



SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



September 25, 2022

TWENTY-SIXTH
Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Lying at his door
was a poor man
named Lazarus.

Luke 16:20

Reflection for the Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich, 2Cor.8:9.

The Gospel for this Sunday tells the story of two men. One is rich and dresses in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. The other is a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores. I am sure you are familiar with the story. Like the story of the Prodigal Son which we heard a couple of Sundays ago, the story of poor Lazarus is only found in the Gospel of St. Luke. The story of the Good Samaritan, which we heard back on the 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time is also only in Luke. Let's take a moment to look at these three stories, unique to St. Luke's Gospel, to see how each story illuminates the others. The "Samaritan traveler" encounters a man alongside the road to Jericho beat up and half-dead and he is moved with compassion. The question the story addresses is, "Who is my neighbor?" The Samaritan is the true neighbor because he stopped to help the poor man who was half-dead. In the story of the prodigal son, it is the father who is prodigal in the way he lavishes mercy of his son. Now we come to today's story about Lazarus who was lying at the door of the rich man. He was covered with sores and would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. The rich man, like the people the prodigal son worked for, did not lift a finger to give him even scraps to eat. They both die but Lazarus rests in the bosom of Abraham whereas the rich man suffers tormenting flames. Abraham says, "My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented." It is, as they say, a reversal of fortunes. The words of Abraham echo the words spoken by the Lord when he said. "Woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort, Lk.6:24. In the Lord's Sermon on the Mount he also speaks of those who have had their reward in this present life because they were full of self-love and self-interest, cf. Mt. 6: 2,5.

What a sight to see this rich man who lived sumptuously on earth, piteously pleading for but a single drop of water momentarily to cool the tip of his tongue and begging for it from a beggar to whom he had refused the crumbs of his table. This man once clothed in fine linen and purple garments is now wrapped in fiery flames and tortured with a maddening thirst. This is not a pretty picture. Water, water, one single drop of water. But it is too late, too late. The day for mercy has passed into the darkness of eternal night. Dives, the name tradition gives this rich man, once drank from the cup of pleasure. He had plenty of good things and misused them; plenty of opportunities and neglected them; so many chances and lost them, notably the special one that had been brought to his very gates.

The story of the rich man is the story of lost opportunity to do good, to do the works of mercy. The inaction of Dives is a sad contrast to the action taken by the good Samaritan. It might have gone better for him if he had lost everything like the prodigal son who came to his senses at last.

Let us do good while there is still time. How terrible are the words Our Lord puts into the mouth of Abraham who says to Dives, "Between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours." May we never hear God say, "You fool, it is too late now."

Let us journey together in faith, hope and love.

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

Arizona Rosary Celebration

Holy Hour & Dinner the night before the celebration on

Friday, October 14, 2022 at
Our Mother of Sorrows Church,
(1800 S Kolb Road)

6:00 p.m. Holy Hour with Prayer,
Scripture, Guest Speaker
Fr. James Phalan, Rosary inside
the Church

7:15 p.m. Dinner in the Social
Hall, \$15 per person, *ticket required*

Arizona Rosary Celebration on
Saturday, October 15, 2022

At St. Augustine Cathedral
(192 S. Stone Avenue)

10:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.: Blessing
Procession, Music, Guest
Speaker, Rosary

Rachel's Vineyard (Tucson Area) - If the emotional and spiritual wounds of a past abortion took faith, love and joy from your life, sign up now for a Rachel's Vineyard retreat in the Tucson area, October 7-9, 2022. Visit: www.rachelsvineyardtucson.org or Call/Text 520-743-6777.

The **LAST DAY** for Registration for regular Catechism Classes will be **Thursday, September 29th**. You must call the Catechism Office (520) 882-9687, to **make an appointment** to register your child.

Information regarding class times will be given to you when you call.

Classes will **begin Saturday, September 24th**.

The R.E. office is open Tuesday to Saturday from 8 am to 2 pm.

ADULTS needing to receive sacraments, please call the Religious Education office for registration information.



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PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS
THE SANTA CRUZ PARISH/
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OUTREACH PROGRAM

'I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God!' - Queen Elizabeth II

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 24th

8:00am Ray Montaña/R.I.P.

5:30pm In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/
Int. Carlos & Lily Contreras/R.I.P.

Sunday, September 25th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am Jose Jesus Padilla/Improved Health

10:00am Juan Lopez, Jr./R.I.P.

12:00pm Alberto Cordero & Andy Frank Cordero/R.I.P.

6:00pm Jose Antonio Garcia/R.I.P.

Monday, September 26th

In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00am Aurelio Mills, Jr./R.I.P.

Tuesday, September 27th

Sister Yvonne of the Angels, O.C.D./R.I.P.

8:00am Special Int./Andrea Ibarra

Wednesday, September 28th

Special Int./The Aytona Family

8:00am Jose & Beatrice Bustamante/R.I.P.

Thursday, September 29th

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

8:00am Beatriz Gamez/Happy Birthday

Friday, September 30th

Mother Teresa Danvers of Jesus, O.C.D./R.I.P.

8:00am Esperanza Padilla &
Jose Jesus Padilla/Improved Health

Parish Collection September 18th, 2022

Collection: \$ 5,089.98

*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 ~

Sign up for Flock Notes text santacruzaz to 84576

Business Hours Monday - Friday 8:30am - 3:00pm

Pastor:

Rev. Stephen Watson, 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)

Confessions: 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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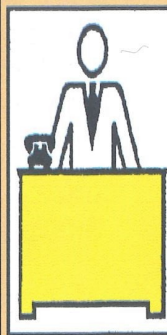
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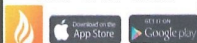


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