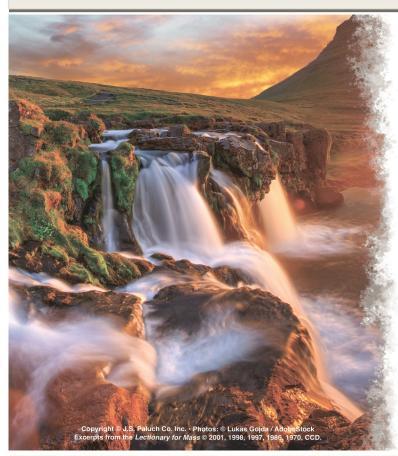


SANTA CRUZ ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH DISCALCED CARMELITE FRIARS





MAY 8 2022

For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water.

Revelation 7:17

FOURTH SUNDAY

Easter



Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Easter 2022 *My sheep hear my voice*, Jn 10:27.

The Fourth Sunday of the Easter Season is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The Gospel Proclamation is always a passage from the Tenth Chapter of the Gospel of St. John. It is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. And this year, because Good Shepherd Sunday falls on the second Sunday of May, it is Mother's Day. Thinking of all these things I want to write about the Good Shepherd, my vocation, and my mother.

The Greek work *kalos*, translated *good* (*shepherd*), in John 10:14, also means beautiful. I love to imagine the good Shepherd as beautiful. I began to hear His voice when I was young and working on a ranch in Wyoming. It is difficult to describe what I mean by "hear His voice," but reflecting on how I came to be a Carmelite priest, hearing a call, a voice, is the best way to describe it.

I have been asked if my parents had anything to do with my vocation. Of course they did, but they never spoke to me about the priesthood or religious life. I jokingly say the only thing my mother did (my father was not Catholic) was name me Stephen, which was the name of her uncle, Fr. Stephen Leo Ahern, CSSR. He was a Redemptorist priest. In fact, she had two uncles who were priests. The other was her mother's brother, Fr. John Cotter. He was a diocesan priest in upstate New York. When I did announce to my mother at the age of twenty-three that I was going to pursue a religious vocation with the intention of becoming a priest, she said, "Stephen, I hope this is not another one of your things." Honestly, I am not sure what she meant or even if I remember this correctly, but there were a few years after high school when I was away from the Church and certainly did not seem to be going in the direction of the priesthood. But I do recognize the role of my parents in my vocation. Afterall, they raised me as a Catholic and were faithful to their own vocation. It seems the older I get, the, more I appreciate my parents and thank God for giving me to them. Parents often do not realize that they are working for God.

There is a program called *The Voice*. It is an American singing reality competition television series. I have never watched it, but it is part of popular culture. Anyway, the very notion of **the Voice** is intriguing. Jesus says the sheep hear his voice. Think about the voice of Jesus. Do you hear it? In the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola one of the recurring petitions is to pray for the grace not to be deaf to the Lord's call, but prompt and diligent to accomplish his most holy will. If there is a call, then there must be a voice. We can put it this way, "I pray not to be deaf to the voice of the Lord calling me."

Looking back, I realize that the Lord's voice was calling me long before I was twenty-three. But I was deaf. The most important thing in life is to hear the voice of the Lord and go where he leads. He leads us to green pastures.

Let us be still and quiet so we can more easily hear the **Voice** of the Good Shepherd. *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures,* Psalm 23.

May mothers always teach their children to listen and recognize the voice of the Good Shepherd. God bless the Mothers of Santa Cruz Parish.

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



5-50 BOX OF FACE MASKS ON THE DAY OF FIESTA:

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is collecting slightly used house hold items and clothing. If you would like to donate please call Yolanda Hernandez 440-3615 after 4:00 pm for pick up and any questions.





Wishing everyone a Beautiful & Blessed Mother's Day weekend!

World Day of Prayer for Vocations May 8, 2022

The purpose of World Day of Prayer for Vocations is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life.



While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life. This year 2022 marks the 59th Anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.



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, May 7th

8:00am Michele Reiner/Happy Birthday5:30pm Deceased Mothers of the Bernal & Burruel Families/R.I.P.

Sunday, May 8th

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners

8:00am Oscar & Frank Leon/R.I.P.

10:00am Analisa Frausto/Happy Birthday

12:00pm Eva Cota & Amalia Cota/R.I.P.

6:00pm Federico Acedo/R.I.P.

Monday, May 9th

In Thanksgiving to Saint Joseph 8:00am Aurelia Armenta/R.I.P.

Tuesday, May 10th

Kim Tran/R.I.P.

8:00am Special Int./Fr. David Costello, O.C.D.

Wednesday, May 11th

Michel Patron/R.I.P.

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

Thursday, May 12th

In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadalupe 8:00am John Arrilliaga/R.I.P.

Friday, May 13th

In Thanksgiving to Saint Joseph

8:00am In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/ Int. Carlos & Lily Contreras/R.I.P.

> Parish Collection May 1st, 2022 Collection: \$ 4,845.07

Home Mission Appeal: \$ 1,349.55

Thanking You for Your Service to Our Parish

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)

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 FINDaPARISH.com

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