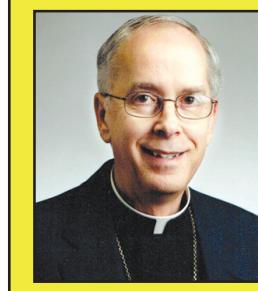


# the Rio Grande Catholic



IS THIS ADDRESS  
CORRECT?  
IF NOT, CUT IT OUT,  
CORRECT IT AND  
SEND TO:  
THE RIO GRANDE  
CATHOLIC  
499 ST. MATHEWS ST.  
EL PASO, TX 79907



InSeitz-Into The Faith  
Go Out To All The World  
Pg. 3

VOL.25 NUMBER 13

SERVING 646,340 CATHOLICS IN THE DIOCESE OF EL PASO

MAY 2017

**Catholics  
From El Paso  
Attend Catholic  
Advocacy Day in  
Austin pg. 5**

**The House  
Won't Let Us  
Leave pg. 9**

**ALUMNI  
SPOTLIGHT:  
Sofia Larkin  
Appleby  
Loretto  
Academy  
Pg.15**

**Seminarian  
Benefit  
at  
Alamo Draft  
House  
Pg.19**

By: Nancy Ramos, Rio Grande Catholic Editor

During the forty days when Jesus eats and drinks with his disciples teaching them about the kingdom after rising from death he leaves them with the task of starting his church. And so, I think...I too am his disciple and every year I recognize he has left me with the task of continuing his church. What do I choose to do about it?

I once was told by a very wise guidance counselor in middle school, "Passivity is the Enemy". Four of the most meaningful words I have carried close to my heart and engrained in my mind. Throughout the years, Mr. Diaz's words have resonated with me and I have contemplated upon them throughout almost every stage of my life. I always took his words and measured my actions towards every goal and achievement. I wanted to make sure I remained progressive and always feared becoming passive.

Most recently I have come to realize I have lacked reflection on my actions as a disciple of our church. Many times, I have felt a little run down and so I chose to yawn my way through each day without having to truly mobilize for a Catholic cause or belief. I let my Catholic convictions take a back seat and chose to simply go through the motions of participating in my parish church. But as I reflect on my counselor's wise words, I am reminded each time that it is important that we take steps to achieve the goals we feel most passionate about and the goals our Lord asked of us. My relationship with Christ

is at the top of my priorities but the goals of his church will only be realized through the actions I take. I must consciously remind myself to do the works the Lord entrusted me to do the day his humanly body ascended into Heaven in Glory to take his seat at the right hand of the Father. I cannot expect to influence change by only attending mass on Sundays and Days of Holy Obligation. I cannot expect the world to hear what we as Catholics identify at the core of our beliefs if all I do is participate in the annual fundraiser and food drive. I want to ask more from myself.

Jesus left us alive in the Ascension not dead and his request for us to continue his work is also alive. We cannot choose to be passive. There does exist a need for action and action can be generosity, testimony, charity, advocacy and so much more. Keeping this in mind, I have chosen that I must become more diligent in making sure I write the letters to my political representatives to reinforce Catholic Advocacy Day efforts. I must make sure to give that little extra in special collections at Sunday mass. I must read the Pope's encyclicals and see how I can align

my personal efforts with his. I must become more informed on how to defend my Catholic beliefs when so many times we are being challenged. If I am truly faithful then only passively attending mass can no longer be an option.

The Lord left us to continue his work and all that we have been given belongs to him. As good stewards we are asked to give more back than what was initially given to us. The form in which we give is up to us but taking action to do the Lord's work is what matters most but it does require more than what we already do.

## Ascension of the Lord Now It's Time to Do His Work

By: Nancy Ramos, Rio Grande Catholic Editor

is at the top of my priorities but the goals of his church will only be realized through the actions I take. I must consciously remind myself to do the works the Lord entrusted me to do the day his humanly body ascended into Heaven in Glory to take his seat at the right hand of the Father. I cannot expect to influence change by only attending mass on Sundays and Days of Holy Obligation. I cannot expect the world to hear what we as Catholics identify at the core of our beliefs if all I do is participate in the annual fundraiser and food drive. I want to ask more from myself.

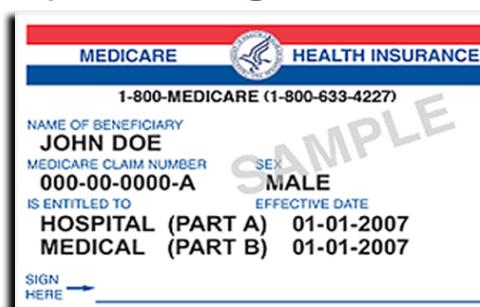
Jesus left us alive in the Ascension not dead and his request for us to continue his work is also alive. We cannot choose to be passive. There does exist a need for action and action can be generosity, testimony, charity, advocacy and so much more. Keeping this in mind, I have chosen that I must become more diligent in making sure I write the letters to my political representatives to reinforce Catholic Advocacy Day efforts. I must make sure to give that little extra in special collections at Sunday mass. I must read the Pope's encyclicals and see how I can align

## Incremente su cheque del Seguro Social por \$104.90

**Reune usted los requisitos para el programa  
de Descuentos de Medicare ???**

**Verifique los límites de ingreso aquí abajo**

**Si usted califica para el Programa de  
Descuentos de Medicare podria ser Elegible  
para que la prima que usted paga de la PARTE B  
sea rembolzada por el estado. Dependiendo  
cuando tomo su PARTE B pudiera incrementar su  
cheque del Seguro Social hasta \$135.00 dls al mes.**



**Límite de Ingreso Mensual:  
Casado, menos de \$1793  
Soltero, menos de \$1325**  
Otros "Requisitos"  
financieros deben ser aprobados

**BYGA Healthcare  
Insurance. For a Medicare  
No-cost Consultation  
Call Today!  
ELPASOMEDICAREPLANS.COM**



**915-613-5102**

**Llamando a este numero se comunicara con un agente con licencia**

# My Migrant Way of The Cross

March 25th marked a day of pilgrimage up Mt. Cristo Rey, Migrant Way of the Cross. We offered the hike up Mt. Cristo Rey as sacrifice in solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters to shed light on the many stories of immigrant struggles and to pray for change. That day I awoke at 5am eager to make the hike up the landmark shrine of the faithful with my eleven-year-old son. On the drive to Mt. Cristo Rey I couldn't help but think about the most recent immigration policy headlines and what they meant to our region and our people. I kept thinking how much I wanted my son to leave this experience up Mt. Cristo Rey with sense of empowerment to influence change through the power of prayer. I needed him to witness how important it is for each of us as Catholic citizens of this great country to remain civically and spiritually engaged.

Arriving at the base

of the mountain we waited for the crowd to arrive and gather. My first trip up the mountain was about to begin. When we lined up and made our way to the first station of the cross my son bee-lined to the very front so far that it was too difficult for me to catch him. At that point, I realized he was walking with Bishop and I was walking without him.

As I walked I had time alone in prayer and what started out to be a living lesson for my son became a journey down my own immigrant history. I am the daughter of an immigrant, my mother. In her last days with us before losing her battle with cancer she gave me the gift of finally opening up about her childhood and how she migrated to the United States. My mom's life in Mexico was one she rarely discussed so I think in the end she felt the need to share what was part of my heritage. My mother was born in San Bernardo, Durango, a very tiny remote town with a

small center square and less than 700 in population most of which are indigenous. It was a place of poverty and almost no opportunity. Eventually she and her family moved to



Nancy Ramos  
Director/Editor

Chihuahua and found their way to Juarez for work. At the age of 16 according to my mom her family had ventured into some questionable "not so legal" industries just to survive. It was then that her mother (my grandmother) sent her away to live in El Paso with a close family friend. Her "Tia" Eva

gave her a chance at a better life. It was there that my mom was able to finally dream a bigger dream. Everything that followed is our family history and the legacy of my parents 50-year marriage. After 40+ years of permanent residency, marriage to a born citizen and World War II veteran and what she witnessed on 9-11, she finally chose to become a naturalized U.S. citizen. But her wounds of living impoverished in Mexico and then being sent away to live with strangers in order to be safe, I know never fully healed inside her.

As I walked and listened to more recent stories of immigrants and the dangers they face from human traffickers to drug cartels to the natural elements, I was reminded of just how desperate things continue becoming in other countries. I realized just how lucky my mom was to have been spared these dangers but at the same time I cannot

imagine what it felt like for my grandma to send her daughter to live in another country. While I listened to the stories of Melissa the 12-year old forced into prostitution while attempting to cross alone into the U.S. and Lorenzo who was forced to smuggle drugs in his home country but still does not qualify for asylum, my prayers were evoking feelings of knowing in my heart and in my own family history these stories hit so many of us close to home. As we walked from one station to the next my singing became louder and my prayers deeper for those who are walking across deserts for a chance to get to a better place, for those who are fleeing violence or war for a chance to live in peace and finally for those of us who are descendants of the migrant struggle.

Towards the last three stations I finally caught up to my son as he waited for me when he realized I wasn't right next to him. We walked the last three stations together as the daughter and grandson of an immigrant. We prayed intently as we read and heard even more stories that demonstrate how the immigrant burden is heavier now than ever before. As I looked across the scenic vista I took a picture of the border wall and both sides of the two countries. I could see the possible reason why Fr. Costa chose this mountain to erect his monument to Christ. Arriving at the top after about a three-hour hike was an inspiring moment to see the hundreds that made the hike with us. We made our final stretch up to the monument and when we arrived to the very top along with the many others not even the wind could be heard as we stood in silence, in prayer and in solidarity with our immigrant family.

Our ride home was a quiet one. The next day we passed the stretch of highway next to UTEP and my son looked intently over to the Mexican side at all the colorful tiny houses. He asked me if those houses across the border were like the ones my family once lived in. I told him I did not know but having them in clear view every time we drive I-10 should serve as a reminder that people do live in them and should they choose to make the journey to leave their circumstances for a chance at a better life, they don't deserve to lose their lives or human dignity in the process. He responded, "Grandma would've been proud of us". Happy Mother's Day Mom and thank you for making your immigrant journey.

## Affordable Funerals & Cremations



## PERCHES FUNERAL HOMES

West • East • Central • Northeast • Lower Valley • Las Cruces • Juárez

We Specialize in Ship Outs to Mexico and Worldwide

WE ARE THE ONLY FAMILY-OWNED FUNERAL HOME WITH LOCATIONS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER TO HELP YOU WITH ALL OF YOUR FUNERAL NEEDS

[www.perchesfuneralhomes.com](http://www.perchesfuneralhomes.com) • [www.grupoperches.com](http://www.grupoperches.com)

Responsible for building the altar for Pope Francisco's historic visit and conducting the funeral for one of the world's most beloved singers, Juan Gabriel.

- Offering the Most Comprehensive Funeral Services and Product Selection
- Preferred Pricing for Veterans and Hospice Patients
- We Accept All Funeral Plans From Other Funeral Homes & Will Refund the Difference in Policy Amount Versus Actual Cost
- Substantial Savings at Time of Need or When You Preplan Your Funeral

Call Us At  
**915-532-2101**

For Service in Juárez, call  
**01152 (656) 6-13-21-31**  
For Service in Las Cruces, call  
**575.526.6891**



**\$250** PrePlanning Discount  
Traditional Burial or Traditional Cremation Service

Must Present This Coupon or Ad  
When Preplanning to Receive Discount  
Cannot be Combined with Other Offers/Promotions

Offer Expires 7/1/2018

**\$695**  
Direct Cremation Service

Must Present This Coupon or Ad  
When Arranging to Receive Discount  
Cannot be Combined with Other Offers/Promotions

Offer Expires 7/1/2018

Salvador Perches — Recipient of the 2016 Small Business Administration  
EL Paso District Entrepreneurial Success Award / American Funeral Director of the Year

# Go Out To All The World

"When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go one to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.'" (Mk. 1:37-38)

Jesus took the same approach with his disciples when he sent them out, instructing them to travel lightly so they could be free to bring his word wherever they were needed. In my life moving to different assignments was always a challenge, because as a priest I came to feel very much a part of the community I served. On the other hand I also found this movement to be a very rich time in my own understanding of my calling and my commitment to it.

Jesus calls the rich young man to lay aside his other attachments and concerns and to "Come and follow me." I had to take this to a new level when I was called to serve as your bishop. I never would have imagined myself serving in this wonderful West Texas region, but God did. In this spirit of a desire to be open to God's will I adopted my Episcopal Motto, "Paratum cor meum", which translates, "My heart is ready". The call to leave behind what is familiar and move on to a new place to share the Good News echoes through the ages and continues among us today. Priests are called to be radically committed disciples of Jesus Christ who reflect his way of life and ministry.

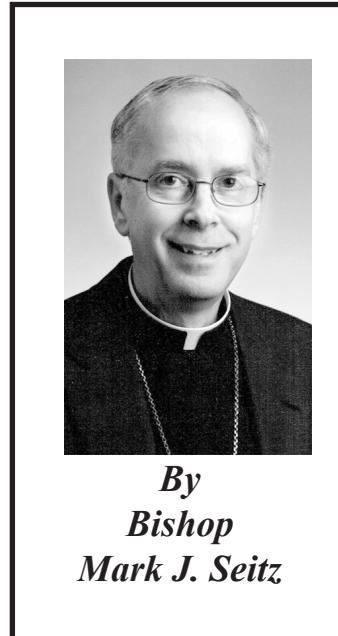
This month a number of new assignments for priests in our Diocese will be announced. If your pastor is among those moving I am sure this will be painful for you who have come to know and love your pastor over a number of years. That you love them so is a great blessing. It is understandable that you would. Our priests are some pretty special people! As scripture says, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news." They are there for you in some of the best times (like weddings and baptisms) and in some of the most difficult times (like times of illness and death). They share our lives and feel like members of our families. I can assure you that the regular movement of priests within a

diocese is neither a punishment nor is it simply for the sake of change. This is a normal part of priestly ministry. Like the first disciples we do not claim a specific place as our own. Diocesan Priests are Ordained for the service of a particular diocese, not for a particular parish. We each bring certain gifts and talents. We also have very human shortcomings. Some priests are very effective with the youth, others with the elderly. Some are more effective with one culture or language group than another. Regular movement allows for those gifts and talents to be shared more broadly and for the weaknesses only to be experienced for a time by the community.

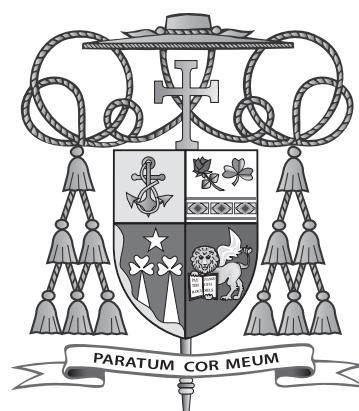
When a priest is in one place for too long a time, since he is a key sign of Christ within the community, the people can overly identify Christ with the individual priest. No one priest can represent Christ in his fullness. Each Christian community is a special locus of Christ. It is not healthy for it to be seen simply as "Fr. Jones' Parish". It needs to be identified as the "Parish of St. \_\_\_\_\_, served by Fr. Jones". When Fr. Jones moves to another parish the community retains its identity and its mission.

We have in the Diocese a great Personnel Board made up of well-respected priests of the diocese. They are: Msgr. David Fierro, Fr. John Telles, Fr. Frank Lopez, Fr. Saul Pacheco, Fr. Joe Molina and Fr. Tony Celino. I am working with them to find the best ways to fill the needs that lie before us. And we are praying earnestly to the Holy Spirit for guidance. The task is challenging because right now we simply do not have enough priests to fill all our needs. We have been blessed lately to find priests from other countries who are assisting us greatly. Our need for Vocations coming from our own communities for the future is great. I am happy to report that the number of young men stepping forward to discern a call to the priesthood is growing rapidly. There is great hope for the future! I want to encourage you to do your best to make a challenging moment in our priests' lives as smooth as possible. Encourage your priests who

are being asked to take a new assignment. Assure them of your support and your love. Don't make them explain over and over why they are being faithful to their calling. When



**By  
Bishop  
Mark J. Seitz**



your new pastor arrives go out of your way to show him the same hospitality you showed me upon my arrival in El Paso. It made what was a challenging time in my life, leaving the place I had been for more than 40 years, into a real joy and a time of growth for me.

Bishop Mark

# Vayan Al Mundo

"Cuando lo encontraron, le dijeron: 'Todo el mundo te busca'. Y él respondió: 'Vayamos a los pueblos vecinos, para que yo también proclame allí el mensaje; Porque eso es a lo que he venido a hacer'. (Marcos 1:37-38)

Jesús tomó el mismo enfoque con sus discípulos cuando los envió, instruyéndolos a viajar ligeramente para que pudieran ser libres de traer su palabra a dondequiera que fuera esta necesaria.

En mi vida, moverme de entre diferentes asignaciones fue siempre un desafío, porque como sacerdote, llegué a sentirme parte de la comunidad a la que servía. Por otro lado, también encontré que este movimiento fue un tiempo ricamente adherido a mi propia comprensión de mi vocación y mi compromiso para con ella.

Jesús llama al joven rico a que deje a un lado sus otros apegos y preocupaciones y que; "Vaya y lo siga". Yo mismo, tuve que tomar esto a un nuevo nivel cuando fui llamado a servir como su obispo. Nunca me hubiera imaginado sirviendo en esta maravillosa región del Oeste de Texas, pero Dios sí. En este espíritu de deseo de estar abiertos a la voluntad de Dios, adopté mi lema episcopal, "Paratum cor meum", que significa: "Mi corazón está listo". El llamado a dejar atrás lo que es familiar y pasar a un nuevo lugar para compartir la Buena Noticia hace eco a través de los siglos y continúa entre nosotros, el día de hoy. Así mismo los sacerdotes están llamados a ser discípulos radicalmente comprometidos con Jesucristo y que reflejen su modo de vida y ministerio.

Este mes se anunciarán una serie de nuevas asignaciones para los sacerdotes en nuestra Diócesis. Si su pastor está entre los que se muevan, estoy seguro de que esto será doloroso para ustedes, quienes han llegado a conocer y a amar a su pastor durante varios años. ¡Que los amen así es una gran bendición! Es comprensible que lo hagan. ¡Nuestros sacerdotes son gente muy especial! Como dice la Escritura: "¡Cuán hermosos son los pies de los que traen buenas nuevas!". Están allí

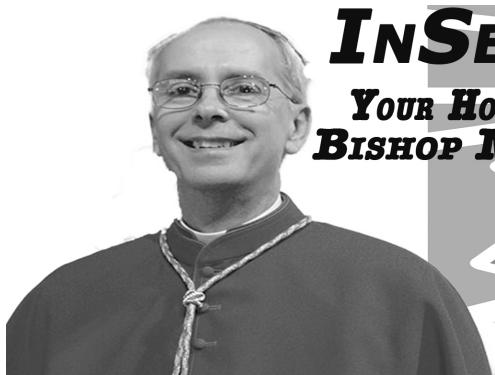
para ustedes en algunos de los mejores momentos (como bodas y bautismos) y en algunos de los momentos más difíciles (como los tiempos de la enfermedad y la muerte). Ellos comparten nuestras vidas y se siente como si fuesen miembros de nuestras familias.

Puedo asegurarles que el movimiento regular de sacerdotes dentro de una diócesis no es ni un castigo, ni tampoco simplemente por el bien del cambio. Esta es una parte normal del ministerio sacerdotal. Al igual que los primeros discípulos, no reclamamos un lugar específico como nuestro. Los sacerdotes diocesanos son ordenados para el servicio de una determinada diócesis, no para una parroquia en particular. Cada uno trae ciertos dones y talentos. También tenemos deficiencias muy humanas. Algunos sacerdotes son muy eficaces con los jóvenes, otros con los ancianos. Algunos son más eficaces con una cultura o grupo lingüístico, que con otro. El movimiento regular permite que estos dones y talentos sean compartidos más ampliamente y que las debilidades sólo sean experimentadas por un tiempo por la comunidad.

Cuando un sacerdote está en un lugar por un tiempo demasiado largo, ya que él es un signo clave de Jesucristo dentro de la comunidad, el pueblo puede sobre-identificar a Cristo en la persona de solo este sacerdote. Ningún sacerdote puede representar a Cristo en su plenitud. Cada comunidad cristiana es un lugar especial de Cristo. No es saludable que la comunidad se vea simplemente como la "Parroquia del Padre Jones". Tiene que ser identificada como la "Parroquia de St. \_\_\_\_\_, servida por el Padre Jones". Cuando el Padre Jones se traslada a otra parroquia, la comunidad conserva su identidad y su misión.

Tenemos en la Diócesis a una grandiosa Mesa Directiva formada por muy respetados sacerdotes y ellos son: Monseñor David Fierro, el Padre John Telles, el Padre Frank López, el Padre Saúl Pacheco, el Padre Joe Molina y el Padre Tony Celino.

Estoy trabajando con ellos para encontrar las mejores maneras de llenar CONTINUED on Pg. 7



**YOUR HOST  
BISHOP MARK J. SEITZ**

*Happy Birthday*

Rev. John Curran, OFM Conv	5-2
Rev. Jose Delacruz Longoria, MNM	5-3
Rev. Flavio Alberto Hernandez	5-7
Rev. Miguel Alcuino	5-8
Rev. Jose Alfredo Ramirez, OFM	5-10
Rev. James W. Hall	5-11
Msgr. Arturo Bañuelos	5-12
Rev. Sergio Roberto Hernandez, OFM	5-13
Rev. John Paul Madanu (Extern)	5-16
Rev. Frank Renfroe, SJ	5-19
Rev. Samuel Rosales, SJ	5-19
Rev. Arturo M. Gonzalez, OSM	5-21
Rev. Ralph Jr. Solis	5-21
Rev. Antonio Mena	5-24
Rev. Tobias M. Macias, OSM	5-28

*Ordination Anniversaries*

Rev. Miguel Alcuino	5-4
Rev. Federico Franco, OSM	5-4
Rev. Roberto Coyne, MM	5-7
Rev. Hector Chicas, (OP)	5-11
Most Rev. Mark Joseph Seitz	5-17
Rev. Miguel Briseno, OFM Conv.	5-19
Rev. Kevin O'Neill, FSSP	5-19
Rev. Donald J. Adamski, OFM	5-24
Rev. Edward Carpenter, Jr.	5-25
Rev. William Morton, SSC	5-25
Rev. Edward Paul Roden-Lucero	5-25

*the Rio Grande Catholic*

499 St. Matthews St.  
El Paso, TX 79907  
Phone: (915) 872-8414  
Fax: (915) 872-8435

E Mail address:  
[riogrande@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:riogrande@elpasodiocese.org)

Publisher - Most Rev. Mark J. Seitz, D.D.

Editor - Nancy Ramos

Spanish Translator - Martha Marmolejo

Photographer - Joe Najera

Advertising - Nancy Ramos (915) 872-8414

Contributors - Janet M. Crowe

Fr. Wilson Cuevas

*the Rio Grande Catholic* (ISSN#1079-9621) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by the Office of Communications, Diocese of El Paso, 499 St. Matthews St., El Paso, TX 79907. Phone (915) 872-8414, Fax (915) 872-8435. "PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT EL PASO TX." POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to *the Rio Grande Catholic*, 499 St. Matthews St., El Paso, TX 79907.

*the Rio Grande Catholic* is a monthly newspaper assisting the Bishop of the Diocese of El Paso by communicating the events and themes of the faith life of the local and universal church through news reports, features, columns and photographs. Articles and photographs become the property of *the Rio Grande Catholic*. If photos are on loan to the newspaper, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for their return. Advertising deadline is the last Friday of each month.

Printer - PDX Printing.

Rio Grande Catholic on the Web at [www.riograndecatholic.org](http://www.riograndecatholic.org)

El Paso Diocese on the Web at [www.elpasodiocese.org](http://www.elpasodiocese.org)



©2014 by  
*the Rio Grande Catholic*  
All rights reserved.



#### Diocese offers assistance for victims of sexual abuse

Bishop Mark J. Seitz invites anyone who has been a victim of sexual abuse by a priest, deacon, religious or any minister of the church, to contact the Victims Assistance Coordinator, Mrs. Susan Martinez, LCSW, at (915) 872-8465 or the Chancery, (915) 872-8407. The Church desires the healing of anyone that has been harmed.

#### La Diócesis ofrece asistencia a las víctimas de abuso sexual

El Obispo Mark J. Seitz invita a cualquier persona que haya sido víctima de abuso sexual por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o ministro de la iglesia, para que se comunique con la Coordinadora de Asistencia a Víctimas, Sra. Susan Martínez, LCSW, al teléfono 872-8465 o con la Cancillería, 872-8407.

La Iglesia desea sanar a toda persona que haya sido lastimada.

## Upcoming Collections



The Trinity Dome National Collection is approved by the bishops of the United States and will take place on Mother's Day, May 14, 2017. This is a special one-time national collection to complete the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

Affectionately referred to as America's Catholic Church, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, has been a century in the making since the laying of its foundation in 1920.

Designated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops as a National Sanctuary of Prayer and Pilgrimage, the Basilica is our nation's preeminent Marian Shrine, dedicated to the Patroness of the United States, the Blessed Virgin Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. Mary's Shrine, as it is often called, is the largest Roman Catholic Church in North America and is one of the ten largest churches in the world. The completion of the Trinity Dome, in preparation of the 100th anniversary of the placing of the foundation stone of the National Shrine in 2020, is a monumental undertaking

for which the Bishops of the United States have approved a special one-time collection to take place in-pew on May 14, 2017.

The special collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign will be taken on the weekend of May 27 and May 28, 2017. The Rio Grande Catholic and the Catholic Communications Campaign share an important mission in the Church; to contribute to the process of evangelization by fostering activities in relation to television, radio and other media, and through special projects of the Catholic press.

The Catholic Communications Campaign provides funds for national and diocesan communications projects. Contributions to this campaign works in two levels. Half of all donations are given to bishops to support communications in their dioceses. This means that The Rio Grande Catholic receives 50 percent of the donations that our parishioners give to this collection. The remaining 50 percent supports national television, radio, internet, and print programs that reach beyond the diocesan level.

## Photo of the Month

### St. Rafael's Health Ministry



# CATHOLICS FROM EL PASO ADVOCATE FOR A BETTER TEXAS FOR ALL

By: Marco Raposo, Justice and Peace Ministry Director

In the March issue of the Rio Grande Catholic, we wrote about the TCCB Advocacy Day in Austin and how we were engaging in this advocacy effort in support our Texas Catholic bishops.

On April 4th, a delegation of Catholics from eight different parishes in our diocese (Saint Luke, Christ the Savior, Saint Joseph, Saint Pius X, Saint Raphael, Saint Mark, Saints Peter and Paul, and San Lorenzo) went to Austin to advocate on behalf of the unborn, the immigrant, the poor, the death roll inmate, etc., following the agenda of the Catholic Church in Texas.

It was a challenging trip but a wonderful advocacy experience for both veterans and new alike. Some of the veterans from two years ago were now team captains and helped to organize the effort,

while many of the first timers were very excited with this important opportunity.

"The experience was wonderful", said Arturo Guerrero from Saint Peter and Paul, "we brought our Catholic way of thinking to the legislators and made clear we have a voice and a vote, thus we want to be heard; we hope in their listening to us and for this reason I believe we accomplished our goal."

Laura Ramirez from Saint Luke said that "we have an obligation to prepare ourselves and take interest in the challenges affecting our community, specially the most poor and vulnerable; we need to learn, participate, and be the clear voice of these needs to our legislators."

We visited our elected officials and brought to them the values of our faith to

bear on the state legislation being crafted, so we can help to make a better Texas for everyone, specially the poor and vulnerable.

As the event unfolded on April 4th, we were sending pictures live to our communication office, so they could place them on Facebook (check them out).

"It was a great opportunity to be part of the legislative process as it unfolds and to see so many young people attending the rally. It was energizing," said Emmanuel and Pablo, who attend Saint Joseph.

We all felt the impact of joining with thousands of Catholics from all over the state in front of the Capitol led by our bishops in a rally on behalf of our brothers and sisters poor and vulnerable.



We were fifty from El Paso! Houston brings one thousand Catholics and San Antonio, seven hundred. But they are just around the corner from Austin. Fifty from El Paso was a major accomplishment for our diocese and our delegation was noticed for this major effort!! Judging from Bishop

Seitz's reaction upon seeing us, I'd say he felt supported and happy to see us there.

## LOS CATÓLICOS DE EL PASO ABOGAN POR UN MEJOR TEXAS PARA TODOS

Por: Marco Raposo, Justice and Peace Ministry Director

El pasado mes de marzo publicamos en este periódico sobre el trabajo de abogacía de la TCCB en Austin y de como nuestra diócesis estaba participando en apoyo a los obispos de Texas.

El 4 de abril, una delegación de Católicos de ocho diferentes parroquias de la diócesis (Saint Luke, Christ the Savior, Saint Joseph, Saint Pius X, Saint Raphael, Saint Mark, Saints Peter and Paul, and San Lorenzo) fueron a Austin para abogar por los niños abortados, los inmigrantes, los pobres, los condenados a la muerte en la cárcel, etc, según la agenda de los obispos Católicos de Texas.

Fue un viaje difícil pero una experiencia de abogacía gratificante para ambos veteranos y novicios. Algunos de los veteranos que participaron en este evento hace dos años se hicieron capitanes de equipo y ayudaron

a organizar la abogacía este año, mientras los nuevos participantes estaban muy animados con esta importante oportunidad.

"La experiencia fue maravillosa," dijo Arturo Guerrero de la parroquia Saints Peter and Paul, "llevamos nuestra visión y valores Católicos a los legisladores y hicimos claro que votamos y tenemos voz y por eso queremos ser escuchados; tenemos esperanza de que nos han escuchado y por eso creemos que logramos nuestras metas."

Laura Ramirez de la parroquia Saint Luke dijo que "tenemos la obligación de prepararnos y interesarnos por los retos que afectan nuestra comunidad, especialmente los más pobres y vulnerables; necesitamos aprender, participar, y ser la voz clara de estas las necesidades a los

legisladores."

Visitamos nuestros legisladores y presentamos les los valores de nuestra fe para que tengan un impacto en las leyes del estado y puedan así ayudar a crear un estado de Texas mejor para todos, principalmente para los más necesitados. Mientras ejercíamos nuestra abogacía en el Capitolio, íbamos mandando fotografías a las oficinas de comunicación de la diócesis que las publicaron en Facebook (búsquenlas).

"Fue una gran oportunidad de ser parte del proceso legislativo a la medida que se desarrolla en Austin y de ver tantos jóvenes participando en el rally. Fue animador," dijeron Emmanuel y



Pablo, que van a la parroquia de Saint Joseph.

Sentimos el impacto de unirnos con miles de Católicos de todo el estado en frente al Capitolio liderados por nuestros obispos en el rally en nombre de nuestros hermanos y Hermanas pobres y vulnerables.

Éramos una delegación de cincuenta desde El Paso! Houston lleva unos mil y San Antonio unos setecientos,

pero ellos viven a la vuelta de Austin. Cincuenta desde El Paso fue un gran hecho para nuestra diócesis y nuestra delegación fue reconocida por eso. A juzgar por la reacción del obispo Seitz cuando nos vio, yo diría que se sentido apoyado y feliz de vernos allá.



# POPE FRANCIS INVITES CATHOLIC CHARISMATICS TO CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN ROME

By: Joanne D. Ivey, Open Arms Community

Honoring the 50th anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal this year, Pope Francis has invited participants from all over the world to come to St. Peter's Square for Pentecost. The Golden Jubilee of the Renewal will take place May 31-June 4 in Rome. He will also join in a gathering in the Circus Maximus on Saturday, June 3. The Pope extended the invitation on June 1, 2014, when he addressed more than 50,000 Catholic charismatics from fifty five countries at a conference Rome's Olympic Stadium. On that occasion, he knelt on the stage as the thousands present prayed with hands raised toward him, singing and praying in tongues. After a final blessing, he said, "I expect all of you, Charismatics from around the world, to celebrate your great jubilee with the Pope at Pentecost 2017 in St. Peter's Square."

Pope Francis has admitted his impression of the Charismatic Renewal in the

early years in Buenos Aires were that "they were akin to a Samba school! I did not have much love for Charismatics." However, he said "I have come to see that the movement offers a current of grace in the Church and for the Church, which is a great force meant to serve the preaching of the Gospel in the joy of the Holy Spirit."

As he became more familiar with the Renewal, then-Archbishop and later Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio celebrated a monthly Mass with local groups. Since becoming Pope he has been very supportive, following the example of his predecessors Paul VI, John Paul II, and Benedict XV. All have hosted large gatherings of charismatics in Rome, usually around Pentecost.

Charismatic groups in the El Paso Diocese are planning a local 50th Anniversary Celebration on Friday, June 23, 7-9 PM, and Saturday, June 24, 9 AM-9PM with a Mass and Healing Service at

6 PM., at Las Alas Center, on 501 East Paisano. Longtime members of the local Renewal will share history and memories. Special guests have been invited to speak including Sister Magdalena Casas-Nava, DLJC, a member of the charismatic Franciscan order based in PrayerTown, Texas. On Sunday, June 25, the celebration continues at Open Arms Center, 8210 North Loop, from 2-6 PM, with prayer and praise and a pot luck supper. Open Arms is marking its 45th anniversary year. Events are bilingual and open to everyone. Anyone who has participated in charismatic prayer groups, conferences or seminars since the Renewal reached the El Paso 1969 is especially urged to attend.

The modern Charismatic Renewal traces its origins to a retreat in 1967 attended by students from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA. They had an experience similar to that of the disciples in the Upper Room

on the first Pentecost. The revival soon spread around the world. The Catholic Charismatic Renewal is the largest approved ecclesial movement in the Church, estimated to have touched at least 120 million Catholics throughout the world. It is fully Catholic and also fully charismatic, with emphasis on a personal relationship with Jesus and an attitude of openness to the gifts of the Holy Spirit as mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles

and 1 Corinthians, including healing, prophecy, and the gift of tongues. For more information:  
Nationally:  
[www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org)  
Locally:  
[www.openarmscommunity.org](http://www.openarmscommunity.org)

LOCAL CELEBRATIONS SCHEDULED IN EL PASO JUNE 23-25



## EL PAPA FRANCISCO INVITA A LOS CATÓLICOS CARISMÁTICOS A CELEBRAR EL 50 ANIVERSARIO EN ROMA

Por: Joanne D. Ivey, Open Arms Community

En honor del 50 aniversario de la Renovación Católica Carismática, el Papa Francisco está invitando a fieles del mundo entero a reunirse en la Plaza de San Pedro para celebrar Pentecostés. El Jubileo de Oro de la renovación se llevará a cabo del 31 de Mayo al 4 de Junio en Roma. También estará presente durante un evento masivo en el Circo Máximo el sábado 3 de Junio. El Papa extendió esta invitación desde el primero de Junio del 2014 durante una conferencia en el estadio olímpico de Roma frente a más de 50,000 católicos carismáticos provenientes de 55 países. En esa ocasión el Papa se arrodilló frente a la multitud mientras extendían sus manos hacia a él cantando y haciendo oración en lenguas. Después de la bendición final dijo, "Los espero a todos ustedes, los

carismáticos de todo el mundo, a celebrar su gran jubileo con el Papa en Pentecostés del 2017 en La Plaza de San Pedro."

El Papa Francisco ha reconocido sus primeras impresiones del movimiento de Renovación en sus primeros años en Buenos Aires fueron: "¡Parece que están en una escuela de Samba! No crean que me gustaron mucho." Sin embargo, añadió: "He aprendido que el movimiento trae a la iglesia una corriente de gracias que inyectan una gran fuerza a la iglesia para predicar el evangelio con el gozo del Espíritu Santo."

Con el tiempo se familiarizó más con la renovación, y entonces el Arzobispo y posteriormente Cardenal Jorge Mario Bergoglio comenzó a celebrar una misa mensual con varios grupos. Desde que se convirtió en el Papa ha mostrado gran apoyo al

movimiento, siguiendo el ejemplo de sus predecesores Paulo VI, Juan Pablo II y Benedicto XV. Todos ellos han celebrado Pentecostés en Roma con grandes multitudes.

Grupos Carismáticos en la diócesis de El Paso están planeando un Festejo para los 50 años que va a iniciar desde el viernes 23 de Junio de 7 a 9PM, el sábado 24 de 9 AM a 9PM con una misa y servicio de sanación a las 6PM en el centro Las Alas en el 501 East Paisano. Varias personas que han pertenecido a la Renovación por varios años compartirán sus testimonios. También habrá invitados especiales como la Hermana Magdalena Casas-Nava, DLJC proveniente de la orden carismática franciscana de Prayer Town, TX. El domingo 25 la celebración continuará en Open Arms, en el 8210 North Loop Dr. De 2 a 6 de la tarde. Habrá música y

oración, traiga un platillo para compartir por favor. También estaremos festejando los 45 años de existencia de Open Arms. Ambos eventos son bilingües y abiertos a todo público. Todas las personas que han participado en alguna conferencia, retiro, grupo o experiencia carismática desde que el movimiento inició aquí en El Paso son especialmente invitadas a este evento.

La Renovación Carismática de la era moderna origina en 1967 en un retiro de jóvenes de la Universidad Duquesne de Pittsburgh PA. Ellos tuvieron una experiencia muy similar a la que tuvieron los apóstoles el día de Pentecostés. Este renacimiento pronto se expandió por todo el mundo. Se estima que el movimiento de Renovación Carismático ha tocado al menos 120 millones de personas alrededor del mundo. Es completamente



Católico y aprobado eclesiásticamente; propone un énfasis en la relación personal con Cristo vivo y una apertura a los dones del Espíritu Santo como se mencionan en el libro de los hechos de los Apóstoles y Corintios 1, que incluyen sanación, profecía, y el don de lenguas. Para más información a nivel nacional visite: [www.nsc-chariscenter.org](http://www.nsc-chariscenter.org) y localmente: [www.openarmscommunity.org](http://www.openarmscommunity.org)

FESTEJOS LOCALES PROGRAMADOS PARA JUNIO 23-25

# CHRISTIANS AND OTHER MINORITIES IN IRAQ & SYRIA NEED OUR HELP

By: Marco Raposo, Justice and Peace Ministry Director

## H.R.390 IRAQ AND SYRIA GENOCIDE EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017

In 2016, the United States officially recognized that genocide is being committed against Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East. Despite this recognition, the United States has not yet offered concrete

aid to these our brothers and sisters. Our nation has a long history of offering help to threatened populations such was the case of the Armenians in the early 20th century, the Jews during the holocaust, and, more recently, to Darfur in Sudan in the early 2000s. However, currently in Iraq and Syria, Christians who are the target of on slaughter by ISIS have not received any aid to this day.

Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, head of the Knights of Columbus, is leading a campaign to try to change this situation and urge our government to offer our brothers and sisters in Iraq and Syria, specially the Christians, some most needed aid relief. Bishop Seitz is asking us to support this campaign.

The campaign asks that no population suffering genocide be ever excluded

from U.S. government aid; that the U.S. also asks the U.N. to offer humanitarian and reconstruction help; and that the U.S. Congress pass HR 390 (co-sponsored by Rep. Smith R-NJ and Rep. Eshoo D-CA) directing the U.S. government to give aid to agencies that are helping the displaced religious and ethnic minority populations targeted for genocide.

We ask that you contact

our Congressmen Rep. Beto O'Rourke, congressional district 16 and Rep. Will Hurd, congressional district 23 and ask them to support this HR 390 legislation (Check our diocesan website on how to contact them).

# LOS CRISTIANOS Y OTRAS MINORIAS EN IRAK Y SIRIA NECESITAN NUESTRA AYUDA

Por: Marco Raposo, Justice and Peace Ministry Director

## H.R.390 IRAQ AND SYRIA GENOCIDE EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017

En el 2016, los Estados Unidos reconocieron oficialmente que se esta cometiendo genocidio en contra de varias minorias religiosas incluyendo minorias cristianas en el oriente medio. Mas alla del reconocimiento oficial, los Estados Unidos no han hecho nada en concreto hasta ahora para ayudar a estos nuestros hermanos y hermanas. Nuestra nacion tiene una larga historia en auxiliar a poblaciones amenazadas como fue el caso en principios del siglo veinte con los Armenios, despues los judios durante el holocausto, y mas recientemente con Darfur en el Sudan en 2003. Sin embargo, en Irak y Siria, los cristianos que han sido victimas de ISIS

no han recibido ninguna ayuda hasta hoy.

El Caballero Supremo Carl Anderson, presidente de los Caballeros de Colon, esta encabezando una campana para tratar de cambiar esta situacion y insistir al gobierno para que ofresca a estos hermanos y hernamas en Irak y Siria, especialmente a los cristianos, auxilio tan urgente y necesario. El Obispo Seitz nos pide que apoyemos esta campana.

Esta campana pide que ninguna poblacion que este sufriendo genocidio sea excluida de auxilio gubernamental; que los Estados Unidos le pidan a las Naciones Unidas que tambien ofrescan auxilio humanitario y de reconstrucion; y que el Congreso pase la HR 390 (introducida por Rep. Smith R-NJ y Rep. Eshoo D-CA) para que el gobierno ofresca asistencia a las agencias que estan auxiliando a estas

poblaciones desplazadas de minorias religiosas que son blanco de genocidio.

Les pedimos a todos que contacten a nuestros congresistas Rep. Beto O'Rourke, distrito congresional 16 y Rep. Will Hurd, distrito congresional district 23 pidiendoles que apoyen a esta legislacion HR 390 (vea en la pagina de la diocesis como contactar a ellos).

## Cementerio de Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo

**El cementerio de Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo es el único cementerio en El Paso establecido específicamente para servir a la comunidad Católica. Cuando usted más lo necesite, el Cementerio de Monte Carmelo es una extensión de la familia parroquial que proporciona servicios y apoyo para ayudarle a tomar las decisiones difíciles y detalles de los arreglos prácticos que vienen al final de la vida.**



## Facilities and Services

Our Lady of Mount Carmel offers a full range of options:

- \* Intimate chapel for on-site services
- \* Traditional burials, in-ground or in a mausoleum
- \* Interment of cremated remains in the columbarium or the chapel
- \* Peaceful, well-kept grounds maintained with environmentally-responsible reclaimed water
- Aside from the immediate need services available at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, staff members can provide assistance with arrangements for future needs

CONTINUED from Pg. 3

las necesidades que tenemos ante nosotros. Y estamos orando fervientemente al Espíritu Santo para obtener su guía. La tarea es un reto, porque ahora mismo, simplemente no tenemos suficientes sacerdotes para llenar todas nuestras necesidades. Últimamente hemos sido muy bendecidos al poder obtener sacerdotes de otros países y que nos están ayudando mucho. Nuestra necesidad de vocaciones provenientes de nuestras propias comunidades para el futuro es muy grande. Me complace enormemente informar que el número de jóvenes que se han acercado para discernir la llamada al sacerdocio, está creciendo rápidamente. ¡Hay una gran esperanza para el futuro!

Quiero invitarles a que pongan lo mejor de ustedes y hagan de un momento difícil en la vida de nuestros

sacerdotes, lo más placentero posible. Animen a sus sacerdotes, a quienes se les ha pedido que asuman una nueva tarea. Asegúrense de que su apoyo y su amor les lleguen. No les hagan explicar una y otra vez del por qué están siendo fieles a su vocación. Cuando llegue su nuevo pastor, salga de su rutina para mostrarle la misma hospitalidad que usted me mostró a mí, durante mi llegada a El Paso. Ustedes hicieron de lo que fue un momento difícil en mi vida; el dejar el lugar que había estado por más de 40 años, una verdadera alegría y un momento de crecimiento para mí

Obispo Mark

401 S. Zaragoza Rd \* Ph. 860-0606

One in a series of informational presentations

# SPRING MASS ATTENDANCE COUNT ON MAY 20 & 21

By: Karina Sandoval, Stewardship Coordinator

Bishop Mark J. Seitz and the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso invites you to participate in the Spring Mass Attendance Count that will take place on Saturday May 20 and Sunday 21 at your parish. Please know that beginning this year, we are instituting a Mass Attendance

Count twice a year - one in the spring and another in the fall. The Mass Attendance Count will be held in all parishes and mission churches including Masses in English, Spanish, bilingual and in other languages. Seminaries, convents, and monasteries that celebrate the Eucharist will

also participate.

Last year, the results from our first Mass Attendance Count demonstrated an increased number of people attending Spanish masses. This information was helpful to parishes in responding to the liturgical needs of their parishioners. The annual

Mass Attendance Count will continue to benefit pastoral planning efforts of parishes and the diocese.

The Mass attendance count will be coordinated by the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso under the Office of Stewardship. For more information please

contact Karina Sandoval at [ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org) or at 915-872-8432.



## CONTEO DE ASISTENCIA EN MISA MAYO 20 Y 21

Por: Karina Sandoval, Coordinadora en Corresponsabilidad

El Obispo Mark J. Seitz y la Fundación para la Diócesis de El Paso los invita a participar en el Conteo de Asistencia en Misa que dará a lugar el sábado 20 y domingo 21 de mayo en todas las parroquias de la diócesis. Al comenzar este año, la Fundación realizará dos veces el Conteo de Asistencia en Misa, uno será en la Primavera y el otro será en el Otoño. El Conteo de Asistencia en Misa será desarrollado en todas las parroquias y misiones

incluyendo Misas en Inglés, Español, Bilingües u en otros idiomas. Los seminarios, conventos y monasterios también serán incluidos en el conteo.

Los resultados del año pasado demostraron un incremento en el número de asistentes de las misas en español. Esta información fue de gran ayuda para las parroquias y les ayudó a responder a las necesidades litúrgicas de sus parroquianos. El conteo seguirá beneficiando

a todas las parroquias en sus esfuerzos para brindar mejores servicios para sus familias.

El Conteo de Asistencia en Misa será coordinado por la Fundación para la Diócesis de El Paso bajo la Oficina de Corresponsabilidad. Para más información favor de contactar a Karina Sandoval al [ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org) o al teléfono 915-872-8432.



## Obituaries for Women Religious

Sister Maria Guadalupe, 90, of the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration Cristo Rey Monastery passed away on March 28, 2017 in El Paso, Texas. Born Concepcion Medina, April 22, 1926 in Morelia, Mich. Mexico, Sister Maria Guadalupe entered religious life on May 6, 1949 and professed her vows August 15, 1951. She was the oldest of 12 children. She is preceded in Hermana María Guadalupe, de 90 años, de las Adoratrices Perpetuas del Santísimo Sacramento, Monasterio Cristo Rey, falleció el 28 de marzo de 2017 en El Paso, Texas. Nacida Concepción Medina, 22 de abril de 1926 en Morelia, Mich. México, la Hermana María Guadalupe entró a la vida religiosa el 6 de mayo de 1949 y profesó sus votos el 15 de agosto de 1951. Era la mayor de 12 hijos. Ella es

death by her parents Jose and Esther Medina and siblings Jose, Teresa, Jorge, Miguel, Guadalupe and Rafael Medina. She is survived by siblings Esther, Maria, Eugenio, and Gabriel; 44 nieces and nephews and 98 great nieces and nephews.

Sister Maria Rosario del Corazon de Jesus, 94, of the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration Cristo Rey Monastery passed precedida en la muerte por sus padres José y Esther Medina y sus hermanos José, Teresa, Jorge, Miguel, Guadalupe y Rafael Medina. Ella es sobrevivida por los hermanos Esther, Maria, Eugenio, y Gabriel; 44 sobrinas y sobrinos y 98 sobrinas y sobrinos.

Hermana María Rosario del Corazon de Jesús, de 94 años, de las Adoratrices Perpetuas del Santísimo Sacramento, Monasterio Cristo Rey, falleció

away on Friday, April 7, 2017 in El Paso, Texas. Born Maria Luisa Padilla, April 22, 1923 in Zapotlanejo, Jalisco Mexico, Sister Maria Rosario del Corazon de Jesus entered religious life December 9, 1949 and professed her vows December 19, 1951. She was the eldest of five children. She was preceded in death by her parents: Bernardo and Cesarea Padilla and her brothers: el viernes 7 de abril de 2017 en El Paso, Texas. Nacida María Luisa Padilla, 22 de abril de 1923 en Zapotlanejo, Jalisco México, la hermana María Rosario del Corazón de Jesús entró en la vida religiosa el 9 de diciembre de 1949 y profesó sus votos el 19 de diciembre de 1951. Era la mayor de cinco hijos. Ella fue precedida en la muerte por sus padres: Bernardo y Cesarea Padilla y sus hermanos: Lázaro y Sabas

Lazaro and Sabas Padilla. She is survived by her Sisters: María and Catalina Padilla. Both Sister Maria Guadalupe and Sister Maria Rosario were loved and respected greatly by the Sisters, by the Diocese of El Paso and by the community in which they gave their lives in prayer and sacrifice. They will be dearly missed.



Sister Maria Guadalupe

Padilla. Le sobreviven sus hermanas: María y Catalina Padilla. Tanto la Hermana María Guadalupe como la Hermana María Rosario fueron amadas y respetadas por las hermanas en el monasterio del Cristo Rey, por la Diócesis de El Paso y por la comunidad en la que dieron sus vidas en oración y sacrificio. Las extrañaremos sinceramente.



Sister Maria Rosario del Corazon de Jesus



## The Shepherd's Corner

### GIFTS & BOOKS

at St. Luke Catholic Church  
930 E. Redd Road  
El Paso, TX 79912

### Hours of Operation

Sunday 10-3; Monday 9-12  
Tues 9:15-11:00; Thurs-Sat 10-1  
Phone: (915) 585-1771

# THE HOUSE WON'T LET US GO

By: Sister Janet Gildea, SC, Liason for Women Religious

A large home on Grandview Avenue in the foothills of the Franklin Mountains overlooking El Paso has been a convent for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, Kansas since 1970. As often as the Sisters have thought to downsize and sell the property, it seems that "the house just won't let us go". Currently St. Joseph Sisters Mary ("Missy") Ljungdahl and Donna Otter maintain the Concordia Congregation of St. Joseph (CSJ) presence on Grandview but the community that makes the house a home is diverse and dynamic.

Together with Sister Terri Rodela, a Franciscan of the Holy Family (Dubuque, Iowa) and Sister Rita Nealon, a missionary Sister of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate (San Antonio), the Grandview community is an inter-congregational expression of contemporary religious life.

From earliest days it seems, when the first CSJs from Concordia joined other St. Joseph Sisters from Indiana to provide care for tuberculosis patients in El Paso, the call has been to collaborate. Sisters of St. Joseph from Orange, California and Cleveland, Ohio have found a hospitable community that was a base for their ministries of midwifery and care of migrants and refugees. "El Paso really accommodates the missionary spirit," says Sister Missy who teaches third grade part time at St. Pius. "This is a wonderful nesting place for returning missionaries," she added.

Sister Donna spent many years in Brazil before accepting the request of congregational leaders to come to El Paso with Missy in 2015 to coordinate the ministry of hospitality at Grandview. "I was drafted!" she said. In addition to keeping the calendar of who is coming and going, Sister Donna volunteers at the Opportunity Center for people experiencing homelessness and at the Child Crisis Center. Her fluency in Portuguese has been helpful for translation with the immigrants from Brazil at Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center and at the detention centers.

"I love meeting new people- it expands my world view. Though we are all different communities, we are connected by mission," said Sister Terri. A native of El Paso, she met the Franciscans of Dubuque while working as a medical technologist in Kennedy, Texas. She had served in several domestic

missions before asking to come home to the border to be closer to her family in 2013. After ministering for one year at St. Pius/San Juan Bautista, Sister Terri was available to respond to the needs of refugees at Nazareth Hall as the 2-10 pm shift coordinator. Since the numbers of refugees has decreased, Terri enjoys yard work at Grandview while she explores other ministry opportunities on both sides of the border.

Sister Rita came to El Paso as a congregational companion to another Holy Spirit Sister Bea Donnellan who lives and serves at Casa Vides, part of Annunciation House ministries. The two missionaries had lived in Nayarit, Mexico for more than twenty years. Returning to

the congregation's motherhouse in San Antonio in 2015, they missed the active missionary life and discerned the call to El Paso. Sister Rita is a teacher at heart and she initially tutored and offered classes at Sacred Heart parish and Opportunity Center. Her fluent Spanish (with a touch of Irish brogue!) has opened other pathways in ministry at Centro Santa Catalina in Juarez and visiting women in the detention centers. "I'll admit that sometimes the women I visit are so desperate and depressed that I find myself



Sisters of Grandview Community: (Left to Right) Sisters Rita, Terri, Donna and Missy

not wanting to go," she said with a sigh. Still she goes.

These four women religious make up the core of the Grandview community. They share the chores and they share prayer together on

weekday evenings. There is no Mother Superior. They build a common life amid the challenges of their diverse ministries, congregational and family responsibilities. "There CONTINUED on Pg. 11



GECU is proud to announce the opening of GECU Investment Services.

## HELPING YOU ACHIEVE YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS WITH GECU INVESTMENT SERVICES

*GECU Investment Services brings you the sound guidance of experienced, knowledgeable professionals — supported by a robust line of investment services — to help you build a financial strategy that works for your needs and goals.*

- 401(k) rollovers
- Financial management
- Insurance services
- Education planning and funding
- Wealth management

*GECU is here to help you navigate all of your investment needs. Schedule your appointment today. Visit [gecu.com](http://gecu.com) or call 774.1765.*

Securities sold and advisory services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services Inc. (CBSI), member FINRA/SIPC, a registered broker/dealer and investment advisor. CBSI is under contract with the financial institution to make securities available to members.

Not NCUA/NCUSIF/FDIC insured. May lose value. No financial institution guarantee. Not a deposit of any financial institution.

CUNA Brokerage Services Inc. is a registered broker/dealer in all 50 states of the United States of America.

FR-1640591.1-116-1218



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

# LA CASA NO NOS DEJARA IR

Por: Sister Janet Gildea, SC, Liason for Women Religious

Un hogar grande en la avenida de Grandview en las colinas de las montañas de Franklin que pasan por alto El Paso ha sido un convento para las hermanas de San José de Concordia, Kansas desde 1970. Tan a menudo como las hermanas han pensado reducir y vender la característica, parece que "la casa no nos dejará ir". Actualmente, las Hermanas San José Mary ("Missy") Ljungdahl y Donna Otter mantienen la presencia de la Congregación de San José (CSJ) de Concordia en Grandview, pero la comunidad que hace que la casa sea un hogar es diversa y dinámica. Hermana Terri Rodela, Franciscana de la Sagrada Familia (Dubuque, Iowa) y Hermana Rita Nealon, misionera Hermana del Espíritu Santo y María Inmaculada (San Antonio), la comunidad de Grandview es una expresión intercongregacional de la vida religiosa contemporánea.

Desde los primeros días, cuando los primeros CSJ de Concordia se unieron a otras hermanas de San José de Indiana para atender a pacientes de tuberculosis en El Paso, el llamado ha sido

colaborar. Las Hermanas de San José de Orange, California y Cleveland, Ohio, han encontrado una comunidad hospitalaria que era una base para sus ministerios como parteras y cuidado de migrantes y refugiados. "El Paso realmente acomoda el espíritu misionero", dice la hermana Missy, que da clases de tercer grado por medio tiempo en San Pío. "Este es un maravilloso lugar de nidificación para los misioneros que regresan", agregó.

La hermana Donna pasó muchos años en Brasil antes de aceptar la petición de líderes congregacionales antes de venir a El Paso con Missy en 2015 para coordinar el ministerio de hospitalidad en Grandview. "¡Estaba redactada!", dijo ella. Además de mantener el calendario de quién va y viene, la Hermana Donna se ofrece como voluntaria en el Centro de Oportunidades para personas sin hogar y en el Centro de Crisis Infantil. Su fluidez en portugués ha sido útil para la traducción con los inmigrantes de Brasil en Las Americas Centro de Inmigrantes y en los centros de detención.

"Me encanta conocer gente nueva, amplía mi visión del mundo. Aunque todos somos de comunidades diferentes, estamos conectadas por la misión de Jesús", dijo la hermana Terri. Nacida en El Paso, conoció a las Franciscanas de Dubuque mientras trabajaba como tecnóloga médica en Kennedy, Texas. Ella había servido en varias misiones domésticas antes de pedir llegar a casa a la frontera para estar más cerca de su familia en 2013. Después de ministrar durante un año en San Pío / San Juan Bautista, la hermana Terri estaba disponible para responder a las necesidades de los refugiados en Nazareth Hall como el coordinador de turnos 2-10 pm. Debido a que el número de refugiados ha disminuido, Terri disfruta de trabajos de jardinería en Grandview mientras explora otras oportunidades de ministerio en ambos lados de la frontera.

La hermana Rita vino a El Paso como compañera congregacional de otra Hermana del Espíritu Santo Bea Donnellan que

vive y sirve en Casa Vides, parte de los ministerios de la Casa Anunciación. Las dos misioneras habían vivido en Nayarit, México por más de veinte años. Volviendo a la casa matriz de la congregación en San Antonio en 2015, extrañaban la vida activa de las misioneras y discernieron la llamada a El Paso. La hermana Rita es una profesora de corazón y ella inicialmente enseñó y ofreció clases en la parroquia del Sagrado Corazón y en el Centro de Oportunidades. Su español fluido (¡con un toque de irlandés!) ha abierto otras vías en el ministerio en el Centro Santa Catalina en Juárez y visitar a mujeres en los centros de detención. "Admito que a veces las mujeres que visito están tan desesperadas y deprimidas que no me apetece ir", dijo con un suspiro. Aún así, ella se va.

Estas cuatro religiosas forman el núcleo de la comunidad de Grandview. Comparten las tareas y comparten la oración juntas en las tardes de los días

de semana. No hay madre superiora. Construyen una vida común en medio de los desafíos de sus diversos ministerios, responsabilidades congregacionales y familiares. "Hay tirones y remolcadores cuando vives juntos como adultos. Nos suavizamos los bordes ásperos del otro, "ofreció Terri.

Juntos también crean un espacio para voluntarios a corto plazo que vienen a servir en la frontera. En 2014, el Consejo de Liderazgo de Mujeres Religiosas hizo un llamamiento a las hermanas para que ayuden con las necesidades de los refugiados, especialmente madres con hijos, buscando asilo en los Estados Unidos. La hermana Marcia Allen, presidenta de los CSJ de Concordia, ofreció a Grandview como vivienda para las hermanas voluntarias. Y las hermanas reclutaron a otras voluntarias que eran sus asociadas, misioneras laicas y ex miembros. Todos han encontrado una bienvenida en Grandview. Aunque puede

## Journeys of a Lifetime Holy Land

This Pilgrimage Will Be In Spanish

Father Fabian Marquez

Aug. 29 - Sept. 7 - **\$3,899**

## Marian Shrines

Fatima - Avila - Burgos - Lourdes - Barcelona

Father Saul Pacheco & Father Mariano Lopez

Sept. 26 - Oct. 5 - **\$3,799**

## Steps of St. Paul

Athens - Corinth - Delphi + 3 Day Aegean Cruise

Father David Fierro

Sept. 22 - Oct. 2 - **\$3,999**

## Catholic Alpine Adventure

Germany - Austria - Switzerland

Father Trini Fuentez

Oct. 3 - 13 - **\$4,249**

## Spotlight on Tuscany

Cultural, Culinary & Wine Experience  
Amazing Price!! - Limited Availability

Nov. 7 - 15 - **\$2,649!!!**

**Prices are per person based on double occupancy.**

*Includes round trip air from El Paso*

**Hotels - Most or Many Meals - Professional Guide**

**Deluxe Motor Coach - Taxes & Fuel Charges**

**Travel  
With  
Kerry**



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON  
THESE TRIPS OR OTHER TRIPS,  
PLEASE CALL KERRY AT:  
**591-4246**

"The world is a book, and those who do not travel, only read one page"  
- St. Augustine

*The Diocese of El Paso*

Invites you to

## The 4<sup>th</sup> Diocesan Pilgrimage

To the Basílica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in México City,  
El Cristo del Cubilete, and the Relics of Father Miguel Agustín Pro.

From Monday June 26th to Saturday July 1st, 2017

With the option to Cancun: Saturday July 1st to Tuesday July 4th

### VISITING:

#### • Mexico City:

- Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Chapultepec Castle
- Anthropology Museum
- Soumaya Museum
- Mexico City Cathedral
- Relics of Father Miguel Augustin Pro

#### • Guanajuato:

- San Miguel de Allende
- Cristo del Cubilete

#### • Option to Cancun

- Air flight transportation (round trip)
- Hotel (Suites Emporio) all inclusive

### PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Transportation;
  - Bus El Paso-Juarez (round trip)
  - Flight Juarez-México (round trip)
- First class busses for tours
- 4-5 Stars Hotels
  - Breakfast and Dinner included everyday
- Tickets to all places we will visit

### PRICE:

Room	Without Cancun	With Cancun
Double	\$1,050	\$1,600
Quadruple	\$1,000	\$1,510

Book your place with \$200.00 ( accepted)



For more information: (915)-872-8420 [jceniceros@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:jceniceros@elpasodiocese.org)

# LA CASA NO NOS DEJARA IR

ser confuso a veces, las hermanas disfrutan de las idas y venidas de los voluntarias a corto plazo. Incluso hay reuniones sorpresivas entre los misioneras que se reconnectan con ex compañeras de trabajo de las misiones extranjeras cuando se encuentran viviendo juntos en la casa. Si hay una desventaja en esa hospitalidad radical y en la vida comunitaria intercomunal, es la despedida tan a menudo. "Lo más difícil para mí es cuando se van", dice la hermana Rita

Sister Terri  
cares for  
creation outside  
Grandview  
House



suavemente. Y sin embargo estas mujeres saben que dejar ir es una parte integral de la vida consagrada. Excepto que la casa en Grandview evidentemente tiene una mente propia y no permitirá que las Hermanas de San José de Concordia dejarlo ir.



**CONTINUED** from Pg. 9  
are pulls and tugs when you live together as adults. We smooth off each other's rough edges," Terri offered. Together they also create a space for short-term volunteers who come to serve at the border. In 2014 the Leadership Council of Women Religious put out a call for Sisters to help with the needs of the refugees, especially mothers with children, seeking asylum in the U.S. Sister Marcia Allen, president of the Concordia CSJs,

offered Grandview as housing for the Sister-volunteers. And the Sisters recruited other volunteers who were their associates, lay-missionaries and former members. All have found a welcome at Grandview. Though it can be confusing at times, the Sisters enjoy the comings and goings of the short-term volunteers. There are even surprise reunions among the missionaries who reconnect with former co-workers from the foreign missions when they find themselves living

together at the house. If there is a downside to such radical hospitality and inter-congregational community life, it is saying good-bye so often. "The hardest thing for me is when they leave," says Sister Rita softly. And yet these women know that letting go is an integral part of the vowed life. Except that the house on Grandview evidently has a mind of its own and it will not let the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia let it go.



Sister Rita  
shows the  
handcrafts  
of Centro  
Santa  
Catalina to  
Sister Missy

JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORY OF  
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, HIS EARLY LIFE, AND  
THE PATH OF FRANCISCAN STUDIES.

05.27.17

## DISCOVERING FRANCIS OF ASSISI

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL PARISH  
MAY 27TH  
6:30PM

**2do CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL CATÓLICO**

# Alabanza

SÁBADO 10 DE JUNIO, 2017

SON BY 4 · JON CARLO  
Y SU BANDA

CRISTY VILLASEÑOR · JUAN BAUTISTA  
JOSÉ A. DE ANDA

EL COLISEO, EL PASO, TX 2:00PM

**SON BY 4**

DIOCESIS DE  
El Paso

VENTA DE BOLETOS EN TAQUILLAS DE EL COLISEO,  
ticketmaster® Y EN TU PARROQUIA.  
[www.alabanza2017.com](http://www.alabanza2017.com)

**JON CARLO**  
Y SU BANDA

[/alabanza2017](https://www.facebook.com/alabanza2017)

# SUNLAND PARK



4C Spider



GIULIA



NOW AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY AT SUNLAND PARK ALFA ROMEO  
[SUNLANDPARKALFAROMEO.COM](http://SUNLANDPARKALFAROMEO.COM)

# R4Unity 2017 May 6, 2017



On May 6, Saturday, 2017 from 8:30 am to 12:30 noon, boys and girls of different races, cultures and religions will be running together at iconic landmarks in different parts of the world, as a witness to their commitment for peace and unity. At various locations in different latitudes, sporting events will take place along with actions for solidarity and the presentation of experiences by those working in the local society to alleviate poverty, loneliness and those who are disadvantaged and marginalized.

Here in El Paso, Texas, the

Teens4Unity branch of the Focolare Movement with the assistance of Peace and Justice Ministry of the Diocese of El Paso will be hosting Run4Unity 2017 at The Pastoral Center, Diocese of El Paso, 499 St. Matthew Street, Guadalupe Building. Boys and girls ages 9-17 years old are invited. The event is free but registration is required for participation. Parent/Release forms are required for those under 18 years old.

We are living in difficult situations which would seem that our goal of a United World is far away. After the

chemical bombings in Syria, the bombings in Moscow and Sweden, we may be resigned to the idea that we can do nothing or little to stop the wave of violence. May begins with World Press Free-dom Day, United World Week, National Prayer Day and International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers. Therefore, it is the perfect time to be the protagonists for Dialogue, Peace and Brotherhood.

Interested parties can follow the Run4Unity relay event via website at [www.run4unity.net](http://www.run4unity.net) which will be kept up to date over the 24 hours, by the



young people themselves, with links to the various cities in the five continents. In El Paso, for further information and registration please call Sandra

Castro at 915-726-1102 or Marco Raposo at 915-872-8422 and via email: [teens4unity@yahoo.com](mailto:teens4unity@yahoo.com).

## Las Americas Border Heroes Awards

By: Sister Janet Gildea, SC, Liason for Women Religious

Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center celebrated thirty years of legal services for immigrants, refugees and those seeking asylum at an awards banquet at Temple Mount Sinai on April 20. The non-profit agency has served people in migration from sixty-seven countries and the need for advocacy, legal representation and pastoral accompaniment has never been greater. Each year the organization honors leaders in the border community who are shining examples of advocacy and direct service with and for immigrants and refugees.

Sister Mary Ann Azar, a Daughter of Charity of St.

Vincent de Paul, received special recognition as an outstanding full-time volunteer at Las Americas. During the past three years as an accredited representative, Sister Mary Ann Has assisted with legal cases and visited persons detained at the El Paso Processing Center. "Her sense of humor and light-hearted attitude create a positive environment for the whole office and we are deeply grateful for her service and dedication."

Father Robert Mosher, a missionary priest of the Society of St. Columban, was honored as a Border Hero along with El Paso County Judge Veronica Escobar. Fr. Bob is director

of the Columban Mission Center and a founding member of the Detained Migrant Solidarity Committee. The

Center provided short-term shelter to refugees and is a favorite meeting place for diverse groups such as the El



Sister Mary Ann Azar, Border Hero

Paso Young Adults Ministry, Interfaith Clergy Alliance, ECO-El Paso and Hope Border Institute. Fr. Bob leads border awareness and immersion experiences for university and religious groups from around the country. He teaches a variety of courses for Tepeyac Institute and offers sacramental ministry at parishes throughout the diocese.

Along with Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center, we celebrate Sister Mary Ann and Father Bob as our Border Heroes!

## Las Americas Heroes Fronterizos

Por: Sister Janet Gildea, SC, Liason for Women Religious

El Centro de Inmigración de Las Américas celebró treinta años de servicios jurídicos para inmigrantes, refugiados y solicitantes de asilo en un banquete de premios en el Templo Monte Sinaí el 20 de abril. La agencia no lucrativa ha servido a personas en migración de sesenta y siete países y la necesidad de abogacía, representación legal y acompañamiento pastoral nunca ha sido mayor. Cada año, la organización honra a los líderes de la comunidad fronteriza que son ejemplos brillantes de defensa y servicio directo con y para inmigrantes y refugiados.

La Hermana Mary Ann Azar, Hija de la Caridad de San Vicente de Paúl, recibió un reconocimiento especial

como voluntaria de tiempo completo en Las Américas. Durante los últimos tres años como representante acreditado, la Hermana Mary Ann ha asistido con casos legales y visitó a personas detenidas en el Centro de Procesamiento de El Paso. "Su sentido del humor y su actitud alegre crean un ambiente positivo para toda la oficina y estamos profundamente agradecidos por su servicio y dedicación".

El Padre Robert Mosher, sacerdote misionero de la Sociedad de San Columbano, fue honrado como Héroe de la Frontera junto con Veronica Escobar, Juez del Condado de El Paso. Fr. Bob es director del Centro de la Misión de Columban y miembro fundador del Comité de Solidaridad

Migrante Detenida. El Centro brindó refugio a corto plazo a los refugiados y es un lugar de encuentro favorito para diversos grupos como el Ministerio de Adultos Jóvenes de El Paso, la Alianza de Clérigos Interconfesionales, ECO-El Paso y el Hope Border Institute. Fr. Bob lidera la conciencia fronteriza y experiencias de inmersión para grupos universitarios y religiosos de todo el país.

Él enseña una variedad de cursos para el Instituto Tepeyac y ofrece el ministerio sacramental en las parroquias a través de la diócesis.

Junto con el Centro de Incidencia de Inmigrantes de Las Américas, celebramos a la Hermana Mary Ann y al Padre Bob como Héroes Fronterizos.



Father Robert Mosher, Border Hero

**Office of Education: Spotlight on Catholic Schools Radio Show**



THE BRIDGE 1150 AM  
Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

The El Paso Catholic Schools continues spotlighting the Catholic Schools on its weekly radio show through the Diocese of El Paso's radio station "The Bridge/El Puente" 1150 AM. "Spotlight on Catholic Schools" airs live every Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. The 30-minute radio show features a different school every week discussing upcoming activities at the school or providing general information about the school. During the month of May, the following schools will be featured: May 1 – St. Patrick Cathedral School; May 15 – Loretto Academy; and May 22 – Sister Elizabeth Swartz. Tune in to hear our campuses discuss all the wonderful happenings going on in our Catholic Schools. The broadcast can also be heard via streaming off the Diocese's website: [www.elpasodiocese.org](http://www.elpasodiocese.org).

Information: 915-872-8426

**Office of Education:  
Principals' Retirement**

Two of the El Paso Catholic Schools longest serving administrators are retiring at the end of this school year. Aurora Lujan, principal at Cathedral High School, has served 30 years with the all-boys school. During her time at Cathedral, Mrs. Lujan has been a science teacher, curriculum coordinator, assistant principal, and was named the school's principal in 2014. She will be retiring effective June 30.

Abe Ramirez, principal at Loretto Academy, has served 16 years with the all-girls school. Mr. Ramirez started at Loretto in 2001, and has been the principal of the middle/high school. He will be retiring effective on June 30. We wish them both well on their retirement and appreciate all they have done at their respective campuses and for the entire El Paso Catholic Schools community.

Information: 915-872-8426

**Our Lady of the Valley School:**

Our Lady of the Valley School is making renovations to the library. During the school's two-week Easter break, the custodians and other support staff prepared the library for renovations. Books and videos were moved, windows and

# News Around The Catholic Schools

blinds were cleaned, shelving was sanded down, furniture was moved and floors were cleaned. All this was done to repaint the shelving with new vibrant colors and prepare a more appealing reading area with a new rug and furniture for students to sit and enjoy reading. This is the first phase of the renovation. Former OLV students attending Mission Valley Early College, and are part of the National Honor Society, will also be assisting in painting the library. In the summer, the library will get additional painting to create a "Reading Forest" area and have a small stage built where students can act out what they have read, practice poetry reading and speeches, and guest readers can use. Students, parents, and teachers are very excited to see the final product in the summer. Information: 915-859-6448

OLV School is hosting a Mother's Day Breakfast on Wednesday, May 10, to celebrate both the Mexican and American Mother's Day holiday. The school's fathers will be assisting in serving menudo and coffee to all school mothers and grandmothers. OLV church parishioners are also invited to attend. Information: 915-859-6448

The school will also be preparing for its 8th grade graduation ceremony. On Friday, May 19, the school will graduate 16 students. They will celebrate with a Graduation Mass at 2:00 p.m. followed by a reception and dance from 4-8 p.m. in the Church Hall. The school, as well as its parents, are very proud of the graduates. In preparation for next school year, the school is currently accepting students from 4K to 8th grade for the 2017-2018 school year. Our Lady of the Valley School provides excellent academics as well as extra-curricular activities and faith formation. If you would like a tour, call the school office or visit the school's website at [olvschool.org](http://olvschool.org). Information: 915-859-6448



**St. Patrick Cathedral School: Spring Theatre Production**

St. Patrick Cathedral School's Fine Arts Department will present its annual Spring

theatre production this month. This year, the school is performing "Wonderland," which is an adaptation of the beloved classic "Alice in Wonderland." The show will have two public performance nights: Friday, May 5 and Tuesday, May 9. Both shows are at 7 p.m. The shows will be performed in the school's multipurpose building. Tickets are available in the school's front office and at the door. Ticket prices are \$8. This is the fourth year that the school puts on a Spring theatre production. The school has previously performed "Tale of the Magic Lamp," "CATS" and "Les Misérables." The show is being co-directed by middle school teachers, Mr. Julian Salcido and Mr. Emil Chaparro. The public is invited to attend. Information: 915-532-4142

**St. Pius X School: Almsgiving Projects**  
Students at St. Pius X Catholic School encountered Lent through several almsgiving projects and helped make a difference for two organizations, one being local and the other national. Grades 6th-8th collected monetary change in 104 baby bottles, as part of the El Paso House of Hope Pregnancy Resources Medical Center. Grades PK-6th adopted the national organization, Catholic Relief Services, which annually collects monetary change as part of their Lenten Rice Bowls campaign. Students collected money in 149 paper bowls distributed, to assist CRS with helping feed the hungry. All grades participated in collecting Easter baskets as part of the traditional National Junior Honor Society basket collection. This was one of the most successful campaigns with a total of 90 Easter baskets being donated to local organizations for distribution. Information: 915-532-6875

**Cathedral High: 2017 Graduation Ceremony**  
Cathedral High School's 2017 Graduation Ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 20, at the Judson F. Williams Convention Center. About 165 young men will receive their diploma during the graduation ceremony; and of those graduates, 13 will also graduate from El Paso Community College the week before with an Associate's Degree through the school's Early Admissions Dual Credit College course. Cathedral

High School once again achieved a 100% acceptance rate for all its seniors to go on to college.

Information: 915-532-3238  
**Father Yermo School: Retreats**



Father Yermo School proved its strong Catholic Spirit during this Lent season as the Sisters and Faculty organized spiritual retreats for all children from Pre-K to 12th grade.

Activities were held in the school garden, gymnasium and chapel for the smaller grades. The 8th grade retreat, which included parents, took place in the retreat house run by the Dominican Sisters. The high school students held their retreat in the St. Anthony Seminary. Parents also held their own retreat in the school cafeteria. The days were holy days of prayer and reflection. The last event was the production of the "Passion of the Christ" where 8th graders performed a very moving representation for the school audience in the school chapel. The student actors were guided by their theater instructor, Mr. Pedro Garcia. Information: 915-532-6875

**Loretto Academy: Club 44**

Club 44 will be returning to Loretto Academy for the 28th year this summer. Club 44 is an annual Summer Leadership Camp for girls ages 4-12 years old. The daily program will run for four weeks, Monday through Friday, beginning June 5– June 30. The camp is held in the Loretto Academy Gym from 8:15 a.m. – noon daily. Club 44 counselors are current Loretto Academy High School



students who volunteer their time during the summer. Most counselors attended Club 44 as young girls themselves. The counselors share their talents by teaching camp attendees dance, various sports, cheerleading, swimming, music and arts and crafts. The program also includes daily snacks, special activities and a camp t-shirt. Registration is open and spots fill up fast. The camp is open to all girls ages 4-12 years old. Young girls can enroll for one week, two weeks, three weeks or the entire four-week camp. The cost is \$45 per week or \$170 for the four-week camp. There is a registration fee of \$5. For more information, please contact Patricia Valdez-Harrison, MA, CCC-SLP, Camp Director at 915-328-3872. Information: 915-566-8400

**All-Academy Mass**

Loretto Academy celebrated the founding of the Sisters of Loretto through an All-Academy Mass on Friday, April 25. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Mark J. Seitz. The Sisters of Loretto were



founded in 1812 in Nerinx, Kentucky, and the Loretto Community still resides in Nerinx at the Loretto Motherhouse. The Sisters of Loretto and co-members living in El Paso honored their founders, renewed their vows and celebrated giving with our Loretto community. Students offered both symbols of their service-learning projects and physical gifts. Students also collected toilet paper to donate to Villa Maria, a woman's shelter founded by Sister Helen Santamaria, a Loretto Academy alumna, Class of 1961, and a Sister of Loretto. Twice a year Loretto Academy students collect toilet paper for Villa Maria and through the generosity of Loretto students and families, Villa Maria has enough toilet paper for a year. Loretto students

were also recognized for the various service learning projects they commit to throughout the school year. These include: Villa Maria, Reynold's Home, Nazareth Living Center, Candlelighter's, Open Arms Catholic Community, and San Juan Parish. Information: 915-566-8400

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

## Sofia Larkin Appleby

The Rio Grande Catholic and the Office of Education for the Diocese of El Paso want to recognize the exciting and innovative things our alumni are doing here in El Paso and around the world. To nominate an El Paso Catholic School graduate, please contact Pifas Silva at [psilva@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:psilva@elpasodiocese.org) or (915)872-8126

**Name:** Sofia Larkin Appleby

**Current Occupation/Job:**

**Title:** Major Gifts Officer

**Company/Organization/School:**

Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso

**Interest, Activities, Clubs, and Professional Organizations:**

I was a ballet dancer and I love music, theater, and art. There is so much happening in our community and I take in as much of it as I can. I've had the opportunity to serve on the boards of the Border Art Residency, a contemporary artist-in-residence program, and IMPACT | Programs of Excellence. The YWCA and the Center Against Sexual and Family Violence are organizations that inspire me, and I'm a member of the St. Patrick Cathedral Altar Society.

**Greatest Professional Accomplishment:** In 2007, I created The Monster's Ball, a Halloween-themed event dedicated to raising funds and awareness for a select nonprofit engaged in inspiring work and investment into our community. Through the years it has raised money for Community Scholars, a youth leadership development program, STAARS Rape Crisis Center, Creative Kids, and more. In 2016 I gifted the event to Loretto Academy. My greatest accomplishment was giving a little something back to Loretto. Symbolically, I'm able to say thank you to the many Sisters I knew and loved during my time there.

**What Catholic school(s) did you attend?**

Teresiano, Managua, Nicaragua 1974-1975

Loretto Academy, 1978-1987

**What was the most valuable lesson – inside or outside the classroom – you learned while attending Catholic school(s)?**

My identity, above anything else, is a woman of faith. One of my favorite things to say is that I've been a "Sister" of Loretto for nearly 40 years. I can't really claim that incredible honor, of course, but I can say proudly and often that I am a Loretto woman. I can tell everyone I know what a genius Mother Praxedes was, how she dreamed of a college for women living in El Paso and Juárez and then helped plan, fund, and build the school in the middle of nowhere even though people told her she was crazy, that she must have been incredibly courageous and tenacious, and that she had a deep and abiding love for God. That's the woman I aspire to be.

**What teacher/staff member/classmate most influenced you?**

The Sisters of Loretto taught me the Loretto values of Faith, Justice, Community, and Respect. It was in the way they lived and carried themselves. They taught by example. Sr. Agnes Marie, a stern woman who taught 5th grade at Loretto Academy, scolded me for correcting my mother's Chilean-accented pronunciation of the word sophomore during a parent/teacher conference. It turned out my mother was right—she was highly educated—and that day I saw her in a different light. The experience would frame future views about my own heritage and foster a deep appreciation for the diversity that immigrants bring to our cultural experience.

**How did your Catholic School Education prepare you for what you are doing today?**

There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about the sacrifices my parents made to send me to Loretto. They went without, a lot. As a full professor, my father drove a \$400 VW Bug and often rode the bus so that we could go to Loretto. He loves to tell people how proud he was of us getting dropped off in between a Saab and a Mercedes and watching us walk confidently into school. But, that's Loretto. We weren't defined by how much or how little we had, but by who we were. Every single one of us was valued and loved. That remains with me to this day and that's how I go about my work and my ministry. The Sisters of Loretto have been an integral part of our community since 1879, 90 years before I was born in 1969. They have had a lasting impact shaping young men and women, forming Catholics, and educating future leaders from all walks of life and backgrounds. I'm just one of their stories.

**Why do you think Catholic Education is so important?**

Catholic schools are founded on Gospel values. They are places where everyone is welcome, including the most

disadvantaged members of our communities. Mother Praxedes believed it was the Order's duty to educate women and the poor and it was inside the beautiful structures they built to do so, that she saw this great opportunity to

top priority, and clear guidelines for behavior and mutual respect are communicated and enforced. I'm seeing this firsthand with my children (two are at Cathedral and two attend Loretto Academy). The impact that Catholic schools are having on our community, and the many others where our graduates end up, is profound.

**What advice do you have for current students? (What advice do you have for students getting ready to graduate during these difficult times?)**

After graduation, give of yourself and your time in any way you can, be a representative of your school and your community wherever you end up, help plan your 10-year reunion, keep in touch, tell people about your

Catholic school experience and how it shaped you, help plan your 20-year reunion, tell the company you work for that you are who you are because of your Catholic education, and contribute financially—help a student attend a retreat, purchase their class ring, give to a special project, set up a scholarship fund, put someone through school. Above all,

never forget where you came from.

**What was your favorite Catholic School experience/moment?**

There are so many. I adored the Sisters at Teresiano in Nicaragua where I attended kindergarten as a 4-year-old. It was at Catholic school that I learned the Our Father and ate lunch in the school cafeteria under the watchful eye of the Blessed Mother. I loved visiting the Sisters of Loretto at the convent and Nazareth Hall and hearing their stories. Even though they were old and tired, they were so full of joy. We read the classics in middle school and had great discussions. We sang and prayed together in St. Joseph Chapel year after year, received our class rings during the Ring Rose ceremony, and bonded during our Senior Retreat at Holy Cross in Mesilla. I remember inspiring teachers like Sam Forsythe who taught us to think critically, Sr. Eileen, who only had to raise one eyebrow to command the attention of an entire room and let us talk about anything in our psychology class, Sr. Marie Patrice, who taught science and put out lab fires with the patience of Job, and Sr. Frances Ratterman, whose unbounding energy and love of music remains in my heart to this day. I have lifelong friends, men and women, some of whom I have known for 40 years, and I met them all while at Catholic school.



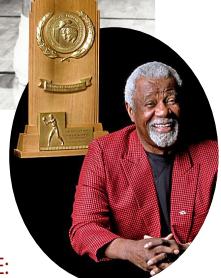
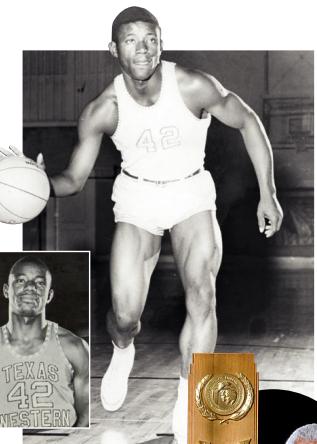
**Father Rahm**  
Sacred Heart Jesuit Parish  
**2017 SEGUNDO BARRO**  
Person of the Year  
**Award**

**Nolan  
RICHARDSON JR.**

Born and raised in El Segundo Barrio in El Paso, Texas... Nolan Richardson attended Douglas Elementary School, Bowie High School, and graduated from Texas Western College (UTEP). He started his coaching career in El Paso at Bowie High School and has now coached for over 40 years. He remains the only coach in history to have won a championship on every college level... Winning the 1979 National Junior College Tournament, 1981 National Invitational Tournament (N.I.T.) and the 1994 N.C.A.A. Tournament. He also served abroad as the head coach of the Mexican national team.



Shane Bevel Photography



**EVENT SCHEDULE:**  
Thursday, May 11, 2017  
Dinner: Epic Railyard Event Center  
2201 E. Mills Ave • El Paso, TX 79901  
Cocktails at 5:30 pm and Dinner at 7:30 pm  
• Tickets: \$75...Tables: \$750

**Friday, May 12, 2017**  
**Segundo Barrio School Visit**

**Saturday, May 13, 2017**  
**Parade followed by Celebration at Sacred Heart Church**  
9:00 am starting at San Ignacio Church: 408 Park St

For more information: call 915 532.5447  
[www.sacredheartelpaso.org](http://www.sacredheartelpaso.org)

## A VOCATION WITHOUT BORDERS

Vocations are not bound to borders. In the scripture passages of the Easter Season we see how the action of God is not contained. The good news of the Risen Christ is known from the tomb, to Jerusalem and to the ends of the earth. This month we celebrate this mystery in the ordination of three of our seminarians. On May 26th we will participate in the priestly ordination of Deacon Cong Vo and the diaconate ordination of the seminarians German Alzate and Victorino Loresca. Cong is from Vietnam, German is from Colombia, and Victorino is from the Philippines. The three seminarians arrived in 2009 to the Diocese of El Paso. It is intriguing that each one's first language was unknown to the other two. They were part of a group of international seminarians

their origins. With time, the diocese became their new home and their family. Now, these three young men are no longer strangers, instead they are brothers and ministers for the church with a desire to become the image of the good shepherd for the people of God. Vocation, or God's calling, cannot remain restricted to a particular region, its nature is to extend to the furthest corners of the earth, and in this event the faithful of El Paso will be witness of this.

"I think it is wonderful that we will be ordained together since we arrived to the diocese at the same time," expressed German Alzate, who will be ordained deacon in the celebration. The liturgy permits that the rite of ordination be mixed (between priests and deacons). It is expected that the two

seminarians ordained deacons this year will be ordained priests next year. The diaconate is a ministry of service in which the ordained are committed to live as

ceremony in which the church regenerates its different ministries; an expression of diversity and unity. Those



Seminarian German Alzate practices his hobby of singing with mariachis at the Saint Charles Seminarian Farewell 2016

## VOCACION SIN FRONTERAS

confines de la tierra, y en este acontecimiento los fieles de El Paso serán testigos.

"Me parece genial que nos ordenaremos juntos ya que los tres llegamos al mismo tiempo a la diócesis," expreso German Alzate, quien será ordenado diácono en la celebración. La liturgia permite que la ceremonia de ordenación sea mixta entre sacerdotes y diáconos. Se anticipa que los dos seminaristas ordenados diáconos este año serán ordenados sacerdotes el siguiente año. El diaconado es un ministerio de servicio donde los ordenados se comprometen a vivir como Cristo quien vino a servir y no a ser servido (Marcos 10:45).

en la ordenación de tres de nuestros seminaristas. El 26 de mayo tendremos la ordenación sacerdotal del Diacono Cong Vo y la ordenación diaconal de los seminaristas German Alzate y Victorino Loresca. Cong es de Vietnam, German es de Colombia y Victorino es originario de Filipinas. Los tres seminaristas llegaron en el año 2009 a la diócesis de El Paso. Lo interesante es que cada uno hablaba (primordialmente) un idioma que los otros dos no conocían. Fueron parte de un grupo de seminaristas internacionales que llegaron al Seminario San Carlos bajo la guía del Padre John Telles. Fue verdaderamente un reto para el grupo poder fomentar lazos de comunidad, debido a que no podían hablar la misma lengua. Sin embargo, todos hablaban el idioma de la vocación, ya que llegaron como misioneros a la Diócesis de El Paso con el deseo de prepararse para servir a

to be ordained will have the mission of maintaining this unity with the laity as they seek new and creative ways to collaborate with them for the building of the kingdom, in a church where the ministerial priesthood no longer has a focal role, but instead forms an integral part of the communion of the faithful.

After the ordination, Deacon Cong (who will be Father Cong) will no longer be part of those who are in seminary formation. The diocese will lose a seminary student. Yet, 21 seminarists will continue in the process, and the diocese currently discerns 14 new applications of candidates for seminary. A third of the applications to seminary are from men who were born in the region or who have lived in the region, while two thirds of the applications are from candidates from other countries who come with a desire to serve in a diocese with limited priestly vocations. For the moment,



Deacon Cong Vo speaks with Sister Margie Silgueros JMJ on his ordination day

the diocese will celebrate that three of its seminary students will take a big step which will affect the future of the church. All are invited to Saint Patrick Cathedral for this big day (May 26th at 6:30PM).

una comunidad lejana a sus orígenes. Con el tiempo, la diócesis se convirtió en su nuevo hogar y en su familia. Y ahora, estos tres jóvenes ya no son extranjeros, sino que son hermanos y ministros de la iglesia con deseos de convertirse en la imagen del buen pastor para el pueblo de Dios. La vocación, el llamado de Dios, no puede permanecer restringido a una zona particular, sino que se extiende para llegar a los



Seminarian Victorino Loresca enjoys a day hiking near Guadalupe Peak

that arrived to Saint Charles Seminary under the guidance of Father John Telles. It was truly a challenge for the group to form bonds, given the fact that they could not speak the same language. Yet, they all spoke the language of vocation, since they arrived to the Diocese of El Paso as missionaries who were seeking to be formed to serve a community distant from

Christ who came to serve and not to be served (Mark 10:45). The priesthood has its origins in the early Church where the college of elders, or presbyters, advised the bishop in his pastoral work; these were later delegated to preside over the assembly in his place, as a response to the pastoral needs of the community. Bishop Mark will preside at the ordination, a

## Peregrinación Bíblica a Grecia e Israel

Septiembre 20 - Octubre 1, 2017

**\$3,890  
por persona**

### Incluye:

- \*Avión \*Hoteles de lujo
- \*Crucero por el Mar Egeo \*Desayuno y Cena \*Entradas
- \*Autobús de lujo
- \*Guías \*Reflexiones teológicas y espirituales
- \*Misas



Director Espiritual  
P. Germán Prieto García

### Visitando en Grecia:

- \*Atenas \*Corinto
- \*Mykonos \*Éfeso (Turquía) \*Santorini
- \*Patmos \*Heraklion

### Visitando en Israel:

- \*Cesárea Marítima, Monte Carmelo, Cana, Nazaret, Tiberíades, paseo en barca por el Lago de Galilea, Cafarnaúm, Jericó, Belén, Jerusalén, Mar Muerto, Rio Jordán y mas

No lo dejes pasar, háblanos;  
Tony López 915-731-0471  
Gely López 915-731-9162

# LA TUERCA QUE NOS SALVO

En estos días estaba recordando algo que leí hace un tiempo y que me inspiró a compartir esta reflexión con ustedes. Carolina, en su testimonio contaba: "La tuerca que salvo nuestro matrimonio". Cuando uno oye decir esto, siente la curiosidad de saber quién es esa tuerca. Yo pensé que sería su esposo que tenía un sentido de humor que disuelve las situaciones antes que explote... Oh, también pensé que sería uno de sus hijos que les hacia algo chistoso cuando la situación estaba muy seria. También pensé que podría ser una amiga que los hacía verse muy simples cuando se criticaban cosas que no era muy relevantes cuando tenían tantos puntos buenos los dos... Estaba yo por tener una gran sorpresa; no era ninguna de estas personas. Ella introduce "La Tuerca" con esta historia: "Un día estaban cenando con su esposo y su hijo en su casa. Su hijo era piloto de un helicóptero en la marina y estaba visitándolos. El joven y su padre comenzaron a hablar del helicóptero que el volaba. El joven, dijo: Tu sabes papá, tan complicado como es un helicóptero, su indicador giratorio está detenido con una tuerca hexagonal solamente" y mirando a su mama, le pregunto: Tu sabes cómo se llama esa tuerca?" "No sé, dijo ella. Como se llama esa tuerca que lo detiene todo? El hijo se sonrió y dijo: "Le llaman La

Tuerca Jesús". Al instante la mama vio la conexión entre Jesús y la tuerca.

Como Jesús, con su muerte y resurrección detiene a la raza humana; también esa tuerca detiene al helicóptero de su hijo. Así fue como Carolina vio a Jesús como ejerciendo de la misma manera en su matrimonio, como la tuerca en el helicóptero de su hijo. Jesús fue el mantuvo unido su matrimonio; el matrimonio es una cosa muy complicada. Hay tantas cosas difíciles que pueden suceder en las relaciones de los esposos. Removerá Jesús de su matrimonio es como quitar la tuerca de Jesús del helicóptero. Todo se desintegraría. Jesús es quien une todo. Jesús es la piedra angular en un edificio. De esa misma manera Jesús mantiene unido el matrimonio cristiano. Jesús es cuida y protege de las cosas que hacen daño al matrimonio, a la familia, a cada persona. Podemos deducir algunas enseñanzas prácticas para nuestras vidas: Si nuestra vida, familia, matrimonio o amistades están afligidas, puede que sea que nos hemos olvidado que Jesús es la tuerca que une y da sentido a toda nuestra vida y relaciones. Puede ser que nos hemos olvidado de Jesús, que hemos estado lejos de Él. Puede ser que hemos olvidado de invitar a Jesús a nuestro hogar, matrimonio,

trabajo y vida personal. Es cierto que cada vez que invitaban a Jesús a la casa de alguien, El siempre hacía cosas maravillosas para los que vivían allí... Por ejemplo: cuando lo invitaron a una boda en Cana de galilea, convirtió el agua en vino. Cuando Pedro lo invito a su casa, curó a su suegra. Cuando el Centurión Romano lo invito a Jesús a su casa, Jesús curó a su sirviente; cuando Marta y María, lo mandaron llamar a su casa, resucitó a su hermano Lázaro, que había muerto hacía cuatro días. Cuando Jairo, invito a Jesús a su casa, Jesús resucitó a su niña de 12 años que acaba de morir...

Esto nos hace preguntarnos: Si invitamos a Jesús a nuestra casa, no haría el lo mismo por nosotros, como lo hizo en tantas familias que visitó... Ustedes deciden... Si su matrimonio, su familia, su vida personal está en algún problema; puede que sea que no han invitado a Jesús a sus hogares, a su matrimonio a sus vidas... Es curioso que muchas familias cristianas, sientan vergüenza de poner una imagen de Jesús, en sus hogares cuando decoran sus casas no hay un lugar para una imagen de Jesucristo pero si para un gabinete de cerveza, del equipo deportivo del cual son fanáticos, o de una mascota, etc. Hay que darle un lugar de honor a Jesús en el hogar no solo en una imagen sino más bien en el modo

de vivir y tratarse. Si estamos convencidos que la tuerca, la piedra angular, el pastor de esta familia es Jesucristo... Que es El que une, fortalece, el matrimonio, la familia y la vida personal de cada uno, para poder vivir en familias cristianas, que se aman y confían en Dios... El seguirá trabajando milagros de amor entre nosotros y el hará lo mismo contigo si lo invita a tu casa.

Si comprendemos el significado de la Pascua que es experimentar el poder de Jesús, cambiando las tragedias en nuestras vidas a un glorioso nuevo empezar... Los discípulos de Jesús, ante la tragedia del Viernes Santo, toda su esperanza se quebraron en mil pedazos... En la mañana del Domingo de Pascua, Jesús resucitado se apareció a sus discípulos; ese momento el poder de la Pascua empezó a trabajar en las vidas de los discípulos. Ellos fueron transformados de hombres miedosos y cobardes en misioneros atrevidos y valientes. Al mando de Jesús ellos se fueron a dar la nueva Pascua a los cuatro puntos cardinales del mundo. Cosas bellas empezaron a ocurrir. El desesperado miento empezó a dar lugar la esperanza; la oscuridad empezó a dar lugar a la luz; el odio empezó a dar lugar al amor; la tristeza empezó a dar lugar al júbilo. Dondequiera que predicaban



**Vida del Espíritu**  
por el Padre  
Wilson  
Cuevas

los discípulos el poder de la Pascua empezó a trabajar milagros en las vidas de la gente. Y esos milagros no se han parado todavía, siguen pasando en nuestros tiempos... Pascua es un corazón quebrado de un joven de colegio limpiándose las lágrimas y empezando de nuevo. Pascua es un mundo en oscuridad, quitándose las cadenas de desesperanza y temor y caminar en la luz de la fe y la esperanza. La Pascua nos invita a que abramos nuestro corazón a Jesús resucitado y lo dejemos que haga en nosotros lo que hizo en sus discípulos y por la gente a los que ellos predicaban. Pascua nos invita a volver a amar donde no fuimos amados, a volver intentar hacer en lo que habíamos fracasado; a volver a orar con la fe de ser escuchados por Dios. **PASCUA ES VIVIR CON LA FE QUE NADA NI NADIE PODRÁ DERROTARNOS:** Ni la enfermedad, ni las desgracias, ni la injusticia, ni la muerte. Porque Cristo es el vencedor de todos los males y si nosotros estamos como El, todo es posible para nuestro mayor bien y alegría. Animo!

# LOVE IS CONCEIVED IN OUR HEARTS

Thumpity, thumpity, thumpity. Whoosh, whoosh. Thumpity, thumpity, thumpity. A herd of zebra hooves trampled across the plains amid the throbbing of a churning river. At least, that's what it sounded like the first time I heard the astonishing sounds of my baby's heartbeat. Listening to the thumpity-thumps of her heart and the whooshing of nutrients through the umbilical cord, I felt sure my own heart would explode in ecstasy to hear proof that a tiny person was living within me.

At 150 times a minute, a baby's heart beats twice as fast as her mother's, even a mother's overjoyed heart when she hears her baby's heart pounding in rhythm to the miracle of life. God definitely has a plan for this child – and every child – and, just maybe, the baby's heart beats with excited anticipation of the prospects for her future. With the desire to safeguard every child's future, one El Paso parish recently hosted a

spiritual adoption of babies who are in danger of having their lives cut short by abortion.

For nine months, parishioners pray for a baby whom they name and who has been conceived on the first day they begin their prayers. The timing of the child's conception is a detail which is left up to God to match baby and "spiritual adoptive parents." Considering that 4,000 babies are aborted every day, it seems likely that God can match a willing "prayer warrior" to an at-risk child on the day of his or her conception. Imagine if we could encourage at least 4,000 more people to each pray for a child who is targeted for abortion!

Of course, a person may spiritually adopt an unborn baby on any day of the year with the prayer that the child will be allowed to be born nine months later. Nevertheless, this El Paso parish began their spiritual adoption program over a

month ago on the feast of the Annunciation. In this way, parishioners could follow the prenatal development of their babies which would match the prenatal development of Jesus within Mary's womb.

Through the use of "Life Before Birth" flyers, parishioners keep watch over the growth and development of their spiritually adopted babies. Shortly after Easter Sunday a few weeks ago, the beating of dozens of tiny hearts joyously played a symphony of life. Most of the mothers of those tiny children did not yet know they were pregnant, but those babies were known to God and to those parishioners who were praying for their safety. By Mother's Day this month, tiny fingers and toes will appear on already developed arms and legs of those little children. About the time the church celebrates, on May 31st, the visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth, the tiny feet of Jesus and those babies conceived on the feast of the

Annunciation, and under prayerful adoption, will be about the size of the fingernail on a woman's pinky finger.

Many people have seen the "Precious Feet" pins which detail the development of a preborn baby's feet at ten weeks old. By the first Sunday in June, real, living feet of the same size, but more precious than those silver and gold pins, will be wiggling and squirming within their mothers' wombs.

A human life begins at the moment of conception, but we cannot see the amazing growth and development of the child hidden within the womb during those first nine months of life. Reading biological facts about a child's prenatal development and praying for that child allow us to envision the hidden miracle. In a spiritual adoption, we may never meet the child for whom we pray but we can be assured that our prayers place both baby and mother under God's protective care.



**Sidewalk Jesus**  
by  
Janet M.  
Crowe

"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of (baby's name), the unborn baby that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion." Jesus, please help this baby to grow healthy and strong. Mother Mary, please help this baby's mother to appreciate the precious gift she bears within her womb. Dear Joseph, help this baby's father to recognize and accept his responsibility to protect and love his baby and his child's mother. Amen.

May we recognize the miracle of each child conceived in God's heart. Happy Mother's Day.



**PRAY. SERVE. GIVE.**



**\$ 2,300,000**

**GOAL**

**\$ 1,420,832**

**PLEDGED**

**\$ 627,742**

**PAID**

April 19, 2017

**AS OF**



## GET TO KNOW THE YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

The Youth and Young Adult Ministry began in 1998 with the mission to provide training, formation, and support for youth and young adult ministers serving in our parishes. The ministry offers a series of fun and age-appropriate activities, as well as service projects, for youth and young adults that encourages connection to their faith and community while engaging them with their peers.

One of the ways the Youth and Young Adult Ministry is connecting young people to their faith is through Theology on Tap. Theology on Tap offers young adults a chance to talk about their faith in an open and honest way



## CONOSCA EL MINISTERIO DE JOVENES Y JOVENES ADULTOS

El Ministerio para Jóvenes y Jóvenes Adultos dio inicio en 1998 con la misión de brindar capacitación, formación y apoyo a jóvenes y jóvenes adultos que sirven en nuestras parroquias. El ministerio ofrece una serie de divertidas actividades y apropiadas para la edad, así como proyectos de servicio para que ellos puedan fomentar la conexión con su fe y comunidad al mismo tiempo que se comprometen con sus compañeros.

Una de las maneras en que el Ministerio de Jóvenes y Jóvenes Adultos está conectando a otros jóvenes en su fe, es a través de "Theology on Tap", (Theology on Tap) es un programa de conferencias patrocinado por varias diócesis católicas locales. Las conferencias, que a menudo son dadas por líderes espirituales y académicos religiosos, abordan tópicos actuales en religión y teología. Estas son notables y a veces polémicas, por el lugar en que se ofrecen,

while socializing with peers. The ministry also creates a monthly e-newsletter for young adults that includes information on upcoming events in the diocese.

Get to know the Youth and Young Adult Ministry by liking them on Facebook and by making a donation to the Progress 2017 campaign today to ensure that this ministry and the 16 others supported by Progress can continue to do the good work they do.

Visit [www.progress2017.org](http://www.progress2017.org) or call Amy McQuillen at 915.872.8412

ya que normalmente es en un bar o un restaurante). "Theology on Tap" ofrece a los jóvenes la oportunidad de hablar sobre su fe de una manera abierta y honesta, mientras que socializan con sus compañeros. El ministerio también crea un boletín electrónico mensual para jóvenes adultos, el cual incluye información sobre los próximos eventos en la diócesis.

Conozca al Ministerio de Jóvenes y Jóvenes Adultos, haciendo un "me gusta" en Facebook y haciendo un donativo a la campaña de Progreso 2017, para asegurar que este ministerio y los otros 16 sustentados por Progreso puedan continuar haciendo el gran trabajo que hacen.

Visítenos en: [www.progress2017.org](http://www.progress2017.org) o llame a Amy McQuillen al 915.872.8412

# LOPEZ SCRAP METAL SPONSORS A SPECIAL BENEFIT FOR SEMINARIANS AT EL PASO ALAMO DRAFT HOUSE CINEMA

By: Sofia Larkin Appleby, Major Gifts Officer, Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso

The Catholic Foundation and Alamo Drafthouse Cinema presented The Passion of the Christ on 3 Screens on Wednesday, April 12. There were 350 guests in attendance and Bishop Mark Seitz, Fr. Tony Celino, and Fr. Mariano López, provided introductions to the film prior to the viewing and following a raffle of Alamo Drafthouse movie passes and rosaries.

The evening was sponsored by Lopez Scrap Metal, Inc. General Manager Isidro Lopez, his wife Lisa, and friends and family were all in attendance. Isidro was a high school seminarian at St. Charles Seminary in the 1960's with now Rev. Msgr. Arturo Bañuelas, Rev. Msgr. David Fierro, and Rev. Trini Fuentez.

In a video story shown at Alamo Drafthouse before the film started, Isidro Lopez, Jr. said, "I was only 14 years old but Arturo (Bañuelas) instilled a lot of good habits in me. I like the seminary fund

because of the area where I worked in the seminary and because when I went there my parents couldn't afford to pay anything. In a sense, I have to pay back what I ate back then in 1965-66."

Lopez Scrap Metal was founded by Isidro Lopez, Sr. in 1970 and now employs 70 people and operates on 30 acres of land on Nevarez Road. "I got into it because of my father, out of necessity and it happens to be a business that is ongoing and it's done all over the world. We're an honest company; we do things that we say we're going to do," said Isidro Lopez, Jr. 100% of the proceeds from this special event benefited the Seminarian Education Endowment Fund.

The Seminarian Education Endowment Fund was created to ensure continual resources for the recruitment and training of seminarians to serve as the future leadership of our diocese. We have 22 seminarians in formation, a

100% increase from 2008. The fund value is \$1.6 million and our short-term goal is to get that to \$5 million to generate a larger distribution to be used to educate our men, priests for our children and grandchildren!

To learn more about the Seminarian Education Endowment Fund and related events, and to give visit [pray4priests.org](http://pray4priests.org) or contact Major Gifts Officer Sofia Larkin Appleby at the Foundation at 915.872.8412.

You can reach Major Gifts Officer Sofia Larkin Appleby at 915.872.8412 or [slappleby@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:slappleby@elpasodiocese.org). The Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso is located at 499 St. Matthews Street and office hours are Monday – Friday, 9-12, 1-5, and by appointment.



## FOUNDATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF EL PASO

Back by popular demand, the Catholic Foundation presents Bowling for Seminarians on Friday, August 4, 2017 at Oasis Lanes at 1660 Zaragoza from 6-9 p.m. Bishop Mark Seitz, priests, seminarians, and teams from all over the El Paso community, are going bowling for a great cause. The deadline to register is Friday, July 21, 2017.

Each team has to raise a minimum of \$500. All bowlers get free use of bowling shoes

and an event t-shirt. Spectators are free. 100% of the proceeds, including 20% of the food and beverage sales, will benefit the Seminarian Education Endowment Fund.

For more information, to register your team, to sponsor a priest, seminarian, sister, or brother, or to make your donation, visit [pray4priests.org](http://pray4priests.org) or contact Javier Zamarripa at 915.872.8412 or [jzamarripa@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:jzamarripa@elpasodiocese.org). If you want

to bowl but don't have a team, please contact us!

Date: Friday, August 4, 2017

Time: 6-9 pm

Place: Oasis Lanes

Price: \$500 for a team of 5

Deadline to Register: July 21, 2017

For more info: [pray4priests.org](http://pray4priests.org)

sin costo, además de una camiseta del acontecimiento. Los espectadores entran gratis. El 100% de los ingresos, incluyendo el 20% de las ventas de alimentos y bebidas, beneficiará al Fondo en Dotaciones para la Educación de los Seminaristas.

Para más información, para registrar a su equipo y para patrocinar a un sacerdote, seminarista, hermana o hermano, o para hacer su donación, visítenos en: [pray4priests.org](http://pray4priests.org) o, llame a Javier Zamarripa al 915.872.8412 o [jzamarripa@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:jzamarripa@elpasodiocese.org). ¡Si usted quiere jugar, pero no tiene equipo, favor de contactarnos!

Fecha: Viernes 4 de Agosto del 2017

Hora: 6-9 pm

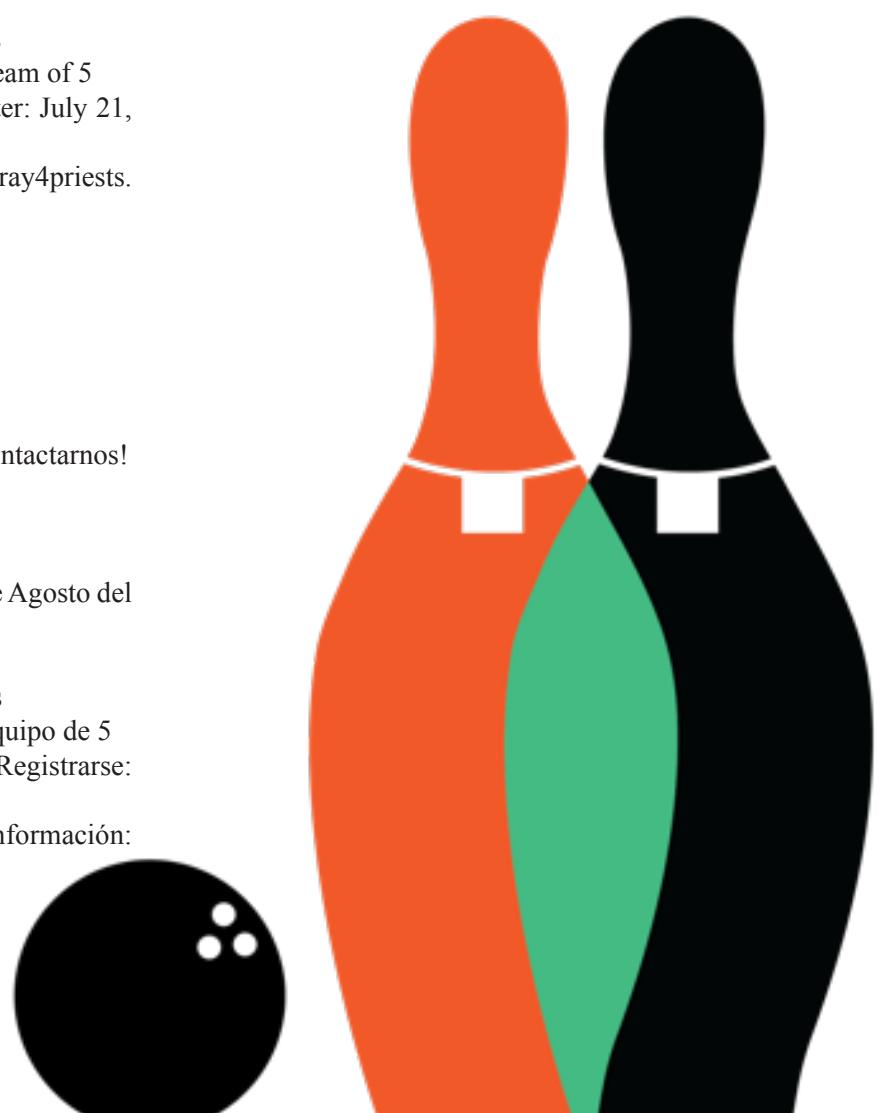
Lugar: Oasis Lanes

Precio: \$500 por equipo de 5

Fecha Límite para Registrarse:

Julio 21, 2017

Para más información: [pray4priests.org](http://pray4priests.org)



De regreso por demanda popular, la Fundación Católica presenta el Juego de Bolos para el Beneficio de los Seminaristas, el viernes 4 de agosto del 2017, en el "Oasis Lanes", (pista para jugar bolos), ubicado en el 1660 de la calle Zaragoza, de las 6 pm a las 9 pm. El Obispo Mark Seitz, los sacerdotes, seminaristas y equipos de toda la comunidad de El Paso, jugarán Bolos para una gran causa. La fecha límite para inscribirse es el viernes 21 de julio del 2017

Cada equipo deberá recabar un mínimo de \$500. Todos los jugadores obtienen el uso de zapatos adecuados,

# HOLY TRINITY RETREAT CENTER

14548 SIMPSON \* EL PASO TX 79938

[WWW.HTRCEP.COM](http://WWW.HTRCEP.COM)

## WEEKEND GROUP RETREATS

-ACTS RETREATS   -ACTS WOMENS   -ACTS MENS   -ACTS TEENS

SILENT RETREATS \* NON-DENOMINATIONAL RETREATS



**DR. ASCENSION C. MENA  
FOUNDER/PRESIDENT OF HOLY TRINITY RETREAT CENTER  
915-373-8100**

SERGIO SOTO, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS - 915-336-4976  
ARTURO MENA JR., MANAGER - 480-370-8997



FOLLOW US ONLINE!

**Holy Trinity  
Retreat Center**

