



## 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**  
Sábado Vigilia

5:30 p.m. - English

**Sunday / Domingo**

6:30 a.m. - English

8:00 a.m. - Español

10:00 a.m. - English

12:00 noon - English

6:00 p.m. - English

**Monday - Saturday**  
Lunes - Sábado

6:30 a.m. - English

8:00 a.m. - English

Confessions /  
Confesiones

**Saturday / Sábado**

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

**Parish Office / Oficina**

Monday - Friday  
Lunes - Viernes

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



Pastor

Rev. Marcos C. Velásquez

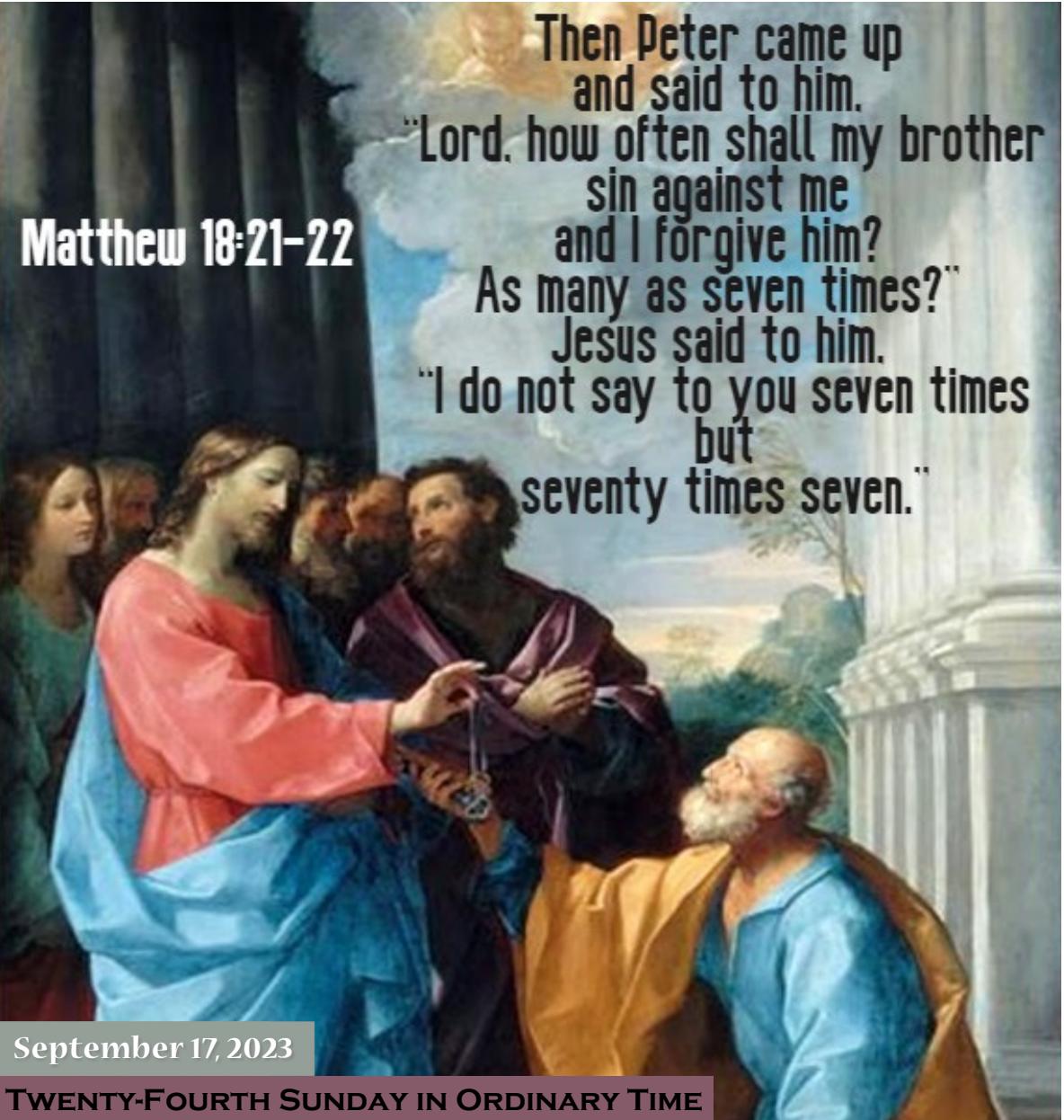
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Simon Muema, S.D.S.

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Ernesto Lujan

**Matthew 18:21-22**



Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times but seventy times seven."

**September 17, 2023**

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

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

~ Website: [www.santacruzchurchtucson.com](http://www.santacruzchurchtucson.com) • Email: [santacruzparish@hotmail.com](mailto:santacruzparish@hotmail.com) ~

A Parish in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Tucson

## **Message from the Pastor . . .**

Dear Parishioners of Santa Cruz Parish,

In my first few weeks here at Santa Cruz Parish, I have met a good number of parishioners who have shared with me that they have been lifelong members of this parish. They either went to school at Santa Cruz School or sent all their children to the school. They grew up in the neighborhood when it was truly a neighborhood, and they knew who their neighbors were. They talk about the neighborhood chapels of St. Anthony and Our Lady of Guadalupe and the devotions they practiced in these holy places. I have heard about the hundreds of children who were in the catechism program (C.C.D.), and how they were involved in the different manifestations of a youth group (C.Y.O., Search). When I look at the nature of our parish today, we have to admit things have definitely changed.

One of the tasks before us, as I wrote about a few weeks ago, is to conduct a parish census. What is a parish census? A census is the procedure of systematically acquiring, recording and calculating population information about the members of a given population. This is a dictionary definition of a census. It would apply to the parish as systematically counting the number of parishioners who reside within the boundaries of Santa Cruz Parish, but is not limited to the physical boundaries, because as we all know, we have many parishioners who have Santa Cruz Parish as their parish but do not physically live within the boundaries of the parish. Our parish census will include anyone who identifies and claims Santa Cruz Parish as their parish.

Because the neighborhood has changed so drastically, it is imperative that we count the number of Catholics who actually reside within the boundaries of the parish. We need to reach out to these people who may not be lifelong Tucson residents, who may have only recently moved here and perhaps they don't even know that Santa Cruz Parish is their parish. We need to invite them to come to the church and form part of the family of God as sons and daughters and help them to feel and become a member of the family of God. Offering them spiritual help, we might be able to regularize marriages, baptize children who are not yet baptized, help for their children's preparation for First Holy Communion, Confirmation and ongoing growth in the Catholic faith. Invite them to join in the life of our parish.

The census, however, begins at home. Before we reach out to others, we need to take a good accounting of our own house. During the last week of this month, September, and the first weeks of October we will be encouraging everyone to "re-register" with the parish, to update information or to register for the first time. All information provided will be strictly guarded and not shared with any other organization or business. After this stage of the census we will need to canvas the various neighborhoods of the parish. To do this we will be looking for volunteers who would be willing and able to go knocking on doors, two-by-two. We are hoping for about twenty (20) to thirty (30) volunteers to help us accomplish this very important phase of the parish census. Training would be provided to all who volunteer to visit and invite our new friends to the parish.

I am praying that we will be able to "count" on you to do what you can to help us conduct a successful parish census.

In Christ,  
Fr. Velásquez

## **Mensaje del Párroco . . .**

Estimados feligreses de la Parroquia de Santa Cruz,

En mis primeras semanas aquí en la Parroquia de Santa Cruz, he conocido a un buen número de feligreses que me han compartido que han sido miembros de esta parroquia durante toda su vida. O fueron a la Escuela de Santa Cruz o enviaron a todos sus hijos a la escuela. Crecieron en el barrio cuando realmente era un barrio y conocían a sus vecinos. Hablan de las capillas de San Antonio y Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y las devociones que practicaban en esos santos lugares. He oído hablar de los cientos de niños que estaban en el programa de catequismo (C.C.D.), y cómo se involucraban en las diferentes manifestaciones de un grupo juvenil (C.Y.O., Buscar). Cuando observó la naturaleza de nuestra parroquia hoy, tenemos que admitir que las cosas definitivamente han cambiado.

Una de las tareas que tenemos por delante, como escribí hace unas semanas, es realizar un censo parroquial. ¿Qué es un censo parroquial? Un censo es el procedimiento de adquirir, registrar y calcular sistemáticamente información poblacional sobre los miembros de una población determinada. Esta es la definición del diccionario del censo. Se aplicaría a la parroquia contar sistemáticamente el número de feligreses que residen dentro de los límites de la Parroquia de Santa Cruz, pero no se limita a los límites físicos, porque como todos sabemos, tenemos muchos feligreses que tienen la Parroquia de Santa Cruz como su parroquia pero no viven físicamente dentro de los límites de la parroquia. Nuestro censo parroquial incluirá a cualquier persona que identifique y reclame la Parroquia de Santa Cruz como su parroquia.

Debido a que el vecindario ha cambiado tan drásticamente, es imperativo que contemos el número de católicos que realmente residen dentro de los límites de la parroquia. Necesitamos acercarnos a estas personas que tal vez no hayan sido residentes de Tucson de toda la vida, que tal vez se hayan mudado aquí recientemente y tal vez ni siquiera sepan que la Parroquia de Santa Cruz es su parroquia. Necesitamos invitarlos a venir a la iglesia y formar parte de la familia de Dios como hijos e hijas y ayudarlos a sentirse y convertirse en miembros de la familia de Dios. Ofreciéndoles ayuda espiritual, podremos regularizar matrimonios, bautizar a niños que aún no están bautizados, ayudar a sus hijos en la preparación de la Primera Comunión, la Confirmación y el crecimiento continuo en la fe católica. Invitarlos a unirse a la vida de nuestra parroquia.

El censo, sin embargo, comienza en casa. Antes de acercarnos a los demás, debemos llevar una buena contabilidad de nuestra propia casa. Durante la última semana de este mes, septiembre, y las primeras semanas de octubre, animaremos a todos a "reinscribirse" en la parroquia, actualizar información o registrarse por primera vez. Toda la información proporcionada será estrictamente protegida y no se compartirá con ninguna otra organización o empresa. Después de esta etapa del censo tendremos que sondear los distintos barrios de la parroquia. Para hacer esto, necesitaremos voluntarios que estén dispuestos y sean capaces de tocar puertas, de dos en dos. Esperamos contar con veinte (20) o treinta (30) voluntarios para ayudarnos a lograr esta fase tan importante del censo parroquial. Se brindaría entrenamiento a todos los que se ofrezcan como voluntarios para visitar e invitar a nuestros nuevos amigos a la parroquia.

Oro para que podamos "contar" con ustedes para que puedan ayudarnos a realizar un censo parroquial exitoso.

En Cristo,  
P. Velásquez

**Sunday Collection  
September 9-10, 2023  
Collection: \$5,348.83**

**MY SUNDAY OFFERING**

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



**Santa Cruz  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

A Family United in Christ

**Faith & Worship  
School Community Night  
Thursday, September 28, 6:00 p.m.**

We're asking all Santa Cruz families to join us as a community on this special evening of faith and worship! Please plan to choose 3 from the following themes. Each session is 20 minutes long. **NOTE: 8th grade is only for students and their parents as it is a Confirmation-based retreat.**

Session 1: 6:00 - 6:20 p.m. / Session 2: 6:20 - 6:40 p.m. / Session 3: 6:40 - 7:00 p.m.

- 8th Grade.....Confirmation Retreat.....Parents & students plan to attend for 1 hour.  
7th Grade.....Bible Book Timeline...Come learn about the order of the books of the bible.  
6th Grade.....Scriptures.....Join for a discussion on scriptures about LOVE.  
5th Grade.....Saints.....Stop in and learn about a saint.  
4th Grade....The Liturgical Year.....Come share your family traditions for liturgical seasons.  
3rd Grade.....Rosaries (decades).....Make a family rosary to use at home.  
2nd Grade.....Catholic Mass (items).....Come learn about items used in mass.  
1st Grade.....Spiritual Bouquets...Make a spiritual card for someone who needs prayers.  
Kindergarten.....Serving Our Lord in Our Homes.....Create a special home for the Lord.

A light supper will follow at 7:00 p.m. at Carmelite Hall. Come enjoy a sandwich, chips and lemonade while building our Santa Cruz Catholic School community! We look forward to seeing you all there!

**Vocations Committee**

Exciting news from the Santa Cruz Vocations Committee: It is our collective responsibility to contribute to and encourage the increase of vocations in priesthood, religious life, and consecrated marriage in our parish and around the world. For this reason, we will be having a **Recruitment Fair after the September 23rd and 24th Masses** for the following important interests and roles: Priesthood, Deaconate, Engaged Encounter, Secular Orders & Laity, Catechism, Youth Group, Youth Adult Group, Music Ministry, Altar Serving, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, Ushers, Legion of Mary, Guadalupanos, and Knights of Columbus.

Please consider getting involved in your beloved Santa Cruz Parish and attend the fair to sign up for one of these interests and roles. We look forward to seeing you!

17TH ANNUAL  
FR. BACH—BRO. ANGEL DE SANTA CRUZ  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #14139

**BENEFIT GOLF  
TOURNAMENT**

**OCTOBER 21**

**SATURDAY | 2023**



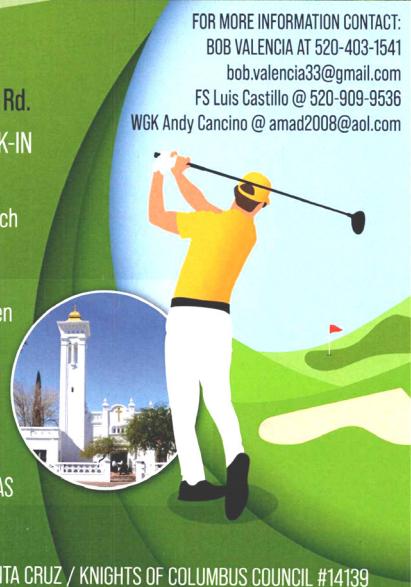
**SEWAJO GOLF CLUB**

Casino Del Sol Resort | 5655 W. Valencia Rd.

**8:00AM SHOTGUN START    6:30AM CHECK-IN**

- \$125 per player
  - Four Person Scramble
  - Includes: Golf fees, cart, range balls and lunch
  - Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place
  - Longest Drive Contest for Ladies and Men
  - Closest to the Pin Contest for Ladies and Men
- \***EARLY BIRD SPECIAL\***
- Many more prizes and raffles!

PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS MUCH NEEDED  
ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING UPDATES WITHIN OUR  
CARMELITE HALL / OTHER IMPROVEMENTS SUCH AS  
RENOVATION OF THE PARISH BATHROOMS.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY FROM THE SANTA CRUZ / KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #14139

**We at SANTA CRUZ PARISH are 43% to our \$40,340 goal!**

**THE 2023 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

**STILL NEEDS OUR HELP!**

Your continued support for the Appeal remains crucial as our parish has **\$25,392** left to raise.

**Your gifts to the Annual Catholic Appeal will support:**  
Seminarian and Clergy Education and Support  
Outreach to Poor Parishes, Missions, Community Schools, Education & Evangelization  
Diocesan Ministries/New Parish Development  
Parish Support Service

**Thank you to everyone who has made a gift on behalf of our parish to the ACA!**



**IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO,  
VISIT [WWW.CATHFND.ORG](http://WWW.CATHFND.ORG) TO MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY**

**Escuela Católica de Santa Cruz**

Noche Comunitaria: Fe y Adoración Celebraremos nuestra primera Noche Comunitaria oficial del año escolar en aproximadamente dos semanas el día jueves 28 de septiembre de 2023. El evento comenzará puntualmente a las 6 p.m. y finalizará a las 7 p.m. Serán tres sesiones de 20 minutos para que puedan rotar y visitar 3 salones de clase (cada uno con temática diferente). Además, después de las 7 p.m., Mr. Wallach estará en Salón Carmelita (cafetería) ofreciendo a las familias una escasa comida para compartir como comunidad.

## 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



### HOMEBOUND EUCHARIST

If you have a family member or know of a parishioner in the Santa Cruz Church area in need of having the Eucharist brought to them regularly, please contact the Parish Office at (520) 623-3833.



The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults for Baptism/Eucharist/Confirmation, RCIA classes at Santa Cruz Parish is beginning soon. For registration or questions please call 520-882-9687.

### Programa de formación en la Fe para Adultos

Mayores de 18 años interesados en recibir los sacramentos del Bautismo/Primera Comunión/Confirmación para el Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos.

### New Parishioners are Always Welcome!

Register using forms available in the church.

**Baptisms:** Information on our Church Website.

**Matrimony:** Please call at least six months in advance.

### Feligreses Nuevos Siempre son Bienvenidos!

Regístrate usando los formularios disponibles en la iglesia.

**Bautismos:** Información en nuestro Sitio Web.

**Matrimonio:** Por favor de llamar con seis meses de anticipación.

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

Connect with me.....Handmade Custom Rosaries



Scan Me

ANDRÉA CASTILLO  
(484) 661-0025

@rosary\_keeper  
The Rosary Keeper

The Rosary Keeper

Please consider purchasing an ad or in  
Memory of a loved one.

Why church bulletin advertising?

- Cost-effective way to advertise 52 times a year.
- You have a captive audience
- Goes home with parish families every week.
- A good source of referrals or word of mouth advertising.
- Shows your support for your community, in turn parishioners will support you.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

### Saturday, September 16th

- 8:00 a.m. Dennis Wheatley/Happy Birthday  
5:30 p.m. Estevan Franco/R.I.P.

### Sunday, September 17th

- 6:30 a.m. Santa Cruz Parishioners  
8:00 a.m. Manuel Armenta & Luis Dominguez/R.I.P.  
10:00 a.m. George Nicolas Ortiz Yslava/R.I.P.  
12:00 noon Special Int./James Felix & Molly Jackson  
6:00 p.m. Eva Lopez/R.I.P.

### Monday, September 18th

- 6:30 a.m. Jimmy Flores/Improved Health  
8:00 a.m. Special Int./Raul F. Gonzalez

### Tuesday, September 19th

- 6:30 a.m. Special Int./Petea Villascusa  
8:00 a.m. Special Int./Frank K. Valenzuela

### Wednesday, September 20th

- 6:30 a.m. Special Int./Dani Marie & Michael Nicholls  
8:00 a.m. George & Rachel Corrales/R.I.P.

### Thursday, September 21st

- 6:30 a.m. Special Int./Dani Marie & Michael Nicholls  
8:00 a.m. Fr. Narciso Santesmases, O.C.D./R.I.P.

### Friday, September 22nd

- 6:30 a.m. Special Int./Dani Marie & Michael Nicholls  
8:00 a.m. Lucy Flores/R.I.P.

### 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.