



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



AUGUST 22, 2021

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AS FOR ME AND
MY HOUSEHOLD,

*we will serve
the Lord.*

JOSHUA 24:15

Reflection for the Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God.” Jn. 6:69

The above verse from today’s Gospel concludes our proclamation of chapter 6 of the Gospel of St. John which began five Sundays ago with the story of the miracle about the multiplication of the loaves and fishes and the feeding of 5,000 men. After we heard about this miracle on the 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time, the following Sunday Jesus began His teaching on the Bread of Life. “I am the Bread of Life,” he said in verse 35. Then the next Sunday, we heard Him tell us that, “If anyone eats this bread he shall live forever; the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world,” Jn. 6:51. Last Sunday was the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary so we did not hear the gospel proclamation of the 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time when Jesus says, “My flesh is real food and my blood real drink. The man who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him,” Jn. 6:55-56.

This Sunday’s Gospel begins (Jn.6:60) with the reaction of the listeners to all that Jesus has said about the Bread of Life. “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” In response to Jesus’ teaching on the Bread of Life, “many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him,” Jn. 6:66. We should clearly understand that Jesus was talking about the Holy Eucharist when he spoke of feeding on His flesh and drinking His blood. It is the same body and blood He offered on the cross to the Eternal Father for the life of the world. It is the same body and blood we receive in Holy Communion which is the Eucharist.

Do we know why we go to Mass? We go to Mass to offer God the Body and Blood of His Son in the sacramental sacrifice which is at the heart of every Mass. This is why the Church teaches that the Holy Mass is the “source and summit” of our Christian life of faith. “Taking part in the Eucharistic sacrifice, which is the source and summit of the whole Christian life, they offer the Divine Victim to God, and offer themselves along with It. Thus, both by reason of the offering and through Holy Communion all take part in this liturgical service, not indeed, all in the same way but each in that way which is proper to himself.” In the Blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself.

Unhappily, according to a reliable survey, only one-third of Catholics believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, implying a similar lack of belief that the faithful are aware of what the Mass is, and that they are actively participating in Christ’s self-offering of the sacrifice of love that is being celebrated at Mass. Some of this is the fault of priests who have not celebrated the Mass in a dignified and proper way, and who have taken unjustified liberties with the rubrics for the celebration of Mass. Whatever the reason for the lack of faith and understanding regarding Mass and the Most Holy Eucharist, we must recover its true and proper meaning if we are going to be a vibrant Christian community and zealous disciples of Christ, Our Lord, who can keep the faith in these times we are living. “When the Son of Man comes will he find faith on earth?” Lk.18:8. Our Lord warns us that because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, Mt. 24:12.

Besides faithfully attending Mass on Sunday, the Lord’s Day, let us try to make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament at least once during the week and kneel before the tabernacle and tell the Lord how grateful you are for all that He has done for you. This will please Him immensely.

And let us journey together in faith,

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



Knights of Columbus #14139 Fr. Bach-Bro. Angel de Santa Cruz Church
MEN’S RETREAT

CALLING ALL FAITH-FILLED MEN AND YOUNG MEN. WE WILL BE HOSTING A MEN’S RETREAT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2021 BEGINS AT 9AM FINISHING WITH MASS AT 5:30PM THE CAPILLA DE GUADALUPE 409 E. 31st ST, 85713

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Fellowship

~ **SAVE THE DATE** ~

We are planning a Parish Social to celebrate our Patronal Feast Day of Santa Cruz Parish (Exaltation of the Holy Cross). The date will be **Sunday, September 12th, 2pm to 6pm.** Dinner will be served from **3pm to 4:30pm.** The place will be **Casino Ball Room.** This event is free.

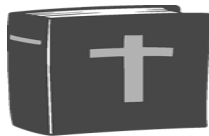


Religious Education

Sunday 21 & 28 from the CCD office

The CCD office will be open after the 10:00am and 12noon Masses on Sunday, August 21st and Sunday, August 28th for information on registration.

Registration for catechism classes will continue until September 17. Regular classes and First Holy Communion and First Confession classes will begin on Saturday, September 18. All Classes are limited in number of students because of distancing rules. Please contact the Religious Education Office at 520-882-9687, for information and to set your appointment to register your child. Teen Confirmation class will begin on October 2nd and parents need to call the office before you register to get the important information about what you need to register your teen.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 21st

8:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory, most in need of our Prayers/R.I.P.

5:30pm Martha Ramirez Meza/R.I.P.

Sunday, August 22nd

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am Joseph Rojel Valencia/R.I.P.

10:00am In Honor of the Queenship of Mary/
Int. Fr. Godfrey Chandya, O.C.D.

12:00pm Red Morales/R.I.P.

6:00pm Michael Lujan/R.I.P.

In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/
Int. Nieves Ortiz & Family

Carlos Hidalgo Gonzales/R.I.P.

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

Ignacio & Hilda Vega & Walter Vega/R.I.P.

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

Christopher Yrigolla/Happy Birthday

In Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Gilbert Shea/R.I.P.

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

In Honor of Saint Joseph

Parish Collection August 15th, 2021

Collection: \$ 5,582.80

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

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 that the 12 noon Mass is following full COVID protocols: social distancing, masks required and 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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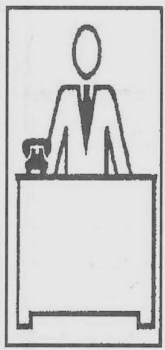
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