

# St. Therese of Lisieux

## Roman Catholic Parish

222 Third Avenue PO Box 435

Patagonia, AZ 85624

520-394-2954

[sttheresa@dakotacom.net](mailto:sttheresa@dakotacom.net)

<https://stccpatagonia.com/>

## Our Lady of the Angels Mission

22 Los Encinos Road PO Box 1272

Sonoita, AZ 85637

[sonoitacatholicchurch.com](http://sonoitacatholicchurch.com)

## Sixth Sunday of Easter

### May 17, 2020

**Fr. Alexander Tigga**

**Pastor**

**(520) 394-2954**

**Ramon G Miranda**

**Office manager**

**(520) 313-4813**

**Elvia Miranda**

**Religious Ed**

**(520) 394-2954**

### Sunday Mass Times

Saturday 5:30pm Vigil Patagonia

8:00am Sonoita

10:30am Patagonia

### Daily Mass

Tuesday – 5:30pm

Wednesday – Friday 9:00am

### Confessions

Saturday – 4:00pm to 4:30pm

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Sunday Online Mass 10:00am, live stream on Fr. Alex's facebook page. [www.facebook.com/alex.tigga22](http://www.facebook.com/alex.tigga22)**
- **Parish-based public gatherings are cancelled or suspended for an indefinite period of time, probably no earlier than June 1, 2020.**
- **Daily eucharistic celebration by Fr. Alex. Daily Mass intentions are for the needs of all the parishioners of St. Therese Parish & Our Lady of The Angels. Please email Ramon at [sttheresa@dakotacom.net](mailto:sttheresa@dakotacom.net) if you have a specific mass intention.**
- **St. Therese Parish continues to work internally and expenses continue to accumulate. The budget of our parish depends greatly on the generosity of all of you, parishioners. By not receiving parish offertory at Masses, our budget has suffered greatly. I kindly ask for your continued financial support to maintain the parish. May the Lord bless you always, Fr. Alexander Tigga.**
- **Our parish has been given an online contribution option through the Diocese of Tucson website ([diocesetucson.org](http://diocesetucson.org)), there is a 2.5% transaction fee to use this service. If you do not wish to pay any transaction fee, you may also mail your contribution check to St. Therese Parish PO BOX 435, PATAGONIA, AZ 85624. Please write your envelope box #.**

**\*Ramon Miranda is available Monday-Friday 9:00am-2:00pm for any parish office matters. Cell phone #520-313-4813, or email [sttheresa@dakotacom.net](mailto:sttheresa@dakotacom.net)**

**\*Angel Wings Thrift shop is closed until further notice.**

**\*Religious Education Classes have been cancelled until further notice.**

**\*Bingo has been cancelled until further notice.**

**Prayer Request**

Paco Moreno	Bob Bilodeau	Don Witt
Ruben Mendoza	Dr. Jesse	Art Pena
Virginia Fain	Cruz Quiroga	Delfina Madrid
Paul Mihalik, Sr.	Sadie G.	Amelia Barrios
Lucy Mihalik	Joseph Hann	Harold Swyers
Pam D.	Waclaw Wolosik	Jeannette Swyers
Steve Biddle	Pelagia Wolosik	
Walter Wolosik	Bill Swyers	
Nancy Swyers	John Swyers	

MAY 2020	Patagonia	Sonoita	Total
Regular Offering	\$758.00	\$680.00	\$1,438.00
Goal			\$1,650.00
Over /Under Goal			\$
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection- Parish Priest Salary	\$610.00	\$115.00	\$725.00

**Upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> Collections:**

May 17- Poor & Needy  
 May 24- Catholic Communications  
 May 31- Parish Priest Salary

**Parish Office News**

**Dear Parishioners,**

**Please feel free to contact me with**

**any parish business as I am**

**working from my home office.**

**Mass Intentions**

**DAILY**

**MASS**

**INTENTION**

**FOR**

**ALL THE**

**MEMBERS OF**

**ST. THERESE & OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS**

**PARISH**

**Parish Home Office**

**Hours:**

**Contact Ramon at**

**520-313-4813 or**

**[sttheresa@dakotacom.net](mailto:sttheresa@dakotacom.net).**

**Monday-Friday**

**9:00am-2:00pm**

**Sacramental Life**

**Baptism:** Contact Parish Office one month prior to the desired date

**Confirmation:** Contact Parish Office for information and schedule

**Marriage:** Contact the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to the desired date

## **Reopening our Parishes for Public Worship**

The Roman Catholic Church has a long theological tradition of committed work to ensure the common good, experienced at present by sheltering at home and social distancing. In these ways faithful Catholics have had a positive impact on the common good, reflecting the love of neighbor in a unique and meaningful way. Nevertheless, the cessation of public worship has been stressful and disheartening for many of us and we are understandably anxious to return to public worship.

### **Reopening of Parishes for receiving Holy Communion only on Ascension**

I have agreed to implement a gradual reopening of our parishes for public worship after consultation with numerous persons in leadership roles in the Tucson Diocese, along with attention given to the medical and scientific community. Because the situation remains highly fluid our reopening of parishes also will be marked by adaptations along the way. Most especially, if at any time that we see an intensity in Coronavirus contagion, an overwhelming of our healthcare facilities, or other factors that advise a change to our plans, then be assured that we will do so. Indeed, this could include returning to the state of closing our churches to public worship once again. We will not let our love for the practice of our faith overcome our call to be faithful citizens attentive to the common good.

With all this in mind, I am permitting individual pastors, at their discretion, to provide the faithful with Holy Communion beginning with the weekend of May 23/24, the celebration of the Ascension of the Lord. There will be no public Masses at that time. However, Holy Communion may be distributed outdoors, typically following a Mass celebrated privately (without a congregation or participants) by the pastor. Parishioners might also view a Mass on television or via internet prior to receiving Holy Communion at their parish. You will need to check your local parish's web site or Facebook page to determine if this will take place at your parish and how the local protocol to receive Holy Communion will be provided.

### **The Sunday Mass Obligation Suspended**

Roman Catholic theology teaches that we do not ordinarily separate reception of Holy Communion from the celebration of Mass. While receiving Eucharist after a Mass viewed through technology is an imperfect situation, it is for now the best. It is especially critical that all Catholics be reminded that there is some inherent risk for anyone going to any public place, including a church. The decision to return to the public celebrations of our faith during this time of pandemic should not be made casually or lightly by anyone.

The Sunday Mass obligation has been suspended indefinitely for all Catholics living in or visiting the Tucson Diocese. No one is required to return to receive Holy Communion or return to in-person Masses at this time. Those age 65 or older, as well as anyone with a chronic health condition, are strongly urged to remain at home and not come onto church premises. This is a time when such persons should let the church come to them in perhaps a secondary but still meaningful way-via the internet, television, and

other means of technology. Likewise, anyone feeling ill in any way is urged, in the strongest sense, to remain at home and not risk accidental harm to the community gathered at church or other public places.

### **Public Mass as early as Pentecost**

Beginning with the following weekend (May 29-June 1), with the celebration of Pentecost, pastors may petition the Bishop for permission to begin limited public celebrations of the Mass. Please note, parishes will not automatically open on any particular day. Rather, each pastor must certify to his parishioners

and to the bishop that basic safety protocols will be in place before their particular parish opens to the public. Those protocols pertain to social distancing ( outdoors and indoors) at our churches, limitations on numbers present for a Mass, proper cleaning of church facilities, the use of face masks, hand sanitizers, certain ways in which the Mass may/may not be celebrated, and a host of other factors. To achieve this goal many parishes will schedule additional Masses.

**Weekend Masses extended from Friday through Monday**

For this reason I am allowing weekend Masses to begin on Friday and extend through Monday. There are to be no public celebrations of any kind on Tuesday through Thursday to allow for additional cleaning as well as three days' time for any indication of the Corona virus to die. Pastors also might call forth special ministers from the non-vulnerable population or undertake other special means to lessen the risk for contagion at our churches. Outdoor Masses remain preferable at this time as well as parking-lot Masses (but with the reception of Holy Communion beginning on Ascension). Catholics likewise are urged to graciously and politely leave, should they approach a church and find a "church is now full" sign at the entrance. Once a church is certified for public liturgies, weddings and funerals may once again be celebrated for larger communities but strictly following all protocols given for weekend liturgies.

It is my hope that in this gradual opening of our parishes we will be attentive to our great desire to continue the full exercise of our faith as well as undertake reasonable effort to ensure the well-being of our people and the common good. I call upon Catholics to be especially attentive to their pastors as they work with parish leadership to institute these critical protocols. I also call upon faithful Catholics and all persons of good will to join me in prayers for an end to the pandemic as well as charitable endeavors for all those harmed by the virus, unemployment, or other factors.

May God bless you abundantly.

+Edward J. Weisenburger  
Bishop of Tucson

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings to you all. I hope all of you are doing well and keeping fine. Please find Sunday Homily in the mail. God bless you.

## Sixth Sunday of Easter Year A

**Deep within us is a place of stillness where we are alone  
and that is where we find the grace for everything else.**

### **Acts 8:5-8, 14-17**

Stephen was stoned to death and he became the first Christian Martyr. Great persecution began led by Saul – many men and women were thrown into jail. However, the apostles with great courage and wisdom continued their mission of proclaiming the good news of the resurrection of Jesus, preaching God's Word and healing the sick. This excerpt tells us about Philip preaching in Samaria. We see the barriers between Jews and Samaritans breaking down in the early Church. This brought great joy to the apostles. Peter and John came down to Samaria to share this joy.

**Be strong! Stand your ground! Be men and women of courage and hope and virtue and the good news of the risen Jesus.**

### **Psalm 66**

The Psalmist invites all people, not just the believing Israel, to shout joyfully to the Lord and sing him glorious praises. He marvels at the awesome deeds of the Lord and calls all people to be faithful to their promises and vows. God is so awesome and so powerful that his enemies have no chance, but cringe! He invites all people to come and see what God has done.

**Shout joyfully to God all you on earth,  
Sing praise to the glory of his name;  
Proclaim his glorious praise.....  
Let all the earth worship and sing praise to you.....**

### **1 Peter 3:15-18**

Christians had to defend themselves and their faith in a hostile and suspicious world. Peter advised them to give "reasonable" and "intelligent" statement of faith and do it with "gentleness" and "reverence". The real defense of faith is "clear conscience", he said. Meet criticisms with a life beyond reproach.

**Peter tells his readers and us today that it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong, if it is God's will.**

### **John 14:15-21**

The true test of love is obedience: "if you love me, keep my commandments....." Jesus promised to send the disciples and us a "helper", "parakletos" to help us in our struggle with being disciples and being obedient to his commands. "Parakletos" translated from Greek as "helper" is someone who is called in to give witness, to be an advocate, to be a support, to plead a cause, to give advice in difficult situation, to empower with new courage and spirit.....someone who is called in to help in time of trouble or need.

"Parakletos" is often translated "comforter". The word comforter, in its original sense, tells us what John means in this excerpt....Comforter is someone who enabled or empowered dispirited people to be brave, to be courageous....the word comfort has its roots in the Latin word "fortis" meaning "brave" or courageous.

**The Holy Spirit is sent to take away our inadequacies and enable or empower us to cope with life situations. Jesus tells us that the world can not recognize the Holy Spirit....we can see only what we are open to seeing.**

This excerpt, once again, reminds us that our security is in our obedience to Christ and his way. Those who love him will obey him and those who obey him will find security in him. Obedience is the only proof of love. Obedient, trusting, confident love leads us to ultimate security. Obedient, trusting, confident relationship leads us to deeper knowledge and experience of God.

**The Holy Spirit is given to us to enable or empower us to joyfully live our life of obedience to God and God's ways.**

**With prayers and all the good wishes**

Fr. Alexander Tigga MSFS

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284 Sonoita Ave.  
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Patagonia, AZ 85624  
Ph. 520-394-2954

## THE REASON FOR OUR HOPE

“What is the reason for your hope?” Imagine somebody coming up to you and asking you that question. Not “What are you hoping for?” or “What are you hoping to do?” No, this isn’t about our desires for possessions or aspirations for life, it’s “Why do you hope?” Peter today tells us that we ought to be ready to give an answer to this question. Truth be told, few of us spend much time thinking about why we hope. Luckily, the scriptures today give us our answers. We hope because Christ suffered for us, in order that we might come to God. We hope because we know that, in the Spirit, God grants us another Advocate through Christ to remain with us always. No matter what we might hope for, whatever we might hope to do, we must always first know and proclaim the reason for our hope: the presence of God in Christ, with us through the power of the Spirit.

### TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — The people of Samaria accepted the word of God preached by Philip; they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:5-8, 14-17).

**Psalm** — Let all the earth cry out to God with joy (Psalm 66)

**Second Reading** — Act with gentleness and reverence toward all, so that when you are maligned those who defame you will be the ones put to shame (1 Peter 3:15-18) *or* 1 Peter 4:13-16.

**Gospel** — I will not leave you orphans, but will come to you (John 14:15-21) *or* Jn 17:1-11a.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b;  
Jn 15:26 — 16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23;  
Mt 28:16-20 (for Ascension); otherwise  
Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday: Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8; 1 Pt 4:13-16;  
Jn 17:1-11a; or (for Ascension)  
Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23;  
Mt 28:16-20

### LIGHT OF BELIEF

Every believer in this world must become a spark of light.

—Pope Saint John XXIII