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March 2023

Pope Francis Appoints New Auxiliary Bishop to El Paso

EL Paso, TX - Pope Francis has announced the appointment of a new auxiliary bishop for the Diocese of El Paso, the Very Rev. Anthony C Celino, Bishop-elect. Celino is the current Pastor of St. Raphael Parish in East El Paso and current judicial vicar for the Diocese of El Paso.

Pope Francis announced the appointment on February 8, 2023. The appointment of an auxiliary bishop is the first since the establishment of the Diocese of El Paso in 1914.

The episcopal ordination for Bishop-elect Celino has been scheduled for March 31st at St. Patrick Cathedral at 2:00pm.

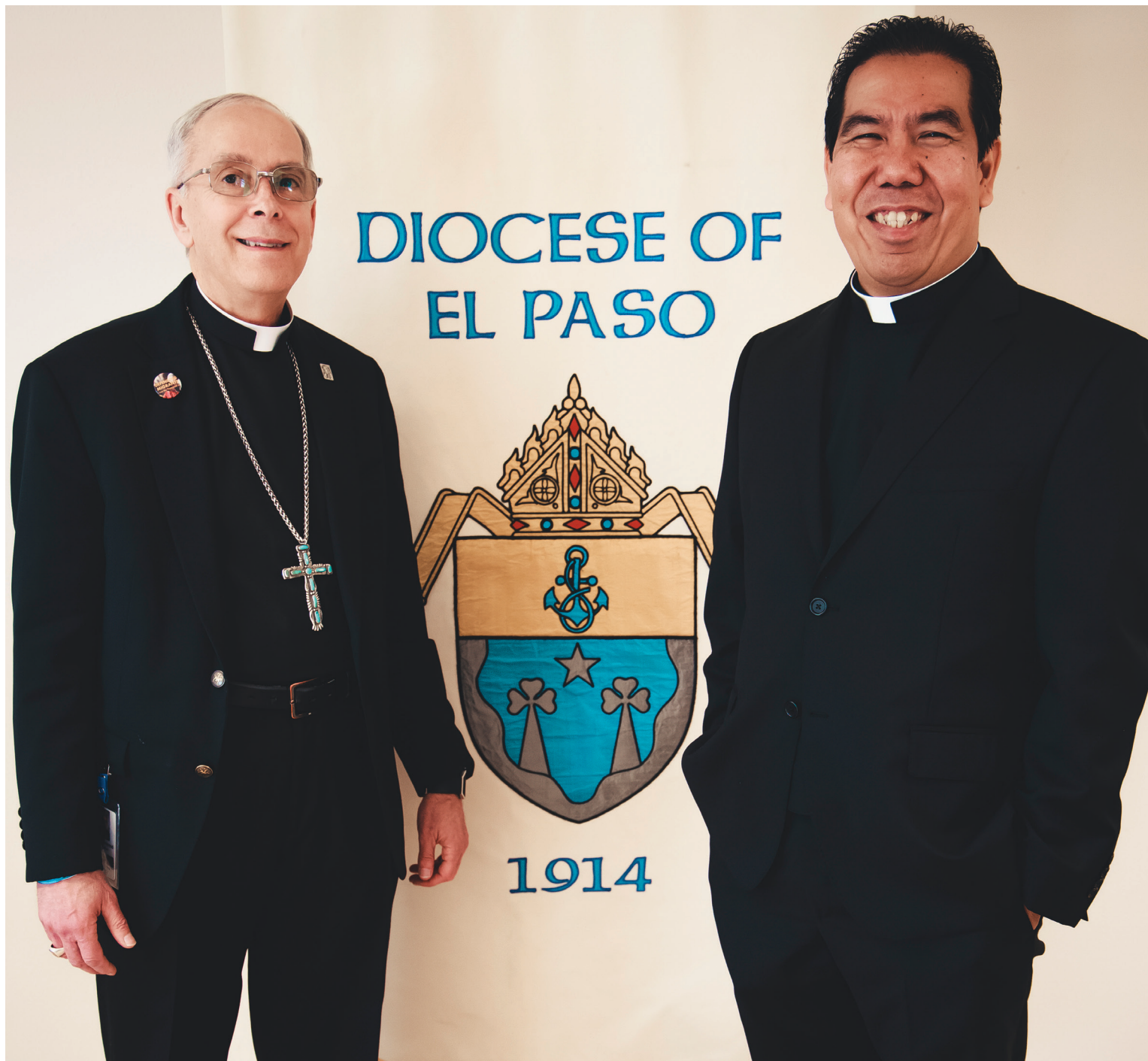
"We thank the Holy Father for his attention and care for the Diocese of El Paso," Bishop Mark Seitz said. "Bishop-elect Celino's qualities are known in the diocese. He has previously served as my vicar general and made substantive contributions to the local church's life. He brings a unique experience as a Filipino immigrant serving our border community as a priest for the past twenty-five years, a steadfast dedication to pastoral ministry, and fidelity to the Gospel."

Bishop-elect Celino was born in the Philippines on April 29, 1972, to the late Mines (Cerdan) and Teodolo Celino. He is the youngest of seven children. Bishop-elect Celino attended Mary Help of Christians High School Seminary and Mary Help of Christians College Seminary in the Philippines. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in 1993. Bishop-elect Celino immigrated directly to the El Paso area from the Philippines in 1993. He graduated from the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois, in 1997 with a Master of Divinity and Bachelor of Sacred Theology degrees. He received a Licentiate in Canon Law from the Catholic University of America in 2003.

After his ordination to the priesthood in 1997, Bishop-elect Celino was assigned as parochial vicar at St. Patrick Cathedral in El Paso and then at Our Lady of Peace in Alpine, Texas. He also served as the pastor of the former Santa Lucia Parish, now St. John Paul II Parish.

Bishop-elect Celino has served the Diocese of El Paso as a Vicar General, Moderator of the Curia, and Chancellor and taught at the Tepeyac Institute.

From December 2011 to July 2013, during the sede vacante in the Diocese of El Paso, he served as the delegate of the Apostolic Administrator, Emeritus Bishop Armando X. Ochoa, D.D., then Bishop of Fresno, California.



A new chapter for El Paso: Bishop Mark Seitz welcomes Bishop-elect Anthony Celino as the newest member of the Diocese. Pope Francis announced the appointment on February 8, 2023. The appointment of an auxiliary bishop is the first since the establishment of the Diocese of El Paso in 1914. The episcopal ordination for Bishop-elect Celino has been scheduled for March 31st at St. Patrick Cathedral at 2:00pm. Photo by Fernie Cenicerros

El Papa Francisco nombra nuevo obispo auxiliar de El Paso

EL Paso, TX - El Papa Francisco ha anunciado el nombramiento de un nuevo obispo auxiliar para la Diócesis de El Paso, el Muy Reverendo Anthony C Celino, Obispo electo. Celino es el actual párroco de la Parroquia de San Rafael en East El Paso y actual vicario judicial de la Diócesis de El Paso.

El Papa Francisco anunció el nombramiento el 8 de febrero de 2023. El nombramiento de un obispo auxiliar es el primero desde el establecimiento de la Diócesis de El Paso en 1914.

La ordenación episcopal para el obispo electo Celino ha sido programada para el 31 de marzo en la Catedral de San Patricio a las 2:00pm.

"Agradecemos al Santo Padre su atención y cuidado por la Diócesis de El Paso", dijo el Obispo Mark Seitz. "Las cualidades del Obispo electo Celino son conocidas en la diócesis. Ha servido anteriormente como mi vicario general y ha hecho contribuciones sustanciales a la vida de la iglesia local. Aporta una experiencia única como inmigrante filipino al servicio de nuestra comunidad fronteriza como sacerdote durante los últimos veinticinco años, una firme dedicación al ministerio pastoral y fidelidad al Evangelio."

El obispo electo Celino nació en Filipinas el 29 de abril de 1972, hijo de Mines (Cerdan) y Teodolo Celino. Es el menor de

siete hermanos. El obispo electo Celino estudió en el Seminario Secundario María Auxiliadora y en el Seminario Universitario María Auxiliadora de Filipinas. Se licenció en Filosofía en 1993. El obispo electo Celino emigró directamente a la zona de El Paso desde Filipinas en 1993. Se graduó de la Universidad de Santa María del Lago / Seminario Mundelein en Mundelein, Illinois, en 1997 con una Maestría en Divinidad y Licenciatura en Teología Sagrada. En 2003 obtuvo la Licenciatura en Derecho Canónico por la Universidad Católica de América.

Tras su ordenación sacerdotal en 1997, el obispo electo Celino fue destinado como vicario par-

roquial a la catedral de San Patricio de El Paso y, posteriormente, a Nuestra Señora de la Paz de Alpine (Texas). También fue párroco de la antigua parroquia de Santa Lucía, ahora parroquia de San Juan Pablo II.

El Obispo electo Celino ha servido a la Diócesis de El Paso como Vicario General, Moderador de la Curia y Canciller y ha enseñado en el Instituto Tepeyac.

De diciembre de 2011 a julio de 2013, durante la sede vacante en la Diócesis de El Paso, sirvió como delegado del Administrador Apostólico, el Obispo Emérito Armando X. Ochoa, D.D., entonces Obispo de Fresno, California.

EDITOR'S COLUMN - FERNIE CENICEROS

Sodas & Deviled Eggs

At 17 years old, I made a decision that would be one of the most life-giving choices I have ever made regarding the Lenten tradition of giving something up for 40 days. I had just started my first job at a local Subway, and with it came the fantastic benefit of a seemingly endless supply of my favorite soda, Coca-Cola. As someone who had always enjoyed this refreshing nectar from the heavens, the temptation was overwhelming. However, in the spirit of Lent, I was determined to give up sodas for the duration of Lent.

That 17-year-old kid had some willpower to give up Coca-Cola for the whole season. But like a moth to a flame, the fantastic sight of the 3-liter bottle of Coca-Cola and my absolute favorite dish, deviled eggs, at the table at my Tia's Easter party called out to me. I immediately thought, "Let's say grace and get



Fernie Cenicerros

this party started." And before I knew it, grace had been said, and immediately I went for the 3-liter bottle of Coca-Cola and the most oversized glass I could find. Let's assume the cup I found was 48 oz. It would be a safe bet if we said I had two refills in half an hour.

There I was, 48 oz—cup in one hand and nothing but a

full plate of deviled eggs in the other. I'll spare you the gory details, but what happened to poor little Fernie after consuming all that soda and all those eggs was predictable. I didn't drink another soda again until probably Pentecost.

Despite what was a predictable end to that season in Lent in 1995, I did walk away with a valuable question that would frame my views on Lenten sacrifice; maybe giving up something for lent just for the sake of giving something up wasn't what the tradition was all about? That question would gnaw at me for a good while. I had to see my parish priest.

So I set my appointment with my childhood parish priest, the now Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of San Bernardino, Bishop Rutilio Del Diego. At the time, he had already been moved out of my home parish, but I felt I needed his valued guidance, so I asked

to meet with him at his new parish, and he agreed to see me.

We met a couple of weeks after my easter run-in with Coca-Cola and deviled eggs, and I told him my whole story. If you had the opportunity to know Bishop Rutilio, you would know that a story like mine was one that he lived for. At the end of the retelling of my lenten sacrifice and its tragic end, he had to stand up to take a breath from the laughter. As he caught his breath, he asked, "Well, Fernie, did your run-in with Soda and deviled eggs bring you closer to God?"

I was puzzled; how could this man who has known me my whole life not know that what I had given up for that Lent was no small feat for me? I asked, "Father, I'm not sure why you would ask me that. Wasn't I giving up sodas for Lent what the church wanted from me?" He laughed and asked me again, "Did your run-in with Soda and

deviled eggs bring you closer to God?" I answered, "I don't know, Father, should it have?"

He said in the most caring and gentle way, "It sure sounds like you did get closer to God; you're here looking for answers, aren't you?" He then explained to me how easy it would have been for me to be upset with the incident and walk away thinking a lenten sacrifice was not for me, but instead, it drew me to ask more questions about my faith. At the end of his answer, he quoted St. Augustine to me, "Faith seeks understanding."

Since then, I have always worked to carry the lessons of that Lent as part of my faith journey and have always worked to apply it to my lenten sacrifices, even today, but to answer what I'm sure your question is, I will say this; no I did not give up sodas and deviled eggs for Lent.

Sodas y Huevos Picados

A los 17 años, tomé una decisión que sería una de las más vivificantes que he hecho nunca en relación con la tradición cuaresmal de renunciar a algo durante 40 días. Acababa de empezar mi primer trabajo en un Subway local, y con él vino el fantástico beneficio de un suministro aparentemente interminable de mi refresco favorito, Coca-Cola. Como alguien que siempre había disfrutado de este refrescante néctar del cielo, la tentación era abrumadora. Sin embargo, en el espíritu de la Cuaresma, estaba decidido a renunciar a los refrescos durante toda la Cuaresma.

Aquel chaval de 17 años tenía fuerza de voluntad para renunciar a la Coca-Cola durante toda la temporada. Pero como una polilla a una llama, la fantástica visión de la botella de 3 litros de Coca-Cola y mi plato favorito absoluto, los huevos endiablados,

en la mesa de la fiesta de Pascua de mi Tia me llamaron. Inmediatamente pensé: "Demos las gracias y que empiece la fiesta". Y antes de darme cuenta, ya había dado las gracias, e inmediatamente fui a por la botella de 3 litros de Coca-Cola y el vaso más grande que pude encontrar. Supongamos que el vaso que encontré era de 48 oz. Sería una apuesta segura si dijéramos que tenía dos recambios en media hora.

Ahí estaba yo, con el vaso de 48 onzas en una mano y nada más que un plato lleno de huevos endiablados en la otra. Os ahorraré los detalles sangrientos, pero lo que le pasó al pobrecito Fernie después de consumir todo ese refresco y todos esos huevos era previsible. No volví a beber otro refresco hasta probablemente Pentecostés.

A pesar del previsible final de aquella Cuaresma de 1995,

me hice una valiosa pregunta que enmarcaría mi opinión sobre el sacrificio cuaresmal: ¿quizá renunciar a algo durante la Cuaresma por el mero hecho de renunciar a algo no era el objetivo de la tradición? Esa pregunta me corroería durante un buen tiempo. Tenía que ver a mi párroco.

Así que concerté una cita con el párroco de mi infancia, el ahora obispo auxiliar emérito de San Bernardino, monseñor Rutilio del Diego. En aquel momento, él ya había sido trasladado fuera de mi parroquia natal, pero yo sentía que necesitaba su valiosa orientación, así que pedí reunirme con él en su nueva parroquia, y accedí a verme.

Nos reunimos un par de semanas después de mi encuentro pascual con la Coca-Cola y los huevos endiablados, y le conté toda mi historia. Si tuvieras la oportunidad de conocer al obispo

Rutilio, sabrías que una historia como la mía era algo por lo que él vivía. Al final de la narración de mi sacrificio cuaresmal y su trágico final, tuvo que levantarse para tomarse un respiro de la risa. Mientras recuperaba el aliento, preguntó: "Bueno, Fernie, ¿tu encontronazo con Soda y los huevos endiablados te acercaron más a Dios?"

Me quedé perplejo; ¿cómo era posible que este hombre que me conoce de toda la vida no supiera que lo que había dejado de hacer por aquella Cuaresma no era poca cosa para mí? Le pregunté: "Padre, no sé por qué me preguntaba eso. ¿No era dejar los refrescos en Cuaresma lo que la Iglesia quería de mí?". Se rió y volvió a preguntarme: "¿Te acercó a Dios tu encontronazo con los refrescos y los huevos endiablados?". Le contesté: "No sé, Padre, ¿debería haberlo hecho?".

Me dijo de la forma más

cariñosa y amable: "Parece que sí te has acercado a Dios; estás aquí buscando respuestas, ¿no?". Luego me explicó lo fácil que habría sido para mí disgustarme por el incidente y alejarme pensando que un sacrificio de Cuaresma no era para mí, pero en cambio, me atrajo a hacerme más preguntas sobre mi fe. Al final de su respuesta, me citó a San Agustín: "La fe busca la comprensión".

Desde entonces, siempre he trabajado para llevar las lecciones de esa Cuaresma como parte de mi camino de fe y siempre he trabajado para aplicarlas a mis sacrificios cuaresmales, incluso hoy, pero para responder a lo que estoy seguro que es tu pregunta, diré esto; no, no renuncié a los refrescos y a los huevos endiablados para la Cuaresma.

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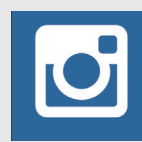
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INSEITZ INTO THE FAITH

Welcome Bishop-elect Celino to El Paso

The Announcement of Pope Francis' Naming of an Auxiliary Bishop for El Paso was an historic day for the Diocese of El Paso. In my announcement that morning I was able to express some important points about my great appreciation for the life and ministry of our Bishop-Elect and also to clarify the role of an Auxiliary. I thought you might like to have this to refer to as we prepare for his Ordination as Bishop.

The Lord has once again surprised us with this great sign of His care for us and our Holy Father has once again shown his special attention to the Diocese of El Paso as our Diocese has been granted the service of an Auxiliary Bishop. Add to that the fact that the Pope's decision was to send us one our most loved, respected and talented priests to serve the Diocese to whom he gave his commitment since his Graduation from college.

Auxiliary bishops are appoint-

ed by the pope at the request of the diocesan bishop "when pastoral needs require" their presence, according to the Code of Canon Law (Can. 403, §1). Their role is to assist the diocesan bishop in the functions of the office and the diocese, but the exact nature of his duties depends on the diocese, its demographics and the responsibilities a bishop assigns him. A diocese with a large geographic area, for example, may require an auxiliary bishop to travel to more "outlying" areas.

Auxiliary Bishops are appointed to dioceses with large populations or with particular challenges that call for more assistance. Our Diocese of El Paso qualifies under both of these categories. It is one of the largest 20-30 Dioceses in the country in terms of its population. Around 80% of our population identify as Catholic. That would mean we have over 700,000 Catholics. This Diocese also brings with it a great deal of complexity with

both urban and rural settings, a significant number of people who live in poverty, and, of course, the Diocese is a major point of entry for immigrants into the United States.

I have already learned that Bishop-Elect Tony Celino can be a very valued collaborator in the service and administration of the Diocese. He brings a great deal of knowledge, wisdom and prudence to the table. He also has great relationships with the priests and people of the Diocese.

The Code of Canon Law (Can. 407) notes that, "for the greatest present and future good of the diocese," the diocesan bishop and auxiliary bishops "are to consult with each other on matters of greater importance" (§1). In assessing such matters, "particularly those of a pastoral nature," the diocesan bishop is to consult his auxiliary bishop or bishops "before all others" (§2). And, the auxiliary bishop, since they



Bishop Mark J. Seitz



are called to share in the cares of the diocesan bishop, "should so exercise their office that they act and think in accord with him" (§3). I believe Bishop Celino will be a very valuable co-worker with me in this ministry for the good of the Church of El Paso.

Lastly, I would just like to make a comment about Fr. Tony's roots in the Philippines. I have often referred to Filipinos as 'Citizens of the World' because they can be found in every land and nation. They have a marvelous ability to live

and celebrate their culture at the same time as they adapt to new ones. I believe our new Auxiliary has done that beautifully. He is a proud Filipino who has given his life to the service of our unique and beautiful binational community.

Please keep Bishop-Elect Celino in your prayers as he makes a retreat and prepares for this new calling within the Diocese of El Paso.

Bienvenido A El Paso El Obispo-Electo Celino

El anuncio del Papa Francisco del nombramiento de un Obispo Auxiliar para El Paso fue un día histórico para la Diócesis de El Paso. En mi anuncio de esa mañana pude expresar algunos puntos importantes sobre mi gran aprecio por la vida y el ministerio de nuestro Obispo Electo y también para aclarar el papel de un Auxiliar. Pensé que les gustaría tener esto como referencia mientras nos preparamos para su Ordenación como Obispo.

El Señor nos ha sorprendido una vez más con este gran signo de Su cuidado por nosotros y nuestro Santo Padre ha mostrado una vez más su especial atención a la Diócesis de El Paso ya que a nuestra Diócesis se le ha concedido el servicio de un Obispo Auxiliar. A esto se suma el hecho de que la decisión del Papa fue

enviarnos a uno de nuestros sacerdotes más queridos, respetados y talentosos para servir a la Diócesis a la que se comprometió desde su graduación de la universidad.

Los obispos auxiliares son nombrados por el Papa a petición del obispo diocesano "cuando las necesidades pastorales requieren" su presencia, según el Código de Derecho Canónico (Can. 403, §1). Su papel es ayudar al obispo diocesano en las funciones del cargo y de la diócesis, pero la naturaleza exacta de sus obligaciones depende de la diócesis, de su demografía y de las responsabilidades que el obispo le asigne. Una diócesis con una gran extensión geográfica, por ejemplo, puede requerir que un obispo auxiliar se desplace a zonas más "periféricas".

Los obispos auxiliares son

nombrados para diócesis con grandes poblaciones o con desafíos particulares que requieren más ayuda. Nuestra diócesis de El Paso cumple los requisitos de ambas categorías. Es una de las 20-30 diócesis más grandes del país en términos de población. Alrededor del 80% de nuestra población se identifica como católica. Eso significa que tenemos más de 700.000 católicos. Esta Diócesis también conlleva una gran complejidad, con entornos tanto urbanos como rurales, un número significativo de personas que viven en la pobreza y, por supuesto, la Diócesis es un importante punto de entrada de inmigrantes en Estados Unidos.

Ya he aprendido que el Obispo Electo Tony Celino puede ser un colaborador muy valioso en el servicio y la administración de la Diócesis. Aporta muchos cono-

cimientos, sabiduría y prudencia. Además, mantiene excelentes relaciones con los sacerdotes y el pueblo de la Diócesis.

El Código de Derecho Canónico (Can. 407) señala que, "para el mayor bien presente y futuro de la diócesis", el obispo diocesano y los obispos auxiliares "deben consultarse mutuamente sobre los asuntos de mayor importancia" (§1). Para evaluar tales asuntos, "particularmente los de naturaleza pastoral", el obispo diocesano debe consultar a su obispo u obispos auxiliares "antes que a ningún otro" (§2). Y el obispo auxiliar, puesto que está llamado a compartir los cuidados del obispo diocesano, "debe ejercer su oficio de tal manera que actúe y piense de acuerdo con él" (§3). Creo que el Obispo Celino será un colaborador muy valioso conmigo en

este ministerio por el bien de la Iglesia de El Paso.

Por último, me gustaría hacer un comentario sobre las raíces filipinas del P. Tony. A menudo me he referido a los filipinos como "Ciudadanos del Mundo" porque se les puede encontrar en todas las tierras y naciones. Tienen una maravillosa capacidad para vivir y celebrar su cultura al mismo tiempo que se adaptan a otras nuevas. Creo que nuestra nueva Auxiliar lo ha hecho maravillosamente. Es un orgulloso filipino que ha entregado su vida al servicio de nuestra única y hermosa comunidad binacional.

Por favor mantengan al Obispo Electo Celino en sus oraciones mientras hace un retiro y se prepara para este nuevo llamado dentro de la Diócesis de El Paso.

Bishop Seitz Offers A Special Dispensation For Lent 2023

El Obispo Seitz Ofrece Una Dispensa Especial Para La Cuaresma De 2023

Lent, as a season of repentance, is a time of fasting and abstinence. Catholics throughout the world abstain from eating meat during the Fridays of Lent. Canon 87 §1 of the Code of Canon Law allows bishops to dispense the faithful from universal church laws "whenever he judges that it contributes to their spiritual good." Sometimes bishops use this authority to suspend the obligation to abstain from meat on a particular Friday if that Friday coincides with a special feast or event.

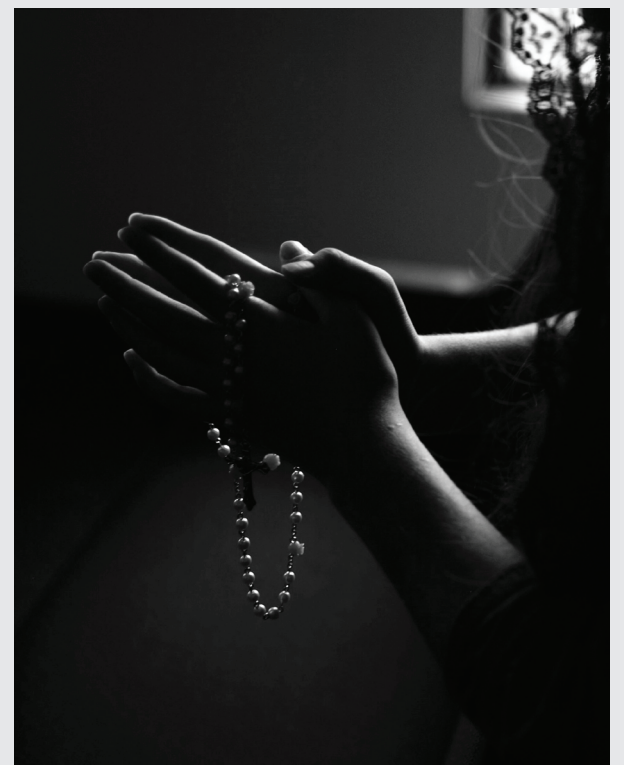
This year, two important events fall on a Friday of Lent. The first one is on March 17, feast of St. Patrick, beloved to the many Irish Americans who have built this country. Furthermore, St. Patrick is the patron saint of our diocese and our cathedral. The second important event is the ordination of the first auxiliary bishop of El Paso, our very own Fr. Tony Celino, which will occur on March 31.

On these two joyous occasions, by the authority given to me by Canon Law, I dispense the faithful and all those present in the Diocese of El Paso from the obligation to abstain from eating meat. As Catholics, we know how to fast and we also know how to feast. May this Lent and the feast days ahead of us prepare us for the great celebration of Easter.

La Cuaresma, como tiempo de arrepentimiento, es una época de ayuno y abstinencia. Los católicos de todo el mundo se abstienen de comer carne durante los viernes de Cuaresma. El canon 87 §1 del Código de Derecho Canónico permite a los obispos dispensar a los fieles de las leyes eclesiológicas universales "siempre que juzgue que contribuye a su bien espiritual". A veces, los obispos utilizan esta autoridad para suspender la obligación de abstenerse de comer carne un viernes concreto si ese viernes coincide con una fiesta o acontecimiento especial.

Este año, dos acontecimientos importantes caen en un viernes de Cuaresma. El primero es el 17 de marzo, fiesta de San Patricio, querido por los muchos irlandeses que han construido este país. Además, San Patricio es el patrón de nuestra diócesis y de nuestra catedral. El segundo acontecimiento importante es la ordenación del primer obispo auxiliar de El Paso, nuestro Padre Tony Celino, que tendrá lugar el 31 de marzo.

En estas dos alegres ocasiones, por la autoridad que me otorga el Derecho Canónico, dispense a los fieles y a todos los presentes en la Diócesis de El Paso de la obligación de abstenerse de comer carne. Como católicos, sabemos ayunar y también sabemos festejar. Que esta Cuaresma y las fiestas que nos esperan nos preparen para la gran celebración de la Pascua.



Mass of Atonement and Hope Scheduled for March 19

By Susan Martinez
Special to the Rio Grande

Each year Bishop Mark Seitz invites all victims/survivors, family members, those who provide assistance and support to victims, and any others who feel that the issue of sexual abuse is of great importance to the Mass of Atonement and Hope. This year's Mass of Atonement and Hope will be celebrated on Sunday, March 19, 2023, at 3 pm in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Initially, the Mass was offered for victims of sexual abuse by clergy and was an acknowledgement that in the past the Church's response to reports of sexual abuse by members of the clergy and other religious communities was often inadequate or nonexistent. As a result, there was often a failure to respond appropriately to the needs of victims. Recognizing there are many victims of sexual abuse perpetrated by individuals throughout society, Bishop Seitz will offer this mass for all victims of sexual abuse.

It is hoped that the Mass of Atonement and Hope will be a source of healing for the victims and will demonstrate the

Church's concern for their well-being. For some individuals, experiencing sexual abuse may cause the victim to become separated from his faith in God and his Church, which could provide him/her with comfort and solace. Bishop Seitz hopes the Mass will help the victims know that they have a place where they belong and where they can experience God's love and mercy.

Additionally, Pope Francis has designated the March 2023 prayer intention for Victims of Abuse. "We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering."

If you have been a victim of sexual abuse by a member of the clergy, please contact Susan Martinez, Victims Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of El Paso, at 872-8465.

If you wish to participate in ministry or as a volunteer in your parish, please contact your Parish Safe Environment Coordinator or Diana Bulko, Safe Environment Coordinator for the Diocese of El Paso, at 872-8427.

Misa De Expiación Y Esperanza Programada Para El 19 De Marzo

Por Susan Martínez
Especial para Rio Grande

Cada año el Obispo Mark Seitz invita a todas las víctimas/sobrevivientes, familiares, aquellos que proporcionan asistencia y apoyo a las víctimas, y cualquier otra persona que sienta que el tema del abuso sexual es de gran importancia a la Misa de Expiación y Esperanza. La Misa de Expiación y Esperanza de este año se celebrará el domingo 19 de marzo de 2023, a las 15.00 horas, en la Catedral de San Patricio.

Inicialmente, la Misa se ofrecía por las víctimas de abusos sexuales por parte del clero y era un reconocimiento de que en el pasado la respuesta de la Iglesia a las denuncias de abusos sexuales por parte de miembros del clero y otras comunidades religiosas era a menudo inadecuada o inexistente. Como consecuencia, a menudo no se respondía adecuadamente a las necesidades de las víctimas. Reconociendo que hay muchas víctimas de abusos sexuales perpetrados por individuos en toda la sociedad, el obispo Seitz ofrecerá esta misa por todas las víctimas de abusos sexuales.

Se espera que la Misa de Expiación y Esperanza sea una fuente de sanación para las víctimas y demuestre la preocupación

de la Iglesia por su bienestar. Para algunas personas, sufrir abusos sexuales puede hacer que la víctima se separe de su fe en Dios y en su Iglesia, que podrían proporcionarle consuelo y solaz. El Obispo Seitz espera que la Misa ayude a las víctimas a saber que tienen un lugar al que pertenecen y donde pueden experimentar el amor y la misericordia de Dios.

Además, el Papa Francisco ha designado la intención de oración de marzo de 2023 para las Víctimas de Abuso. "Rezamos por aquellos que han sufrido daño por parte de miembros de la Iglesia; que encuentren dentro de la Iglesia misma una respuesta concreta a su dolor y sufrimiento."

Si usted ha sido víctima de abuso sexual por parte de un miembro del clero, por favor contacte a Susan Martínez, Coordinadora de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Diócesis de El Paso, al 872-8465.

Si desea participar en el ministerio o como voluntario en su parroquia, póngase en contacto con el Coordinador Parroquial de Ambiente Seguro o con Diana Bulko, Coordinadora de Ambiente Seguro de la Diócesis de El Paso, llamando al 872-8427.

Diocese Mourns the Passing of Fr. Mayorga La Diócesis Lamenta El Fallecimiento Del P. Mayorga

El Paso, Texas - The Catholic community in El Paso is mourning the loss of Fr. Fulgencio Mayorga, who passed away on February 25th. Fr. Mayorga had been serving in the Diocese of El Paso for the past five years and was a beloved member of the community.

Born in Nicaragua, Fr. Mayorga joined the Society of Jesus and served in many places before choosing El Paso to complete his priestly ministry. Despite health issues that limited his ability to serve, Fr. Mayorga remained dedicated to his mission and his desire to serve the community.

The news of Fr. Mayorga's passing has been met with great sadness by the community, who remember him as a kind and compassionate man who was always ready to lend a helping hand. His passing is a loss not just for the Catholic community but for the wider community of El Paso, which he served with great devotion.

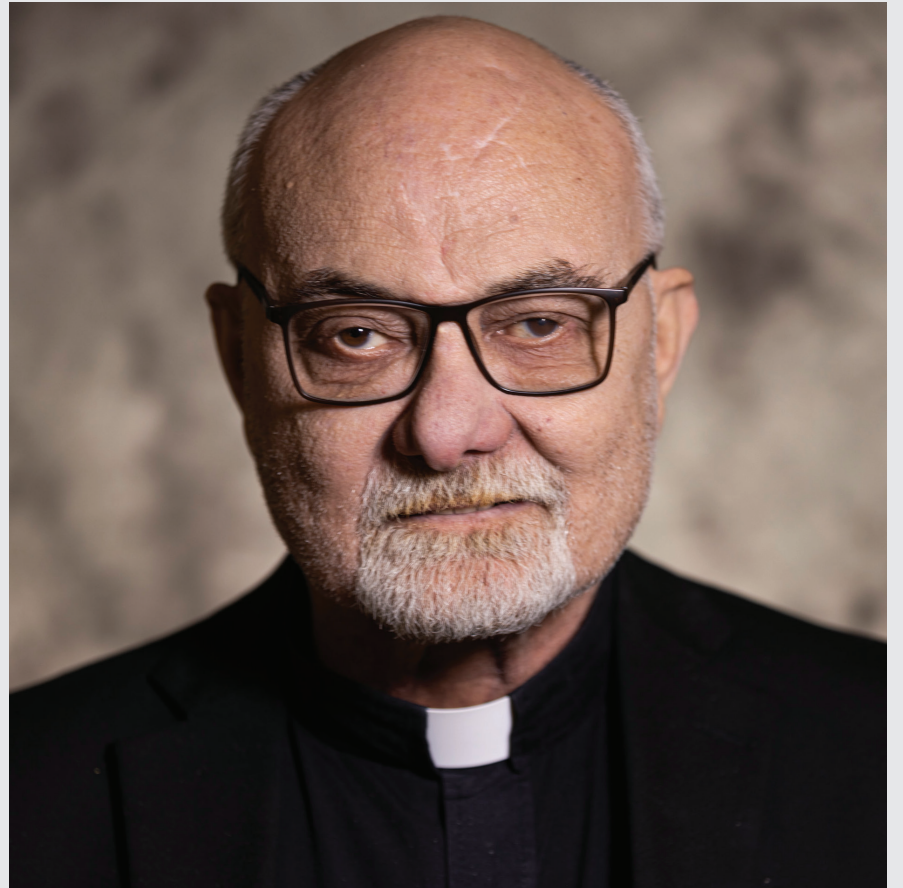
The Diocese is asking for the community's support in offering three masses for his eternal repose and remembering his family in their prayers.

El Paso, Texas - La comunidad católica de El Paso está de luto por la pérdida del P. Fulgencio Mayorga, que falleció el 25 de febrero. El P. Mayorga había estado sirviendo en la Diócesis de El Paso durante los últimos cinco años y era un miembro muy querido de la comunidad.

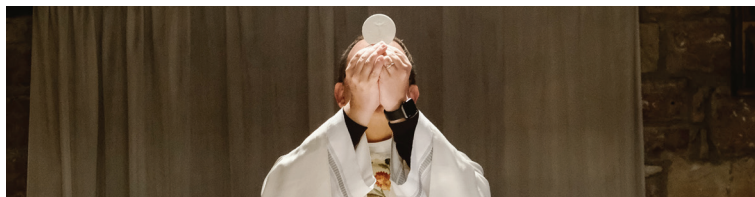
Nacido en Nicaragua, el P. Mayorga ingresó en la Compañía de Jesús y sirvió en muchos lugares antes de elegir El Paso para completar su ministerio sacerdotal. A pesar de los problemas de salud que limitaron su capacidad de servir, el P. Mayorga siguió dedicado a su misión y a su deseo de servir a la comunidad.

La noticia del fallecimiento del P. Mayorga ha sido recibida con gran tristeza por la comunidad, que lo recuerda como un hombre amable y compasivo, siempre dispuesto a echar una mano. Su fallecimiento es una pérdida no sólo para la comunidad católica, sino también para la comunidad de El Paso en general, a la que sirvió con gran devoción.

La Diócesis solicita el apoyo de la comunidad para ofrecer tres misas por su eterno descanso y recordar a su familia en sus oraciones.



Fr. Fulgencio Mayorga



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Fr. Juan Manuel Heredia	03/04
Fr. Jarlslaw Wysoczanski	03/12
Fr. Michael Lewis	03/20
Fr. Juan Victor Gamino	03/20
Fr. Francisco Herrera	03/20
Fr. Kenneth Moody	03/23
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LAPD Arrest Suspect In Connection With Bishop O'Connell Murder

Vatican News - Los Angeles, CA - Police authorities in Los Angeles have arrested a 65-year-old man in connection with the weekend killing of Auxiliary Bishop David G. O'Connell.

According to the Los Angeles Times, detectives have identified Carlos Medina, the husband of the victim's housekeeper, as a suspect in the slaying. He was arrested on Monday and is being held in lieu of \$2 million bail.

Bishop O'Connell, 69, was found dead on Saturday afternoon with a gunshot wound to the chest in the bedroom of his home in Hacienda Heights, about 30 kilometers east of downtown Los Angeles.

The Suspect

County Sheriff Robert Luna said detectives connected Medina to the crime from a surveillance video that showed a vehicle at Bishop O'Connell's house about the time of the killing. Weapons



Bishop David O'Connell, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles photographed during a homily at a Mass in Los Angeles, Photo Courtesy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles

ons were found in his home in Torrance, and ballistic tests are pending. His wife has also been

questioned.

Police are investigating the motive of the murder, which they

say could be related to money. According to a police informant, the accused was acting irrationally and had made comments about O'Connell "owing him money."

A Good Bishop And A Man Of Peace

The late Bishop O'Connell was a native of County Cork, Ireland, and ordained to serve in the Los Angeles Archdiocese in 1979, where for many years he focused on gang intervention, according to Angelus News, a local diocesan news platform.

He later sought to broker peace between residents and law enforcement following the violent 1992 uprising after a jury acquitted four white LA police officers in the brutal beating of Rodney King.

In recent years, he also spearheaded Catholic efforts in the region to work with immigrant children and families from Central America.

Pope Francis appointed him Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles on 21 June 2015.

His violent death has caused shock and sadness in the Catholic community of Los Angeles, but also in his native Cork.

Los Angeles Archbishop Jose H. Gomez on Monday described him as "a good priest and a good bishop and a man of peace" who showed "compassion to the poor, to the homeless, immigrants, and to all those living on society's margins."

"We're very sad to lose him", he added, expressing his gratitude to the investigative team "for their hard work in bringing the suspect into custody."

Bishop Fintan Gavin, of Cork and Ross in Ireland, said in a statement that the late bishop "had always maintained his connection with family and friends in Cork" through frequent visits back to Ireland.

Policía Detiene A Un Acusado En Relacióna El Asesinato Del Obispo O'connell

Noticias del Vaticano - Los Angeles, CA - Las autoridades policiales de Los Angeles han detenido a un hombre de 65 años en relación con el asesinato el fin de semana del obispo auxiliar David G. O'Connell.

Según Los Angeles Times, los detectives han identificado a Carlos Medina, el marido del ama de llaves de la víctima, como sospechoso del asesinato. Fue detenido el lunes y se le ha impuesto una fianza de 2 millones de dólares.

El obispo O'Connell, de 69 años, fue hallado muerto el sábado por la tarde con una herida de bala en el pecho en el dormitorio de su casa de Hacienda Heights,

a unos 30 kilómetros al este del centro de Los Ángeles.

El Acusado

El sheriff del condado, Robert Luna, dijo que los detectives relacionaron a Medina con el crimen a partir de un video de vigilancia que mostraba un vehículo en la casa del obispo O'Connell sobre la hora del asesinato. Se encontraron armas en su casa de Torrance y están pendientes las pruebas de balística. También se ha interrogado a su esposa.

La policía está investigando el móvil del asesinato, que dicen podría estar relacionado con el dinero. Según un informante de la policía, el acusado actuaba de

forma irracional y había hecho comentarios sobre que O'Connell "le debía dinero".

Un Buen Obispo Y Un Hombre De Paz

El difunto obispo O'Connell era natural del condado irlandés de Cork y fue ordenado para servir en la archidiócesis de Los Ángeles en 1979, donde durante muchos años se centró en la intervención contra las bandas, según Angelus News, una plataforma diocesana local de noticias.

Más tarde trató de negociar la paz entre los residentes y las fuerzas del orden tras la violenta revuelta de 1992, después de que

un jurado absolviera a cuatro policías blancos de Los Ángeles por la brutal paliza a Rodney King.

En los últimos años, también encabezó los esfuerzos católicos en la región para trabajar con niños y familias inmigrantes de América Central.

El Papa Francisco le nombró obispo auxiliar de Los Ángeles el 21 de junio de 2015.

Su violenta muerte ha causado conmoción y tristeza en la comunidad católica de Los Ángeles, pero también en su Cork natal.

El arzobispo de Los Ángeles, José H. Gómez, lo describió el lunes como "un buen sacerdote y un buen obispo y un hombre de

paz" que mostraba "compasión por los pobres, los sin techo, los inmigrantes y todos los que viven en los márgenes de la sociedad."

"Estamos muy tristes por perderle", añadió, expresando su gratitud al equipo de investigación "por su duro trabajo para detener al sospechoso".

El obispo Fintan Gavin, de Cork y Ross (Irlanda), dijo en un comunicado que el fallecido "siempre había mantenido su conexión con la familia y amigos en Cork" a través de frecuentes visitas a Irlanda.

HOPE BORDER INSTITUTE

Painful Anniversaries

By Patrick Guiliani
Hope Border Institute

March 2023 marks the third year anniversary of the pandemic-era health policy, Title 42. Implemented under the Trump administration at the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, this policy enabled border agents to turn back those seeking protection here in the US without even an opportunity to ask for asylum.

According to government statistics, the US has carried out over 2.4 million expulsions under the power of Title 42 since 2020. When first implemented, the policy created a limited exemption process for those considered to be high-risk individuals such as pregnant mothers and incredibly sick individuals.

For the first few months of the policy, unaccompanied children were also being returned without any special consideration for their circumstances. Due to lawsuits and the hard work of concerned advocates, children were eventually exempt from the program but for many others, the

harm had already been done.

Attempting to capture the harm this policy has caused to families is nearly impossible. The Hope Border Institute, in partnership with other nonprofit organizations, has tracked over 13,000 incidents of violent attacks against vulnerable people seeking protection who were stuck in Mexico after being returned under Title 42. These are mothers, fathers, and children who already are fleeing home due to extreme fear for their safety and who have to suffer even more at the hands of the US denying them admittance along the border.

Not only have these people had to navigate a new country while being at risk of being further targeted they were also met with a lack of resources to provide for the well-being of themselves and their families. HOPE in partnership with Bishop Mark Seitz created the Border Refugee Assistance Fund (BRAAF) to respond to the various needs witnessed in our border community. In the last 4 years, thanks to countless donations the BRAAF has invest-



ed over \$500,000 in providing shelter, medical care, food, and more to make sure those seeking protection are taken care of and

treated with dignity.

Most recently the current administration has announced that the public health emergency

will be ending on May 11, 2023. This would remove the basis of needing to enforce Title 42 and potentially allow for all those who have been denied access for the last 3 years to finally seek protection here in the US.

While we await for bated breath for the day we can begin to receive those in most need of assistance we will continue to work in making sure that they have safe and secure access to the care that they deserve as human beings and stand firm in fighting for their rights to seek asylum.

Patrick Guiliani is a policy analyst at the Hope Border Institute. The Hope Border Institute brings the perspective of Catholic social teaching to bear on the realities unique to our US-Mexico border region. 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.

Contemplating Christ on the Cross

By Msgr. Arturo Bañuelas

Special to the Rio Grande Catholic

Every Good Friday Catholics contemplate Christ on the cross. Our holy season of Lent prepares us to enter more fully into the paschal mystery; the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Many persons are familiar with the movie the Passion of Christ, often viewed annually during lent. While this movie features memorable cinematic scenes on the passion of Christ, it, nonetheless, presents a very narrow and inadequate understanding of Christ on the cross. A main premise of the movie is that our sins put Christ on the cross and thus engendering guilt. There is so much more than this to the cross.

Granted that it is only a movie, however, since it has been viewed by so many Catholics, it is important to reflect on the deeper meaning of Christ on the cross as it is given to us in the holy gospels. With his death on the cross and his glorious resurrection Jesus shows us how to live a life worth dying for. The passion of Christ in the gospel of John tells us not to be afraid of death, but to be more afraid that we did not live fully and meaningfully.

The gospels present a hope-filled understanding of the cross. Often people talk about the cross as a negative, punitive, suffering experience in their lives. People say, "I am suffering because God gave me this cross to carry." Regularly we hear people say about a spouse, an in-law, or someone they are struggling with, "What can I do, this is the cross God gave me." In the hospitals, some patients see their illness as a suffering cross God sent them. It's as if the cross is meant to be a painful experience

to be endured quietly until we get to heaven. This is not the spirituality of the cross.

For Christ to die on the cross was about total unconditional love and mercy. St. John in the gospel says, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13) Yes, Jesus suffered on the cross, but the deeper understanding of this suffering is this: when he suffered the most he loved the fullest. Jesus poured out his whole life out of love or for us. So, to carry the cross, as Jesus asks of us, is to love more fully. To be more merciful. It is not about tolerating hardships, but facing them with greater love and mercy. In this way we will discover that in all our sufferings and struggles, God is always with us, suffering alongside us leading us to resurrected life. We live more meaningfully when we face life with greater love which transcends all problems, and all hurts. Our spiritual transformation comes from giving a greater love. When Jesus calls us to carry the cross, he is not calling us to meaningless suffering, but calling us to greater intimacy of unconditional love.

With his death and resurrection, Jesus destroys, once and for all, the power of sin and evil. This is the power of the cross, the way to victory. When we carry the cross we are not sad or despairing in spite of hardships because we are on the way to glory. Jesus' cross gives us a vision of hope.

The cross fills us with hope even in the midst of war, poverty, family problems, drugs, hunger, and so much division in our society. These scare people. When we carry the cross we are not blind to our dark surroundings, but we can stand firm in our faith convictions that as bad as things

may seem, they are never bigger than the victory we have from Jesus' cross and resurrection. Horrible situations do not tell us that Jesus has been defeated. There is not less glory in the world because ultimately death does not win. Hope wins as St. Paul says, "Where there is sin, there all the more grace abounds." (Romans 20:5). To carry the cross is to carry the hope of God's glory within us. Jesus transformed his crown of thorns into a crown of glory.

On the cross Jesus declared, "Father forgive them," (Luke 23:34) connecting unconditional love and mercy. God has given us the gift of mercy so that we can be free to live. Anger, revenge, bitterness, eat at our souls and health, but the power of the cross' mercy cleans our lives to become authentic and fully alive persons who grow in confidence, hope, optimism, peace, and purpose. Since mercy was central to Jesus' preaching, the gospels are filled with stories of mercy: the prodigal son, forgive seventy times seventy, turn the other cheek, the adulterous woman, the workers in the vineyard, to mention a few. As is evident in these narratives, the gift of God's mercy is present to us even when we don't think God will forgive us; yet God's mercy is there to heal us and make us free from our burdens to live better lives.

Lent is a time to turn to the cross, to forgive even our enemies (Luke 6:27), and to ask for forgiveness from those we have hurt, to repent and allow the mercy of the cross to dominate in our lives. This will create in us a new heart. We cannot live fully until we have loved unconditionally and forgiven totally. Mercy frees us from the burden of sin, hate, racism, revenge, bitterness, pessimism, and anger. These can

consume us, poison our hearts, drain our energies, and freeze our souls. They are like acid poured on our souls, eating away at the peace in us. So this lent, embrace the cross of mercy and allow its power to heal you. Forgive to live.

Jesus' suffering on the cross invites us to enter the sufferings of others, especially the poor, the refugee, the struggling single mother, and all who live on the margins of our care. When we make other people's suffering our own we are like the Blessed Mother and the disciple at the foot of the cross hearing Jesus telling us to care for each other

with the promise of glory that arises after the suffering. The signs of justice, love, compassion, and service give witness that Jesus takes us through our sufferings to his victory.


This lent celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation as a time to be free to live more fully. Allow the grace of mercy to make you a new person filled with joy and peace. Place the cross in a special place in your home to remember not so much on how much Jesus suffered, but to contemplate on Jesus' unconditional love and mercy that show us how to live a life worth living

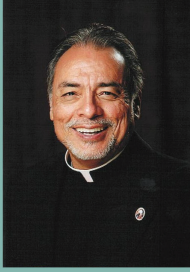
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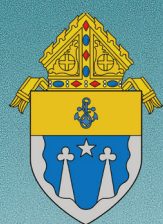


Fr. Arturo J. Bañuelas
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Ordaining A Bishop Is Ordaining A Successor Of The Apostles



Fr. Michael Lewis, STL

When Fr. Tony Celino is ordained a bishop later this month, it will be the first episcopal ordination in our diocese since its foundation in 1914. While a bishop's ordination has many similarities to a priest's or deacon's, there are exceptional differences that highlight the three-fold ministry that bishops are ordained to exercise: to teach, to govern, and to sanctify.

When bishops are ordained, the fullness of the sacrament of Holy Orders is conferred upon them. For this reason, the bishop-elect traditionally wears the deacon's dalmatic under the priest's chasuble during his ordination. As the successors of the apostles, bishops sustain the roles of Christ as teacher, shepherd and high priest. But they do so only in communion with the pope, who as successor of the leader of the apostles, St. Peter, is the only one who can appoint bishops and decide where they are to minister.

This is expressed at the beginning of the Rite of Ordination of a Bishop, when the pope's decree of the bishop-elect's

appointment is read out loud. In the United States, this is often done by the apostolic nuncio, the archbishop assigned by the pope to be his ambassador. The people give their assent to the pope's decree by their acclamation and applause.

The bishop-elect then promises to carry out his office "in accord with the mind of Christ and of the Church" and promises obedience not to the diocesan bishop — as at the ordination of priests and deacons — but to the pope as the successor of St. Peter. Then in the Litany of the Saints, which at a bishop's ordination uniquely mentions each of the twelve apostles, all present implore God's grace for the bishop-elect.

In the laying on of hands by the consecrating bishops and the Prayer of Ordination, the gift of the Holy Spirit for the office of bishop is conferred on the bishop-elect. In accord with ancient tradition, a bishop is ordained by at least three other bishops. But all bishops present take part in the essential words of the Prayer of Ordination, the text of which dates to the 2nd or 3rd century: "Now pour forth upon this chosen one the power that is from you, the governing Spirit, whom you gave to your beloved Son Jesus Christ and whom he gave to the holy Apostles . . ." During this prayer, as a sign that faithful preaching of the word of God is the preeminent obligation of a



Bishop, the Book of Gospels is held open above the head of the bishop-elect by two deacons.

The new bishop, whose hands were anointed at his priestly ordination, now has his head anointed as a sign of sharing in the high priesthood of Christ. Then, as he is presented with the Book of Gospels, he is exhorted to "preach the word of God with all patience and sound teaching."

The new bishop then receives the symbols of his office. "The presentation of the ring symbolizes the bishop's fidelity to the Bride of God, the Church; the investiture with the mitre signifies his resolve to pursue holiness; the presentation of the crosier

signifies the duty of guiding and governing the Church entrusted to him," the ritual explains. The rite of ordination concludes with the bishop sharing the fraternal kiss with his brother bishops, symbolizing his admission to the College of Bishops. Mass continues, with the newly ordained bishop taking first place among the concelebrating bishops if he has been appointed as an auxiliary bishop, like Bishop-Elect Tony.

This month's episcopal ordination will indeed be historic for our diocese. And it involves rituals and symbols that are centuries old and part of the Church's ancient tradition. Yet, despite all

their splendor, their meaning is quite simple: to ordain a successor of the apostles to serve like Christ. As the suggested homily from the Rite of Ordination of a Bishop reminds us: "The title of Bishop signifies a task, not an honor; a Bishop must strive to benefit others rather than to lord it over them. For in keeping with the precept of the Master, let the greater among you be as the younger, and the leader be as one who serves." May the Holy Spirit guide Bishop-Elect Tony in his new role, and may God bring to fulfillment the good work he has begun in him!

Ordenar A Un Obispo Es Ordenar A Un Sucesor De Los Apóstoles

Cuando el P. Tony Celino sea ordenado obispo a finales de este mes, será la primera ordenación episcopal en nuestra diócesis desde su fundación en 1914. Aunque la ordenación de un obispo tiene muchas similitudes con la de un sacerdote o diácono, hay diferencias excepcionales que destacan el triple ministerio que los obispos están ordenados a ejercer: enseñar, gobernar y santificar.

Cuando los obispos son ordenados, se les confiere la plenitud del sacramento del Orden. Por esta razón, el obispo electo lleva tradicionalmente la dalmática del diácono bajo la casulla del sacerdote durante su ordenación. Como sucesores de los apóstoles, los obispos mantienen las funciones de Cristo como maestro, pastor y sumo sacerdote. Pero sólo lo hacen en comunión con el Papa, que como sucesor del líder de los apóstoles, San Pedro,

es el único que puede nombrar obispos y decidir dónde han de ejercer su ministerio.

Esto se expresa al principio del Rito de la Ordenación de un obispo, cuando se lee el decreto del papa sobre el nombramiento del obispo electo. En Estados Unidos, a menudo lo hace el nuncio apostólico, el arzobispo designado por el Papa para ser su embajador. El pueblo da su asentimiento al decreto del Papa con su aclamación y sus aplausos.

A continuación, el obispo electo promete desempeñar su ministerio "según los deseos de Cristo y de la Iglesia" y promete obediencia no al obispo diocesano —como en la ordenación de sacerdotes y diáconos—, sino al Papa como sucesor de San Pedro. Luego, en las letanías, que en la ordenación de un obispo mencionan únicamente a cada uno de los doce apóstoles, todos los presentes imploran la gracia de

Dios para el obispo electo.

Con la imposición de manos de los obispos consagrantes y la Plegaria de Ordenación, se confiere al obispo electo el don del Espíritu Santo para el oficio de obispo. De acuerdo con la antigua tradición, un obispo es ordenado por al menos otros tres obispos. Pero todos los obispos presentes participan en las palabras esenciales de la Plegaria de Ordenación, cuyo texto data del siglo II o III: "Infunde ahora sobre este tu elegido la fuerza que de ti procede: el Espíritu de gobierno que diste a tu amado Hijo Jesucristo, y él, a su vez, comunicó a los santos Apóstoles . . ." Durante esta oración, como signo de que la predicación fiel de la palabra de Dios es la obligación preeminente de un obispo, dos diáconos mantienen abierto el Evangelionario sobre la cabeza del obispo electo.

El nuevo obispo, cuyas manos

fueron ungidas en su ordenación sacerdotal, recibe ahora la unción en la cabeza como signo de su participación en el sumo sacerdocio de Cristo. A continuación, mientras se le presenta el Evangelionario, se le exhorta a "anunciar la palabra de Dios con sabiduría y perseverancia".

A continuación, el nuevo obispo recibe los símbolos de su cargo. "Por la entrega del anillo se expresa la fidelidad del obispo a la Iglesia, esposa de Dios; por la imposición de la mitra, el deseo de alcanzar la santidad, y por la entrega del báculo pastoral, su función de regir la Iglesia que se le ha confiado", explica el ritual. El rito de la ordenación concluye cuando el obispo comparte el beso de paz con sus hermanos obispos, simbolizando su admisión en el Colegio Episcopal. La misa continúa, y el obispo recién ordenado ocupa el primer lugar entre los obispos concelebrantes

si ha sido nombrado obispo auxiliar, como el obispo electo Tony.

La ordenación episcopal de este mes será realmente histórica para nuestra diócesis. E implica rituales y símbolos que tienen siglos de antigüedad y forman parte de la antigua tradición de la Iglesia. Sin embargo, a pesar de todo su esplendor, su significado es bastante sencillo: ordenar a un sucesor de los apóstoles para que sirva como Cristo. Como nos recuerda la homilía sugerida del Rito de Ordenación de un Obispo "El episcopado es un servicio, no un honor; por ello el obispo debe ante todo vivir para los fieles y no solamente presidirlos. El que es mayor, según el mandato del Señor, debe aparecer como el más pequeño, y el que preside, como quien sirve". Que el Espíritu Santo guíe al obispo electo Tony en su nueva función, y que Dios lleve a término la buena obra que ha comenzado en él.



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

Wednesday - Friday 9 am -12 pm

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

Saturday 5 - 6

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

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



SIDEWALK JESUS



Janet M. Crowe

“Billy, stop that!” shouts his mother.

“I’m not doing nothing wrong,” grumbles Billy.

“You can’t run around the store,” scolds his mother. “You’ll knock someone down.”

“Whatever,” says Billy, who stops running but then immediately starts twirling in circles with his arms stretched out at his sides.

“Billy, stop that!” his mother says in a harsh whisper.

“Why?” Billy grouches. “You let me spin around in circles at home. Why not now?”

“When you’re playing in the backyard, you can twirl as much as you choose,” explains his mother. “However, other people are near, so you might hurt someone.”

Later that day, the hostess at a restaurant directs the family to sit anywhere they’d like. The family begins following the father toward a table by the wall, but Billy has other ideas.

“I want to sit there,” Billy says, pointing to a table by the decorative fish tank.

“Someone’s already sitting there,” Billy’s older sister Sally

says. “You can’t take their place.”

“Why not?” Billy asks. “The lady said to sit wherever we wanted and I want to sit by the fish.” Billy begins running toward the table by the fish tank.

“No, Billy,” his father says, catching his son by the arm. “We will sit over here. You cannot sit where someone else is already sitting.”

“I want to sit there,” whines Billy. “Why can’t I do what I choose?”

“Why are you being so terrible today?” scolds Sally.

“Am not,” argues Billy. “I’m just doing what your friends said they would do. Why is it okay for them to say it’s their choice and no one can stop them, but everyone stops me?”

“That’s not what my friends meant,” Sally says. “They were talking about being able to choose what happens to their own body.”

“Well, it’s my body too, you know,” Billy says, sulking.

“Yes and no,” says Sally. “Your body wants to run or twirl around or sit where other people are already there, so that’s what makes the difference. If it’s just you, then I guess it’s your choice to get hurt, but it’s not right to endanger other people or try to push them away just so you can have what you want.”

“Then why isn’t it the same for them?” Billy grumbles. “Your friends were talking about making a choice to stop being pregnant, and it doesn’t work that way.

When Aunt Lizzie was pregnant, she wouldn’t jump on the trampo-

line with us because she said she was protecting her baby that was already in her belly. She said she couldn’t just stop being pregnant without hurting her baby. So, if your friends make the choice to stop being pregnant, wouldn’t that hurt someone, like hurt the baby? Duh!”

“Whatever,” says Sally. “You’re too young to understand.”

“Is he?” asks their mother. “Maybe he understands more than we think.”

“Billy has a good point,” agrees their father. “When it is just one person, they can usually do what they want. However, once another person is part of the story, then we must do what is best for both people, especially if one of those people is a child who depends on us to care for him. That means that, sometimes, we must change our plans and do what protects those around us.”

“I don’t get it,” Billy says.

“I think I do,” Sally says. “Billy, remember when I was carving that piece of wood for art class? When you came outside, I picked up all the knives and put them away.”

“Yeah,” sighs Billy. “You wouldn’t let me play with them.”

“Because you’re too young to use sharp knives,” explains Sally, “but the point is that I protected you even though it made it harder for me to do my art project.”

“So, I’m a problem?” asks Billy.

“Well, yes, sometimes you are,” laughs Sally. “You are also a person and my brother, and I



changed my plans to protect you from getting hurt.”

“So, what about your friends and what they said about it being their choice and their bodies?” asks Billy.

“Society has been lied to for so long,” his mother says, “that people believe the lies instead of the truth. The truth is that the choice Sally’s friends are talking about affects the life of another person, a very young but still human person, who is already alive and living in his mother’s womb. When the mother makes the choice which is guided by the lies accepted by many in society, then the baby dies so that the mother can live the life she had planned before.”

“So, the baby is a problem?” asks Billy.

“No, a baby is never a problem,” assures his mother. “Usually, it is a situation where the mother doesn’t expect to be

pregnant. She can only see the darkness ahead of her rather than the beauty and the light that is happening within her. She often has other problems that we can help her solve so that her baby is protected and continues living the life God planned for him and for the baby’s mother too.”

“Choices aren’t always easy,” Sally says. “I guess we need to start exposing the lies for how dangerous they are and constantly share how beautiful and loving the truth and caring for others can be.”

The waitress appears at their table and asks, “Have you all made your choices?”

“Yes, we have,” Billy announces. “Our choice is to help instead of letting someone get hurt.”

“Okay!” says the waitress with a smile. “That choice comes with a free dessert to share, but what shall we start off with today?”

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

Young Women Giving Themselves Away For Nothing



Fr. Tad Pacholczyk

As internet pornography continues to make inroads into the daily lives of millions, greater numbers of young women are making the decision to participate in its production, with some even seeing it as a “path of empowerment” for themselves. They may hear about the “success stories” of porn stars, one of whom declared during a media interview a few years back that her breast implants were the best investment she had ever made, making her a multi-millionaire.

Young women today can indeed be tempted to “play the pornography card,” but as girls become women, parents and society face the important task of conveying to them that when they immodestly display their feminine attributes and participate in pornography, they end up objectifying themselves, trivializing their sexuality, and harming their interpersonal relationships.

In a recent interview, Pamela Anderson Lee, the former Baywatch actress, revealed how her Playboy photo spreads and pornographic videos impacted her sons and left them in tears after being teased at school about her sex tape with their father and her ex-husband Tommy Lee.

She explained: “I wasn’t thinking when I was in Playboy that I was going to have kids soon and they were going to grow up and it was going to be embarrassing for them...”

“I remember one day after school Dylan came to me in tears and he was like, ‘Mom why did you do that tape?’ ...But I always thought I’d tell them, age-appropriate — but I never got the chance — they always found out before I could really talk to them about it.”

Her other son Brandon described it this way: “When I was a kid, I thought everyone knew things about me and my family that they never should’ve known. Everyone had this dirty little secret about my family.”

The powerful misappropriation of a woman’s sexuality through involvement in pornography can wreak havoc on multiple fronts.

Another front where chaos can arise as sexual mores shift is in

the very delicate interpersonal area of sexual attraction that is ordered to connecting young women to young men through a stable marital commitment.

Many young women, for example, feel pressured to sleep with and cohabit with dates and boyfriends to try to win them over and perhaps one day marry them. It should come as little surprise that these kinds of relational mistakes on the part of a young woman often lead a young man to ask the proverbial question: Why buy the cow when you can get the milk for free? The unique influence or leverage that a young woman has with a potential future husband is squandered away.

A woman who is not sexually available before marriage is perceived and approached differently by men: they have to put in the effort to woo and win her, and later she is a “catch” and a “treasure” as she becomes a man’s “better half.”

In contemporary hook up culture, meanwhile, young women give themselves away for nothing, and men don’t have to woo anyone or bother with the complexities of interpersonal relationships or real-life intimacy skills.

As men are drawn into the addictive world of pornography, they similarly devalue women by reducing their gifts to a single highly sexualized dimension. This disrupts healthy patterns of attraction and courtship that are meant to lead to male-female friendship, bonding and marriage.

As Fred Rabinowitz, a psychologist and professor at the University of Redlands who studies masculinity has noted, young men today “are watching a lot of social media, they’re watching a lot of porn, and I think they’re getting a lot of their needs met without having to go out. And I think that’s starting to be a habit.”

Parents face a real challenge in trying to convey to their sons and daughters that their sexuality is a gift to be treasured, not squandered. At times, they may need to be very direct in how they share their values with their children.

A friend once shared with me that as a teen, she and her mom were watching a movie at the local theater when a mostly unclad woman doing a pole dance unexpectedly flashed up on the screen. Her mom, a woman of fortitude, hardly missed a beat as she gently leaned over to her

daughter to whisper just three words: “I’ll kill you...!” The moment left an indelible impression, and nearly 50 years later, my friend still appreciates her mother’s humorous but direct and loving approach in conveying the importance of modesty for a young woman’s maturing sexuality.

The remarkable gifts of a woman — her “feminine genius” as Pope John Paul II used to refer to it — including the gift of her sexual nature and her interpersonal acumen, need to be esteemed and safeguarded. Over the course of civilization, these gifts have built up the family, protected children, supported men through the bond of marriage, and more broadly strengthened the life of society itself. We need great courage and resolve today to protect and advance these precious gifts.

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

Claridad En Un Mundo Gris



Padre Wilson Cuevas

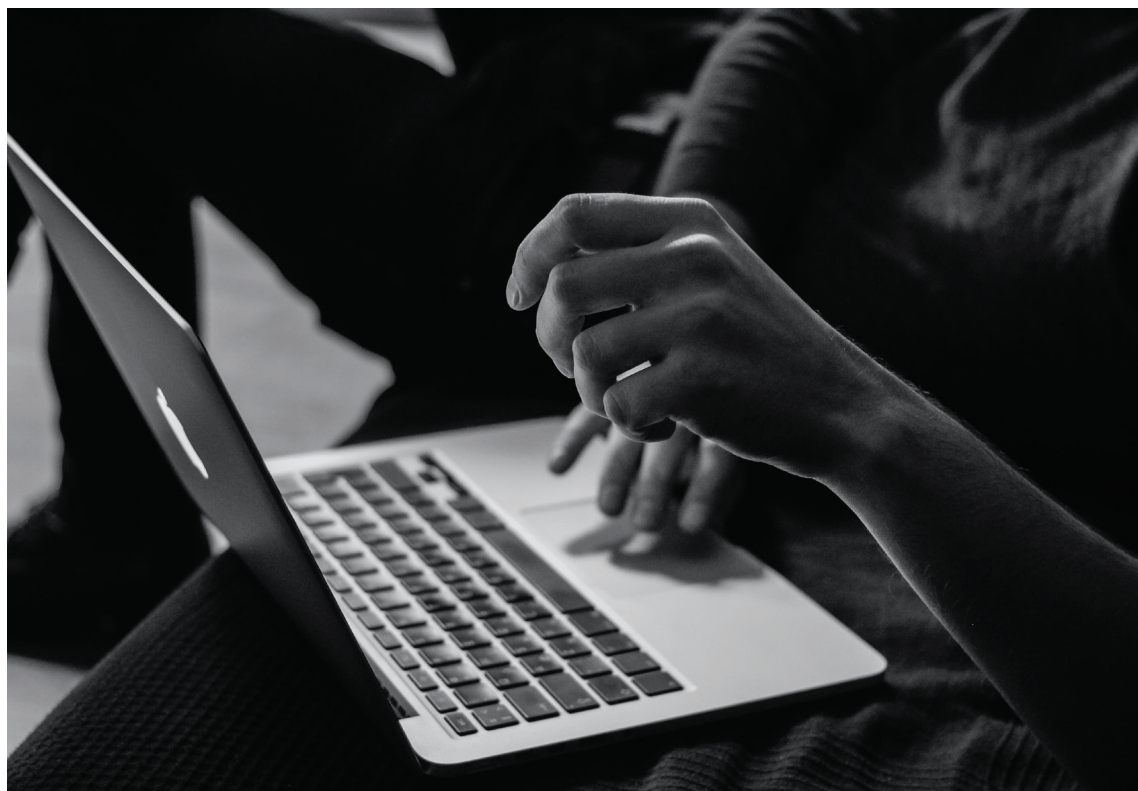
En estos días podemos pedir cualquier, casicualquier cosa por la internet: Ropa, comida, electrodomésticos, computadoras, hasta carros y casas... Pero por lo general, cuanto mayor es el precio de compra, mas queremos ver lo que estamos obteniendo por nuestro dinero antes de invertir. Aunque algunas personas se sienten cómodas al comprar un carro por internet, sin haberlo visto, la mayoría de nosotros queremos verlo, tocarlo, conducirlo antes de gastar nuestros dólares ganados con tanto esfuerzo para comprarlo.

La fe nos demanda invertir en nuestra relación con Dios en formas que a veces parecen imprecisas y poco claras. No podemos ver lo que hay por delante o entender porque Dios permite que ocurran ciertos acontecimientos (terremotos, guerras, epidemias, tiroteos). Y sin embargo somos llamados a dar un paso en fe, confiando que nuestro Padre Dios nos guiara en cada paso del camino, sin importar cuán claramente podamos ver la senda. Hoy, no se preocupen cuan nítidamente puede ver lo que Dios es capaz de hacer: Solo de el siguiente pasó...

Cada día nos provee nuevas oportunidades de aprendizaje. No tenemos que estar en la escuela o capacitándonos para experimentar las lecciones de la vida a nuestro alrededor. Dios se deleita enseñándonos su verdad. Por medio de su Palabra, tenemos

la oportunidad de estudiar sus muchas lecciones, descubrir cada día nuevos puntos de vista que nos hacen pensar y modificar nuestras decisiones. Dios también nos revela sus enseñanzas a través de nuestra conciencia y de nuestras relaciones con los demás. Aunque podemos no tener la respuesta que queremos cuando la queremos o la sabiduría para ver, lo que Dios ve, aun podemos saber que El nos guiara. Observe y piense en lo que Dios está tratando de enseñarle hoy, sobre usted, su vida y su carácter...

Nosotros como seguidores de Jesús estamos llamados a ser defensores de los débiles y protectores de los necesitados. No tenemos que regalar un montón de dinero o cerrar los ojos antes las desgracias o solucionar todos los problemas de otras personas. Si debemos abrir nuestro corazón y participar en la lucha que otras personas afrontan, es decir pasar de la palabra a la acción, puede ser proveer alimentos a los hambrientos, agua al sediento, refugio para las personas sin hogar, pero además puede ser escuchar, orar, llorar y reír con los que están solos, los afligidos, los enfermos. No tenemos que tener súper poderes para cuidar a los desvalidos que nos rodean, simplemente tenemos que amarlos como Cristo nos ama. Podemos considerar algunas acciones prácticas para pasar la misericordia de Dios a otros por ejemplo: escoja a alguien que usted conoce o sigue en línea, cuya fe lo inspira. Escriba una nota agradeciéndole por ayudarlo a encontrar a Jesús en su vida. Hágase amigo de alguien que usted, sepa que tiene creencia religiosa diferente a la suya. Vuelva a conectarse con alguien de quien se había apartado por discrepancia de opiniones;



hágale saber que usted, está interesado en rehacer las relaciones: Comprométase a orar, visitar y si es posible ayudar a una persona que usted, conoce y sabe que está enferma o pasando por una situación difícil. Estas y muchas otras cosas podríamos hacer en este tiempo de la Cuaresma. Recuerde que las personas que se encontraban con Jesús, se transformaban. Nosotros ahora tenemos la oportunidad de ser las manos y los pies, los ojos y los oídos de Cristo en el mundo.

Usted puede no ser consciente de la cantidad de gente que lo está viendo, pero hay muchos ahora más que nunca. Los demás notan lo que usted hace y dice en persona. Un comentario, un gesto o actitud arrogante podrían enviar una señal equivocada que lo miran a usted como un ejemplo. Como tanta gente que expresa opiniones, especialmente

en línea; es tentador pensar que nadie se dará cuenta de su presencia o ausencia. Pero lo notaran. Muchas personas que no conocen a Dios se basan su comprensión del Evangelio en lo que ven en su vida. Esta responsabilidad no debería añadir una presión indebida a lo que usted dice o hace. Más bien, usted debe considerar que privilegio es representar el amor de Dios y la verdad de Cristo a los que lo rodean. Usted no tiene que ser perfecto; solo tiene que estar presente para las necesidades de otros.

En la Cuaresma, pregúntese: Que evidencias está dejando usted que garanticen que otros sepan que es un seguidor de Cristo? Sus palabras son amables y consideradas? Sus acciones desinteresadas y diligentes? Su actitudes compasiva y autentica? Si alguien tratara de "probar" que usted es cristiano, habría

suficiente evidencia hoy? No tenemos que probar nada a nadie. Cristo ha establecido toda la prueba que necesitamos para vivir como discípulos misionero de Cristo en donde quiera que estemos. No tengas miedo de lo que está pasando o no puedas entender. Nuestras circunstancias cambian, nuestros sentimientos tienen altibajos, en nuestra vida la gente viene y va. Pero Cristo se mantiene constante, proyectando un ejemplo perfecto y claro de servir al Padre por amorosa obediencia. Reflexiona en esto: Si unos pocos pueden acarrear la ruina, así unos pocos pueden traer la paz. Tú puedes ser uno de esos pocos. Se dice mucho pero queda mucho por hacer y el tiempo es ahora más que nunca. Dios quiere que "prediquemos con el ejemplo", lo que pensamos, digamos y hagamos refleja su bondad!

Clarity In A Gray World

These days we can order anything, almost anything, on the internet: clothes, food, appliances, computers, even cars, and houses... But the higher the purchase price, the more we want to see what we're getting for our money before we invest. While some people feel comfortable buying a car online, sight unseen, most of us want to see it, touch it and drive it before we spend our hard-earned dollars to buy it.

Faith demands that we invest in our relationship with God in ways that sometimes seem vague and unclear. We cannot see what lies ahead or understand why God allows certain events (earthquakes, wars, epidemics, shootings). And yet we are called to step out in faith, trusting that our Father God will guide us every step, no matter how we can see the path. Don't worry about how you can see what God can do today: Take the next step.

Every day provides us with new learning opportunities. We don't have to be in school or training to experience the

lessons of life all around us. God delights in teaching us His truth. Through His Word, we can study His many lessons, discovering new insights each day that cause us to think and modify our decisions. God also reveals his teachings through our conscience and relationships with others. Although we may not have the answer we want when we want it or the wisdom to see what God sees, we can still know that He will guide us. Watch and think about what God is teaching you today about yourself, your life, and your character.

As followers of Jesus, we are called to be advocates for the weak and protectors of those in need. We don't have to give away a lot of money or turn a blind eye to misfortune or solve all of the other people's problems. We do have to open our hearts and participate in the struggles that other people face, i.e., move from words to action, it can be providing food for the hungry, water for the thirsty, or shelter for the homeless, but it

can also be listening, praying, crying and laughing with the lonely, the afflicted, the sick. We don't have superpowers to care for the helpless around us; we have to love them as Christ loves us. We can consider some practical actions to pass on God's mercy to others; for example: Choose someone you know or follow online whose faith inspires you. Write a note thanking them for helping you find Jesus in their life. Befriend someone you know who has a different religious belief than you do. Reconnect with someone from whom you have drifted away because of a difference of opinion; let them know that you are interested in rebuilding relationships: Commit to pray for, visit, and, if possible, help a person you know who you know is ill or going through a difficult situation. These and many other things we could do during this Lenten season. Remember that people who met Jesus were transformed. We now have the opportunity to be the hands and

feet, the eyes and ears of Christ in the world.

You may not know how many people are watching you, but there are more now than ever. Others notice what you do and say in person. An arrogant comment, gesture, or attitude could send the wrong signal that they are looking at you as an example. Like so many people expressing opinions, primarily online, it's tempting to think that no one will notice your presence or absence. But they will notice. Many people who don't know God base their understanding of the Gospel on what they see in their life. This responsibility should not add undue pressure to what you say or do. Instead, you should consider what a privilege it is to represent the love of God and the truth of Christ to those around you. You don't have to be perfect; you have to be present for the needs of others.

In Lent, ask yourself: What evidence are you leaving that ensures others know you are a follower of Christ? Are your words

kind and considerate? Are your actions selfless and diligent? Your attitudes are compassionate and genuine? If someone tried to "prove" that you are a Christian, would there be enough evidence today? We don't have to prove anything to anyone. Christ has established all the proof we need to live as missionary disciples of Christ wherever we are. Feel free of what is happening, or you may need help understanding. Our circumstances change, our feelings have ups and downs, and people come and go. But Christ remains constant, projecting a perfect and clear example of serving the Father out of loving obedience. Reflect on this: If a few can bring ruin, so a few can bring peace. You can be one of those few. Much is said, but much remains to be done, and the time is now more than ever. God wants us to "lead by example"; what we think, say, and do reflect His goodness!

Called to Serve - Ensuring a Bright Future for our Catholic Faith

by Tina Edwards-Milam
Annual Appeal Director

As we continue our journey through Lent, we are deeply moved by the sacrificial generosity and support of our Catholic brothers and sisters in our El Paso and West Texas communities, who have faithfully shared their gifts for the future of our Catholic Faith.

Together, through the Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal, we respond to the needs of our local communities and support Catholics throughout our diocese. With your gift, you nurture spiritual life while embracing God's call to serve.

"The life of Jesus is a life for others. It is a life of service."
-Pope Francis

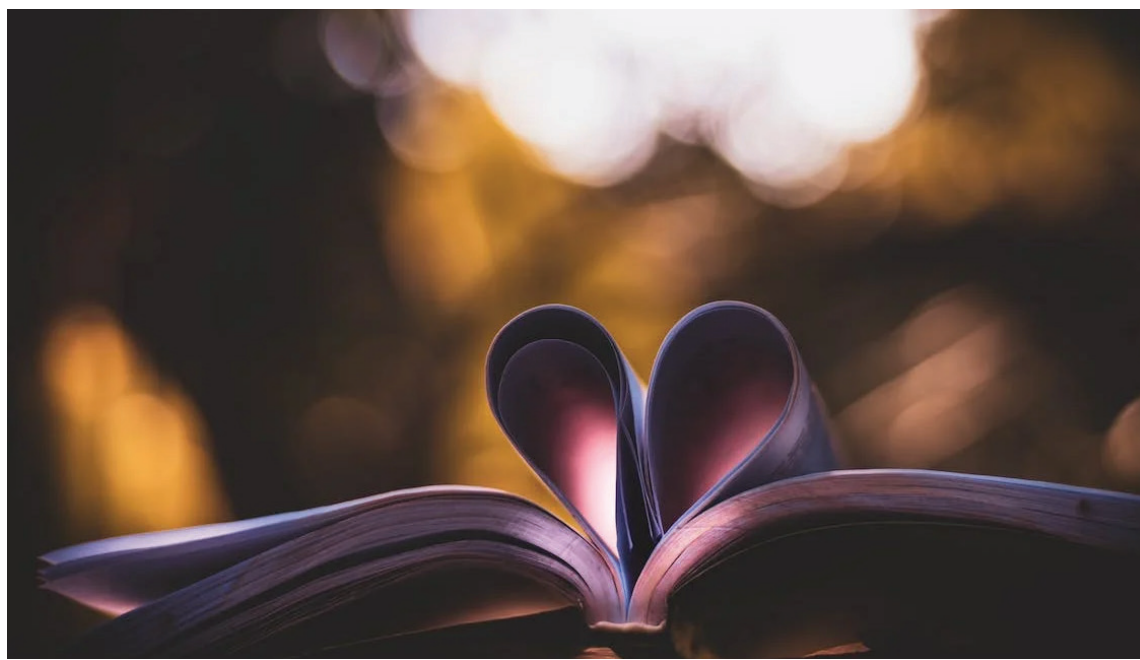
We are called to be good stewards of all we have been blessed with, to utilize our gifts generously, and to share those many blessings with others. Giving inspires giving!

Please prayerfully discern and join the thousands of parishioners who have already committed to building up the

Kingdom of God in our diocese by supporting the 2023 Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal. The crucial work of our ministries reaches out to all of God's people of all ages and circumstances. The Lord has provided each of us with a variety of God-given talents. We are all given the opportunity each and every day to renew and share our faith, extend mercy, and inspire hope to thousands throughout our community. The hope of Jesus gives us strength, courage, and solid ground to face the challenges in our daily lives. The Good News of the Gospel continues to inspire and is the driving force behind the 15 ministries supported by the Appeal.

For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them. Ep. 2:10

The call to serve is an invitation to use our gifts, talents, and abilities at a higher level. It's not an edict or a demand of performance but it is something that is part of our soul mission, that we agreed to do in our life,



and when we receive our call to serve, it is time for us to begin. - Pope Francis

One task that we have as Catholics is to spread our Catholic Faith. The best way to accomplish this is through prayer and our words and actions. Your sacrificial generosity to the Catholic Ministry Appeal is an opportunity for you to do something

significant for our seminarians, religious formation and diaconate programs, Catholic Campus Ministry, and vocations, just to name a few. Every gift makes a significant impact.

Today, let us pray that we will dedicate everything we do to God's Glory and continue to build the future of our Catholic Faith for our future generations.

Please help us support those most in need through the hard work and dedication of our Ministries. Please pray and, if you have not yet done so, prayerfully discern making a sacrificial gift in love to the Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal today. Visit www.2023progress-cma.org

Llamados a servir - Asegurando un futuro brillante para nuestra fe católica

Por Tina Edwards-Milam,
Directora de la Campaña Anual

A medida que continuamos nuestro camino a través de la Cuaresma, estamos profundamente agradecidos por la generosidad sacrificial y el apoyo de nuestros hermanos y hermanas católicos en nuestras comunidades de El Paso y el oeste de Texas, que han compartido fielmente sus dones para el futuro de nuestra fe católica.

Juntos, a través de Progreso: Campaña Católica para los Ministerios, respondemos a las necesidades de nuestras comunidades locales y apoyamos a los católicos de toda nuestra diócesis. Con su donativo, usted alimenta la vida espiritual mien-

tras abraza el llamado de Dios a servir.

"La vida de Jesús es una vida para los demás. Es una vida de servicio". -Papa Francisco

Estamos llamados a ser buenos administradores de todo aquello con lo que hemos sido bendecidos, a utilizar nuestros dones con generosidad y a compartir esas muchas bendiciones con los demás. ¡Dar inspira a dar!

Por favor, disciernen en oración y únase a los miles de feligreses que ya se han comprometido a construir el Reino de Dios en nuestra diócesis apoyando Progreso: Campaña Católica para los Ministerios. El trabajo crucial de nuestros ministerios llega a todo el pueblo de Dios de todas las edades y circunstancias.

El Señor nos ha provisto a cada uno de nosotros con una variedad de talentos dados por Dios. Todos tenemos la oportunidad cada día de renovar y compartir nuestra fe, extender la misericordia e inspirar esperanza a miles de personas de nuestra comunidad. La esperanza de Jesús nos da fuerza, valor y una base sólida para afrontar las dificultades de nuestra vida. La Buena Nueva del Evangelio sigue inspirando y es la fuerza motivación de los 15 ministerios apoyados por la Campaña.

Porque somos hechura suya, creados en Cristo Jesús para las buenas obras que Dios preparó de antemano, para que vivamos en ellas. Ef. 2:10

La llamada a servir es una

invitación a utilizar nuestros dones, talentos y habilidades a un nivel superior. No es un edicto ni una exigencia de rendimiento, sino que es algo que forma parte de la misión de nuestra alma, que acordamos hacer en nuestra vida, y cuando recibimos nuestra llamada a servir, es el momento de empezar. - Papa Francisco

Como católicos fieles nuestro trabajo es compartir nuestra fe católica. La mejor manera de lograrlo es a través de la oración y nuestras palabras y acciones. Su generosidad sacrificial a la Campaña Católica para los Ministerios es una oportunidad para que usted haga algo significativo por nuestros seminaristas, programas de formación religiosa y diaconado, Ministerio Católico

Universitario y vocaciones, sólo por nombrar algunos. Cada donación tiene un impacto significativo.

Hoy, recemos para que dediquemos todo lo que hacemos a la Gloria de Dios y continuemos construyendo el futuro de nuestra Fe Católica para nuestras futuras generaciones.

Por favor, ayúdenos a apoyar a los más necesitados a través del duro trabajo y dedicación de nuestros Ministerios. Por favor, rece y, si aún no lo ha hecho, discierna en oración hacer un regalo de sacrificio en amor al Progreso: Campaña Católica para los Ministerios. Visite www.2023progress-cma.org

Collection for Catholic Relief Services/ Colecta para Servicios Católicos de Emergencia

There will be a Special Offering on Saturday, March 18 and Sunday March 19, 2023 for Catholic Relief Services.

This annual appeal, established more than 60 years ago, supports Catholic Church agencies that build international solidarity and relief efforts. Your support of this collection gives aid to victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Through your generosity, the following Catholic agencies will help Jesus as he bears the disguise of the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and the poor and marginalized.

- Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States, has been saving lives and promoting human dignity around the world for over 60 years. Its programs alleviate suffering, foster community development, and help build more just and peaceful societies in 98 countries.
- Migration and Refugee Services, of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, resettles nearly one third of all refugees admitted to the United States.
- The Holy Father's Relief Fund assists victims of natural disasters and other emergencies worldwide.
- Justice, Peace and Human Development (former-

ly Department of Social Development and World Peace), of the United States Catholic Conference shares and applies Catholic social teaching on major domestic and international issues, and promotes public policies that protect the poor and vulnerable and that advance peace and justice throughout the world.

- The Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church (SCDC), of the United States Catholic Conference, has as part of its mission the evangelization and pastoral care of immigrants, and refugees.

Habrá una Ofrenda Especial Anual el sábado, 18 de marzo y el domingo, 19 de marzo del 2023 para Servicios Católicos de Emergencia.

Este llamado anual, establecido hace más de 60 años apoya a las agencias de la Iglesia Católica que edifica la solidaridad internacional y los esfuerzos humanitarios. El apoyo que le des a esta colecta ayuda a las víctimas de persecuciones y de desastres naturales, provee servicios legales a inmigrantes pobres y aboga por los indefensos. Gracias a tu generosidad, las siguientes agencias católicas ayudarán a Jesús cuyo rostro se refleja en el refugiado vulnerable, en la familia inmigrante y en el pobre y marginado.

- Servicios Católicos de Ayuda es la agencia oficial

humanitaria de la comunidad católica estadounidense en el ámbito internacional, ha salvado vidas y ha promovido la dignidad en todo el mundo, durante más de 60 años. Sus programas mitigan el sufrimiento, fomentan el desarrollo de comunidades, y ayudan a edificar sociedades más justas y pacíficas en 98 países.

- Servicios de Migración y Refugiados reasienta en sus hogares anualmente aproximadamente una tercera parte de todos los refugiados admitidos en los Estados Unidos y promueve políticas públicas justas para los recién llegados e inmigrantes, y responde a sus necesidades espirituales.
- El Fondo de Ayuda del Santo Padre ayuda a las víctimas de desastres naturales y otras emergencias alrededor del mundo.
- El Departamento de Justicia, Paz, y Desarrollo Humano (anteriormente El Departamento de Desarrollo Social y Paz Mundial) está a cargo, comparte y aplica la enseñanza social católica sobre asuntos de justicia y paz internacional. El Departamento promueve políticas públicas que protegen a los pobres y vulnerables, y que fomentan la paz y la justicia en todo el mundo.
- El Secretariado de Diversidad Cultural en la Iglesia está a cargo, como parte de su misión, de la evangelización y el cuidado pastoral de inmigrantes, y refugiados.

Catholic Foundation Scholars Honored at 10th Annual Breakfast

By **Tony Herrera, Jr.**
Major Gifts Officer

The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso held its 10th Annual Foundation Scholar's Prayer Breakfast honoring the 2022-2023 scholarship recipients. Hosted by Father Yermo School, over 250 parents, principals, men and women religious, and benefactors gathered to celebrate the Catholic Foundation Scholars, which consist of recipients of the Faith Scholarship, Miles Scholarship for Cathedral High School, Loretto High School, and Father Yermo Schools, Bishop Scholarship, Elizabeth Weihe Scholarship, Monsignor Francis Smith Scholarship, Galvan Scholarship, Sisters Caroline and Cecilia Vasquez Scholarship, Luz Ulrickson Scholarship, William Randolph Hearst Scholarship, Notre Dame Alumni Association Scholarship, Lightbourn-Whittler Scholarship, and the Nancy Mendez-Saucedo Scholarship.

The St. Patrick's Mariachi Campanitas opened up the event with two gathering songs, Bishop Mark J. Seitz opened up in prayer, Steward of the Year and Cathedral Class of 2021 graduate, Diego Perales read a scrip-

ture from the Book of Jerimiah and Father Yermo Senior, Ramon Holguin blessed the meal. Retired Admiral and graduate of Cathedral Class of 1976, Samuel Perez, Jr. was the keynote speaker. Born and raised in Canutillo, Texas, Admiral Perez attended Cathedral High School through an opportunity given to him by his parents and the community. After high school he attended the US Naval Academy and engaged in a successful naval career. Admiral Perez, delighted the attendees with his words of encouragement to the scholars to do their best, take advantage of the opportunity they have been given to obtain a valuable faith-based education, and to enjoy the magic carpet ride that they are on as they journey through life.

The Catholic Foundation awarded over \$205,000 to 165 Catholic Foundation Scholars attending El Paso's Catholic Schools during the 2022-2023 school year. The majority of the funding for scholarships are distributed from endowed funds, with the remainder coming from donations. The Catholic Foundation Prayer Breakfast, is held each year during Catholic Schools Week and is a heartwarming event as benefactors



Bishop Seitz photographed with three scholars from Loretto Academy at this year's Catholic Foundation Scholars Breakfast. *Photo courtesy of The Catholic Foundation*

of these scholarships and the students who receive them, are united to show appreciation and celebrate their success.

If you are interested in find-

ing out how you can support Catholic Schools in El Paso, or if you are interested in sending your child or grandchild to Catholic Schools and would

like more information about the Catholic Foundation Scholarship program, please contact the Catholic Foundation at (915) 872-8412.

Social Media and Communications Training for Parishes

By **Karina Sandoval**
Stewardship Coordinator

The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso in collaboration with Tepeyac Institute will offer a Social Media and Communications training for parishes on Saturday, March 25th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in English and on Saturday, April 29th also from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Spanish at the Pastoral Center, room: Cristeros.

Karina Sandoval-Enriquez, Stewardship Coordinator for the Catholic Foundation will offer this training based on a Theology of Communications and will explain the importance of technology as an essential resource now-

adays where the average time spent on the internet per person is of six hours per day, and the amount of time adults uses social media across all platforms is now higher than ever.

This efforts are inspired by the II Vatican Council- Gaudium Et Spes and from Pope Francis "The Church has always had the duty of scrutinizing the signs of the times and of interpreting them in the light of the Gospel." Pope Francis mentions in the 48th World Communications Day that "Communication is a means of expressing the missionary vocation of the entire Church, today the social networks are one way to experience this call to discover the beauty of faith, the beauty

of encountering Christ. In the area of communications too, we need a Church capable of brining warmth and of stirring hearts."

"Social Media and Communications technology creates a perfect opportunity to evangelize wherever people are." Karina Sandoval Enriquez says, parishes social media can offer an opportunity for a new family in the neighborhood to search for Mass schedule, confessions, and Baptisms information for their children. Also, parish social media creates the opportunity to be connected with parishioners by communicating the latest information on events, as an example: the Lent or Advent schedule of activities, Bazaar list of food

etc. or to simply offer a Gospel daily's reflection.

Also, as the signs of the times, parishes social media can also promote a Catholic spirituality to those members of our community who are suffering from mental health issues due to our recent pandemic, "A great number of people have reported psychological distress and symptoms of depression and anxiety or post-traumatic stress, 1 in 4 adults suffers from a diagnosable social mental disorder in a given year." Psychology today reports. Compassion to one another is another virtue to promote in parishes social media. "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine you did for

me." Matthew 25:40, The need of Social Media and Communications ministry is an essential resource for every parish, please encourage the person or minister you believe will benefit from this training to help promote the evangelization nowadays where technology is an important resource of our everyday lives. Please contact Tepeyac Institute at 915-872-8420 for registration and for more information please contact Karina Sandoval Enriquez at 915-872-8412 or at ksandoval@catholicfoundationelpaso.org.

Formación En Medios Sociales Y Comunicación Para Parroquias

Por **Karina Sandoval**
Coordinadora de Corresponsabilidad

La Fundación Católica para la Diócesis de El Paso en colaboración con el Instituto Tepeyac ofrecerá un entrenamiento de Medios Sociales y Comunicaciones para parroquias el sábado 25 de marzo de 9:00 am a 3:00 pm en inglés y el sábado 29 de abril también de 9:00 am - 3:00 pm en español en el Centro Pastoral, salón: Cristeros.

Karina Sandoval-Enriquez, Coordinadora de Mayordomía de la Fundación Católica ofrecerá este entrenamiento basado en una Teología de las Comunicaciones y explicará la importancia de la tecnología como un recurso esencial hoy en día donde el promedio de tiempo dedicado a

Internet por persona es de seis horas al día, y la cantidad de tiempo que los adultos utilizan las redes sociales a través de todas las plataformas es ahora más alto que nunca.

Estos esfuerzos se inspiran en el Concilio Vaticano II- Gaudium Et Spes y del Papa Francisco "La Iglesia siempre ha tenido el deber de escrutar los signos de los tiempos e interpretarlos a la luz del Evangelio". El Papa Francisco menciona en la 48 Jornada Mundial de las Comunicaciones Sociales que "La comunicación es un medio para expresar la vocación misionera de toda la Iglesia, hoy las redes sociales son una forma de experimentar esta llamada a descubrir la belleza de la fe, la belleza del encuentro con Cristo. También en el ámbito de

la comunicación necesitamos una Iglesia capaz de llevar calor y de conmovir los corazones."

"Los medios sociales y la tecnología de las comunicaciones crean una oportunidad perfecta para evangelizar allí donde esté la gente". Según Karina Sandoval Enriquez, los medios sociales de las parroquias pueden ofrecer la oportunidad de que una familia nueva en el barrio busque información sobre horarios de misas, confesiones y bautizos para sus hijos. Además, las redes sociales de las parroquias ofrecen la oportunidad de estar en contacto con los feligreses comunicándoles la información más reciente sobre eventos, como por ejemplo: el programa de actividades de Cuaresma o Adviento, la lista de alimentos del Bazar, etc., o sim-

plemente ofrecer una reflexión diaria sobre el Evangelio.

Además, como los signos de los tiempos, las redes sociales de las parroquias también pueden promover una espiritualidad católica a aquellos miembros de nuestra comunidad que están sufriendo problemas de salud mental debido a nuestra reciente pandemia, "Un gran número de personas han reportado angustia psicológica y síntomas de depresión y ansiedad o estrés post-traumático, 1 de cada 4 adultos sufre de un trastorno mental social diagnosticable en un año determinado." informa Psychology today. La compasión mutua es otra virtud a promover en las redes sociales de las parroquias. "Todo lo que hicisteis a uno de estos hermanos míos más

pequeños, a mí me lo hicisteis". Mateo 25:40,

La necesidad del ministerio de Medios Sociales y Comunicaciones es un recurso esencial para cada parroquia, por favor anime a la persona o ministro que usted cree que se beneficiará de esta formación para ayudar a promover la evangelización hoy en día donde la tecnología es un recurso importante de nuestra vida cotidiana. Por favor comuníquese con el Instituto Tepeyac al 915-872-8420 para su registro y para mayor información por favor comuníquese con Karina Sandoval Enriquez al 915-872-8412 o a ksandoval@catholicfoundationelpaso.org.

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