

**InSeitz- Into The Faith  
Giving Thanks  
Pg. 3**

VOL. 26 NUMBER 7

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NOVEMBER 2017 - 1

**A Life of  
Discernment  
Sister  
Carol Wirtz  
Pg. 6**

**UTEP Miner  
Awakening  
Pgs. 8 English  
& 10 Spanish**

**A Visit with  
Bishop  
Charbonneau  
from the Diocese  
of Choluteca  
Pg. 12**

**New Luz  
Ulrickson  
Scholarship  
Fund  
Pg. 19**

## Sacred Heart Announces The 2018 Father Rahm Segundo Barrio Person of The Year

**Nancy Ramos, Rio Grande Catholic Editor**

Salvador Balcorta has been named Sacred Heart's 2018 Segundo Barrio Person of the Year. The Father Rahm Segundo Barrio Person of the Year Award recognizes an individual or organization committed to the betterment, works, and service to the cultural, historical, economic, educational, and social empowerment of the Segundo Barrio (Second Ward), and its inhabitants, values, and unique experience.

The mission of the Father Rahm Segundo Barrio Person of the Year Award is to highlight, support and expand the unique historical and cultural imprint of the Segundo Barrio, its people and place in the history of the Paso del Norte region, with particular emphasis to the contribution of the Mexican- American and Chicano experience, anchored in family, faith, and the American immigrant experience, and the contribution of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) through Sacred Heart (Sagrado Corazon) parish, its ministries to the Segundo Barrio, El Paso and the region.

Salvador Balcorta is the CEO of Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe. His widowed mother raised Balcorta in Segundo Barrio so the area has a special place in his heart. Balcorta was a teenage social justice activist, La Fe volunteer and community outreach worker who in 1992

became La Fe's Executive Director.

Balcorta is a graduate from Bowie High School Class of 1972, earned a degree in Social Work at the University of Texas at El Paso and a Masters Degree in Social Work from University of Texas Austin program in El

Paso. The growth of Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe's vast network of clinics and facilities is largely attributed to Balcorta's leadership.

Today, Balcorta heads this award winning 501C-3 social justice and health & human services nonprofit that is one of the

largest Federally Qualified Health Centers in Texas with over 400 employees and many additional services including a preparatory charter school and a multi-

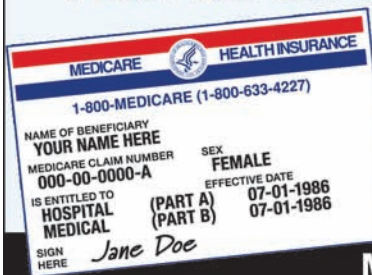
*Continued on Pg. 5*



**Salvador Balcorta delivers a heartfelt Thank You.**

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Nov 1, 15, 29. Dec 6.  
9:30 am

**BYGA**  
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Nov 12 & 20. Dec 4, 9am

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Nov 7, 14, 21, 28 Dec 5.  
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Refreshments will be served. Giveaways may be distributed to attendees with no obligation. A sales person will be present with information and applications.



# Home For The Holidays

By: Nancy Morales-Ramos, Rio Grande Catholic Editor

*Home Sweet Home, There’s No Place Like Home, Home is Where the Heart Is* and then there is the favorite around this time of year, *Homecoming*. There exist many sayings and celebrations around the home. So much of your identity comes from your home and for the first time in my life my home is feeling empty. I walked into my parents house recently and truly felt both my parents were gone, passed on. In their house I felt for the first time a solitude like never before and definitely a solitude I had never recognized inside my childhood home.

This time of year and the absence of my parents is reminding me just how important our ties to family and our faith are in making a home, your home. This year this season is telling me that my parents home is empty and it is up to me to carry on that family feeling of home in my house. Home needs to be where my heart’s focus is now more than ever.

Advent season, the four Sunday’s before Christmas, is the perfect time to refocus my efforts around my home. Advent is approaching quickly so it is best to get a head start before December 3rd. Advent happens during one of the busiest times of year. During Advent we are asked to slow it down and devote more time to prayer and reflection. Each year this seems unattainable with busy schedules around work, school and children. In my previous work, I was unable to slow it down especially around November and December because as everyone knows the holiday season is the busiest time of year for marketers. But this year I am making it a point to start out early and plan some thoughtful Advent activities for my family and especially for my children. This year I want to take the time to enjoy and celebrate the coming of Jesus in my home like never before.

Our faith asks us to take our time preparing for Jesus’



Nancy Ramos  
Director/Editor

arrival and not to rush the season through so fast. When you take a good look at the purpose of slowing things down, it begins to make sense. Taking more time to reflect on the meaning of the season and contemplate the approaching arrival of Christ helps us to see this waiting period as the period where a world in darkness awaits the light of its chosen King to arrive. Stepping away from the busy pace of Christmas, and our lives in general, gives us time to think about how our world is and how we wish it could be, how we are and how we wish we could be. Advent is when we can celebrate

Christ’s coming on Christmas and a time when we can continue to prepare for his second coming. The spirit of Advent is in the longing and the preparation for the coming of the one that is to save us. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God becoming man in Christ who came to save us and reinstate our relationship with God. We have to take it slow so as to give ourselves time to take it all in so that slowly we can experience a change and a transformation within us.

With a new slower pace I am going to focus on new Advent traditions. This year will be the first year my family creates an Advent calendar. I am saddened to admit it but I have never done this sort of activity around Advent for my family. We have only celebrated with an Advent wreath and that is only because my kids came home with one from school. Taking things slower this year will definitely include making a calendar. In this calendar I plan on celebrating the joy of Christ’s love

in daily readings and reflections chosen by none other than me, the Mom. I may also provide a small gift or note asking my kids to do a good deed for the day. I want each day to count as a memorable day and one that helps my kids grow in their faith and reminds them to always give to others.

Secondly I want to celebrate my parents and all parents, specifically Joseph and Mary. Joseph and Mary were faithful Jews and they too longed for a messiah. In faith they said yes to God. They traveled over 70 miles from Galilee to Bethlehem and probably learned to travel light. They took only what they needed to provide for their new baby. The Holy Family demonstrates how we too need to leave behind the baggage that is weighing us down on our road to meet Christ. Joseph and Mary did lots of work in preparing for their child and probably did so in a prayerful way knowing that they were preparing to receive our Savior. I want to reflect on their journey and their work as parents so that I too remember what it is like to celebrate simply, carefully and meaningfully knowing that the work I do is for my husband, my children, the ones I love and it is work that should be offered up to God. This year I will set up a nativity scene (the one that belonged to my mother) but first only with Joseph and Mary. I want to give time to reflect on the roles that we as parents have in the lives and faith of our kids. I will hide the baby Jesus and add in the animals, Shepherd and others as Jesus’ arrival gets closer. I will take more time to deliver the story of baby Jesus’ arrival in a way that is impactful and memorable to my kids...and to me.

I have to be honest and tell you that every year setting up for Christmas in my home felt always like a chore. It became so much of a chore that I used to have my housekeepers set up the tree and decorations for us. I worried more about how it looked and less of what it meant. I am so disappointed to know that I allowed my family to experience the coming of our Savior in such a secular and meaningless manner. It took me this long and a complete turnaround in my professional and personal life to finally realize what I had been depriving my family of and just how un-Catholic I had become in a season when I should be drawing in closer to my faith.

This year Advent is going to save Christmas in my home. The holiday preparations will be slower and thoughtful. Scripture will have a more pivotal role and I won’t care so much about how things “look”. This year I want my home to be a Home for the Holidays and a home prepared to receive our Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas as well as a home prepared for Him the second time He comes.

*Isaiah 9:2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.*



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# Giving Thanks

As we enter the month of November we prepare to celebrate the civic holiday we call Thanksgiving. I love this annual feast but I find myself wondering whether a holiday by this name is likely to continue in an ever more secularized nation. If these trends toward greater secularization continue can Thanksgiving remain a feast that leads us to pause and reflect, a day rich in meaning? Or will Thanksgiving become like many of our civil holidays, simply a part of a longer weekend in which many can kick back at home or travel or shop until they drop?

To give thanks is a concept we are taught from our childhood. We are taught to say thanks as a necessary social grace. But thanksgiving in many instances is more profound and our response is rightly more heartfelt. We feel moved to give thanks for actions or gifts of great generosity that go well beyond social obligations and which we might never be able to repay. Such a case might be when you receive the Christmas gift you hardly dared to dream of or when a person you don't even know risks his life to save your own. When we have experienced such an act of unmerited generosity it is difficult even to find the words to express our gratitude although "thank you" may be all we can say.

This brings me back to our annual feast that has been dedicated to thanksgiving. We might well ask what it is for which we are giving thanks and to whom? The first Thanksgiving proclamations made the answer to these questions clear. In the year 1789 when our nation had just been born, our first President, George Washington, under the direction of the newly formed Congress, issued this proclamation which I will quote in part:

"Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor—and

whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me 'to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.'

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be—That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks—for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country previous to their becoming a Nation—for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war—for the great degree of tranquillity, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed—for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted—for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us."

The practice President Washington began has continued to this day. His thanksgiving was profound and the object of that thanks was clear. Our nation will continue to be great as long as we know to whom we owe our Thanksgiving.

Have a great and meaningful Feast!

Bp. Mark



*By  
Bishop  
Mark J. Seitz*



# Dar Gracias

Al ingresar al mes de noviembre, nos preparamos para celebrar la fiesta cívica que llamamos Acción de Gracias. Me encanta esta fiesta anual, pero me pregunto si es probable que unas vacaciones con este nombre, puedan continuar en una nación cada vez más secularizada. Si estas tendencias hacia una mayor secularización continúan, ¿la Acción de Gracias seguirá siendo una fiesta que nos lleva a detenernos y a reflexionar, será un día rico en significado? ¿O será el Día de Acción de Gracias, como muchas de nuestras fiestas civiles, simplemente como parte de un fin de semana más largo en el que muchos podemos volver a casa, viajar o salir de compras hasta caer de cansancio?

Dar gracias es un concepto que se nos enseña desde la infancia. Se nos enseña a agradecer como una gracia social necesaria. Pero la acción de gracias en muchos casos es más profunda y nuestra respuesta es más sincera. Nos sentimos motivados a dar gracias por acciones o dones de gran generosidad que van más allá de las obligaciones sociales y que nunca podríamos pagar. Tal caso podría ser cuando usted recibe el obsequio de Navidad con el que usted apenas se atrevió a soñar, o cuando una persona que ni siquiera conoce, arriesga su vida para salvar la suya. Cuando hemos experimentado tal acto de generosidad inmerecida, es difícil, incluso, encontrar palabras para expresar nuestra gratitud, aunque un "gracias" puede ser todo lo que podemos decir.

Esto me regresa nuevamente a nuestra fiesta anual la cual se dedicado a la acción de gracias. Bien podríamos preguntar por qué estamos dando gracias y a quién. Las primeras proclamaciones de Acción de Gracias hicieron muy clara la respuesta a estas preguntas. En el año 1789, cuando nuestra nación acababa de nacer, nuestro primer presidente, George Washington, bajo la dirección del Congreso recién formado, emitió esta proclamación que voy a citar en parte:

"Considerando que es deber de todas las naciones reconocer la providencia del Dios Todopoderoso, obedecer

su voluntad, agradecer sus beneficios y humildemente implorar su protección y favor, y considerando que ambas Cámaras del Congreso han solicitado por su Comité conjunto, recomendaré al Pueblo de los Estados Unidos un día de acción de gracias y oración pública para ser observado, al reconocer con gratitud los muchos favores de Dios Todopoderoso, especialmente al brindarles una oportunidad pacífica para establecer una forma de gobierno para su seguridad y felicidad."

Ahora, por lo tanto, recomiendo y asigno el día Jueves 26 de noviembre próximo a ser dedicado por el Pueblo de estos Estados al servicio de ese gran y glorioso Ser, que es el benéfico Autor de todo lo bueno que fue, es y que será: para que todos podamos unirnos para brindarle nuestras sinceras y humildes gracias por su amable cuidado y protección al Pueblo de este País, antes de convertirse en una Nación, por la señal y múltiples misericordias y por las interposiciones favorables de su Providencia que experimentamos en el curso y la conclusión de la guerra tardía - por el gran grado de tranquilidad, unión y abundancia que hemos disfrutado desde hace mucho tiempo - por la forma pacífica y racional en la que se nos ha permitido establecer constituciones de gobierno para nuestra seguridad y felicidad y particularmente por el nacional que ahora se ha instituido últimamente, por la libertad civil y religiosa con la que somos bendecidos; los medios que tenemos para adquirir y difundir conocimiento útil y en general por todos los grandes y variados favores que Él se ha complacido en conferirnos".

La práctica que inició el presidente Washington ha continuado hasta nuestros días. Su acción de gracias fue profunda y el objetivo de ese agradecimiento fue bastante claro. Nuestra nación seguirá siendo grande mientras sepamos a quién debemos de dirigir nuestra Acción de Gracias.

¡Que tengan una gran fiesta!

Obispo Mark

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# Happy Birthday

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Msgr. Robert S. Calles	1 1-1
Rev. J. Jeronimo Melendez, OSM	11-15
Rev. Francis Dennis O'Mara, SSC	11-18
Rev. Emanuel Alcazar	11-19
Rev. Rogelio H. Rayas, OSM	11-23
Rev. Andrew Martinez, OFM Conv.	11-28
Rev. Andres Alava (OAR)	11-29
Rev. Kevin O'Neill, FSSP	11-30

# Ordination Anniversary

Rev. Arturo Gonzalez, OSM	11-1
Rev. Flavio Alberto Hernandez, OFM	11-15
Rev. Alfonso Bonilla (OP)	11-15
Rev. Pablo Matta	11-25
Rev. Cyprian Uline, OFM Conv.	11-28



## Special Collections Month of November

### Special Collection for Catholic Campaign for Human Development

The annual Special Offering for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development will be held on Saturday, November 18 and Sunday, November 19, 2017.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development supports communities across the country as they address the root causes of poverty. From the pro-life health clinics in California to community gardens in Pennsylvania, CCHD supports projects that are helping families break the cycle of poverty in their own

communities. Part of the funds collected is returned to the El Paso Diocese to fund local programs that are addressing the many challenges of our neighbors in need.

Over 46 million people in the United States live on the margins and are being left behind by the recovery. CCHD remains committed to following Catholic moral teachings, demonstrating a preferential love for those who are poor, promoting the dignity of the human person, and strengthening working families. Your participation

in this collection is a concrete expression of solidarity; giving hope and extending a hand to fellow Americans.

May we take up the invitation of our Holy Father, Pope Francis, to be a "powerful leaven of communion" in the midst of a society fragmented and torn apart by poverty and partisanship. Together with Christ, we can be one voice and one heart proclaiming the Evangelium.

Thank you for your support.

### Special Collection for the Archdiocese for Military Services

The Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) which is held once every three years, gives each of us the opportunity to serve those who serve. With the funds raised from this national collection, the AMS will be able to ensure that all Catholic men, women, and families have the access to the sacraments, authentic Catholic education, and the spiritual guidance of a Catholic chaplain, wherever they are

stationed.

The collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Service will be held on the weekend of November 25 and 26, 2017. This collection will provide the Gospel, the sacraments and other forms of spiritual support to the men and women of the United States Armed Forces wherever they may serve, no matter the circumstances.

Please prayerfully consider a generous

contribution to the National Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services.

Please keep in your prayers these men and women serving in our armed forces, patients in the VA Medical Centers, civilians working for the federal government beyond U.S. borders, and the families of these populations. For more information, visit [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org).

### Ofrenda Especial Anual para la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano

Este es un recordatorio de la Ofrenda Especial Anual que se llevará a cabo el sábado, 18 de noviembre y el domingo, 19 de noviembre del 2017, para la Campaña Católica para el

Desarrollo Humano.

La Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano apoya a las comunidades de todo el país, ya que abordan las causas fundamentales de la pobreza. Desde los centros de salud a favor de la vida en California, a los jardines comunitarios en Pennsylvania, la Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano apoya proyectos que están ayudando a las familias a romper el ciclo de la pobreza en sus propias comunidades. La cantidad compartida (25%) de los fondos colectados se regresan a la diócesis de El Paso y apoyan programas locales que tocan los retos de nuestros hermanos necesitados.

Más de 46 millones de personas en los Estados Unidos viven al borde de la pobreza y se siguen quedando atrás en su recuperación. La

Campaña Católica para el Desarrollo Humano mantiene su compromiso de seguir las enseñanzas morales católicas, lo que demuestra un amor preferencial por los pobres, la promoción de la dignidad de la persona humana y el fortalecimiento de las familias trabajadoras. Su participación en esta colecta es una expresión concreta de solidaridad; dando esperanza y extendiendo la mano a nuestros compatriotas.

Oremos para que podamos aceptar la invitación del Santo Padre Francisco, de ser un "poderoso fermento de comunión" en medio de una sociedad fragmentada y desgarrada por la pobreza y el partidismo. Junto con Cristo, podemos ser una sola voz y un solo corazón proclamando el Evangelium.

Gracias por su apoyo.

### Ofrenda Especial para la Arquidiócesis para los Servicios Militares

La colecta de la Arquidiócesis para los Servicios Militares que se realiza una vez cada tres años, nos da a cada uno la oportunidad de servir a aquellos que nos sirven. Con los fondos recaudados de esta colecta

nacional, la Arquidiócesis para los Servicios Militares se asegura que todo hombre, mujer y familia católica tengan acceso a los sacramentos, a una educación católica y

**Continued on Pg. 6**

theRioGrande Catholic



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Continued from Pg. 1

million dollar mixed-income housing development.

In his acceptance speech Balcarta shared with us these words as he held back tears: “This is a very big honor for me. This award humbles me because I take on an award named after an icon. An icon not only in Segundo Barrio not only in El Paso and Tejas, but an icon that is a man that has made a difference world wide, Father Rahm. We got a little note from Father Rahm yesterday and that meant a lot to us.

You know we have been a part of this neighborhood and doing community service and really starting doing community service since we were seven years old by being an altar boy in this parish. I joked sometime back with Monsignor Arturo that maybe I was on my way to becoming a Jesuit myself.” He said Monsignor Arturo Bañuelas replied, “Let’s not take it too far.”

Balcorta continued, “ You know this has been my life. Activism has been my life. I am honored that next year as we celebrate my award and 50 years of



The Father Rahm Segundo Barrio Person of The Year Committe Announces Salvador Balcorte as the 2018 Award Recipient

my activism, 125 years of the church’s belonging to this neighborhood, the many connections that we have with Sacred Heart, it’s

unbelievable. I thank you for allowing us to be social activists on your behalf. I thank you for allowing me, as my board is here, to be

the leader of Centro Salud Familiar La Fe for the last 25 years.”

Holding back tears his closing words were,

“I have been blessed by receiving a lot of awards never, never have I felt like this and most importantly that I am so, so happy that part of the representation of our school is here because they are the jewels of this neighborhood and they are the future activists of this neighborhood”.



The Father Rahm Segundo Barrio Person of The Year activities will commence in April 2018 with a dinner, parade and so much more. Sponsorships are available and 100% of the proceeds benefit Sacred Heart Church.

Mr. Balcorta is joined by his honored guests, La Fe Preparatory Charter School students



# The Shepherd's Corner

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# A Lifetime of Discernment

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

Outlook, Montana...Zuni, New Mexico...Cincinnati, Ohio...Santa Fe, New Mexico...El Paso, Texas...Anapra, Mexico...God has moved Sister Carol Wirtz on a journey of discernment and service that is typical for women called to the active apostolic religious life. The farm girl from northern Montana near the Canadian border never imagined that she would spend her most productive years of ministry at the border with Mexico. "I always dreamed of being a missionary in Africa," Sister Carol remembers, "and I prayed about that in our little parish church among the wheat fields when I snuck in there at night sometimes." She thought she might join the Peace Corps after college. Then a Franciscan Sister visiting her school talked about an opportunity to teach at a mission on the Zuni pueblo in New Mexico. "My parents thought that was a better idea than going to a foreign country. Little did they know how the experience would change my life!"

As a first year teacher, Carol was assigned to second grade at the mission where a classroom aide helped translate for some of the Native American students who spoke only the language of the pueblo. The culture of the Zunis and the magic of the high desert mesas were as foreign as any Peace Corps placement for the girl from Montana. It was quite an adventure and Carol had lots of time to explore. She had a little inkling about a vocation to religious life, which is why the Franciscan connection with the mission was attractive. Sisters from three different religious congregations as well as other volunteers staffed the school at St. Anthony Mission. But it was the friendship and mentoring of the principal of the school, Sister of Charity Rosemarie

Hewitt that brought clarity to Carol's call. When she signed on for a second year of teaching at Zuni, Carol began the journey of vocational discernment with the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati.

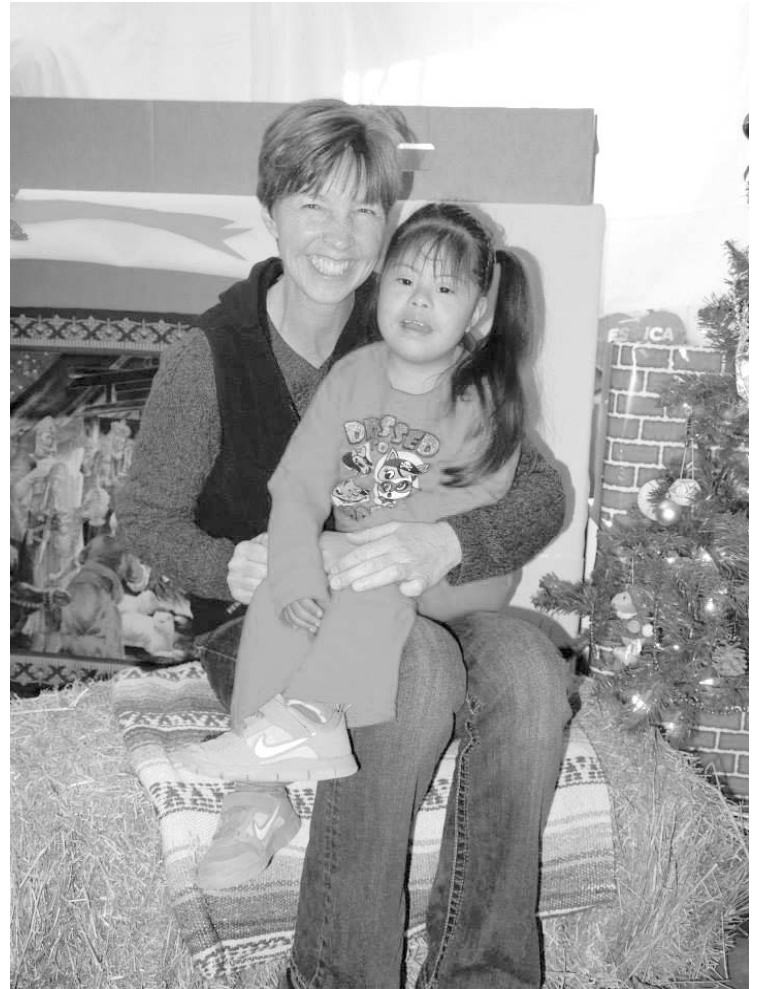
Moving to Cincinnati to live with the Sisters and teach at an inner city Catholic school was another culture shock for Carol. It was the biggest city she had ever lived in. The neighborhood where she lived was poor. "We saw drug deals going on across the street from our house," she recalls. Her first grade classroom was just as rough. "They didn't tell me that the kids had gone through five kindergarten teachers the year before! After being with the very quiet Zuni children it seemed to me that these kids just screamed all the time and I could barely understand them. We had few resources and no help from the administration." With the support of the Sisters at home and by the grace of God, Carol made it through the year. The transition to canonical novitiate was a welcome change and during that time she discerned that God was truly calling her to religious life as a Sister of Charity.

In prayer and dialogue with the congregation, after professing vows of poverty, chastity and obedience Sister Carol accepted a call to teach at St. Catherine's Indian School in Santa Fe. But God was preparing her heart for a new direction in ministry. She discerned a desire to study natural healing therapies and was given permission by the congregation to become a licensed massage therapist. The possibilities for ministry in Santa Fe were many, but God called again. This time Sister Carol discerned, with several other Sisters, a call to live and serve at the U.S. - Mexican border. Since 1991 that calling has become clear in ever more

surprising ways.

Today Sister Carol spends half of each week at Proyecto Santo Niño, a center for children with special needs in Anapra, a colonia on the western edge of Cd. Juarez. She and the two Sisters with whom she lives established the center sixteen years ago when they discovered the need for services to poor handicapped children in the area. She has trained and supervises the mothers of the children who are the primary therapists in the center. Each week Sister Carol spends a day and night with the family of her godchild, Reyna, an eight year old with Down syndrome who first came to Santo Niño when she was two weeks old. They have become her Anapra family.

Sister Carol has continued to develop her healing gifts and provides a type of movement education



**Sister Carol and Her God-daughter Reyna**



**Sister Carol doing therapy on Jackie at Santo Niño Project**

that restores function to damaged brain and nerves. It requires careful observation and attentiveness to subtle

signs and changes. Sister Carol has been prepared for this ministry, not just during hours of practice and study but in the vocation to

religious life that has taught her to discern God's call and follow where the Spirit leads.



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Transforming the world through education

**Continued from Pg. 4**  
a una guía espiritual de un capellán católico, en donde quiera que se encuentren.

La colecta de la Arquidiócesis para los Servicios Militares se llevara acabo el fin de semana del 25 y 26 de noviembre del 2017. Esta colecta llevará el Evangelio, los Sacramentos y otras formas de apoyo espiritual a los hombres y mujeres, de las Fuerzas Armadas de los Estados Unidos, donde quiera que sirvan y sin importar las circunstancias. Favor con devoción

consideren contribuir generosamente a la primera Colecta de la Arquidiócesis para los Servicios Militares.

Favor ruegue al Señor por los hombres y mujeres que sirven en nuestras Fuerzas Armadas, los enfermos en los centros Médicos de la Administración de Salud de Veteranos, los civiles empleados del gobierno federal apostados fuera del país, y para los familiares de estos grupos de personas. Para obtener más información, visite [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org).



# Una Vida de Discernimiento

Por: Hermana Janet Gildea, SC, Enlace Para Mujeres Religiosas

Outlook, Montana ... Zuni, Nuevo México... Cincinnati, Ohio ... Santa Fe, Nuevo México ... El Paso, Texas ... Anapra, México ... Dios ha llevado a la Hermana Carol



**Sister Carol in Prayer and Reflection**

Wirtz por una jornada de discernimiento y servicio algo típico de las mujeres llamadas a la activa vida religiosa apostólica. La campesina del norte de Montana, cerca de la frontera con Canadá, nunca imaginó que pasaría sus años de ministerio más productivos en la frontera con México. “Siempre soñé ser una misionera en África”, recuerda la hermana Carol, “y oré sobre eso en nuestra pequeña iglesia parroquial entre los campos de trigo cuando a veces me escondía allí por la noche”. Pensaba unirse al “Peace Corps” después de sus estudios en la universidad. Luego, una Hermana franciscana que visitaba su escuela habló sobre la oportunidad de enseñar en una misión en el pueblo de Zuni en Nuevo México.

“Mis padres pensaron que era una mejor idea que ir a un país extranjero. ¡Poco sabían cómo la experiencia cambiaría mi vida! “

Como ser su primer año de maestra, Carol fue asignada al segundo grado en la misión donde un ayudante de salón le ayudó a traducir para algunos de los estudiantes nativos americanos que solo hablaban el idioma del pueblo. Para la chica de Montana la cultura de los Zunis y la magia de las mesas altas del desierto eran tan extranjeras como cualquier asignación

del Peace Corps. Fue una gran aventura y Carol tuvo mucho tiempo para explorar. Tenía pocas ideas sobre una vocación de la vida religiosa, por esa razón la conexión franciscana de la misión era atractiva. Las hermanas de tres diferentes congregaciones religiosas y otros voluntarios eran el cuerpo de administración en la escuela de St. Anthony Mission. Pero fue la amistad y la orientación de la directora de la escuela, la Hermana de la Caridad Rosemarie Hewitt la que dio claridad al llamado de Carol. Cuando se comprometió a un segundo año de docencia en Zuni, Carol comenzó la jornada de discernimiento vocacional con las Hermanas de la Caridad de Cincinnati.

Mudándose a Cincinnati para vivir con las hermanas

y enseñar en un centro urbano en una escuela católica fue otro choque cultural para Carol. Era la ciudad más grande en la que había vivido. El barrio donde vivía era pobre. “Vimos desde nuestra casa las transacciones de drogas tomando lugar en la calle”, ella recuerda. La situación en su salón de clases del primer grado fue igual de difícil. “¡No me dijeron que los niños habían pasado por cinco maestros de kindergarten el año anterior! Después de estar con los muy tranquilos niños de Zuni, me pareció que estos niños gritaban todo el tiempo y apenas podía entenderlos. Teníamos pocos recursos y ninguna ayuda de la administración”. Con el apoyo de las Hermanas en nuestro hogar y por la gracia de Dios, Carol logró terminar el año. La transición al noviciado canónico fue un cambio bienvenido y durante ese tiempo ella descubrió que Dios realmente la estaba llamando a la vida religiosa como Hermana de la Caridad.

En oración y diálogo con la congregación, después de profesar votos de pobreza, castidad y obediencia, la hermana Carol aceptó un llamado a enseñar en la escuela de indígenas de Santa Catalina en Santa Fe. Pero Dios estaba preparando su corazón para una nueva dirección en el ministerio. Ella discernió el deseo de estudiar terapias de curación naturales y la congregación le dio permiso para tomar clases para obtener su licencia de terapeuta de masaje. Las posibilidades de ministerio en Santa Fe fueron muchas, pero Dios volvió a llamar. Esta vez, la hermana Carol se dio cuenta, junto con

varias otras hermanas, de un llamado para vivir y servir en la frontera entre los Estados Unidos y México. Desde 1991 ese llamado se ha vuelto claro en maneras cada vez más sorprendentes.

Hoy, la hermana Carol pasa la mitad de cada semana en el Proyecto Santo Niño, un centro para niños con necesidades especiales en Anapra, una colonia en el extremo occidental de

noche con la familia de su ahijada, Reyna, una niña de ocho años con síndrome de Down que llegó por primera vez a Santo Niño cuando tenía dos semanas. Se han convertido en su familia de Anapra.

La hermana Carol sigue desarrollando sus dones de curación y proporciona un tipo de educación sobre el movimiento que restablece la función del cerebro y los



**Sister Carol working with Brisa at Proyecto Santo Niño**

Cd. Juárez. Ella y las dos hermanas con las que vive establecieron el centro hace dieciséis años cuando descubrieron la necesidad de servicios para niños pobres en la zona. Ella ha entrenado y supervisado a las madres de los niños quienes son las terapeutas principales en el centro. Cada semana, la hermana Carol pasa un día y una

nervios dañados. Requiere una observación cuidadosa y atención a signos y cambios sutiles. La hermana Carol ha estado preparando para este ministerio, no solo durante horas de práctica y estudio, sino también en la vocación a la vida religiosa que le ha enseñado a discernir el llamado de Dios y seguir hacia donde conduce el Espíritu.

## 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.



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# Miner Awakening

By: Father Andy Martinez, OFM Conv., UTEP Catholic Campus Minitry Director

Catholic Campus Ministry serves as the on-site catholic center at The University of Texas at El Paso. It encourages college students to pursue their faith in a challenging society. A major event that Catholic Campus Ministry hosts in order to promote the catholic faith, is Miner Awakening. The Awakening program is a retreat that is hosted for college students by college students with retreats being held at college campuses across the Nation. It is open to all college aged students (18-25) from UTEP or EPCC. Miner Awakening emphasizes the importance of community and family by creating and promoting friendship and relationships. It is a retreat that happens once every



UTEP Miners interacting on a spiritual level



Fr. Andy Martinez watches as the young adults work in groups

semester, in which retreatants spend a weekend together listening to different talks, participating in various activities, attending mass, and sharing meals together. Awakening is a great way to meet new people who share common beliefs as you. The people you tend to meet at

miner awakening become your catholic community, and turn into your support group during your years at a university.

Students who have lived their Miner Awakening retreat usually become more involved in their church, whether it is their own parish or at Catholic Campus ministry. During retreat weekend, students take an active role in talks about the Catholic faith. This retreat is completely staffed by students who have lived a previous Miner Awakening retreat. This is important because it gives retreatants a special connection that ensures them that everyone around them either is, or has been through the same weekend journey that they are taking part of.

Miner Awakening gives college students the opportunity to create connections and relationships with other college students who share their same faith. As a college student, it can be very easy to drift away from your faith because of the stress that comes with being a student. Miner Awakening allows students to spend a weekend away from the worries of school and submit themselves to God as well as remind them that it is possible to be a student and a Catholic at the same time.

Living a Miner Awakening retreat means becoming apart of a close-knit community of Catholic students who help remind each other of their faith and work together to keep their relationship with God strong.

After living a Miner Awakening retreat, students become more involved with

the Catholic Campus Ministry and the other events that they have to offer, such as Sunday and Wednesday masses, holy hour, Faith Formation Nights, and many more. Many even become apart of the CCM officers and campus minister. In fact, all the current officers and campus ministers have both lived and staffed different Miner Awakening retreats. This just goes to show that Miner Awakening does not just end once the retreat weekend is over.

Catholic Campus ministry also engages in activities outside of school, so after Miner Awakening a trip to White Sands is planned to encourage fellowship and to have mass together. Anyone who just lived retreat and any other CCM members are invited. This is a fun get away where students go play in the sand, eat lunch and the best part of the day is the we finish the day with mass. After a day of fun and friendship, students experience a beautiful mass at



Miners perform skits around Bible readings.

sunset.

Miner Awakening is only the beginning of their journey and dedication to the catholic faith for many students who attend. For others it is a way of renewing their faith and is a reminder that being a Catholic does not end when college begins.



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**Monica Lombrana**, Director of Aviation, El Paso International Airport  
(Attended Our Lady of the Valley School, St. Joseph School and Loretto Academy)



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**Dr. Josefina Villamil Tinajero**, Special Advisor to VP for Research, University of Texas at El Paso  
(Attended Sacred Heart School and Father Yermo High School)

"Catholic education forms the next generation of citizens with a core of traditions inculcating a sense of traditional values and ethics to lead the city, country, and world in which they will live."

**Dr. Jose Manuel de la Rosa**, Provost and VP for Academic Affairs, Texas Tech Health Sciences Center El Paso  
(Attended St. Joseph School and Cathedral High School)



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## News Around Schools

### Father Yermo Catholic School



Open House is November 20, 2017 8:30a-2:00p and February 5, 2018 8:30a-2:00p at the Administration Office 220 Washington Ave. El Paso Texas 79905. For more information call 915.532.6875.

The Knights of Columbus Cristo Rey Assembly 113 gave a scholarship to Sofia Olvera and Jorge Valle.

Next 60th Anniversary will gather Alumni and Benefactors on January 20, 2018.

During the Diocese and Foundation's Dinner our school was granted \$2,400 in scholarships for needy students and obtained \$225 prize for decorated basket.

Run and The Nun sera el ultimo evento del 60th aniversario. Se hare en Azcarate Park y estara abierto al public general.

Las hermanas agradecen de Corazon el entusiasmo de padres y miembros de su familia que apoyan tan generosa y entusiasticamente las actividades escolares. Es con su participacion y cariño que Father Yermo School logra el objetivo de ofrecer una educacion de excelencia.

### Most Holy Trinity Catholic School

Ozobots Stimulate Higher Order Thinking- Most Holy Trinity teachers were trained on how to use "Ozobots" this summer. Ozobots are small, smart toy robots that empower learners to code, play, create and connect the physical and digital worlds. Our students come down to work in the "Ozobot Zone" an area set aside in our multi-purpose room to work with the robots.

"They are very smart, very cool", said third grader Sofia Castillo. On this particular day Sofia was partnered with Sophia Baza from Kindergarten. The girls agreed that having a



partner helps. "My drawing wasn't working well, so Sofia helped me redo it" said Sophia Baza. "We made patterns of squiggly lines with different colors. It was fun to watch the Ozobot work" added Jayden Whitt.

Our students are develop different skills working with the Ozobots, including collaboration and higher order thinking. Math/ Science Teacher Jolen Confer had her students working on a math project. "The students had to work in groups and were assigned geometric shapes with specific dimensions. They have to work together to create the shape and path that the Ozobot will follow. As they worked with it they became more creative with the shapes and patterns."

As education increases emphasis on STEM activities, working with Ozobots is helping our students prepare for more complex skills. Most Holy Trinity is continuously working to provide more challenging academic programs for our students.

### St. Patrick Cathedral School

*St. Patrick Cathedral School's 95th Anniversary Gala*  
To commemorate the school's 95th anniversary, the Home & School Association, along with school officials, are planning an Irish Gala to celebrate the school's anniversary. The gala will be held on Friday, Dec. 1, at Grace Gardens, 6709 Westside, from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. The gala will include a silent and live auctions, cocktails, dinner and dance.

Master of Ceremonies for the event is Father Fabian Marquez, a former parochial vicar at St. Patrick Cathedral and a former principal of the school. Tickets are on sale now and are \$50 per person. This is an event for adults, and attendees are encouraged to wear green formal attire.

Proceeds from the event will benefit St. Patrick Cathedral School. The public is invited to the event with a special invitation being extended to alumni and friends of the school. For information on tickets, please contact [spcatholicgala@gmail.com](mailto:spcatholicgala@gmail.com) or contact the school at 915-532-4142.

### Spirituality comes first at St. Patrick Cathedral School

The month of October was filled with spiritual events for students to grow in their faith. The month began with the annual 8th grade retreat to Prude Ranch in Fort Davis, Texas, which was held on October 11. The eighth-graders took part in an all-day spiritual retreat that included team-building exercises, horse riding and spiritual talks given by



Sister Margie.

On October 19, students recited and participated in a Living Rosary in the school's gymnasium. The month of October is dedicated to the Virgin Mary and praying the rosary, so the Living Rosary has become an annual tradition during the month of October at the school.

On October 20, students wore pink to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Later on in the day, Rebecca Vasquez



spoke to the middle school girls in the library about faith and how a strong belief could help them through anything. Vasquez is cancer survivor who was diagnosed over 10 years ago.

*St. Patrick's Class of 2018 visit El Paso Catholic high schools*

In an effort to encourage St. Patrick Cathedral



School students to continue their Catholic education at the high school level, the eighth-grade boys and girls visited Cathedral High School and Loretto Academy, respectively. The students visited the campuses on October 23 for an all-day recruitment day. During the visits, prospective students learned about the school, interacted with the students on campus and got the opportunity to meet with the faculty and staff. Students were also invited to attend the Father Yermo School Recruitment Day on November 8.

**St. Raphael Catholic School**

On September 27th, St. Raphael had it's first Math Night. The teachers were able to show the parents how technology has been integrated into our new Math



Curriculum. We would like to thank the parents again for making our first math night successful!

During mass on September 29th, the students donated food for the earthquake victims in Mexico. Thank you for your donations once again! We would also like to recognize our new choir members who did an excellent job in singing for the mass. You all sounded like angels!

Everyone had a fabulous evening on September 29th! Thank you to everyone for supporting us at St. Raphael's first dinner, dance, casino, and silent auction "A Night At the Sunset." It was a huge success!

On October 3rd, the U.S Border Patrol visited us to teach our students about how to say no to drugs and bullying. Thank you to U.S. Border Patrol Agent Zapp, Agent Pino, Agent Schwieger and Agent Robot K.A.B. (Kids Against Bullying)!!!! You made our Red Ribbon event a success! Your presentations will impact our students life skills. Their presentations gave empowering messages on safety, the dangerous consequences of drugs and the



rewards and ramifications of using

technology! Thank you to all the Agents for educating our students and giving them the knowledge so they can have a better chance to reach their goals! We're very fortunate, U.S. Border Patrol Supervisor Agent Zapp shared his expertise on the importance of drug prevention. We honor your commitment in keeping us all safe. May God bless you all! -Terry Woods

In the morning of October 10th, the 8th grade boys were visited by Mr. Vazquez from Cathedral. He was talking to them about the benefits of attending Cathedral for their high school career. As well as how many of our Alumni go on to do very well in academics, sports, and afterwards.

*Come Home Class of '08 Alumni! 10 year Reunion Celebration!* Come talk to our current 8th grade students. Dates: January 5, 2018 - For the Out of Towners February 2, 2018 - For those who live in town Time: 7:30 am to 12:00 pm Location: Library Mass & Brunch to be followed Please RSVP at the Front Office (915) 598-2241 Please visit us at our website:



<http://www.straphaeelpaso.org>  
Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/st.raphaelcatholicschoolEP/](https://www.facebook.com/st.raphaelcatholicschoolEP/)

### St. Pius X

St Pius X proudly took first place at the Diocesan Golf Tournament. The tournament was held on Friday, Oct. 13th at the Painted Dunes Golf Course. Parent, Alejandro Espinoza formed the winning team. Other players included Jessie Mendoza, Jason

Cadena and Luis Rodriguez.

**Loretto Academy**  
4th Annual Jingle Mingle  
All are welcome to Loretto Academy's 4th Annual



Jingle Mingle on Wednesday, November 8th from 3:30-7pm in the Gym. Attendees will be able to bid and purchase student-made wreaths for all occasions and holidays. There will also be hot chocolate, baked goods, dog treats and custom collars, and locally grown succulents for sale. All goods and wreaths are made by Loretto Academy students from our Pre-K to 12th grade classes. Jingle Mingle is perfect way to start your holiday season. We HO-HO-Hope to See you there!

### The Importance of Choosing a Catholic Education

Loretto Academy will be hosting The Importance of Choosing a Catholic Education on Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 8:30am - 12:30pm. This event is open to the public and include a keynote address by Sergio Troncoso, author of The Last Tortilla, 10 breakout sessions covering: Loretto Traditions, Texas Graduation Requirements, FASFA Information, College Essay Writing Tips to Healthy Eating Tips, Tactics to Manage Stress, and Social Media and Children. The conference will end with an alumnae panel including: Sofia Larkin '87, Monica Lombrana '83, Estefania Seyffert '11, Patty Tiscareno '71, and Monica Vargas-Mahar '92.



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# Miner Awakening

By Padre Andy Martinez, OFM Conv., Director de UTEP Catholic Campus Ministry

El Ministerio Católico en Campus presta sus servicios como centro católico presente en la Universidad de Texas en El Paso. Alienta a los estudiantes universitarios a que persigan su fe en una desafiante sociedad. Un evento importante que el Ministerio Católico en el Campus organiza para promover la fe católica es el “Miner Awakening” (Despertar de los

Mineros). El programa Despertar es un retiro organizado por estudiantes que ya organizan retiros en todo el país, para los estudiantes universitarios. Está abierto para todos los estudiantes en edad universitaria (18-25) en UTEP o EPCC - El Paso “Community College”, (Colegio Comunitario de El Paso).

El retiro enfatiza la importancia de la comunidad y la

familia, creando y promoviendo la amistad y las relaciones. Es un retiro que ocurre una vez cada semestre y en donde los participantes pasan un fin de semana junto, escuchando diferentes charlas, participando en diversas actividades, asistiendo a misa y compartiendo comidas juntos. Despertar es una gran manera de conocer nuevas personas que comparten creencias comunes como usted. Las personas que usted tiende a conocer en Despertar de los Mineros se convierten en su comunidad católica y se convierten en su grupo de apoyo durante sus años en la universidad. Los estudiantes que han vivido un retiro de Despertar de los Mineros generalmente se involucran más en su iglesia, ya sea en su propia parroquia o en el ministerio Católico en Campus.

Durante el fin de semana de retiro, los estudiantes toman un rol activo en las charlas sobre la fe católica. Este retiro está completamente atendido por estudiantes que han vivido



**Retreatants acting out riding on chariots**

un retiro anterior de Despertar del Minero. Esto es importante porque brinda a los nuevos participantes una conexión especial que les garantiza que todos los que están a su alrededor están o han pasado por el mismo viaje de fin de semana del que forman parte.

El Despertar de los Mineros brinda a los estudiantes universitarios la oportunidad de

crear conexiones y relaciones con otros estudiantes universitarios que comparten su misma fe. Como estudiante universitario, puede ser bastante fácil alejarse de su fe, debido al estrés que conlleva ser un estudiante.

Despertar les permite a los estudiantes pasar un fin de semana lejos de las preocupaciones de la escuela y entregarse a Dios, así como recordarles que es posible ser un estudiante y un católico al mismo tiempo. Vivir un retiro de Despertar significa ser parte de una comunidad muy unida de estudiantes católicos que ayudan a recordar a los demás su fe y trabajan juntos para mantener fuerte su relación con Dios. Después de vivir un retiro de Despertar, los estudiantes se involucran más con el Ministerio Católico en el Campus y otros eventos que tienen para ofrecer, como las misas de los domingos y miércoles, la hora santa, las noches de formación de la fe y muchos eventos más. Muchos, incluso, se convierten en parte del Ministerio Católico en el Campus como oficiales y ministros. De hecho, todos los oficiales actuales y los ministros del campus han vivido y atendido diferentes retiros de Despertar del Minero.

Esto solo demuestra que Despertar no se acaba una vez que termina el fin de semana de retiro. El Ministerio Católico en el Campus también se involucra en actividades fuera de la escuela, después del retiro de Despertar se planea un viaje a “White Sands” (Arenas Blancas en Nuevo México), para alentar el compañerismo y tener misas juntos. Se invita a todas las personas que acaban de vivir el retiro y a todos los miembros del Ministerio Católico en Campus. Es una escapada divertida donde los estudiantes juegan en la arena, almuerzan y la mejor parte del día es que terminemos el día con misa. Después de un día de diversión y amistad, los estudiantes experimentan una hermosa misa al atardecer. Despertar es solo el inicio hacia un viaje de total dedicación a la fe católica para todos los estudiantes que asisten. Para otros, es una forma de renovar su fe y es un recordatorio de que ser católico no termina cuando comienza la universidad.



**Fr. Andy at table with UTEP Miners**

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# When Is It A Sin to Make a Referral?

During World War II, if a contractor had been asked to construct a building knowing that it would serve as a gas chamber in Auschwitz, it goes without saying that he ought not agree to do it. By laying the foundation and supervising the plumbing, electrical and duct work, he would be contributing to, or enabling, the subsequent commission of atrocities against prisoners in the concentration camp.

But significant concerns would also arise if he were to reply: "I'm sorry, I have a moral objection to building this structure, but let me put in a call to a colleague who is a contractor, and he will do it for you." By placing the call, he would still be a part of the causal chain leading to the building of the facility, and to the subsequent evils that would be carried out in it. By making a referral to engage someone else's services for something immoral, we can still be involved in, and responsible for, the commission of grave evils.

Among medical professionals, situations can likewise arise in which they may be tempted to make

a referral for an immoral procedure, supposing that because they are not doing the procedure themselves, they are now morally "in the clear."

For example, a pharmacist who lives and works in a state or jurisdiction where physician-assisted suicide has been legalized may be asked to fill a prescription for suicide pills. By declining to fill that prescription, he or she avoids immediately cooperating with a customer's immoral decision to commit suicide. But it would still raise moral concerns if the pharmacist said to the customer: "Let me pass this prescription to my co-worker, because, although I cannot fill it, he can help you out." The first pharmacist remains a contributor in the chain of events leading up to the carrying out of the evil act, and he would be cooperating in evil by making the referral to his co-worker.

A "referral" in moral terms is when the person who refuses to do the immoral procedure himself or herself directs the requesting person to another individual or institution because the other individual or institution

is known or believed to be willing to provide the immoral procedure in question. The decision to offer the referral indicates that the one doing it is choosing, at least implicitly, to help the requester carry out the evil act, and such implicit willing of evil acts can never be morally acceptable.

Making a referral can also convey a sense of tacit acceptance and approval of that evil, and therefore the referring provider can also become guilty of wrongdoing by giving scandal. Someone who gives scandal helps to form the immoral will of another. In fact, the term "scandal" in theology refers to any action, word or deed that leads another to sin.

Of course, a pharmacist could simply decline to fill a suicide pill prescription. He may have to pay the consequences for his refusal, but it certainly would be a valid and courageous option for him to give witness to the injustice of assisted suicide laws. But that may not be the only way to approach the situation. A conscientious pharmacist could also say to the customer, "There may be other pharmacies around

here that can assist you," or even, "there may be others working at this pharmacy who can assist you," and leave it at that. This would not be a referral, but a simple statement regarding commonly available public knowledge. The pharmacist could then return the prescription to the customer, rather than passing it to a co-worker, and the customer would then have to initiate a new "causal chain" or series of choices as he or she seeks to obtain the immoral medications, looking around and inquiring about who might fill the prescription. This removes the original pharmacist from the causal chain, avoids making a referral to a colleague, and diminishes or eliminates responsibility for any subsequent evils that the customer may end up committing.

Regrettably, pharmacists and other health care professionals today are coming under increasing fire from the culture around them as they are being told, as part of their job description, that they have to ignore their

well-formed consciences and fill prescriptions for suicide pills, the abortion pill or contraception. Yet a double-standard is clearly at work, for if the prescription were for something a pharmacist knew would be used as a date rape drug to take advantage of a woman at a party, everyone would declare the pharmacist to be a moral hero for refusing.

To sum up, then, a great deal of care, vigilance and determination is needed not only for us to avoid committing certain evils, but also to avoid making a referral for those evils to be carried out by others.

*Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org)*



*Making Sense Out of Bioethics*

Fr. Tad Pacholczyk

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# Border Leadership Academy

By Dylan Corbett, Hope Border Institute Executive Director

"I'll never be able to live my life the same way again."

This was the response of one participant at the end of Hope Border Institute's latest Border Leaders Academy. During a weekend in late October, dozens of young students and



professionals from El Paso, Ciudad Juarez and Las Cruces took part in HOPE's recent academy for an intense series of coaching sessions on leadership development and seminars on Catholic social teaching and how to build a more just border community.

The Hope Border Institute (HOPE) is an education and advocacy organization working with the local faith community on issues of justice and poverty. Since its founding two years ago, HOPE has offered a variety of leadership development opportunities for young leaders in the borderlands.

Participants come from diverse backgrounds.

October's class of graduates included included social work students from the University of Texas at El Paso, religious women serving in parish ministry, volunteers from community organizations serving migrants, and an attorney from Ciudad Juarez. One thing that unites them all is a thirst to grow in leadership and work for justice.

Marylu Vasquez is a recent graduate of the University of Austin who participated in the Border Leaders Academy last winter after returning to El Paso for graduate studies in speech pathology. After her experience of the academy, she said "it was amazing to meet other young leaders. When I graduated college, I didn't know where - or even how - to start looking for new 'partners' in social justice. HOPE's Border Leaders Academy allowed me to reconnect."

Having gone through the experience of the Border Leaders Academy in winter,

Marylu led the latest academy's workshops on Catholic social

teaching and migration together with another academy graduate, Sebastian Chacon, a student of economics at El Paso Community College. During their workshops, she stressed to participants that "Catholic

social teaching is challenging and should spur us to action and solidarity with those struggling with poverty." In his talks, Sebastian pointed to Bishop Mark Seitz' recent pastoral letter on migration as "a prophetic example of church teaching calling us to work for greater justice for migrants."

In addition to staff from the Hope Border Institute, the Border Leaders Academy brings together local leaders from across the community with significant experience and commitment in the area of social justice who serve as instructors and mentors. Previous speakers have included Sister Janet Gildea, a Sister of Charity and retired physician with extensive experience working with children with special needs in Ciudad Juarez; Mr. Alejandro Almanzan, an attorney with the Office of the Federal Public Defender in El Paso; and Father Rafael Garcia, a priest at Sacred Heart Church in El Paso working in migrant ministry. October's academy featured Dr. Nicholas Natividad, an assistant professor of criminal justice at New Mexico

State University.

During his seminar on border identity, Dr. Natividad praised participants

for "taking the next step to become leaders in a dynamic community with a unique history, culture and identity that has something special to offer to the rest of the country."

Participants also heard from Ms. Lorena Andrade, executive director of La Mujer Obrera, a local organization dedicated to the promotion of women through economic development and community building. Ms. Andrade spoke to participants about how women at La Mujer Obrera have worked to take up Pope Francis' challenge in Laudato Si' to build sustainable economies that provide just employment and respect the environment.

In addition to workshops and seminars, participants also visited with residents and organizers in El Paso's historic Duranguito district, worked in a local community garden, and learned critical lessons in healthy living and self-care. Before



graduating from the academy, each participant created a plan of action to continue in their commitment to social justice.

During the celebration of the Eucharist at the conclusion of the weekend, Father Robert Mosher, director of the Columban Mission Center in El Paso, thanked participants for their dedication to building a more just world. He also praised HOPE's work to offer formation to those working in the trenches of justice and peace "as something special and unique to El Paso that we should be very proud of, because it's really not being done in other parts of the country."

**HOPE's next Border Leaders Academy will take place in early winter. More information can be found on the organization's website at [www.hopeborder.org](http://www.hopeborder.org).**

## Bishop Guido Visits The Bridge

By Joe Garcia, Radio Program Director

Bishop Guy Charbonneau is the fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Choluteca and succeeded Bishop Guido Plante. Bishop Charbonneau was born on January 13, 1946 in Montreal, Canada. His parents were Gérard Charbonneau and Françoise Bélisle. He is the eldest son of the family and has two brothers. He completed his philosophical studies at the Collège André Grasset in Montreal. He continued his Theological studies at the University of Montreal, where he obtained a Degree in Theology (May 29, 1970). He

has also attended Bible courses at the Catholic Institute in Paris, where he obtained a Diploma in Biblical Studies (June 30, 1979).

On 28 August 1965 he entered the formation house of the Society for Foreign Missions of the Province of Quebec, to which he became a permanent member on May 24, 1969. He was ordained a priest on May 16, 1970 in the Archdiocese of Montreal. He arrived on December 29, 1970 in Honduras.

Charbonneau is an a very effective leader. His experience as a pastor and his commitment to his great missionary work led him to become Director in Honduras of the Pontifical Mission Societies and eventually Bishop of the Diocese of Choluteca.

The Diocese of Choluteca in Honduras is a sister diocese to the Diocese of El Paso where our relationship continues to grow as we continue to help one another.

Bishop Charbonneau was the Retreat Director for the annual Diocesan Priests' Retreat in October.

**Bishop Guido's Interview with Joe Garcia, Radio Program Director for The Bridge 1150am:**

**The Bridge:** We are excited to have as invited to our studio Pope Benedict appointed Bishop of Choluteca, Honduras Bishop Guido Charbonneau. Welcome Bishop.

**Bishop Guido:** Thank you for the welcoming, first time in El Paso hopefully not the last.

**The Bridge:** Bishop Guido is the fourth bishop of Choluteca. Our relationship with your Diocese began because of

Hurricane Mitch a category 5 hurricane and ranked as the second deadliest storm which hit October 22, 1998. Many of the diocese' in Texas all reached out and helped Honduras in that trying time. The relationship between the Diocese of El Paso and Choluteca continues as we have several missions to Honduras. We are very honored to have you visit El Paso. And I read you are from Canada?

**Bishop:** Yes, I am Canadian; well the Canadian missionaries came to Honduras in 1955 before it was part of the Archdiocese of Tegucigalpa, which is the capitol. In 1964 it was changed to the organization Prelatura of Choluteca. The first bishop was appointed in 1967, we were all Canadian Bishops. I was appointed and part of The Quebec Missionary Society, Our life is the mission. Honduras is one of the countries we are working with and I was appointed to that mission in 1970. I came to Honduras as I passed thru Mexico where I learned Spanish then on to Honduras.

**The Bridge:** What are some of the things needed still in Honduras?

**Bishop:** Well Honduras is labeled as a very violent, very insecure. But when you live there you really don't see that unless you happen to be at the wrong place at the wrong time, Choluteca is a city with 140,000 in population so it very peaceful. Yes there is poverty; there is a lot of it. We lack jobs, there is corruption from all ends in order to get a job and it's all about whom you know.

We also have trouble with health. It's very serious



we have lots of people sick, the public health system is still not good, we lack medicine, medical equipment for exams. People come to my house asking if I can get them prescriptions it is very sad. The hospital is only a few blocks from where I live. It is a very serious issue.

Education is getting better in the sense of its system; some changes have sparked protests from college students that last a few months. And it is damaging their education. So we have a battle in teaching people their rights, what they can do for their own dignity and values. We are thankful for Caritas as they have wonderful programs that also help our campesinas, the teachings of formation. I was appointed by the missionary society called the Quebec Foreign Mission Society and learned Spanish in Mexico in 1970 then headed to Honduras for the mission.

**The Bridge:** How did you end up with your nickname "Guido"? If your name is Guy? Obviously you speak French.

**Bishop:** Well My Name is Gui in French, Guy in English. When I arrived in Honduras there was one other priest with the name Guy and people called him Guido. The reason is because people could not pronounce Guy; they would say Gooley. He and I were given the name Guido because of the Spanish accent.

**The Bridge:** We are grateful you are here to speak with our priests who are on retreat this week.

**Bishop:** I am very grateful to God that Bishop Seitz asked for me to be part of this priest retreat. When he called it was difficult to say no! We are all brothers and we must help each other and its very good because it's a challenge for me. I am not used to doing these retreats with priests, but I am looking forward to meeting them and becoming brothers in our faith.

**The Bridge:** Thank you Bishop for stepping in and giving us some of your time.





# ¡Vivir Por Vivir!

En nuestra época la gente está hambrienta de vivir. De vivir como sea, el chiste es vivir! Nos aferramos a este mundo y nos olvidamos que un día tenemos que partir. Nos olvidamos de la muerte como el avestruz que agacha la cabeza para no ver al cazador. Y se embriagan de placeres y se lanzan al vértigo de sus pasiones con su máxima: “Al cuerpo lo que pida”. No les interesa una relación con Dios, ni nada de la vida eterna. Se les hace fácil afirmar: La muerte es desembarcar en la nada, es caer en el sueño donde jamás se despierta. Gocemos mientras nos queda tiempo!

Los incrédulos exhiben orgullosos su filosofía dialéctica: El Cielo es invento de los teólogos y de los curas! no hay mas vida que la terrena! hagamos aquí nuestro paraíso! Inútilmentetratarandejustificar su desordenada conducta y de callar la conciencia; morirán en un modo absurdo, sin haber encontrado una real solución al problema vital de la existencia del ser humano y su ultimo fin. Con nada podrán alejar la terrible angustia de la muerte!. En la vida hacen alarde de su incredulidad y después mueren en la desesperación como Voltaire, Spennser y

Nietzsche. Muchas veces he pensado: Si Dios para crear el mundo lo hizo con el poder de su Palabra como se nos narra en el libro de Génesis... Pero para redimirnos, fue preciso la encarnación de su Hijo, como Dios-Hombre, que con su enseñanzas y prodigios, con su pasión, muerte y resurrección nos dio la vida eterna; el poder llegar al Cielo...Gracias al Sacrificio Vivo y Santo del Cordero de Dios. (Jn. 3,16). Decía San Agustín: “Dios para crear no nos pidió permiso pero para salvarnos necesita contar con nosotros” La salvación es una oferta para todos pero no es por decreto ni a la fuerza. Cada uno libremente debe buscar y aceptar a Cristo como su Dios y Salvador. Tú decides si con Cristo o sin Cristo...

Solo hay un tiempo para hacer el bien. Solo una vez se vive. El tiempo no se para, cada uno tenemos un tiempo determinado para vivir en este mundo, nada ni nadie puede agregar tiempo extra; la vida se nos acaba rápido. Es un largo acto de amor de parte de Dios que espera otro acto de amor continuo de parte de nosotros los seres humanos. Cada día Dios nos regala a cada uno el tesoro de

24 horas, para que cada uno las administre como quiera... El tiempo que no utilicemos se pierde, no se puede ahorrar, el tiempo tenemos que invertirlo a cada instante. Cada día se nos presenta con sus propias oportunidades de darnos a los demás, de estar bien con Dios... Ese día no se volverá a repetir. **El favor que negamos, la visita al amigo enfermo que no hicimos, la limosna que no dimos, la tarea que descuidamos, las palabras amables o de agradecimiento que no dijimos, las oraciones o la participación en la Misa Dominical que no hicimos, son oportunidades perdidas,** serán otros tantos puntos oscuros a la hora de nuestra muerte. La vida se nos dio para irla gastando en el servicio del prójimo, en adoración y obediencia a Dios, así es como nos preparamos para la vida eterna. **No hay tiempo para odios y rencores. No podemos detenernos a recoger flores de las que brotan en el pantano del vicio.**

**El mundo tiene muchas industrias, millones de millones de maquinas, millones de vehículos de toda clase, miles de centros de**

**diversión, tiene una multitud de centros educativos en todos los niveles y por eso hay físicos, biólogos, abogados, médicos, ingenieros; hay técnicos en todos los ramos. Hay más centros comerciales que hospitales para curar a los enfermos y rehabilitarlos... El mundo ha progresado en todo lo que concierne la comodidad para el cuerpo, pero todo lo espiritual ha quedado relegado; LOS VALORES ESPIRITUALES SE DESCUIDAN, SE MENOS PRECIAN, SE ABANDONAN... Este mundo materialista y hedonista necesita iluminados, gente honrada, gente honesta, gente amante y promotora de la justicia, gente pacificadora, gente que ame a Dios, lo adoren, oren y escuchen su voz y le sigan. El mundo necesita santos y santas! Si quiera uno por ciudad...**

La vida y el testimonio de Albert Schweitzer, uno de los grandes cristianos del tiempo moderno. A la edad de 30



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

años dejo la carrera de actor concertista para la gente rica de Europa y se hizo un doctor misionero para la gente pobre de África. Al final de su vida, Schweitzer, dijo: “Yo no sé que será de tu destino, pero una cosa se: Los únicos de ustedes que serán realmente felices serán los que buscaron y hallaron como servir”. Nadie puede vivir buscando únicamente su propio interés sin tomar en cuenta el conjunto del universo y más en particular a los seres humanos. Vivamos en armonía con la naturaleza. La naturaleza empieza en mi mismo, sigue en la familia, las plantas del jardín, el perro jugueterón, los vecinos, el país donde se vive, el planeta todo, las estrellas... El Universo todo es la naturaleza, todo es parte de mí, somos habitante de un hermoso Universo que debemos amar, cuidar, conocer y respetar... En esto esta nuestro mérito: En la elección de los medios más aptos para realizarnos plenamente dentro de ese magnífico plan de Dios!

# Living to Live!

In our present time people are hungry for life. To live anyway we want, as long it’s, fun! We cling to this world and forget that one day we have to leave. We forget about death like the ostrich that buries its head in the sand so as not to see the hunter. They get drunk with life’s pleasures and throw themselves into the vertigo of their passions with their maxim: “For the body whatever feel good.” They are not interested in a relationship with God, nor anything of eternal life. It makes it easy foot them to say: Death is to just go away, and fall into a dream where you never wake up. Let’s enjoy while we have time!

Unbelievers proudly display their dialectical philosophy: Heaven is the invention of theologians and priests! There is more to life than the earthly! Let’s make our paradise here! Uselessly they will try to justify their disorderly conduct and silence their conscience; they shall die in an absurd way, without having found a real solution to the vital problem of the

existence of the human being until the very end. Nothing can remove the terrible anguish of death! In life they boast of their unbelief and then die in despair like Voltaire, Spenser and Nietzsche.

Many times I have thought: If God did create the world and He did it with the Power of His Word as we are told in the book of Genesis, but to redeem us, it was necessary for the Incarnation of His Son, as God-Man, who with His Teachings and Prodigies, and His Passion. Passion, Death and Resurrection gave us Eternal Life, the power to reach Heaven ... Thanks to the Living and Holy Sacrifice of the Lamb of God. (Jn 3,16). St. Augustine said: “To create God did not ask permission, but to save us He needs to count on us.” Salvation is an offer, but not by decree or by force. Everyone should freely seek and accept Christ as their God and Savior. You decide whether with Christ or without Christ.

We only get one opportunity to do well. You only live once. Time does not

stop, we each have a certain time to live in this world, nothing and nobody can add extra time; life is soon over. It is a long act of love on the part of God that expects another act of continuous love from us human beings. Every day God gives us each the 24-hour treasure, so that each one can manage them as he wishes ... the time we do not use is lost, we cannot save time, and we have to invest every moment. Every day we are presented with our own opportunities to give ourselves to others, to be right with God ... That day will not be repeated. The favor we deny, the visit to the sick friend we did not do, the alms that we did not give, the task we neglected, the kind words of gratitude we did not say the prayers or participation in the Sunday Mass that we did not do are lost opportunities, they will be other dark points at the time of our death. This life was given to us to spend it in the service of the neighbor, in adoration and obedience to God. This is how we prepare ourselves for eternal life. There is no time for hatred

and grudges. We cannot stop to pick flowers from those that sprout in the swamp of vice.

The world has many industries, millions of machines, millions of vehicles of all kinds, thousands of centers of diversion, there is a multitude of educational centers at all levels and that is why there are physicists, biologists, lawyers, doctors, engineers; there are technicians in all branches. There are more shopping centers than hospitals to heal the sick and rehabilitate them. The world has progressed in everything that concerns comfort for the body, but everything spiritual has been relegated; THE SPIRITUAL VALUES ARE NEGLECTED, THEY ARE LESS PRECIOUS, THEY ARE ABANDONED ... This materialistic and hedonistic world needs enlightened people, honest people, loving people and promoters of justice, peacemakers, people who love God, worship Him, pray and listen to His voice and follow Him. The world needs saints! At least one per city ...

In the life and testimony of Albert Schweitzer, one of the great Christians of modern times, at the age of 30 left his performing career, for the rich people of Europe, and became a missionary doctor for the poor people of Africa. At the end of his life Schweitzer said: “I do not know what will become of your destiny, but one thing is: the only ones who will be really happy will be those who sought and found how to serve.” No one can live looking solely for his own interest without taking into account the whole universe and more particularly to humans. Let’s live in harmony with nature. Nature begins in yourself, continues in the family, garden, plants, playful dog, neighbors, the country where you live, all planets, the stars, the Universe, everything is nature, everything is part of you, we inhabit a beautiful Universe that we must love, care for, know and respect ... This is our merit: in choosing the most suitable means to fulfill ourselves fully within that magnificent plan of God!



# Where's the UNDO button?

Excitedly, children surround the table. They love hands-on projects. The teacher instructs them to consider each decision they have recently made – anything from what they ate for breakfast to whether they cheered or booed their rivals in the morning math competition. For each decision, they squeeze a small amount of toothpaste onto the table until they run out of things they have said or done.

Toothpaste mountains grow in front of each giggling child as they compare their piles with their friends' messes. When the tubes are empty, the teacher asks, "Were all your decisions good ones? Are you proud of booing the other team? Will you repeat the angry words grumbled after losing the game?"

Smiles diminish and giggles are silenced, but the teacher continues, "Now, let's try to fix it. For each action you want to undo, each word you regret 'squeezing out' today," she pauses before saying, "put that amount of toothpaste back into the tube."

Most just stare at the mess while some children try to return toothpaste to the tube. After a moment, the teacher says, "Do you see now that you cannot always undo what you've already done? Your actions have already affected someone else and lives are often changed forever."

Have we ever wanted to take back our bad decisions, thus, putting our toothpaste back in the tube? Angry words spoken are often difficult to heal. Glancing at a cell phone at

the same time a child runs into the street results in tragedy. An unplanned pregnancy causes panic with choices based on fear rather than loving support, and suddenly the easy solution feels so wrong.

What if we could reverse the damage? What if a second chance could erase the wrong and make it right? Sometimes, that can happen!

During last month's 40 Days for Life, eyes were opened to truth, lives were saved, women returned to joyfully share their new decision to carry their baby to term rather than undergoing abortions, and at least one young woman sought help even after her medical abortion had begun. Her story is hope-filled and amazing.

Not long after leaving a local abortion facility, a young woman, who we will call Theresa, began regretting her decision. Unfortunately, the abortion process had already started. While at the abortion clinic, Theresa was given Mifepristone, an abortion pill also known as Mifeprex or Ru486, which blocks the natural progesterone hormone needed in a pregnant woman's body. Typically, when women change their minds after taking Mifepristone, the abortion clinics say that the process has begun and there's no going back. No pushing toothpaste back into the tube. Mifepristone binds with the progesterone receptors in a woman's body to prevent the beneficial effects of progesterone such as placental development, effectively blocking necessary nutrition from reaching the baby.

Fortunately for Theresa, her abortion began during 40 Days for Life on a morning when pro-life El Pasoans were praying outside the abortion clinic. They told her that the people peacefully gathered on the sidewalk would be praying especially for her. Theresa entered the building anyway and was convinced by the abortion clinic personnel that she had made the right choice in terminating her pregnancy. Since she was less than nine weeks pregnant, she could take a few pills rather than undergo a surgical abortion. Usually, medical abortions are promoted as the easy procedure to end a pregnancy. However, it is only easy for abortion clinic personnel but definitely not for the woman who experiences intense pain and bleeding over the following days and even weeks.

Not knowing what her immediate future held, she swallowed the Mifepristone along with the clinic's lies and left the clinic carrying the second set of pills, Misoprostol, to take two days later. Misoprostol would cause contractions to expel the baby once Mifepristone had cut off the placenta's ability to deliver nutrients to the baby.

Was it the presence of the people praying for her outside the clinic? Was it a continuing uncertainty of what to do? Was it a hollow feeling that abortion could not heal and that seemed to worsen after choosing abortion? Was it the prayers bearing fruit that she might still choose the right path? Whatever the reason, Theresa soon regretted entering the clinic and taking



## Sidewalk Jesus

by

Janet M. Crowe

the Mifepristone. Luckily, along with the second set of pills, she also carried literature from those praying for her, literature containing a real answer.

The brochure offered a second chance that she might be able to stop the abortion and even reverse the process, allowing her baby to live. It referred her to the website AbortionPillReversal.com which connected her to Guiding Star El Paso, formerly known as House of Hope. Time was vital and she wasted none in contacting Guiding Star to begin the reversal process with a progesterone injection, the same natural hormone her body was already producing, to fight the abortion pill from blocking the hormone needed to continue a healthy pregnancy.

Theresa was filled with both hope and fear but Guiding Star reached out to people throughout El Paso to pray for her. Hope existed because reinforcements were being called in, not only in prayer, but also in reinforcing the naturally produced hormone with extra progesterone to overpower the effects of the abortion pill. She would not even know if her baby had survived until she could see the doctor on Monday morning. Theresa said that it was the longest weekend of her life.

On Monday, tears flowed down Theresa's face as an ultrasound showed her six-week-old baby's strong heartbeat. Theresa had been able to push the toothpaste back into the tube and turn a choice made in fear and uncertainty into a life-affirming decision made with love.

Theresa continues to need prayers and support which will be given to her by the angels at Guiding Star and all those who support Guiding Star's efforts for women like Theresa. Hope replaces fear each day, but during the first trimester hers is still considered an at-risk pregnancy. Theresa will receive multiple doses of progesterone administered orally or by injection, but this medically-sound procedure is truly safe for her and her unborn child.

Theresa recognized her mistake and regretted the choice she made, but she is not an unusual client of abortion clinics. Many women lament choosing abortion and wish they could go back and prevent the emotional pain they suffer for the rest of their lives. Theresa was simply fortunate that 40 Days for Life participants were there to make her aware of the opportunity in time to undo what had been started.

Medical abortion has become the preferred method in aborting early pregnancies. By 2008 one-fourth of abortions performed prior to nine weeks of

gestation used abortion-inducing pills and at least 200,000 to 300,000 medical abortions are currently performed each year. The combination of Mifepristone and Misoprostol drugs require a follow-up visit to the abortion clinic in two weeks to check for incomplete abortions. These occur in 20% to 40% of cases, requiring additional Misoprostol to empty the uterus and/or surgical abortion after the incomplete abortion procedure.

On the other hand, progesterone has been prescribed for several decades to supplement the natural hormone needed for healthy pregnancies and has been commonly given to women with a history of miscarriage in order to assist them in carrying their babies to term. The abortion pill reversal method using progesterone naturally fights the Mifepristone poisoning by supplementing the usual hormone supply with added progesterone, similar to pre-natal vitamins being prescribed to strengthen the normal vitamin supply a pregnant woman has. The American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians & Gynecologists (AAPLOG) endorses the use of progesterone to counteract Mifepristone's blockage of a woman's natural hormone and has verified a 55% success rate in reversing Mifepristone's abortifacient effects and resulting in deliveries of healthy babies.

Improving that success rate only requires making the reversal process commonly known so that more women who regret choosing abortion may benefit from the life-affirming treatment in time to save their babies' lives and themselves from a lifetime of sorrow. Some of AAPLOG's more than 350 pro-life Ob/Gyns live in the El Paso region and are dedicated to helping women reverse their medical abortions. The Abortion Pill Reversal organization actually began when California Dr. George Delgado was contacted in 2009 to assist an El Paso woman. Dr. Delgado worked together with an El Paso Ob/Gyn to help the woman reverse her medical abortion and give birth to her healthy baby.

If El Paso was at the forefront of this life-giving process, maybe we should also be instrumental in expanding its success of transforming death into life. As the Abortion Pill Reversal website affirms, "There is no situation that is so hopeless that ending human life is the only option." It is up to each of us to help that statement become a reality. Please refer any woman needing medical abortion reversal assistance to AbortionPillReversal.com or call the 24-hour hotline at 1-877-558-0333.



# AUDICIONES

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Música y letra original por Sandra Salas




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## ¿En Dónde se Encuentra el Botón para DESHACER?

Excitadamente, los niños rodean la mesa. Les encantan los proyectos manuales y prácticos. El maestro les ordena que consideren cada decisión que hayan tomado recientemente, desde lo que comieron en el desayuno, hasta es que animaron o abuchearon a sus rivales en la competencia matutina de matemáticas. Por cada decisión, exprimen una pequeña cantidad de pasta de dientes sobre la mesa hasta que se queden sin cosas que hayan dicho o hecho.

Las montañas de pasta de dientes crecen frente a cada niño, quienes se ríen mientras comparan sus montones con los desórdenes de sus amigos. Cuando los tubos están vacíos, el maestro pregunta: “¿Fueron todas sus decisiones buenas? ¿Están orgullosos de abuchear al otro equipo? ¿Repetirían las mismas palabras enojadas cuando se quejaron después de perder el juego?” Las sonrisas disminuyen y las risas se asilencian, pero el maestro continúa, “Ahora, intentemos solucionarlo. Por cada acción que deseen deshacer, por cada palabra que lamentan haber exprimido el tubo, hoy, “pausa antes de decir,” pongan esa cantidad de pasta de dientes dentro del tubo”.

La mayoría simplemente observa el desastre mientras algunos niños intentan devolver la pasta de dientes al tubo. Después de un momento, el maestro dice: “¿Ven ahora que no siempre se puede deshacer de lo que ya has hecho? Sus acciones ya han afectado a otra persona y las vidas a menudo cambian para siempre”.

¿Alguna vez hemos querido recuperar nuestras malas decisiones, así como volver a poner la pasta de dientes en el tubo? Las palabras dichas cuando estamos enojados son a menudo muy difíciles de curar. El echar un vistazo al teléfono celular al mismo tiempo que un niño corre de calle a calle resulta en una tragedia. Un embarazo no planeado provoca el pánico con opciones basadas en el miedo, en lugar de un apoyo amoroso y de repente la fácil solución se siente tan mal.

¿Qué pasaría si pudiéramos revertir el daño? ¿Qué pasa si una segunda oportunidad puede borrar el error y hacerlo bien? ¡A veces eso puede suceder!

Durante los 40 Días por la Vida del mes pasado, se abrieron los ojos a la verdad, se salvaron vidas, las mujeres regresaron para compartir felizmente su nueva decisión de llevar a su bebé a término, en lugar de someterse a abortos y al menos una joven buscó ayuda, incluso después de que su aborto médico había empezado ya. Su historia está llena de esperanza y asombro.

No mucho después de haber salido de una instalación de

aborto local, una joven, a quien llamaremos Teresa, comenzó a arrepentirse de su decisión. Lamentablemente, el proceso de aborto ya había comenzado. Teresa recibió Mifepristone en la clínica de aborto, una píldora abortiva también conocida como Mifeprex o Ru486, la cual bloquea la hormona natural de progesterona necesaria en el cuerpo de una mujer embarazada. Normalmente, cuando las mujeres cambian de opinión después de tomar Mifepristone, las clínicas de aborto dicen que el proceso ha comenzado y no hay vuelta atrás. No se puede ya empujar la pasta de dientes dentro del tubo. La mifepristona se une con los receptores de progesterona en el cuerpo de una mujer para evitar los efectos beneficiosos de la progesterona, como el desarrollo de la placenta, bloqueando de manera efectiva la nutrición necesaria para alcanzar al bebé.

Afortunadamente para Teresa, su aborto inició justamente durante los 40 Días por la Vida, en una mañana en que las personas pro vida de El Paso, oraban afuera de la clínica de abortos. Le dijeron que las personas reunidas pacíficamente en la acera estarían orando especialmente por ella. Teresa entró en el edificio de todos modos y el personal de la clínica de aborto la convenció de que había tomado la decisión correcta para terminar su embarazo. Como tenía menos de nueve semanas de embarazo, podría tomar algunas pastillas en lugar de someterse a un aborto quirúrgico. Por lo general, los abortos médicos se promocionan como el procedimiento fácil para terminar un embarazo. Sin embargo, solo es fácil para el personal de la clínica de aborto, pero definitivamente no es para la mujer que experimenta dolor intenso y sangrado durante los siguientes días e incluso semanas.

Sin saber cuál era su futuro inmediato, se tragó la Mifepristona junto con las mentiras de la clínica y dejó la clínica cargando la segunda píldora, Misoprostol, para tomarla dos días después. Misoprostol causaría que las contracciones expulsaran al bebé una vez que la Mifepristone hubiera cortado la capacidad de la placenta para seguir administrando los nutrientes al bebé.

¿Fue la presencia de las personas orando por ella fuera de la clínica? ¿Fue una continua incertidumbre de qué hacer? ¿Sería la hueca una sensación de que el aborto no sanaría y que parecía que empeoraría después de elegir el aborto? ¿Fue acaso fruto de las oraciones que le dieron a intuir que aún podría elegir el camino correcto? Cualquiera que haya sido la razón, Teresa

pronto lamentó haber entrado en la clínica y haber tomado la mifepristona. Por suerte, junto con el segundo conjunto de píldoras, ella también cargaba literatura de aquellos que rezaban por ella, literatura que contenía una respuesta real.

El folleto ofrecía una segunda oportunidad de que podría detener el aborto, e incluso revertir el proceso y así permitir que su bebé pudiese vivir. Esta información la remitió al sitio web [AbortionPillReversal.com](http://AbortionPillReversal.com) vocación de Píldora para Aborto. com), la cual la conectó con “Guiding Star” (Estrella que Guía) de El Paso, anteriormente conocida como “House of Hope”, (Casa de Esperanza). El tiempo fue vital y no desperdició nada al contactar a “Guiding Star” para comenzar el proceso de reversión con una inyección de progesterona, la misma hormona natural que su cuerpo ya estaba produciendo para combatir la píldora del aborto que bloquea la hormona necesaria para continuar un embarazo saludable.

Teresa estaba llena de esperanza y miedo, pero “Guiding Star” contactó a la gente de El Paso para que orara por ella. La esperanza existía porque se recurría a los refuerzos, no solo en la oración, sino también en el refuerzo de la hormona producida naturalmente con progesterona adicional para dominar los efectos de la píldora abortiva. Ni siquiera sabía si su bebé había sobrevivido hasta que pudo ver al médico el lunes por la mañana. Teresa dijo que fue el fin de semana más largo de su vida.

El lunes, las lágrimas fluyeron por el rostro de Teresa mientras una ecografía mostraba los fuertes latidos de su bebé de seis semanas de edad. Teresa había sido capaz de empujar la pasta de dientes nuevamente adentro del tubo y convertir una elección hecha en base al miedo e incertidumbre, en una decisión afirmativa de vida, hecha con amor.

Teresa sigue necesitando oraciones y apoyo, lo cual le darán los ángeles en Guiding Star y todos aquellos que apoyan los esfuerzos de Guiding Star para mujeres como Teresa. La esperanza reemplaza el miedo cada día, pero durante el primer trimestre su embarazo todavía se considera un embarazo en alto riesgo. Teresa recibirá múltiples dosis de progesterona administradas por vía oral o por inyección, pero este procedimiento médicamente sano es verdaderamente seguro para ella y su hijo por nacer.

Teresa reconoció su error y lamentó la elección que hizo, pero ella no es un cliente inusual de las clínicas de aborto.

Muchas mujeres lamentan haber elegido el aborto y desean poder regresar y evitar el dolor emocional que sufren por el resto de sus vidas. Teresa fue simplemente afortunada de que los participantes de 40 Días de Vida estuvieran allí para hacerla consciente de la oportunidad a tiempo y así deshacer lo que había comenzado.

El aborto con medicamentos se ha convertido en el método preferido para abortar durante el proceso de embarazo. En el 2008, una cuarta parte de los abortos realizados antes de las nueve semanas de gestación utilizaban píldoras que inducen el aborto y cada año se realizan al menos entre 200,000 y 300,000 abortos médicos. La combinación de medicamentos de Mifepristona y Misoprostol requiere una visita de seguimiento a la clínica de abortos en dos semanas para verificar si el aborto se ha completado. Esto ocurre entre el 20% y el 40% de los casos, requiriendo Misoprostol adicional para vaciar el útero y/o realizar el aborto quirúrgico después del procedimiento de aborto incompleto.

Por otro lado, la progesterona se ha prescrito durante varias décadas para complementar la hormona natural necesaria para embarazos sanos y se ha administrado comúnmente a mujeres con antecedentes de aborto espontáneo para ayudarlas a llevar a sus bebés a término. El método de reversión de la píldora abortiva con progesterona combate de forma natural la intoxicación por Mifepristona al complementar el suministro hormonal habitual con la progesterona añadida, similar a las vitaminas prenatales que se prescriben para fortalecer el suministro normal de vitaminas que posee una mujer embarazada. La Asociación Estadounidense de Obstetras y Ginecólogos Pro-vida

(AAPLOG) respalda el uso de progesterona para contrarrestar el bloqueo de la hormona natural de la mujer por parte de Mifepristona y ha verificado una tasa de éxito del 55% para revertir los efectos abortivos de Mifepristona y dar lugar a partos de bebés saludables.

La mejora de esa tasa de éxito solo requiere que se conozca el proceso de reversión para que más mujeres que se arrepienten de elegir el aborto puedan beneficiarse del tratamiento que reafirma la vida a tiempo y así salvar la vida de sus bebés y de ellas mismas de una vida de dolor. Algunos de los más de 350 Obstetricia y ginecología pro vida de AAPLOG viven en la región de El Paso y están dedicados a ayudar a las mujeres a revertir sus abortos médicos. La organización de reversión de la píldora del aborto realmente comenzó cuando California contactó al Doctor George Delgado en el 2009 para ayudar a una mujer de El Paso. El Doctor Delgado trabajó junto con un Ob/Gyn (médico ginecólogo) de El Paso para ayudar a la mujer a revertir su aborto con medicamentos y dar a luz a su bebé sano.

Si El Paso estuvo a la vanguardia de este proceso de dar vida, tal vez deberíamos ser también instrumentales para expandir su éxito de transformar la muerte en vida. Así como afirma el sitio web de Revocación de Pildorapara Aborto: “No hay ninguna situación que sea tan desesperada que tenga que llevar a acabar con la vida humana y que sea la única opción”. Depende de cada uno de nosotros ayudar a que esa declaración se convierta en una realidad. Consulte a cualquier mujer que necesite asistencia para la reversión del aborto con medicamentos de “Abortion Pill Reversal.com” o llame a la línea directa horas al 1-877-558-0333

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# God’s Church, It’s Calling to Holiness and Our Youth: National Vocation Awareness Week (November 5th thru 11th)

By: Father Mariano Lopez, Director- Vocation Office

Many modern philosophers believed God was like a clock-maker. After he created us, he set us free and does not intervene in our affairs. The Christian faith is by nature opposed to this belief, since we believe that Jesus Christ was sent by the Father to redeem us from our sins and to reconcile us to the Father. We believe that Jesus intervenes in our lives through community, inspired thought and prayer, liturgy and works of justice and charity. God consistently intervenes to draw us to himself.

The Second Vatican Council’s Dogmatic Constitution on the Church states that the baptized have a received a calling to be holy, or completely dedicated to God (Lumen Gentium 14). As they pick up the attributes of Jesus in their own life, the light of Christ is reflected from the Church to

the world (Lumen Gentium 1). He becomes known to all.

The young person is challenged to make many choices in his life. The young person must decide, in short term, how he or she interacts with others at school, in the family and in the neighborhood. Long term, the young person must decide what career path he or she takes, and what type of studies he or she is committed to. Yet, all of these decisions should be in response to the inspiration of God in their lives. As Christians we believe that God speaks to the community and to the world, but also that God speaks to each person’s heart.

He invites us to live with him and with others in particular ways; some in the priesthood, or in consecrated life, married life or single life. He has made us according to

these particular vocations. In a way the software and hardware of our individual existence is in accordance with this calling, our physical and spiritual abilities are in harmony with the calling we receive from God. As we respond to the calling he has made us for, we are faithful to Him and our lives are most fruitful.

This November 5th through 11th is National Vocation Awareness Week. As a Church we are reminded that God calls us to be his completely and that each of us has a particular calling through which we will arrive at holiness and help others live with God. There are many fears among our children and youth when they consider what their calling in life might be, especially if they are called to be priests, sisters or brothers. Poverty, chastity and obedience, the three gospel

imperatives by which Jesus lived, are intimidating to the youth of our world. Yet, it is necessary to respond more to Jesus than to our fears.

In response to God’s calling to be holy, the Diocese of El Paso will celebrate National Vocation Awareness Week through three major events that we are invited to.

Sunday, November 5th, the Pre-Seminario will take place; this is a gathering of high school age young men at Saint Charles Seminary from 1pm to 6pm. They will have an opportunity to discern priesthood and the different vocations by taking part in prayer, activities and sharing.

On Thursday, November 5th, we will have the Children’s Mass for Vocations at Saint Patrick Cathedral at 5PM. All children, especially those who have not made their first

communion, are invited to wear a homemade “priest” or “nun” costume (felt, construction paper, and fabric may be used to develop a costume), and to take a flower to be presented to the Virgin Mary as we remember that God is calling them to a particular vocation (even priesthood or consecrated life are possibilities).

On Saturday, November 11th at 7PM, teens and young adults will gather for a prayer vigil with the Blessed Sacrament at St. Pius X Parish amidst praise and worship music. Youth groups from are invited to attend with their banners or posters and to enter in the procession at the beginning.

All are invited to attend! Call the vocation office for more information (915) 872-8403. God has made us good, and he actively calls us to be holy!

## La Iglesia de Dios, El Llamado Suyo y Nuestra Juventud: Semana Nacional de Concientización Vocacional (5 de noviembre al 11)

Por: Padre Mariano Lopez, Director-Oficina de Vocaciones

Varios filósofos modernos creyeron que Dios era como el constructor de un reloj. Después de crearnos, dejo de intervenir en nuestras vidas. La fe cristiana se opone a este pensamiento, ya que creemos que Jesucristo fue enviado por el Padre para redimirnos de nuestros pecados y reconciliarnos con el Padre. Creemos que Jesús interviene en nuestras vidas por medio de comunidad, pensamiento y oración inspirada, liturgia y trabajos de justicia y caridad. Constantemente interviene para llevarnos consigo mismo. La Constitución Dogmática Sobre la Iglesia del Segundo Concilio del Vaticano insiste que el bautizado tiene el llamado a la santidad, o dedicación plena a Dios (Lumen Gentium 14). Al adoptar los atributos de Jesús en su vida, la luz de Cristo se refleja de la Iglesia al mundo (Lumen Gentium 1). Él se da a conocer a todos.

El joven tiene el reto de tomar muchas decisiones en su vida. La persona joven debe decidir, a corto plazo, como interactuar con compañeros de escuela, familiares y vecinos. A largo plazo, el joven decide qué carrera obtener, y a qué tipo de estudios se quiere comprometer. Sin embargo, todas estas decisiones deben ser tomadas en respuesta a la inspiración de Dios en su vida. Como cristianos creemos que Dios habla a la comunidad y al mundo, pero también al interior de cada persona.

Él nos invita a vivir con él y con otros de maneras particulares; algunos en el sacerdocio, o vida consagrada, matrimonio o vida soltera. Él nos ha creado según nuestra vocación particular. De alguna manera nuestro vida espiritual y física están programadas según el llamado que Dios nos hará. Al responder al llamado para el cual fuimos hechos, le somos fiel a Él y nuestra vida da más fruto.

Del 5 de noviembre al 11 de noviembre celebramos la Semana Nacional De Concientización Vocacional. Como Iglesia se nos recuerda que Dios nos llama a ser completamente suyos y que cada uno tiene un llamado por el cual llegaremos a la santidad y ayudaremos a los demás a vivir con Dios. Hay muchos temores en nuestros niños y jóvenes cuando consideran su llamado en la vida, especialmente si son llamados al sacerdocio, o a ser hermanos o hermanas. La pobreza, castidad y obediencia, los consejos evangélicos en los que vivió Jesús, intimidan al joven del mundo contemporáneo. Sin embargo, es necesario estar dispuestos a responder más a Jesús que a nuestros temores.

En respuesta al llamado de Dios a la santidad, la Diócesis de El Paso celebrará la Semana Nacional de Concientización Vocacional con tres grandes eventos a los cuales están invitados.

El domingo, 5 de

noviembre, el Pre-Seminario se llevará acabo; esta es una reunión de varones de edad de prepa en el Seminario San Carlos de 1pm a 6pm. Ellos tendrán la oportunidad de discernir el sacerdocio y las diferentes vocaciones por medio de la oración, actividades y compartir.

El jueves, 9 de noviembre, tendremos una Misa Para Niños en la Catedral de San Patricio a las 5PM. Todos los niños,

especialmente los que no han hecho su primera comunión, estarán invitados a vestirse de sacerdotes o monjas con un disfraz hecho en casa (pueden hacer disfraces de cartulina, papel, o telas), y llevar una flor para presentársela a la Virgen María al recordar que Dios les llama a una vocación particular (hasta el sacerdocio y la vida consagrada son posibilidades).


El sábado, 11 de noviembre a las 7PM, los jóvenes y adultos jóvenes

se reunirán para una vigilia de oración con el Santísimo Sacramento en la Parroquia de San Pio X con alabanzas de adoración. Los grupos juveniles están invitados a presentarse con sus estandartes o pancartas para entrar en procesión al principio. ¡Todos están invitados a participar! Llamen a nuestra oficina para más información (915) 872-8403. ¡Dios nos ha hecho buenos, y nos está llamando a ser santos!

### El Paso Diocesan Vocation Office

National Vocational Awareness Week ~ Nov 5th—Nov 11th

- **Pre-Seminario November 5<sup>th</sup>** at 1pm in the St. Charles Borromeo Discernment Room. An opportunity for high school aged young men to visit the seminary for a day and to discover, in company of seminarians, what a calling to the priesthood consists of.
- **Children's Mass November 9<sup>th</sup>** at 5pm in Saint Patrick Cathedral. In celebration of the National Vocation Awareness Week for 2017, all boys are invited to dress as priests and all girls as religious sisters.
- **Youth Evening of Praise and Adoration November 11<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm in St. Pius X Catholic Church. The Vocation Office invites you to an evening of Praise, Worship and Adoration for teenagers and young adults.





# Join Us for the 2017 Diocesan Stewardship Conference Putting Your Faith into Action

by Karina Sandoval, Stewardship Coordinator

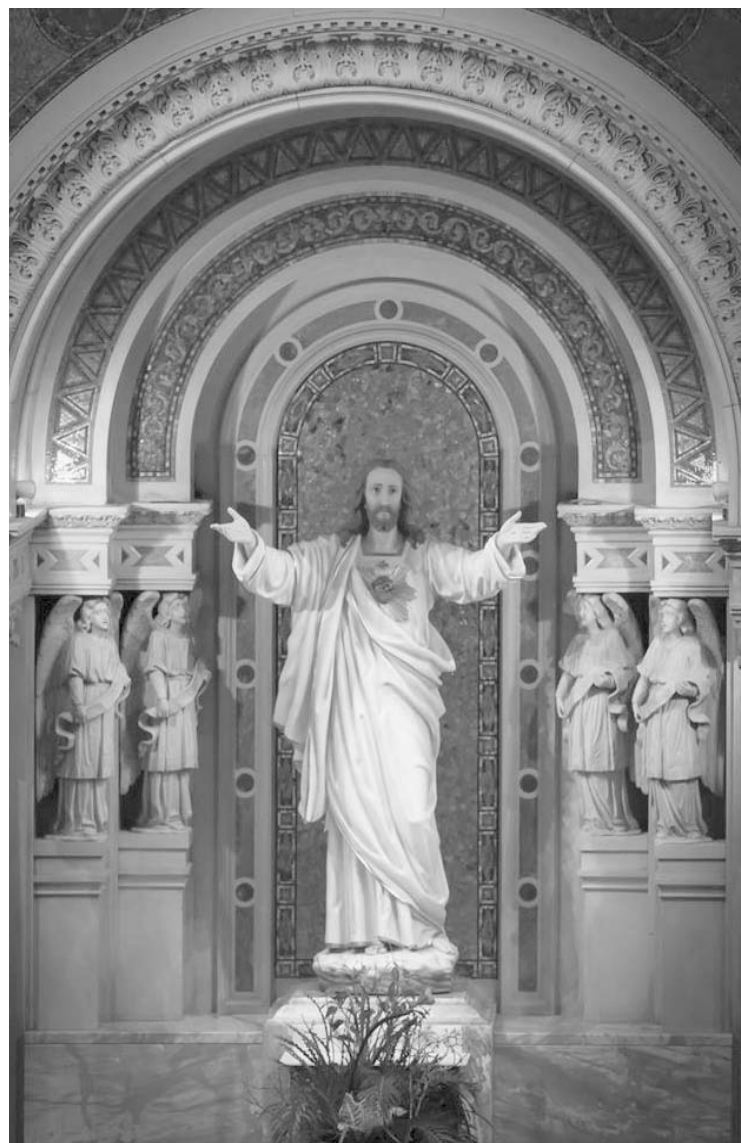
Have you ever wondered what is the religious significance of Thanksgiving Day? The Hebrew word hodah means “give thanks,” “confess,” or “state publicly.” In the Bible to give thanks meant to state publicly that at this moment God is at work. An example of the concept of thanksgiving as public witness to God’s action in the Bible is shown in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus heals 10 lepers from their disease and isolation from the community. Later he asks each of them to show their healing to the priests and then to return to a normal life. One of them returns to Jesus to give thanks publicly for his

healing. During Thanksgiving week, while you are busy with cooking, watching football and gathering with your family and loved ones, remember to give thanks for the wonderful blessings God has given to us. You also can ask for the gift of observance from St. Lucia, patron of theologians, to give us the eyes to see everything as a gift from God. A Stewardship Way of Life can help us to understand our lives as a gift from God and is a wonderful tool to realize your personal gifts and talents. To learn more about Stewardship Way of Life, join us on Saturday November 18

for the first annual Diocesan Stewardship Day. Topics will include: A Culture of Stewardship: Stewardship of Time and Talent, The Role of Stewardship in the Family, and Stewardship through the Lens of Evangelization and Disciple Making. These short presentations are directed to parish ministers, lay leadership, and anyone else interested in learning more about the ways to develop a relationship with Jesus and create a faith community based on Christian stewardship. Admission is free but registration is required; seating is limited to 200 individuals.

**What:** Diocesan Stewardship Conference – Putting Your Faith into Action  
**When:** Saturday, November 18, 2017, 8:30 am-1:30 pm  
**Where:** San Antonio de Padua Parish, 503 Hunter Drive, 79915  
**What:** Conference is free; registration is required.  
**How:** Call 872-8412 for more information and to register

To learn more about the Stewardship Program, please contact Karina Sandoval, Stewardship Coordinator, at the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso at 915-872-8412 or [ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org).  
Have a blessed Thanksgiving as a public witness to God’s action!



## Únete a la Conferencia Diocesana de Corresponsabilidad 2017 Pon Tu Fé en Acción

Por: Karina Sandoval, Coordinadora de Corresponsabilidad

¿Alguna vez te has preguntado cual es el significado religioso del día de Acción de Gracias? La palabra en Hebreo hodah significa “dar gracias,” “confesar,” o “declarar públicamente.” En la Biblia el significado de dar gracias es declarar públicamente en ese momento la obra de Dios. Un ejemplo del concepto de agradecimiento como un testimonio publico de la acción de Dios en la Biblia

es en evangelio de Lucas. Jesús sana a 10 leprosos de su enfermedad en la piel e insolación de la comunidad. Después les pide a cada uno de ellos que muestren su sanación a los sacerdotes y que después regresen a su vida normal. Pero, solo uno de ellos regresa con Jesús y da gracias públicamente por su sanación. Durante esta semana de Acción de Gracias, mientras estas ocupado cocinando,

viendo el futbol americano, o en reuniones con tu familia y las personas que mas amas, recuerda dar gracias por las maravillosas bendiciones que Dios te da. También le puedes pedir por el regalo de ver como Santa Lucia, patrona de los teólogos, el ver todo como un regalo de Dios. Vivir una vida corresponsable nos puede ayudar y entender nuestras vidas como un regalo de Dios y es una herramienta

maravillosa de descubrir tus dones y talentos.

Para aprender mas sobre una vida corresponsable, acompáñanos este Sábado, 18 de Noviembre para el primer día anual de Corresponsabilidad en nuestra Diócesis. Los temas incluyen: Una Cultura de Corresponsabilidad: Corresponsabilidad de Tiempo y Talento, El Rol de la Corresponsabilidad en la Familia, y Corresponsabilidad

a través de la Evangelización y Discipulado. Estas presentaciones son dirigidas a ministros parroquiales, laicos, y cualquier persona que este interesada en aprender mas sobre maneras de cómo desarrollar una relación con Jesús y crear una comunidad de fe basada en Corresponsabilidad Cristiana. La registración es gratis pero es requerida; los asientos están limitados a 200 personas.

**Que:** Conferencia Diocesana de Corresponsabilidad- Pon tu Fé en Acción.  
**Cuando:** Sábado, 18 de Noviembre, 2017, 8:30 am – 1:30 pm  
**Donde:** Parroquia de San Antonio de Padua, 503 Hunter Drive, 79915  
**Que:** La Conferencia es gratis, pero se requiere registración.  
**Como:** Llama al 872-8412 para mas información y registración.

Para aprender más sobre el Programa de Corresponsabilidad, favor de contactar a Karina Sandoval, Coordinadora en Corresponsabilidad, a la Fundación para la Diócesis del Paso al 915-872-8412 o [ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org](mailto:ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org)  
¡Que tengas un bendecido día de Acción de Gracias como una declaración publica a la acción de Dios en tu vida!

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# Give Thanks for a Little and Find You Have a Lot

This month take time to reflect on all you have to be thankful for and offer your hand to those less fortunate. This time of year can be difficult for many, so when you see someone in need offer your support and invite them to church. Rejoice in the little things and remember to thank God for the many blessings you have received.

Lord, teach me to offer you a heart of thanksgiving and praise in all my

### MINISTRIES SUPPORTED BY YOUR PROGRESS GIFT

- Seminarian and Diaconate Formation
- Major Seminarians Office
- Permanent Diaconate Ministry
- St. Charles Seminary
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- Religious Formation Ministry
- Tepeyac Institute
- Pastoral Outreach
- Catholic Campus Ministry
- Catholic Counseling Services
- Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services
- Marriage and Family Life Ministry
- Youth and Young Adult Ministry
- Evangelization
- Communications Ministry
- Peace and Justice Ministry

daily experiences of life. Teach me to be joyful always, to pray continually and to give thanks in all my circumstances. I accept them as Your will for my life (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Please make your donation to the Progress 2017 Campaign today. All donations benefit the Diocese of El Paso and ensure the continued teaching of our faith and religion.

- Tigua Native American Ministry
- West Texas Ministry
- Office of Worship

There are many ways to fulfill your pledge:

- 12 month plan
- Cash/money orders
- Checks
- Automatic Debit from your checking or savings
- Credit/Debit Card (Visa, MasterCard, and Discover)
- Online Pledges and Payments
- Gifts of Stock
- Employer Matching Gifts (Many companies will match your gift dollar for dollar! Please ask your employer if your donation is eligible for a match)

Donations can be made by visiting [www.progress2017.org](http://www.progress2017.org) or calling 915.872.8412. and asking for Martha Marmolejo.

# Dar Gracias por Poco y Encontrarnos con que Tenemos Mucho

Este mes tómese un poco de tiempo para reflexionar sobre todo lo que tiene que agradecer y ofrezca una mano a los menos afortunados. Esta época del año puede ser bastante difícil para muchos, así que cuando vea a alguien necesitado, ofrezca su apoyo e invítelos a la iglesia. Alégrese en las pequeñas cosas y recuerde agradecer a Dios por las muchas bendiciones que ha recibido.

Estén siempre gozosos. Oren sin cesar. Den gracias en todo, porque ésta es la voluntad de Dios para ustedes en Cristo Jesús. (Tesalonicenses 5, 16-18).

Por favor, haga una donación a la Campaña de Progreso 2017 hoy. Todas las donaciones benefician a la Diócesis de El Paso y garantizan la continua enseñanza de nuestra fe y nuestra religión.


### MINISTERIOS QUE SE SOSTIENEN GRACIAS A SU DONATIVO A PROGRESO

- Formación de Seminaristas y Diáconos
- Oficina de Seminaristas Mayores
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- Seminario San Carlos
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- Educación y Formación
- Oficina de Educación (Escuelas Católicas)
- Ministerio de Formación religiosa
- Instituto Tepeyac
- Alcance pastoral
- Ministerio Católico en Campus
- Servicios de Consejería Católica
- Servicios para Migrantes y Refugiados
- Ministerio de Matrimonio y Vida Familiar
- Ministerio para Jóvenes y Jóvenes Adultos
- Evangelización
- Ministerio de Comunicaciones
- Ministerio de Paz y Justicia
- Ministerio Nativo Americano Tigua
- Ministerio del Oeste de Texas
- Oficina de Adoración

Hay muchas maneras de lograr su promesa:

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- Promesas/pagos en línea
- Promesas/pagos en valores existentes
- Donativos emparejados por el empleador (Muchas compañías pueden hacer promesas y emparejar su donativo ¡dólar por dólar! Por favor, pregunte a su empleador si su donativo es elegible para este programa)

Los donativos se pueden hacer visitándonos en [www.progress2017.org](http://www.progress2017.org) o llamando al 915.872.8412. Pregunte por Martha Marmolejo.



\$ 2,300,000

GOAL

\$ 1,948,904


PLEDGED

\$ 1,411,757

PAID

October 18, 2017

AS OF





# Cathedral Graduates Announce the Luz Ulrickson Scholarship Fund for Cathedral High School during a Surprise Reception

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

A group of 1967 Cathedral graduates wanted to do something for the math teacher who inspired them to be better men. They established an endowed fund in the name of Luz Ulrickson so that her legacy would live on through scholarships for well-deserving young students who could not otherwise afford to attend Cathedral High School.

Luz Ramos was born on May 24, 1926 in Catbalogan, Philippines. The oldest of 8 children, she began her lifelong dedication to taking care of others at a very young age. In 1941, when Luz was in high school, the Japanese invaded the Philippines and there was a 2-year period when Luz and her family hid in an underground building during the war. She was often in charge of caring for her siblings during this time. Luz would return to school and eventually graduate from high school and college, after which she put 5 of her siblings through college and spent

years as a Catholic missionary in Pakistan. In order to support her brothers and sisters and ensure her siblings would earn their college degrees, Luz worked as a tutor in the mornings, taught school during the day, and worked in the family store in the evenings.

It was during her time at university, where Luz was one of two female engineering students, that she was drawn to education and changed her major. Luz arrived in College Station, Texas in 1964 to work on a Master's Degree in Physics. It was during a visit to El Paso, where she had relatives, that she met Robert Ulrickson. Luz and Bob were married on July 24 of that year and in 1966 she began teaching at Cathedral High School.

During all of her years at Cathedral, Luz always went above and beyond for her "boys". She held tutoring sessions on the weekends in her home and cooked for the students to make sure they



could enjoy a hot meal while they were studying. Her love of Cathedral and its students has spanned five decades and Luz continues to tutor in the early morning and into the afternoon, if needed. Even at the young age of 91, Luz Ulrickson still has a passion

for helping her students.

The Catholic Foundation hosted a surprise reception for Luz Ulrickson on the Porras Family Patio at Cathedral High School on the afternoon of Saturday, October 7 to announce the new fund. Luz was surrounded by friends,

family, and Cathedral students going back to the 1950's as she accepted a crystal award in recognition of her mentorship of the young men of Cathedral High School. Many recalled variations of a favorite Luz expression, "You laugh at my accent, I laugh at your grade".

## Foundation Now Manages Eight Scholarship Funds

It was in 2009, when Michael and Clara Miles established a fund for Catholic high school scholarships with a gift of \$2.9 million that the groundwork was laid for what is today known as the Catholic Foundation's Scholarship Program. Their impact on students attending Cathedral, Father Yermo, and Loretto Academy high schools is immeasurable.

At the 5th Annual Foundation Scholars Prayer Breakfast on August 24, the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso announced the 2017-2018 Bishop's, Faith, Hunt, Miles, and Saucedo Scholars. The Foundation is awarding \$184,775 in financial aid to 80 Foundation Scholars attending El Paso's Catholic Schools this school year. Most of the scholarship aid was distributed from endowed funds, with the remainder coming from donations and a generous grant from the Hunt Family Foundation.

The Catholic Foundation manages 87 separate endowment funds for diocesan charities, ministries, parishes, and schools. Of these, 25 funds are designated for Catholic schools. Each one of El Paso's schools has at least one endowed fund. Their combined total is nearing \$7 million.

Bishop Mark Seitz announced the inception of the Soñador Scholarship Fund at a press conference and unveiling of his Pastoral Letter on Migration to the People of God in the Diocese of El Paso at Sacred Heart Church on July 18, 2017. He established the Soñador Scholarship Fund for Dreamers with a donation of \$20,000 because he believes strongly in educating our children on the border and is committed to their success. By his example, he fosters a deep appreciation for the diversity that immigrants bring to our cultural experience.

In recognition of Msgr. Smith's retirement in 2015, the Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Smith Scholarship Fund for St. Raphael School was established to help preserve St. Raphael's mission well into the future. Msgr. Smith served as the pastor of St. Raphael Parish for 29 years. In honor of its Golden Jubilee, St. Raphael Parish, under the leadership of Fr. Anthony C. Celino, donated \$10,000 to the scholarship fund during their 50th Anniversary Mass on August 15, 2017.

In 2017, Deborah and James Llewellyn established the Nancy Mendez Saucedo Scholarship Fund for Father Yermo High School in honor of Deborah's mother with a contribution of \$50,000. As a

single parent, Nancy worked and sacrificed so that her two daughters could attend Father Yermo High School and receive a high-quality Catholic education.

In 2018, the Foundation will be announcing the inception of a ninth endowed scholarship fund dedicated to providing scholarships for economically disadvantaged El Paso students to attend Catholic school.

Luz Ramos Ulrickson will be recognized for her lifetime achievement and contributions to the El Paso community at the 2017 Simbang Gabi, a Filipino Christmas tradition dating back to 1565, on Saturday, December 16 at 7pm at St. Patrick Cathedral.

We know that education changes lives, the scholarship opportunities for Catholic schools are truly transforming lives. For more information about the Catholic Foundation and our work and to make your gift to a scholarship fund, visit [elpasodiocesefoundation.org](http://elpasodiocesefoundation.org).

- Bishop's Scholarship Fund Cathedral High School Alumni Association Fund
- Loretto Academy Scholarship Fund
- Luz Ulrickson Scholarship Fund for Cathedral High



**Luz Ramos Ulrickson**

- School Miles Scholarship Fund
- Nancy Mendez Saucedo Scholarship Fund for Father Yermo High School
- Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Smith Scholarship Fund for St. Raphael School
- Soñador Scholarship Fund

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

You can reach Major Gifts





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Nov 9 - San Antonio Catholic Church - Men - English

Nov 30 - Cristo Rey Catholic Church - Youth

Dec 14 - San Martin De Porres Church - Men - Spanish

Feb 22 - Saint Mark Catholic Church - Youth - Spanish