




SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS



Seventh
SUNDAY
in Ordinary Time

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FEBRUARY
20
2022



“To you who hear I say,
love your enemies,
do good to those who hate you,
bless those who curse you,
pray for those who mistreat you.”

Luke 6:27

Reflection for the 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, Lk.6:27-29.

Loving one's enemies and turning the other cheek are hallmarks of the followers of Christ, or, at least, they are supposed to be. Oh, how difficult it is to practice the teachings of our Divine Teacher and Savior, Jesus Christ. At last Sunday's Gospel proclamation, we listened to the Divine Teacher say, "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy on that day!" What kind of teaching is this? It almost seems unnatural and inhuman. The lessons we get from politics, culture and entertainment these days is that we should avenge ourselves for the harm or injustice done to us. And why not? In fact, revenge is not a modern passion. Revenge has played its part in all of human history. That is why Jesus' teaching is so, well, revolutionary. But is it unnatural and inhuman? No, it is not. Jesus, the Son of God, assumed our humanity to redeem our humanity, to rehabilitate our human nature. Love and forgiveness are the means He uses and wants us to use for His work of redemption. Yes, this is the essence of Christianity- to redeem the human person and restore dignity to the human family as God always intended. The prophecy of Zechariah about his son, St. John the Baptist, speaks for all Christians when he says, "You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Highest; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace."

The love that can forgive sins is a witness to the Savior Jesus Christ who died to save us from our sins. As disciples of Christ this is our mission. Does the practice of the Christian religion mean that we ignore, or are unconcerned about the injustice in this world and the inhumanity that is so characteristic of our fallen nature? Does it mean that we can not be "warriors for justice?" No, it does not. Christian discipleship entails the practice of every virtue, and justice is the queen of moral virtues. But Christian discipleship distinguishes itself by the supreme value of love of one's enemies. Why? Because we are all sinners and fall short of the glory of God. My enemy here on earth may be my boon companion in heaven. We are not so different from our "enemies". We are human and so are they. We are sinners and so are they. By praying for our enemies, we are acknowledging this truth. Our Savior Jesus Christ is their Savior too. We pray that they will accept His love. Please, God, we ourselves have accepted your love.

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



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

"BLESSED ARE THE CLEAN OF HEART, FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD"
- MATTHEW 5:8

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a men's retreat and are inviting all men and young men to attend.

Saturday, February 26th, 2022
Begins at 9:00am finishing with Mass at 5:30pm
Capilla de Guadalupe
409 E. 31st Street

The day will consist of:
Prayers, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession,
Rosary, Inspirational Talks
and will conclude with Holy Mass.

Food and refreshments will be provided.
To help ensure enough food please rsvp your headcount by texting (520) 789-8203. Thank you.

Ash
Wednesday

Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022
Keep an eye out for our
Ash Wednesday and Lenten
schedules coming soon.



2022 Annual Catholic Appeal
Together in Hope and Charity
Our parish plays a vital role in the work of the Annual Catholic Appeal. We have an opportunity to act together as a Catholic family and impact the lives of others throughout the Diocese with selfless acts of love and generosity.

Your gifts and pledges impact our parish community in ways that may not seem obvious. Every parish benefits from the ACA, including our parish. **Learn more at www.cathfnd.org/aca.**

Please make your sacrificial commitment to the 2022 Annual Catholic Appeal by May 31, or as soon as you are able.

"... so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another" ~ Romans 12:5

Text ACA to 41444 ~ OR ~ visit www.cathfnd.org/donate

Santa Cruz School News

Santa Cruz Catholic School Now Enrolling for the 2022-2023 School Year!

Santa Cruz Catholic School has been serving the Tucson community for over 100 years! We work hard to provide a high-quality Catholic education to as many students as possible. If you or someone you know is interested in joining our Santa Cruz family, please contact our Scholarship Director, Erica Otero at (520) 624-2093 or eotero@santacruzschool.org OR you can visit our website at: (santacruzschool.org)

Scholarships are available! We look forward to serving you and your family!



Altar Society of Santa Cruz

Is searching for creative reliable volunteers to help care for and decorate the altar. Contact the parish office 623-3833 for more info.

WANT TO BE AN ALTAR SERVER?

Children, youth, and young adults are invited to serve Jesus and the clergy at the altar as Altar Servers. For more information please contact the parish office at 520-623-3833.



— Catholic Men —

Support the Church and your community by joining the **Knights of Columbus Fr. Ignacio / Bro. Angel Santa Cruz Council 14139** For more information on upcoming meetings please call the parish office 520-623-3833.

santacruzchurchtucson.com

Facebook [Stephen Watson](#)

Flock Notes text [santacruzaz](#) to 84576

or go online to

santacruzchurch.flocknote.com

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 - 4:30pm

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

Pastor:
In Residence:

Rev. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.
Rev. David Costello, O.C.D.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 19th

8:00am Antonio Amaro/R.I.P.

5:30pm Ramon A. Mendibles &
Jose G. Bernal/R.I.P.

Sunday, February 20th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am In Thanksgiving to San Antonio

10:00am Alfred Catalan/R.I.P.

12:00pm Marcella & Gabriel Zepp/R.I.P.

6:00pm Epifanio Valenzuela, Jr./Improved Health

Monday, February 21st

Special Int./Carmel in Boston, MA

8:00am Michael Felix/R.I.P.

Tuesday, February 22nd

In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00am Judith Arredondo/Happy Birthday

Wednesday, February 23rd

Florence Schroeder/R.I.P.

8:00am In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus/
Int. Nieves Ortiz & Family

Thursday, February 24th

Phillip & Lucy Woo/R.I.P.

8:00am Fr. Kevin McArdle, O.C.D. &
Olga Patino/R.I.P.

Friday, February 25th

In Thanksgiving to Saint Joseph

8:00am Rosemary M. Valenzuela/Improved Health

Parish Collection February 13th, 2022

Collection: \$ 5,233.70

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

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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