



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



God SHED HIS  
Grace  
ON THEE!



**The Fourth of July** is often used as a venue for politicians. Because there is so much incivility and animosity in politics today, I thought it would be good to reflect on President Abraham Lincoln's proclamation calling for a National Day of Prayer and Fasting. The proclamation was issued in the middle of this nation's Civil War. President Lincoln opposed the spread of slavery in the territories of the United States. The American Civil War began barely a month after he was inaugurated on March 4, 1861. The proclamation (with slight editing) is as follows:

**Whereas, the Senate of the United States.... has, by a resolution, requested the President to designate and set apart a day for National prayer and humiliation. And whereas it is the duty of nations as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon.... And, insomuch as we know that, by His divine law, nations like individuals are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world, may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war, which now desolates the land, may be but a punishment, inflicted upon us, for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole People? We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven.... But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us! It behooves us then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness. Now, therefore, I do, by this my proclamation, designate and set apart Thursday, the 30th day of April 1863, as a day of national humiliation, fasting and prayer. And I do hereby request all the People to abstain, on that day, from their ordinary secular pursuits, and to unite, at their several places of public worship and their respective homes, in keeping the day holy to the Lord, and devoted to the humble discharge of the religious duties proper to that solemn occasion. All this being done, in sincerity and truth, let us then rest humbly in the hope authorized by the Divine teachings, that the united cry of the Nation will be heard on high, and answered with blessings, no less than the pardon of our national sins, and the restoration of our now divided and suffering Country, to its former happy condition of unity and peace.**

In October of the same year as the Proclamation of a Day of Fasting and Prayer, Lincoln issued a proclamation of a Day of Thanksgiving which is the origin of our annual Thursday in November Thanksgiving Day. He says:

**And I recommend to them... with humble penitence for our national perverseness, to fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.**

In November of the same year, President Lincoln gave his Gettysburg Address which concluded with these unforgettable words:

**That from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.**

Finally, on this annual celebration of our Nation, let us reflect on Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address on March 4, 1865, perhaps the greatest speech ever given by an American President. It concludes with these now famous words:

**With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan--to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.**

President Lincoln was assassinated the following month, April 14, 1865.

Let us always give thanks to God, repent of our sins, and pray for justice and liberty for all.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

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

## Novena in Honor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

Wednesday, July 7th to Thursday, July 15th

Rosary at 6:30pm, Mass at 7pm each evening

Solemn Mass of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

July 16th at 7pm

There will be a Procession before Mass  
(details to be announced)

Services will incorporate English and Spanish

*O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein that you are my Mother.*

*O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity; there are none that can withstand your power. O help me and show me herein that you are my Mother.*

*Our Lady, queen and beauty of Carmel, pray for me and obtain my requests. Sweet Mother, I place this cause into your hands.*

*Oh bellísima Flor del Monte Carmelo, Viña Fructífera, Esplendor del Cielo, Santísima Madre del Hijo de Dios, Virgen Inmaculada, ayúdame en esta mi necesidad. Estrella del mar, ayúdame y muéstrame aquí que eres mi Madre.*

*Oh Santa María, Madre de Dios, Reina del Cielo y de la Tierra, te suplico humildemente desde el fondo de mi corazón que me socorras en esta necesidad; no hay nadie que pueda resistir tu poder. Oh, muéstrame aquí que eres mi Madre, oh María, concebida sin pecado, ruega por nosotros que recurrimos a ti.*

*Dulce madre, pongo esta causa en tus manos.*

## Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Bereavement Group

This is a new support ministry for people who have suffered a deep loss through the death of a loved one. Initial session is on Thursday, July 22nd at 6:30 pm. Please call the parish office at 520-623-3833 to register and for further information.

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.

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, July 3rd

8:00am Special Int./Fr. Liam Leahy

5:30pm Virginia Tellez & Antonia Bernal/R.I.P.

### Sunday, July 4th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am Gilbert Shea/R.I.P.

10:00am Alegria Isabella Cancino/Happy Birthday

12:00pm Oscar & Frank Leon/R.I.P.

6:00pm Special Int./Steven Gonzalez

In Honor of Saint Joseph

Hanh Pham/Improved Health

Holy Souls in Purgatory,

most in need or our prayers/R.I.P.

Special Int./Monsignor Thomas Cahalane

In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Stephanie Estavillo/Happy Birthday

In Thanksgiving to the Virgin Mary/Int. Khoi Tran

Special Int./Fr. Harry Ledwith

Lucy Lee Woo/R.I.P.

Olivia Lopez/Improved Health

## Parish Collection June 27th, 2021

Collection: \$ 5,058.87

Peter's Pence Collection: \$ 696.40

Total: \$ 5,755.27

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

*Thanking You for Your  
Service to Our Parish*

## 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: (520) 624-2093

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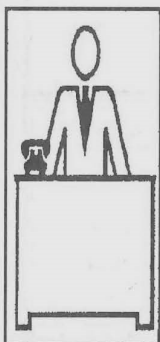
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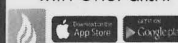
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