



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord . . .

*I will bring to my
holy mountain . . .*

for my house shall be called a
house of prayer for all peoples.

ISAIAH 56:6, 7



August 16, 2020

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I think we are all taken back by the Gospel of today. Why would Jesus treat the Canaanite woman so harshly? How could he ignore her, brush her off? Even refer to her as a “dog”? Him whom we all admire and love and look up to. That does not sound like the loving Jesus. Before I try to interpret the Gospel scene that we have today, it is important to look once more at the first reading from the great prophet Isaiah. In it, God pictures foreigners coming to His service; these God will bring to his “holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer” and furthermore, “my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples”. Even though the Jewish people were God’s chosen ones, God’s plan is for all people; His house , His kingdom is” a house of prayer for all peoples”.

Those words are clear, but the Jews did not listen well to Gods message. Jesus also had a hard time trying to open the hearts of the disciples and his followers to the fact that he came for all peoples. Even after the Resurrection and Pentecost, the acceptance of the Gentile converts became a bone of contention in the early Church. A brief glance at our world tells us how easily we focus on our own people and have a hard time opening to foreigners and strangers, people of different color, language or culture. Yet the message of God in the Old Testament and of Jesus in the Gospel is that we are all brothers and sisters, that God is Father of all; that no one is excluded from the saving love of our Savior. As Paul also states in our second reading “For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy on all”.

Scripture scholars try their best to interpret the Gospel in a favorable way by saying that Jesus saw himself as going to the lost sheep of the house of Israel to begin his ministry, working among his own people – a good way to start any community renewal. Others, seeing Jesus’ words as a kind of gentle teasing that was common among the rabbis of his time; it would have amused rather than giving offense. Other scholars would say Jesus was giving the woman a chance to express her faith - like teachers, who ask their students seemingly naïve questions in order to draw out the best in the students.

Maybe it is better not to bother trying to explain away the apparent harsh words of Jesus but to join him in celebrating and affirming the great faith of this wonderful woman – letting her remind us of people who have made a great impression on us, as she did on Jesus. Here at Santa Cruz many remember with great affection the faith and goodness of Bro Angel and of Fr Cyprian. We might remember the times when we too said, “You have great faith!”

As a woman, we might link her with Mary Magdalene and the Samaritan woman in John’s Gospel – they were the great evangelizers and a blessing in the ministry of Jesus. Two things are significant about the woman in today’s Gospel. She was a woman and a Canaanite – a foreigner. She belonged to two groups who were considered inferior by the religious leaders of the day and is representative of all those who by their greatness, challenge the false values of our culture. Jesus celebrated the woman’s faith and the first Christian communities recorded the story. These women are models for the Church at all times, including our own telling us that we must celebrate the great men and women, who by the example of their lives have shown up our petty prejudices – canonized saints and ordinary Christians.

The Canaanite woman’s concern was not for herself but entirely for her sick daughter. She was unconcerned about what others thought of her; she came out and started shouting. Committed people don’t mind making a nuisance of themselves. Then there is also the good humor which enabled her to turn Jesus’ harsh words to her own advantage, while keeping her dignity intact. May we all have the courage, faith, perseverance and dignity of this lovely woman, and merit to hear the words of Jesus when we pray “Great is your faith. Let it be done for you as you wish”

~ *Fr. David Costello, O.C.D.*

Since I am going to be away for most of August, there will be no changes to our present schedule of Masses until after Labor Day. Confessions are on Saturday, 3:30-5 p.m.

I encourage you to check the parish website or Facebook for updates. You can also call the parish office for information.

*Sign up for Flock Notes: Text **santacruzaz** to **84576** or go online to **santacruzchurch.flocknote.com**

Como voy a estar fuera durante la mayor parte de agosto, no habrá cambios en nuestro horario actual de misas hasta después del Día del Trabajo. Las confesiones son los sábados de 3:30- 5p.m.

Le recomiendo que consulte el sitio web de la parroquia o Facebook para obtener noticias actuales. También puede llamar a la oficina parroquial para obtener información.

*No se les olvide registrarse para nuestro Flock Notes: Envía la clave **santacruzaz** por texto al número **84576** o vaya al sitio web a **santacruzchurch.flocknote.com**

Santa Cruz Catholic Church Mass Times

Saturday, 6pm (English) Rosary followed by Mass in school field. Park N' Pray transmitted on radio station 96.9 FM.

Sunday, 9 am (English) outdoor Mass in school courtyard. Must wear a mask. Bring your own lawn chair, umbrella and hand-sanitizer.

Sunday, 11 am (English) Mass live streamed on Facebook. It can be viewed later on the Santa Cruz Parish Tucson channel on YouTube. No attendance is permitted at this Mass.

Sunday, 6 pm (Español) Rosary followed by Mass in school field. Park N' Pray transmitted on radio station 96.9 FM.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Sister Aletheia, O.C.D./R.I.P.
Aurora & Benjamin Reyes/R.I.P.

Santa Cruz Parishioners
Special Int./Virginia Montes
George Gino Lujan/R.I.P.
Annie Lopez/Happy 90th Birthday
Maria Carrillo & Deceased Family Members/R.I.P.

Francisco Islas/R.I.P.
Maggie Rodriguez/Happy Birthday

Teresa Kim Phan/R.I.P.
Henry S. Martinez/R.I.P.

Joseph Minh Phan/R.I.P.
Howard Kim/R.I.P.

Mother Rose of the Sacred Heart, O.C.D./R.I.P.
Special Int./Sister Mary Grace of God's
Merciful Love, O.C.D.

Robert Cuyegkeng/R.I.P.
Martha Ramirez Mesa/R.I.P.

Parish Collection August 9th, 2020

Collections: \$ 4,205.19

*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 avemariasc@hotmail.com ~

Business Hours Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Closed for lunch 12:45pm - 1:45pm

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.
Associate Pastor: Rev. Godfrey Leega Chandya, 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 ~

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