# **SANTA CRUZ PARISH**



#### **WEEKDAYS MASS SCHEDULE**

Tuesdays and Fridays 12:00 pm (English) -

in the main church.

SUNDAY MASS
SCHEDULE

10:30am (English)
12pm (Portuguese)

The Office is opened

Tuesdays and

Thursdays

DONATE for the upkeep of our building, support activities, and operations.



"The dying, the cripple, the mental, the unwanted, the unloved — they are Jesus in disguise. Speak tenderly to them. Let there be kindness in your face, in your eyes, in your smile; for children, for the poor, for all who suffer. Don't only give your care, but give your heart."

-St. Teresa of Calcutta

## **The word of the Popes**

"Lepers met Him" (Luke 17:12). In another passage of the Gospel, it is said that Jesus "touched" the leper who approached Him (Luke 5:13). Jesus allows Himself to be approached; He has made Himself our neighbor in order to be encountered by us precisely at the most tragic and burdensome threshold of suffering. From the Cross, He teaches us to seek His own face in the sick, to draw near to those who suffer precisely where they experience their need. [...] Christ's example should encourage us to persist in our commitment to those social situations that remain indifferent or powerless in the face of the drama of leprosy. We must not give up, even when efforts seem fruitless or when we are faced with environments where the terror of the disease inspires inhuman defensive measures, born from instinctive and irrational aversions toward the sick. We must continue to work, so that even these situations that seem most resistant, will open up to hope. Let us respond to the cry of the lepers, addressed to Jesus: "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us" (Luke 17:13). [...] The Lord has entrusted to our hands many works of charity, so that through them we might become coresponsible for His plan of salvation. (St. John Paul II, Homily, Holy Mass for the International Associations 'Friends of Lepers', 21 September 1986)



Oct Our Lady of Aparecida Day

World Mission Sunday Collection

Nov 01

All Saint's Day

**Dec 14** 

Christmas Lunch

## All Saint's Day

On November 1st (Saturday), we will have our All Saints' Day Mass at 9am in both languages (English and Portuguese).

With that, we would like to add that on November 1st & 2nd, we will not be accepting intention requests, as these days are dedicated to **all** the faithful departed.

#### SAVE THE DATE

We invite everyone to the Parish Christmas Lunch, which will be held on **December 14th,** starting at 2:00 PM.

Join us for this special moment of fellowship, with live music, excellent cuisine, and the warm presence of our community.

More information will be shared soon.

## First communion and Confirmation

Registration for First Communion and Confirmation classes has officially begun!

# First Communion Registration Deadline: October 19th

• E Classes Begin: October 26th

**Confirmation** Registration Deadline: **October 26th** 

• E Classes Begin: November 2nd

You can register after Mass with one of our catechists or by calling the parish office.

Don't miss this important step in your child's faith journey!

## Thanksgiving message

In his Thanksgiving Message for 13 October 2025, His Eminence Frank Cardinal Leo, Metropolitan Archbishop of Toronto, extended to all of us heartfelt wishes. He emphasized that this season invites us to a life rooted in gratitude - especially in this Jubilee Year of Hope. At the heart of our faith is the Eucharist, which means "thanksgiving." Each celebration of the Mass is a profound act of praise, reminding us that gratitude is not just seasonal, but the daily posture of the Christian soul. True thanksgiving goes beyond material blessings. It embraces the gift of faith, the Church, forgiveness, and the enduring hope we have in Christ. Gratitude helps us see creation as gift, history as salvation, and our lives as mission. We are called to recognize the goodness in our world, even amid challenges. Like Israel giving thanks for liberation, we too remember Christ's victory and look forward to the fullness of His Kingdom. Cardinal Leo encourages families to begin their gatherings with prayer, naming what they are grateful for, and responding together: "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever" (Ps. 136). He concluded by expressing his gratitude to priests and deacons; women and men in consecrated life; families; social and healthcare institutions; educational institutes; civil and governmental agencies and; for the beauty, truth and goodness of the Catholic faith seen and expressed in a myriad of ways throughout our blessed archdiocese. And he said, "Be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us and make us truly grateful disciples of your Son."