacon Richard Ornelas/R.I.P.

In Honor of Saint Joseph
Catherine Darmer/Improved Health

In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Catherine Darmer/Improved Health

In Honor of Saint Joseph
Michele Reiner/Happy Birthday

Parish Collection May 2nd, 2021

Collection: \$ 4,883.78

*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** santacruzparish@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 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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