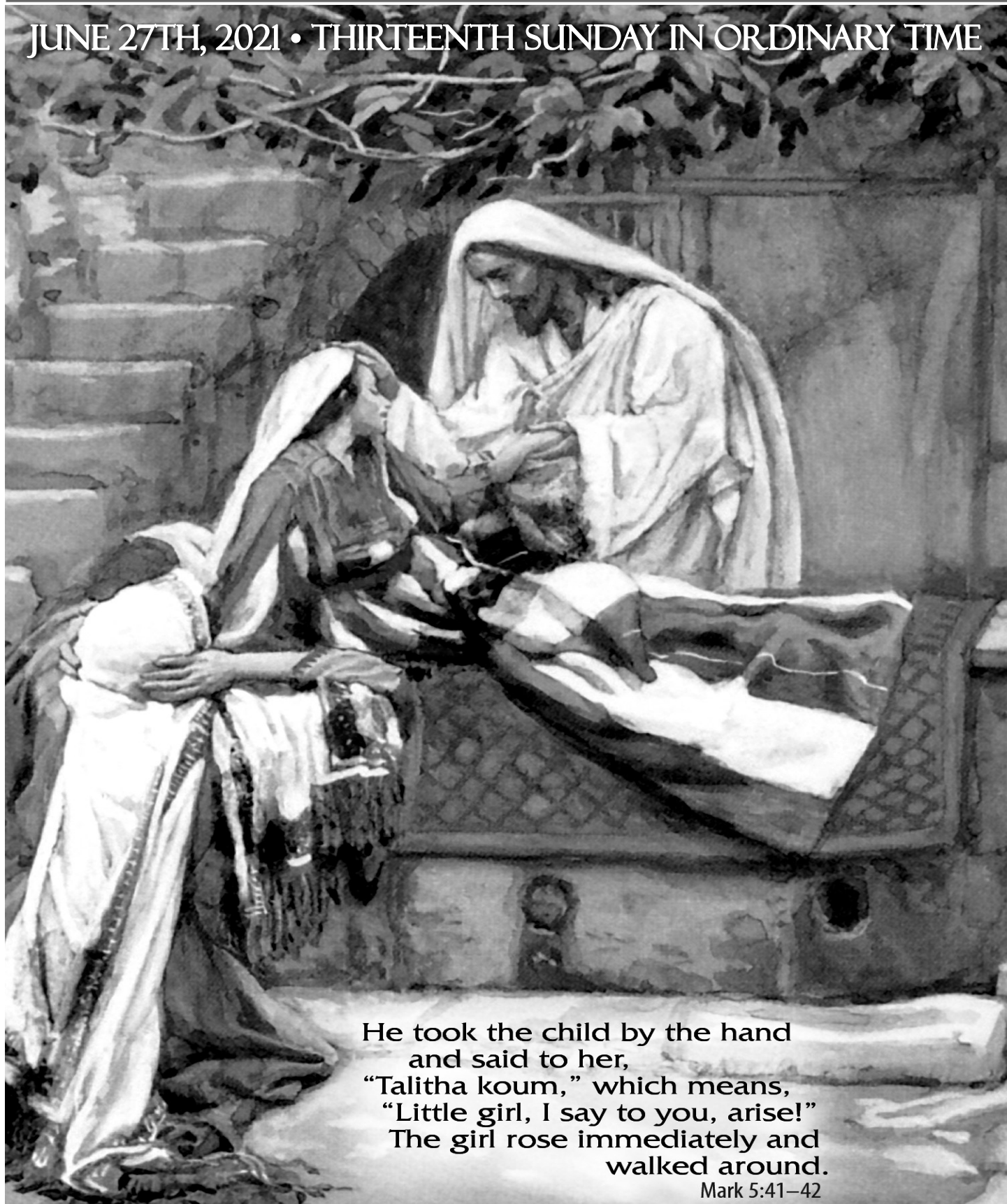




**SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS**



**JUNE 27TH, 2021 • THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



He took the child by the hand  
and said to her,  
“Talitha kum,” which means,  
“Little girl, I say to you, arise!”  
The girl rose immediately and  
walked around.

Mark 5:41-42

## Reflection for the 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

*God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living.*

The opening verse of the First Reading for this Sunday (Wisdom 1:13) reminds me of the first sentence of the encyclical letter of Pope St. John Paul II entitled *Gospel of Life*, (*Evangelium Vitae*, 1995). “The Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' message. Lovingly received day after day by the Church, it is to be preached with dauntless fidelity as “good news” to the people of every age and culture.” In this encyclical the Pope proposed that there be a Day of Life celebrated in the Church. “I propose that a Day for Life be celebrated each year in every country. Its primary purpose should be to foster in individual consciences, in families, in the Church and in civil society a recognition of the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. Particular attention should be drawn to the seriousness of abortion and euthanasia, without neglecting other aspects of life which from time to time deserve to be given careful consideration, as occasion and circumstances demand,” #85. January 22 is the day designated for this celebration by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. There is a special Mass “For Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life.”

In today's Gospel Jesus heals a woman who suffered from hemorrhages for 12 years. He also cures a child when a father pleads with him to come to his house because she is sick to the point of death. In fact, the little girl dies before Jesus arrives. When Jesus sees all the commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly, he says to them, “Why this commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep.” Then he takes the child by the hand and says to her, “*Talitha koum*,” which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise!” These acts of Jesus bear witness that he has come that we may have abundant life. “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” Jn. 10:10.

In the encyclical, *Gospel of Life*, Pope St. John Paul II contrasts the culture of life with the culture of death. “We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the ‘culture of death’ and the ‘culture of life.’ We are all involved, and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life,” #28. For this reason, it is essential “to bring the Gospel of life to the heart of every man and woman and to make it penetrate every part of society,” #80.

What can we do to promote the Gospel of life? “In this great endeavor to create a new culture of life we are inspired and sustained by the confidence that comes from knowing that the Gospel of life, like the Kingdom of God itself, is growing and producing abundant fruit (cf. Mk 4:26-29). We know that we can rely on the help of God, for whom nothing is impossible (cf. Mt 19:26). The Pope reminds us that, “great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer,” #100.

God fashioned all things that they might have being and life. He does not will any domain of the netherworld, or the culture of death, on earth. Let us love and honor the life of every person, at all stages of life, and work with perseverance and courage so that our time, marked by all too many signs of death, may at last witness the establishment of a new culture of life, the fruit of the culture of truth and of love. Let us bear witness to the *Gospel of life and to Jesus who is the Life*.

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

## HOLY HOUR

Please join us for a Holy Hour in Honor of Saint Joseph with Evening Prayer and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm in the church.



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, June 26th

- 8:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory, most in need or our prayers/R.I.P.  
5:30pm Ignacio & Hilda Vega & Walter Vega/R.I.P.

### Sunday, June 27th

- 6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners  
8:00am Special Int./Armando Gonzalez  
10:00am Adolfo Martinez/R.I.P.  
12:00pm Sam Longo/R.I.P.  
6:00pm Guadalupe Armendariz/R.I.P.

In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Sergio Yrigolla/Happy Birthday

Holy Souls in Purgatory,  
most in need or our prayers/R.I.P.  
Lily Contreras/R.I.P.

Special Int./Fr. John Ikponko  
Olga Aguilar/R.I.P.

In Honor of Saint Joseph  
Ernest P. Bujanda/R.I.P.

Trini Garcia/80th Happy Birthday  
Olivia Lopez/Improved Health



The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul is a liturgical feast in honor of the martyrdom in Rome of the apostles Saint Peter and Saint Paul, which is observed on June 29.

### Reflection:

*We would probably go to confession to Peter sooner than to any of the other apostles. He is perhaps a more striking example of the simple fact of holiness. Jesus says to us as he said, in effect, to Peter: "It is not you who have chosen me, but I who have chosen you. Peter, it is not human wisdom that makes it possible for you to believe, but my Father's revelation. I, not you, build my Church." Paul's experience of the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus was the driving force that made him one of the most zealous, dynamic, and courageous ambassadors of Christ the Church has ever had. But persecution, humiliation, and weakness became his day-by-day carrying of the cross, material for further transformation. The dying Christ was in him; the living Christ was his life.*

### Parish Collection June 20th, 2021

Collection: \$ 3,096.55

*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](http://santacruzchurchtucson.com) ~

~ Email [santacruzparish@hotmail.com](mailto: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

**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)

**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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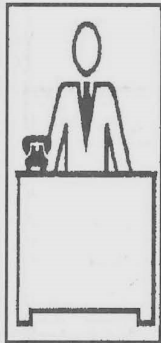
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