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THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC

Vol. 32, No. 8

The Official Paper of the Diocese of El Paso

August 2023

New Deacons to be Ordained on August 16

El Paso, TX - On August 16, 2023, the Diocese of El Paso will witness the ordination to the Diaconate of three seminarians: Luis Manuel Rodarte Jr, Alexander "Askee" Gutierrez Rodriguez, and Anwar Camarena. This celebration marks the culmination of years of study, prayer, and discernment, as these young men prepare to take on sacred duties in service to God and His people.

Luis Manuel Rodarte Jr, a 32-year-old native of El Paso, embarked on a unique journey to his diaconate ordination. His path began with a promising academic and medical career, but he felt a profound call from God to a different vocation. Following that call, he embraced seminary life and underwent extensive theological studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Houston and St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, CA.

Alexander "Askee" Gutierrez Rodriguez, at 29 years old, hails from Venezuela. His homeland's spirit of faith, community, and service deeply influenced his journey towards the diaconate. For the past nine years, Askee dedicated himself to studying and praying, seeking to understand the significance of his calling. As his ordination day approaches, he expressed profound joy and humility, acknowledging that his decision to become a deacon reflects his love for God, the Church, and all God's people.

Anwar Camarena's path to the diaconate began in Guadalajara, Mexico. His priestly formation took him to different seminaries, including St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in El Paso and St. John's Seminary in California. Anwar's faith and vocational call matured through each formative stage, leading him to the momentous occasion of diaconate ordination. Anwar expressed his eagerness to embrace the various ministries offered by the Diocese of El Paso.

The ordination ceremony will be presided over by Bishop Mark Seitz, who has been instrumental in guiding and supporting these young men throughout their discernment process. "The ordination to the diaconate is a joyful moment for our diocese," Bishop Seitz said. "These three seminarians have shown unwavering dedication and commitment to their faith and service to God's people. We rejoice in welcoming them into this sacred order."

As they prepare to take on the sacred duties of the diaconate, the Church rejoices in welcoming these young men to a life of service, compassion, and love for all God's people in El Paso.



Luis Manuel Rodarte Jr.



Anwar Camarena



Alexander Gutierrez Rodriguez

On August 16, 2023, the Diocese of El Paso will witness the ordination to the Diaconate of three seminarians: Luis Manuel Rodarte Jr, Alexander "Askee" Gutierrez Rodriguez, and Anwar Camarena. *Photos Courtesy Office of Vocations*

Ordenación De Nuevos Diáconos El 16 De Agosto

El Paso, Tx - El 16 de agosto de 2023, la Diócesis de El Paso será testigo de la ordenación al Diaconado de tres seminaristas: Luis Manuel Rodarte Jr, Alexander "Askee" Gutiérrez Rodríguez y Anwar Camarena. Esta celebración marca la culminación de años de estudio, oración y discernimiento, mientras estos jóvenes se preparan para asumir deberes sagrados al servicio de Dios y de Su pueblo.

Luis Manuel Rodarte Jr, de 32 años y natural de El Paso, se embarcó en un viaje único hacia su ordenación diaconal. Su camino comenzó con una prometedora carrera académica y médica, pero sintió una profunda llamada de Dios a una vocación diferente.

Siguiendo ese llamado, abrazó la vida del seminario y se sometió a extensos estudios teológicos en el Seminario de Santa María en Houston y el Seminario de San Juan en Camarillo, CA.

Alexander "Askee" Gutiérrez Rodríguez, de 29 años, es originario de Venezuela. El espíritu de fe, comunidad y servicio de su patria influyó profundamente en su camino hacia el diaconado. Durante los últimos nueve años, Askee se ha dedicado a estudiar y rezar, tratando de comprender el significado de su vocación. Al acercarse el día de su ordenación, expresó su profunda alegría y humildad, reconociendo que su decisión de hacerse diácono refleja su amor a Dios, a la Iglesia

y a todo el pueblo de Dios.

El camino de Anwar Camarena hacia el diaconado comenzó en Guadalajara, México. Su formación sacerdotal lo llevó a diferentes seminarios, incluyendo el Seminario San Carlos Borromeo en El Paso y el Seminario San Juan en California. La fe y la llamada vocacional de Anwar maduraron a través de cada etapa formativa, llevándole a la trascendental ocasión de la ordenación diaconal. Anwar expresó su entusiasmo por abrazar los diversos ministerios que ofrece la Diócesis de El Paso.

La ceremonia de ordenación será presidida por el Obispo Mark Seitz, quien ha sido instrumental en guiar y apoyar

a estos jóvenes a lo largo de su proceso de discernimiento. "La ordenación al diaconado es un momento de alegría para nuestra diócesis", dijo el Obispo Seitz. "Estos tres seminaristas han demostrado una dedicación y un compromiso inquebrantables con su fe y su servicio al pueblo de Dios. Nos alegramos de darles la bienvenida a esta sagrada orden".

Mientras se preparan para asumir los sagrados deberes del diaconado, la Iglesia se regocija en dar la bienvenida a estos jóvenes a una vida de servicio, compasión y amor por todo el pueblo de Dios en El Paso.

GUEST COLUMN - FR. IVAN MONTELONGO, JCL

A Synod of All the People of God

Two years ago, the Church began a synodal process. Synod means “together on the journey.” A synod is a gathering, traditionally of bishops, who discuss important matters in Church life and then pass laws and norms to respond to these matters. But Pope Francis wanted this synod to be different. He has desired the participation of as many of the baptized as possible. Thus, the Synod 2021-2024 “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission” has been organized into three phases: diocesan, continental, and universal.

You may remember the diocesan phase that took place in the Diocese of El Paso. Parishes and groups from throughout the diocese organized listening sessions and reflected on what it means to be a Church that walks together and accompanies others. From these reflections, a Diocesan Synthesis was published in the December 2022 edition of The



Fr. Ivan Montelongo

Rio Grande Catholic. You can also find it at elpasodiocese.org/synod. This Diocesan Synthesis was submitted to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and to the Holy See.

For the continental phase, the USCCB prepared a National Synthesis, which can be found at usccb.org/synod. Then, the USCCB and the CCCB (Canadian

Conference of Catholic Bishops) organized listening sessions with representatives from both the U.S. and Canada in which they further reflected on what it means to be a synodal Church, i.e., a Church that is together on the journey. After that, a North American Document for the Continental Stage was created and submitted to Rome. It can also be found at usccb.org/synod.

All regions of the world underwent this same process. In preparation for the universal phase, the Secretariat for the Synod prepared an Instrumentum Laboris (which means Working Document) for the final synod assembly that will take place in Rome on October 2023 and October 2024. The Instrumentum Laboris contains the reflections of Catholics from all throughout the world who participated in the synod process. But here's a new change: whereas in the past it was only bishops who gathered in synod assemblies to discuss

and vote on these matters, now Pope Francis has desired to also include priests and lay men and women in the discussion, giving them even a right to vote! It is the first time that lay women and men will be able to vote on such an important Church document.

For the universal phase, the Secretariat for the Synod asked the Conferences of Bishops throughout the world to submit names of non-bishop delegates who would participate in the synod assembly in Rome. The Pope himself also appointed some non-bishop delegates directly. By the grace of God, I am happy to share with you that I was among the delegates selected by the USCCB to participate in the synod assembly representing the Church in North America. I am truly honored, grateful, and humbled to take part in such a historic event in the life of the Church. I hope to bring to the universal phase the experience of this border diocese that strives to

build the kingdom of God among two distinct national realities.

I would like to ask two things of you. The first one is to keep me in your prayers so that I can worthily represent this part of the world in the October synod assembly. Please pray that I may be open to the voice of the Spirit. The second one is to continue reflecting on the synod. Especially, I would like to ask parishes, religious communities, organizations and other groups to further reflect in a spirit of prayer on the contents of the Diocesan Synthesis found at elpasodiocese.org/synod and the Instrumentum Laboris found at usccb.org/synod. Please try to organize listening sessions like those we had during the diocesan phase, and email me the fruits of your reflection to imontelongo@elpasodiocese.org.

Un Sínodo de Todo el Pueblo de Dios

Hace dos años, la Iglesia inició un proceso sinodal. Sínodo significa “juntos en el camino”. Un sínodo es una reunión, tradicionalmente de obispos, en la que se discuten asuntos importantes en la vida de la Iglesia y después se aprueban leyes y normas para responder a estos asuntos. Pero el Papa Francisco ha querido que este sínodo sea diferente. Ha deseado la participación del mayor número posible de los bautizados. Así es como el Sínodo 2021-2024 “Por una Iglesia sinodal: Comunión, Participación, Misión” se ha organizado en tres fases: diocesana, continental, y universal.

Tal vez recuerden la fase diocesana que tuvo lugar en la Diócesis de El Paso. Parroquias y grupos de toda la diócesis organizaron sesiones de escucha y reflexionaron sobre lo que significa ser una Iglesia que camina en unidad y acompaña a los demás. A partir de estas reflexiones, se publicó una Síntesis Diocesana en la edición de diciembre de 2022 de The Rio Grande Catholic. El documento también se puede encontrar en elpasodiocese.org/synod. Esta Síntesis Diocesana fue entregada a la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos (USCCB, por sus siglas en inglés) y a la Santa Sede.

Para la fase continental, la USCCB preparó una Síntesis Nacional, que puede encontrarse en usccb.org/synod. Después, la USCCB y la CCCB (Conferencia Canadiense de Obispos Católicos) organizaron sesiones de escucha con representantes tanto de EE.UU. como de Canadá, en las que profundizaron en la reflexión sobre lo que significa ser una Iglesia sinodal, es decir, una Iglesia cuyos miembros van juntos en el camino. Posteriormente, se elaboró

el Documento Norteamericano para la Etapa Continental y se presentó a Roma. Este documento también puede consultarse en usccb.org/synod.

Todas las regiones del mundo llevaron a cabo este mismo proceso. Como preparación para la fase universal, la Secretaría del Sínodo elaboró un Instrumentum Laboris (que significa Documento de Trabajo) para la asamblea sinodal final que tendrá lugar en Roma en octubre de 2023 y octubre de 2024. El Instrumentum Laboris contiene las reflexiones de católicos de todo el mundo que han participado en el proceso sinodal. Pero aquí hay un nuevo cambio: mientras que en el pasado eran sólo los obispos los que se reunían en las asambleas sinodales para discutir y votar sobre estos asuntos, ahora el Papa Francisco ha querido incluir también a sacerdotes y a hombres y mujeres laicos en la discusión, ¡dándoles incluso derecho a voto! Es la primera vez que mujeres y hombres laicos podrán votar sobre un documento tan importante de la Iglesia.

Para la fase universal, la Secretaría del Sínodo pidió a las Conferencias Episcopales de todo el mundo que presentaran nombres de delegados que no fueran obispos para participar en la asamblea sinodal de Roma. El Papa mismo también nombró directamente a algunos delegados no-obispos. Por la gracia de Dios, con mucha alegría les comparto que soy uno de los delegados seleccionados por la USCCB para participar en la asamblea sinodal, representando a la Iglesia en Norteamérica. Me siento muy honrado y agradecido de poder participar en un acontecimiento histórico en la vida de la Iglesia. Espero aportar a la fase universal la experiencia de esta diócesis fronteriza



For a synodal Church
 communion | participation | mission

que se esfuerza por construir el reino de Dios entre dos realidades nacionales distintas.

Quisiera pedirles dos cosas. La primera es que me tengan presente en sus oraciones para que pueda representar dignamente a esta parte del mundo en la asamblea sinodal de octubre. Por favor, pidan que yo tenga mi corazón abierto a la voz del Espíritu. La segunda cosa que les quiero pedir es que sigan reflexionando sobre el sínodo.

Especialmente, me gustaría pedir a las parroquias, comunidades religiosas, organizaciones y otros grupos que sigan reflexionando en un espíritu de oración sobre el contenido de la Síntesis Diocesana, que pueden encontrar en elpasodiocese.org/synod, y sobre el Instrumentum Laboris, que se encuentra en usccb.org/synod. Por favor, hagan lo posible por organizar sesiones de escucha como las que tuvimos durante

la fase diocesana, y envíenme por correo electrónico los frutos de su reflexión a imontelongo@elpasodiocese.org.

Como Iglesia sinodal, ¡continuemos caminando juntos en comunión, participación y misión!

INSEITZ INTO THE FAITH

Remembering August 3, 2019

In the beginning of this month of August we will mark an anniversary we should never forget. We will mark the fourth anniversary of the mass shooting hate crime that took place at the Cielo Vista Walmart. 23 of our innocent brothers and sisters were slain and 22 were physically wounded. Many more were emotionally harmed in serious ways that impact their everyday life even now.

Recently we witnessed the federal trial of the shooter at which he pleaded guilty to all 90 counts of the indictment against him. We heard heart-breaking testimony from many of the victims struggling to put into words the depth of their loss and the pain they live daily. For some in El Paso, Juarez and beyond the events of August 3rd may be only a distant memory. For many, especially those who were



Bishop Mark J. Seitz



wounded and the family members of those who were slain it is a nightmare they relive every day.

This year I will not be able to be at the commemorative events because I will be in Portugal with more than a hundred of our young adults for World Youth Day. But please be assured that the events of August 3, 2019 will be on my mind and in my prayers as we gather in prayer with our

Holy Father, Pope Francis.

I pray that God will do for all those who still suffer the healing work that only God can do; that God will bring a deep sense of trust that He is embracing in His love and mercy all those who have died and bestowing a peace beyond understanding to those who can never forget this day.

Recordando el 3 de agosto de 2019

Al principio de este mes de agosto marcaremos un aniversario que nunca debemos olvidar. Marcaremos el cuarto aniversario del crimen de odio del tiroteo masivo que tuvo lugar en el Walmart de Cielo Vista. 23 de nuestros hermanos y hermanas inocentes fueron asesinados y 22 fueron heridos físicamente. Muchos más fueron dañados emocionalmente en formas graves que afectan su vida cotidiana, incluso ahora.

Recientemente presenciamos el juicio federal del tirador en el que se declaró culpable de los 90 cargos de la acusación contra él. Hemos escuchado testimonios desgarradores de muchas de las víctimas que luchan por expresar con palabras la profundidad de su pérdida y el dolor que viven a diario. Para algunos en El Paso, Juárez y más allá, los sucesos del 3 de agosto pueden ser sólo un recuerdo lejano. Para muchos, especialmente los heridos y los

familiares de los asesinados, es una pesadilla que reviven cada día.

Este año no podré asistir a los actos conmemorativos porque estaré en Portugal con más de un centenar de nuestros jóvenes en la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud. Pero tengan la seguridad de que los acontecimientos del 3 de agosto de 2019 estarán en mi mente y en mis oraciones mientras nos reunimos en oración con nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco.

Rezo para que Dios haga por todos los que aún sufren la obra de sanación que solo Dios puede hacer; que Dios traiga un profundo sentido de confianza de que Él está abrazando en su amor y amor y misericordia a todos los que han muerto y otorgando una paz más allá de la comprensión a aquellos que nunca podrán olvidar este día.



THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC

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Layout: Fernie Cenicerros

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Billing and Administrative Assistant: Josie Arellano

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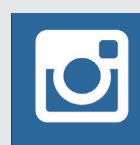
THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC (ISSN#1079-9621) is published monthly for \$12.00 per year by the Office of Communications, Diocese of El Paso, 499 St. Matthews St., El Paso, TX 79907, Phone: (915) 872-8414, Fax: (915) 872-8435. "PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT EL PASO TX." POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to: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

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27 Experience 2nd Annual Vocations Retreat for the Diocese

By Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

In early July, the Diocese of El Paso held a vocations retreat for 27 young men between the ages of 16 and 28. The “Come and See” vocations retreat, it was an opportunity for these participants to gain insight into the life of a seminarian and get a taste of what it means to dedicate oneself to the priesthood.

The retreat was carefully planned with a primary focus on immersing the participants into the daily life of a seminarian. Angel Crespo, one of the seminarians involved in organizing the event, emphasized the ultimate goal: to help the attendees embrace Jesus Christ and understand the essence of discipleship.

“The main focus that we had in planning this retreat was first and foremost to let participants of the retreat inside the life of a Seminarian. Our main goal was to have them have an encounter with Jesus Christ. So we base our retreat on them being able to be embraced into the arms of Jesus Christ, as to what it means to be a disciple. As a seminarian, we learned to understand and to incorporate that life of being a disciple of Jesus Christ so that we can continue, God willing, as priest one day.” Seminarian Angel Crespo said.

Father Ivan Montelongo, the Director of Vocations, highlighted that the retreat targeted not only those who were already open to the possibility of becoming priests but also those who might be unsure about their calling.

“Those who are open to the possibility of becoming priests, those who have experience perhaps a potential calling, even if they’re not sure what it is, whether they’re convinced that they want to become priests or not. This is just giving them a taste of what seminary life is



The Diocese of El Paso held a vocations retreat for 27 young men between the ages of 16 and 28. The “Come and See” vocations retreat, it was an opportunity for these participants to gain insight into the life of a seminarian and get a taste of what it means to dedicate oneself to the priesthood. *Photo Courtesy of the Office of Vocations*

like, of what priesthood is like. It’s exciting to see that young people are considering the option of what God has planned for them,” Fr. Montelongo said.

The three-day retreat offered an intense and immersive experience, encapsulating the essence of an eight to ten-year seminary formation in a condensed format.

“The Retreat is an experience in three days, what a seminary experiences in 8 to 10 years of formation. In these three days we have a bunch of different objectives that we show them of the daily life of a seminarian. It’s

not a retreat in itself, it’s more of a immersive experience that the participants are having,” Seminarian Angel Crespo said.

Throughout the retreat, the organizers worked diligently to support the participants in their discernment process. They were available as valuable resources, ready to address the questions and uncertainties that often arise when considering a priestly vocation.

“We are working to be available to them as a resource to help them in those questions that we ourselves had when we

began. When I was pondering the possibility of a priesthood and somebody helped me with those questions at that time, we want to do the same for these young people,” Fr. Montelongo said.

To ensure that the journey of vocational discernment continues beyond the “Come and See” retreat, the Diocese of El Paso is committed to providing ongoing support and guidance to young people exploring their calling. One of the ways they do this is through a monthly discernment group known as Daber Adonai. This group meets monthly, of-

fering a safe and nurturing space for participants to discuss their questions, share their experiences, and seek counsel from experienced mentors and clergy.

For those who are interested in participating in the discernment group or have any further questions, the Office of Vocations is readily available to offer assistance. They can be reached by phone at 915-872-8403 or through direct messaging on the diocesan vocations social media handle, @epvocations.

27 Experimentan El 2º Retiro Vocacional Anual De La Diócesis

Por Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

A principios de julio, la Diócesis de El Paso celebró un retiro vocacional para 27 jóvenes de entre 16 y 28 años. El retiro vocacional “Vengan y vean” fue una oportunidad para que estos participantes conocieran la vida de un seminarista y se hicieran una idea de lo que significa dedicarse al sacerdocio.

El retiro se planificó cuidadosamente con el objetivo principal de sumergir a los participantes en la vida cotidiana de un seminarista. Ángel Crespo, uno de los seminaristas involucrados en la organización del evento, hizo hincapié en el objetivo final: ayudar a los asistentes a abrazar a Jesucristo y comprender la esencia del discipulado.

“El objetivo principal que teníamos al planificar este retiro era, ante todo, que los partici-

pantes se adentraran en la vida de un seminarista. Nuestro objetivo principal era que tuvieran un encuentro con Jesucristo. Así que basamos nuestro retiro en que pudieran ser abrazados en los brazos de Jesucristo, en cuanto a lo que significa ser un discípulo. Como seminarista, aprendimos a entender e incorporar esa vida de ser discípulo de Jesucristo para poder continuar, si Dios quiere, como sacerdote algún día”, dijo la seminarista Angle Crespo.

El padre Iván Montelongo, director de Vocaciones, destacó que el retiro estuvo dirigido no sólo a quienes ya estaban abiertos a la posibilidad de ser sacerdotes, sino también a quienes pudieran estar inseguros sobre su vocación.

“Los que están abiertos a la posibilidad de ser sacerdotes, los que tienen experiencia quizá de una posible vocación, aunque no estén seguros de cuál es, tanto

si están convencidos de que quieren ser sacerdotes como si no. Esto es sólo darles una idea de cómo es la vida en el seminario, de cómo es el sacerdocio. Es emocionante ver que los jóvenes están considerando la opción de lo que Dios ha planeado para ellos”, dijo el P. Montelongo.

El retiro de tres días ofreció una experiencia intensa y envolvente, encapsulando la esencia de una formación seminarística de ocho a diez años en un formato condensado.

“El Retiro es una experiencia en tres días, lo que un seminarista experimenta en 8 a 10 años de formación. En estos tres días tenemos un montón de objetivos diferentes que les mostramos de la vida diaria de un seminarista. No es un retiro en sí mismo, es más bien una experiencia de inmersión

que viven los participantes”, dijo el seminarista Ángel Crespo.

A lo largo del retiro, los organizadores trabajaron diligentemente para apoyar a los participantes en su proceso de discernimiento. Estuvieron disponibles como recursos valiosos, listos para abordar las preguntas e incertidumbres que a menudo surgen al considerar una vocación sacerdotal.

“Trabajamos para estar a su disposición como recurso para ayudarles en esas preguntas que nosotros mismos teníamos cuando empezamos. Cuando yo me planteaba la posibilidad del sacerdocio y alguien me ayudaba con esas preguntas en aquel momento, queremos hacer lo mismo con estos jóvenes”, dijo el P. Montelongo.

Para garantizar que el camino del discernimiento vocacional continúe más allá del retiro “Venid y veréis”, la Diócesis de El Paso se ha comprometido a proporcionar apoyo y orientación

continuos a los jóvenes que exploran su vocación al sacerdocio. Una de las maneras de hacerlo es a través de un grupo mensual de discernimiento conocido como Daber Adonai. Este grupo se reúne mensualmente, ofreciendo un espacio seguro y enriquecedor para que los participantes discutan sus preguntas, compartan sus experiencias y busquen el consejo de mentores y clérigos experimentados. Para aquellos que estén interesados en participar en el grupo de discernimiento o tengan más preguntas, la Oficina de Vocaciones está disponible para ofrecer ayuda. Se les puede contactar por teléfono al 915-872-8403 o a través de mensajes directos en las redes sociales diocesanas de vocaciones, @epvocations.

Vatican Announces Synod Delegates that Include El Paso Priest

By Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

The Vatican announced that the United States will be represented by approximately 20 delegates at the Synod on Synodality in Rome in October including El Paso's own Fr. Iván Montelongo.

These representatives were selected by both the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Pope Francis. The chosen delegates showcase the diverse ideological perspectives within U.S. Catholicism and reflect Pope Francis' efforts to align the U.S. bishops with his vision for the Church.

Among the delegates, there are prominent leaders from the U.S. Catholic Church, known for their vocal defense of church teachings on cultural issues like religious liberty, marriage, and gender. U.S.C.C.B. President, Archbishop Timothy Broglio, and Bishop Daniel Flores of Brownsville, Tex., who heads the conference's doctrine committee,



The Vatican announced that the United States will be represented by approximately 20 delegates at the Synod on Synodality in Rome in October including El Paso's own Fr. Ivan Montelongo. Photo by Emily Montelongo

will attend. Pope Francis personally invited several church leaders, including U.S. cardinals Blase Cupich, Wilton Gregory, Robert McElroy, and Sean O'Malley.

Other invitees include Archbishop Paul Etienne of Seattle and James Martin, S.J., founder of Outreach, a ministry for L.G.B.T. Catholics.

In a significant change to the synod structure, laypeople nominated by the USCCB have been granted the right to vote. This shift represents Pope Francis' commitment to fostering a more inclusive and participatory church.

Among the lay delegates with voting rights are Cynthia Bailey Manns, director of adult faith formation at the Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Community in Minneapolis, Minn. Richard Coll, the executive director for Justice, Peace, and Integral Human Development, department at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Leticia Salazar, who serves as chancellor for the Diocese of San Bernardino, California, and who previously held leadership roles with her religious order and worked in Hispanic ministry. Julia Oseka,

a native of Poland, who studies theology and physics at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, will attend. And Wyatt Olivas, a parish catechist who attends the University of Wyoming, will also be present.

The U.S. bishops also nominated El Paso's own Fr. Iván Montelongo, ordained in 2020, who played a key role in leading the synod process for the Diocese of El Paso.

In addition to the voting delegates, there will be two non-voting experts from the United States: David McCallum S.J., who runs a leadership training program in Rome, and Maria Cimperman, R.S.C.J., an ethicist and professor at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, who founded the Center for Consecrated Life in 2014.

El Vaticano Anuncia Delegados Sinodal Entre Los Que Figura Un Presbitero De El Paso

By Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

El Vaticano anunció que Estados Unidos estará representado por aproximadamente 20 delegados en el Sínodo sobre la Sinodalidad que se celebrará en Roma en octubre, entre ellos el padre Iván Montelongo, de El Paso.

Estos representantes fueron seleccionados tanto por la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos como por el Papa Francisco. Los delegados elegidos muestran las diversas perspectivas ideológicas dentro del catolicismo de EE.UU. y reflejan los esfuerzos del Papa

Francisco para alinear a los obispos de EE.UU. con su visión de la Iglesia.

Entre los delegados, hay destacados líderes de la Iglesia católica estadounidense, conocidos por su defensa vocal de las enseñanzas de la Iglesia en cuestiones culturales como la libertad religiosa, el matrimonio y el género. Asistirán el Presidente de la U.S.C.C.B., el Arzobispo Timothy Broglio, y el Obispo Daniel Flores de Brownsville, Texas, que dirige el comité de doctrina de la conferencia.

El Papa Francisco invitó personalmente a varios líderes eclesiásticos, entre ellos los cardenales estadounidenses Blase

Cupich, Wilton Gregory, Robert McElroy y Sean O'Malley. Otros invitados son el arzobispo Paul Etienne de Seattle y James Martin, S.J., fundador de Outreach, un ministerio para católicos L.G.B.T..

En un cambio significativo en la estructura del sínodo, a los laicos nombrados por la USCCB se les ha concedido el derecho a votar. Este cambio representa el compromiso del Papa Francisco de fomentar una Iglesia más inclusiva y participativa.

Entre los delegados laicos con derecho a voto se encuentran Cynthia Bailey Manns, directora de formación en la fe para adultos en la Comunidad

Católica Santa Juana de Arco en Minneapolis, Minnesota. Richard Coll, director ejecutivo del departamento de Justicia, Paz y Desarrollo Humano Integral de la Conferencia Episcopal de Estados Unidos. Leticia Salazar, canciller de la diócesis de San Bernardino (California), que anteriormente ocupó cargos directivos en su orden religiosa y trabajó en el ministerio hispano. Asistirá Julia Oseka, natural de Polonia, que estudia teología y física en la Universidad Saint Joseph de Filadelfia. Y Wyatt Olivas, catequista de la parroquia que asiste a la Universidad de Wyoming, también estará presente.

Los obispos estadounidenses también nombraron al padre Iván Montelongo, ordenado en 2020, que desempeñó un papel clave en la dirección del proceso sinodal de la diócesis de El Paso.

Además de los delegados con derecho a voto, habrá dos expertos sin derecho a voto de los Estados Unidos: David McCallum S.J., que dirige un programa de formación de líderes en Roma, y Maria Cimperman, R.S.C.J., eticista y profesora en la Unión Teológica Católica de Chicago, que fundó el Centro para la Vida Consagrada en 2014.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FATHER!

Fr. Marcus McFadin	08/05
Fr. Ben Flores	08/06
Fr. Celimo Osorio	08/12
Fr. Eliazar Arteaga	08/13
Fr. Humberto Cruz	08/13
Fr. Gleen Carpe	08/14
Fr. Gerardo Salgado	08/14
Fr. Esteban Sescon	08/15

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Fr. Francisco Rodriguez	08/02
Fr. Marciano Lopez-Solis	08/15
Fr. Celimo Osorio	08/15
Fr. Ernesto Galindo	08/18
Fr. Tobias Macias	08/20
Fr. Humberto Cruz	08/24



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 Victim's Assistance Coordinator, Mrs. Susan Martinez LCSW, at (915) 872-8465 or the Office of the Chancery, (915) 872-8407. The Church desires the healing of anyone that has been harmed.

La diócesis ofrece asistencia a las víctimas de abusos sexuales

El Obispo Mark J. Seitz invita a cualquier persona que haya sido víctima de abuso sexual por parte de un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o cualquier ministro de la iglesia, a contactar a la Coordinadora de Asistencia a las Víctimas, la Sra. Susan Martínez LCSW, al (915) 872-8465 o a la Oficina de la Cancillería, (915) 872-8407. La Iglesia desea la curación de cualquiera que haya sido dañado.



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Migration, A Natural Phenomenon

By **Mayte Elizalde**
Hope Border Institute

Migration has been a natural phenomenon since the beginning of human history. Humans have been on the move, migrating from one place to another in search of more favorable conditions.

Throughout history, humans have moved in search of fertile lands and water sources or fled from changes in climates. The movement of early humans ‘out of Africa’ and the subsequent colonization of various parts of the world is a testament to our migratory nature. Migration has contributed to the exchange of ideas, knowledge and cultural practices between different regions.

Today, humans continue to migrate due to environmental fac-

tors affected by climate change, lack of economic opportunity and instability at home due to the weakening strength of our global democratic systems.

Recent immigration policies implemented at our border have used “deterrence” as a method to manage the large number of asylum seekers arriving on our border. These deterrence policies aim to make the journey as difficult as possible in an attempt to discourage people from even beginning their journey. Our government has also opted to criminalize migration, by sending military troops to border towns as well as threatening to criminalize the work done by organizations that welcome and assist refugees and asylum seekers.

Last year, the number of people on the move due to forced migration internationally grew

to about 100 million. These are mothers, fathers, and children all seeking a dignified life of safety and security. So if this is a worldwide phenomenon, something affecting our global family, why are we using deterrence and criminalization to manage the increase in people seeking safety?

In May, an 8-year-old girl, Anadith from Panama, died while detained by CBP and being diagnosed with influenza and heart problems. Agents ignored the family’s pleas to hospitalize her.

On May 7th, 10 people were waiting at a bus station outside a shelter in Brownsville, TX, when they were killed by a driver. 8 people lost their lives.

On June 13th, a fishing boat off the coast of Greece carrying hundreds of migrants sank. Officials recovered more than

80 bodies and as many as 500 people, including children, are presumed dead.

On July 9th, Bishop Mark J. Seitz administered the last rights to a young teen who died in the desert outside El Paso.

Deterrence and criminalization won’t stop people from migrating, as they often do not have any other option. They are seeking a dignified life.

Let’s embrace a culture of welcome and love and have compassion and empathy for our brothers and sisters. We pray for all the lives that have been lost in the journey for a better life, in the hands of the governments that have opted to turn a blind eye to everyone who’s imploring for help.

Let’s all remember and meditate on the words from Pope Francis, “Migrants are our

brothers and sisters in search of a better life, far away from poverty, hunger, exploitation and the unjust distribution of the planet’s resources which are meant to be equitably shared by all. Don’t we all want a better, more decent and prosperous life to share with our loved ones?”

Mayte Elizalde is the communications officer at the Hope Border Institute. Through a robust program of research and policy work, leadership development, and action, we work to build justice and deepen solidarity across the borderlands. For more ways to get involved and support people on the move, visit www.hopeborder.org.

La Migración, Un Fenómeno Natural

By **Mayte Elizalde**
Hope Border Institute

La migración ha sido un fenómeno natural desde el principio de la historia de la humanidad.

A lo largo de la historia, los seres humanos se han desplazado en busca de tierras fértiles y fuentes de agua o huyendo de los cambios climáticos. El movimiento de los primeros humanos “fuera de África” y la posterior colonización de diversas partes del mundo es un testimonio de nuestra naturaleza migratoria. La migración ha contribuido al intercambio de ideas, conocimientos y prácticas culturales entre distintas regiones.

Hoy en día, los seres humanos siguen emigrando debido a factores medioambientales afectados por el cambio climático, la falta de oportunidades económicas y la inestabilidad en casa debido a

la debilidad de nuestros sistemas democráticos globales.

Las recientes políticas de inmigración aplicadas en nuestra frontera han utilizado la “disuasión” como método para gestionar el gran número de solicitantes de asilo que llegan a nuestra frontera. Estas políticas de disuasión pretenden hacer el viaje lo más difícil posible en un intento de disuadir a la gente de iniciar siquiera su viaje. Nuestro gobierno también ha optado por criminalizar la migración, enviando tropas militares a las ciudades fronterizas, así como amenazando con criminalizar el trabajo realizado por las organizaciones que acogen y ayudan a los refugiados y solicitantes de asilo.

El año pasado, el número de personas que se desplazaron debido a la migración forzosa a nivel internacional creció hasta unos 100 millones. Se trata de

madres, padres e hijos que buscan una vida digna y segura. Si se trata de un fenómeno mundial, que afecta a nuestra familia global, ¿por qué utilizamos la disuasión y la criminalización para gestionar el aumento de personas que buscan seguridad?

En mayo, una niña de 8 años, Anadith, de Panamá, murió mientras estaba detenida por la CBP y le diagnosticaban gripe y problemas cardíacos. Los agentes ignoraron las súplicas de la familia para hospitalizarla.

El 7 de mayo, 10 personas esperaban en una estación de autobuses fuera de un refugio en Brownsville, TX, cuando fueron asesinadas por un conductor. 8 personas perdieron la vida.

El 13 de junio se hundió frente a las costas de Grecia un pesquero que transportaba a cientos de migrantes.

El 9 de julio, el obispo Mark J. Seitz administró los últimos

derechos a un joven adolescente que murió en el desierto a las afueras de El Paso.

La disuasión y la criminalización no impedirán que la gente emigre, ya que a menudo no tienen otra opción. Buscan una vida digna. Adoptemos una cultura de acogida y amor y tengamos compasión y empatía por nuestros hermanos y hermanas.

Recemos por todas las vidas que se han perdido en el camino hacia una vida mejor, en manos de los gobiernos que han optado por hacer la vista gorda ante todos los que imploran ayuda. Recordemos y meditemos todas las palabras del Papa Francisco: “Los emigrantes son nuestros hermanos y hermanas en busca de una vida mejor, lejos de la pobreza, del hambre, de la explotación y de la injusta distribución de los recursos del planeta que deben ser equitativamente compartidos por todos.

¿No queremos todos una vida mejor, más digna y próspera para compartirla con nuestros seres queridos?

“Mayte Elizalde es la responsable de comunicación del Hope Border Institute. A través de un sólido programa de investigación y trabajo político, desarrollo de liderazgo y acción, trabajamos para construir la justicia y profundizar la solidaridad en las zonas fronterizas. Para conocer más formas de participar y apoyar a las personas que se desplazan, visite www.hopeborder.org.

Special Collections - Colectas Especiales

Collection for the Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa

There will be a Special Offering on Saturday, August 26 and Sunday August 27, 2023, for the Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa

The Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa was founded on the basic principles of Pope John Paul II’s call to action in Ecclesia in Africa and the adoption of the statement A Call to Solidarity with Africa from the bishops of the United States.

Africa faces the economic and social hurdles of enormous debt, epidemic, severe poverty, and political unrest. In spite of these challenges, the Church in Africa has almost tripled in size in the past 30 years. However, it is difficult for the church to sustain its growth and maintain essential pastoral outreach. The Fund provides grants to finance pastoral projects including outreach programs, schools, evangelization, and the education of clergy and lay ministers.

On the weekend of August 26 and 27, please take the opportunity to contribute to the Pastoral Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa. Through this appeal, your support will make a real difference in the faith lives of the people in Africa. Please continue to pray for our African sisters and brothers.

Colecta para La Iglesia en África

Habrà una Ofrenda Especial el sàbado, 26 de agosto y domingo, 27 de agosto 2023 para La Iglesia en Àfrica.

El Fondo de Solidaridad para la Iglesia en el Àfrica financia las labores pastorales de la Iglesia mediante donativos para proyectos tales como el cuidado pastoral de los enfermos y los talleres dedicados a edificar la paz. Para la Iglesia en el Àfrica es extremadamente difícil mantenerse a sí misma debido a los enormes desafíos que encuentra allí.

Hoy se nos pide apoyar al Fondo de Solidaridad para la Iglesia en el Àfrica, el cual financia proyectos pastorales básicos de la Iglesia como son la evangelización, la pastoral juvenil y la educación religiosa. Los pueblos del Àfrica, en medio de sus dificultades personales y comunitarias, necesitan de nuestra ayuda para poder apoyar a sus comunidades de fe.

El fin de semana del 26 y 27 de agosto del 2023, por favor dese la oportunidad de contribuir al Fondo de Solidaridad para la Iglesia en el Àfrica. Recuerde que gracias a su donativo, la Iglesia en el Àfrica podrá brindar cuidados pastorales básicos a aquellos que estàn pasando grandes necesidades. Gracias.

Petitions of the Lord's Prayer summarize faith, hope and love



Fr. Michael Lewis, STL

Last month, in our series exploring the theology, history, and development of familiar prayers, we began looking at the Lord's Prayer, commonly known by its first words, "Our Father" in English. The Lord's Prayer consists of an address to God as "Our Father," followed by six petitions (or seven, depending how one counts them). The first three petitions address God while the last three focus on human needs.

First, God is addressed as "Our Father." "Our" signals that this prayer was originally a communal one, prayed by Christians gathered to celebrate their kinship as God's adopted sons and daughters. "Father" is a rendering of the Aramaic *abba*, an affectionate term often used by children, but also a term of respect for an older man. "Who art in heaven" specifies that the prayer is to the One God, not any earthly father.

Next comes the first petition, which literally translated is,

"May your name be sanctified." Here, Jesus employs phrasing common in Jewish prayers that praise and glorify God. The Jewish liturgy's *Kaddish* prayer, for example, begins, "May God's great Name be magnified and sanctified."

The second petition is literally translated, "May God establish his reign." Though similar to the second line of the *Kaddish*, here, as Jesus' words, it is distinctly eschatological. That is, it expresses Christians' hopeful focus on the end of time, when the last stage of God's kingdom will come with Christ's return.

The third petition is similar to the second, and parallels Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane later in Matthew's gospel (26:42). Yet, there's more to this petition than passively praying that God do whatever he wants to do "on earth" and "in heaven" — that is, throughout the entire universe. Rather, we are praying that our will may be associated to God's will. In committing ourselves to Christ, Origen wrote, "we can become one spirit with him, and thereby accomplish his will, [so that] it will be perfect on earth as it is in heaven."

The fourth petition begins the group that focus on our human needs. It can be literally translated either as, "Give us today our bread for tomorrow" or "Give

The 6 Petitions of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
(1) hallowed be thy name;
(2) thy kingdom come,
(3) thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
(4) Give us this day our daily bread,
and (5) forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
(6) and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

us our super-substantial bread." Inherent in this petition is faith and trust in Divine Providence — that God will give us, his children, what we need to sustain us. But it also alludes to the Eucharist, the Bread of Life that is a foretaste of the heavenly banquet we hope to take part in forever.

The fifth petition is literally, "Forgive us our debts as we have forgiven our debtors." Here, our request for God's loving mercy is inextricably linked to our own obligation to love and forgive others. God's "outpouring of mercy cannot penetrate our hearts as long as we have not forgiven those who have trespassed against us," the *Catechism* reminds us.

Finally, the last petition (sometimes counted as two petitions) is literally translated, "Do not subject us to the final test, but del-

iver us from the evil one." When one understands the prayer's overall eschatological character, this translation appears in harmony, prompting us to reflect on our ultimate judgment. However, our current English translation suggests something different, a notion contradicted by James 1:13, which rightfully says that God tempts no one.

Indeed, similarly confusing translations of this petition in other languages have recently been revised. For example, in France in 2017, the Vatican allowed the episcopal conference there to change the words, "*Do not submit us to temptation,*" to "*Let us not enter into temptation.*" At the time, one French priest remarked that the original French translation "made some people think God threw banana peels in front of people to see

if they would slip and fall, but that is absolutely not the biblical view of God." In 2018, the Italian bishops' conference made a similar change. However, the Spanish translation, which changed in 1992, is already closer to the original biblical text, asking God to "*not let us fall into temptation.*"

In some early manuscripts of Matthew's gospel, the Lord's Prayer concludes with the doxology, "For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever." However, most scholars now agree that it was not part of Matthew's original text. Nonetheless, to this day, many Protestants conclude the Lord's Prayer with this doxology. In fact, Catholics do too during Mass, though this doxology is preceded by the priest's prayer called the Embolism (Latin for "insertion"), which expands upon the theme of the last petition.

As the prayer that Christ taught us, the "Lord's Prayer" concisely summarizes Christian faith, hope, and love. With a deeper understanding of its contents, we can similarly deepen our prayerful communication with God, who invites us to call him, "Father."

Las peticiones del Padre Nuestro resumen fe, esperanza y amor

El mes pasado, en nuestra serie que explora la teología, la historia y el desarrollo de las oraciones familiares, empezamos a examinar la Oración del Señor, comúnmente conocido por sus primeras palabras, "Padre Nuestro" en español. Esta oración consiste en dirigirse a Dios como "Padre nuestro", seguido de seis peticiones (o siete, según cómo se cuenten). Las tres primeras peticiones se dirigen a Dios, y las tres últimas se centran en las necesidades humanas.

En primer lugar, se dirige a Dios como "Padre nuestro". "Nuestro" indica que esta oración era originalmente comunitaria, rezada por los cristianos reunidos para celebrar su parentesco como hijos e hijas adoptivos de Dios. "Padre" es una traducción del arameo *abba*, un término cariñoso utilizado a menudo por los niños, pero también un término de respeto para un hombre mayor. "Que estás en el cielo" especifica que la oración se dirige al Dios Único, no a ningún padre terrenal.

A continuación viene la primera petición, que traducida literalmente es: "Que tu nombre sea santificado". Aquí, Jesús emplea una formulación común en las oraciones judías que alaban y glorifican a Dios. La oración *Kadish* de la liturgia judía, por ejemplo, empieza así: "Que el gran Nombre de Dios sea mag-

nificado y santificado".

La segunda petición se traduce literalmente: "Que Dios establezca su reinado". Aunque similar a la segunda línea del *Kadish*, aquí, como palabras de Jesús, es claramente escatológica. Es decir, expresa el enfoque esperanzado de los cristianos hacia el final de los tiempos, cuando la última etapa del reino de Dios llegará con el regreso de Cristo.

La tercera petición es similar a la segunda, y es paralela a la oración de Jesús en el jardín de Getsemani, más adelante en el evangelio de Mateo (26,42). Sin embargo, esta petición es algo más que rezar pasivamente para que Dios haga lo que quiera hacer "en la tierra" y "en el cielo", es decir, en todo el universo. Más bien, estamos rezando para que nuestra voluntad se asocie a la voluntad de Dios. Adheridos a Cristo, escribió Orígenes, "podemos llegar a ser un solo espíritu con El, y así cumplir su voluntad: de esta forma ésta se hará tanto en la tierra como en el cielo."

La cuarta petición inicia el grupo que se centra en nuestras necesidades humanas. Puede traducirse literalmente: "Danos hoy nuestro pan para mañana" o "Danos nuestro pan supersustancial". Inherente a esta petición está la fe y la confianza en la Divina Providencia, en que Dios nos dará a nosotros, sus hijos, lo que necesitamos para manten-

Las 6 Peticiones del Padre Nuestro

Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo,
(1) santificado sea tu nombre;
(2) venga a nosotros tu reino;
(3) hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo.
(4) Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día;
(5) perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
(6) no nos dejes caer en la tentación,
y líbranos del mal.

ernos. Pero también alude a la Eucaristía, el Pan de Vida que es un anticipo del banquete celestial en el que esperamos participar para siempre.

La quinta petición es literalmente: "Perdónanos nuestras deudas como nosotros hemos perdonado a nuestros deudores". Aquí, nuestra petición de la misericordia amorosa de Dios está inextricablemente unida a nuestra propia obligación de amar y perdonar a los demás. "Este desbordamiento de misericordia no puede penetrar en nuestro corazón mientras no hayamos perdonado a los que nos han ofendido", nos recuerda el *Catecismo*.

Finalmente, la última petición (que a veces se cuenta como dos peticiones) se traduce literalmente: "No nos pongas a prueba, y líbranos del maligno". Cuando se comprende el carácter escatológico global de la oración,

esta traducción parece en armonía, pues nos incita a reflexionar sobre nuestro juicio final. Sin embargo, nuestra traducción inglesa actual ("*no nos hagas caer en la tentación*") sugiere algo diferente, una noción contradictoria por Santiago 1,13, que afirma con razón que Dios no tienta a nadie.

De hecho, recientemente se han revisado traducciones igualmente confusas de esta petición en otros idiomas. Por ejemplo, en Francia, en 2017, el Vaticano permitió a la conferencia episcopal de ese país cambiar las palabras "*No nos sometamos a la tentación*" por "*No nos dejes entrar en la tentación*". En aquel momento, un sacerdote francés comentó que la traducción original francesa "hacia pensar a algunos que Dios arrojaba cáscaras de plátano delante de la gente para ver si resbalaban y caían, pero ésa no es en absoluto

la visión bíblica de Dios." En 2018, la Conferencia Episcopal Italiana hizo un cambio similar. Sin embargo, la traducción al español, que cambió en 1992, ya se acerca más al texto bíblico original, pidiendo a Dios que "*no nos dejes caer en la tentación*".

En algunos manuscritos antiguos del evangelio de Mateo, el Padrenuestro concluye con la doxología: "Tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria, por siempre, Señor." Sin embargo, la mayoría de los eruditos coinciden ahora en que no formaba parte del texto original de Mateo. No obstante, a día de hoy, muchos protestantes concluyen el Padrenuestro con esta doxología. De hecho, los católicos también lo hacen durante la Misa, aunque esta doxología va precedida de la oración del sacerdote llamada Embolismo ("inserción" en latín), que amplía el tema de la última petición.

Como oración que Cristo nos enseñó, el "Padre Nuestro" resume concisamente la fe, la esperanza y el amor cristianos. Con una comprensión más profunda de su contenido, podemos profundizar igualmente en nuestra comunicación orante con Dios, que nos invita a llamarle "Padre".

SIDEWALK JESUS

Please Hear My Heart, Lord



Janet M. Crowe

Stories, fables, and even inspirational messages as well as deceptions, insults, and frauds populate the internet today. While I dismiss much of what I see on this information logjam, there may be a few moral tales worth taking to heart. One of my favorites is about a father who walked out into the backyard of his home and saw his young daughter sitting on her swing set, gently swaying, and looking down at her hands. He thought she must be sad because no one was there to push her on the swing. However, as he approached her, he heard her sweet, young voice quietly and slowly reciting the alphabet.

“A, B,” she pronounced slowly and then continued by emphasizing the next few letters, “C, D, E, F.” Looking up at the sky, she whispered, “G, H, I, J, K,” and again, she slowly and deliberately stated the next set of letters, “L, M, N, O.” The young girl continued through the alphabet, alternating her voice between a whisper and a determined emphasis on each letter.

Her father paused to listen

to this recitation and wondered where she had heard it spoken in such a fashion, almost like a song without music. He sat down on the swing next to his daughter and gently asked her what she was doing.

“I’m praying,” she declared simply as if it was obvious to anyone who had ears to hear.

“You’re praying?” repeated her surprised father.

“Well, yes, but I really don’t know how to pray,” she admitted, “so I’m just saying the letters. I know that God will form them into the words that God hears in my heart.”

What more beautiful prayer could there ever be than one formed in the innocence of a child’s heart!

While God asked us to be childlike, our prayer life, as adults, often becomes rote recounting of prayers learned during our childhood but without the innocent grace and beauty of a child. That fact came to mind when someone recently complained that they didn’t think they were saying the Rosary correctly. They were even fearful that, because they were not “doing it right,” their prayers were not as effective as they might be by someone who “followed the rules.”

I empathized with them because for many years I have ‘adjusted’ – so to speak – the Rosary in order to fit the situations within my life at a particular time. For instance, when offering the second Joyful Mystery, the



Visitation by the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth, I try to briefly picture that scene in my mind, but my thoughts frequently wander to a loved one who is ill or undergoing surgery. My heart pleads with Jesus to guide the hands, minds, and hearts of all the doctors, nurses and medical staff who are caring for that person. In fact, I have often adapted the entire Rosary to circumstances I’m experiencing at the time. As a teacher, I sometimes simplified a morning Rosary during my commute by simply stating a student’s name on each bead before saying, “Jesus, Mary and Joseph, please be with them today.” I figured Our Blessed Mother and Her Son knew what each child needed.

My younger sister gave a lovely response to the question of the ‘correct’ format of the Rosary – the prayers of the Rosary are like the melody or the musical notes in a beautiful song of praise and

worship. Sometimes, although we are saying the correct words, the real prayers that accompany the melody are, instead, the thoughts and longings of our hearts.

Maybe I’m rationalizing an excuse for my adaptations to the formal prayers, but I believe that Mary agreed and possibly inferred that we should not worry about proper format but, rather, pray with our hearts and with compassion for others. When His mother told Her Blessed Son that the bridal couple had run out of wine at the wedding at Cana, Jesus responded that it was not the appropriate time for Him to perform a public miracle. I’m certain that Mary smiled at Jesus before telling the waiters to do as He instructed them. In other words, “I know my Son will listen to me when I request something of Him from my heart.”

Although we modern adults might think that running out of

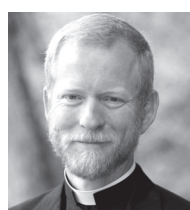
wine at a wedding is not a crucial dilemma, it would have been considered a serious breach of hospitality at that time. In the same way, many of the problems we face today may seem insurmountable today but turn out to be much less critical when we remember them in years to come. Yet, many of the difficulties we encounter are truly life-altering crises which require all the assistance we can find. Oftentimes, when a person receives the needed help that we, ourselves, could possibly give, the crisis then becomes a mere obstacle to be overcome.

Our answer to overcoming that entire scope of life’s obstacles – from minor difficulties to major disasters – should probably always be prayer. Prayer when we need God’s help, and prayer when we encounter others who need us to be God’s helpers here on earth. Prayer for direction, prayer for healing, prayer for strength, prayer for comfort, and prayer for a multitude of life’s burdens. When people pray for others, their prayers are heard just as Jesus heard His Mother’s request at Cana and still hears her intercessions when we ask her for them today.

Oh, Lord, please bless all the wonderful prayer warriors who forgo their own needs to offer a piece of their hearts in prayerful petitions for others who need them. Bless you, mighty prayer warriors! Oh, Lord, please hear our hearts!

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

Doping Athletes



Fr. Tad Pacholczyk

The use of performance enhancing drugs by professional athletes not only leads to serious challenges in maintaining a level playing field in competitive sports but also raises broader ethical issues and concerns.

Some of these concerns were highlighted in 2015 when the former world number one tennis star Maria Sharapova was banned from competitive play for two years by the International Tennis Federation (ITF) after she tested positive for the banned substance meldonium. The Court of Arbitration for Sport subsequently reduced her sentence to 15 months. Meldonium, an over-the-counter Latvian drug known to dilate blood vessels and increase the flow of blood, may contribute to improving an athlete’s physical endurance.

Her case was made more complicated by her claim that she was taking the drug for health

reasons, a claim viewed with skepticism among other athletes and ultimately rejected by the Independent Tribunal appointed by the ITF to review the case. Former British Olympic sprinter and world championship bronze medalist Craig Pickering described the real pressure that top athletes can face: “I would bet my life savings that Sharapova was taking this medication because of its purported performance enhancing effects... Athletes are always going to push the boundaries in order to have a chance at success. That is what happens when you introduce competition.”

In competitive athletics, the supposition is that competitors are beginning on a par with each other, which means that no one has an “unfair” or “unjust” advantage over another going into the competition. At the starting line, they arrive as equals in the sense that they arrive with whatever they were endowed with at birth, and whatever they may have managed to become through practice, hard work, and discipline.

Cheating through doping involves an attempt to step outside these rules and suppositions, and play a different game, one that circumvents or removes the

“on a par” assumption without revealing the fact. In this sense, cheating through doping is wrong because it is a form of lying, a form of presenting one’s initial endowment as if it were “natural,” and the result of athletic discipline, even though it really may not be so at all.

Several of Sharapova’s opponents expressed frustration at what they took to be a further injustice, namely, that in April 2017, she was given a wild card re-entry into World Tennis Association (WTA) tournament play in Germany. They insisted that she should, at a minimum, have to work her way back up from whatever her ranking had declined to after more than a year of tournament inactivity. Others, such as fellow player Eugenie Bouchard, perceived the doping transgression as even more serious, and argued that Sharapova should be banned from playing for life: “She’s a cheater and so to me... I don’t think a cheater in any sport should be allowed to play that sport again. It’s so unfair to all the other players who do it the right way and are true. So, I think from the WTA it sends the wrong message to young kids—cheat and we’ll welcome you back with open arms.”

Some commentators have noted how event organizers typically like to include big name draws like Sharapova in their line ups, and former number one player Caroline Wozniacki opined that, “obviously the rules are twisted and turned in favor of who wants to do what.” Others have expressed concerns about corporate sponsors and advertisers continuing to promote high profile sports personalities after they have been suspended for doping, individuals who may already be among the wealthiest athletes in the world. It seems fair to conclude that doping constitutes a form of cheating not only of one’s competitors, but also one’s fans, oneself, and the integrity of the sporting activity itself.

Through an honest pursuit of the athletic crown, meanwhile, we encounter the possibility of transcending who we are in limited, but important ways. The self-directed training and preparation of the athlete helps develop and hone a host of important personal qualities: strength, coordination, endurance, drive, agility, discipline, quickness, vigilance, cleverness, vision, and daring. This draws us towards an authentic perfecting of our bodies, our character and ourselves — an inwardly-direct-

ed order and discipline that arises from deep within — and forms us in such a way that we reach beyond where we ever thought we could reach, and through that personal stretching and growth, come to experience a true measure of human fulfillment. That’s something that doping athletes sadly cheat themselves from fully experiencing.

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. Father Tad writes a monthly column on timely life issues. From stem cell research to organ donation, abortion to euthanasia, he offers a clear and compelling analysis of modern bioethical questions, addressing issues we may confront at one time or another in our daily living. His column, entitled “Making Sense of Bioethics” is nationally syndicated in the U.S. to numerous diocesan newspapers, and has been reprinted by newspapers in England, Canada, Poland and Australia.

Transformación Personal



Padre Wilson Cuevas

La vida no termina, se construye a cada instante, en cada amanecer, en cada nuevo proyecto, con cada nuevo sueño, en las personas que conoces; cuando ayudas a otro; cuando se busca siempre el lado positivo y la enseñanza valiosa detrás de cada evento difícil. Conviértete en un sembrador, siembra una esperanza, un ideal, siembra amor. Siembra sueños y cosecha realidades.

La vida es un milagro que se da cada mañana, pero a veces se vuelve tan rutinaria, que dejamos de darle la debida importancia, tal parece que la capacidad de asombro muere conforme transcurren los años. Un niño ríe, juega y se asombra de todo lo que le rodea, la naturaleza gira en torno a su alrededor; para él, el pasado queda atrás, el futuro ya vendrá y el presente lo goza en toda su plenitud, sabe perdonar fácilmente y la vida es sencilla, vive en armonía con Dios. El hombre en cambio lucha por amargar su existencia, todos los días esboza en su rostro un gesto de frustración, fastidio, se quiere alejar de Dios y de la naturaleza y lejos de gozar su mundo lo destruye arrasando con los hermosos detalles que le ofrece la vida.

Cada día es más común encontrarse con gente quejumbrosa, fastidiada de todo lo que les acontece, cada vez es más fácil tropezarnos con la gente que habla mal de los demás, que critica, llora y se lamenta de todo. Lo peor es que la enferme-

dad es contagiosa, propagándose velozmente en todo los ámbitos. Esto trae como consecuencia la depresión (abatimiento del ánimo), llamada también la enfermedad de la modernidad, desafortadamente es la causa de cientos de muertes en el mundo, mediante esta enfermedad la gente va perdiendo satisfacción de la vida. Michel Eyquem, dice: "Encontrar satisfacción en la vida no depende de los años, sino de la voluntad", y es precisamente la voluntad el principal ingrediente para ser felices.

Mucha gente ha perdido, en cierta medida el sentido de la vida y se cuestiona, que es la vida? De ser infeliz, porque muchos han hecho más que yo? Ellos han dejado de soñar, de creer en Dios. Cierre los ojos y pregúntese: Como me gustaría que fuera este día, alegre, dichoso o triste y con problemas? Estoy seguro que su elección será la primera. Le tengo una sorpresa, el hombre se programa todos los días para ser feliz o infeliz. Si usted desea con todo su corazón ser dichoso, la dicha será su destino, pero si usted desea o piensa que le va a ir mal, seguramente le va a ir muy mal. Siembra vientos y cosecharas tempestades. Levántese con un espíritu optimista y en lo profundo de su ser repita: "Este día me va a ir muy bien, voy a ser feliz porque Dios está conmigo". Sueñe como le gustaría llevarse la con su familia, con sus compañeros de trabajo, con las personas que se encuentre en el tráfico. Sueñe con un mundo mejor y siembre amor en sus semejantes, que una sonrisa deslumbe el amanecer de cuantos le rodean y que el cansancio por dar lo mejor de sí, sea el cierre de este magnífico día. Usted tiene en sus manos y en su pensamiento el poder de decir cómo quiere vivir.



En el interior de cada hombre es donde se fraguan las batallas más importantes de la vida. Si uno gana las batallas en ese lugar, si uno resuelve los conflictos interiores, experimentara una sensación de paz al saber lo que se busca. Dios quiere que seamos felices, que disfrutemos cada momento de nuestra vida, que busquemos nuestros intereses y que incrementemos nuestra capacidad de vivir, de disfrutar, de gozar y de amar...

Cualquiera se puede deprimir, eso es fácil; pero luchar contra las adversidades, demostrar que somos más fuertes que los inconvenientes que se nos presentan en el camino, es tarea de mentes superiores. Nuestros pensamientos, acciones y palabras regresan a

nosotros con increíble precisión. La gente fuera de lo común sabe que para recibir, antes hay que dar; para ser perdonados hay que perdonar; para triunfar en nuestros objetivos, hay que perseverar y para que nos ayuden hay que ayudar a nuestros semejantes. Tal vez por eso Cristo dijo: "El que quiera ser poderoso entre ustedes deberá ser el mejor servidor de los demás".

Hoy es el día designado para una transformación personal, el momento para comenzar a ser dichoso, a disfrutar más cada momento de la vida, a construir pensamientos y planes que te hagan vivir más feliz, a alcanzar éxito en las cosas que te propones realizar y derrotar las desdicha, el negativismo y la

fatalidad. Recuerda que eres hijo de Dios, que tú edificas tu camino todos los días y que has nacido para ser feliz y que Dios te ama con amor eterno. No es cuestión de correr mucho, sino de correr bien, de seguir el buen camino. Hace falta tener muy claro a donde queremos ir y luego poner los medios, si falta esa visión clara corremos el riesgo de ir camino de ninguna parte. Ese formidable promedio, camino de ninguna parte, es el que llevan algunos en su intento de llenar su día y su vida de sensaciones de diligencia y eficacia. Deberían recordar que cuando uno no sabe a dónde va, no puede acabar bien; su caminar y su vida carece de sentido. El camino que llevo, conduce a la meta?

Personal Transformation

Life doesn't end; it is built with every moment, in every sunrise, in every new project, with every new dream, and in the people you meet; when you help others; when you always seek the positive side and valuable lessons behind every difficult event. Become a sower, sow hope, sow an ideal, sow love. Sow dreams and harvest realities.

Life is a miracle that happens every morning, but sometimes it becomes so routine that we fail to give it the proper importance. It seems that the capacity for wonder dies as the years go by. A child laughs, plays, and is amazed by everything around them; nature revolves around them. For the child, the past is left behind, the future will come, and the present is enjoyed to the fullest. They easily forgive and find life simple, living in harmony with God. On the other hand, adults struggle to embitter their existence. Every day, they wear a look of frustration and annoyance, trying to distance themselves from God and nature. Far

from enjoying their world, they destroy it, sweeping away the beautiful details that life offers.

It is becoming more common to encounter complainers, people who are irritated by everything that happens to them. It is increasingly easy to come across those who speak ill of others, criticize, cry, and lament about everything. The worst part is that this negativity is contagious and spreads rapidly in all areas of life. This leads to depression, also known as the disease of modernity, which is a significant cause of death worldwide. People lose satisfaction with life through this illness. As Michel Eyquem said, "Finding satisfaction in life does not depend on the years but on the will," and it is precisely the will that is the main ingredient for happiness.

Many people have lost, to some extent, the meaning of life and question themselves: "What is life?" They become unhappy, wondering why others have achieved more than they have. They have stopped dreaming and

believing in God. Close your eyes and ask yourself, "How would I like this day to be? Happy, joyful, or sad and problematic?" I am sure your choice will be the first option. Here's a surprise: people program themselves every day to be happy or unhappy. If you wholeheartedly desire to be happy, happiness will be your destiny. But if you expect or think that things will go badly, they most likely will. You reap what you sow. Wake up with an optimistic spirit and deep within yourself, repeat, "This day will go very well for me; I will be happy because God is with me." Dream about how you would like to interact with your family, your coworkers, and the people you encounter during the day. Dream of a better world and sow love in your fellow human beings. Let your smile illuminate the dawn for those around you, and let the fatigue of giving your best be the closing of this magnificent day. You have the power in your hands and in your thoughts to determine how you

want to live.

The most significant battles of life are fought within each person. If you win the battles within yourself and resolve inner conflicts, you will experience a sense of peace and purpose. God wants us to be happy, to enjoy every moment of our lives, to pursue our interests, and to increase our capacity to live, enjoy, and love.

Anyone can get depressed; that's easy. But to fight against adversity, to show that we are stronger than the obstacles on our path, is the task of superior minds. Our thoughts, actions, and words come back to us with incredible precision. Extraordinary people know that to receive, we must give first; to be forgiven, we must forgive; to succeed in our goals, we must persevere; and to receive help, we must help others. Perhaps that's why Christ said, "Whoever wants to be powerful among you must be the best servant of others."

Today is the appointed day for personal transformation, the moment to become happy,

to enjoy every moment of life more, to build thoughts and plans that make you live happier, to achieve success in the things you set out to do, and to defeat misfortune, negativity, and fatalism. Remember that you are a child of God, that you build your path every day, and that you are born to be happy, and God loves you with eternal love. It's not about running a lot, but running well, following the right path. It's crucial to have a clear vision of where we want to go and then take the necessary steps. Without this clear vision, we risk going nowhere. Some people, in their attempt to fill their day and life with a sense of diligence and effectiveness, walk the path of nowhere. They should remember that when one doesn't know where they are going, they cannot end up well; their journey and life lack meaning. So, ask yourself, "Does the path I'm on lead to my goal?"

Support the Office of Education through the Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal

By Tina Edwards-Milam,
Annual Appeal Director

As we settle back to school, let's take time to prepare ourselves spiritually. Together we pray for God's blessing upon the schools, for the safety and sanctity of children, and for the wisdom and holiness of our students, teachers, principals, and parents. Let us thank God for every new day and the new school year. Let us be calm and mindful of God's presence with us as we face the joys and challenges of each day.

The Catholic schools in the Diocese of El Paso are staffed by men and women who have dedicated their lives to helping students receive a high-quality education and to help them develop a love of God and their faith. The Office of Education works closely with the Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal to support Catholic Schools. Catholic Schools provide high-quality education and religious formation.

Results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) over the last 20 years show that students in Catholic schools consistently score higher in reading and math than students attending public schools.

Academically, Catholic schools hold high expectations for students, instilling solid study skills and work ethic.

Pope Francis has said that Catholic education and formation are more important now more than ever in "an age awash in information often transmitted without wisdom or critical sense." Pope Francis continued, "As educators, you are called

to nurture the desire for truth, goodness, and beauty that lies in the heart of each individual so that all may learn how to love life and be open to the fullness of life." "Catholic education is also evangelization: bearing witness to the joy of the Gospel and its power to renew our communities and provide hope and strength in facing wisely the challenges of the present time," Pope Francis said.

I asked a few families why they chose to choose Catholic education and what it means for each of their families. Here is what they each had to say.

"As a father, you may have several reasons for enjoying having your kids in a Catholic School. One reason could be the emphasis on strong moral values and character development. Catholic Schools often prioritize teaching virtues such as compassion, honesty, and responsibility, which can help instill a sense of integrity and social responsibility in your children. The religious education provided at Catholic Schools can also foster a deeper understanding of faith and spirituality, allowing your children to develop a strong foundation in their religious beliefs. Furthermore, Catholic Schools often offer a supportive and close-knit community where parents, teachers, and students work together, creating a sense of belonging and a network of support for your family. Ultimately, the decision to enroll your children in a Catholic School is a personal one, and these reasons reflect some potential benefits that you, as a father, may find valuable for

your children's education and upbringing" Mario Marmolejo Jr. and wife Claudia Gabriela Marmolejo said.

"The education that my daughter has received in her 10 years of Catholic School has been integral in teaching the values that we as parents seek to instill in our children. Her teachers devoted their time and resources to ensure her success at every grade level. She was surrounded by good friends from good families and knowing that she could always rely on her faith and God to get her through her middle school years was a true blessing" Linda Caro said.

"When it came time for our oldest daughter to start school, my husband and I knew without a doubt, she would attend a Catholic School. St. Raphael Catholic School provides a strong educational and spiritual foundation that we wanted our daughters to have. The smaller classes allow the teachers to be able to focus on the students one on one, and the curriculum includes our Catholic faith in everyday tasks. As a product of Catholic Education, myself, I wanted to make sure my daughters had the same gift my parents gave to me and my sister, a relationship with God at an early age. My husband and I are very happy to see our daughters excited about their studies and about their Catholic Faith" Elizabeth Milan said.

Many may see to obtain a catholic education financially is not attainable, however with the gifts from donors helps those families who are seeking a Catholic Education manageable. This allows the children an opportunity to be able to thrive in their studies and learn about our Catholic Faith and a safe and warm environment.

In a world where God has



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been taken out of the picture in so many places, Catholic Schools place Him at the forefront of what they teach. He is the reason for Catholic Schools and the inspiration for how all should live. Students in Catholic Schools are invited to develop a moral compass and a deep set of values based on the Gospel to guide their future lives. Come, see how Catholic Schools offer high-quality education and lead our youth into deeper faith-based relationships with God.

The vital work of the Office of Education is made possible by the Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal and your continued sacrificial generosity and support. We invite you to participate in the Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal both through a commitment to prayer and a Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal gift. Visit 2023progress-cma.org today!

In a world where God has

Apoye La Oficina De Educación A Través Del Progreso: Campaña Católica Para Los Ministerios

Por Tina Edwards-Milam,
Directora de la Campaña Anual

Con la vuelta a la escuela, dediquemos tiempo a prepararnos espiritualmente. Oremos juntos por la bendición de Dios sobre las escuelas, por la seguridad y la santidad de los niños, y por la sabiduría y la santidad de nuestros alumnos, profesores, directores y padres. Demos gracias a Dios por cada nuevo día y por el nuevo curso escolar. Tengamos calma y seamos conscientes de la presencia de Dios con nosotros mientras afrontamos las alegrías y los retos de cada día.

Las escuelas católicas de la Diócesis de El Paso cuentan con hombres y mujeres que han dedicado sus vidas a ayudar a los estudiantes a recibir una educación de alta calidad y a ayudarles a desarrollar el amor a Dios y a su fe. La Oficina de Educación trabaja fielmente en colaboración con Progreso: Campaña Católica para los Ministerios para apoyar a las Escuelas Católicas. Las Escuelas Católicas proporcionan educación y formación religiosa de alta calidad.

Los resultados de la Evaluación Nacional del Progreso Educativo (NAEP) de los últimos 20 años muestran que los alumnos de las escuelas católicas obtienen sistemáticamente

mejores resultados en lectura y matemáticas que los alumnos de las escuelas públicas.

Desde el punto de vista académico, las escuelas católicas tienen grandes expectativas para los alumnos, inculcándoles sólidas técnicas de estudio y ética del trabajo.

El Papa Francisco ha dicho que la educación y la formación católicas son más importantes ahora que nunca en "una época inundada de información transmitida a menudo sin sabiduría ni sentido crítico." El Papa Francisco continuó: "Como educadores, estáis llamados a alimentar el deseo de verdad, bondad y belleza que hay en el corazón de cada persona, para que todos aprendan a amar la vida y a abrirse a la plenitud de la vida." "La educación católica es también evangelización: dar testimonio de la alegría del Evangelio y de su poder para renovar nuestras comunidades y proporcionar esperanza y fuerza para afrontar con sabiduría los desafíos del tiempo presente", dijo el Papa Francisco.

He preguntado a algunas familias por qué eligieron la educación católica y qué significa para cada una de ellas. Esto es lo que cada una de ellas tenía que decir.

"Como padre, puede tener

varias razones para disfrutar de tener a sus hijos en una escuela católica. Una de las razones podría ser el énfasis en los valores morales fuertes y el desarrollo del carácter. Las escuelas católicas suelen dar prioridad a la enseñanza de virtudes como la compasión, la honestidad y la responsabilidad, que pueden ayudar a inculcar a sus hijos un sentido de integridad y responsabilidad social. La educación religiosa impartida en las escuelas católicas también puede fomentar una comprensión más profunda de la fe y la espiritualidad, permitiendo a sus hijos desarrollar una base sólida en sus creencias religiosas. Además, las Escuelas Católicas suelen ofrecer una comunidad solidaria y unida en la que padres, profesores y alumnos trabajan juntos, creando un sentimiento de pertenencia y una red de apoyo para su familia. En última instancia, la decisión de matricular a sus hijos en una escuela católica es personal, y estas razones reflejan algunos beneficios potenciales que usted, como padre, puede encontrar valiosos para la educación y crianza de sus hijos" dijeron Mario Marmolejo Jr. y su esposa Claudia Gabriela Marmolejo.

"La educación que mi hija ha recibido en sus 10 años de Escuela Católica ha sido integral en

la enseñanza de los valores que nosotros como padres buscamos inculcar en nuestros hijos. Sus profesores dedicaron su tiempo y recursos para asegurar su éxito en cada grado. Estaba rodeada de buenos amigos de buenas familias y saber que siempre podía confiar en su fe y en Dios para superar sus años de secundaria fue una verdadera bendición", dijo Linda Caro.

"Cuando llegó el momento de que nuestra hija mayor comenzara la escuela, mi marido y yo sabíamos sin lugar a dudas que asistiría a una escuela católica. La escuela Católica de San Raphael proporciona una sólida base educativa y espiritual que queríamos que nuestras hijas tuvieran. Las clases más pequeñas permiten a los profesores centrarse en los estudiantes uno a uno, y el plan de estudios incluye nuestra fe católica en las tareas cotidianas. Como producto de la educación católica, yo quería asegurarme de que mis hijas tuvieran el mismo regalo que mis padres nos dieron a mí y a mi hermana, una relación con Dios a una edad temprana. Mi marido y yo estamos muy contentos de ver a nuestras hijas entusiasmadas con sus estudios y con su fe católica", dijo Elizabeth Milan.

Muchos pueden ver que obtener una educación católica finan-

ciamente no es atendible, sin embargo, con las donaciones de los donantes se ayuda a aquellas familias que buscan una Educación Católica manejable. Esto permite a los niños la oportunidad de ser capaz de prosperar en sus estudios y aprender acerca de nuestra fe católica y un ambiente seguro y cálido.

En un mundo en el que Dios ha sido eliminado de la escena en tantos lugares, las Escuelas Católicas lo sitúan en el primer plano de lo que enseñan. Él es la razón de ser de las Escuelas Católicas y la inspiración de cómo deben vivir todos. Los alumnos de las Escuelas Católicas son invitados a desarrollar una brújula moral y un profundo conjunto de valores basados en el Evangelio para guiar sus vidas futuras. Venga y vea cómo las Escuelas Católicas ofrecen una educación de alta calidad y conducen a nuestros jóvenes hacia relaciones más profundas con Dios basadas en la fe.

El trabajo vital de la Oficina de Educación es posible gracias a Progreso: Campaña Católica para los Ministerios y su continua generosidad y apoyo. Los invitamos a participar en oración y un regalo a Progreso: Campaña Católica para los Ministerios. Visite 2023progress-cma.org hoy mismo.

LOOK AT WHAT 2024 HAS FOR YOU!

NEW! PILGRIMAGE	NEW! PILGRIMAGE	NEW! PILGRIMAGE
<p><u>MARIAN SHRINES</u> BARCELONA - MONTSERRAT - ZARAGOZA LOURDES - LOYOLA - BURGOS SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA FATIMA - LISBON</p> <p><i>Bishop Tony Celino & Fr. Marcus McFadin</i></p> <p>\$5,399 Includes R/T Air from El Paso Based on Double Occupancy September 5 - 16, 2024</p> <p>EXPERIENCE THE HEALING WATERS OF LOURDES. TOUR THE AMAZING SAGRADA FAMILIA. PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCESSION OF FATIMA. PRAY AT THE BLACK MADONNA OF MONTSERRAT.</p> 	<p><u>STEPS OF ST. PAUL GREECE</u></p> <p><u>Includes a 3 Day Aegean Sea Cruise</u></p> <p><i>Fr. Beto Lopez</i></p> <p>ATHENS - THESSALONIKI - PHILIPPI - DELPHI METEORA - CORINTH - MYKONOS - CRETE EPHEBUS (HOUSE OF MARY) - SANTORINI +</p> <p>Walk in the footsteps of St. Paul as we explore the treasures and beauty of this magical country.</p> <p>October 4 - 14, 2024 \$5,299 Includes R/T Air from El Paso Based on Double Occupancy</p> 	<p><u>SHRINES OF NORTHERN FRANCE</u></p> <p>PARIS - CHARTRES - LISIEUX MONT SAINT MICHEL - ORLEANS CHAMBORD - LYON - ARS - NEVERS VERSAILLES - PARIS</p> <p><i>Fr. Mariano Lopez</i> October 8 - 18, 2024 \$5,499 Includes R/T Air from El Paso Based on Double Occupancy</p> <p>EXPERIENCE THE SITES OF PARIS. WALK ALONG THE SANDS OF NORMANDY BEACH. VISIT THE AMAZING MONT SAINT MICHEL. VIEW THE CORRUPT BODY OF ST. BERNADETTE. SEE THE PALACE OF FRENCH KING (VERSAILLES)</p> 

LAST CALL! RIVER CRUISE LAST CALL!	NEW! OCEAN CRUISE
<p><u>PARIS - NORMANDY - SEINE RIVER</u></p> <p>PARIS - MONET'S HOME & GARDEN - HONFLEUF, AND MORE</p> <p>Starting at \$3,299 per person</p> <p>April 14 - 25, 2024</p> <p>Very Limited Space Free DVD & Detailed Brochure Available</p>  	<p><u>AN AMAZING 14-DAY MEDITERRANEAN, GREEK ISLES, FRANCE & TURKEY CRUISE!!!</u></p> <p>BARCELONA - GIBRALTAR - MARSEILLE - FLORENCE - ROME - NAPLES SANTORINI - ISTANBUL - ATHENS - AND MORE!!</p> <p>August 3-17, 2024 - Starting at \$2,899 Per Person</p> <p><i>Fr. Ben Flores - Mother Cabrini</i></p> <p>SUN PRINCESS - THE NEWEST LUXURY SHIP IN THE PRINCESS CRUISES FLEET! THIS SHIP WILL SELL OUT QUICKLY! CALL TODAY FOR FURTHER DETAILS.</p>  

NEW! PILGRIMAGE	OCEAN CRUISE	NEW! OCEAN CRUISE
<p><u>The Ultimate Holy Land 11 Day Pilgrimage</u></p> <p>April 10-20, 2024 <i>Fr. Nathan Mamo</i></p> <p>JERUSALEM - BETHLEHEM - MT. TABOR - MOUNT OF OLIVES RENEW YOUR BAPTISM IN THE JORDAN RENEW YOUR WEDDING VOWS IN CANA PRAY IN THE HOLY SEPULCHER, +.</p> <p>\$5,599 Includes Round Trip Air from El Paso. Based on Double Occupancy The Holy Land remains the #1 destination for Catholics!</p>	<p>2 Oceans & 1 Canal! PANAMA CANAL CRUISE</p> <p>Ft. Lauderdale to Los Angeles 8 Ports in 15 Days Colombia - Panama - Costa Rica Nicaragua - Huatulco & Puerto Vallarta, Mexico</p> <p>March 6 - 21, 2024 (16 Days) From \$1,419 Per Person</p>  	<p><u>HOW WILL YOU RING IN 2025???</u></p> <p><u>New Year's Eve Cruise</u> Round trip from Galveston 3 Ports in 7 Days Cozumel - Costa Maya and Roatan, Honduras</p> <p>Dec. 29 - Jan 4, 2024/2025 From \$777.00 Per Person Cruise Only - Air Not Included</p>  

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT! - LIMITED OPPORTUNITY!

<p>FINAL DATE TO BOOK! DEC. 15, 2023</p>	<p><i>Best of Britain - England - Wales - Scotland Featuring the Famous Edenburg Castle Military Tattoo!</i> <i>Fr. Frank Lopez - St. Matthew Parish</i> AUGUST 10 - 20, 2024 - \$3,799</p>	<p>FINAL DATE TO BOOK! DEC. 15, 2023</p>
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FOR MORE INFORMATION - CONTACT
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2023 Steward of Steward of the Year Contest Nominees

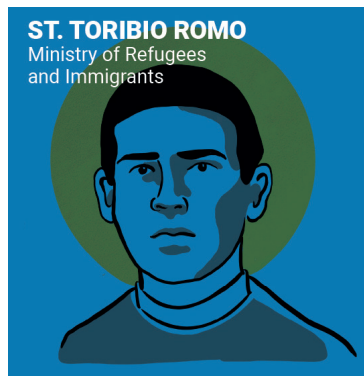
By Karina Sandoval
Stewardship Coordinator

The Catholic Foundation proudly presents the 2023 Steward of the Year contest. Congratulations to our nominees and may God continue to guide your life of service.

Category winners will be announced in the Catholic Foundation social media, the Steward of the Year will be announced on September 2023 and will be recognized at the 17th Annual Foundation of Faith Event: Here I am, Lord on September 7, 2023 at the Starlight Event Center. Please follow us at the Catholic Foundation Facebook account: Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso

For more information, please contact Karina Sandoval Enriquez at ksandoval@catholic-foundationelpaso.org

Meet our nominees by category:



St. Toribio Romo - Patron saint of Mexican migrants and border crossers, this category recognizes the service to refugees and immigrants.

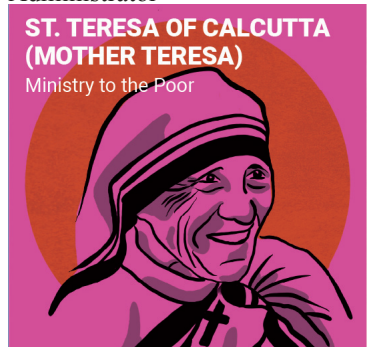
Sofia Escobar, Loretto Academy High School, Student

“As a rising Loretto Academy Junior, Sofia Escobar noticed the large number of immigrants at the border as she passed over the international bridge every morning driving to Loretto Academy High School. Sofia witnessed the lack of supplies for those awaiting entrance to the United States, and she showed initiative by creating a school-wide service project at the end of the school year providing protein to those hungry immigrants. Sofia cleverly named it “A-Pollo for Immigrants” which was a play on the word “apoyo” meaning “support” in Spanish. For every five-dollar student donation, Sofia would feed protein to these people with

either eggs or chicken.” -Patricia R. Martinez, Dean of Students

Robert Salas, San Antonio de Padua Parish, Parish Minister

“The nominee has committed himself to serving no matter what. One time he and another group of volunteers from our parish contracted Covid. I asked him, “How did you contract the disease?” He explained that one of the migrant children did not want to be tested and was being very mischievous. The child was angry and was moving around from one place to another. With the consent of the parents, the nominee had to physically hold him still for the testing. Shortly after, he started presenting symptoms. He never complained about contracting the illness, even though this was risky for him, because he was seeking to serve God. He exemplifies redemptive suffering as he has gone through many challenges in order to fulfill his mission.” - Rev. Mariano Lopez, Parish Administrator



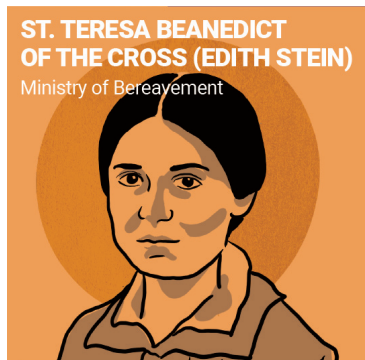
St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) - The mother of the poor, this category recognizes the service to the ones who experience a lack of resources, e.g. food pantries, delivery of food to the homebound.

Genevieve Bassham - St. Mary's Catholic Church- Marfa, TX - Parish Minister

“On the week before Thanksgiving, she would ask some of the restaurants in town to fetch her a packed lunch to be delivered to the homebound, especially older people who are alone at their homes. On top of that, after all her hard work, she does not want her name to be mentioned in the bulletin or to anyone because, for her, what she is doing is giving favor to God in serving others.” - Rev. Victorino Loresca, Parish Administrator

Luis Roberto Ortega - San Antonio de Padua Parish - Religious Formation Director

“The nominee is employed at our parish for the position of Director of Religious Formation. Aside from serving in this capacity, he is always willing to serve in whatever is needed at the parish. The nominee has made an impact on the poor. There is a poor man who comes with a walker because his leg has been amputated. He is not consistent at the parish, but I was surprised that he knew the nominee by name and asked me about him. When I told the nominee that I was concerned about this poor individual he shared with me the different ways in which he has tried for St. Vincent de Paul and other organizations to help him.” - Rev. Mariano Lopez, Parish Administrator

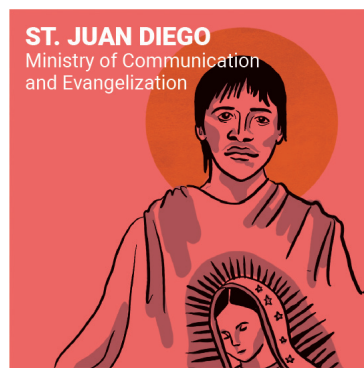


St. Teresa Benedict of the Cross (Edith Stein) - She loved and nurtured those around her during the Nazi occupation, this category recognizes the service to the ones who suffered the loss of their loved ones.

Ma. Guadalupe Gonzalez - San Antonio de Padua Parish - Parish Minister

“One time she explained that even though she was already busy she felt there was a need for the parish to provide follow up support for the families of those who were grieving. While the pastor avoided this matter out of a concern to not over burden the nominee, the nominee persisted. Finally, the pastor approved for the nominee to lead a grieving seminar around the holiday season. This was a big hit for the community and the surrounding parishes. There were about 50 participants who had different grieving experiences. The nominee developed rituals and an environment for the seminar.” - Rev. Mariano Lopez, Parish Administrator

St. Juan Diego - Our Lady's messenger of hope, this category



recognizes the service of communication and evangelization.

Aida Rivera - Our Lady of Sorrows Parish - Parish Minister

“Ms. Aida is a person who is always available for the support of the parish, the community and the friars, the person who is charge among other things of the collections of the monthly tithes, she is in charge of distributing the envelopes to the parishioners, and also of generating the letters for the tax returns.” - Rev. Felipe Mariscal Chavez, Pastor

Issac Esparza - San Antonio de Padua Parish - Parish Minister

“The nominee has been extremely committed to keeping our parish active on social media, especially Facebook and YouTube. He has published the Saturday evening Mass in Spanish and the Sunday morning Mass in English ever since the beginning of the pandemic. The nominee has published additional parish events such as the ministry fair, novenas, Guadalupe Festivities and much more. The nominee took the initiative to do this and has continued for the past 3 ½ years without it being asked of him. He has also, on his own, purchased the necessary equipment and sought sponsors for equipment without any expense to the parish.” - Rev. Mariano Lopez, Parish Administrator

Maria Villegas - All Saints Parish - Parish Minister

“Maria is very active and very aware of all that goes on around the parish, she finds out which of the parishioners need assistance

and lets the pastor or the staff know what is needed, she lives very close to the church and takes care of the grounds, often doing this very early in the morning, before the sun comes out. Maria leads the weekly Rosary and invites people to participate, if anything liturgical comes up, Maria will certainly be there, not only participating, but also bringing people together to pray, meditate, and reflect.” - Paula Favela, Parish Staff



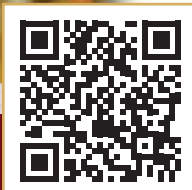
St. John of God - Patron saint of the sick, nurses and hospitals, this category recognizes the urgent service to the sick, specially to the ones suffering from mental health illnesses.

Gilda Morales - Our Lady of Fatima, Van Horn, TX - Parish Minister

“Gilda Morales is a lifelong member of Our Lady of Fatima in Van Horn, she is the organist of the 8:00 am Spanish choir on Sundays and helps to guide the group in giving praise to the Lord, she is a nurse practitioner in the hospital in Van Horn and is on-call, sometimes she leaves Mass to take care of whoever comes into the ER, we are left without our singing leader, but it is to help others who are sick.” - Rev. Francisco Hernandez, Pastor

Ma. Elena Hernandez - All Saints Parish - Parish Minister

“Malena visited a parishioner regularly when she became ill. They would pray, read, and share stories together, Malena walked the journey with the parishioner until she passed away, Malena



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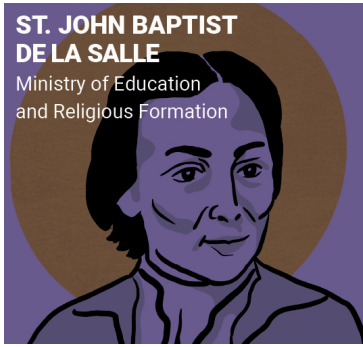
fell in love with the ministry of visiting the sick. Malena asked if she could be included in the ministry to the sick, as she knew this was her calling, she wanted to serve sick parishioners. The ministry was revived after the pandemic due to Malena's interest; she continues to visit homebound parishioners regularly." - Paula Favela, All Saints Parish Staff.

Veronica Alvarado - San Antonio de Padua Parish - Parish Minister

"The nominee has been committed to the parish for several years and has taken on occasional leadership roles. However, in the last two years she has taken on a more consistent leadership role in the San Pascual Ministry. This ministry seeks to provide nourishment and to encourage the proper nutrition of people, by providing free meals every two weeks. In addition, the ministry has offered traditional meals to the community at different times and different holidays. They are always considerate of preparing meals in such a way that they are able to be consumed comfortably and tastefully by people who are diabetic, with high blood pressure, or the elderly population." - Rev. Mariano Lopez, Parish Administrator

St. John Baptist of La Salle - Patron saint of teachers, this category recognizes the service of catechists and catholic school teachers.

Carlos Navar - San Antonio de Padua Parish - Catechist
 "The nominee has been a very



ST. JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE
 Ministry of Education and Religious Formation

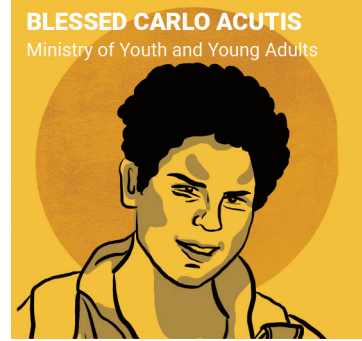
dedicated catechist at the parish. His family has deep roots in the parish. During the pandemic, they were away from the parish. After the pandemic, the nominee was invited by our new director of religious formation to serve as a catechist. The nominee was very generous in responding to the invitation. Catechesis is more than teaching religion to the people, it is a process of mentoring in the faith so that the individuals participating may come to know the person of Jesus. The nominee does precisely this."

- Rev. Mariano Lopez, Parish Administrator
Mauricio Olvera - Cathedral High School - Student
 "Mauricio is an active member of the Cathedral High School community. Not only has he shown leadership through his involvement in the National Science Honor Society as President, and the National Honor Society as Secretary, but he has also been involved in several extra-curricular activities at the school. His most notable contributions have been to the Cathedral High School retreat program, where he has assisted as a team leader to both Freshmen and Sophomores. In this capacity, he has helped to strengthen the LaSallian charism

that is present on our campus, as well as to further the spiritual growth of his fellow classmates." - Amanda Estrada, Assistant Principal
Sr. Maria Cecilia Hernandez, SSHJP - Historical Ministry
 "In 1975, her congregation's superiors sent her with two sisters in Kenya to undertake educational ministry, she worked in Kenya for 42 years as a pioneer in education in two dioceses working specifically with the Kikuyu Tribes in Nakuru Diocese and with the Kipsigis Tribe in the Kericho diocese, as a missionary she was a teacher, a builder of schools, an architect, a nurse, and a cook and sometimes she acted as a beggar especially when she was requesting financial assistance from parishes in North Italy. - Dr. Hollis, Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Jim Horan - Most Holy Trinity Catholic School - Principal
 Jim became principal of our school after retiring from a successful career as an administrator in public schools. With that background and knowledge, he was shocked to find that our school only had 64 students at the time, however, he puts his faith and trust in God, telling people that "God has his arms around the school and he won't let it fail"... now we've added nearly 100 more students to the 64 we had when he started. - Rev. Michael Lewis, Most Holy Trinity Parish, Pastor
Charles and Sharon Vass - Most Holy Trinity Catholic School - Volunteers
 "Sharon and Charles Vass have worked together during the past

14 years to help Most Holy Trinity Catholic School, they have donated money for students in need to attend Most Holy Trinity. Sharon performs a variety of duties around the campus, including librarian, nutrition clerk, FACTS Management biller, and more. She also takes time to greet our families in the morning when they come to school. Charles assists in the computer lab, when needed, and with installing or prepping new tech devices when we receive them." - Jim Horan, Principal



BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS
 Ministry of Youth and Young Adults

Blessed Carlo Acutis - A young devout Catholic who loved computers and video games, this category recognizes service by and to youth and young adults.

Becky Rodriguez - San Antonio de Padua Parish - Youth Minister
 "Currently, the parish is mostly an older community. However, she feels very strongly about advocating for the youth of the parish. She became the representative or leader of the youth group as the previous coordinators left the ministry and without a new leader the group would collapse. After becoming the

leader, the pandemic came and the youth group went through many challenges. As the pandemic continued and meetings in person began at the parish, she quickly asked if the youth could begin to meet. She gathered four other youth leaders and they promoted the youth group in various ways." - Rev. Mariano Lopez, Parish Administrator
Gabriel Saucedo - Cathedral High School - Alumni
 "Gabriel has a heart for service. During his time at Cathedral, he exhibited a sincere desire to help his classmates through simple acts of kindness. He would often befriend new students in order to assist them as they navigated their first year(s) at Cathedral, and is seen as a role model by many. At his graduation in May 2023, he was given the De la Salle Award by the De la Salle Christian Brothers, an award given to a senior who has exemplified service to the Cathedral, and the greater El Paso, communities." - Amanda Estrada, Assistant Principal

For more information about the Steward of the Year contest, please contact Karina Sandoval at ksandoval@catholicfoundationelpaso.org or at 915-872-8412.

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DIOCESAN STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE
 A Servant Leader's Response:
IMPACTING LIVES THROUGH SERVICE



SAN ANTONIO DE PADUA PARISH
 503 Hunter Dr. El Paso, TX 79915
Saturday, August 12th, 2023
 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
 Lunch included • Special sessions for Clergy and Religious

CARLOS PROAÑO
 Director of Stewardship and Development, Diocese of San Jose
Spirituality of Stewardship: Supporting the mission of Christ
 Bilingual presentation

CONFERENCIA DIOCESANA DE CORRESPONSABILIDAD
 LA RESPUESTA DE UN SERVIDOR LÍDER:
IMPACTANDO VIDAS A TRAVÉS DEL SERVICIO



PARROQUIA SAN ANTONIO DE PADUA
 503 Hunter Dr. El Paso, TX 79915
Sábado 12 de Agosto del 2023
 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
 Comida incluida • Sesiones especiales para el Clero y Religiosos(as)

CARLOS PROAÑO
 Director de Corresponsabilidad y Desarrollo, Diócesis de San José
La Espiritualidad de una Corresponsabilidad: Apoyando la misión de Cristo
 Presentación bilingüe

SCAN TO REGISTER



ESCANEE AQUÍ PARA REGISTRACION

BISHOP MARK SEITZ
The Steward is a Disciple: A Path to Holiness
 Bilingual presentation

DEACON JESUS CARDENAS
Social Media as Key to Evangelizing

FR. MARIANO LOPEZ
How Stewardship Can Transform Your Parish

ARTURO ADAME
How Practical Stewardship Speaks to Young Adults

OBISPO MARK SEITZ
 Diócesis de El Paso
El Servidor Corresponsable es un Discipulo: El Camino a la Santidad
 Presentación bilingüe

DIÁCONO JESÚS CÁRDENAS
La Cultura de los Medios Sociales como medios de Evangelización

REV. MARIANO LÓPEZ
La Corresponsabilidad Transforma a Tu Parroquia

ARTURO ADAME
Como una Corresponsabilidad Practica se Dirige a los Jóvenes Adultos



CATHOLIC FOUNDATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF EL PASO



OSV Our Sunday Visitor

For registration contact Karina Sandoval, by Friday, August 4th at ksandoval@catholicfoundationelpaso.org or at 915-872-8412

Para registraci3n contacte a Karina Sandoval antes del viernes 4 de agosto en ksandoval@catholicfoundationelpaso.org o al 915-872-8412

Campaign "We Are The Body Of Christ" To The Rescue!

By Martha Marmolejo
Campaign Coordinator

The We Are The Body of Christ Campaign was launched in 2019 to help support the seminarian and diaconate educational fees, catholic education, religious formation in our community, local parish needs, and parish emergency assistance.

As you've been reading in the previous Rio Grande Catholic Newsletters, parishes are beginning to see the benefits

from the Parish Share funds that the parish receives from the campaign. We are very excited to feature more success stories from parishes as well as schools and other projects that have been possible to achieve because of your continued generosity and support of the campaign, and please stay tuned for near future articles.

Let's see how the campaign is doing by comparing the general statistics update as of June 30, 2023.

Total # Parishes: 67

Total # of Parishioners: 40,381
Total # Parishioners Participating 7,513
% of Participation: 18.61%
Total Amount Pledged \$14,746,255.54
Total Amount Paid: \$5,187,031.75
Balance: \$9,559,223.79
Average Pledge: \$1,962.77
% of Pledges Collected: 35.18%
Goal: \$17,856,450.00
% of Goal Achieved: 82.58%
Should you have any questions or concerns, or want to

learn more about the campaign, fulfilling your pledge, or making payments, do not hesitate to reach out to Martha Marmolejo, Pledge Fulfillment Specialist, for the We Are the Body of Christ, Capital Campaign at 915-872-8412 ext. 137 or email at mmarmolejo@elpasodiocese.org.



¡Campaña "Somos El Cuerpo De Cristo" Al Rescate!

By Martha Marmolejo
Campaign Coordinator

The We Are The Body of ChLa Campaña Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo se lanzó en 2019 para ayudar a financiar las necesidades educativas de los seminaristas y diaconados, la educación católica, la formación religiosa en nuestra comunidad, las necesidades parroquiales locales y la asistencia parroquial

de emergencia. Como ya sabrá y ha estado leyendo en los Boletines Católicos del Rio Grande anteriores, las parroquias están comenzando a ver los beneficios de los fondos regresados a su Parroquia como participación a la campaña. Estamos muy emocionados de presentar más historias de éxito parroquial, así como de escuelas y otros proyectos, los cuales han sido posibles gracias a su con-

tinua generosidad y apoyo a la campaña. Por favor permanezcan atentos a los próximos artículos. Veamos cómo le está yendo a la campaña comparando la actualización de las estadísticas generales al 30 de junio de 2023.
Número total de parroquias: 67
Número total de feligreses: 40,381
Número total de feligreses participantes 7,513
% de Participación: 18,61%

Monto Total Comprometido \$14,746,255.54
Monto Total Pagado: \$5,187,031.75
Saldo: \$9,559,223.79
Compromiso Promedio: \$1,962.77
% de Promesas Recaudadas: 35.18%
Meta: \$17,856,450.00
% de Meta Conseguida: 82,58%
Si tiene alguna pregunta o

inquietud, o desea obtener más información sobre la campaña, el cumplimiento de su compromiso o la realización de pagos, no dude en comunicarse con Martha Marmolejo, Especialista en Cumplimiento de Promesas, para la Campaña Capital Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo. al 915-872-8412 ext. 137 o correo electrónico a mmarmolejo@elpasodiocese.org.

Daber Adonai דַּבֵּר אֲדֹנָי Discernment Group

2023 Dates (Mondays):
• Aug. 21 • Nov. 6
• Sept. 25 • Dec. 4

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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



Help Welcome 4 New Sisters to our Diocese

By Fr. Arturo Bañuelas
Special to the Rio Grande

God willing four Sisters from Colombia will be coming to our diocese in October. The sisters who belong to the religious order “Hijas del Fiat” (Daughters of the fiat) will live at Casa Guadalupe for five years as part of a Catholic Extension Society program. They will minister in parishes, study for a master’s degree (on line and in person), and do retreat work at our diocesan Casa Guadalupe Retreat House.

The Sisters will be living at the retreat house, and a special committee has been formed to lead the much needed renovation of one of the houses at the retreat center. Alongside the structural renovations such as bathrooms, bedrooms, chapel, heating and cooling systems, are also basic household needs such as towels, linens, pots and pans and basically all that goes into a home for four persons. We also need two used, but in good condition, cars for the sisters.

The arrival of the sisters will be a tremendous blessing for all of us. Prayer, retreat ministry and Evangelization is a large part of their charism. They pray 4 to 5 hours a day, and they will include us in their daily prayers. Also, hopefully they will inspire other young women to enter the religious life.

We need your help to welcome them and to prepare a simple yet suitable convent for the sisters. You can donate at two levels. First we are looking for sponsors (padrinos and madrinan) who will partner with the sisters. Second we need donors for the needed in-house items. Please consider a generous donation to welcome the sisters to El Paso.

To help, please call Verónica Rayas, retreat house director, at 915-342-7859. What a blessing to be able to welcome four new women religious to our diocese



The sisters who belong to the religious order “Hijas del Fiat” (Daughters of the fiat) will live at Casa Guadalupe for five years as part of a Catholic Extension Society program. The Sisters will be living at the retreat house, and a special committee has been formed to lead the much needed renovation of one of the houses at the retreat center. Photo Courtesy of Casa Guadalupe

Ayude dar bienvenida a 4 nuevas Hermanas a nuestra Diócesis

Por Fr. Arturo Bañuelas
Especial a el Rio Grande

Si Dios quiere cuatro Hermanas de Colombia vendrán a nuestra diócesis en octubre. Las hermanas que pertenecen a la orden religiosa “Hijas del Fiat” vivirán en Casa Guadalupe durante cinco años como parte de un programa de la Sociedad de Extensión Católica. Ellas ejercerán su ministerio en parroquias, estudiarán para

obtener una maestría (en línea y en persona), y harán trabajo de retiro en nuestra Casa de Retiros diocesana Casa Guadalupe.

Las Hermanas vivirán en la casa de retiros, y se ha formado un comité especial para dirigir la tan necesaria renovación de una de las casas del centro de retiros. Junto a las renovaciones estructurales como baños, dormitorios, capilla, sistemas de calefacción y refrigeración, también están las necesidades básicas del hogar

como toallas, sábanas, ollas y sartenes y básicamente todo lo que se necesita en un hogar para cuatro personas. También necesitamos dos coches usados, pero en buen estado, para las hermanas.

La llegada de las hermanas será una tremenda bendición para todos nosotros. La oración, el ministerio de retiros y la evangelización son una gran parte de su carisma. Rezan de 4 a 5 horas al día, y nos incluirán en sus oraciones diarias. Además, espera-

mos que inspiren a otras jóvenes a entrar en la vida religiosa.

Necesitamos tu ayuda para acogerlas y preparar un convento sencillo pero adecuado para las hermanas. Puedes hacer donaciones a dos niveles. En primer lugar, buscamos padrinos (padrinos y madrinan) que se asocien con las hermanas. En segundo lugar, necesitamos donantes para los artículos internos necesarios. Por favor considere una donación generosa para dar la bienvenida a

las hermanas a El Paso.

Para ayudar, por favor llamen a Verónica Rayas, directora de la casa de retiros, al 915-342-7859. Qué bendición poder dar la bienvenida a cuatro nuevas religiosas a nuestra diócesis.



Casa Guadalupe Retreat House

Welcomes

SR. PATRICIA
SR. YESENIA
SR. ANA MARIA &
SR. JANETH

“Hijas del Fiat” from Colombia

Casa Guadalupe Retreat House is thrilled to receive four religious sisters who will come to the Diocese of El Paso to serve for 5-years. Thanks to a grant from Catholic Extension Society in conjunction with the Conrad Hilton Foundation, these sisters will live at Casa Guadalupe to assist with developing programs, retreats, and days of reflection and will also serve in parish ministry.

We have established a Sisters fund to prepare for their arrival. This will allow for simple but comfortable renovations to the sister's new home, a chapel for their 4+ hours of prayer a day, transportation, computers, furniture and household items.

HELP US WELCOME THE SISTERS BY:

- MAKING A MONETARY DONATION TOWARDS THE RENOVATION OF THE SISTERS HOUSE
- DONATING A USED CAR IN GOOD CONDITION (NEED 3)
- DONATING A LAPTOP COMPUTER 2018 OR NEWER (NEED 4)
- DONATING A CELLPHONE IN WORKING CONDITION. (NEED 4)

If you would like to help, please contact Veronica Rayas, Ph.D., Director of Casa Guadalupe Retreat House at 915-342-7859 or email vrayas@elpasodiocese.org

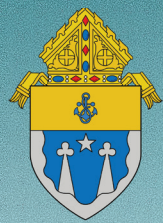


"Unidos Venceremos" - "United We Overcome"

El Paso, TX

SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2023

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS: FRIDAY - KANDELA, MATACHINES TOKIO, MAJESTAD,
 SATURDAY - YKNOT, BALLEF FOLKLORICO ORGULLO DE MI TIERRA, GRUPO PRIMERA SONORA BLU
 SUNDAY - SILUETA, WEST TEXAS APACHE



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
EL PASO

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL CEMETERY

The only Catholic cemetery in the El Paso area was established to serve the needs of our Catholic Community in their time of mourning and need. We help guide our families with end-of-life arrangements with pastoral care during your time of greatest need.

Facilities and Services include an intimate chapel for on-site services, a place for the interment of cremated remains in our columbarium or the chapel, and we also offer traditional in-ground burials or in our mausoleum. Mt. Carmel's peaceful grounds are maintained by environmentally responsible reclaimed water.

401 S. Zaragoza Road • (915) 860-0606

<https://www.elpasodiocese.org/our-lady-of-mt-carmel-cemetery.html> • mtcarmel@mtcarmeelp.org