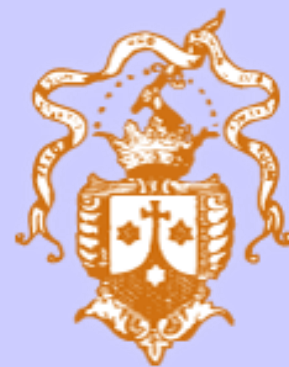




Santa Cruz Roman Catholic Church

Sunday, May 21st, 2023

Discalced Carmelite Friars



Sunday Masses

5:30pm Saturday Vigil

Sunday

6:30 am

10:00 am

12:00 pm

6:00 pm

8:00 am Spanish
at Capilla de Guadalupe
(409 E. 31st Street)

Monday - Saturday

8:00 am

Confessions

Saturday

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Office Hours

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



Pastor

Rev. Stephen Watson, O.C.D.

Associate Pastors

Rev. David Costello, O.C.D.

Rev. Julius Ntalo, O.C.D.

Deacon

Rev. Ernesto Lujan

Facebook

Stephen Watson

SANTA CRUZ CATHOLIC CHURCH
66TH ANNUAL
FESTIVAL
De La Familia 2023

Our Last Year For The Carmelite Order

FOOD BOOTHS | GAMES
RAFFLES | LIVE MUSIC

EMCEE: MARIO CELIS

SAT, MAY 20th:	SUN, MAY 21st:
1pm DJ Music	1pm – 3pm DJ Music
2:00 Nico Barberan-Soloist	3:00 Conjunto Bravo
3:00 DJ Music	4:00 Mariachi Estrellas
4:00 Ballet Folklorico Los Mextucaz	5:30 Grupo Latido
5:00 Viva Performing Arts	6:45 The Festival Band
5:30 Mariachi Innovacion	8:00 RAFFLE DRAWING
6:30 AZ Folklorico	
8:00 Los Hermanos Cuatro	

RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE IN CHURCH OFFICE
GRAND PRIZE: \$2,000
2ND PRIZE = \$1,000; 3RD PRIZE = \$500

BEER & MICHELADA GARDEN

DJ Mondo LoKo
TejanoLoKo.Com

SOUND PROVIDED BY:
5th Avenue Productions

Santa Cruz Church | 1220 S 6th Avenue
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT SANTA CRUZ CATHOLIC CHURCH

Reflection for the 7th Sunday of Easter May 14th The Ascension of the Lord

He calls his Sheep and leads Them

This Sunday we celebrate the glorious Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. For forty days since his Resurrection, Jesus has been giving his apostles, his church, last instructions on what is to be their mission and how they are to carry it out. And now he leaves them and ascends into heaven.

But in the Gospel for today he states, "Behold I am with you always". How does this reconcile with his withdrawing his physical presence? We'll address that in a while. One way to understand the Ascension is to recall the image of the Good Shepherd. A shepherd cares for his sheep and protects them. But besides these, one of his main duties is to "lead" his sheep. He leads them to greener pastures. Psalm 23 alludes to this, "He leads me to safe waters" and "He leads me in right paths". The shepherd calls to his sheep. They recognize his voice and follow him. He leads them to all things that are good for them.

And where does Jesus lead us? In the Ascension, we see that ultimately, he leads us to heaven, to the joy of eternal life. That is our destiny. We were created to seek God, to come to experience Him and Love Him and ultimately to be with the Beloved forever. We are hard-wired to long for Him, to find fulfillment only in Him. Nothing else can satisfy. We might seek worldly treasures, pleasures, and honors but nothing truly gives us real joy. We were meant for heaven and to be with God.

And Jesus the good shepherd shows us the way. He leads us to our real destiny. The average life span in the United States is 76.4 years. That's just a blink of the eye compared to eternity. Psalm 10 refers to this "The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; ...and they are soon gone".

Jesus by his life, death, resurrection, and now ascension shows us and leads to real joy, to eternal life. And it's not just that He shows us the way. There are many wise sages that teach us how to live well, how to find so-called fulfillment. Jesus is different. He doesn't just teach us the way to eternal life, He "is" the way. The purpose of our existence here on earth is to hear His voice and follow Him. And today he shows us our final destiny.

But what about this physical separation? Didn't He promise to remain with us always? This reality is He is present to us in numerous ways. But two, in particular, stand out. First, He sends the Holy Spirit to continue to shepherd us, to guide us and lead us. In John Chapter 17 he states, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you." We are not alone; we have His Spirit. And we will celebrate the Spirit's coming at Pentecost next Sunday.

And secondly, we have Jesus real presence in the Eucharist. A recent **Pew** Research study found that just 31% of U.S. Catholics they surveyed believe that the bread and wine used in the Eucharist become the body and blood of Jesus. How sad. We have a treasure beyond imagining in Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist. He fulfills His promise to remain with us forever.

This Solemnity is a good opportunity for us to step back and take a look at the big picture. Our life here is a brief journey. Our real destiny is clearly marked out by Jesus at His Ascension. Yes, we need to take care of earthly needs such as food, shelter, health, and employment. But of greater importance is to consider how we are to pass eternity. We need to turn to Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life. We need to follow His lead.

~Rico Chapa



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sunday, May 28th, 2023

**Wear red to Mass next Sunday for
Pentecost Sunday**

Visit our Website:

santacruzchurchtucson.com

Facebook Stephen Watson

**Please sign us for Flock Notes to be
informed of parish events**

Flock Notes text **santacruzaz** to
84576

or go online to
santacruzchurch.flocknote.com



WAYS TO GIVE



TEXT
ACA TO
41444

RETURN
COMPLETED
ENVELOPE

**10am
Sunday Mass
Live Stream**



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 (520) 623-3833.

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 at 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.



Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary will continue to meet at the Capilla of Our Lady of Guadalupe at 4:00 pm on Mondays.

Santa Cruz Grupo Guadalupano meets at Capilla of Our Lady of Guadalupe every Monday at 6:00 pm and prays the Rosary



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Enrollment & Renewal Inscripción y Renovación de Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (EBT Food Stamps) Enrollment or Renewal is available through Catholic Community Services at the Pio Decimo Center, located at 848 S. 7th Ave by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, please call Libia at (520) 416-4759 or email libiak@ccs-pio.org.

Citas para Inscripción o Renovación de Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria (Estampillas de Comida) están disponibles a través de Catholic Community Services en el Centro Pio Decimo, ubicado en 848 S. 7th Ave. Para programar una cita, llame a Libia al (520) 416-4759 o envíe un correo electrónico a libiak@ccs-pio.org.



This weekend our second collection will be designated to the Catholic Communications Collection.



Catholic Communication Campaign
CONNECT WITH CHRIST

Alive in Christ

Be Bold in the Spirit

Thursday June 8, 2023 at 6:30 PM

"For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control."

- 2 Timothy 1:7



- ❖ Lively Praise & Worship
- ❖ Praise reports and prayers for all your intentions
- ❖ Inspired teaching by Gloria Roberts
- ❖ **Your Option** – Prayer for a deeper outpouring of the Holy Spirit's gifts in your life!



Gloria Roberts

Bring your family & friends!

- Attend in person at: **Our Lady of La Vang Parish, at St. Frances Cabrini Church, 3201 E. Presidio Rd., Tucson**
- Also, on Zoom at: **Meeting ID: 814 4930 0841 Passcode: 352734**

View this using Zoom app on a computer / tablet / smart phone. Or listen on a traditional phone: Dial (346) 248 7799 or (669) 900 9128 (not toll-free). If you have problems joining the meeting, please text Diana at: 520-981-8800. For Zoom training videos, and videos of past meetings, go to TucsonCCR.org

"Be Bold in the Holy Spirit. Gloria Roberts will challenge us to boldly live and share our faith. Joyfully praise and worship our risen Lord, pray for all your intentions, and – if you wish – receive individual prayer for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in your life. Join us at 6:30 pm on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at Our Lady of La Vang/St. Frances Cabrini, 3201 E. Presidio Rd., Tucson. If you cannot attend in person, join on Zoom, meeting ID: **814 4930 0841 Pass code: 352734** (For help, text 520-981-8800). Send prayer requests, or see Zoom instructions, at <https://TucsonCCR.org>. Hosted by the Diocese of Tucson Renewal Committee."



Santa Cruz Catholic School

Santa Cruz School News from Mrs. Dolan-Dixon, Principal

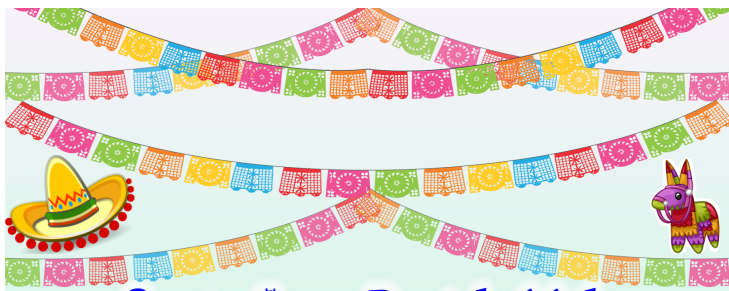
We are quickly approaching the end of the school year! Our students have grown in faith and knowledge under the guidance of outstanding teachers! We are pleased to announce that all of our teachers will return for the 23-24 school year. We are looking forward to the summer break and welcoming back our current students along with some new friends for next school year.

There is still time to register your child for Santa Cruz Catholic School (SCCS) for next school year. We offer a quality Catholic education with scholarship opportunities for families of all income levels. All of our current SCCS students receive 95% or more of their tuition costs in scholarship funds! Please contact our scholarship director, Ms. Wood by calling (520) 624-2093.

Congratulations to our 8th grade students who were Confirmed on May 11th. The students also received their 8th grade diplomas and awards that evening. We are proud of our 8th grade students and all that they have accomplished in their elementary years. We send them forth with many prayers that they may be successful in their high school and college years ahead! Go Bulldogs!

Congratulations to **Zoe R.**, Santa Cruz Catholic School 8th grade student for her winning essay in the Catholic Daughters of America Scholarship Essay Contest. Zoe wrote the following essay and was chosen from a number of entries in the Diocese of Tucson to win a \$500 scholarship to the Catholic high school of her choice. Zoe will be attending Salpointe Catholic High School next school year.

There will be many changes for me this year. I am going to high school, which I am excited about, but also kind of scared. I was never really worried about it until now. It feels as if any little mistake can cost me. But I feel optimistic about the new changes for this year. The first difference for me this year is the transition from middle school to high school. My current school is small and the high school that I am going to is not. A second difference for me this year is not being able to see all my classmates I have right now. Which is a bummer because they have become like my second family. I am going to miss my second home which was my school. School is a very safe place for me. Winning this scholarship would help, both me and my family, a lot this year as my mother recently had her work hours reduced. Receiving this scholarship will make me feel some type of relief because I know that I have done something to contribute to paying my tuition. Scholarships for me are some thing that I am extremely grateful for as they have given me the opportunity to receive a Catholic and private education. Thank you for your consideration.



Santa Cruz Parish 66th Fiesta De La Familia 2023

Saturday, May 20th & Sunday, May 21st!
DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

2 LITER SODAS • 16OZ SOLO CUPS • 12OZ FOAM
CUPS • FOAM BOWLS OR BOATS FOR NACHOS •
BOXES OF EXTRA LARGE TRASH BAGS •
BOXES OF PLASTIC GLOVES • HAND SOAP

**DO NOT FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR
RAFFLE TICKET STUBS. YOU CAN BRING
THEM DURING THE FIESTA ON
SATURDAY 1PM TO 11PM OR
SUNDAY 1PM TO 7PM!**

Enter the Parish Fiesta Raffle!

SANTA CRUZ PARISH 66th ANNUAL FIESTA
Celebrating our 104th year!
MAY 20th & 21st, 2023
* T 1PM TO 11PM • SUN 1PM TO 8:30PM
1st Prize \$2,000 • 2nd Prize \$1,000
3rd Prize \$500
* DRAWING ON SUNDAY, MAY 21ST, 2023
\$2.00 DONATION (NOT NECESSARY TO ENTER DRAWING)
WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

¡Entra a la rifa de la fiesta parroquial!



Fiesta De La Familia Nana's Cottage

Come by the Nana's Cottage sales booth.
We collected slightly used house hold items
and clothing.

Pase por el puesto
de ventas de
Nana's Cottage.
Recolectamos
artículos de casa y
ropa ligeramente
usados.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 20th

8:00am Evangeline Lopez/R.I.P.
5:30pm In Honor of the Immaculate Conception/
Int. Advocate for us

Sunday, May 21st

6:30am Santa Cruz Parishioners
8:00am Debi Herman/R.I.P.
10:00am Susana G. Rodriguez/R.I.P.
12:00pm Camilo Castrillo/R.I.P.
6:00pm Hector Carlos Martinez Valenzuela/R.I.P.

Monday, May 22nd

Joanne Hawkins/R.I.P.
8:00am Hector Carlos Martinez Valenzuela/R.I.P.

Tuesday, May 23rd

Joanne Hawkins/R.I.P.
8:00am In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus/
Int. Nieves Ortiz & Family

Wednesday, May 24th

Joanne Hawkins/R.I.P.
8:00am Special Int./ Petra Villascuesa

Thursday, May 25th

Special Int./James Parras
8:00am Dennis & Veronica Wheatley/
Wedding Anniversary

Friday, May 26th

Special Int./Russell Santistevan
8:00am Damian & Delma Huggins/R.I.P.

Win a Coronado Beach Resort Stay while supporting
Rachel's Vineyard Ministry of Southern Arizona.
Online Raffle runs until May 31, 2023 \$20 Per Ticket or
6 for \$100 // <https://go.rallyup.com/online-raffle-rachelsvineyardministry> or text the word 'Resort' to
(855) 202-2100 to access the direct link to the Raffle.

Parish Collections

Sunday, May 14th, 2023
Collection: \$ 4,949.42

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

