

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

THE

RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC

Vol. 29, No. 4

The Official Newspaper for the Diocese Of El Paso

April 2020

Diocese Faithful in Prayer during Pandemic

By Rev. Michael L. Lewis
Special Managing Editor

A worldwide pandemic unprecedented in modern history has prompted a response from the Diocese of El Paso also unprecedented in its history. The virulent spread of the novel coronavirus that causes the COVID-19 disease has shut down much of El Paso and indeed, much of the world. And Catholic churches in the Borderland were not spared.

In accord with public health orders issued in the El Paso area, Bishop Mark Seitz made the painful but necessary decision on March 18 to suspend the public celebration of Mass within the Diocese of El Paso. Joining nearly every other diocese in the United States, the suspension allowed only a handful of people to be present at any Mass to help prevent the spread of the virus, Bishop Seitz said in a pastoral letter released March 18.

"The Church has to respond resolutely and in a way that sets an example for others," the Bishop said. "The law of love is that which guides everything we do." And showing love for neighbor means doing what we can to stop the virus from spreading, he said.

Since the faithful are not able to attend Mass, Bishop Seitz dispensed all in the diocese from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass until public Masses resume. But priests across the diocese have not stopped celebrating Mass, and have found new technological means to transmit liturgies to the faithful.

Many churches have begun live-streaming Masses on Facebook or YouTube. Though the people are not able to receive sacramental Communion, they can nonetheless make a spiritual Communion with Christ as they participate in the Mass from home, said Father Marcus McFadin, pastor of St. Luke's Parish on the Westside of El Paso and acting director of the diocesan office of worship.

"To celebrate Mass with a full assembly would make it very easy for the deadly virus to spread in the very churches where life-giving sacraments are celebrated. But we don't have to — and shouldn't — stop celebrating our faith," McFadin said. "People can tune into a live-streamed Mass, or even view a pre-recorded one, and participate from home in the same way they



Father Ben Flores, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish and vicar general of the Diocese of El Paso, carries a crucifix as Bishop Mark Seitz, center, leads the Stations of the Cross with other priests of the diocese on March 21 at Mount Cristo Rey. See Page 4 for the full story. *Photo by Fernie Ceniceros.*

Los fieles están en oración durante la pandemia

Por Rev. Michael L. Lewis
Rio Grande Catholic Correspondent

Una pandemia mundial sin precedentes en la historia moderna ha provocado una respuesta de la Diócesis de El Paso también sin precedentes en su historia. La propagación virulenta del nuevo coronavirus que causa la enfermedad COVID-19 ha cerrado gran parte de El Paso y, de hecho, gran parte del mundo. Y las iglesias católicas en la frontera se han visto afectadas de manera similar.

De acuerdo con las órdenes de salud pública emitidas en el área de El Paso, el Obispo Mark Seitz tomó la difícil pero necesaria decisión el 18 de marzo de suspender la celebración pública de la misa dentro de la Diócesis de El Paso. Uniéndose a casi todas las demás diócesis de los Estados Unidos, la suspensión permitió

que menos de 10 personas estuvieran presentes en cualquier misa para ayudar a prevenir la propagación del virus, dijo el obispo Seitz en una carta pastoral publicada el 18 de marzo.

"La Iglesia tiene que responder con determinación y de una manera que sirva de ejemplo para los demás", dijo el Obispo. "La ley del amor es la que guía todo lo que hacemos". Y mostrar amor por el prójimo significa hacer lo que podamos para detener la propagación del virus, el dijo.

Como los fieles no pueden asistir a la misa, el obispo Seitz dispensó a todos en la diócesis de la obligación de asistir a la misa dominical hasta que se reanuden las misas públicas. Pero los sacerdotes de toda la diócesis no han dejado de celebrar la misa, y han encontrado nuevos medios tecnológicos para transmitir las liturgias a los fieles.

Muchas iglesias han comenzado a transmitir las misas en vivo en Facebook o YouTube. Aunque la gente no puede recibir la comunión sacramental, pueden sin embargo hacer una comunión espiritual con Cristo al participar en la misa desde su casa, dijo el Padre Marcus McFadin, párroco de la Parroquia de San Lucas y director interino de la oficina diocesana del culto divino.

"Celebrar la misa con una asamblea llena haría muy fácil que el virus mortal se propagara en las mismas iglesias donde se celebran los sacramentos vivificantes. Pero no tenemos que — y no deberíamos — dejar de celebrar nuestra fe", dijo McFadin. "La gente puede entrar en una misa transmitida en vivo, o incluso ver una pregrabada, y participar desde casa de la misma manera que lo harían si estuvieran en los bancos de la iglesia.

Deben hacer las mismas respuestas, escuchar atentamente las lecturas de las Escrituras, y unir sus oraciones a las del sacerdote mientras celebra el sacramento central de nuestra fe."

Aunque no pueden celebrar la misa dominical en persona, los feligreses no deben dejar de apoyar a sus parroquias en oración, espiritualmente, así como financieramente, dijo el obispo Seitz.

"Este es un momento difícil para muchas personas, que no han podido trabajar, que han visto reducidas sus horas, o que se han encontrado con otras tensiones financieras ya que la economía mundial se ha detenido virtualmente. Pero confío en que, en medio de los desafíos financieros que todos enfrentamos, nos uniremos para asegurarnos

"Pandemic" continued
on Page 4 →

"Pandemia" a continuación
en pagina 4 →

EDITOR'S COLUMN

In the Midst of Struggle, God is Present

Over the last couple of days, I have had several conversations of what it might be like in ten or fifteen years when our kids come and ask about the coronavirus pandemic of Lent 2020. How we will look back at this time during our history and discuss with our children or grandchildren, telling stories about being quarantined in our homes and how people persevered.

Immediately, my thoughts turn to our brothers and sisters who have lost or will lose something significant in their lives because of this pandemic. And while my heart is saddened by all of that, I can't help but pray to our Lord:



Fernie Ceniceros

"How will you use this pandemic to make us more aware of your real presence in our lives? Who will you inspire during this time of despair and sadness? Who will you call forward as an example of your Son's Passion to us during this great pandemic?"

Someday perhaps we will speak of a coronavirus saint who, before the coronavirus pandemic, struggled with her Catholic faith. As a nurse or a doctor, or a first responder during these difficult times, she has witnessed the worst suffering firsthand and realized that she needed the Real Presence of the Eucharist in her life. As a result, as soon as the Church was able to begin to celebrate Mass in public, she became dedicated to Jesus in the Eucharist and became a modern example of living with Jesus in the center of her life.

I think in fear we tend to ask why God would allow such suffering. And while that is a valid

question, I think the challenge I pose to myself during that thinking is, "How can I be a living example of Christ to those around me? Who needs my prayer more than ever now?" Because I can assure you, that our coronavirus Saint is out there. She's on the front line. She's questioning her faith. She's asking for God's presence to fill her in her decision making, which is life or death for someone she's caring for. She's beginning to thirst for God's presence in the Eucharist.

When I worry about not having enough of whatever it is that's out of stock at this moment, I can't help but think about St. Maximilian Kolbe who stepped

in front of Nazis to offer his life. I can't help but think about San Pedro de Jesus Maldonado and how he was persecuted for his belief in Christ in the Eucharist. If it was not for the evil that was present in their time, we would not have their example of Jesus in their lives. And while I am not saying that those atrocities were necessary, I am saying that God always uses struggle to show us our need for Him in humanity.

So I invite you my friends. Think of our coronavirus Saint. She needs our prayers. She needs us to come together as her family in Christ.

May God grant her peace during this great struggle.

En medio de la lucha, Dios está presente

En los últimos días, he tenido varias conversaciones sobre cómo podría ser en diez o quince años cuando nuestros hijos vengan y preguntan sobre la pandemia de coronavirus de la Cuaresma del 2020. El como veremos este momento durante nuestra historia y discutiremos con nuestros hijos o nietos, contando historias sobre estar en cuarentena en nuestros hogares y cómo las personas perseveraron durante esta pandemia.

Inmediatamente, mis pensamientos se vuelven hacia nuestros hermanos y hermanas que han perdido o perderán algo significativo en sus vidas debido

a esta pandemia. Y aunque todo eso me tristece, no puedo evitar rezarle a nuestro Señor: "¿Cómo utilizarán esta pandemia para hacernos más conscientes de su presencia real en nuestras vidas? ¿A quién inspirarás durante este tiempo de desesperación y tristeza? ¿A quién llamarás como ejemplo de la Pasión de tu Hijo hacia nosotros durante esta gran pandemia?"

Algún día en el futuro, quizás hablemos de un santo o santa del coronavirus, que antes de la pandemia de coronavirus luchó con su fe católica. Como enfermera, doctor, o como socorrista en estos tiempos difíciles, y ha sido

testigo de primera mano del peor sufrimiento y se dio cuenta de que necesitaba la presencia real de la Eucaristía en su vida. Como resultado, tan pronto como la Iglesia pudo comenzar a celebrar la Misa en público, se dedicó a Jesús en la Eucaristía y se convirtió en un ejemplo moderno de vivir con Jesús en el centro de su vida.

Creo que con miedo tendemos a preguntar por qué Dios permite tal sufrimiento. Y aunque esa es una pregunta válida, creo que el desafío que me planteo durante ese pensamiento es: "¿Cómo puedo ser un ejemplo vivo de Cristo para quienes me rodean?

¿Quién necesita mi oración ahora más que nunca? Porque puedo asegurarles que nuestro santo o santa del coronavirus está ahí afuera. Esta en primera fila cuestionando su fe, está pidiendo la presencia de Dios para completar su toma de decisiones, que es la vida o la muerte de alguien que está cuidando. Comienza a tener sed de la presencia de Dios en la Eucaristía.

Cuando me preocupo que no haya suficiente de lo que está agotado en este momento, no puedo evitar pensar en San Maximiliano Kolbe que se paró frente a los nazis para ofrecer su vida. No puedo evitar pensar en San Pedro

de Jesús Maldonado y en cómo fue perseguido por su creencia en la Eucaristía. Si no fuera por el mal que estaba presente en su tiempo, no tendríamos su ejemplo de Jesús en sus vidas. Y aunque no estoy diciendo que esas atrocidades fueran necesarias, estoy diciendo que Dios siempre usa la lucha para mostrarnos nuestra necesidad de Él en la humanidad.

Entonces los invito a que pensemos en aquellos hombres y mujeres, santos o santas del coronavirus. Ellos necesitan nuestras oraciones para que nos unamos como su familia en Cristo.

Que Dios les conceda paz durante esta gran lucha.

THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC

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

**Publisher: Most Rev. Mark J. Seitz, D.D.
Twitter: @BishopSeitz**

**Editor: Fernie Ceniceros
Twitter: @FCenicerosphoto**

**Special Managing Editor:
Rev. Michael L. Lewis**

**Advertising Manager: Norma Muñoz
Spanish Translation: Fernie Ceniceros, Nor-
ma Muñoz**

**Contributors: Janet M. Crowe, Fr. Wilson
Cuevas**

www.elpasodiocese.org

© 2020 by
THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC
All rights reserved

THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC (ISSN#1079-9621) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by the Office of Communications, Diocese of El Paso, 499 St. Matthews St., El Paso, TX 79907, Phone: (915) 872-8414, Fax: (915) 872-8435. "PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT EL PASO TX."

POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to: **THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC**, 499 St. Matthews St., El Paso TX, 79907

THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC is a monthly newspaper assisting the Bishop of the Diocese of El Paso by communicating the events and themes of the faith life of the local and universal church through news reports, features, columns and photographs. Articles and photographs become the property of **THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC**. If photos are on loan to the newspaper, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope for their return.

Printer - PDX Printing.



@DioceseofElPaso



@ElPasoDiocese



@ElPasoDiocese

INSEITZ INTO THE FAITH

Who's in Charge Here, Anyway?

It feels as though we are in uncharted waters. Certainly in the lifetime of most of us we cannot recall experiencing a time such as this. We have heard of pestilences such as ebola and have shuddered to consider what people on the other side of the world have experienced. But it never happened here!

Here in the U.S. A. we had things under control. We are the most prosperous, most technologically advanced nation in the world. Sure we had our challenges, but still, we had things under control.

Then a tiny little new virus comes along. It was named corona for its shape. Isn't that cute? It begins by bringing the proud dictatorship of China to its knees. That was too bad. Then it started making its way to other places. It really began disrupting our travel plans. How inconsiderate of that tiny little pest!

The virus continued its persistent assault until it arrived on

our hallowed shores—without a visa! And we began to discover that we were just as vulnerable as the rest of the world had been. No amount of technology has yet been able to hold it off. Our army, the strongest in the world, is powerless against this covert enemy.

As it drew closer and closer to our communities our concern began to grow. We began to fear for ourselves and for our loved ones. An initial reaction was to fight it by using our most vaunted weapon against human fear and suffering—we began to shop! We began to empty the stores. If we could only have all the food and toilet paper we could possibly need then we would feel better. But the truth is that no material thing is going to do it this time.

In a moment like this we know deep in our hearts that there is only One who can help us. We need a superhero. We need God to come to the rescue and fix this situation, like a genie in the

bottle who will grant our wish. But where is God anyway? Why has God, if God is out there at all, allowed this to happen? And why didn't he fix things when we asked?

Maybe we should start by not casting a blaming eye at God. Maybe we ought to start looking within. Not to say that this is caused by us. We are not that powerful. But look within to recognize the truth about ourselves—that we have lived an illusion. We, in the U.S.A., were not in control after all. Consuming would never fill the emptiness in our hearts. No amount of drugs, legal or otherwise, no amount of alcohol, no amount of food, no amount of porn or sex, no amount of money will fill that place within us that is reserved for the love of our Creator.

This world is a broken temporary place that is not our permanent home and no earthly power is going to transform it into our paradise. God is not the genie



Bishop Mark J. Seitz

that will do that for us either.

Here we are at the end of Lent, the beginning of Easter. They are not really two distinct Seasons. They are one uninterrupted procession with our Savior through all that life can throw our way, through apparent defeat in his Crucifixion and Death, to that glorious Easter morning and beyond.

Can you see him walking through the clouds and the mist, standing upon the uncharted waters of our lives today? Can you hear him calling out to us, "Do

not be afraid! I am with you!" Yes! The Risen One is in our midst. He seemed to have been defeated by the brokenness and evil present in our world. Perhaps we had an illusion that we were in charge. We had forgotten that Jesus came for a moment such as this!

Seek him now! Let us ask our Savior to help us, to walk with us, to save us. Just as for the disciples locked up in their houses in fear he will enter into our midst and say to us, "Peace be with you!"

¿Quién está a cargo aquí?

Se siente como si estuviéramos en aguas inexploradas. Ciertamente en la vida de la mayoría de nosotros no podemos recordar haber experimentado una época como esta. Hemos oido hablar de pestilencias como el ébola y nos hemos estremecido al considerar lo que la gente del otro lado del mundo ha experimentado. ¡Pero nunca ocurrió aquí!

Aquí en los EE.UU. teníamos las cosas bajo control. Somos la nación más próspera y tecnológicamente más avanzada del mundo. Claro que teníamos nuestros desafíos, pero aún así, teníamos las cosas bajo control.

Entonces aparece un pequeño y nuevo virus. Se llamó Corona por su forma. ¿No es bonito? Comienza poniendo de rodillas a la orgullosa dictadura de China. Eso fue una lástima. Luego comenzó a abrirse camino hacia otros lugares. Realmente comenzó a perturbar nuestros planes de viaje. ¡Qué desconsiderada es esa pequeña plaga!

El virus continuó su persistente ataque hasta que llegó a nuestras sagradas costas, ¡sin visado!

Y empezamos a descubrir que éramos tan vulnerables como lo había sido el resto del mundo. Ninguna cantidad de tecnología ha sido capaz aún de detenerlo. Nuestro ejército, el más fuerte del mundo, es impotente contra este enemigo encubierto.

A medida que se acercaba más y más a nuestras comunidades, nuestra preocupación comenzó a crecer. Comenzamos a temer por nosotros mismos y por nuestros seres queridos. Una reacción inicial fue combatirlo usando nuestra más preciada arma contra el miedo y el sufrimiento humano — ¡comenzamos a comprar! Comenzamos a vaciar las tiendas. Si pudiéramos tener toda la comida y el papel higiénico que pudiéramos necesitar, nos sentiríamos mejor. Pero la verdad es que ninguna cosa material lo hará esta vez.

En un momento como este sabemos en lo profundo de nuestros corazones que sólo hay Uno que puede ayudarnos. Necesitamos un superhéroe. Necesitamos que Dios venga al rescate y arregle esta situación, como un genio en la botella que concederá



Photo by Christoph Schmid.

nuestro deseo. ¿Pero dónde está Dios de todos modos? ¿Por qué Dios, si es que está ahí fuera, ha permitido que esto ocurra? ¿Y por qué no arregló las cosas cuando se lo pedimos?

Tal vez deberíamos empezar por no echarle la culpa a Dios. Tal vez deberíamos empezar a mirar hacia adentro. Sin decir que esto es causado por nosotros. No somos tan poderosos. Pero mirar en nuestro interior para reconocer la verdad sobre nosotros mismos, que hemos vivido una ilusión. Nosotros, en los EE.UU., no teníamos el control después de todo. Consumir nun-

ca llenaría el vacío de nuestros corazones. Ninguna cantidad de drogas, legales o no, ninguna cantidad de alcohol, ninguna cantidad de comida, ninguna cantidad de porno o sexo, ninguna cantidad de dinero llenará ese lugar dentro de nosotros que está reservado para el amor de nuestro Creador.

Este mundo es un lugar temporal roto que no es nuestro hogar permanente y ningún poder terrenal va a transformarlo en nuestro paraíso. Dios tampoco es el genio que hará eso por nosotros.

Aquí estamos al final de la Cuaresma, el comienzo de la

Pascua. No son realmente dos temporadas distintas. Son una procesión ininterrumpida con nuestro Salvador a través de todo lo que la vida puede lanzarnos, a través de la aparente derrota en su crucifixión y muerte, hasta esa gloriosa mañana de Pascua y más allá.

¡Puedes verlo caminando a través de las nubes, parado sobre las aguas inexploradas de nuestras vidas hoy? ¡Puedes oírlo llorando, "¡No tengas miedo! Yo estoy con ustedes". ¡Sí! El Resucitado está entre nosotros. Parecía haber sido derrotado por el quebrantamiento y la maldad presente en nuestro mundo. Tal vez teníamos la ilusión de que estábamos a cargo. ¡Habíamos olvidado que Jesús vino por un momento como este!

¡Búsqulenlo ahora! Pidamos a nuestro Salvador que nos ayude, que camine con nosotros, que nos salve. Así como para los discípulos encerrados en sus casas por miedo a que entre en medio de nosotros y nos diga: "¡La paz esté con ustedes!"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FATHER!

Fr. Andres Sosa Medellin, OFM	4/12
Fr. Francisco Javier Rodriguez Roman, OFM	4/18
Fr. Antonio Alano de Guzman, Jr. (Extern)	4/22
Fr. Jorge M. Palacio, OSM	4/22
Fr. Leonides Rivero	4/22
Fr. Allan Oluoch Alaka	4/25
Fr. Hector Diaz (Extern)	4/25
Fr. Richard Weiss	4/25
Fr. Lazaro Gonzalez, OFM	4/26
Fr. Miguel Meneses	4/28
Fr. Anthony C. Celino	4/29
Fr. Armando I. Reyes	4/29

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Fr. Charles Rajan Michael (Extern)	4/2/08
Fr. Esteban Sescon	4/3/77
Fr. Rodolfo Lacerna	4/6/68
Fr. Armando I. Reyes	4/6/76
Fr. Ronald W. Eid (Maronite)	4/14/12
Fr. John Paul Madanu (Extern)	4/30/08

Priests Climb Mt. Cristo Rey to Pray during Pandemic

By Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

Bishop Mark Seitz with a small group of priests from around the Diocese of El Paso gathered to climb up Mount Cristo Rey to pray for the faithful of the Diocese during the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020.

"The priests of the diocese along with myself are looking for ways to continue to minister to the people of God in the Diocese," Bishop Mark Seitz said. "One of the many ways we continue to serve our people is by praying, and that's why we are here," he said.

Bishop Seitz expressed that he and his priests continue to have hope that the Gospel of Jesus will illuminate the people during this time of physical absence from the church.

"We as a community are going to continue being close to God in prayer during this extraordinary struggle with COVID-19," Bishop Seitz added. "In prayer we will come together to overcome this struggle and come out of it stronger than ever in our faith," he ended.

The Bishop along with six other clergy members prayed the Via Crucis as they made their way to the summit of Mount

Cristo Rey. Once at the base of the statue of Cristo Rey at the summit of the mount, Bishop Seitz offered a blessing for the entire El Paso community. He then continued to offer a prayer for those affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic.

"We as brother priests are here to give a powerful witness of our faith that God will help his people and deliver them from this trial," Father Michael Lewis said. "I am hopeful that our prayer will inspire hope in our parishioners, indeed in all believers throughout our Diocese during this unprecedented time," he ended.



Priests of the diocese pray the Via Crucis on March 21 at Mount Cristo Rey. Photo by Fernie Ceniceros.

Los sacerdotes suben al Monte Cristo Rey para rezar

Por Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

El obispo Mark Seitz con un pequeño grupo de sacerdotes de toda la Diócesis de El Paso se reunieron para subir al Monte de Cristo Rey y rezar por los fieles de la Diócesis durante la pandemia COVID-19 de 2020.

"Los sacerdotes de la diócesis junto conmigo están buscando formas de continuar ministrando al pueblo de Dios en la Dióce-

sis", dijo el Obispo Mark Seitz. "Una de las muchas maneras en que seguimos sirviendo a nuestro pueblo es en rezar, y por esto estamos aquí", dijo.

El obispo Seitz expresó que él y sus sacerdotes continúan teniendo la esperanza de que el Evangelio ilumine durante este tiempo de ausencia de la iglesia.

"Vamos a seguir estando cerca de Dios en la oración durante esta extraordinaria lucha con COVID-19", añadió el obis-

po Seitz. "En la oración nos uniremos para superar esta lucha y salir de ella más fuertes que nunca en nuestra fe", terminó.

El obispo junto con otros seis miembros del clero rezaron el Vía Crucis mientras se dirigían a la cima de el Monte de Cristo Rey. Cuando llegaron a la base de la estatua de Cristo Rey en la cima del monte, el obispo Seitz ofreció una bendición para toda la comunidad de El Paso. Luego continuó ofreciendo una oración

por los afectados por la pandemia del Coronavirus.

"Nosotros, como hermanos sacerdotes, estamos aquí para dar un poderoso testimonio de nuestra fe en que Dios ayudará a su pueblo y lo liberará de este suplico," dijo el padre Michael Lewis. "Tengo la esperanza de que nuestra oración inspire esperanza a nuestros feligreses, de hecho a todos los creyentes de nuestra diócesis durante este tiempo sin precedentes", concluyó.

To the people of the El Paso Catholic Diocese

Sandra and I continue to pray for the health and welfare of each of you as we continue to face the ongoing Coronavirus spreading around the world. I would personally like to thank the priests and parishioners that have been a part of our travel family and have allowed us to be a part of their faith journeys.

The much anticipated Oberammergau Passion Play has been cancelled for 2020 and will be moving the production to 2022.

If it is God's will, we will soon be announcing the new itineraries and schedule in the next few months. The safety and well being of our pilgrims have and always will be our number one focus. May God continue to Bless you and your families, and may this unprecedented virus bring us closer together and strengthen our Catholic faith. God Bless you all.

Kerry & Sandra McCullough.

Travel With Kerry
915-591-4246 - KERRY@TRAVELWK.COM

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

- Saint Agustine

→ "Pandemic" continued from Page 1

would if they were in the pews at the church. They should make the same responses, listen attentively to the readings from Scripture, and join their prayers with the priest's as he celebrates the central sacrament of our faith."

Though they cannot celebrate Sunday Mass in person, parishioners should not neglect to continue to support their parishes prayerfully, spiritually, as well as financially, Bishop Seitz said.

"This is a difficult time for many people, who have not been able to work, who have had their hours cut, or who have encountered other financial strains as the worldwide economy has come to a virtual standstill. But I trust that, in the midst of the financial challenges we are all facing, we all will come together to make sure that our parishes have the assistance they need to pay the bills and continue their service even without a weekly collection at Mass."

Parishioners are encouraged to make use of online giving options, whether through their parish's website or the MyParish app. For parishes that do not have online giving, the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso

has created a special webpage to direct donations directly to parishes; a link can be found on the diocese's homepage, www.elpasodiocese.org. Of course, donations can always be sent to parishes the old-fashioned way — through the mail.

Bishop Seitz recalled the memory of the Cristero War in the early 20th century, when the faithful of the region were similarly challenged.

"When the Mass was not allowed to be celebrated in Mexico during the Cristero War, many rededicated themselves to God, drew closer to the Mother of God, and grew day by day in their longing for that day when they would be able to gather once again as the Body of Christ and celebrate his Sacrifice for us in the Eucharist," he wrote in his pastoral letter.

"It is my hope that we will be proven to be worthy descendants of these great predecessors. As such we should be even more committed during this time to care for our brothers and sisters in need, even at the cost of great sacrifice. May we remain close to one another in prayer and in mutual love and caring. Then the Lord will be close to us and give us all that we need to come out on the other side of this present crisis as an even stronger and more zealous Church."

desafiadados de manera similar.

"Cuando no se permitió celebrar la misa en México durante la guerra del Cristóbal, muchos se volvieron a dedicar a Dios, se acercaron a la Madre de Dios y crecieron día a día en su anhelo de ese día en el que podrían reunirse de nuevo como el Cuerpo de Cristo y celebrar su sacrificio por nosotros en la Eucaristía", escribió en su carta pastoral.

"Espero que se demuestre que somos dignos descendientes de estos grandes predecesores. Como tal, deberíamos comprometernos aún más durante este tiempo para cuidar de nuestros hermanos y hermanas necesitados, incluso a costa de un gran sacrificio. Que permanezcamos cerca unos de otros en la oración y en el amor y cuidado mutuos. Entonces el Señor estará cerca de nosotros y nos dará todo lo que necesitamos para salir al otro lado de esta crisis actual como una Iglesia aún más fuerte y más celosa".

→ "Pandemia" continuó de la página 1

de que nuestras parroquias tengan la ayuda necesaria para pagar las cuentas y continuar su servicio incluso sin una colecta semanal en la misa".

Se anima a los feligreses a usar las opciones de donación en línea, ya sea a través del sitio web de su parroquia o la aplicación MyParish. Para las parroquias que no disponen de donaciones en línea, la Fundación para la Diócesis de El Paso ha creado una página web especial para dirigir las donaciones directamente a las parroquias; se puede encontrar un enlace en la página principal de la diócesis, www.elpasodiocese.org.

Por supuesto, las donaciones siempre pueden ser enviadas a las parroquias a la antigua usanza — por el correo.

El obispo Seitz recordó la memoria de la Guerra Cristera a principios del siglo XX, cuando los fieles de la región fueron

PDX Printing proud printer of the Rio Grande Catholic

PDX Printing is a full service commercial print shop.

In addition to newspapers, we print and bind books, programs, brochures, carbonless forms, flyers, posters, letterhead, envelopes, business cards and much more.

Call us and allow us to bid on your printing needs.

915.544.6688

100 Porfirio Diaz El Paso, Tx 79902

The Triduum: Transform the World through the Resurrection

By Rev. Marcus McFadin, D.Min.
Diocesan Liturgical Commission
and Office of Worship

Though this year's Triduum celebrations will be abbreviated and the faithful will not be present because of the pandemic, the "three days" still mark the pinnacle of the Church's liturgical calendar. As you participate in these liturgies from home, it may help to understand their inherent meaning and symbolism.

The circular letter from the Congregation for Divine Worship, *On Preparing and Celebrating the Paschal Feasts*, states: "Just as the week has its beginning and climax in the celebration of Sunday, which always has a paschal character, so the summit of the whole liturgical year is in the sacred Easter triduum of the passion and resurrection of the Lord."

The Paschal Triduum is a continuous celebration (liturgy) of Christ's resurrection beginning with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday evening, continuing with the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, and concluding with the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening. We do not

"recreate" the events of the past, but enter into the ongoing story of the effects of the Resurrection. We celebrate the effects of Christ's resurrection in our lives, our relationships, and the world.

Let us begin with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening. We gather as a community to remember that last night Jesus spent with the disciples in order to celebrate the Passover. In the Gospel of John there is no institution narrative, "take eat" "take drink." John adds the unique story of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. It is a gesture of complete humility and service to others. A challenge to all forms of pretentious power. It is as if Jesus is saying to each of us: if we call ourselves disciples, a member of the Church, this is how we live our lives, in humble service. The washing of feet summarizes the entirety of Jesus' ministry

of humble service that we are to imitate.

Let us focus on the second reading from Thursday evening's Mass, 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Paul is writing just a few years after the Resurrection and he references a ritual already familiar to early Christians in which bread and wine are shared. Put into context, Paul is chastising



The Resurrection by Bartholomeus Breenbergh, c. 1635, oil on panel, Art Institute of Chicago.

the community for its divisions. If divided, Christ is not present in their celebration. The Eucharist has ethical consequences for participants. Let us add Jesus' teaching of the Golden Rule

from his Sermon on the Mount, Matt 7:12, "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you." Thomas Aquinas commented on this and wrote that we are all brothers [and sisters] and our unity in the Eucharist is in our common care for one another. In our brotherhood

[sisterhood] as a united humanity, we are to strive to ensure the basic needs and rights of others just as we strive for our basic needs and rights. We bear mutual responsibility for one another.

Now we enter into the liturgy of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday where we venerate the Cross which is the central act of the evening's liturgy. The

liturgy of Good Friday is a celebration of Christ's resurrection, not his death. The Cross we venerate is supposed to be plain, no corpus. Yes, Christ died, faithful to his identity as God's Son and to his mission to proclaim and witness to the Kingdom. We read John's Gospel which has Jesus lifted up on the Cross to the Father in glory. Jesus lived fully alive in the Spirit received in baptism and this same Spirit raises him from death to the resurrection. We too share in the resurrection when we lift up our lives to the Father in faithful service. To wash the feet of others, humble service in witness to the Kingdom, this is our glorification and our "already" participation in the resurrection.

As we celebrate the Easter Vigil, we shout Alleluia! Because the story of Christ's humble service offered to the Father in the glory of the Cross has become our story and our Paschal victory.

In response to the old hymn "Were You There?" No! we were not there; we are here in the present reality. We are not remembering the past, but realizing Christ's Paschal victory through our humble service to family and neighbor. We wash the feet of all we encounter with love, dignity and respect. Christ is Raised! Alleluia!



GRACEFUL ATTIRE & GIFTS FOR

First Holy Communion • Confirmation • RCIA
Baptism • Wedding • Priestly Ordination

GARSON'S

Church Supplies • Religious Gifts

2415 San Pedro Dr. NE • Albuquerque

(505) 255-7092 • M-F 9:30-5:30; Sat 10-4:30

(800) 835-0223 • www.zieglers.com

THE KING'S HOUSE

Church Supplies • Religious Gifts

7460 E. McDowell Rd. • Phoenix (Scottsdale)

(480) 947-9205 • M-F 9-5; Sat 9-3

(800) 331-4117 • www.zieglers.com

WE are Church



Janet M. Crowe

These are unsettling times. A pandemic of disease and fear walk hand in hand through the streets. A nation and a world shut down, businesses and stores either closed or operating on a limited basis. Saddest of all, even the churches are forced to close their doors to avoid spreading the disease even more.

Everyone recognizes the fearful facts: social distancing, the choice of being "six feet apart or six feet under," caring for loved ones without infecting others or becoming infected ourselves. Then, there are also the realities of life: essential versus non-essential jobs, financial hardship from the inability to go to work, no paychecks, bills that still need to be paid, fear of what tomorrow will bring and how long this pandemic will last or even if we have enough toilet paper.

Yet, there is hope and there is courage. Stories abound of people helping strangers, volunteers setting up food banks, neighbors checking on each other, people grocery shopping for the elderly and those who cannot get out themselves, individuals donating food, supplies or resources to others in need, and even those who spread hope through uplifting messages chalked

on sidewalks. In the midst of disaster, most people will rise to the challenge and lift others up rather than being self-centered and uncaring.

Typically, people simply need to be asked or to be made aware of a need that is within their power to alleviate. Think back eight months to the horrific tragedy of August 3. There were people who rushed toward those who needed help. Of course, our first instinct is survival and safety, but even as we are running out the door, most of us will grab a person who is stumbling and support them so they can flee alongside of us. After the tragedy, El Pasoans united to support one another by donating and caring for others' physical needs.

Compassion, kindness, empathy and charity are the stronger emotions within humanity, but we often need to be reminded of not only the presence of need but also the ways we can personally help out. Today and throughout the duration of this pandemic, it is essential that we respond with the strengths inside of us rather than give in to the weakness of panic and isolationism.

We have a unique opportunity this month when it is possible that we will be commemorating the Passion of Christ in our own homes instead of in church. Easter Sunday may dawn without the Easter lilies trumpeting the good news of salvation across the altars of our parishes. But wherever we celebrate Holy Week and Easter, we must remember that the Catholic Church is not a building made of brick and mortar. WE are the Church,



Photo by Marcio Chagas.

Jesus Christ living in each of His children, in each of us, in our neighbors, in our family members, and in every baby conceived by Almighty God within the secrecy of a mother's womb.

During this pandemic, let us consider an important question: How will we celebrate the very essence of our faith? Easter recalls the resurrection of Jesus Christ and His victory over sin and death. Let's welcome Him into our hearts by going forth and imitating His love for us.

Let's respond with love to those around us who are burdened under a heavy cross. Let's offer to ease another's burden

especially in this time of crisis, when paychecks may not be received, when jobs are unsure, when the future is scary and uncertain, and a ray of hope is difficult to find.

Or would we rather imitate those who ran away and hid from our Lord in His time of trial and crisis? Will we run away and hide from the innocent baby who is being threatened with death at the hands of the abortionist? How many times will we deny that we even know Him? Through apathy or ignorance, will we deny that we know the scientific truth as well as the Church's teaching that human

life begins at the moment of conception?

How will WE who are the Church respond to those in need? Crisis pregnancy centers are seeing an increase in women considering abortion because those who feed on panic and insecurity offer the quick and easy solution of death to those who need hope. What will we offer to her?

Even if a woman experiencing an unexpected pregnancy wanted to hold onto a glimmer of hope, this pandemic may have robbed her of a paycheck or cast her into a situation of such uncertainty that she cannot see past the panic to find a ray of hope. A month or so ago, a woman in a crisis pregnancy may have thought she could possibly weather the storm, but now her pregnancy becomes an insurmountable obstacle that she does not feel she can overcome. Do we help her or do we run away?

Let us grab hold of that inner strength that comes from our faith. Let us imitate Jesus in His love for us and spread the hope of Easter to those who also carry a heavy cross. Let's show the world that WE are the Church who reaches out beyond the brick and mortar walls and shares Christ's love with those in need. Let us share in Christ's victory over death by rescuing the women and their preborn children from pain and death. We can bring Easter to the world by witnessing to the truth of life, by assisting women who will believe in hope through our help and support. Let's bring Easter's light where there is darkness. Who will light the way?



PRAY. SERVE. GIVE.

If you are financially able, please Support Your Parish. You can mail your collection envelope or donate on the Foundation's website. Select My Parish Offertory and include the name of your parish. The full amount of the gift goes to the parish and there is no fee to you or your parish for this service.

<https://www.elpasodiocesefoundation.org/my-parish-offertory>

The Shepherd's Corner

Gifts & Books

Hours of Operation:

Monday & Tuesday 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

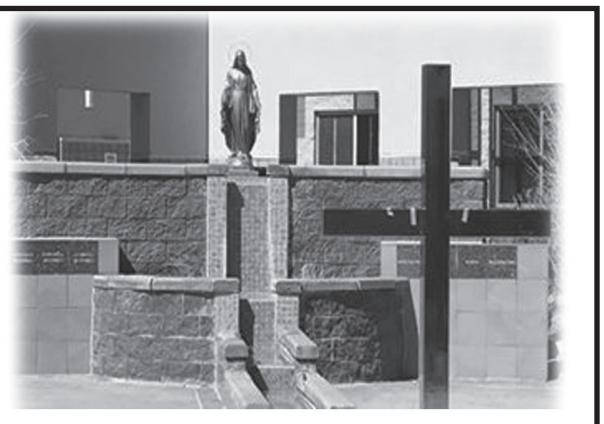
Wednesday - Friday 9 am -12 pm

Saturday 3rd and 4th Saturday 10 am -1pm

Saturday 5 - 6

Sunday 10 am - 2:30 pm & 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

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



Nada es imposible para Dios



Padre Wilson Cuevas

Esta mañana me desperté con el pensamiento en este texto del profeta Isaías, capítulo 40, “Consuelen a mi pueblo, hablen a su corazón...díganles que abran el camino a Dios...todo se solucionara, porque aparecerá la gloria de Dios y todos la verán..” y a partir del versículo 27ss. “Porque dices y repites que Dios no te mira, mi Dios descuida mis derechos? Acaso no sabes o no lo has oído? Dios es eterno...no se cansa ni se fatiga, su inteligencia es eterna...Y los que en El confían recuperan las fuerzas, correrán sin fatigarse y andarán sin cansarse”. Que palabras tan consoladora en las que Dios nos revela su benevolencia y bendecirá nuestros esfuerzos para construir juntos un futuro próspero y hacer revivir a un pueblo abatido en el miedo y el sufrimiento.

En el diálogo de la Anunciación entre el mensajero de Dios y María, las palabras que pusieron un sello de oro a este encuentro inolvidable fueron: “Porque para Dios nada es imposible..” (Lc. 1,27). Estas palabras han dado la vuelta al mundo millones de veces y siguen siendo fuente de consuelo y de esperanza para todos los afligidos, los enfermos y los que pasan por las dificultades de la vida. Esta es mi frase favorita de la Biblia y la que mas a fortalecido mi fe en todas las circunstancias de mi vida. Hoy más que nunca estas palabras deben ser iluminadoras de fe y esperanza ante la pandemia del COVID-19, que amenaza la vida de todo el mundo. Tengamos siempre muy presente, para Dios, nada ni nadie está perdido. El tiene el Poder y el amor por cada uno de nosotros para no dejar que el mundo se convierta en un hospital gigante. Ya nos decía Jesús: Dios es Dios de vivos no de muertos, Él quiere que todos vivamos, sanos y

felices. No perdamos la confianza en Dios, porque las grandes soluciones a los problemas los fabrica Dios. Si crees en Dios espera siempre lo mejor. No te desanimes al ver lo que volvió el mundo de la noche a la mañana; nos alejamos de la fuente que es Dios y el mal nos domina. Pero todavía estamos a tiempo para buscar el antivirus de la crueldad humana, que mata la vida, el antivirus de la incredulidad en Dios, el antivirus del descontento y de la desesperanza... muchos creen que todo está perdido, que nada podemos hacer. No les creas, LO MEJOR ESTA POR VENIR, cuando tu creas y proclames, que “PARA DIOS NADA ES IMPOSIBLE”. Dios es la fuente de las soluciones de los problemas del mundo.

Aprendamos lecciones de vida en las cosas que nos pasan, tal como en este caso: Una vez iba un hombre en su troquita por una larga y solitaria carretera. De pronto el motor comenzó a fallar y la troca se paró. Se bajó aquel hombre, revisó cuidadosamente el motor, pensando que pronto iba a encontrar el problema y seguro que lo iba a poder resolver, porque hacía casi 28 años tenía esa troquita y conocía su motor al dedillo. Pasó mucho rato, revisando y buscando la falla del motor y no encontraba la causa por la que le estaba faltando y no arrancaba. De pronto apareció un hombre en otra troca, quien se detuvo y se bajó de su troca y le ofreció su ayuda. Aquel hombre le dijo es mi troquita de toda la vida, la conozco demasiado bien, nunca he necesitado de buscar mecánico, yo mismo la reparo. No creo que tú puedas arreglarla. El hombre insistió con una sonrisa. Al fin el dueño de la troquita dijo: “Esta bien, inténtalo, pero no creo que puedas. Este hombre se puso mano a la obra y en pocos minutos encontró el problema y lo resolvió, encendió el motor y le dijo ya está solucionado el problema. El dueño, sorprendido, le preguntó: “Como pudiste arreglarla, si es mi troca y yo la conozco perfectamente y no pude encontrar su falla? El hombre le contestó: El problema está solucionado, mi nombre es

Felix Wankel, yo invente el motor rotatorio que lleva tu troca... Cuantas veces a dotamos ante Dios una actitud muy parecida al dueño de la troca, como a aquél desconocido le decimos “Es mi vida”, “Es mi problema”, Pero, Quien me hizo y me dio la vida? Pues El, es mi Creador, quien mejor puede enseñarme cómo usar mi vida y es también El que mas puede ayudarme cuando me quede tirado en la carretera de mi diario caminar. Te doy sus datos por si alguna vez necesitas y quieres un “Mecánico”.

Nombre del Mecánico de la vida: DIOS

Dirección: EL CIELO
Horario: 24 horas al día, 365 días al año

Garantía: ETERNA

Teléfono: NO TIENE, pero basta que pienses en El o lo invocues con FE. Ah, algo muy importante, su línea nunca está ocupada. Y algo más, no nos pasa facturas, todo es gratis.

Lo único que nos queda es AGRADECERLE, intentalo y verás que tiene la solución a todos tus problemas físicos y espirituales. Él es el antivirus a todos los virus que aparezcan en este mundo, incluyendo al CORONAVIRUS, que nos tiene en SHOCK...

Que lecciones de vida aprendemos de esta Pandemia del COVID-19, varias cosas muy importantes: **1.** Nos está sirviendo para cambiar nuestra actitud de vida, estamos viviendo al revés y necesitamos cambiar. **2.** Aprendimos que somos una familia, la raza humana, no importa de qué nacionalidad o color, necesitamos ayudarnos como especie, ser cooperativos no competitivos. **3.** Tenemos que cuidar los capitales que tenemos: el ambiente natural, fauna y flora; las estructuras sociales, la producción, la salud, el trabajo, la religiosidad, la economía, la paz. **4.** Los problemas como las soluciones nos afectan o benefician a todos. **5.** Tenemos que crear mejores hábitos de higiene y limpieza, no contaminar tanto nuestro planeta, la casa común. **6.** No se trata de buscar culpables, los virus no tienen nacionalidad, se trata de ser creativos



Photo by Brad Mills.

y ser solidarios para que todos vivamos mejor. **7.** Nos creímos dueños del mundo y excluimos a Dios de nuestra vida, familia y sociedad y ahora lo llamamos con lágrimas, gritos de auxilio y oraciones. Ahora nos acordamos que hay UNO que es Fiel, que nos ama y el Único que es TODOPODEROZO, los demás son reyes de papel. **8.** La misericordia de Dios ha estado actuando en medio de la pandemia, son más los que se han curado que los que han muerto pero parece que necesitábamos este jalón de orejas para que pensemos y nos hagamos responsables. **9.** Hemos visto los héroes de nuestra sociedad: los trabajadores de la salud que están al frente del combate, los campesinos que siguen abasteciéndonos de alimentos, los periodistas que nos informan las cosas que debemos saber, los policías y soldados que ayudan al orden social, los productores

y transportistas de las cosas que consumimos. **10.** La Iglesia, el Papa, Obispos, Sacerdotes, Religiosos y Diáconos que nos guían y acompañan en el camino de la fe y que siguen celebrando en privado para pedir misericordia, sanación y que Dios nos libre del mal de esta pandemia Coronavirus y de muchos otros virus del cuerpo y del alma (Gal. 5, 19-22). **11.** Que Cuaresma tan inolvidable, nos sorprendió con este virus que nos ha hecho cambiar a la fuerza, no si quieres sino que “toca” y a todos, poderosos, famosos, ricos y pobres. De esta pandemia Dios nos librará, pero si no cambiamos en serio vendrán otras y ahí sí que “nos encuentre confesados” porque no habrá cura para tanta gente. Y como dice la letanía de la Coronilla del Rosario de la Divina Misericordia: “Por su dolorosa Pasión ten misericordia de nosotros y del mundo entero.”

Nothing is impossible for God

This morning I woke up with the thought from this text of the prophet Isaiah, chapter 40, “Comfort, give comfort to my people, speak to your heart ... prepare the way of the Lord ... everything will be solved, because the glory of God will be revealed and everyone will see it ... “and from verse 27. “Because it says and repeats that my way is hidden from the Lord... does not my God take care of my rights? Do you not know have you not heard?” God is eternal ... he does not get fatigued or tired,

his intelligence is eternal ... And those who trust in Him regain their strength. They will run tirelessly and they will walk without weariness.” What benevolent words He reveals to us, which will bless our efforts to build together a prosperous future and revive people filled with fear and suffering.

In the dialogue of the Annunciation between the messenger of God and Mary, the words that put a golden seal on this unforgettable encounter were: “Because for God nothing is

impossible.” (Luke 1,27). These words have gone around the world millions of times and continue to be a source of comfort and hope for all the afflicted, the sick and those who go through the difficulties of life. This is my favorite phrase from the Bible and the one that has strengthened my faith in all the circumstances of my life. Today more than ever these words must become enlightening with faith and hope in the face of the pandemic of COVID-19, which threatens the lives of the whole world. Let us

always keep in mind, for God nothing and no one is lost. He has the power and the love for each of us so as not to let the world become a giant hospital. Jesus told us: God is God of the living not of the dead, He wants us all to live healthy and happy. Let us not lose trust in God, because the great solutions to problems are accomplished by God. If you believe in God, always expect the best. Don’t be discouraged by seeing what the world has turned into overnight; when we turn away from the

source, that is God, evil dominates us. But we still have time to seek the antivirus of human cruelty, which kills life, the antivirus of disbelief in God, the antivirus of discontent and hopelessness... many believe that everything is lost, that there is nothing we can do. Don’t believe them, THE BEST IS YET TO COME, when you believe and proclaim, “FOR GOD NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE”. God

*“Nothing is Impossible”
continued on Page 8 →*

→ “Nothing is Impossible”
continued from Page 7

is the source of solutions to the world’s problems.

Let’s learn life lessons in the things that happen to us, just like in this case: Once there was a man driving in his truck down a long, lonely road. Suddenly the engine started to fail and the truck stopped. The man got off and carefully checked the engine, thinking he was going to find the problem soon, and he was sure he’d be able to fix it, because almost 28 years ago he had bought that truck and knew his engine like the back of his hand. He spent a lot of time, checking and looking for the cause of the engine failure, and he couldn’t find the reason why it wouldn’t start. Suddenly a man came by in another truck and stopped and got out of his truck to offer his help. The man told him “she’s my lifelong companion, I know her too well, I’ve never needed a mechanic, I can fix it myself.” I don’t think you can fix it, the man insisted with a smile. At last the owner of the truck said, “Okay, try, but I don’t think you can. This man put his hands to work and within minutes he found the problem and solved it, turned on the engine and told him the problem is solved. The owner, surprised, asked him, “How could you fix it, if it’s my truck and I know it perfectly and I couldn’t find the problem? The man said: The problem is solved,

my name is Felix Wankel, I invented the rotary engine that is in your truck...

How many times do we give God an attitude very similar to the owner of the truck, as he said to that stranger “It’s my life”, “It’s my problem.” But, who created me and gave me life? For He is my Creator, who can better teach me how to live my life and He is also the One who can help me most when I am left stranded on the road of my daily walk. I’ll give you His details in case you ever need or want a “Mechanic”.

Name of the Mechanic of Life:
GOD

Address: HEAVEN
Hours: 24 HOURS A DAY,
365 DAYS A YEAR

Warranty: ETERNAL

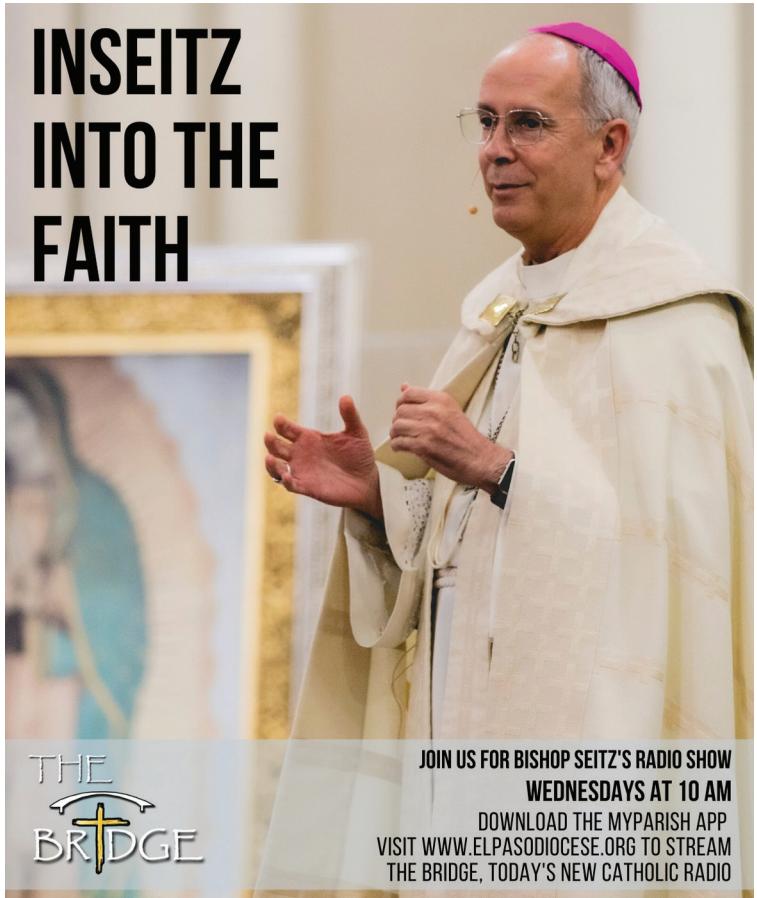
Phone: HE DOES NOT HAVE ONE, but all you need is just to think about Him or invoke Him with FAITH. Ah, something very important, His line is never busy. And something else, He does not charge us, everything is free. All we have to do is say THANK YOU Try it, and you will get the solution to all your physical and spiritual problems. He’s the anti-virus of all viruses that appear in this world, including the CORONAVIRUS, which has us all in SHOCK...

What life lessons do we learn from this COVID-19 Pandemic? Several very important things:
1. It’s helping us to change our attitude about life, we’re living upside down and we need to change. **2.** We are learning that

we are a family of the human race, no matter what nationality or color, we need to help each other as one class of human beings, cooperative not competitive. **3.** We have to take care of the assets we have: the natural environment, the resources from animals, and vegetation, social structures, resources, production, health, work, religiousness, economy, peace. **4.** All problems, like solutions, will affect or benefit us all. **5.** We have to create better hygiene and cleaning habits, not pollute our planet so much, our common house. **6.** It is not about placing blame, viruses have no nationality, it is about being creative and being supportive so that we all live better. **7.** We thought of ourselves as owners of the world and excluded God from our lives, family and society, and now we call Him with tears, cries for help and prayers. Now we remember that there is ONE who is Faithful, who loves us and the Only One who is ALL-POWERFUL, the others are paper tigers. **8.** God’s mercy has been acting in the midst of the pandemic, more have been cured than those who have died but it seems that we needed this pulling of our ears for us to reflect and take responsibility. **9.** We have seen the heroes of our society: the health workers at the forefront of the fight, the laborers who continue to supply us with food, the journalists who inform us of the things we need to know, the policemen and soldiers who help to

keep order, producers and carriers of the things we consume. **10.** The Church, the Pope, Bishops, Priests, Religious and Deacons who guide and accompany us on the path of faith and who continue to celebrate in private to ask for mercy, healing, and that God will free us from the evil of this Coronavirus Pandemic and from many other viruses of the body and of the soul (Gal. 5, 19-22). **11.** This Lent will be unforgettable, it surprised us with this virus

that has forced us to change, it “touches” everybody, the powerful, famous, rich and poor. From this pandemic God will deliver us, but if we do not make serious changes other pandemics will happen and we pray He will find us “in good grace” because there might not be a cure for so many people. And as the litany of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy says: “For the sake of His Powerful Passion have Mercy on us and on the Whole World.”



JOIN US FOR BISHOP SEITZ'S RADIO SHOW
WEDNESDAYS AT 10 AM

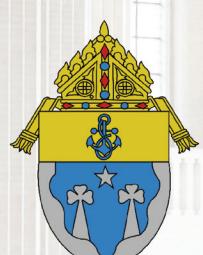
DOWNLOAD THE MYPARISH APP
VISIT WWW.ELPASODIOCESE.ORG TO STREAM
THE BRIDGE, TODAY'S NEW CATHOLIC RADIO



TEXT APP TO 88202
TO DOWNLOAD YOUR PARISH'S APP

1. DOWNLOAD MYPARISH APP
2. SELECT YOUR PARISH AFTER OPENING

MYPARISHAPP.COM/APPSTORE



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF EL PASO