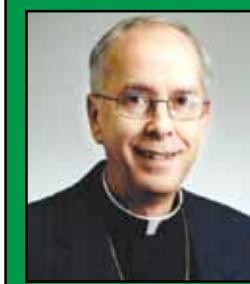


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&
Sidewalk Jesus
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Has 9 New
Seminarians,
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House of Hope becomes Guiding Star El Paso

by Janet M. Crowe

Pregnancy assistance center House of Hope announced its transformation into Guiding Star El Paso, a full-service proactive women's and family healthcare center. Director Nydia Correa revealed the new direction and growth for the pregnancy resource medical center to over one thousand people attending the House of Hope Gala at the Fort Bliss Centennial Club on September 7, 2017, "We have a vision ... of how we can be so much more than a House of Hope, and truly become a Guiding Star for our city, and for our entire Southwest region. This is a vision of expanding our services by partnering with like-minded health and care providers to create a one-stop 'supercenter,' so to speak, of comprehensive, holistic, life-affirming medical care all under one roof with a mission of working together to build a culture of life."

House of Hope was founded by Angelica (Angie) Rosales to honor her mother by helping other women choose life for their unborn children, just as her mother had done. Rosales' mother Rose had become pregnant at the age of 42 and was repeatedly advised to terminate her pregnancy since she had a serious heart condition. Rather than surrender to pressure to undergo an abortion, Rose chose to fight for her daughter's life. Years

later, that daughter began the House of Hope pregnancy help center, recognizing that she owed her own life to her mother's courageous decision, and hoping to help other women in similar crisis situations. With the help of her family and friends, House of Hope opened its doors in 2002 and became a pregnancy resource medical facility five years later.

For fifteen years, House of Hope continued to serve the community of El Paso, Director Nydia Correa said, by "empowering women, men and families in unexpected pregnancies. We offer a safe, confidential, and non-judgmental environment providing

pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, and counseling, educating them to understand that there are always options. We educate women and couples to recognize what their real crises and challenges are and help them navigate through those hard times" and

empower them to "face all of these challenges (in order) to eliminate the crisis, so they don't have to eliminate the pregnancy, like most women feel they do."

Growing through the years in their ministry to women and families, House of

Hope recognized that they were also called to assist women who had chosen to terminate their pregnancies. To all women and families who have lost children through abortion, miscarriage or fatal illness, House of Hope *Continued on Pg. 5*



Bishop Mark J. Setiz and Keynote Speaker Abby Johnson

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9:30 am

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10/16, 10/30 - 9:00 am

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Golden Corral - East
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10/17, 10/24, 10/31
9:30 am

Heaven Is Real

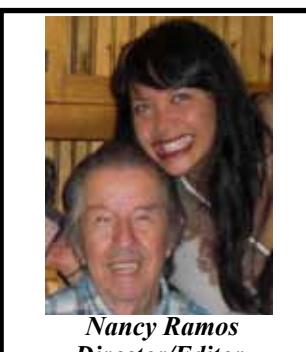
By: Nancy Morales-Ramos, Rio Grande Catholic Editor

Ramon M. Morales passed away Monday September 18, 2017 surrounded by family in one of the most glorious demonstrations of God's unending Mercy. Ramon, a beloved Husband, Father, Son, Brother and Uncle finally surrendered to his weakened heart that was broken after the loss of his beloved wife, Mary, six years prior. Ramon was a man of many words and always contributing with his uplifting wisdom. Born in 1924, Ramon lived to the wonderful age of 93. He maintained his independence and his gusto for life until his very last moment with us. Ramon was a World War II veteran who served his country in the United States Army Air Forces as an Aviator Midrange Gunner and Radio Operator and served in the United States Merchant Marine. He proudly worked on NASA Space Missions under the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo programs until the first man on the moon landed in 1969.

Ramon, being the boisterous spirit that he was, took his civic duty to vote and the right to voice his opinion as two of the most important privileges

this great country bestows upon its citizens. He carried out several letter campaigns and wrote over 500 letters to multiple administrations until he no longer could see the keys of his classic Underwood No.5 typewriter. Ramon remained committed to the country he loved and passed along to those who knew him a sense of responsibility to remain actively engaged to influence change.

There are several gifts my father gave me in his life but none as meaningful as the last gift he bestowed on us all. The first gift my father gave me was that he was a man of words: written words, spoken words, wise words and powerful words. He knew we each had a voice and felt we should use it. He helped me develop a respect for words and made sure I knew how the way we speak to one another could make people and even break people. He reminded us often that what we hear, read and write, what we consume in words, influences who and what we ultimately become. He made sure that what came out of his mouth or even his typewriter was encouraging and uplifting but



Nancy Ramos
Director/Editor

most importantly that the words he chose were direct and honest. You see, my mom demonstrated for us the power that is in prayer but my dad demonstrated for us the power of our own voice. He showed us the power to reaffirm the positive through the words we choose to utter.

The second gift my father gave me was that he loved my mom the way he did. My father told me that the day he married my mom, she became everything to him. She became his wife, his best friend, his lover and life companion. There is a Christian way of prioritizing your life where God is number one, your spouse is number two, your kids are three and then everything else follows. For many people

putting their spouse second to God and before their children is tough. It was not difficult for my parents. My sisters and I knew very well we were third for them both. Loving my mom the way he did was one of the greatest blessings he bestowed upon us. It made each of us a believer in love between a man and a woman. In a time when half of our marriages end in divorce, I knew love and marriage could truly exist because I lived them both.

But the greatest gift he gave me was in his last hours with us on Earth. When he first arrived at the hospital he had suffered his first heart attack and he was singing "Shall We Gather at The River" loudly and courageously as we entered the emergency room. Later he suffered a series of heart attacks and while he was having them he was singing and telling the nurses, "I'm not having a heart attack, I don't need a doctor". In the midst of his heart failure he was singing this hymn and in no pain. I had to eventually tell him that his angiogram showed all three major vessels of his heart were blocked and that the damage to his heart was too great to fix. I had to tell

him that he would not be leaving the hospital. He answered me in his firm voice, "Then let's get on with it. Forward we march". I told him to wait because we needed to call family and in the most lucid and coherent way he began telling me phone numbers to dial. Our relatives would answer and he would say, "This is Ray and I'm dying. I wanted to say bye". He was laughing and singing and telling me number and after number to call.

While making calls and family arriving he began to see things and reach out to people that no one else could see. He would talk to people I could not see. He would jump back and forth between what he was seeing and being there with me. He would say, "Mija am I sitting or am I standing because I can no longer feel the bed". The entire time he was between this world and the next, he described what he was seeing. He saw his older brothers who passed before him, he saw his younger siblings my grandmother lost during the Great Depression and he saw his sister who had passed from cancer. He saw clouds and he even said he could see animals and doves. One time he came back and looked me straight in the eye and said, "It ended for me the day I had to kiss my wife goodbye". I told him, "I know it did Dad".

As Bishop gave him his last rites, my dad prayed with us and told me that I should have bought some conchas or some pan dulce cause a priest was visiting. Eventually he stopped being able to see the light above his hospital bed and he could no longer see us. He said he could only see clouds. Towards the final hour he was still laughing and talking with family at his bedside and family only he could see until he got too tired to speak. In his final moment, he reached out with his hand as if to take the hand of someone invisible to us. His niece, my cousin Rosie, who was standing at his bedside, caught his hand as he reached out. He then removed his oxygen mask and took his final breath.

He was gone but not without giving me this reaffirmation of my faith in our Lord. I take this experience as a gift from my Dad but it could have also been a gift directly from God to serve as a reminder that our life here and now does lead us into a life in the after. You can say it was the lack of oxygen from his failing heart that caused him to hallucinate. I question that logic because the hallucinations did not have to be those exact visions. Hallucinations can be of anything, he could have seen pink elephants but he didn't.

We often see only the birth of a baby as a miracle but I learned from my father's passing that death, as is life, is also a miracle. Thanks to my Father I got to witness death as the miracle that it truly is. I know now for certain that they do come for us; God comes for us in the end. Everything we have learned about the good shepherd coming back for us, that we have a place in His house, everything Psalm 23 tells us really is true. We do not go alone and I got to witness it through my Father's closing eyes.

Thank you Dad for giving me this final gift and letting me see that Heaven really is real.



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Is the Sky Falling?

Is it just me or does it seem lately like this world of ours is a lot less stable than it used to be? Look wherever you like, you will see the signs of the deterioration (or the collapse) of things we had thought were relatively stable. In the natural world we are seeing storms, the power of which had never been witnessed. We know their names well: "Harvey", "Irma", "Maria". They are now part of our vocabulary.

We don't name earthquakes but we have experienced plenty of them lately, especially in our neighbor to the south, Mexico. I even experienced a relatively small one when I was in El Salvador for a meeting this past summer.

In the area of international relations has there been a time in most of our lives when we felt this close to a war that has the potential to go nuclear with rogue nations like North Korea and Iran? International terrorist groups who abuse the good name of Islam seem ever more athirst for the blood of the innocent as a sacrifice to their unquenchable desire for vengeance.

Closer to home we are seeing threats to the dignity of human life at every stage. Even though we have the federal government and most state governments in the hands of the Party that supports the protection of the life of the unborn, abortions continue apace. Meanwhile new threats seem to be arising almost daily. With advances in splicing DNA rapidly moving forward we see the potential for life-saving technologies, but we also see the potential, even the reality, of great abuse of this new power as scientists are recklessly experimenting with human embryos which are receiving DNA from other animals.

Institutions that form the basic structure of society such as the family with its primary bond of the life-long, faithful, complementary relationship of a man and

a woman is under great threat. Children are being deprived of their right to stable, affirming family relationships and the effects of this deprivation can be seen all around us.

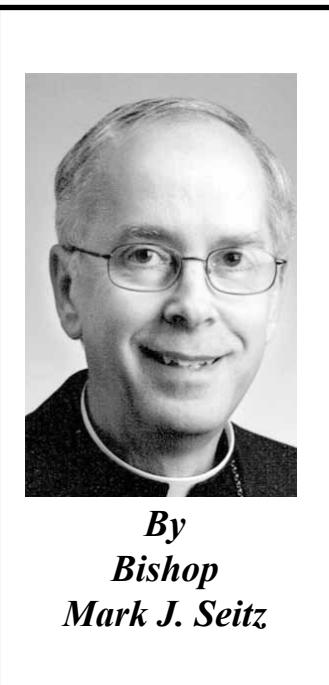
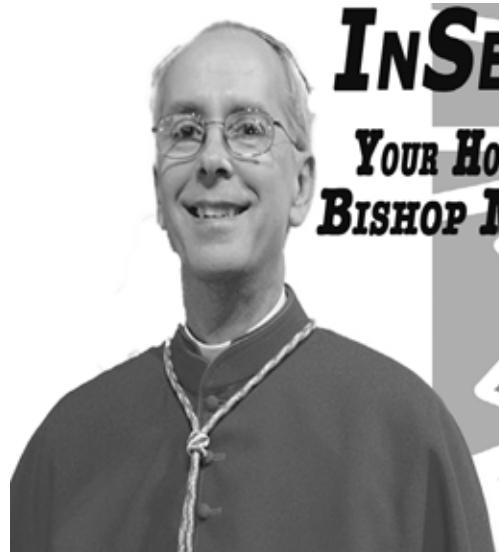
Of course I could go on with this frightening, depressing list of developments, but I think my point is clear. I have news for you: the sky IS falling! Yes, it IS FALLING! But don't feel you need to duck. The truth is that the sky has always been falling. That is the constant state of this fallen, broken, decaying world of ours. The end of the world is near and the signs are pretty obvious, especially of late. Jesus warned us that it would be thus: "You will hear of wars and reports of wars;...Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be famines and earthquakes from place to place. All these are the beginning of the labor pains." (Matt. 24: 4-8)

In the midst of this all Jesus stands upon the storm-tossed water before us and speaks in a voice that pierces through wind and rain. He says, "Do not be afraid. I am with you." (Is. 43: 5) "...Take courage. I have conquered the world." (John 16: 33)

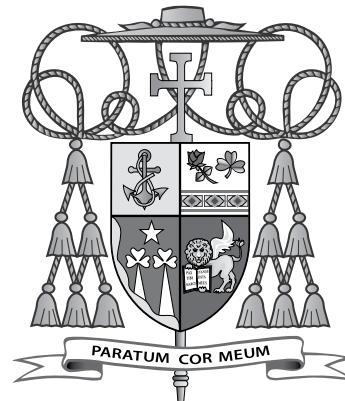
Whether the events that seem to usher in the end of the world are unfolding in your personal life or on a larger scale, it matters little. His answer is the same. And since he is the Lord of the Universe and the One who loves you intimately at the same time there is no problem too large or too small. He is at our side with his gracious invitation,

"Come to me all you who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you." (Matt. 11: 25) Yes, the sky IS falling, but he who made the sky and he who called us to life is our Redeemer, our Saviour. "Of whom should I [we] be afraid?" (Ps. 27: 1)

Bp. Mark



By
Bishop
Mark J. Seitz



INSEITZ INTO THE FAITH **EVERY WEDNESDAY**
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¿Seré yo o parece últimamente como que este mundo nuestro es mucho menos estable de lo que solía ser? Mire hacia donde usted quiera, verá los signos del deterioro (o el colapso) de las cosas que pensábamos que eran relativamente estables. En el mundo natural estamos viendo tormentas, cuyo poder nunca habíamos sido testigos. Conocemos bien sus nombres: "Harvey", "Irma", "María". Ahora forman parte de nuestro vocabulario.

No nombramos a los terremotos, pero hemos experimentado muchos de ellos últimamente, especialmente en nuestro vecino país al sur, México. Incluso tuve una experiencia relativamente pequeña cuando estuve en El Salvador para una reunión el verano pasado.

En el ámbito de las relaciones internacionales, ¿ha habido un momento en la mayor parte de nuestras vidas en que sentíamos esto cerca de una guerra que tiene el potencial de volverse nuclear con naciones traviesas como lo son Corea del Norte e Irán? Los grupos terroristas internacionales que abusan del buen nombre del Islam parecen cada vez más sedientos de sangre de los inocentes para ofrecer como sacrificio a su insaciable deseo de venganza.

Cerca de casa estamos viendo amenazas a la dignidad de la vida humana en cada etapa. A pesar de que tenemos al gobierno federal y a la mayoría de los gobiernos estatales en manos del partido que apoya la protección de la vida de los no nacidos, los abortos continúan a ritmo acelerado. Mientras tanto,

las nuevas amenazas parecen surgir casi diariamente. Con los avances de la biología molecular del ADN, del cual podemos ver que avanza rápidamente, vemos el potencial para las tecnologías de salvar vidas, pero también vemos el potencial, incluso en la realidad, de un gran abuso de este nuevo poder, ya que los científicos están imprudentemente experimentando con embriones humanos que están recibiendo ADN de otros animales.

Las instituciones que forman la estructura básica de la sociedad, como lo es la familia con su vínculo primordial de la relación duradera, fiel y complementaria de un

hombre y una mujer, están bajo gran amenaza. Los niños están siendo privados de su derecho a relaciones familiares positivas y estables y los efectos de esta privación pueden verse muy ampliamente a nuestro alrededor.

Por supuesto que podría seguir con esta aterradora y deprimente lista sobre los últimos desarrollos, pero creo que mi punto es claro. Tengo noticias para usted: ¡el cielo se está cayendo!

SI, ¡SE ESTA CAYENDO! Pero usted no tiene que agacharse o esquivar nada. La verdad es que el cielo siempre se ha estado cayendo. Ese es el estado constante de este mundo caído, roto y en decadencia. El fin del mundo está cerca y las señales son bastante obvias, especialmente últimamente.

Jesús nos advirtió que sería así: "Oirás de guerras e informes de guerras... Naciones se levantarán contra naciones y reino contra reino; habrá hambrunas y terremotos de un lugar a otro. Todos estos son el comienzo de los dolores de parto." (Mateo 24, 4-8)

En medio de todo esto, Jesús se levanta ante nosotros sobre el agua sacudida por la tormenta y habla con una voz que atraviesa el viento y la lluvia. Él dice: "No tengáis miedo. Yo estoy con vosotros. "(Isaías 43,5)... Tengan valor. He conquistado al mundo. "(Juan 16, 33)

Ya sea que los acontecimientos que parecen acompañar al fin del mundo sea que estos se despliegan en su vida personal o en una escala mucho más grande, poco importa. Su respuesta es la misma. Y puesto que Él es el Señor del Universo y El que te ama intimamente al mismo tiempo, no hay problema demasiado grande o demasiado pequeño. El está a nuestro lado con su graciosa invitación: "Venid a mí todos los que estáis cansados y halláis la vida agobiante y os refrescaré" (Mateo 11,25). Sí, el cielo SI se está cayendo, pero el que hizo el cielo y el que nos llamó a la vida es nuestro Redentor, nuestro Salvador. "¿De quién debo (debemos) temer?" (Salmo 27, 1)

Obispo Mark

Happy Birthday

Rev. Benjamin Mones	10-1
Rev. Raul Trigueros	10-5
Rev. Joe Molina	10-9
Rev. Frank R. Lopez	10-10
Rev. Robert S. Kobe	10-13
Rev. Pablo Matta	10-15
Rev. Mark Salas N.P.	10-16
Rev. Michael Chesney, SJ	10-21
Rev. Miguel Briseno, OFM Conv.	10-23
Rev. Robert Edward Mosher, SSC	10-30

Ordination Anniversary

Faustino Ortiz-Suarez, MNM **10-7**

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Special Collections Month of October

Second Collection for Propagation of the Faith

The annual Special Offering for the Propagation of the Faith that coincides with World Mission Sunday will be held on Saturday, October 21 and Sunday, October 22, 2017.

In 1926, Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927. The Mission Sunday collection is always

taken on the next to last Sunday during the month of October. That day is celebrated in all the local Churches as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so Christians the world over will recognize their common responsibility with regard to the evangelization of the world.

Thank you for your support of the missionary work of the Church worldwide.

Segunda Colecta para la Propagación de la Fe

Este es un recordatorio de la Ofrenda Especial Anual que se llevará a cabo el sábado, 21 de octubre y el domingo, 22 de octubre del 2017 para la Propagación de la Fe que coincide con el Domingo Mundial de las Misiones.

En 1926 el Papa Pío XI instituyó el Domingo Mundial para toda la Iglesia con la primera colecta mundial recaudada en octubre de 1927. La colecta del Domingo Mundial

se lleva a cabo el penúltimo domingo del mes de octubre. Este día se aclama la celebración religiosa del catolicismo y de la solidaridad universal para que todos los cristianos católicos reconozcamos nuestra responsabilidad con el deber de evangelización del mundo entero.

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Continued from Pg. 1

"welcomes them with open arms, offering a place full of love, compassion, and most of all healing so that they can go on to become who they are called to be," explained Correa.

That growth led House of Hope to being more than a pregnancy center by becoming a resource center extending beyond pregnancy, both before and after, to proactively provide education both on healthy relationships and respect for oneself and others in order to prevent the crisis pregnancy situations, and to offer parenting classes to transform insecure new parents, unable to see past their need for the next box of diapers, into independent, self-sustaining families who can rely on the facility's resources until they feel



capable of handling whatever life presents to them. Now, celebrating its fifteen-year anniversary, House of Hope announced its readiness to expand its vision and mission to transform into a Guiding Star by bringing like-minded partners under one roof and establishing a full-spectrum women's health and family center offering empowering, life-affirming, comprehensive care to light the way to a culture of life for the El Paso region.

El Paso's Guiding Star, in joining with the national Guiding Star Project, will unite pro-life resources and work together to form a stronger organization that will be more accessible to those who seek assistance in almost any stage of their lives from youth education on respectful sexuality through the child-bearing questions of prenatal care and breastfeeding and even beyond to reach healthy lifestyles throughout people's

lives. Correa noted that with name recognition, individuals seeking help are able to find the resources they need. Just as women too often turn to Planned Parenthood because it is a nationally-known organization that actively markets its services, women can realize that truly compassionate help is available when Guiding Star is recognized as a pro-active full-spectrum resource of providers who offer life-affirming assistance. "Our priority is to never turn anyone away, to get them the care they need no matter their situation," Correa said. "This is a successful working medical model based on love, true charity, and focused on putting 'care' back in healthcare, so the first question women are asked is not 'what's your insurance?' but instead 'how can we help?'"

In answering the question of "how can we help," Correa reminded those present at the Gala event that all services offered to women and families in crisis situations

were provided free of charge, thanks to generous donations. Help is given from the heart to those who seek House of Hope's, and now Guiding Star's, assistance so that a price tag is never placed on a child's life. The Knights of Columbus Councils of the El Paso region, including matching funds from the national organization, answered the call to help by donating over \$40,000 to purchase a state-of-the-art, 4D ultrasound machine that will be used to show a woman the real-life images of the living, moving child she carries and aid her in choosing what is best for both her child and herself.

One way to help in being a part of the transformation to a proactive health center was "to be a part of something larger than yourself," Correa said. "A Guiding Star Center is about so much more than crisis pregnancies and a resource



Nydia Correa, House of Hope now Guiding Star El Paso Executive Director and Angelica Rosales, House of Hope Founder

center, it is about changing the attitudes and behavior of our community, our attitudes toward women, toward our bodies and sexuality, toward marriage and the family" and to help people become better equipped and empowered to eventually help themselves.

A person who exemplifies that change in attitude and behavior was the Gala's keynote speaker Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood Employee of the Year and abortion clinic director who quit her job and became pro-life. Johnson began her career at Planned Parenthood with the idea that she was not only helping women but also helping reduce the number of abortions. The blinders shutting her eyes and mind began to come off when she was told during a budget meeting that her clinic's quota of abortions must be doubled. Johnson told her supervisor that there must be a mistake because she understood the goal of Planned Parenthood was to make abortion a rarity. Her supervisor laughed and asked why would they want to reduce the number of abortions since that is how Planned Parenthood made its money. Johnson wondered if

the corporation had changed its objectives or if, as she suspected, she was now high enough in the organization to see the truth of what was actually happening within it.

Shortly after that, yet another lie was brought to light when Johnson was asked to assist in the abortion of a 13-week-old fetus and she discovered that Planned Parenthood's assurance that the fetus does not feel pain was also completely false. After witnessing the abortion on an ultrasound screen, Johnson realized that once again she had fallen into the trap of lies skillfully woven by the abortion industry. Blinders now ripped from her, Johnson knew that she must escape from the industry to which she had devoted her time and talents for eight years.

Once she awoke to the lies she had believed, she also acknowledged that she was not only responsible for over 20,000 abortions but also for doing nothing to stop them. Johnson confessed to the El Paso audience, "The worst part that I live with every day is that when I had the opportunity to intervene, when I had an opportunity to do something (to stop it), I just stood there. I did nothing."

Johnson's transformation from doing nothing to powerful pro-life advocate was evident when she encouraged those attending the House of Hope Gala to not fall into the same trap, "Everything you do is worth it if you can save one woman from the pain of abortion." Challenging those who claim to care about the lives of women and children, Johnson asked people to support the work of the new Guiding Star El Paso, "I'm not asking you to be generous with your donation but to be sacrificial, to go without, so that a woman who walks into the (abortion) center will go with. What can you give up so that you can give life?"

Donations offering life to those in need can be made, as well as learning more on the transformation from House of Hope to Guiding Star El Paso, through its website GuidingStarElPaso.org.



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Here I Am Lord

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

"Here I am, Lord. You have called me." With these words Sister Maria Nayeli of the Holy Spirit came to the altar rail behind the grille at Corpus Christi Monastery, prepared to profess vows of poverty, chastity and obedience according to the rule of the Adoratrices Perpetuas del Santísimo Sacramento. The chapel was full of family, lay associates of the Adoratrices, friends and women religious of other congregations to witness her profession which occurred as part of the September 10 Sunday Eucharistic liturgy at which Bishop Mark Seitz presided. "Here I am, Lord. You have called me," Sister Nayeli began. Her clear voice wavered as she explained that she had completed the time of discernment and testing of her vocation. Through tears of joy she recounted how it was God's grace that had brought her to this moment of commitment.

Born in Mexico, the only child of Luis and Adriana Marquez, Nayeli was studying dentistry at the Autonomous University of Cd. Juarez when two of her friends insisted that she attend a vocational discernment retreat. "I was dating a nice guy and felt sure that my call was to the married life," she explained. She listened to a panel presentation on the various states of life and heard Sister Maria Siria

explain the vocation to the contemplative religious life. Something stirred in her heart. Later during the small group sessions when Sister Siria told the story of Mother Mary Magdalene of the Incarnation, foundress of the Adoratrices, Nayeli felt "like an arrow went through me". This was the defining moment of her call. "I began to cry- and I went to all the other sessions crying! Afterwards we went to Eucharistic adoration and I realized my calling very clearly and very specifically to this congregation, even though I knew very little about it."

When Nayeli's parents picked her up after the retreat she told them about her experience. They were not enthusiastic! They insisted that she finish her education before making a decision. Meanwhile, she began spiritual accompaniment for further discernment. She spent time experiencing life with the Sisters at the monastery. "Through those experiences I knew that I couldn't wait much longer. I didn't want to continue my studies at the university. I wanted to begin my formation with the Adoratrices." Nayeli spoke with the vocation director and the Sisters agreed that she would enter. But her parents would be celebrating their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary in March 2014 so

she decided that she would wait a little longer. And she was a catechist for first communion at her parish so she would wait a few weeks more. When the date of the first communion was set, Nayeli asked the Sisters if she could plan to enter the monastery the very next day. She didn't realize until her father told her that June 15, 2014 was the Feast of the Holy Trinity. It was also Father's Day.

"My farewell mass at the parish was like a funeral," Sister Nayeli recalled. While neither of her parents were happy about her decision to enter the convent, it was particularly difficult for her father to accept. During the three years of initial formation, including novitiate, visits with family were very limited. One of the greatest challenges to her vocation was seeing her parents' tears. But the greatest joy has been the awakening of her parents' faith and their acceptance and support of her vocation. "After two years my father finally was able to write in a card to me that at last he realized that the monastery was not such a bad place! He told me that seeing me so happy makes him happy that I am here. He wrote, "I miss you but I am not sad anymore" and that has been my great joy!" Sister Nayeli shared. Parents also come to a gradual



Sister Nayeli of the Holy Spirit makes solemn vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

understanding and acceptance of their child's vocation and are asked to say "Yes!"

Sister Nayeli's journey, as Bishop Mark affirmed in his homily, is not an escape from the realities of the world but is actually a door opening into the heart of the world's needs. In her prayer, in her daily tasks, in the relationships of community life within the monastery, Sister Nayeli will encounter the most profound realities of life. A song that has been a favorite ever since she began to serve as a catechist in her parish at age 16 beautifully expresses Sister Nayeli's commitment: "Tell me, Lord, how can I serve

you? Let me know your will. Tell me, Lord, I want to live in you. I want to learn from you how to love." (Hoy en Oración by Rafael Moreno) And what advice would Sister Nayeli give to a young woman discerning her call? "Don't be afraid! The Lord gives all the grace you need. And you will find support and encouragement along the way, sometimes from people and places you least expect!" Have the courage to listen in prayer to the One who created you, so that one day like Sister Nayeli, you will be able to say, "Here I am, Lord. You have called me."

Aquí Estoy Señor

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

"Aquí estoy, Señor. Tú me has llamado". Con estas palabras, la Hermana María Nayeli del Espíritu Santo llegó a la reja del altar detrás de la parrilla del Monasterio de Corpus Christi, preparada para profesar votos de pobreza, castidad y obediencia según la regla de las Adoratrices Perpetuas del Santísimo Sacramento. La capilla estaba llena de familiares, asociados laicos de las Adoratrices, amigos y religiosas de otras congregaciones para presenciar su profesión, que ocurrió como parte de la liturgia eucarística dominical el 10 de septiembre en la que presidió el Señor Obispo Mark Seitz. "Aquí estoy, Señor. Tú me has llamado," comenzó la hermana Nayeli. Su voz clara vaciló al explicar que había completado el tiempo de discernimiento y prueba de su vocación. Con lágrimas de alegría relató cómo fue la gracia de Dios la que la había llevado a este momento de compromiso.

Nació en México, hija única de Luis y Adriana Márquez, Nayeli estudiaba odontología en la Universidad Autónoma del Cd. Juárez cuando dos de sus amigas insistieron en que asistiera a un retiro de discernimiento vocacional. "Estaba saliendo con un buen joven y estaba seguro de que mi llamado era a la vida de casada", explicó. Escuchó una exposición de panel sobre los diversos estados de la vida y escuchó a la Hermana María Siria explicar la vocación de la vida religiosa contemplativa. Algo se movió en su corazón. Más tarde, durante las pequeñas

sesiones de grupo, cuando la Hermana Siria contó la historia de la Madre María Magdalena de la Encarnación, fundadora de las Adoratrices, Nayeli sentía "como si una flecha me atravesara". Este fue el momento decisivo de su llamada. ¡"Empecé a llorar y fui a todas las otras sesiones llorando!" Después fuimos a la adoración eucarística y me di cuenta de mi vocación muy claramente y muy específicamente en esta congregación, aunque yo sabía muy poco sobre ella".

Cuando los padres de Nayeli la recogieron después del retiro, ella les contó acerca de su experiencia. ¡No estaban entusiasmados! Insistieron en que terminara su educación antes de tomar una decisión. Mientras tanto, ella comenzó el acompañamiento espiritual para un mayor discernimiento. Ella pasó el tiempo experimentando vida con las hermanas en el monasterio. "A través de esas experiencias supe que no podía esperar mucho más. No quería continuar mis estudios en la universidad. Yo quería comenzar mi formación con las Adoratrices". Nayeli habló con la directora vocacional y las Adoratrices acordaron que ella entraría. Pero sus padres estarían celebrando su veinticinco aniversario de boda en marzo de 2014 así que ella decidió que esperaría un poco más. Y era catequista de la primera comunión en su parroquia, así que esperaría unas semanas más. Cuando se fijó la fecha de la primera comunión, Nayeli preguntó a las hermanas si podía planear entrar al monasterio al día

siguiente. No se dio cuenta hasta que su padre le dijo que el 15 de junio de 2014 era la Fiesta de la Santísima Trinidad. También era el Día del Padre.

"Mi misa de despedida en la parroquia fue como un funeral", recordó la Hermana Nayeli. Aunque ninguno de sus padres estaba feliz por su decisión de entrar en el convento, era especialmente difícil para su papá aceptar. Durante los tres años de formación inicial, incluyendo el noviciado, las visitas con la familia fueron muy limitadas. Uno de los mayores retos de su vocación fue ver a sus padres llorando. Pero la mayor alegría ha sido el despertar de la fe de sus padres y su aceptación y apoyo de su vocación. "Después de dos años, mi padre finalmente pudo escribirme en una tarjeta que al fin se dio cuenta de que el monasterio no era tan malo. Me dijo que verme tan feliz lo hace feliz de estar aquí. El escribió: ¡"Te extraño pero ya no estoy triste" y esa ha sido mi gran alegría!" compartió la Hermana Nayeli. Los padres también llegan a un entendimiento y aceptación gradual de la vocación de sus hijos y Dios se les pide que digan "¡Sí!"

El viaje de la Hermana Nayeli, como afirmó el Señor Obispo Marcos en su homilia, no es un escape de las realidades del mundo sino que es en realidad una puerta que se abre al corazón de las necesidades del mundo. En su oración, en sus tareas cotidianas, en las relaciones de vida comunitaria dentro del monasterio, la Hermana Nayeli encontrará las realidades más



Newly professed Sister Nayeli of the Holy Spirit prays to Our Lady of Sorrows, patroness of the Adoratrices Perpetuas del Santísimo Sacramento.

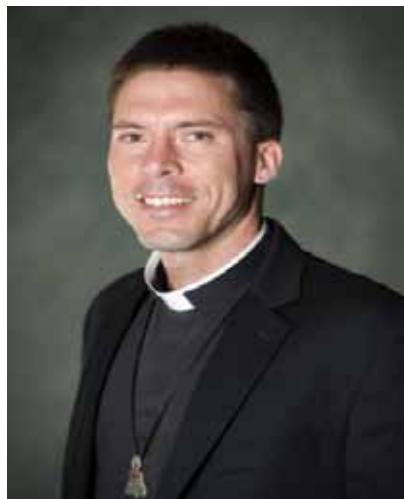
profundas de la vida. Una canción que ha sido una de las favoritas desde que comenzó a servir como catequista en su parroquia a los 16 años, expresa maravillosamente el compromiso de la Hermana Nayeli: "Dime, Señor, ¿en qué te puedo servir? Déjame conocer tu voluntad. Dime, Señor, en Ti yo quiero vivir. Quiero de Ti aprender, saber amar." (Hoy en Oración by Rafael Moreno) ¿Y qué consejo la Hermana Nayeli del

Espíritu Santo le da a una joven que discierne su llamado? "¡No tengas miedo! El Señor da toda la gracia que tú necesitas. ¡Y encontrarás apoyo y estímulo en el camino, a veces de las personas y lugares que menos esperas!" Ten la valentía de escuchar en oración a Aquel que te creó, para que un día como la Hermana Nayeli, tú serás capaz de decir, "Aquí estoy, Señor. Tú me has llamado."

El Paso Catholic Charismatic Conference

October 20 & 21

"Come, Holy Spirit! Set Our Hearts On Fire!" is the theme for the Catholic Charismatic Conference, October 20 and 21 at Las Alas Center, 501 East Paisano. Featured speakers are Father Mark Goring, CC, of Houston, TX;



Father Mark Goring

Father David Ivey, Catholic

Chaplain, Fort Bliss; and Father Fabian Marquez of the El Paso Diocese. Bishop Mark J. Seitz will celebrate the closing Eucharist, followed by a Healing Service. Music ministry will be provided by ZION music ministry from Santa Lucia parish.

Father Mark Goring is Director of the Catholic Charismatic Center in Houston. Several El Pasoans heard him speak at the Albuquerque Conference in 2015 and have been asking for him to come speak here ever since. Father Mark is a member of "Companions of the Cross", a Canadian foundation made up of priests involved in the Charismatic Renewal. He grew up in Pembroke, Ontario, Canada, and studied Computer Engineering before entering the seminary. He says reading the writings of Father Bob Hogan, CC, led him to join the Order. In addition to his duties

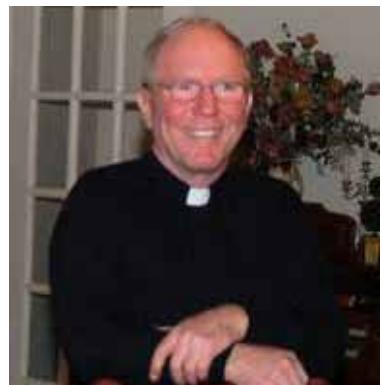
at the Center in Houston, he also contributes to the Catholic TV program, "Food for Life". Teachings by Father Mark and information on Companions of the Cross are on their website and Facebook Page. Father will give talks on Friday night, Saturday morning and afternoon and lead the healing service after the closing Mass.

Father David Ivey is the Catholic Chaplain at St. Michael the Archangel Chapel at Fort Bliss. A native El Pasoan and graduate of Jesuit High School, he earned a BS in Horticulture from Texas A & M University. After answering the call to priesthood, Father David completed his studies at the University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) in Rome and was ordained by Pope John Paul II in 1986. He has served as a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force and as Pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in the Austin Diocese. He will speak at the Friday evening session.

Father Fabian Marquez, Administrator of Buen Pastor Parish in Horizon City, is also the Diocesan Liaison for Youth and Young Adults. A graduate of Socorro High School and Sul Ross University, he holds a Masters in Education from Stephen F. Austin University and Masters in Divinity from St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein Seminary. He worked as a teacher before entering the seminary. He was ordained for the El Paso Diocese and has served in several parishes. Father Fabian will speak Saturday morning.

The Conference starts Friday, 7-9:30 PM and continues Saturday from 9 AM, closing with Mass and Healing Service at 6:00 PM. Conference fee: Adult \$20; Youth (12-18) \$5. No fee for Clergy and Religious or for anyone coming just for the closing Mass. Tickets are on sale at Madonna Shop, 5933 Gateway West; Holy Spirit

Bookstore, 1895 George Dieter; Mission Guadalupe Store, 2121 N. Piedras; and Open Arms, 8210 N. Loop. Snacks, drinks and Saturday lunch will be offered for sale. Tickets with CC: 915-595-0589 or online at www.openarmscommunity.org By Mail: Send Name, Address, Phone # & Fee by check or MO to Open Arms Community, 8210 North Loop Drive, El Paso, TX 79907.



Father David Ivey

Conferencia Carismática Católica de El Paso 20 y 21 de octubre

"¡Ven Espíritu Santo! Inflama Nuestros Corazones!", es el tema de la conferencia carismática católica, los días 20 y 21 de octubre en Centro Las Alas, 501 East Paisano. Participan en la predicación: Padre Mark Goring, CC, de Houston, TX; Padre David Ivey, capellán católico en Fort Bliss, TX; y Padre Fabián Márquez de esta diócesis de El Paso. El obispo Mark J. Seitz celebrará la liturgia eucarística de clausura seguida por servicio de sanación. Participa el ministerio de música ZION de Santa Lucia.

El Padre Mark Goring es director del centro carismático católico en Houston. Después de escucharlo predicar durante la conferencia de Albuquerque 2015, varios paseños solicitaron que viniera a El Paso. El Padre Mark es miembro de "Companions of the Cross", una fundación canadiense formada por sacerdotes involucrados en la renovación carismática. Se crió en Pembroke, Ontario, Canadá en donde hizo sus estudios de ingeniería en computación antes de ingresar al seminario. Cuenta que leyendo los escritos del Padre Bob Hogan, CC, fue lo que le inspiró a ingresar a la orden. Además de su compromiso en el centro de Houston, también contribuye al programa de televisión católica, "Food for Life". Puede encontrar enseñanzas del Padre Mark e información sobre Companions of the Cross en su página web y en

Facebook. La participación del P. Mark en la conferencia: viernes por la noche, sábado en la mañana y en la tarde y servicio de sanación después de la Misa de clausura.

El Padre David Ivey es el capellán católico en la Capilla de San Miguel Arcángel en Fort Bliss, Tx., nativo de El Paso, se graduó de la Escuela Secundaria Jesuita, obtuvo licenciatura en horticultura de la universidad, Texas A & M. Despues de responder al llamado al sacerdocio, el Padre David completó sus estudios en la Universidad de Santo Tomás de Aquino (Angelicum) en Roma y allí fue ordenado por el Papa Juan Pablo II en 1986. Ha servido como capellán en la Fuerza Aérea de los EE.UU. y como pastor de la parroquia Santa María en la diócesis de Austin. Su predica será durante la sesión de la tarde del viernes.

El Padre Fabián Márquez, Administrador de la parroquia Buen Pastor en Horizon City, es también el contacto diocesano para Jóvenes. Se graduó de la escuela secundaria de Socorro y de la universidad de Sul Ross, obtuvo maestría en educación de la Universidad Stephen F. Austin y maestría en divinidad de St. Mary of the Lake, seminario de Mundelein. Trabajó como profesor antes de internarse al seminario. Fue ordenado para la Diócesis de El Paso y ha ejercido su vocación presbiteral en varias parroquias. La predica del P. Fabián es el sábado por la mañana.

La Conferencia comienza el viernes, 7-9:30 PM y continúa el sábado de 9 AM; santa misa inicia a las 6:00pm seguida de oración de sanación.

Donación: Adultos: \$20; Jóvenes (12-18) \$5. Sin costo para clérigos y religiosos/as o para cualquier persona que vaya solamente a la misa de clausura. Los boletos están a la venta en Madonna Shop, 5933 Gateway West; Holy Spirit Bookstore, 1895 George Dieter; Misión Guadalupe Store, 2121 N. Piedras; y en Open Arms, 8210 N. Loop. Habrá comida en medio día para venta el sábado, y habrá aperitivos y bebidas durante toda la conferencia. Venta de boletos: con tarjeta de crédito al: 915-595-0589, por internet: www.

openarmscommunity.org. Por correo: envíe nombre, dirección, número de tel. y cheque a Open Arms

Community, 8210 North Loop Drive, El Paso, TX 79907. La conferencia será en inglés.

EL PASO CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE

COME, HOLY SPIRIT! SET OUR HEARTS ON FIRE!

October 20-21, 2017

Fri 7-9:30 PM + Sat 9 AM-5:00 PM + 6 PM Mass & Healing Service

Las Alas Center 501 E. Paisano El Paso TX



Bishop Mark Seitz
Diocese
of El Paso, Texas
Sat. 6 PM Mass
Celebrant



Fr. Mark Goring
Director, Houston
Charismatic Center
Fri Night, Sat AM & PM
Sat. 6 PM Mass



Fr. David Ivey
Catholic
Chaplain
Ft. Bliss
(Friday Night)



Fr. Fabian Marquez
Administrator,
Buen Pastor
Diocesan Youth Liaison
(Saturday Morning)

Music Ministry by "ZION"

Snacks, drinks, & lunch for sale

**Fee: \$20.00 Youth 18 & Under: \$5.00 (No Fee for just Mass)
No Fee for Clergy & Religious**

Tickets : Open Arms, Madonna Shop, Holy Spirit Bks., Mission Guadalupe

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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 a, 872-8407. La Iglesia desea sanar a toda persona que haya sido lastimada.



Lay Journey with the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration

By Bruce Reed, 3rd Order Adorer & Individual Member World Apostolate of Fatima International

Just off the beaten path less than a mile from North Loop Drive at the end of Mockingbird Rd. is a quiet and holy land, a sanctuary in the truest sense. A short distance from rush hour traffic and from a stressful world, is an extraordinary treasure of peace; Corpus Christi Monastery. Corpus Christi Monastery is home to the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration, and meeting place of the 3rd Order Adorers.

In 2009, my wife Lily and I encountered the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration. The impact of the Order of Perpetual Adoration on us personally and on the Order of Laity, that is all Faithful in general, is truly remarkable. Our own journey as Lay members of the Church is but one story among many about how the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration save souls through Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, prayers for the conversion of sinners, acts of reparation and the keeping of purity in their own lives. Their life of adoration, poverty, generosity, sacrifice and reparation for the sins of the world before the Throne of Jesus are charisms that they freely share with the Laity through their Third Order Adorers. Everyday they open the doors to their chapel so that all can adore Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament and venerate the Blessed Virgin Mary. People come from all over El Paso to pray in the silence of the monastery as well as seek the intercessory prayers of the nuns.

In the spring of 2009, it was veneration of the Blessed Mother Virgin Mary

that unexpectedly brought me and Lily closer to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament and our first encounter of His servants, the nuns of Corpus Christi Monastery. The World Apostolate of Fatima USA had just visited the Diocese of El Paso with the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue and we followed her to most of the parishes she visited.

At the time, we were serving as Lay ministers at the Archdiocese for the Military Services at the parish on Fort Bliss. Lily begged the Custodian of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue to bring Our Lady of Fatima to Fort Bliss. We were told that bringing the statue there on short notice was impossible.

After a First Friday Adoration at a church parish, Lily lamented over the need for Our Lady of Fatima's intercession for the soldiers to a friend and fellow Knight of Columbus. "I wish we had a statue from the World Apostolate of Fatima to visit Ft. Bliss", Lily told him. We were surprised when he told us, "There is, it is at the monastery on Mockingbird". The Knight continued to explain that the statue at the monastery belonged to the local Blue Army Division of the World Apostolate of Fatima and not to the nuns, but that it stays at the monastery for veneration when it is not visiting the parishes of the Diocese of El Paso.

With this new knowledge Lily and I began to coordinate with the Catholic pastor at Ft. Bliss to gain permission for this visit of Our Lady of Fatima to soldiers and

their families. We received authorization for the visit. Many people, Catholic and not, came to the parish on Ft. Bliss to pray with us during her visit to the base. We led prayers all day long from May 1, 2009 to May 13, 2009, teaching people how to pray the Rosary, the Message of Fatima, and the difference between veneration and adoration.

After this experience Lily and I began visiting the monastery on our own for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. During this time we discovered a unique calling to ministry involving the Blessed Mother. It came about when Lily asked the Blue Army Division why there were no monthly prayers to Our Lady of Fatima at Corpus Christi Monastery even though the Diocesan statue had been there since the 1980s. The Blue Army suggested that we, in fact, start such a prayer group. To our great joy, the nuns at Corpus Christi Monastery agreed to inviting the public to special prayers. Our first 13th Day Devotion Prayer took place Monday, July 13, 2009 and we have been leading these prayers ever since.

On July 11, 2009, after an article about our 13 Day Devotions was published, we got a call from a gentleman expressing sadness at being unable to come our first prayer. He said, "I have stage four cancer and I cannot drive anymore. Can someone please come to me and pray with me?" Lily and I called a member of the Blue Army, a cancer survivor herself, who had a small statue of Our Lady of

Fatima and came with us to visit the dying man. Over two weeks, we would visit him to pray and even prayed with him over the phone. The man found great joy in the last two weeks of his life. After spending many years separated from God he once again held his rosary with love and ultimately went to what would be his last Sunday Mass. Lily and I thank God for the blessing of seeing a stranger find salvation and for allowing us to be instruments in the loving work of Jesus.

It was as if God had called us to a ministry of suffering with families in distress and we knew we had to do something more.

In 2010, Lily and I would go to the World Apostolate of Fatima National Conference at the Blue Army Shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Washington, New Jersey. We were to represent the Diocese of El Paso among the other dioceses of the U.S. In order to help raise some of money for the trip, we sold many religious items and raffled a small statue of Our Lady of Fatima. This grand prize was to be purchased at the national shrine and blessed by its rector on the Holy Altar of the shrine's Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

God's Providence allowed a brother Knight of Columbus to win our statue of Our Lady of Fatima. He had already won another statue previously at the Marian Conference Apostolate of Guadalupe. When we asked what he would do with two he allowed Lily and I to be his representatives and custodians of the image Our Lady of Fatima. We made a promise to bring Her to families and teach them the Message of Fatima together with Rosary prayers. Lily and I felt called to do so following the death of our first recipient of the "Fatima Family Visit" in July 2009.

By December 2010, we left the local Blue Army Division of Our Lady of Fatima in order to devote more time and energy to developing our new and unique ministry. We acquired a second image of Our Lady of Fatima so that we can minister to two families each week, Mondays and Fridays. We continue our own ministry of bringing to families the love of the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Son Jesus to families each week with Her Message of Fatima.

During some visits to the Blessed Sacrament at the monastery, Lily and I noticed Lay people dressed in red vests matching the scapular of the nun's habits. This group joins in praying the Liturgy of the Hours and is consider the 3rd Order Adorers. Lily asked the sister catechist about how to join the 3rd Order Adorers. The sister replied that a year of catechesis is required before one can be consecrated into the 3rd Order but that none of the sisters could teach in English. About a year later, the same sister came to us with wonderful news. She informed us we could participate in catechesis if other 3rd Order members were willing to translate for us. She then handed us an English language biography of the Mother Foundress, Bl. Mary Magdalene of the



**Bruce and Lily Reed
3rd Order adorers**

Incarnation.

Words could not communicate to us the love the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration have for God and His children. The way the nuns faces lit up everytime they saw us told us all we needed to know and in a way that neither English nor Spanish could communicate. We were consecrated into the 3rd Order of Perpetual Adorers on Corpus Christi Sunday, June 7, 2015 during the morning celebration of the Liturgy.

We continue a close relationship with the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration. God has placed these wonderful sisters in our lives to direct us to our own vocation of serving the suffering. The Nuns of Perpetual Adoration did not call us to Religious Vocation but instead have called us to a deeper commitment to the often forgotten Vocation of the Laity. It is often said that God works in mysterious and things happen in coincidence. Lily and I know it is not coincidence but rather it is Providence.

God brought us to the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration because we need them. If they had not invited us to lead 13th Day Devotions prayer in their chapel every month, there would not have been the opportunity that brought us our first suffering family and our first funeral for a stranger turned brother. We would not have had the courage to start a ministry of Fatima Family Visits. Without the great generosity and kindness of these sisters, I would not have had the courage to learn how to pray in Spanish. They have always accepted me as I am and prayed for me.

The ministry of serving suffering families can be rather difficult and overwhelming at times. It is often that we find peace only before the Blessed Sacrament and the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration. I especially appreciate the sign in front of the chapel with a "no cell phone" icon. The sign in Spanish includes the icon with the message that states it is better to communicate with God than with whoever could be on the other end of your cell phone. This sign forbidding cell phone use is less of a prohibition and more sound advice for the contemplative life. "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" *Philippians 4:8*. We all need to get off that busy road sometimes, turn off that cell phone and together with the Nuns of Perpetual Adoration, turn our gaze to Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament. To Jesus through Mary!



Celebrate the "Miracle of the Sun"

Friday, October 13, 2017
Corpus Christi Monastery of Perpetual Adoration

451 Mockingbird Rd
El Paso, TX 79907




"I am the Lady of the Holy Rosary" - October 13, 1917
**Spend a day in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament,
Veneration of the Blessed Mother and Prayer**



10:00 AM
Morning Procession
Recitation of the Holy Rosary



11:00 AM
Holy Mass



5:30 PM
Vespers (Liturgy of the Hours)



6:30 PM
Mass followed by Procession
from Monastery to Mockingbird Rd
and back to the Chapel



For more information call the nuns at (915) 591-5662

News Around Schools



Our Lady of the Valley School Robotics Club

This year marks the first year that Our Lady of the Valley School ventures into a new STEM related club. The school now has a robotics club named "Robo Lobos." In the summer, Myra Lujan, fifth – eighth grade science and math teacher, and Mirta Anchondo, fifth – eighth grade reading teacher, attended training on robotics with Pilar Gonzalez, Loretto robotics sponsor. Both Ms. Lujan and Mrs. Anchondo are looking forward to a great year with the robotics club. Students were just as excited to join the club. Only ten students were permitted to participate in the club. Interested students from grades sixth – eighth had to apply for the slots. Each student had to submit a three hundred and fifty word essay explaining their qualifications and how they would be able to contribute to the club.

After selecting the ten students, the sponsors began meeting with the club members on a weekly basis for an hour after school. Club members began learning to work as a team, use science and math, program, code, problem solve, and build using Legos and robots. They have started to build what are called "missions" or tasks with Legos and program a robot to complete a specific mission. The Robo Lobos will be participating in this years robotics competition for public and private schools which is held annually at UTEP. This years theme is "Hydrodynamics." Students will need to come up with a solution based on a problem assigned to them that will be used to help the environment. The Robo Lobos will continue to work on their projects and also educate their fellow classmates.

Most Holy Trinity Excels in Speech and Drama

Most Holy Trinity



has put a great deal of effort into Speech and Drama for the past several years. These efforts paid off in the spring as our seventh and eighth graders took the Sweepstakes Award for small schools at the Diocesan Academic, Speech and Drama Tournament held last spring at St. Matthew Catholic School. A total of 22 competitors placed in a variety of events. Luke Lopez took first place in Original Monologue. "I played a detective who was a very bad interrogator," said Luke. "I was surprised when I won because the other original monologues were very good too." Carl Frede finished second in monologue and second in

duet acting with Luke. "In the first round when I was in front of everyone I got really nervous; once I got into the flow I calmed down. I felt much better in the second round." Both Luke and Carl agreed that there is a benefit to competing in the tournament. "It helps prepare us for the future when we will need to get up and speak in front of others."

Our teachers were especially proud of our students. "We (the teachers) were very enthusiastic about the tournament. The students picked up on this and became more confident as they prepared to compete", said Miss Jolen Confer. "I was impressed with our students school spirit", added Leidiana Baca. "They really wanted to do well for the school". All of us at MHT are proud of our students' accomplishments.

Father Yermo School

Being this year the Father Yermo School 60th Anniversary of service, our Development Committee organized a great event: "Celebrating under the Stars" on Saturday, September



23, in the school grounds. The celebration included a special dinner, Music by "Azucar" and lots of fun and prizes. Alumni, Benefactors and Friends Thank you for your support!

Father Yermo Catholic School is always evaluating the program and improving its facilities as best as possible. This summer the Elementary School Boys & Girls bathrooms were the privileged project. "Burman Construction Company" had a stellar team of professionals working to do the remodeling and they finished on time for the first day of school. A second major remodeling was made to the new STEM classroom. The new equipment, robotics, 3D Printers, and other instructional objects are ready for use now. We received 2 major grants from Louie McKee and Stephen & Mary Birch Foundations and we were able to renovate 10 more windows of the north side.

E-Rate supported 85% of the grant to renew all switches and routers in the three campuses and

new software RENWEB was updated.

The Theme for the Personnel Spiritual Retreat this year, was based on the "Spirituality of the Sacred Heart of Jesus." It was led by Fathers Fco. Javier Calvillo & Armando Benavides, from the sister diocese of Cd. Juarez. The personnel—more than 60—enjoyed greatly the day.

Father Yermo Elementary inaugurated its new principal: Sr. Margarita Sanchez de la Vega, SSHJP. Sr. Margarita brings her experience and love for children to her new position. Sr. Yamila Sonia Trejo, SSHJP is the brand new principal for Father Yermo High School. She carries great talents and experience to serve her school community. Sr. Socorro Garcia, SSHJP, new addition as elementary religion teacher, is coming with ample experience and studies from Rome as the other two. Father Yermo welcomes all new personnel to the school!

August 7, 2017 marked the first day of school. The first school year Mass, inaugurated the 60th year's celebration for Father Yermo School.

St Pius School

St. Pius X students presented the American Red Cross with a check for \$1,746.52 for assistance to the Hurricane victims in Houston and Florida. David Chayer, Executive Director of the American Red Cross, and board member Linda Barker accepted the check from members of the SPX Student

Council and National Junior Honor Society.

The entire St. Pius X School Campus came together to raise money for the victims of the hurricanes that blasted Houston and Florida through a campaign called "Hearts Across Texas." Students donated \$5 each, along with collecting donations from



their neighbors and family members.

The school is now collecting donations for the victims of the Mexico earthquake and is serving as the collection headquarters. This campaign is asking for donations of all personal hygiene items and non-perishable foods, water, flashlights, batteries, medical gauze and hydrogen peroxide. Anyone interested in donating items can call the school at 772-6598.

St. Raphael School



Grace Morrison - Congratulations to 8th grade band student, Grace Morrison, for making the El Paso Youth Symphony Orchestra. Grace plays flute in our school band. Very proud of you!

Class of '08 - Calling out Alumni! 10 year reunion for the class of 2008!

The IOWA Tests of Basic Skills - Was given on September 11-15 this school year. This is a once a year test. Students will be taking a practice IOWA to help students get acquainted with testing procedures.

16 de Septiembre - On Friday September 15th, the pre-k and kindergarten celebrated the 16th of September all dressed up in their Mexican dresses and suits. They all looked beautiful at mass and had a little fiesta during their lunch time!

Pre-K and Kinder 1st mass - On Friday September 8th, the Pre-k and kindergarten attended their 1st mass of the year. They took 2 to 3 weeks to prepare and were wonderful!

All Catholics School Mass - On Wednesday August 30th, we had our Catholic School mass with Bishop Seitz leading the mass. We would like to thank for St. Patrick, St. Joseph, Holy Trinity, St. Matthew, St. Pius, Loretto Academy, Cathedral, Father Yermo, and Our Lady of the Valley for joining us as we start off the school year!

J-Touch Boards in use in the classrooms. 1st graders using them to help with their addition and 6th graders using them in their Science Lab.

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Me for the Future**

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Blessed Sacrament Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Blessed Sacrament celebrates 60 years as a parish. In a mass celebrated by Bishop Mark J. Seitz and Vicar

serving the Northeast area since 1956. In 1954, two seminarians conducted a census of Mountain View and

to the project and arranged to use a military chapel at Logan Heights for Sunday Mass until the church could be built.

administration of the school and the first 47 students graduated in 1960.



Blessed Sacrament parishioners celebrating their 60th Anniversary

General of the Diocese-Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Father Ben Flores concelebrating the parish's beautiful history and ever-growing community was the highlight of the special mass. This parish has been

Sunrise Acres that revealed 85 Catholic families living in these neighborhoods. Plans were made to build a Catholic church in the area as a mission of St. Joseph Parish. Father Gerard McDonald was assigned

and was administered by lay apostolates from Boston. The formal dedication of Blessed Sacrament School took place on Sunday, January 15, 1956. In 1957, the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Help assumed the

Because the neighborhood had only one school it was the consensus of the community that first a school and convent and then a church should be built. Plans were therefore made for a small chapel, school and convent on Diana Drive. The groundbreaking ceremony took place on Palm Sunday, April 3, 1955. The school opened in September 1955 and

plans were drawn up for construction of the church and rectory. A house on the corner of Diana and McGregor Streets served as a temporary rectory. After the present rectory was completed, the house became the first home of the Child Crisis Center.

The church was built



Bishop Mark Seitz with D. Sonny Bustillos, Fr. Gleem Carpe & Fr. Ben Flores, Pastor & Vicar General

by C.V. Maynard Construction Co. with a capacity of 650 worshippers and a choir loft for 200 persons. The men of the church built all the church furnishings including the pews, kneelers, the first altar, the priest's chair, side chairs, and the communion rail. When the communion rail was dismantled after Vatican II, parts of it were used to circle the choir area. Rev. James B. Hay became the pastor in 1957 and served until July 15, 1963. The first Mass in the new church was celebrated on September 22, 1957.

Rev. Roland A. Vonder Haar became the pastor after Father Hay. By January 1964, Blessed Sacrament Parish had grown to 1,300 families and the school's enrollment had increased to 858 pupils. Rev. Stephen Peters served as pastor for more than 20 years until his retirement in 2011. The Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Help continued to administer the school until the 1980s. In 2009, the school was closed due to declining enrollments. Today, Blessed Sacrament



Procession of Parish Ministries

Parish has 1,000 registered families, offers five weekend Masses and serves a diverse community. The parish has a vibrant and growing religious education program with more than 100 children enrolled. It's current Pastor Father Ben Flores was named Vicar General and Moderator of The Curia for the Diocese of El Paso in 2017. Blessed Sacrament's St. Toribio Migrant Ministry opens its doors to our immigrant brothers and sisters when needed and is a ministry that has come to the aide of many migrants passing through our area. Blessed Sacrament continues to grow to meet the unique needs of its community. Happy Anniversary Blessed Sacrament and may God continue to bless your community.

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Sex in Accord with Reason

An article published in 2012 in *The Atlantic* described the sexual practices of the Aka and Ngandu people who live in the tropical forests of central Africa. Researchers Barry and Bonnie Hewlett, anthropologists from Washington State University, found that married Aka and Ngandu men and women consistently reported having sex multiple times in a single night. They also discovered that practices of, and even the concepts of, homosexuality and masturbation appeared to be largely unknown to the groups:

"In both cultures, men and women view sexual intercourse as a kind of 'work of the night.' The purpose of this work is the production of children -- a critical matter in an area with a very high infant mortality rate. Semen is understood by the Aka and Ngandu to be necessary not only to conception, but also to fetal development. A woman who is already pregnant will see having intercourse as contributing to the health of her fetus. The Aka and Ngandu speak of sex as 'searching for children'... Said one Aka woman, 'It is fun to have sex, but it is to look for a child.' Meanwhile,

a Ngandu woman confessed, 'after losing so many infants I lost courage to have sex.' Is the strong cultural focus on sex as a reproductive tool the reason masturbation and homosexual practices seem to be virtually unknown among the Aka and Ngandu? That isn't clear. But the Hewletts did find that their informants -- whom they knew well from years of field work -- 'were not aware of these practices, did not have terms for them,' and, in the case of the Aka, had a hard time even understanding about what the researchers were asking when they asked about homosexual behaviors."

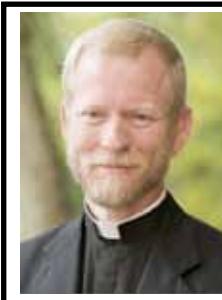
Modern-day Western societies, meanwhile, have adopted an alternative understanding of sexuality, one that leans heavily on adjectives like "pleasure-seeking" or even "recreational," quite distinct from the category of a "search for children." They feature practices of contraception, male and female sterilizations, abortions, and the sanctioning of homosexual, masturbatory, and other non-procreative sexual behaviors. In earlier times, however, Western views more closely resembled those of the Aka and Ngandu, especially in recognizing the fundamental orientation of

sexuality towards the good of offspring. The Catholic Church has long affirmed that married love has a twofold significance, being ordered both toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring. Saint Thomas Aquinas once noted that nature intends, in broad strokes, not only the generation of children, but also their "carrying forth and promotion all the way to the perfect state of man as man" — in other words, both the engendering and conscientious raising of children. Recognizing this natural ordering towards "mature offspring" also points to certain natural inclinations that prompt men and women to protect and care for their children: we are inclined to have sexual relations; we are inclined to be certain that the child we are going to be committed to is our own, and to care for that child continually; and we are inclined to remain with the mother/father of that child, sharing a life of mutual assistance marked by true friendship in the commitment of marriage. Nature has given us these inclinations to serve the good of the species and our personal good.

If human sexuality is properly understood as

directed towards bringing forth life within marriage, this raises the possibility that other non-procreative uses of the generative power of man would constitute an inappropriate use of this human faculty, something the Christian tradition has affirmed and commonly taught. Certain types of sexual activity have always been seen, to borrow the Latin phrase, as "contra naturam" (against nature), that is to say, performed in such a way that generation cannot follow. Among such practices would be included masturbation, sodomy, and bestiality. Certain other types of sexual activity, while not contrary to nature in that sense, are still opposed to the order of reason, because the act is done in a way that the due care and education of children is not provided for. This is implied, for example, when men and women who are not married to each other engage in sexual relations, as in situations of adultery, fornication, incest or sexual assault.

St. Thomas noted that the sexual act is one to which we humans, like all animals, are naturally inclined, and as



*Making Sense
Out of
Bioethics*

Fr. Tad Pacholczyk

such it would be a grave error to assert that the act could be evil in itself. Nevertheless, the manner in which the act takes place and the details surrounding it are essential to determining whether the act occurs in an authentically human way, that is to say, in a way that is "secundum naturam" (in accord with nature) and in accord with the dictates of reason.

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


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El Poder De Decir “Quiero”

Has pensado alguna vez en lo que serías capaz de hacer si tú quisieras? Si quisieras podrías desparramar a tu alrededor semillas de alegría y de optimismo. Si quisieras podría alargar tu mano, para que otros se tomaran de ella, y juntos pudieran seguir adelante cada uno en su deber. Si quisieras todos verían en ti una luz que los quiera en su camino, un compañero que suavizara la monotonía del viaje, un compañero que brindara comprensión y afecto. Si quisieras podrías hacer muchas cosas para bien tuyo y de los demás. Si quisieras podrías hacer todo eso y mucho más. Si quisieras... Porque no puedes?

Ten muy presente esta verdad: En la medida en que damos, y sobre todo en la medida que nos damos a nosotros mismos, recibiremos. Cuanto mayor sea el torrente de nuestra bondad mayor calibre tendrán las tuberías que enriquecen el estanque de nuestras vidas. Por lo tanto debes dar aquello mismo que deseas conseguir. Si deseas dinero, comparte tu dinero, si deseas amor, da amor; si deseas reconocimiento y aprecio, reconoce los méritos de los demás y demuéstralos tu aprecio. Todo lo que tú das,

volverá a ti. Es la ley de la vida, que no se puede cambiar. Algunas veces tu retribución vendrá muy rápida, casi por un milagro. Otras veces se demorará más y te llegará por el camino menos esperado. Pero puedes tener la seguridad de que no perderás lo que has invertido. Y si no eres un filántropo altruista, sino un cristiano auténtico que obra con intención de hacer el bien y de servir a Cristo en los más necesitados, tienes la promesa infalible del Señor: “Con la misma medida con que ustedes den a otros, Dios les dará a ustedes” (Mt. 7,2). “Cualquiera que dé siquiera un vaso de agua fresca a uno de estos pequeños por ser seguidores mío, le aseguro que tendrá su premio” (Mt. 10,42;25,40). Jesucristo, Maestro infalible es quien te asegura, que todo el bien que hayas hecho retornara a ti multiplicado por cien. No te parece buen negocio...?

La vida va pasando, nosotros vamos pasando, pero hay algo que queda; la vida tiene una proyección que permanece: Lo bueno o lo malo que en la vida hagamos deja una estrella, tanto en nosotros como en los demás. No podemos decir con verdad, que lo que hagamos en la vida sea algo sin importancia; nada es pequeño

e insignificante si trasciende al tiempo y tiene repercusión en la eternidad. Todo puede servirte para tu perfeccionamiento. A nadie se le puede exigir que alcance la perfección en un solo día; pero todos estamos obligados a trabajar de continuo, a esforzarnos día a día por alcanzar la perfección. Nadie llega a ser eminentemente matemático en un solo día; necesita muchos esfuerzos; nadie se convierte en músico famoso en una semana; son precisos muchos años. Nadie podría corregir sus defectos con un solo esfuerzo; pero si ese esfuerzo no lo hace y no lo repite a diario, nunca llegará a ser perfecto.

Es triste tener defectos; pero es mucho más triste hacer las paces con los defectos, resignarse a tenerlos. Sucede que los más imperfectos son los que más perfección exigen; los menos humildes son los menos fáciles en tolerar las faltas de humildad en los otros. El más humilde es el más comprensivo con las faltas de los demás; el más perfecto es el más comprensivo con las imperfecciones de los demás... Si eres intolerable con los demás, con tus familiares, con tus hijos, con tus dependientes, con tus vecinos... No será porque no eres tu

suficientemente perfecto? acostumbras de vez en cuando autoanalizarte? Recuerda esto: Cualquier actuación en tu vida tiene una gran importancia, tanto para ti como para todos los hombres. Si en tal o cual ocasión no procede mal, el mundo será un poco menos malo; y esto gracias a ti. Si en otra oportunidad procede con rectitud y honradez, el mundo se sentirá algo más bueno y esto gracias a ti. De ti depende que el mal aumente en el mundo o por el contrario, crezca el bien; que el mundo siga enfermo o sane de sus males. Que el mundo se sienta más desdichado o más feliz. TODO DEPENDE DE TI. No hables tanto, no critiques tanto, no te amargues tanto; obra más y obra mejor y tu acción será positiva! Lo que siempre cosecharás.

Cuántas veces una omisión es más dañina que una mala acción. Por eso Martin Luther King solía repetir: “El mundo está a oscuras no tanto por el mal que hacen los malos, como por el bien que dejan de hacer los buenos” El que se



Vida del
Espíritu
por el Padre
Wilson
Cuevas

calla ante el mal, también hace mal. Aun me parece ver y oír al protagonista de la película La Lista de Schindler, ya acabada la guerra, hondamente conmovido, reconociendo que podía haber hecho algo más: “NO HICE LO SUFFICIENTE” exclamaba con una mezcla de culpa, tristeza y amor compasivo. “SI PUDE HABER SALVADO MAS VIDAS. NO HICE TODO LO QUE PUDE...” Es una escena que ojala se grabara en la mente de todos los espectadores, para sacarnos de la indiferencia y movernos a hacer el bien sin descanso.

Siempre podemos hacer más, mucho más. Podemos amar más y servir mejor. Vale la pena para que un niño o una niña nacido en un barrio pobre no sea un drogadito o un cadáver más. Todos podemos y debemos hacer más para que nuestra sociedad y este mundo cambie, tú y yo podemos hacer la diferencia, para que todo sea mejor. Ojalá sea así!

The Power of Saying “I Want”

Have you ever thought about what you would be able to do if you wanted to? If you like, you could spread seeds of joy and optimism around you. If you wanted, you could extend your hand, so that others could take it, and together you can each go forward and do your duty. If you wanted, everyone would see you as a companion to guide them and soften the monotony of the journey. A companion who will give understanding and affection. If you wanted, you could do many things for your own good and others. If you wanted you could do all that and much more. If you wanted... Why don't you?

Keep this truth in mind: to the extent that we give, and especially to the extent that we give ourselves, we will receive. The greater the torrent of our goodness, the greater caliber will have the pipes that enrich the pond of our lives. Therefore you must give what you want to achieve. If you want money, share your money, if you want love, give love; if you want recognition and appreciation, acknowledge the merits of others and show them your appreciation. Everything you give will come back to you. It is the law of life, which cannot be changed. Sometimes your reward will come very quickly, almost by a miracle. Other times it will take longer and arrive by the way you least expected. But you can be sure that you will not lose what you have invested. And if you are not an altruistic philanthropist, but an authentic Christian who works with an intention to do well and serve Christ where it mostly needed, you have the infallible promise of the Lord: “With the same measure that you give to others, I will give to

you” (Mt. 7:2). And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who are my disciples, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.” (Mt 10: 42, 25, 40). Jesus Christ, the infallible Master is the one who assures you that all the good you have done will be returned to you multiplied by a hundred. Does that not sound like good business?

Life goes on, we will be going on, but there is something left; life has a projection that remains: the good or the bad that we do in life leaves a trail, both in us and in others. We cannot say with truth, that what we do in life is something of no importance; nothing is too small and insignificant if it transcends time and has repercussions in eternity. Everything can serve you for your improvement. No one can be required to achieve perfection in a single day; but we are all obliged to work continuously, to strive every day to achieve perfection. No one becomes an eminent mathematician in a single day; it needs a lot of effort; nobody becomes a famous musician in a week; it takes many years. No one could correct their defects with one effort; but if that effort is not repeated on a daily basis, it will never become perfect

It is sad to have defects; but it is much sadder to make peace with the defects, to resign you to having them. It happens that the most imperfect are those who demand perfection; the least humble are the least easy to tolerate the lack of humility in others. The most humble are the most sympathetic with the faults of others; the most perfect are the most sympathetic with the imperfections of others ... If

you are intolerant with others, with your relatives, with your children, with your dependents, with your neighbors ... It won't be because you are not perfect enough? Get used to analyzing yourself once in a while? Remember this: Any action in your life is of great importance, both for you and for all men. If on this or that occasion there is no wrong, the world will be a little less bad; and this is thanks to you. If another opportunity presents itself, proceed with righteousness and honesty, the world will feel better and this is thanks to you. From you depends if evil increases in the world or on the contrary, the good grows; may the world remain ill or heal from its evils. May the world feel more unhappy or happier? IT'S ALL UP TO YOU. Do not talk so much, do not criticize so much, do not get so bitter; work more and work well, let your actions be positive! What you sow you reap.

How often an omission is more harmful than a bad action. That is why Martin Luther King used to repeat: “The world is dark not so much because of the evil that the bad guys do, but the good that the good fail to do. “He who is silent in the face of evil, also does wrong. I still seem to see and hear the protagonist of

the film Schindler's List, after the war had already finished, deeply moved, recognizing that he could have done something more. “I DID NOT DO ENOUGH,” he exclaimed with a mixture of guilt, sadness and compassionate love. “IF ONLY I COULD HAVE SAVED MORE LIVES, I DID NOT DO ALL THAT I COULD” It is a scene that I hope will be recorded in the minds of all the spectators, to remove us from indifference and move us to do good without

resting. We can always do more, much more. We can love more and serve better. It's worth it for a child born in a poor neighborhood not to become a drug addict or another corpse. Everybody can and must do more for our society and this world to change. You and I, we can make the difference, so that everything is better. Hopefully it will be like that!

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From 6 to 9pm

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Blessing of New Chief of Ysleta del Sur

By Mike Lara- Tigua Ministry Director

What a blessing this time is to be able to share the appointment of Jose Sierra, Sr. as Chief of Ysleta del Sur Pueblo! Since time immemorial the people of Ysleta del Sur Pueblo have lived a tradition rich in Pueblo culture and in their catholic faith. The root of Catholicism in our diocese is traced back to the people of Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and the first Franciscan Friars that were brought south after the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. The first mass was celebrated in Ysleta on October 12, 1680,

and to the church. He has served in numerous positons on the Tribal Council and served as the first judge for the Pueblo. The celebration of the feast of St. Anthony of Padua patron saint of the Pueblo has and continues to be near and dear to the his heart, because it is a time when the Pueblo community comes together as one to prepare spiritually, to prepare the mind and body for a full day of dancing and prayer under the summer sun in honor of their great saint.



Bishop Mark J. Seitz and Reverend Miguel Briseño, O.F.M. Conv. and the new Chief of Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, Jose Sierra Sr.

take place leading up to the celebration. He served on the hospitality committee when the diocese hosted the Tekakwitha Conference in El Paso in 2004 and again in 2013. In 1987 he represented the Pueblo and Diocese in Phoenix for the apostolic visit of St. Pope John Paul II; he says that in all his travels that occasion continues to be with him. He recalls greeting the Pope and feeling an electric energy travel throughout his body that he will never forget.

The chief serves as the spiritual leader of the Pueblo, shortly after his appointment he was given his cane which dates back to the 1600's given to the Pueblo's leaders, giving them the authority to govern their

people. His cane gives him the authority to give direction to his people; his duties include the well-being of his people, assuring that traditional feast and ceremonies are observed and to uphold and preserve their identity as Pueblo people, faithful Christians and their connection to their grandfathers in order to preserve their identity for the future. The chief says it is an honor to serve his people; he wants to be a leader that looks towards the future, preserving their cultural identity, customs and traditions preserving them for future generations. He wants to do this by serving as a role model for the children and youth of the Pueblo educating them in Pueblo chants, dances,

faith and in their care and connection to their ancestors and mother earth.

The pueblo and the chief were excited that Bishop Seitz was able to lead the prayer service and give them his blessing on this special day for the Pueblo, said Chief Sierra. The blessing is an important part in the life of the Pueblo and this special blessing for the Chief and Tribal Council will be with them as they carry out their duties in service of the Pueblo. Ysleta is a special and unique place filled with wonderful traditions of dance, prayer and a strong community that hold its roots near to its heart, blessed by a richness of faith, hope and love.



Bishop Mark J. Seitz and Reverend Miguel Briseño, O.F.M. Conv. pray for the new Pueblo leader

since that time the celebration of the Eucharist has been central to the life of the people of Ysleta.

Chief Sierra has a long history of service to his people

Tribal members that live outside the area return home to be renewed by the beat of the Pueblo's sacred drum, the nine day novena, food preparation and numerous activities that

Bendición de Jefe del Pueblo Ysleta del Sur

Por Mike Lara- Director de Tigua Ministry

¡Qué bendición es poder compartir la cita con el Señor José Sierra, Jefe del Pueblo Ysleta del Sur! Desde hace bastantes tiempos inmemoriales, la gente del Pueblo Ysleta del Sur ha vivido una tradición sumamente rica en cultura de pueblo y en su fe católica. La raíz del catolicismo en nuestra diócesis se remonta al Pueblo de Ysleta del Sur, ya que los primeros frailes franciscanos que fueron llevados al sur después de la revuelta de pueblo en 1680. La primera misa se celebró en el Pueblo de Ysleta el 12 de octubre de 1680, desde entonces la celebración de la Eucaristía ha sido central en la vida del Pueblo de Ysleta.

El jefe de Sierra tiene

una larga historia de servicio en su pueblo y en la iglesia. Ha servido en numerosas posiciones en el Consejo Tribal y ha servido como primer juez para el Pueblo. La celebración de la fiesta de San Antonio de Padua, patrón del Pueblo, es y sigue siendo cercana y querida en su corazón porque es un momento en que la comunidad Pueblo se reúne como una sola para prepararse espiritualmente, en mente y cuerpo. Esto para un día completo de baile y oración bajo el sol de verano y en honor de su gran santo. Los miembros tribales que viven fuera de la zona regresan a casa para ser renovados por el ritmo del tambor sagrado del Pueblo, la novena de nueve días, la

preparación de alimentos y numerosas actividades que tienen lugar antes de la celebración. El también prestó sus servicios en el comité de la hospitalidad cuando la diócesis recibió la conferencia de Tekakwitha en El Paso en el año 2004 y otra vez en el 2013. En 1987 él representó al Pueblo y a la diócesis en Phoenix debido a la visita apostólica de Juan Pablo II; dice que de todos sus viajes, esa ocasión sigue estando con él. Se acuerda de saludar al Papa y sentir un toque de energía eléctrica a través de todo su cuerpo y que nunca olvidará.

El jefe Sierra presta sus servicios como líder espiritual del pueblo. Poco después de su nombramiento, se le dio su bastón, el cual se remonta al año 1600 y el cual es otorgado a los líderes del Pueblo, dándoles la autoridad para gobernarlos. El bastón le da la autoridad para dirigir al pueblo y entre sus deberes se incluyen; el bienestar de su pueblo, asegurar que se respeten las fiestas y ceremonias tradicionales



que se mantenga y preserve su identidad como Pueblo. Pueblo de cristianos fieles y su conexión con sus abuelos para preservar su identidad para el futuro. El jefe dice que es un honor servir a su pueblo; quiere ser un líder que mira hacia el futuro, preservando su identidad cultural, costumbres y tradiciones, preservándolas para las generaciones futuras. Él quiere hacer esto sirviendo como un modelo para los niños y la juventud del Pueblo, quienes los educan en cantos del Pueblo, danzas, fe y en su cuidado y conexión con sus antepasados y la madre tierra.

El pueblo y el jefe han estado muy entusiasmados desde que el Señor Obispo Seitz fue capaz de dirigir el



Pueblo people join hands in prayer

Love Guides Those Who Follow Him

"You must have it done," the nurse insisted. "Doctor's orders, you have to do it." "No," I said, stubbornly. "The test results won't make any difference to me." I had never argued with a medical professional before but somehow this time I had the strength to stand up to her demands, even as I sat with nothing but a silly paper gown wrapped around me.

"What's up?" asked the doctor as he came back into the examining room.

"She refuses to schedule an amniocentesis," tattled the nurse with a smug look. Looking from the nurse to me and then at the chart in his hands, the doctor asked, "How old will you be when the baby is born?" "I'll be 34," I said, unclear why my age was an issue but still trying to hold to my convictions. "She's at the age that requires the amniocentesis," emphasized the nurse.

"Your baby is due before your birthday, right?" asked the doctor. "So, you'll really be 33." "I guess that's true if he's on time," I agreed, wondering why he was being picky about a few days.

"She'll still be 33 years old so she doesn't need the amnio," he stated firmly to the nurse who flounced out of the room.

Although I thought I caught a small smile on the doctor's face, I was still a little shaky when I asked, "Do you

think there's something wrong with my baby? Would an amniocentesis better prepare you to fix the problem before he's born?"

"No, everything looks fine," he assured me. "It's just procedure. You don't need to worry about it."

That was thirty years ago and I can still recall how my stomach knotted up when I felt pressured to do something that I believed was not in the best interests of my baby. Pressured by the very people who were supposed to be protecting my health and the well-being of my preborn child, I was filled with self-doubt that they were right and I was wrong, even though I had been so sure moments before.

How do women experiencing crisis pregnancies handle the pressure, even coercion, so often forced upon them by family, friends, and even those medical professionals they go to for help? I was happily married and overjoyed to be pregnant with my second child. I had loving and supportive family members, including a mother who had researched the purpose for and risks involved in amniocentesis testing which we decided was not beneficial to me or my baby.

Standing up for that decision was harder than making it, and I was immensely relieved when my doctor agreed, even if it was in a rather round-about way of letting me have my way.

What about those women who don't have an encouraging

group of supporters? What about those women who are confused or afraid to go to their family and friends for help? Sometimes, those families will be supportive once they recover from their own shock, but since the pregnant mother is afraid of being rejected or worse, she doesn't appeal to her family for help. What about those women who are threatened or even forced against their will to get rid of the evidence, also known as the baby?

Someone who has witnessed that pressure is Abby Johnson, who has been on both sides of the pro-life/pro-choice fence as a former director of Planned Parenthood and now as a courageous advocate for life. Abby Johnson told the audience at the recent House of Hope Gala, "Most women who have an abortion do so because they feel they have no other choice. Society tells them that they are not strong enough to deal with their present circumstances, the best they can do is to take an innocent life."

It's true. Too often women in crisis pregnancies are told that the situation is simply too much for them to handle. "You can't finish high school with a baby." "You'll never go to college and fulfill your dreams with a baby." "Your boyfriend will leave you if he's weighed down by you and a baby to support." "You can't do it."

However, there are also people who are eager and willing to say, "Yes, you can, and we

will help you." House of Hope pregnancy assistance medical center has grown into Guiding Star El Paso and

is gathering together every type of service needed to empower women. Nydia Correa, the center's director, said to the women of the El Paso region, "Yes, you can because you are strong and smart and independent, and you can do anything you set your mind to.

We are here to help as long as you need us, like sidekicks, but you are the superhero. You can do it!"

With assistance like that, why would anyone choose an abortion and a life of painful regret rather than support from a caring sidekick? Why, because Planned Parenthood and abortion are the answers readily given to solve a problem, as a quick fix to a crisis, as a "no one will ever know" answer to the wrong question. Guiding Star El Paso wants to become recognized as the loving, caring and accessible answer to the right questions of "who can help me do what's best for myself and my baby" and "what should I do."

That question should be in the hearts of every person attending church. Looking up at the crucifix, what might we have done to relieve the suffering Christ felt on the way to His death? Would we have been the Veronica to wipe His face?



Sidewalk Jesus
by
Janet M. Crowe

Can we be that person today by empowering Guiding Star to help every woman in need to choose life for herself and her unborn child?

At the House of Hope/Guiding Star dinner, Abby Johnson encouraged those in attendance when she said, "Look around the room at the people here. With this type of support and this type of assistance, no woman should ever feel that she needs to enter an abortion clinic."

If you could stop an innocent child from dying, would you? Look within your heart. Is there room in your heart to offer your love to a woman and baby in need? Time, talent and treasure can save an innocent child from death and a confused woman from a life of pain and regret. Will you let Christ's love guide you into giving to Guiding Star and guide women, men and families to life?

Let God's Love guide you to save a life today.

Guiding Star El Paso
915.544.9600

www.guidingstarelpaso.org

El Amor Guía a Los Que Le Siguen

"Tienes que hacerlo" – insistió la enfermera. – "Las órdenes del médico, son que tienes que hacerlo."

"No," dije, obstinadamente. "Los resultados de las pruebas no hacen ninguna diferencia para mí." Yo nunca había discutido con un médico profesional, pero de alguna manera esta vez tuve la fuerza para hacer frente a sus demandas, incluso cuando estaba sentada y envuelta con nada más que un tonto vestido de papel. "¿Qué pasa?" – preguntó el médico al regresar a la sala de examen. "Ella se niega a programar una amniocentesis", parloteo la enfermera con una mirada satisfecha.

Mirando de la enfermera hacia mí y luego a la tabla de información a en sus manos, el doctor preguntó, "¿Qué edad tendrás cuando el bebé nazca?" "Tendré 34 años", le dije, sin entender por qué mi edad era un problema, pero todavía trataba de mantener mis convicciones.

"Ella está en la edad en que requiere la amniocentesis", enfatizó la enfermera.

"Tendrás a tu bebé antes de tu cumpleaños, ¿verdad?", Preguntó el médico. "Así que en realidad solo tendrás solo 33". "Supongo que sí; si es él que llega a tiempo", asumí, preguntándome por qué estaba el siendo tan exigente solo por unos días. Ella tendrá todavía 33 años, así que no creo que necesite el amniocentesis - le

dijo firmemente a la enfermera, quien al mismo tiempo salía de la habitación.

Aunque pensé que había captado una pequeña sonrisa en el rostro del médico, seguía un poco temblorosa cuando le pregunté: "¿Cree usted que haya algo mal con mi bebé? ¿La amniocentesis me preparara mejor para arreglar el problema antes de que él nazca? "No, todo se ve bien", me aseguró. "Es sólo procedimiento. No tienes que preocuparte por eso."

Eso fue hace treinta años y todavía puedo recordar cómo mi estómago se hizo nudo cuando me sentí presionada a hacer algo que creía que no era lo mejor para mi bebé. Presionada por las mismas personas que se suponía que estaban protegiendo mi salud y el bienestar de mi hijo antes de nacer, estaba llena de dudas, pensando que tenían razón y que yo me equivocaba, aunque había estado tan segura momentos antes.

¿Cómo es que las mujeres que experimentan embarazos en crisis manejan la presión, incluso la coacción, tan a menudo forzadas por la familia, los amigos, e incluso los médicos a quienes

ellas van a buscar ayuda? Yo estaba felizmente casada y muy contenta de estar embarazada de mi segundo hijo. Los miembros de mi familia eran muy amorosos y me brindaban su apoyo, incluyendo una madre que

había investigado el propósito y los riesgos involucrados en la prueba de amniocentesis, la cual decidimos que no era beneficiosa para mí, ni para mi bebé. Tomar esa decisión fue más difícil que hacerlo, y me sentí inmensamente aliviada cuando mi médico estuvo de acuerdo, aunque tuviera más que otra cosa, dejarme tomar mi propia decisión.

¿Qué pasa con aquellas mujeres que no tienen un grupo de seguidores positivos a su alrededor? ¿Qué pasa con aquellas mujeres que están confundidas, o tienen miedo de ir a buscar ayuda con su familia y amigos? A veces, esas familias serán de apoyo toda vez que se hayan recuperado de su propia sorpresa, pero como la madre embarazada tiene miedo de ser rechazada o peor aún, ni siquiera pide ella ayuda a su familia.

¿Qué pasa con aquellas mujeres que están amenazadas o incluso son forzadas en contra de su voluntad de deshacerse de las pruebas, también conocidas como el propio bebé? Alguien que ha presenciado esa presión es Abby Johnson, quien ha estado en ambos lados de la valla pro-vida / pro-elección, como un ex directora de "Planned

Parenthood" (Organización que presta servicios de salud reproductiva, incluida la promoción de medios accesibles de control voluntario de la fecundidad, el funcionamiento de clínicas, la conducción de programas educativos, la realización de investigaciones y la difusión de información) y hoy en día defensora valiente de la vida. Abby Johnson se dirigió a la audiencia en la reciente Gala de la Casa de la Esperanza, de la siguiente manera: "La mayoría de las mujeres que tienen un aborto lo hacen porque sienten que no tienen otra opción. La sociedad les dice que no son lo suficientemente fuertes como para lidiar con sus

circunstancias actuales, lo mejor que pueden hacer es tomar la vida del inocente".

Es verdad, a menudo a las mujeres que están pasando por un embarazo en crisis se les dice que la situación es simplemente demasiado para que puedan ellas manejar. "No puedes terminar la secundaria con un bebé." "Nunca irás a la universidad y cumplirás tus sueños con un bebé." "Tu novio te dejará si se ve forzado a tener que sostenerse a ti y a tu bebe." "No puedes hacerlo". Sin embargo, también hay personas que están ansiosas y dispuestas a decir: "Sí, si puedes y te ayudaremos". El centro

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Catholic Campus Ministry invites you to join

MINER AWAKENING 6

A retreat for college students by college students!

"LET US BE THE BUILDERS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

October 6th-8th
Guardian Angel Catholic Church
\$25 Registration Fee
Ages 18-25

Register now at utepccm.weebly.com/miner-awakening-6

Diocese has 9 New Seminarians, Total of 29 Seminarians

By: Father Mariano Lopez, Director- Vocation Office

It is a joy to share the news that the Lord has been responding to our prayers for vocations! For years the vocations office has asked the faithful of the diocese to pray for vocations and to be aware of God's calling. We now see that God answers our prayers. This year we are receiving nine new seminarians who would like to introduce themselves. The formation team is made up of people who have renewed their commitment to the first phase of seminary formation in our Diocese: Rev. Rolando Fonseca, Dr. Veronica Rayas, Sr. Darlene Stoecklein, Dr. Art Ramirez, Rev. Miguel Briseno, O.F.M., Conv., Mrs. Rosa Thorpe, Rev. Saul Pacheco and Rev. Mariano Lopez.

Bishop Mark has entrusted the responsibility of working directly with our seminarians to us. We invite you to also participate in their formation through prayer and to visit us for our next Mass with the Friends of Saint Charles where we will celebrate our Patron Saint (October 28th, 9am, Procession will begin outside Diocesan Pastoral Center—499 St. Matthews St.—we will complete the procession in the Seminary chapel—8330 Park Haven).



Hello, my name is Isaac Venegas and I was born here in El Paso, Texas. I joined the seminary to get closer to God and always feel his presence and also, of course, to become a priest. This is my first semester. I am happy to be able to learn something new everyday.



Hello! I am Loyd Philip Divinagracia from the Philippines. I'm one of the Propaedeutic Seminarians of the Diocese. I'm looking forward to growing more into the journey of becoming a servant of God in the Church as a priest here in the Diocese!



I am Rafael García. I'm 18 years old. I'm from Juárez and I came to St. Charles Seminary to discern if God wants me as a priest and where he wants me to serve.



My name is Luis Rodarte. I am beginning my second year in the seminary at St. Charles. Currently, I have the experience here in St. Charles seminary to help my fellow brother seminarians to teach and guide them. I look forward in my personal growth here in the seminary as well as the growth of my brothers.

Diócesis Tiene 9 Nuevos Seminaristas, Total de 29 Seminaristas

Por: Padre Mariano Lopez, Director-Oficina de Vocaciones

¡Es un gran placer compartir la noticia de que el Señor está respondiendo a nuestras oraciones por vocaciones! Desde hace años la oficina de vocaciones le ha pedido a los fieles de la diócesis que se dediquen a rezar por vocaciones y a tener concientización del llamado de Dios. Ahora vemos que Dios responde a nuestras suplicas. Este año recibimos a nueve nuevos seminaristas que quieren presentarse con ustedes. El equipo de formación, consiste en las siguientes personas que han renovado su compromiso a la primera etapa de formación de seminaristas en nuestra Diócesis: P. Rolando Fonseca, Dra. Veronica Rayas, Sr. Darlene Stoecklein, Dr. Art Ramirez, Fr. Miguel Briseno, O.F.M., Conv., Sra. Rosa Thorpe, P. Saul Pacheco y P. Mariano H. López.

El Obispo Mark nos ha confiado la responsabilidad de trabajar con nuestros seminaristas directamente. Los invitamos a que también ustedes participen en su formación por medio de la oración, y que nos visiten en nuestra siguiente Misa Con Los Amigos de San Carlos donde celebraremos a nuestro Santo Patrón (28 de octubre, 9am, Procesión iniciara en el Centro Pastoral Diocesano—499 St. Matthew St.—y terminaremos en la capilla del Seminario—8330 Park Haven).



Mi nombre es Angel Aguilar, soy originario de Morelia Mich., Mex. El Señor me ha concedido la gracia de conocer esta porción de su Iglesia, y he sentido el llamado a servir en ella en el ministerio presbiteral. Es por ello que, respondiendo al llamado de Dios, me encuentro ahora en esta etapa de discernimiento de la voluntad de Dios en mi vida. Me encomiendo a sus oraciones y ustedes están en las mías.



Hola, mi nombre es Alexander Askee Gutierrez; vengo de Caracas, Venezuela. Estoy en el primer año de formación de discernimiento y tengo el deseo de poder conocer la comunidad de la Diócesis de El Paso, ser parte de ella para aprender y afirmar mi camino como futuro sacerdote de la Diócesis.



Mi nombre es Paul Andres Sanchez, soy Colombiano de la hermosa ciudad de Cali, agradezco a Dios y a la Diócesis del paso por permitirme estar viviendo esta experiencia de seminario. Agradezco al señor obispo Mark J. Seitz, al señor rector el padre Mariano Lopez y a todo el equipo vocacional que me abrieron las puertas en esta nueva etapa de mi vida. ¡Dios les bendiga!



Mi nombre es Javier Valles y soy de El Paso, Texas y estoy viviendo mi primer año de seminario. Estoy muy emocionado con esta experiencia y, más que nada, dispuesto a aprender. A mí siempre me llamo la atención la música y espero compartir esta habilidad con mis hermanos seminaristas.



Soy Isaac Gordillo Fonseca originario del estado de Chiapas, México. Agradezco enormemente a Dios, al Sr. Obispo Mark J Seitz, al P. Mariano y todo el equipo formador por la oportunidad que me brindan. Fue en mi estancia en los Estados donde sentí por segunda vez un llamado a un discernimiento. Un llamado que no fue como aparecen en las películas, fue más bien un impulso, un vacío en el pecho que me motivo a buscar un acompañamiento. Los invito a que nos visiten en el Seminario San Carlos. Saludos afectuosos.



Soy Astry Déraly de Haití. Estoy empezando una nueva experiencia en la diócesis de El Paso Texas y quiero aprovechar este medio para dejarle un mensaje. Cada ser humano tiene un propósito por lo que vive, por eso constantemente el amor nos capacita para iniciar una experiencia nueva y al finalizar cada experiencia podemos decir: Tocaste a mi puerta y te abrí, fui a tu casa y me recibiste.

More Than 10,000 Parishioners are Using myParish App

by Karina Sandoval, Stewardship Coordinator

More than 10,000 parishioners from various parishes of El Paso downloaded myParish App on the weekend of Parish Commitment Sunday.

Parish Commitment Sunday was on Sunday, August 27 as an invitation from Bishop Seitz to the El Paso Catholic community to download myParish app and register as a member of their parish community. The invitation from Bishop Seitz brought pastors closer to their parishioners and offered a great opportunity for the parishes to

communicate through digital media.

myParish App includes icons to search for Mass times, access the daily readings, receive messages from the pastor, create chat groups, listen to The Bridge radio station, read The Rio Grande Catholic newspaper and follow the Bishop's Blog. Also, through myParish App, parishioners can register and give online to the Sunday collection.

To say thank-you, the Foundation for the Diocese



**Araceli Rivera
St. Mark
\$500 Winner**

of El Paso held a raffle with prizes of \$500, \$250 and \$100 to winning parishioners who had downloaded myParish App.

Araceli Rivera from St. Mark, Margarita Aguilar from Santa Teresa in Ft. Hancock, and Rosie Fernandez from St. Luke were the lucky winners of the raffle. Thank you Araceli, Margarita and Rosie for your participation and to all parishioners who have downloaded myParish App.

So, what are you

waiting for? Be part of the myParish App movement in our Diocese by texting the word app to phone number 88202 or visit myparishapp.com. The app is available on iPhone and android.

For more information about myParish app, or about Stewardship please contact Karina Sandoval, Stewardship Coordinator, at 915-872-8412 or at ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org

Más de 10,000 Parroquianos usan la Aplicación myParish

Por: Karina Sandoval, Coordinadora de Corresponsabilidad

Más de 10,000 parroquianos de diferentes Iglesias del Paso descargaron la aplicación myParish el fin de semana del Domingo de Compromiso Parroquial.

El Domingo de



**Margarita Aguilar
Santa Teresa
\$100 Winner**

Compromiso Parroquial se dio a cabo el domingo, 27 de Agosto como una invitación

de nuestro Obispo Seitz a la comunidad católica del Paso a descargar la aplicación myParish y a registrarse como miembro de su comunidad parroquial. La invitación de nuestro Obispo Seitz logró acercar más a los sacerdotes con sus parroquianos y ofreció una gran oportunidad a las parroquias a comunicarse digitalmente con sus parroquianos.

La aplicación myParish incluye iconos para buscar los horarios de Misa, ingresar a las lecturas diarias, recibir mensajes del Pastor, crear grupos de chat, escuchar la estación The Bridge, leer el periódico The Rio Grande Catholic y seguir el Blog del Obispo. También, los parroquianos podrán registrarse y donar en línea a la colecta Dominical por medio de la aplicación myParish.

Para agradecer a todas las personas

que descargaron la aplicación, la Fundación para la Diócesis del Paso organiza una rifa de \$500, \$250, y \$100.



**Rosie Fernandez
St. Luke
\$250 Winner**

Araceli Rivera de la Parroquia de San Marcos, Margarita Aguilar de la Parroquia de Santa Teresa en Ft. Hancock, y Rosie

Fernández de la Parroquia de St. Luke fueron las ganadoras afortunadas de la rifa. Gracias Araceli, Margarita, Rosie por su participación y a todos aquellos parroquianos que descargaron la aplicación myParish.

Entonces, ¿qué estás esperando? Se parte del movimiento de la aplicación myParish en nuestra Diócesis mandando un mensaje de texto

con la palabra app al teléfono 88202 o visita myparishapp.com. La aplicación está disponible en los celulares Iphone y android.

Para más información sobre la aplicación myParish o sobre Corresponsabilidad, favor de contactar a Karina Sandoval, coordinadora de Corresponsabilidad, al 915-872-8412 o al correo ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org

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médico de asistencia de embarazo "House of Hope" - Casa de Esperanza - (Centro de ayuda para el embarazo en El Paso, la cual ha estado ofreciendo servicios a la comunidad desde octubre del 2002, y que en el 2007 se inició como clínica médica que ofrece ultrasonidos obstétricos limitados y cuidado de la fertilidad), hoy en día su nombre se ha convertido en "Guiding Star" - Estrella que Guía - en El Paso y está reuniendo todo tipo de servicios necesarios para empoderar a las mujeres. Nydia Correa, directora del centro, se refirió a las mujeres de la región de El Paso: "Sí, si lo puedes hacer porque eres fuerte, inteligente e independiente y tú puedes hacer todo lo que tu decides hacer. Estamos aquí para ayudar mientras nos necesiten, somos tus compañeros, pero tú eres la superhéroe. ¡Puedes hacerlo!"

Con asistencia como esa, ¿por qué elegiría un aborto y una vida de doloroso arrepentimiento, en vez del apoyo de un compañero que me cuidaría? ¿Por qué?

porque "Planned Parenthood" y el aborto son las respuestas que se ofrecen más fácilmente para resolver el problema, como una solución rápida a una crisis, como un "nadie sabrá nunca," como una respuesta a la pregunta equivocada. "Guiding Star" de El Paso quiere ser reconocido como la respuesta amorosa, cariñosa y accesible a las preguntas correctas de "¿quién puede ayudarme a hacer lo mejor para mí y mi bebé?" y "¿qué debo yo hacer?". Esa pregunta debe estar en los corazones de cada persona que asiste a la iglesia. Mirando hacia el crucifijo, ¿qué podríamos haber hecho para aliviar el sufrimiento de Cristo en el camino de su muerte? ¿Habríamos sido la Verónica para limpiar Su rostro? ¿Podemos ser esa persona hoy al empoderar a "Guiding Star" para poder ayudar a todas las mujeres necesitadas cuando haya que elegir la vida para ella y para su hijo por nacer?

En la cena de "House of Hope/ Guiding Star", Abby Johnson alentó a los asistentes cuando dijo, "Mire a su alrededor en la habitación, mire a toda esta gente hoy aquí. Con este tipo de

Deje que el amor de Dios de guie para salvar una vida, hoy.

**Estrella que Guía, El Paso
915.544.9600**

www.GuidingStarElPaso.org

\$ 2,300,000

GOAL

\$ 1,913,793

PLEDGED

\$ 1,155,983

PAID

August 17, 2017

AS OF

BISHOP'S MINISTRY APPEAL | 2017



PROGRESS BISHOP'S MINISTRY APPEAL

PROGRESS WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR DONORS

The success of the Progress Annual Appeal depends on thousands of donors who support us each year. We cannot thank you enough for your prayers and support; because of your generous donations we are able to support our 17 ministries and thousands of families. For the past 20 years, we have been blessed with 1,500 families who have donated year after year. We thank you for your prayers and your support.

PROGRESO DESEA AGRADECER A SUS DONADORES

El éxito de Progreso no sería posible sin los miles de donantes que nos apoyan cada año. No podemos agradecerle lo suficiente por sus oraciones y por su apoyo; debido a sus generosas donaciones podremos apoyar a nuestros 17 ministerios y miles de familias. Durante los últimos 20 años hemos sido bendecidos con 1,500 familias, las cuales han estado donando continuamente año tras año. Les damos las gracias y agradecemos enormemente por sus oraciones y su apoyo.

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Jose R. Avila	Edmundo A. Anchondo	Edmundo A. Anchondo	Sofia Flores	Jose R. Martinez	Rebeca Perez	Manuel Vega	
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Catholic Foundation Raises \$121,460 at the 11th Annual Foundation of Faith Dinner,

Honors Rudy & Elvia Miles with 3rd Annual Dei Gratia Award

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

The Catholic Foundation raised \$121,460 in one night at the 11th Annual Foundation of Faith Dinner through sponsorships, table and ticket sales, a themed silent auction for Catholic schools, a fast-paced, fun live auction, and donations. The crowd of 600 laughed until they cried hearing the moving conversion story of keynote Tom Leopold.

Proceeds benefit the Foundation whose only purpose is to serve the Catholic Church in the Diocese of El Paso. 100% of the proceeds from all needs packages, like fuel for our religious serving West Texas, benefit the designated school, need, parish, charity, or fund. Different needs are highlighted each year at the Foundation of Faith Dinner. It's through the cooperative efforts of the churches, schools, parishioners, and diocesan ministries that the Foundation has flourished.

The Miles children accepted the Dei Gratia Award on stage on behalf of their parents, Rudy & Elvia, following a moving video about the couple and their accomplishments. The Dei Gratia Award, Latin for "By the Grace of God", recognizes

an individual, couple, or organization for their servant leadership, outstanding contribution to the Diocese of El Paso and our Catholic community, and their dedication to being good stewards of God's grace. You can watch the video on the Foundation's website at elpasodiocesefoundation.org under the News tab.

We would like to thank you on behalf of the Diocese we serve—communities from El Paso to Presidio to Monahans—55 parishes, 17 mission churches, 10 Catholic schools, 17 diocesan ministries and more than 600,000 Catholics. We indeed are one Community of Faith. The Catholic Legacy

Fund is nearing the \$14 million dollar mark and we're on our way to our goal of \$25 million. We now have 83 endowment funds within the Catholic Legacy Fund and our distributions from endowment this year will exceed \$475,000.

Under the leadership of Bishop Mark Seitz, the



Tom Leopold and Bishop Mark J. Seitz

Diocese of El Paso is a Catholic Community on the move! With 29 seminarians, 18 deacon candidates, 3,000 Catholic school students, 19,000 students enrolled in parish catechetical programs, and ever growing and expanding diocesan ministries, the work of the Foundation is more vital

than ever before. Our continued growth and success is only possible with your support. This year's Foundation of Faith Dinner is evidence of this support. With your help, we intend to accomplish even more in the years ahead.

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

Fundación Católica Recauda \$121,460 durante su 11^a Cena Anual de Fe de la Fundación y se honra a los Señores Rudy y Elvia Miles con el 3er Premio Anual, "Dei Gratia"

Por: Sofia Larkin, Directora de Donativos Mayores, Fundación para la Diócesis de El Paso

Fotografías: Alejandra Saldaña

La Fundación Católica recaudó \$121,460 dólares durante su 11^a Cena Anual de Fe, a través de patrocinios, mesas para la cena, venta de boletos, subasta silenciosa con temas de las escuelas católicas, donativos y una divertida subasta en vivo. La multitud de 600 personas rió hasta llorar al escuchar la historia de Tom Leopold, sobre su conversión al catolicismo.

Los ingresos benefician a la Fundación cuyo único propósito es servir a la Iglesia Católica en la Diócesis de El Paso. El 100% de los ingresos de todos los paquetes de necesidades, son como ejemplo, para el combustible de nuestros religiosos, quienes prestan sus servicios en el oeste de Texas—West Texas, otros, benefician a las escuelas asignadas, necesidades específicas, caridades u otros fondos, ya que cada año se destacan diferentes necesidades en la Cena de la Fundación de Fe. Es a través de los esfuerzos cooperativos de las iglesias, escuelas, feligreses y ministerios diocesanos que la Fundación ha florecido.

La familia de los Miles aceptaron el premio "Dei Gratia" a nombre de sus padres, Rudy & Elvia, después todos presenciamos un emocionante video sobre la pareja y sus grandes logros. El Premio "Dei Gratia", el cual significa en

latín; "Por la Gracia de Dios", reconoce a un individuo, pareja u organización por su liderazgo de servicio, contribución sobresaliente a la Diócesis de El Paso y a nuestra comunidad católica, además de su decisión de ser buenos administradores de las bendiciones de Dios. Usted puede ver el video en nuestro sitio de Internet, ingresando a: elpasodiocesefoundation.org bajo Noticias.

Deseamos darles las gracias en nombre de la Diócesis a quien atendemos - comunidades desde El Paso hasta Presidio y Monahans - 55 parroquias, 17 iglesias misioneras, 10 escuelas católicas, 17 ministerios diocesanos y más de 600,000 católicos. En verdad que somos una Comunidad de Fe. El Fondo del Legado Católico se está acercando cada vez más a la cantidad de \$14 millones de dólares y estamos en camino a nuestra meta de \$25 millones. Hoy en día, tenemos 83 fondos en dotaciones dentro del Fondo del Legado Católico y las distribuciones de este fondo excederán la cantidad de \$475,000, este año.

Bajo el liderazgo del Señor Obispo Mark Seitz, la Diócesis de El Paso es una comunidad católica



Familia Miles

en movimiento! Con 29 seminaristas, 18 candidatos al diaconado, 3,000 estudiantes en las escuelas católicas, 19,000 estudiantes inscritos en programas de catequesis parroquiales y ministerios diocesanos, crecientes y en expansión. Por todo esto, la labor de la Fundación es más vital que nunca. Nuestro crecimiento y continuo éxito

sólo es posible con su ayuda. La Cena Anual de Fe de la Fundación de este año es una prueba de este apoyo. Con su continuo apoyo, tenemos la intención de lograr aún más en los próximos años.

Usted puede comunicarse con la Directora de Donativos Mayores, Sofia Larkin, llamando al 915.872.8412 o por correo

electrónico al slarkin@elpasodiocese.org. La Fundación para la Diócesis de El Paso está ubicada en 499 St. Matthews Street y las horas de oficina son de lunes a viernes de 9-12, de 1-5, y con cita previa.

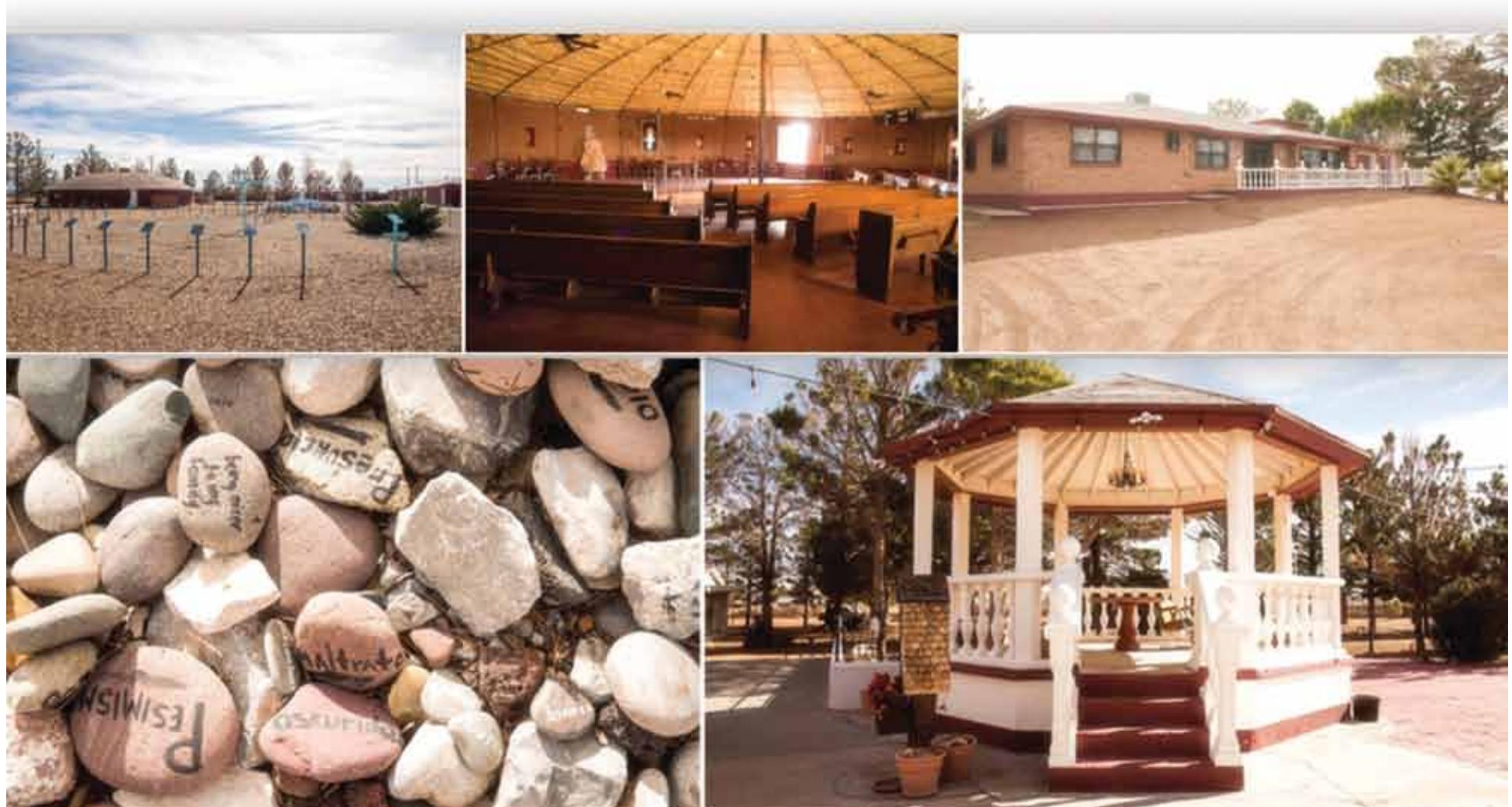


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Oct 6 - Marriage Encounter

Nov 30 - Cristo Rey Catholic Church - Youth

Oct 12 - St. Raphael Church - Men - Spanish

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

Oct 19 - Saint Mark Catholic Church - Youth - English

Jan 18 - Saint Mark Catholic Church - Women - English

Oct 26 - St. Pius X Church - Men - English

Feb 22 - Saint Mark Catholic Church - Youth - Spanish

Nov 9 - San Antonio Catholic Church - Men - English