

Support our Parish

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Grave plots for sale...
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big tree for shade)
Row 7, Graves 8, 9, 11
Individual Price: \$4,000 ea.
Price for all three: \$12,000
For more information
or inquiries contact:
Rose Vega cell (520) 240-2986
email: toulakat60@gmail.com
or barcelo54@aol.com



Learn more about
our services
and upcoming
educational events.



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ANGEL DE SANTA CRUZ CHURCH
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a loved one.



Anointing of the Sick

The Anointing of the Sick is available upon request for the faithful who are seriously ill, before major surgery, or advanced age. Please call the parish office (520) 623-3833 to make an appointment.

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.

New Parishioners are
Always Welcome!

Register using forms available in the church.

Baptisms: Information on our 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 Sitio Web.

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



Join us for our Youth Group meeting every Sunday in the Carmelite Hall.
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

We love
having you as part of our flock

Keep in touch
with us via
email & text

Sign up for Flock Notes:
Text - **santacruzaz**
to **84576**

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.



Santa Cruz Roman Catholic Church

1220 S. 6th Avenue • Tucson, AZ 85713

JUNE 2, 2024



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

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 / Misa

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.

Eucaristic 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

Deacon:

Rev. Mr. Ernesto Lujan

Message from the Pastor . . .

Dear Parishioners of Santa Cruz Parish,

On June 3, I will be celebrating thirty-five years as a priest of the Lord Jesus Christ. Words fail me in expressing the gratitude and unworthiness that I feel in the blessing God has given me in calling me to follow His Son and being His priest in the Church. I was ordained when I was twenty-eight years old and now have been living as a priest longer than I have been as a lay person. In many ways it seems to me as if it was only yesterday that I was walking down the aisle of St. Augustine Cathedral that Saturday morning, nervous and still praying that I was doing the right thing and answering God's call. It wasn't until Bishop Moreno laid his hands on me and ordained me, through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, that I knew without a doubt that God had indeed called me to be a Roman Catholic Priest in the Church established by His Only Begotten Son almost two thousand years ago. I walked down the same aisle of the Cathedral but now I knew I was a different man, called to be a good priest, a holy priest, a priest to serve God and His people. I pray every day for the grace to be faithful to the call God, in His infinite mercy, has given me. Please pray for me and for all priests.

There were five of us who were ordained that day for the Diocese of Tucson. Only two of us remain in active service, myself and my good friend, Fr. Mike Martinez (who will become the new pastor of Our Lady of the Valley in Green Valley in July). Currently we have only two seminarians in the seminary. Carlos Nagore, from Our Lady of Fatima Parish, who will be ordained in 2026, and Ivan Monge, from St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Yuma, who will enter the seminary this fall and be ordained eight years later in 2032. The Vocations page of the Diocese (<https://www.diocesetucson.org/seminaries-seminarians>) has more information on our seminarians. We need to be praying for vocations.

It is important to remember that the lack of priestly vocations is not on the part of God. He is our Father and He will never fail to provide for His family, which is the Church. God is calling certain men to be priests, we can have no doubt about that. Where the problem lies, is in our response to that call. There are certain signs in the life of a man who God might be calling to the priesthood without his realizing it. Some signs of a priestly vocation might include: 1) a persistent fascination with the idea of becoming a priest, 2) an appreciation for the Catholic Faith, 3) a vague desire to do something dangerous and daring for Christ, 4) finding yourself watching priests at your parish, 5) "if not me . . . then who?" seeing and feeling that something needs to be done, and 6) people, out of the blue, tell you they think you would make a good priest.

As many priests are celebrating their ordination anniversaries at this time of year, let's join in thanking God for their saying "yes" to His call and at the same time pray for those men He calling today.

Fr. Velásquez

Mensaje del Párroco . . .

Estimados Feligreses de la Parroquia de Santa Cruz,

El 3 de junio celebraré treinta y cinco años como sacerdote del Señor Jesucristo. Me faltan palabras para expresar la gratitud y la indignidad que siento por la bendición que Dios me ha dado al llamar a seguir a Su Hijo y ser Su sacerdote en la Iglesia. Fui ordenado cuando tenía veintiocho años y ahora he vivido como sacerdote por más tiempo del ser un laico. En muchos sentidos, me parece como si fuera ayer cuando caminaba por el pasillo de la Catedral de San Agustín ese sábado por la mañana, nervioso y todavía rezando para estar haciendo lo correcto y respondiendo al llamado de Dios. No fue hasta que el obispo Moreno me impuso las manos y me ordenó, mediante el sacramento del Orden Sagrado, que supe sin lugar a dudas que Dios me había llamado a ser sacerdote católico romano en la Iglesia establecida por Su Hijo Unigénito hace casi dos mil años. Caminé por el mismo pasillo de la Catedral, pero ahora sabía que era un hombre diferente, llamado a ser un buen sacerdote, un sacerdote santo, un sacerdote para servir a Dios y a su pueblo. Rezo todos los días por la gracia de ser fiel al llamado que Dios, en su infinita misericordia, me ha dado. Por favor, oren por mí y por todos los sacerdotes.

Ese día fuimos ordenados cinco para la Diócesis de Tucson. Sólo dos de nosotros permanecemos en servicio activo, yo y mi buen amigo, el padre Mike Martínez (que se convertirá en el nuevo párroco de Nuestra Señora del Valle en Green Valley en julio). Actualmente tenemos sólo dos seminaristas en el seminario. Carlos Nagore, de la parroquia Nuestra Señora de Fátima, que será ordenado en 2026, e Ivan Monge, de la parroquia San Francisco de Asís en Yuma, que entrará al seminario este otoño y será ordenado ocho años después, en 2032. La página de Vocaciones de la Diócesis (<https://www.diocesetucson.org/seminaries-seminarians>) tiene más información sobre nuestros seminaristas. Necesitamos orar por las vocaciones.

Es importante recordar que la falta de vocaciones sacerdotales no es de parte de Dios. Él es nuestro Padre y nunca dejará de proveer para Su familia, que es la Iglesia. Dios está llamando a ciertos hombres a ser sacerdotes, de eso no podemos tener ninguna duda. El problema está en nuestra respuesta a ese llamado. Hay ciertas señales en la vida de un hombre a quien Dios podría estar llamando al sacerdocio sin que él se dé cuenta. Algunas señales de una vocación sacerdotal pueden incluir: 1) una fascinación persistente con la idea de convertirse en sacerdote, 2) un aprecio por la fe católica, 3) un vago deseo de hacer algo peligroso y atrevido por Cristo, 4) encontrarse observando a los sacerdotes de su parroquia, 5) "si no soy yo... ¿entonces quién?" al ver y sentir que hay que hacer algo, y 6) la gente, de repente, le dice que cree que usted sería un buen sacerdote.

Como muchos sacerdotes están celebrando sus aniversarios de ordenación en esta época del año, unámonos para agradecer a Dios por haber dicho "sí" a Su llamado y al mismo tiempo oremos por aquellos hombres que Él llama hoy.

En Cristo,
P. Velásquez

FUN FACTS ABOUT SANTA CRUZ PRIESTS & DEACON

SPRING/SUMMER 2024

Deacon Ernie Lujan

Ordination Date: June 5, 2021

FAVORITE MOVIES - "Old Western movies."

FAVORITE BOOKS/AUTHORS - "Bible."

FAVORITE RESTAURANTS/FOOD - "Bamboo Terrace, El Sol Mexican Food, Food-Love all kinds of food."

FAVORITE SPORTS - "No favorite team but love watching the Superbowl, World Series, and World Cup."

FAVORITE SONGS - "Love listening to Mexican and country music."

FAVORITE ANIMALS - "Don't have one."

PLACES I'VE BEEN - "New Mexico, California, Las Vegas, Alabama, Mexico, Florida, Rhode Island."

MY HEAVEN ON EARTH! - "Playing with my grandsons."

MY COLLEGE JOURNEY - "I did not attend college."

HOW OLD I WAS WHEN CALLED TO THE DEACONATE - "Fifty-four years old."

JOURNEY TOWARDS THE DEACONATE - "Began by taking the Level 1 discernment and then applied for the deaconate a year later. Started the formation classes with four years of study and preparation for the Ordination in June 2001."

FIRST PARISH I WAS ASSIGNED TO - "Santa Cruz Parish."

FAVORITE MOTTO - "Buy Low Sell High."

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT BEING A DEACON - "Serving others, preparing couples for marriage, celebrating the Sacraments."

Kino Discernment Night "Am I Being Called?"

Monday, June 3, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Diocese of Tucson
Pastoral Center

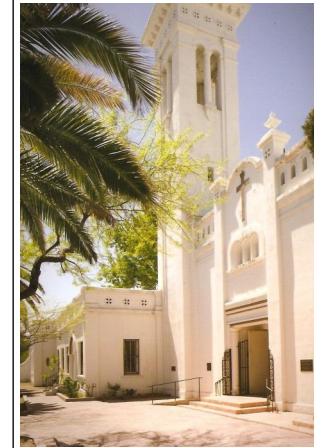
Do you wonder what God wants you to do with your life? Do you have questions about the priesthood? Has the possibility being a priest ever entered your mind?

The Office of Vocations invites discerning men to explore the true meaning of Vocation during an evening of shared stories and genuine connections.

RSVP required:

<https://forms.office.com/r/zCTPzitH3u> to confirm your attendance.

Your prompt response will help us ensure a memorable experience for everyone.



Santa Cruz Adult Faith Formation

Invites you to a
"Journey through the Mass"

Thursday, June 13, 2024
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

In the Music Room

Presenter: Sally Clack

Bring a bible and a journal

**Feast of Corpus Christi
June 2, 2024**

We will have Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament
following the 12 noon Mass
until 5:30 p.m. in the church.



Let's Celebrate!

Join us in celebrating the Ordination Anniversaries of our three priests, Fr. Velásquez, Fr. Simon, Fr. Showri, and Deacon Mr. Ernesto Lujan on Sunday, June 9th in the Carmelite Hall after the 12:00 noon Mass. We are requesting that families with last names that begin with:

A-L: bring water

M-P: bring sodas

Q-Z: bring your best side dish

Thank you in advance for joining us in showing our love and appreciation to our priests and deacon who said "yes" to God's call to serve our community in such important spiritual ways."

Acompáñenos para celebrar los aniversarios de ordenación de nuestros tres sacerdotes, el Padre Velásquez, Padre Simón, Padre Showri y el Diácono Sr. Ernesto Luján el domingo, 9 de junio en el Salón Carmelita después de la Misa de las 12:00 del mediodía. Solicitamos que las familias con apellidos que comienzan con:

A-L: traigan aguas

M-P: traigan sodas

Q-Z: traigan su mejor platillo

Gracias de antemano por acompañarnos para mostrar nuestro amor y aprecio a nuestros sacerdotes y diácono que dijeron "sí" al llamado de Dios de servir a nuestra comunidad de maneras espirituales tan importantes.

Sunday Collection - May 25-26, 2024

Sunday Collection: \$5,062.80
On-Line Giving: \$1,185.42
Total Sunday Offertory: \$6,428.22

Weekly Expenses:

Income: \$6,428.22

***Expenses:** \$6,000.25

\$ 247.97

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

Your generous donations are greatly appreciated and are definitely needed. Thank you and God bless!
¡Gracias y Dios te bendiga!

Sons of Vianney: Teen Men's Discernment Night

Wednesday, June 12, 2024 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Every Second Wednesday of the month until December 12, 2024

Location: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
8650 N. Shannon Road, Tucson, AZ 85742

Sons of Vianney gatherings are intended for high school men who are open to the possibility that God might be calling them to be a priest. We will feature dinner, games, faith formation and prayer.

Join us every 2nd Wednesday of the month from March to December 2024. Open to ages 14-17 high school boys only.

Register: <https://forms.office.com/r/quP7PL1vKk>.

MY SUNDAY OFFERTORY COMMITMENT

With faith and gratitude, I make the following Sunday offertory commitment to support our mission and programs:

My current gift \$ _____ My new gift \$ _____

Weekly Monthly Annually Weekly Monthly Annually

I would also like to offer the following one-time gift of \$ _____ to respond to the immediate ministerial needs of my parish.

Santa Cruz Parish | Tucson, AZ
www.santacruzchurchtucson.com

Name _____ Street Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Envelope # (if known) _____ Cell Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Thank you for your generous support of our parish!

If you would prefer to fill out your Commitment Card online, please scan here:



Thank you to all parishioners who have completed and submitted your commitment card to the church. All cards need to be returned to the parish by **Sunday, June 2nd**. As a friendly reminder, electronic giving is an **easy, safe and secure** way to support Santa Cruz Parish. To set-up a recurring weekly or monthly gift or to make a one-time donation directly from your bank account or credit card, please visit our website and follow the instructions. **We are grateful for your support!**

Gracias a todos los feligreses que completaron y enviaron su tarjeta de compromiso a la iglesia. Todas las tarjetas deben devolverse a la parroquia antes del **domingo, 2 de junio**. Recordatorio, las donaciones electrónicas son una manera fácil y segura de apoyar a la Parroquia de Santa Cruz. Para hacer una donación semanal o mensual recurrente o hacer una donación única directamente desde su cuenta bancaria o tarjeta de crédito, visite nuestro sitio web y siga las instrucciones. **¡Le agradecemos su apoyo!**