



Santa Cruz Roman Catholic Church
1220 S. 6th Avenue • Tucson, AZ 85713

**February
18
2024**

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for forty days,
tempted by Satan.
He was among wild beasts,
and the angels ministered to him.

MARK 1:12-13

**FIRST
SUNDAY OF
LENT**

Mission Statement:

"We, the members of Santa Cruz Parish, diverse in culture and traditions, united with the Body of Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, follow Christ through faithful witness and discipleship in family and community."

"Nosotros, los miembros de la Parroquia de Santa Cruz, diversa en cultura y tradición, unidos con el Cuerpo de Cristo y guiados por el Espíritu Santo, seguimos a Cristo a través del testimonio fiel y discipulado en familia y comunidad."

Masses / Misas

Saturday Vigil Mass

5:30 p.m. - English

Sunday / Domingo

6:30 a.m. - English

8:00 a.m. - Spanish

10:00 a.m. - English

12:00 noon - English

6:00 p.m. - English

Monday - Friday

Lunes - Viernes

6:30 a.m. - English

8:00 a.m. - English

Saturday / Sábado

8:00 a.m. - English

Confessions / Confesiones

Friday / Viernes

6:00 p.m.

Saturday / Sábado

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday

3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Parish Office / Oficina

Monday - Friday

Lunes - Viernes

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Pastor:

Rev. Marcos C. Velásquez

Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Simon Muema, S.D.S.

In Residence:

Rev. Showri R. Narra

Rev. George Bodziachowski

Deacon:

Rev. Mr. Ernesto Lujan

Santa Cruz Catholic Parish • 1220 South Sixth Avenue • Tucson, Arizona 85713 • Parish Office (520) 623-3833 • Fax (520) 903-2742

~ Website: www.santacruzchurchtucson.com • Email: santacruzparish@hotmail.com ~

A Parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Tucson

Message from the Pastor . . .

Dear Parishioners of Santa Cruz Parish,

We began the holy season of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent is a forty day time of preparation for the celebration of Easter. In other words, Lent is not a season for its own sake, it is meant to look forward to rejoicing and thanking God for the mercy He shows us in sending His Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, to die and rise again for us! Everything we do for Lent is supposed to help us to purify our souls and bodies so as to enable us to live as true sons and daughters of God in our world. So the question we often ask each other and ourselves at Lent, is: "What are you giving up for Lent?"

The Church recommends to us three traditional disciplines during Lent: Prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Prayer is simply conversation with God, talking to God, spending time with God. We can do this in a multiplicity of ways. Going to daily Mass is the best possible prayer we can engage in. At Mass we acknowledge our sins, we intercede and petition God for the needs of others as well as our own needs, we praise and thank God at the consecration and communion of the Holy Eucharist. At Mass, Jesus Himself is present in the reading of the Word and in the Holy Eucharist, Jesus Himself gives Himself to us when we receive Holy Communion pouring out His love and mercy upon our souls and fulfills the promise to remain with us all our days. Prayer is also necessary apart from Mass. Using the meditations found in the Little Black Book during Lent will help us each day to focus our thoughts on God. Other forms of prayer include the Stations of the Cross, prayed every Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the church, praying the rosary daily, prayerful reading of the Gospels, and visiting the church in silence are all good ways of entering more deeply into conversation with God.

Fasting and abstinence means giving up something good for the best. We are called to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, i.e., one full meal for the day. Abstinence means refraining from eating meat on Fridays during Lent. The things we give up during Lent have to be things that are in themselves good and licit for us. We choose to give these things up for a while and choose to join Jesus as He fasts and prays in the desert for forty days. When we give up things we begin to realize how cluttered our lives are, how much stuff, how much junk we have in our lives. Fasting and abstaining helps us to realize that Jesus Christ is one thing we cannot do without.

Almsgiving means sharing with the needy and the poor out of our own financial means. By giving away some of our monies we are making an act of faith that God will provide and multiply generously the sacrifice we make for the needy. Giving charitably will ultimately be rewarded by God who said: "Come inherit the kingdom prepared for you . . . for what you did for the least of my brothers and sisters you did for Me."

In Christ,

Fr. Velásquez

Mensaje del Párroco . . .

Estimados Feligreses de la Parroquia Santa Cruz,

Comenzamos el tiempo santo de Cuaresma el Miércoles de Ceniza. La Cuaresma es un tiempo de cuarenta días de preparación para la celebración de la Pascua. ¡En otras palabras, la Cuaresma no es una temporada en sí misma, sino que está destinada a regocijarnos y agradecer a Dios por la misericordia que nos muestra al enviar a Su Hijo, Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, para morir y resucitar por nosotros! Se supone que todo lo que hacemos durante la Cuaresma nos ayudará a purificar nuestras almas y cuerpos para permitirnos vivir como verdaderos hijos e hijas de Dios en nuestro mundo. Entonces, la pregunta que nos hacemos a nosotros mismos y a unos y a otros durante la Cuaresma es: "¿A qué estás renunciando durante la Cuaresma?"

La Iglesia nos recomienda tres disciplinas tradicionales durante la Cuaresma: oración, ayuno y limosna. La oración es simplemente una conversación con Dios, hablar con Dios, pasar tiempo con Dios. Podemos hacer esto de muchas maneras. Ir a Misa diaria es la mejor oración posible que podemos hacer. En la Misa reconocemos nuestros pecados, intercedemos y pedimos a Dios por las necesidades de los demás así como por las nuestras, alabamos y agradecemos a Dios en la consagración y comunión de la Sagrada Eucaristía. En la Misa, Jesús mismo está presente en la lectura de la Palabra y en la Sagrada Eucaristía, Jesús mismo se entrega a nosotros cuando recibimos la Sagrada Comunión derramando su amor y misericordia sobre nuestras almas y cumple la promesa de permanecer con nosotros todos nuestros días. La oración también es necesaria aparte de la Misa. Utilizar las meditaciones que se encuentran en el Pequeño Libro Negro durante la Cuaresma nos ayudará cada día a centrar nuestros pensamientos en Dios. Otras formas de oración incluyen el Vía Crucis, rezado todos los viernes a las 6:30 p.m. en la iglesia, rezar el rosario diariamente, leer con oración los Evangelios y visitar la iglesia en silencio son buenas maneras de entrar más profundamente en una conversación con Dios.

El ayuno y la abstinencia significan renunciar a algo bueno para el bien. Estamos llamados a ayunar el Miércoles de Ceniza y el Viernes Santo, es decir, una comida completa para el día. La abstinencia significa abstenerse de comer carne los viernes durante la Cuaresma. Las cosas que dejamos durante la Cuaresma tienen que ser cosas que sean en sí mismas buenas y lícitas para nosotros. Elegimos renunciar a estas cosas por un tiempo y elegimos unirnos a Jesús cuando ayuno y oro en el desierto durante cuarenta días. Cuando renunciamos a cosas empezamos a darnos cuenta de lo desordenadas que están nuestras vidas, de cuántas cosas tenemos, cuánta basura tenemos en nuestras vidas. Ayunar y abstenerse nos ayuda a darnos cuenta de que Jesucristo es algo sin lo que no podemos vivir.

Dar limosna significa compartir con los necesitados y los pobres por nuestros propios medios económicos. Al donar parte de nuestro dinero, estamos haciendo un acto de fe en que Dios proveerá y multiplicará generosamente el sacrificio que hacemos por los necesitados. Dar caritativamente será recompensa por Dios, quien dijo: "Venid a heredar el reino preparado para vosotros . . . porque lo que hicisteis por el más pequeño de mis hermanos lo hicisteis por Mí."

En Cristo,

Padre Velásquez

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday

3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m. - Exposition

3:00 p.m. - Divine Mercy Chaplet

6:00 p.m. - Confessions

9:00 p.m. - Benediction

New Santa Cruz Parish Council Meeting

March 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

A parish council is formed in each parish as a means of communication between the parishioners and the pastoral leadership of the parish. Advisory in nature, the parish council will serve in assisting the pastor in planning for the stability and growth of the parish by attending to the spiritual and moral needs of the people.

All the leaders of the parish groups are asked to attend this meeting. Also any one who is interested in serving as a representative of the parishioners is also asked to attend.



Santa Cruz Parish is offering Fish Fry Friday's sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Join us every Friday evening during Lent from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Carmelite Hall.



Stations of the Cross

You are invited to join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6:30 p.m. in the church.



Followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Vía Crucis

Los invitamos a que nos acompañen al vía crucis todos los viernes durante la cuaresma a las 6:30 p.m. Seguido por misa a las 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Collection - February 10-11, 2024

Sunday Collection: \$4,778.87
 On-Line Giving: \$ 435.00
 Total Sunday Offertory: \$5,208.87

Weekly Expenses:

* Expenses: \$6,000.25
 Income: - \$5,208.87
 Deficit: (\$791.38)

**Weekly operation expenses include utilities, payroll, maintenance and insurance.*

Your generous donations are greatly appreciated and are definitely needed. Thank you and God bless!



Elijah's Knights

"WITH ZEAL HAVE I BEEN ZEALOUS FOR THE LORD GOD OF HOSTS"
KINGS 19:10

Join us for our Youth Group meeting every Sunday in the Carmelite Hall.

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Bereavement Support

SUPPORT FOR BEREAVEMENT AND GRIEF

Bereavement Group for those who are dealing with the painful loss of a loved one. Our group will meet this month on **Thursday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.** Come find comfort and support from others who share the same experience.

El Grupo de Duelo para quienes están sufriendo la dolorosa pérdida de un ser querido. Nuestro grupo se reunirá este mes el **jueves, 22 de noviembre a las 6:30 p.m.** Venga a encontrar consuelo y apoyo de otras personas que comparten la misma experiencia.

Santa Cruz Catholic School

Enrollment 2023-2024 Santa Cruz Catholic School is always accepting inquiries for enrollment in the 2023-2024 school year! Please consider sending your child to Santa Cruz Catholic School! The mission of Santa Cruz Catholic School is to teach students to love God, self and others, serve as a Christian Community, and develop to their full academic potential. We are proud to be part of a century-long legacy of providing a high-quality Catholic education to as many students as possible! We have scholarships available to cover nearly all of tuition costs for families of all income levels. Please contact Ms. Josie to assist you with scholarships and registration at (520) 624-2093 (<https://santacruzschool.org>)

Matrícula 2023-2024 Santa Cruz La Escuela Católica siempre acepta consultas para la inscripción del año escolar 2023-2024!

Santa Cruz Parish 67th Fiesta De La Familia 2024 Saturday, April 20th & Sunday April, 21st

Donations are welcomed. The following donations are needed for the Fiesta:

- 400-3 SECTION FOAM PLATES
- 300- PAPER PLATES
- 500-16 oz. SOLO CUPS
- 300-12 oz. FOAM CUPS
- 300- FOAM BOWLS OR BOATS FOR NACHOS
- 2 BOXES OF FORKS
- 5 TO 6 BOXES OF FOIL SHEETS
- 4 BOXES OF EXTRA LARGE TRASH BAGS
- 5 BOXES OF PLASTIC GLOVES
- 10 SMALL INDIVIDUAL HAND SOAP

The committee would like to say **THANK YOU** for any help. Items can be taken to the parish office.

Enter the Parish Raffle!!!

Raffle tickets have been mailed out, please be on the lookout. If you didn't get yours, please call the office or stop by.

SANTA CRUZ PARISH 67th ANNUAL FIESTA
Celebrating our 105th year!

APRIL 20th & 21st, 2024
 SAT 1PM TO 11PM • SUN 1PM TO 8:30PM

1st Prize \$5,000 • 2nd Prize \$1,500
 3rd Prize \$500
 DRAWING ON SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST, 2024

\$5.00 DONATION (NOT NECESSARY TO ENTER DRAWING)
 WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

NAME _____
 PHONE _____

News from the Carmelite Shrine Committee -

The Disalced Carmelite Shrine Committee will be holding a yard sale here at Santa Cruz in March, more details to come. For now, if you have items you wish to donate to the yard sale, you may drop them off at the parish office. If you would like for us to pick up your donations, please leave a message at (520) 882-8775 to arrange the pickup. Thank you!

You Are Invited



At Santa Cruz Catholic School

Join us on...

Monday, February 19, 2024
 &
 Tuesday, February, 20, 2024

What to bring with you:

- ★ Current immunization Records
- ★ Official Copy of Birth Certificate
- ★ Official Copy of Baptismal Certificate

If you have any questions or are unable to attend please call Erica at 520.624.2093. We will be happy to provide you with a tour and information.



PRAY



FAST



GIVE

Support our Parish

Are you interested in advertising your business and promoting your company with a trusted resource that parish families use every day? If you are, please contact Hada Reyes, your bulletin publisher here at Santa Cruz (520-623-3833)



Grave plots for sale...
in prime location facing Prince Road
Holy Hope Catholic Cemetery in
Tucson, Arizona—Section 8 North
(close to office and under
big tree for shade)
Row 7, Graves 8, 9, 11
Individual Price: \$3,800 ea.
Price for all three: \$11,250
Seller will pay transfer fee
For more information
or inquiries contact:
Rose Vega cell (520) 240-2986
email: toulakat60@gmail.com
or barcelo54@aol.com

Your advertisement supports the publications of our weekly bulletin and you attract customers!



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Annual Catholic Appeal 2024

Please make a gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal, today. Together, let us *Live the Mission with a Generous Heart!* Make your gift today at www.cathfnd.org/donate

Campaña Católica Anual 2024

Por favor haga una donación a la Campaña Católica Anual hoy. *iJuntos, vivamos la Misión con Corazón Generoso!* Haga su donación hoy en www.cathfnd.org/donate.

Annual Catholic Appeal 2024

Entire Diocese Goal: \$4 million

Parish Goal: **\$40,340**

Donor Participation Goal:

Donors _____

Pledges to Date: _____

Total Amount: _____

0% of Goal

Celebrating 2024 Marriage Anniversaries

Bishop Edward Weisenburger will celebrate the Mass for Marriage Anniversaries for 2024 on **Sunday, March 3, 2024, at 2:30 PM at St. Augustine Cathedral.** He will be available before the Mass to have pictures taken with each couple. More information to follow upon registration. If you have any questions, contact Ofelia James ojames@diocesetucson.org

PLEASE REGISTER BY:

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

ONLINE REGISTRATION: <https://forms.office.com/r/KmvdLX6Kbi>



Marriage Anniversary Mass 2024



HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

- Call 911 to make a report.
- If the abuse happened in Arizona, call the Police or Sheriff's Office in the specific area. If the abuse happened in any other state, call the Police or Sheriff's Office in the specific area of that state.
- Call the diocese in which the abuse happened. If the abuse happened in the Diocese of Tucson, call the Victim Assistance Program of the Diocese of Tucson 520-623-0344 or (1-800-234-0344 in Arizona) and/or the Office of Child, Adolescent and Adult Protection of the Diocese of Tucson at 520-838-2513.

Saturday, February 17th

8:00 a.m. Special Int./Brian Rucker

5:30 p.m. Consuelo Contreras/R.I.P.

Sunday, February 18th

6:30 a.m. Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00 a.m. Rosario Ruiz/Happy Birthday

10:00 a.m. Alex Amaro/Happy Birthday

12:00 noon Olga Mendibles & Betina Arvizu/
Improved Health

6:00 p.m. Christian Cancino/Happy Birthday

Monday, February 19th

6:30 a.m. Special Intention—Hermana Virginia

8:00 a.m. Berry Sims/R.I.P.

Tuesday, February 20th

6:30 a.m. In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/
In Memory of Carlos & Lily Contreras/R.I.P.

8:00 a.m. Special Int./Persilla Allen

Wednesday, February 21st

6:30 a.m. Mike Flores & Johnny Lopez, Jr./R.I.P.

8:00 a.m. Patricia Armenta/R.I.P.

Thursday, February 22nd

6:30 a.m. Special Int./James Felix & Joe Felix

8:00 a.m. Diana Serino/R.I.P.
& Judy Moya/R.I.P.

Friday, February 23rd

6:30 a.m. Deceased Family Members of the Ayala &
Casanova Families/R.I.P.

8:00 a.m. Alfred Catalan/R.I.P.

7:00 p.m. Isabel Verdugo/R.I.P.