

THE RIO GRANDE CATHOLIC

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5 Men to be Ordained to the Priesthood for the Diocese

By Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

Bishop Mark Seitz will ordain 5 men to the Order of Priesthood on May 27th at St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr Church in east El Paso. This will be the first time since 1993 that the Diocese of El Paso has ordained 5 men together.

The 5 men are, Rev. Mr. José William Arévalo Narváez, 42, Rev. Mr. Astry Déraly, 38, Rev. Mr. Cesar Garcia-Ortega, 26, Rev. Mr. Edroud Jean, 39, and Rev. Mr. Sergio Legareta Carrasco, 33.

Bishop Mark Seitz, expressed his joy about these men being ordained to the priesthood this coming month.

"Each of these 5 men has unique talents and gifts that will help serve the people of the Diocese of El Paso," Bishop Mark Seitz said. "This is the first time in almost 30 years since the Diocese of El Paso has ordained 5 men at the same time," he added. "Praise be to God that He has blessed his people with men dedicated to serving the church in this ministry," he ended.

"In thanksgiving to God, I am grateful for His generosity in calling me to serve Him," Rev. Mr. José William Arévalo Narváez said.

"Praise be to God our Father for all his blessing. Please, keep me in your daily prayers as I do so for each of you. God bless you all," Rev. Mr. Astry Déraly Said.

"I want to entrust my ministry to God, who is the source of every vocation to enlighten me and send more vocations to the Church and in particular to our Diocese of El Paso," Rev. Mr. Edroud Jean said.

Rev. Mr. Cesar Garcia-Ortega was born and raised here in El Paso and has studied for the priesthood since 2012. "Please continue praying for me as I go on to my new priestly ministry," Garcia-Ortega said. "Please continue praying for me." he ended.

Rev. Mr. Sergio Legarreta-Carrasco has been studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of El Paso for the last 10 years. "I'm feeling excited, ready to serve the people of El Paso," Legarreta Carrasco said.

The Diocese will be streaming the Ordination Mass held at St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr Catholic Church on Friday, May 27th, on the Diocesan Facebook page. The Ordination Mass will begin at 6:30 pm.



Bishop Mark Seitz will ordain 5 men to the Order of Priesthood on May 27th at St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr Church in east El Paso. The 5 men are, Rev. Mr. José William Arévalo Narváez, 42, Rev. Mr. Astry Déraly, 38, Rev. Mr. Cesar Garcia-Ortega, 26, Rev. Mr. Edroud Jean, 39, and Rev. Mr. Sergio Legareta Carrasco, 33. *Photo by Rev. Miguel Briseño, OFM Conv.*

5 Hombres Se Ordenarán Al Sacerdocio Para La Diócesis

By Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

El Obispo Mark Seitz ordenará a 5 hombres al Orden del Sacerdocio el 27 de mayo en la Iglesia San Esteban, Diácono y Mártir en el este de El Paso. Esta será la primera vez desde 1993 que la Diócesis de El Paso ha ordenado a 5 hombres juntos.

Los 5 hombres son, el Rev. Sr. José William Arévalo Narváez, de 42 años, el Rev. Sr. Astry Déraly, de 38 años, el Rev. Sr. César García-Ortega, de 26 años, el Rev. Sr. Edroud Jean, de 39 años, y el Rev. Sr. Sergio Legareta Carrasco, de 33 años.

El Obispo Mark Seitz, expresó

su alegría por la ordenación de estos hombres al sacerdocio este próximo mes.

"Cada uno de estos 5 hombres tiene talentos y dones únicos que ayudarán a servir a la gente de la Diócesis de El Paso", dijo el Obispo Mark Seitz. "Esta es la primera vez en casi 30 años que la Diócesis de El Paso ha ordenado a 5 hombres al mismo tiempo", agregó. "Alabado sea Dios porque ha bendecido a su pueblo con hombres dedicados a servir a la iglesia en este ministerio", finalizó.

"En acción de gracias a Dios, agradezco su generosidad al llamar a servirme", dijo el reverendo José William Arévalo

Narváez. "Alabado sea Dios nuestro Padre por toda su bendición. Por favor, ténganme presente en sus oraciones diarias como lo hago por cada uno de ustedes. Que Dios los bendiga a todos", dijo el reverendo Astry Déraly.

"Quiero confiar mi ministerio a Dios, que es la fuente de toda vocación para que me ilumine y envíe más vocaciones a la Iglesia y en particular a nuestra Diócesis de El Paso", dijo el Rev. Sr. Edroud Jean.

El Rev. Sr. César García-Ortega nació y creció aquí en El Paso y ha estudiado para el sacerdocio desde 2012. "Por favor, continúen rezando por mí mientras

avanzo en mi nuevo ministerio sacerdotal", dijo García-Ortega. "Por favor, sigan rezando por mí", finalizó.

El reverendo Sr. Sergio Legarreta-Carrasco ha estado estudiando para el sacerdocio para la Diócesis de El Paso durante los últimos 10 años. "Me siento emocionado, listo para servir a la gente de El Paso", dijo Legarreta Carrasco.

La Diócesis estará transmitiendo la Misa de Ordenación que se llevará a cabo en la Iglesia Católica San Esteban, Diácono y Mártir el viernes 27 de mayo, en la página de Facebook de la Diócesis. La misa de ordenación comenzará a las 6:30 pm.

The Love of A Mother

One of my earliest memories from my childhood had to be taking the bus downtown once every month with my mom to pay the utility bills directly at the source. I remember it even though I must have been maybe 3-4 years old because I had a chance to be with my mom, just her and I, and she would take me to get a hamburger for lunch at the Kress building downtown. It was absolute bliss, a hamburger, fries, and my mom as my lunch buddy!

I have since had my mom tell me that story much differently than I remember it. Primarily



Fernie Ceniceros

that no matter how hard she tried to make sure I wasn't hungry so that she would have to spend that

extra money, she had on me and that hamburger inside the Kress Building. She tells me of elaborate schemes she would hatch for her not to have to pass by that building. I never failed; I was there for hamburgers! She didn't share that detail as a complaint but rather with fondness of me being that age.

I tell that story not to share my fondness of hamburgers (I'd need a whole two pages for that article). Still, I share it with you as a small example of the sacrifices my mother made for me while I was growing up and how that selflessness of being

a mother my mom continues to this day.

Even now that I am a father with my own family, my mom always makes sure I've had something to eat and asks if I got enough sleep. If she's seen me twice that day, she gives me a blessing, even if it's through the window long after leaving my parent's house. I suppose it's inherent behavior in all mothers to do this.

My mother was my first catechist, my mother was my first consoler, and no matter what I do, she will always be my biggest fan, no matter how small.

So with that, I'd like to take this opportunity to tell my mother Happy Mother's Day and all mothers in our diocese.

Your work as a mother is thankless sometimes. I can attest to this as I know my wife goes unthanked for all that she does for my children and me, for that matter. But, I hope you all know, especially my mom, that your love doesn't go unnoticed.

My mom always says, "There is nothing quite like a mother's love for her child!" I can attest to that statement. I love you, mom; thank you for all you've done for me. Happy Mother's Day!

El Amor de Una Madre



Uno de los primeros recuerdos de mi infancia fue tomar el autobús en el centro de la ciudad una vez al mes con mi madre para pagar las facturas de los servicios directamente en la fuente. Lo recuerdo aunque debía de tener unos 3-4 años porque tenía la oportunidad de estar con mi madre, solos ella y yo, y me llevaba a comer una hamburguesa al edificio Kress del centro. Era una felicidad absoluta, una hamburguesa, patatas fritas y mi mama como compañera de almuerzo.

Desde entonces, mi mama me ha contado esa historia de forma muy diferente a como yo la recuerdo. Principalmente que, por mucho que intentara asegurarse de que yo no tuviera hambre para que ella tuviera que gastar ese dinero extra, me tenía a mí y a esa hamburguesa dentro del edificio Kress. Me habla de elaborados planes que tramaba para no tener que pasar por ese edificio. Nunca fallaba; ¡estaba allí por mi hamburguesa! Ella no compartía ese detalle como una queja, sino más bien con el cariño de que yo tenía esa edad.

Cuento esa historia no para compartir mi afición por las hamburguesas (necesitaría dos páginas enteras para ese artículo). Sin embargo, la comparto

con ustedes como un pequeño ejemplo de los sacrificios que mi madre hizo por mí mientras crecía y de cómo esa abnegación de ser madre mi madre continúa hasta el día de hoy.

Incluso ahora que soy un padre con mi propia familia, mi mama siempre se asegura de que he comido algo y me pregunta si he dormido lo suficiente. Si me

ha visto dos veces ese día, me da una bendición, aunque sea a través de la ventana mucho después de salir de casa de mis padres. Supongo que es un comportamiento inherente a todas las madres el hacer esto.

Mi mama fue mi primera catequista, mi mama fue mi primer consolador, y haga lo que haga, siempre será mi mayor fan, por

pequeño que sea. Así que con esto, me gustaría aprovechar esta oportunidad para decirle a mi madre Feliz Día de la Madre y a todas las madres de nuestra diócesis.

Su trabajo como madre es a veces ingrato. Puedo dar fe de ello, ya que sé que mi esposa no recibe ningún agradecimiento por todo lo que hace por mis hijos y

por mí. Pero, espero que todos ustedes sepan, especialmente mi madre, que su amor no pasa desapercibido.

Mi mama siempre dice: "¡No hay nada como el amor de una madre por su hijo!". Puedo dar fe de esa afirmación. Te quiero, mucho mom; gracias por todo lo que has hecho por mí. ¡Feliz Día de la Madre!

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Has Christ Really Won?

What a time of contrasts this Season of Easter is! On the one hand there is the limitless joy of Christ's victory of sin and death, the restoration of lost innocence, the unconditional gift of mercy shown to us sinners, all of it made possible by the Paschal Mystery of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. On the other hand, we look at the world around us nearly 2,000 years after Christ's saving work. What do we see? Terrible death-dealing wars with the deliberate slaughter of non-combatants in Ukraine, Somalia, Syria, Congo.

Unbridled terrorism in the Middle East, Iraq, Afghanistan. Gangs and Organized crime feeding a multi-billion-dollar trade of drugs and people and controlling governments and communities in Central America, Mexico and many parts of South America and the Caribbean. Gun

violence and abuse of innocents in our own country and a suicidal desire to destroy our bodies by the use of so-called 'recreational' drugs. I'm sure you could add to the list of woes that display before our eyes the incredible brokenness of our world and the evil that seems to dominate.

We in the United States always consider ourselves to be on the moral high ground, but a little honest self-examination reveals a country that as a matter of policy engaged in the slaughter of innocents in many wars, including the fire-bombings of populous cities in Germany and nuclear bombings of cities in Japan during World War II.

Now as a matter of law we slay the most innocent human beings of all, unborn children, in the millions. We turn away the innocent who have fled to our borders seeking asylum, women, children, families, with no where

else to go. We execute people like the 78-year-old wheel chair bound convict, slain this April 21st, as an act of vengeance and soon we may execute another in a long list of people who were almost certainly innocent, but poorly defended in the courts, a woman by the name of Melissa Lucio. If we take credit for the morally good actions of our country, should we not also feel some responsibility for the evil actions?

We may well examine these and so many other situations and say to ourselves, "Where can I find an impact of the victory of Christ over evil?" The question is understandable, but it is also based upon a misunderstanding of the meaning of Christ's saving work. The action of Christ was not intended to be a magical act in which somehow the switch that controls the brokenness of our world and of evil is turned



Bishop Mark J. Seitz

off and suddenly all is resolved.

We can rejoice in the face of the evil for which we personally are responsible and other evils of our world because Christ has shown that he is with us to help us, to forgive us, to bring good even out of evil. He is present to bring new life even from death. This is the meaning of Christ's Paschal Mystery.

So, don't be surprised and don't despair when you witness the brokenness of our world.

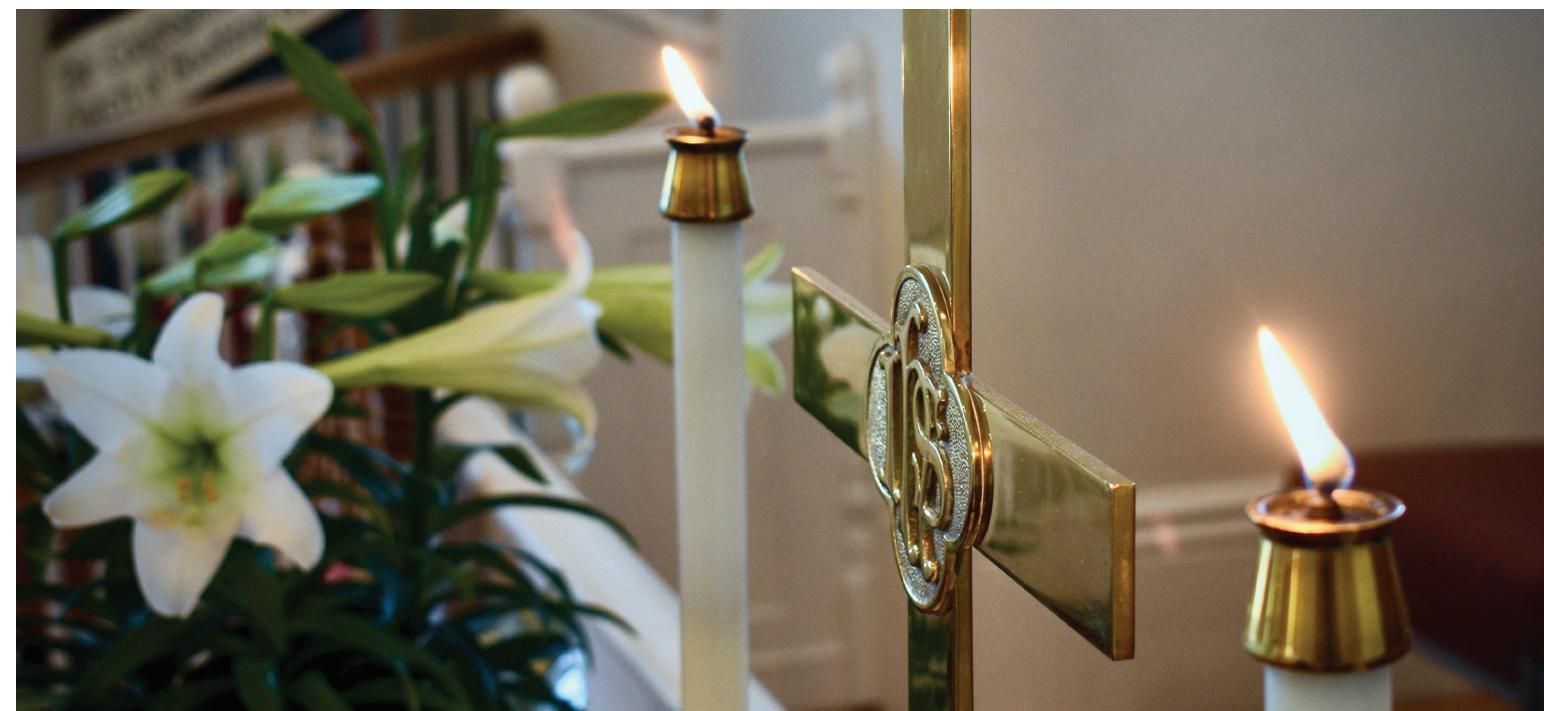
It is for this reason that Christ suffered. Let us take to heart what we heard on Easter Sunday in the Second Reading, "Think of what is above, not of what is on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory." (Col. 3: 3-4)

¿Ha Ganado Realmente Cristo?

Qué tiempo de contrastes es este tiempo de Pascua! Por un lado, está la alegría ilimitada de la victoria de Cristo sobre el pecado y la muerte, la restauración de la inocencia perdida, el don incondicional de la misericordia que se nos muestra a los pecadores, todo ello hecho posible por el Misterio Pascual de la Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Cristo. Por otro lado, miramos el mundo que nos rodea casi 2.000 años después de la obra salvadora de Cristo. ¿Qué vemos? Terribles guerras mortíferas con la matanza deliberada de no combatientes en Ucrania, Somalia, Siria, Congo.

Terrorismo desenfrenado en Oriente Medio, Irak, Afganistán. Pandillas y crimen organizado que alimentan un comercio multimillonario de drogas y personas y controlan gobiernos y comunidades en Centroamérica, México y muchas partes de Sudamérica y el Caribe. La violencia armada y el abuso de inocentes en nuestro propio país y el deseo suicida de destruir nuestros cuerpos mediante el uso de las llamadas drogas "recreativas". Estoy seguro de que se podría añadir a la lista de males que muestran ante nuestros ojos el increíble quebranto de nuestro mundo y el mal que parece dominar.

En Estados Unidos siempre nos consideramos en la cima moral, pero un poco de autoexamen honesto revela un país que, como cuestión de política, par-



ticipó en la matanza de inocentes en muchas guerras, incluidos los bombardeos de ciudades populosas en Alemania y los bombardeos nucleares de ciudades en Japón durante la Segunda Guerra Mundial.

Ahora, por ley, matamos a los seres humanos más inocentes de todos, los niños no nacidos, por millones. Rechazamos a los inocentes que han huido a nuestras fronteras en busca de asilo, mujeres, niños, familias, sin otro lugar al que ir. Ejecutamos a personas como el convicto de 78 años en silla de ruedas, asesinado este 21 de abril, como un acto

de venganza y pronto podríamos ejecutar a otra de una larga lista de personas que eran casi ciertamente inocentes, pero mal defendidas en los tribunales, una mujer de nombre Melissa Lucio. Si nos atribuimos el mérito de las acciones moralmente buenas de nuestro país, ¿no deberíamos sentir también cierta responsabilidad por las acciones malvadas?

Es posible que examinemos estas y tantas otras situaciones y nos digamos: "¿Dónde puedo encontrar un impacto de la victoria de Cristo sobre el mal?" La pregunta es comprensible, pero también se basa en un malenten-

dido del significado de la obra salvadora de Cristo. La acción de Cristo no pretendía ser un acto mágico en el que, de alguna manera, se apaga el interruptor que controla la ruptura de nuestro mundo y del mal y, de repente, todo se resuelve.

Podemos alegrarnos ante el mal del que somos personalmente responsables y de otros males de nuestro mundo porque Cristo ha demostrado que está con nosotros para ayudarnos, para perdonarnos, para sacar el bien incluso del mal. Está presente para dar vida nueva incluso a partir de la muerte. Este es el

sentido del Misterio Pascual de Cristo.

Por eso, no te sorprendas ni te desesperes cuando seas testigo del desgarro de nuestro mundo. Por esta razón, Cristo sufrió. Tomemos a pecho lo que escuchamos el Domingo de Pascua en la segunda lectura: "Pensad en lo de arriba, no en lo de la tierra, porque habéis muerto, y vuestra vida está escondida con Cristo en Dios. Cuando aparezca Cristo, vuestra vida, entonces también vosotros apareceréis con él en la gloria". (Col. 3: 3-4)



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Nicole Cobb Named New President Of Loretto Academy

El Paso, TX - For its next president, Loretto Academy has selected an academically accomplished alumna who credits her Loretto education with developing her faith-based approach to educational excellence. Nicole Ortega Cobb, a 2002 graduate and former science teacher at the Academy, will take office in May upon the retirement of Sister Mary E. "Buffy" Boesen, SL, who has led the Academy for more than 22 years. "I strongly believe that we are called to give back in the ways that we can," Cobb said after being named to the position, "It is a blessing to be able to return home to Loretto and use my skills and experience to serve the Academy and its students." Her educational experience includes an undergraduate degree in chemistry from Harvard University and two master's degrees from Stanford University — one in biochemistry and one

in education. While pursuing her master's in education at Stanford, she was awarded a graduate fellowship as a Knowles Science Teaching Fellow. Cobb plans to combine what she learned in that fellowship with her foundation of faith to support Loretto's commitment to educating the whole child — spiritually and emotionally as well as academically.

"Loretto's holistic approach to educating the mind and the heart is needed more than ever. It is essential that our students be a part of the rich traditions of Loretto, deeply rooted in its core values, and experience the joy of giving back through service learning projects," Cobb stated when asked about her plans for the Academy. "I'm especially excited to get to work on a new campus ministry program to honor Loretto's history and further integrate its core values and Catholic social teachings



Nicole Cobb

into everyday life at the three schools."

Established in 1923 by Mother Praxades, SL, Loretto Academy is the oldest Roman Catholic college preparatory school in El Paso. Serving boys and girls in grades PK3 through fifth grade and girls in middle

and high school, Loretto structures its academic programs on research-supported, brain-based learning approaches. Following in the footsteps of the Sisters of Loretto, students are academically prepared to meet the needs of the times, putting their faith into action through lifelong service.

"Throughout our 100-year history, Loretto Academy has focused on academic excellence and instilling our core values of faith, justice, community, and respect to ensure our students become strong women who, like Nicole Cobb, lead with passion and compassion," said Laura Cavaretta, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees. "Nicole earned her credentials at one of the nation's most important graduate programs in education. She will use her academic research knowledge, her Catholic faith, and her experience as a teacher to lead the Academy into its next century of innovation and excellence."

In addition to teaching and academics, Cobb's work in the community reflects the core values she learned as a student at Loretto. She co-founded a local nonprofit, El Jardín Birth and Family Resource Center, and, in 2019, she directed an award-winning documentary film, Birth in Pieces, to shine a light on shortcomings in maternal healthcare. In 2019, she was selected to be a panelist for the TEDx El Paso's Bold + Brilliant TED Women Conference. As a teacher at Loretto, Cobb developed the WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) Festival and in 2018 she was named Loretto's Teacher of the Year.

For more information about Loretto Academy, visit www.loretto.org. To connect with Nicole Cobb, please email: ncobb@loretto.org.

Nicole Cobb Es Nombrada Nueva Presidenta De La Academia Loretto

El Paso, TX - Para su próximo presidente, la Academia Loretto ha seleccionado a una ex alumna académicamente consumada que atribuye a su educación en Loretto el desarrollo de su enfoque basado en la fe para la excelencia educativa. Nicole Ortega Cobb, graduada en 2002 y antigua profesora de ciencias de la Academia, asumirá el cargo en mayo tras la jubilación de la hermana Mary E. "Buffy" Boesen, SL, que ha dirigido la Academia durante más de 22 años. "Creo firmemente que estamos llamados a retribuir en la medida de nuestras posibilidades", dijo Cobb tras ser nombrada para el cargo. "Es una bendición poder volver a casa, a Loretto, y utilizar mis habilidades y experiencia para servir a la Academia y a sus alumnos." Su experiencia educativa incluye una licenciatura en química por la Universidad de Harvard y dos

másteres por la Universidad de Stanford, uno en bioquímica y otro en educación. Mientras cursaba su máster en educación en Stanford, obtuvo una beca de posgrado como becaria de enseñanza de ciencias Knowles. Cobb planea combinar lo que aprendió en esa beca con su base de fe para apoyar el compromiso de Loretto de educar al niño en su totalidad, tanto espiritual y emocionalmente como académicamente.

"El enfoque holístico de Loretto para educar la mente y el corazón es más necesario que nunca. Es esencial que nuestros estudiantes formen parte de las ricas tradiciones de Loretto, profundamente arraigadas en sus valores fundamentales, y que experimenten la alegría de retribuir a través de proyectos de aprendizaje de servicio", declaró Cobb cuando se le preguntó sobre sus planes para la

Academia. "Estoy especialmente emocionada de llegar a trabajar en un nuevo programa de ministerio del campus para honrar la historia de Loretto e integrar aún más sus valores fundamentales y las enseñanzas sociales católicas en la vida cotidiana en las tres escuelas."

Fundada en 1923 por la Madre Praxades, SL, la Academia Loretto es la escuela católica de preparación para la universidad más antigua de El Paso. Sirviendo a niños y niñas de PK3 a quinto grado y a niñas de secundaria y preparatoria, Loretto estructura sus programas académicos en enfoques de aprendizaje basados en el cerebro y apoyados por la investigación. Siguiendo los pasos de las Hermanas de Loretto, los estudiantes están preparados académicamente para satisfacer las necesidades de los tiempos, poniendo su fe en acción a través del servicio de toda

la vida.

"A lo largo de nuestros 100 años de historia, la Academia Loretto se ha centrado en la excelencia académica y en inculcar nuestros valores fundamentales de fe, justicia, comunidad y respeto para garantizar que nuestras estudiantes se conviertan en mujeres fuertes que, como Nicole Cobb, lideran con pasión y compasión", dijo Laura Cavaretta, Presidenta del Consejo de Administración. "Nicole obtuvo sus credenciales en uno de los programas de postgrado más importantes del país en materia de educación. Utilizará sus conocimientos de investigación académica, su fe católica y su experiencia como profesora para dirigir la Academia hacia su próximo siglo de innovación y excelencia."

Además de la enseñanza y los estudios, el trabajo de Cobb en

la comunidad refleja los valores fundamentales que aprendió como estudiante en Loretto. Fue cofundadora de una organización local sin ánimo de lucro, el Centro de Recursos para el Nacimiento y la Familia de El Jardín, y, en 2019, dirigió un premiado documental, Birth in Pieces, para arrojar luz sobre las deficiencias en la atención sanitaria materna. En 2019, fue seleccionada para ser panelista de la Conferencia TEDx El Paso's Bold + Brilliant TED Women. Como profesora en Loretto, Cobb desarrolló el Festival WISE (Mujeres en la Ciencia y la Ingeniería) y en 2018 fue nombrada Profesora del Año de Loretto.

Para más información sobre la Academia Loretto, visite www.loretto.org. Para conectar con Nicole Cobb, envíe un correo electrónico a: ncobb@loretto.org.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FATHER!

Fr. Jose DelaCruz Longoria, MNM
Fr. Flavio Alberto Hernandez, OFM
Fr. Miguel Alcuino
Fr. Jose Alfredo Ramirez, OFM
Fr. Miguel Perez
Msgr. Arturo Bañuelas
Fr. James M. Coindreau
Fr. John Paul Madanu
Fr. Sam Rosales, SJ
Fr. Ralph Solis, Jr.
Fr. Antonio Mena
Fr. Tobias M. Macias, OSM
Fr. Ivan Montelongo

May 3
May 7
May 8
May 10
May 11
May 12
May 16
May 16
May 19
May 21
May 24
May 28
May 28

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

Fr. Ronald Sibugan, AA
Fr. Miguel Alcuino
Fr. Federico Franco, OSM
Fr. Hector Chicas, OP
Fr. Fulgencio Mayorga
Bishop Mark Seitz (*Priestly Ordination*)
Fr. Miguel Briseno, OFM Conv.
Fr. Kevin O'Neill, FSSP
Fr. Kenneth J. Moody, MM
Fr. Donald J. Adamski, OFM Conv.
Fr. Michael L. Lewis
Fr. Miguel Perez
Fr. Edward Carpenter, Jr.
Fr. Jose DelaCruz Longoria, MNM
Fr. Cong Chi Vo
Fr. Francisco "Frank" Hernandez
Fr. Joseph Dalimata, FSSP
Fr. Benjamin Flores-Ruiz
Fr. Frank R. Lopez
Fr. Carl Quebedeaux, CMF
Fr. Ralph Solis, Jr.
Fr. James "Buzz" Hall (retired)
Fr. John Telles

May 2, 2015
May 4, 1979
May 4, 1989
May 11, 1996
May 16, 1998
May 17, 1980
May 19, 1990
May 19, 2012
May 23, 1970
May 24, 1975
May 24, 2019
May 24, 2019
May 25, 1995
May 26, 1996
May 26, 2017
May 27, 2016
May 28, 2021
May 29, 1993
May 29, 1993
May 29, 1982
May 29, 1993
May 29, 1970
May 31, 1975



Diocese offers assistance for victims of sexual abuse

Bishop Mark J. Seitz invites anyone who has been a victim of sexual abuse by a priest, deacon, religious, or any minister of the church, to contact the Victim's Assistance Coordinator, Mrs. Susan Martinez LCSW, at (915) 872-8465 or the Office of the Chancery, (915) 872-8407. The Church desires the healing of anyone that has been harmed.

La diócesis ofrece asistencia a las víctimas de abusos sexuales

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



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Prayer, Worship Lift Unaccompanied Migrant Teens In Shelters

Giovanna Dell'Orto - El Paso, Texas (AP) — On all but three Sunday afternoons since last Easter, Bob Guerra — a Catholic deacon — has carefully packed his favorite crucifix, a Spanish-language Bible, hundreds of Communion wafers secured in Ziploc bags and other liturgical items into a plastic storage box.

Then he lugs it a few miles to Fort Bliss, an Army base in the desert on the outskirts of El Paso, where he helps celebrate Mass for hundreds of migrant teens held at a vast tent shelter.

That shelter and similar facilities across the southwest were set up by the Biden administration and its predecessors to deal with surges of minors crossing the U.S.-Mexico border without parents or guardians. For the faithful young people they hold, the clergy and volunteers who visit bring comfort and healing through the sacraments.

"They're praying with such devotion you can see the tears rolling down their eyes," Guerra says of the teens' acts of faith he witnesses every Sunday after they receive Communion and kneel before a little cross. On Easter Sunday, he plans to gift them their own miniature crosses and cookies baked by local nuns.

Among the teens praying fervently at Fort Bliss during last year's unprecedented arrivals of unaccompanied children was Elena, then 15. She asked that she not be identified further because of the dangerous circumstances she fled in Guatemala.

Elena told The AP that for weeks she asked God to let her out of the shelter as soon as possible. Then, when other girls also being held grew "inconsolable," she prayed they'd be released first. As the days went by, she started worrying God might be "bored" by her petitions, and prayed for forgiveness.

What sustained her for two months before her release was receiving the sacraments, including Communion distributed during a Mass celebrated by the Catholic bishop of El Paso, Mark Seitz.

"When he arrived, you could feel like a peace, something that comforts you, something that you need," Elena recalled during this Holy Week, which she's observing with relatives far

from El Paso. "God was with us to endure so many days without family."

In the shelter, she was so grateful for Mass, which she used to attend with her mother in Guatemala, that she braided a friendship bracelet for Seitz, who wears several on his right wrist.

"They have this faith that if anything became stronger on their journey," said Seitz of the hundreds of teens he has ministered to since last Easter at Fort Bliss.

On most Sundays, the Rev. Rafael García, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish located four blocks from the border in downtown El Paso, celebrates Mass there, as he has at different shelters for five years.

"All of us that go, we find we are transformed ourselves," says the Jesuit priest. "Not all come (to Mass), but those who do are people of very strong faith."

Suddenly and often tragically detached from their countries and the families who raised them, "their only strength is prayer," said the Rev. Jose de la Cruz Longoria, pastor at five Catholic parishes around Pecos, Texas, who ministers to teens at the shelter there. "That's why the point is to show them at Mass that he's a God who loves and forgives."

In murmured prayers in Spanish and Indigenous languages at makeshift altars, kids in shelters — most of them 12- to 17-year-olds from Central America — ask God's help for their lonely, uncertain journey and for loved ones they left behind.

"They pray for their friends lost on the way, and that their family members might accept and love them," says Dominga Villegas, who helped organize Palm Sunday Mass, complete with palm fronds, for more than 200 teens at the Pecos shelter.

In growing numbers since 2014, hundreds of thousands of under-18 children have come alone to seek safety and a better life in the United States. Since October, the Border Patrol has encountered an average of more than 11,000 unaccompanied minors a month, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection data.

Some have no family, but



Bishop Mark Seitz of El Paso poses in his office in El Paso, Texas, on Monday, April 4, 2022. The friendship bracelets on his wrist were braided by girls housed at a shelter on nearby Fort Bliss Army base for unaccompanied minors who crossed the U.S.-Mexican border. The Catholic bishop has often celebrated Mass there and found striking witness of faith among the teens. (AP Photo/Giovanna Dell'Orto)

many are rejoining a parent or are sent to other family members in the United States to escape poverty and violence.

When unaccompanied minors are apprehended or turn themselves in to U.S. officials after crossing the border without authorization, they are sheltered in facilities managed by the Department of Health and Human Services until the government vets a family member or sponsor to ensure they can be safely released.

Under the past three U.S. administrations, especially when the number of minors crossing the border surges suddenly and emergency intake shelters like that at Fort Bliss are hastily arranged, controversies have erupted over the conditions and duration of the youths' stay at these facilities, where media access is tightly restricted.

While awaiting their release, many teens struggle with regrets and low self-esteem, faith leaders told The AP. They're battered not only by the trauma they fled, but by the guilt they feel for fleeing, sometimes without saying goodbye to beloved relatives who raised them — and for having

ended up in a place far different from their dreams, with no clear path ahead.

"They don't have any taste yet for the end of the tunnel. They can't allow themselves to feel that already this is a victory and a blessing from God," says Lissa Jiménez, a psychologist who held a day-long spiritual retreat at the Pecos facility in March.

By the end of the ten-hour day, she saw them sit up straighter as she encouraged them to trust in "the identity that being children of God gives us, independently of race, of our situation."

It's the same message that priests bring through Mass and confession, even for youths who are not Catholic but approach them anyway because "they just want to talk," said the Rev. Brian Strassburger, a Jesuit who ministers to shelter youths in Brownsville and celebrates Mass across the border at a migrant camp in Reynosa, Mexico.

"We try to give them comfort, assure them that God is with them. That their parents still love them," he said.

Many of the teens who were active in their churches back home volunteer to read Scripture

or chant psalms. Sacred music helps put others at ease, said Roland Guerrero, who has brought his guitar, mics and music sheets to Fort Bliss on all but a couple of Sundays for a year.

His efforts for social justice and migrant rights extend far beyond this ministry. Bishop Seitz, the Jesuit priests and many other faith leaders also provide shelter, food and advocacy on both sides of the border.

"I know what I'm doing is a Band-Aid," said Guerrero of musical worship on a Sunday during Lent as he prepared to drive to the shelter. "That doesn't denigrate it, because in faith there's no way to know what's going on inside an individual child."

He compares it to planting seeds of hope — just as in "Montaña," a favorite song of Catholic and Protestant shelter children. It's based on the Gospel verse that faith even as minuscule as a mustard seed is enough to move mountains.

"Esa montaña se moverá (this mountain will move)," Guerrero sings, strumming his vintage acoustic Gibson guitar. "I have them sway. Then they start dancing again."

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Fr. Joe Tetlow, SJ

Internationally recognized authority on Ignatian Spirituality, Author, Retreat Director

Fr. Mark Thibodeaux, SJ

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Vinita Hampton Wright

Author, Editor, Retreat Director, Spiritual Director

By Abigail Ray
Hope Border Institute

As I walked into the migrant shelter at San Francisco Xavier Parish in central El Paso, I was immediately met by warm people excited to showcase their ministry. This parish-led shelter operates five days a week and can serve about 60 guests, including families.

The shelter was already welcoming migrants during my visit on a Thursday afternoon and people from the parish were patiently awaiting the arrival of even more migrants later that day. The kitchen crew was

preparing a tasty arrival meal of spaghetti and fruit punch, while the migrants themselves were helping organize donated clothing with a religious sister who works in the clothing room, Sister Betty.

In between scheduling flights or buses for the guests to reach their loved ones in other parts of the country, I was able to speak to some of the parishioners and with their pastor, Fr. Peter Precourt, A.A.

Fr. Peter, a priest of the Augustinians of the Assumptionists, moved to El Paso two years ago and quickly learned about the power of ministry with people

on the move at San Xavier. Fr. Peter and the people of the parish made a commitment to welcoming migrants arriving at the border this year. He told me again and again that the work of the shelter would not be successful without the dedication of the parishioners.

One parish couple, Javier and Susana, dedicate most of their free time to the hospitality effort. Even though Javier is undergoing dialysis, he doesn't let his condition keep him away from his expression of faith. His wife, Susana, stocks toiletries and helps each guest feel at home. She donates hours of her time in

a small room in the back of the parish building filling travel size bottles with shampoo and soap for the guests' journeys ahead.

This couple represents just two of the many dedicated parishioners who keep the shelter running 24 hours a day, 5 days a week. Even with the pandemic, they continue to express their convictions and solidarity in a deep and meaningful way, showing that there really is an over abundance of resources and grace in this community.

I asked Fr. Peter to reflect on the work of his parishioners. Quoting the book of James 2:18, he responded, "Someone may

say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works."

Fr. Peter also reminded me that not only are his parishioners serving others, they are being served themselves.

Pope Francis, addressing a group of clergy in 2013, encouraged them to "be shepherds with the smell of sheep". Fr. Peter says he takes this imperative to heart; in order to truly come to know grace, we must accompany and love our neighbors.

By Abigail Ray
Hope Border Institute

Cuando entré en el refugio para inmigrantes de la Parroquia de San Francisco Xavier, en el centro de El Paso, me encontré inmediatamente con gente muy cálida y entusiasmada por mostrar su ministerio. Este refugio dirigido por la parroquia funciona cinco días a la semana y puede atender a unos 60 huéspedes, incluidas familias.

Durante mi visita, un jueves por la tarde, el albergue ya acogía a los inmigrantes y los miembros de la parroquia esperaban pacientemente la llegada de más

inmigrantes ese mismo día. El equipo de cocina estaba preparando una sabrosa comida de llegada a base de espaguetis y ponche de frutas, mientras los propios migrantes ayudaban a organizar la ropa donada con una religiosa que trabaja en la sala de ropa, la hermana Betty.

Entre la programación de vuelos o autobuses para que los huéspedes lleguen a sus seres queridos en otras partes del país, pude hablar con algunos de los feligreses y con su párroco, el padre Peter Precourt, A.A.

El P. Peter, sacerdote de los Agustinos de la Asunción, se trasladó a El Paso hace dos años

y rápidamente conoció el poder del ministerio con la gente en movimiento en San Xavier. El P. Peter y la gente de la parroquia se comprometieron a acoger a los migrantes que llegan a la frontera este año. Me dijo una y otra vez que el trabajo del albergue no tendría éxito sin la dedicación de los feligreses.

Una pareja de la parroquia, Javier y Susana, dedica la mayor parte de su tiempo libre a la labor de acogida. Aunque Javier se somete a diálisis, no deja que su condición le aleje de su expresión de fe. Su mujer, Susana, almacena los artículos de aseo y ayuda a los huéspedes a sentirse como en

casa. Dedica horas de su tiempo en una pequeña habitación en la parte trasera del edificio de la parroquia a llenar botellas de tamaño de viaje con champú y jabón para los viajes de los huéspedes.

Esta pareja es sólo uno de los muchos feligreses dedicados que mantienen el refugio funcionando 24 horas al día, 5 días a la semana. Incluso con la pandemia, siguen expresando sus convicciones y su solidaridad de forma profunda y significativa, demostrando que realmente hay una sobreabundancia de recursos y de gracia en esta comunidad.

Le pedí al P. Peter que reflexionara sobre el trabajo de sus

feligreses. Citando el libro de Santiago 2:18, respondió: "Alguien puede decir: 'Tú tienes fe y yo tengo obras'. Demuéstrame tu fe sin obras, y yo te demostraré mi fe por mis obras".

El P. Peter también me recordó que no sólo sus feligreses están sirviendo a los demás, sino que ellos mismos están siendo servidos.

El Papa Francisco, dirigiéndose a un grupo de clérigos en 2013, les animó a "ser pastores con olor a oveja". El padre Peter dice que se toma a pecho este imperativo; para llegar a conocer verdaderamente la gracia, debemos acompañar y amar al prójimo.

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Ordinations An Opportunity To Witness God's Consecration Of Ministers To Serve



Fr. Michael Lewis, STL

Last month and this month, our diocese is celebrating rare back-to-back ordinations of deacons and priests. In April, Bishop Mark ordained two men as transitional deacons — unmarried deacons who are in formation to become priests — and in May, Bishop Mark will ordain five men as priests of the Diocese of El Paso.

Deacons, priests and bishops become so through the sacrament of Holy Orders. Through the bishop's imposition of hands on the head of each candidate and the specific prayer of ordination, God consecrates or "sets apart" the candidate through the outpouring

of the Holy Spirit, incorporating him into one of the three specific orders or ranks of apostolic ministry, and conferring the Spirit's gifts so that the candidate may exercise a "sacred power" that comes from Christ through his Church. Those who are ordained "are appointed in the name of Christ to feed the Church with the word and the grace of God," the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church explains.

Though the entire people of God, by virtue of their baptism, are participants in the royal priesthood of Christ, some of the faithful are set apart to be members of the ministerial priesthood, which exists at the service of the common priesthood. Such priests or presbyters (a word that comes from the Greek word for "elder") are ordained to be trustworthy co-workers of the bishops. Through their ordination, they are signed with a special character or imprint, which configures them to Christ the High Priest in such a way that they are able to act in

the person of Christ as Head of his Body, the Church. In Christ's image, they are consecrated to preach and teach the Gospel, shepherd the faithful, and celebrate divine worship, especially the Eucharist. But they also are ordained to minister to the sick and sinners through the ministry of comfort and reconciliation.

Deacons are ordained "in order to serve," for indeed the word deacon comes from the Greek word for "servant." Strengthened by the special character and sacramental grace imparted by their ordination, their ministry is centered on assisting priests and bishops in the ministries of the word, of the altar, and of charity.

The rites of ordination for priests and deacons are largely the same and are always celebrated in the context of a Mass. However, they incorporate different symbols that are important to each order. Both begin with the presentation and examination of the candidates. The bishop asks them if they promise to be faithful minis-

ters of the order to which they are being ordained and to be obedient to him and his successors. Then, the entire assembly implores the intercession of the saints that God will "bless, sanctify, and consecrate these chosen men."

Next comes the essential part of the rite: the bishop lays his hands on the heads of the kneeling candidates, praying silently for the gift of the Holy Spirit to confer the office and dignity of either priest or deacon. When priests are being ordained, the concelebrating priests who are present likewise lay their hands on the heads of each candidate. Then, the bishop prays the Prayer of Ordination, recalling how God has chosen and set apart ministers throughout the history of our faith, and asking God to impart the special character of ordination. The now-ordained priests and deacons then put on the vestments proper to their order, and the priests' hands are anointed with sacred Chrism.

Lastly, the newly ordained are

presented with symbols central to their ministry. Priests are presented with the chalice and paten that will be used later in the Mass as the bishop says, "Understand what you will do, imitate what you will celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord's Cross." Deacons are presented with the Book of Gospels, as the bishop says, "Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach." The Mass then continues with the newly ordained assuming their proper roles.

Ordinations are a cause for great celebration for all the faithful. We gratefully acknowledge God's generosity in calling forth ministers to serve his people, and we joyfully pray that God will bless them with the gifts they need to serve well. As another prayer in the Rite of Ordination asks: May God bring to fulfillment the good work he has begun in them!

Ordenaciones cuando Dios consagra de ministros para servir

El mes pasado y este mes, nuestra diócesis está celebrando raras ordenaciones consecutivas de diáconos y sacerdotes. En abril, el Obispo Mark ordenó a dos hombres como diáconos transitorios —diáconos no casados que están en formación para convertirse en sacerdotes— y en mayo, el Obispo Mark ordenará a cinco hombres como sacerdotes de la Diócesis de El Paso.

Los diáconos, los sacerdotes y los obispos llegan a serlo a través del sacramento del Orden. Mediante la imposición de manos del obispo sobre la cabeza de cada candidato y la plegaria de ordenación específica, Dios consagra o "aparta" al candidato mediante la efusión del Espíritu Santo, incorporándolo a uno de los tres órdenes o grados específicos del ministerio apostólico, y confiriendo los dones del Espíritu para que el candidato pueda ejercer un "poder sagrado" que proviene de Cristo a través de su Iglesia.

Los ordenados "son destinados a apacientar la Iglesia por la palabra y gracia de Dios, en nombre de Cristo", explica la Constitución dogmática sobre la Iglesia.

Aunque todo el pueblo de Dios, en virtud de su bautismo, es parte del sacerdocio real de Cristo, algunos fieles son apartados para ser miembros del sacerdocio ministerial, que existe al servicio del sacerdocio común. Estos sacerdotes o presbíteros (palabra que proviene del griego "anciano") son ordenados para ser colaboradores de confianza de los obispos. A través de su ordenación, son signados con un carácter o impronta especial, que los configura con Cristo Sumo Sacerdote de tal manera que son capaces de actuar en la persona de Cristo como Cabeza de su Cuerpo, la Iglesia. A imagen y semejanza de Cristo, son consagrados para predicar y enseñar el Evangelio, pastorear a los fieles y celebrar el culto divino, especialmente la Eucaristía. Pero

también son ordenados para atender a los enfermos y pecadores mediante el ministerio del consuelo y la reconciliación.

Los diáconos son ordenados "para servir", ya que, de hecho, la palabra diácono viene del griego "siervo". Fortalecidos por el carácter especial y la gracia sacramental impartida por su ordenación, su ministerio se centra en asistir a los sacerdotes y obispos en los ministerios de la palabra, del altar y de la caridad.

Los ritos de ordenación de presbíteros y diáconos son en gran medida los mismos y se celebran siempre en el contexto de una misa. Sin embargo, incorporan diferentes símbolos que son importantes para cada orden. Ambos comienzan con la presentación y el examen de los candidatos. El obispo les pregunta si prometen ser fieles ministros de la orden a la que se ordenan y ser obedientes a él y a sus sucesores. Luego, toda la asamblea implora la intercesión de

los santos para que Dios "bendiga, santifique y consagre a estos elegidos".

A continuación viene la parte esencial del rito: el obispo impone las manos sobre las cabezas de los candidatos arrodillados, pidiendo en silencio el don del Espíritu Santo para conferir el oficio y la dignidad de sacerdote o diácono. Cuando se ordenan sacerdotes, los sacerdotes concelebrantes presentes también imponen las manos sobre la cabeza de cada candidato. A continuación, el obispo reza la oración de ordenación, recordando cómo Dios ha elegido y apartado a los ministros a lo largo de la historia de nuestra fe, y pidiendo a Dios que imparta el carácter especial de la ordenación. A continuación, los presbíteros y diáconos ya ordenados se revisten con las vestimentas propias de su orden y se ungén las manos de los presbíteros con el sagrado crisma.

Por último, los recién ordenados reciben los símbolos propios de su

ministerio. A los sacerdotes se les presenta el cáliz y la patena que se utilizarán más tarde en la misa, mientras el obispo dice: "Advierte bien lo que vas a realizar, imita lo que tendrás en tus manos y configura toda tu vida con el misterio de la cruz del Señor". A los diáconos se les presenta el Evangelario, mientras el obispo dice: "Esmérate en creer lo que lees, enseñar lo que crees y vivir lo que enseñas". La misa continúa con los recién ordenados asumiendo sus funciones propias.

Las ordenaciones son un motivo de gran celebración para todos los fieles. Reconocemos con gratitud la generosidad de Dios al llamar a ministros para servir a su pueblo, y rezamos con alegría para que Dios les bendiga con los dones que necesitan para servir bien. Como pide otra oración del Rito de la Ordenación: ¡Que Dios lleve a término la buena obra que ha comenzado en ellos!

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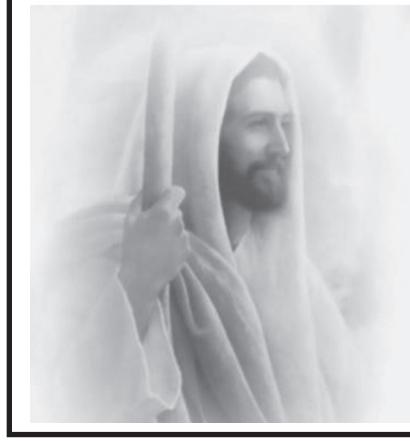
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SIDEWALK JESUS



Janet M. Crowe

Recently, I received a most precious and heart-warming gift – a teddy bear. Considering that I am far past my childhood, the simple gift of a teddy bear sounds rather anticlimactic, doesn't it? However, this bear is special. This bear was handmade by my sister who fashioned the bear with lots of love and used the fabric from an old woolen coat that my mother had worn for many years. The bear's coat and my mother's favorite coat are one and the same!

I stroke the little wooly bear's head and can still feel my hand holding my mother's elbow as we navigated the aisles in churches, through stores and across the back patio. I see the pretty pansy patches that make up the bear's paws and ears, and I recall my mother's love for plants and flowers of all kinds. She had the green thumb of the family, and our house was never without thriving plants in every room.

It has been several years since my mother passed away, and while I miss her so very much, I am happy for her. Dementia had progressively robbed my mother

of her sparkle, her wit, her wisdom, and many of her memories, especially during the last few years of her life. My younger brother tried to help by gifting her with a somewhat magical picture frame that constantly replayed photos of the family. My older brother and sister gave her the dignity she deserved by tenderly caring for her yet allowing her to feel in control of her own life and still in charge of her family.

That may be one reason why the woolen coat that covers my bear is so full of memories and love. My mother was the heart of our family. She taught us about life, to enjoy its beauty as well as how to navigate its ugliness. She showed us our inner strengths, guided us along the right paths and supported us when we took the wrong ones. We laughed together a lot, we argued a little, and we learned what was important as opposed to what was a simple hurdle to overcome. There are times when I miss her so very much and just as many times when I can feel her presence in what I am doing or what is happening around us.

That is what Mother's Day is all about – recognizing the valuable place our mothers hold in our hearts and in our memories. Mothers are the main reason we've become who we are today. The smallest things can sometimes spark those realizations. Rosaries, Sunday pot roast dinners, rabbits and turtles, backyard stargazing, and light-



ning storms will always fill my heart with happiness and loving memories of Mom.

When my mother was a small child, her own mother would gather her in her arms, take her outside and sit on their porch to watch the lightning storms, and ooh and ahh over the roars of the thunder, the flashes of lightning and the refreshing coolness of the rain. It wasn't until many years later that my mom discovered that her mother had been terrified of lightning. Rather than pass that fear on to her daughter, my grandmother had instilled a love for the storms that had frightened her so much, and years later, her daughter then passed that joy and love along to her own children, including me. I was never blessed to know my grandmother, but I recognized her in my own

mother's strength and joy of life. Now, every rainstorm, with or without lightning, that we are blessed to receive reminds me of both wonderful women.

Memories are like that. They pop up in the oddest of places. My family rejoices on holidays when our special family recipe's poppyseed rolls will grace our tables. Those scrumptious bites of sweetness and fluffy bread remind us of our paternal grandmother – like a warm and delicious hug. In fact, my brothers often try to sneak a few away to a hiding place for later. We've caught on to their devious ways and usually thwart their schemes. Luckily, we have discovered a much simpler recipe that doesn't require an entire day of dough rising, rolling out sticky dough, and cooking the poppyseeds to

enjoy their deliciousness. Of course, these quick rolls are not nearly as scrumptious as Grandma's rolls, but the memories are just as dear to us.

Thankfully, memories also carry forward from generation to generation. Not long ago, my grown son told me that pancakes remind him of me. What a blessing to my heart! When he was little, I often tried to form the pancake batter into animal shapes. I say "try" because there were more basketball shapes than dinosaurs or bunny rabbits. The failed efforts sometimes required creative imaginations to guess the shape, but giggles and syrupy slurps abounded each time. Apparently, the memories are more special than the shape, and he looks forward to creating the same type of memories with his little daughter.

Luckily, memories don't only travel one way. My memories of my children from their earliest days to our most recent visit fill my heart with joy and happiness. No matter how much I miss them, they are always by my side, in my memories, and in my heart. That's one of the rewards of motherhood. Our loved ones are always with us.

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of my mother and for all mothers! Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers who create happy memories for their children and for themselves! You are giving your children treasures more precious than gold.

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS



Fr. Tad Pacholczyk

A female sharpshooter nicknamed "Lady Death" has recently become a Ukrainian folk hero for defiantly attacking Russian soldiers undercover. The young markswoman fought for several years in eastern Ukraine against Kremlin-backed separatists, before shifting to the front line of hostilities as Russia initiated its full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Her real name has not been made public and photos hide her identity by blurring her face or showing her with a mask. Long range sniper attacks are her area of expertise. As she assassinates enemy combatants, she militantly proclaims, "We must take them all out. These people are not human beings. Even the fascists were not as vile as these orcs. We must defeat them."

Her battle cry, though clearly motivated by the atrocities unfolding in Ukraine, should also

Dehumanizing One Another

prompt some circumspection and soul searching. Whenever we move in the direction of believing that others are "not human beings" and dehumanize them in our thoughts and words, we risk diminishing our own humanity in the exchange. Even in the face of great depravity, we cannot fall prey to thinking that those who commit horrific evils or even war crimes are somehow no longer really human beings.

I was reminded of this recently as I viewed online videos of armed drones firing on Russian tanks traveling along Ukrainian highways. As they took successive missile hits, Russian soldiers could be seen launching themselves out of the hatch and escaping from the tank before it went up in a fireball. Sometimes they would barely get out alive, only to collapse and die by the side of the road. If the mother of a Russian tank driver were to watch a video of her son trying to escape this way under fire, she would be justly indignant, offended and even more saddened if anyone dared to declare he was "not a human being." In the posted remarks section following these videos, in fact, many commented on the hideousness of a world in which 18-year-old boys have to

perish in this manner.

By demonizing others, we no longer acknowledge the transcendent realities common to all human beings: our shared desire for truth, goodness, beauty, and love. Whenever we ignore or negate the important commonalities that unite us in our humanity and instead choose to dehumanize others, the consequences will be dire. Historically, the use of language that dehumanizes others has been a key tactic in marshaling support for atrocities.

Such language has always been central, for example, to acts of genocide. During the latter part of the twentieth century, the Tutsis were often denigrated as cockroaches and snakes in Rwanda, culminating in approximately 800,000 men, women and children being murdered during a twelve week period in 1994. In Nazi Germany, Jews and other enemies of the Third Reich, including persons with disabilities, were contemptuously viewed not as humans, but as vermin and rats, in order to justify their systematic extermination.

President Abraham Lincoln strongly objected to treating any person, whether slave or free, as "less-than-human" during his 1858 public debate with Stephen

A. Douglas. Lincoln rebuffed the idea that African Americans fell outside the "all men are created equal" clause, declaring such a concept to be marked by "an evil tendency, if not an evil design." He repudiated every attempt to "dehumanize the negro... [and] prepare the public mind to make property, and nothing but property of the negro in all the States of the Union."

Still in our nation today, the process of dehumanization continues to derail our thinking and diminish our collective conscience, especially when it comes to those humans who are very young and still in the womb, as well as the elderly and the infirm, the mentally-fragile, and those in vulnerable medical situations, such as newborn children with genetic defects. By dehumanizing these individuals in a "progressive" society, we can subject them to a range of unjust actions, from abortion to infanticide to euthanasia. Preborn children, for example, have undergone this dehumanization for decades, being denigrated as "tissue," "pregnancy," or "clumps of cells," to paper over the brutal reality of abortion. The website of Planned Parenthood, to cite one instance, defines a

suction abortion as a procedure where a "suction device" is used to "take the pregnancy tissue out of your uterus."

We need to fight against dehumanization both by recognizing and opposing its occurrence in our midst, and by recognizing it within ourselves. The temptation to dehumanize people who are themselves dehumanizing others can also be very strong.

In the end, our shared humanity, from the weakest to the strongest, from youngest to oldest, constitutes an ineradicable bond of unity that should prompt us to spurn our own dehumanizing impulses. Renewing hope for conflict-laden humanity begins precisely in the acknowledgement of each other's humanity, strengthening those fraternal bonds on which peace is grounded.

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.ncbicenter.org and www.father tad.com



Padre Wilson Cuevas

Dios pensó los domingos como día de adoración, descanso y caridad para su pueblo. En el mundo de hoy sin embargo, "Santificar el día del Señor" es un auténtico reto. El afán de conseguir más dinero y cosas materiales, nos está llevando a substituir este tercer mandamiento de la Ley de Dios de Santificar el día del Señor, participar en la Misa entera todos los domingos y días solemnes y no trabajar en el día del Señor. Cuando Dios dio los diez Mandamientos en el monte Sinaí dijo: "Seis días trabajarás y harás tus obras, pero el séptimo día es para el Señor tu Dios. Ese día no harás trabajos, ni tú ni tus familiares o empleados. Es un día sagrado" (Exodo 20,9).

Pongamos en práctica esta enseñanza de Dios, para recuperar los Domingos, perdidos en los que no hemos santificado el día del Señor. Dios que nos ama como nadie en este mundo nos dio los diez mandamientos con dos propósitos específicos: Primero para que seamos libres de verdad y Segundo para que seamos plenamente felices. El descanso es saludable y beneficiosa. Las personas demasiado cansadas se enferma y se vuelven neuróticas, mal geniados, irritables. El dinero que se gana el domingo se gasta en lujo y en adicciones; además nos esclaviza al trabajo y nos hace idolatrías del dinero; Dios que todo lo ve y lo sabe, nos lo manda por amor. Dios no nos llama a la Iglesia el Domingo debido a la egoísta necesidad que nos inclinemos ante El y lo adoremos.

La Eucaristía no está diseñada para que lo ayudemos a Él, está diseñada para ayudarnos a nosotros. No está pensada para hacerlo feliz a Él, está pensada para que todos compartamos en su alegría. Hay una bella canción titulada: "Venid al Banquete Divino" está escrita por Liam Lauton, esta canción en su totalidad nos invita a una increíble celebración. Empieza con una sencilla pregunta: "Vendrás al Banquete Divino?". Espero que sí, Yo estaré allí contigo en espíritu junto con todos los ángeles y los santos. Reza por mí, así como yo rezo por ti. La Misa está llena de riquezas, es un regalo inefable. Aprecia y valora este supremo regalo.

Te invito de corazón a que hagas la prueba y veas, que diferente será tu vida cuando recuperas el domingo para Dios, santificando su nombre con la Eucaristía de cada Domingo. La Misa no es aburrida, ni el sacerdote que la celebra o si su predicación es simple, o si es muy corto o largo el tiempo de la celebración o si el templo es bonito o no, si las bancas son cómodas o no... Piensa que halli esta JESÚS, y

cuando hay amor por Él, hasta de pie, se disfruta de este momento sublime, así como cuando vas a un concierto o estadio, aunque llueva o haya que hacer interminables líneas... Cuando se quiere se puede... Lo demás son disculpas baratas...

Recuperar los Domingos para Dios, nos trae entre muchos estos beneficios: Adoración: La Misa es un encuentro directo con Dios, conviértela en el centro y en lo más importante de su día. Prepárese para recibir a Jesús en la Eucaristía, confesándose con regularidad y prestando atención a su conciencia para evitar el pecado. Una de las mejores formas de honrarlo es corresponder a su amor con el de ustedes. Descanso: Distinga el domingo del resto de la semana. Evite el trabajo innecesario. Terminen los mandatos y las tareas al final del día sábado. Este día pueden usar platos desechables para reducir el lavado. Limiten el tiempo frente a las pantallas, las redes sociales las compras en la red...

Alegria: Dios descansa el séptimo día y se regocija en su creación (Genesis 1, 31; 2,2). Hallen tiempo hoy para hacer algo que les proporcione alegría. Pasen tiempo con sus seres queridos, de un paseo por la naturaleza, disfruten de un pasatiempo, lean un buen libro, escuche música religiosa. Dediquen especialmente este día para cultivar la vida familiar. Cultural y religiosa.

Caridad: Tradicionalmente el día del Señor se hacen obras de caridad. Pueden depositar su ofrenda en la colecta dominical en la Misa que participen, donar alimento o ropa a un hospicio o visitar a un vecino solitario o a un enfermo, los ancianos. Dedicar los domingos buenas, acordarse de los que pasan necesidades. Es un día muy propicio para la reflexión, no olvidarse de rezar por los demás y tratarlos con amabilidad es una necesaria obra de caridad.

Peligros para los domingos: Cada cual debe evitar exigir a otros lo que les impide santificar el día del Señor. Aunque haya que trabajar en deportes, restaurantes, servicios públicos, etc. cada persona tiene la responsabilidad de dedicar tiempo suficiente al descanso. Traten todos de evitar los excesos y violencia en los espectáculos y deportes multitudinarios. Los patronos y los gobiernos tienen la obligación de dejar a sus empleados el tiempo necesario para el descanso y el culto divino (# 2187 Catecismo Católico).

El ejemplo es y será la mejor manera de enseñar y educar a otros. Un gerente de una compañía, salía muy temprano de su casa todas las mañanas. Un día su hijo, lo sorprendió con esta pregunta: "Papi, a qué horas comienzas a trabajar?". Él le dijo a las 9:00 am. y luego le dijo su hijo: "Y a dónde vas tan temprano? vas a caminar? o al gimnasio? El papa le dijo, no voy a Misa diaria, como también lo hago los Domingos". Y el muchacho le dijo por ir a Misa,

te levantas tan temprano, cuando podías dormir una hora o mas? Y el papa le respondió: "La Misa es para mí alimento especial y mi energía para yo amar a tu Mamá, a ustedes, a mis empleados, para mantener la cordura en el tráfico y la amabilidad en el trato con todos. Y discúlpame por que se me está haciendo tarde para llegar a la Misa..." El muchacho volvió a su habitación, pensando en la respuesta que le había dado su padre... Era todo verdad, lo que le había dicho. El admiraba el amor y amabilidad de su padre con todos; su forma de hablar, aconsejar y pedir las cosas.... Unas semanas después el Papá escuchó que su hijo estaba temprano en la regadera y le preguntó el hijo a dónde vas hoy que te levantaste más temprano. A lo que el muchacho le dijo, espérame Papá, porque de hoy en adelante quiero ir contigo a Misa, ya sé de dónde sacas tú esas energías y gentileza para con todos. Yo también quiero recibir ese alimento y energía para ser como tú. El padre nunca le dijo a su hijo, deja de hacer pereza y vente a Misa no, el hijo al escuchar lo que le dijo su Padre y saber que era toda

verdad ahora convenida decide seguir el ejemplo de su Padre. Y me arriesgo a pensar y decir que ahora ese muchacho convertido en un adulto sigue practicando la santa costumbre de ir a Misa a diario y especialmente los Domingos. Cuantos padres batallan con sus hijos porque no quieren ir a la Misa o prepararse para primera comunión o confirmación. Porque no ven que sus padres vivan cristianamente, sean amables con su Mamá, con ellos y con los demás. Convenen las acciones, el ejemplo, el trato amable. Muchos padres se preocupan por darles una buena educación académica a sus hijos, que vayan a buenas escuelas o universidades, pero la lección suprema que los padres puedan dar a sus hijos es enseñarles a tener buenas relaciones con Dios, a amar a Dios, a obedecerles y santificar su nombre participando en la Misa los Domingos, aprendiendo a ofrendar y practicar las obras de misericordia. Lo demás es importante pero no substituye lo esencial. Si quieren tener familias felices, unidas, donde haya respeto mutuo, que viva en armonía y en paz... La clave para ser felices y que Dios nos

bendiga y nos conceda éxito en todo lo que hacemos, es pasar el Domingo en familia y participar en la eucaristía el Domingo. Si le damos a Dios el gusto de hacer de cada Domingo un día santo, alegre y feliz, esa es la clave para ser feliz.

Ahora bien, hemos perdido muchos domingos haciendo y deshaciendo según nuestros propios criterios sin tener en cuenta lo que Dios nos pide. Comencemos en esta Pascua y durante todo el año a recuperar los Domingos perdidos. Ya es tiempo de volver a Misa a la Iglesia, bien dispuestos a participar de buenas ganas, a comulgar y alabar a Dios. Sabes cuantos Domingos te quedan? Esta pregunta se la hice a un amigo que estaba cumpliendo 50 años de edad. Inmediatamente saco su celular y me dijo, si llego a vivir 80 años de vida, me quedan 30 años mas de vida, que serían aprox. 1590 Domingos mas. Parecen muchos pero se van rápido. No desperdigas un solo Domingo. Si no desperdigas un solo Domingo, es menos probable que no desperdigas los Lunes, los Martes y los Miércoles... La decisión es tuya!

Special Collections May 2022

Collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign

There will be a Special Offering on Saturday, May 28 and Sunday, May 29, 2022 for the Catholic Communications Campaign.

The Rio Grande Catholic and the Catholic Communications Campaign share an important mission in the Church; to contribute to the process of evangelization by fostering activities in relation to television, radio and other media, and through special projects of the Catholic press.

Contributions to this campaign work in two levels. Half of all donations are given to bishops to support communications in their dioceses. This means that The Rio Grande Catholic receives 50 percent of the donations that our parishioners give to this collection. The remaining 50 percent supports national television, radio, internet, and print programs that reach beyond the diocesan level.

On the weekend of May 28 and 29, 2022 please take the opportunity to contribute to the Catholic Communications Campaign. Thank you for your support.

Colecta para la Campaña Católica de Comunicaciones

Habrá una Ofrenda Especial el sábado 28 y el domingo 29 de mayo de 2022 para la Campaña de Comunicaciones Católicas.

La Católica de Río Grande y la Campaña de Comunicaciones Católicas comparten una importante misión en la Iglesia; contribuir al proceso de evangelización fomentando actividades en relación con la televisión, la radio y otros medios de comunicación, y a través de proyectos especiales de la prensa católica.

Las contribuciones a esta campaña funcionan en dos niveles. La mitad de las donaciones se entregarán a los obispos para apoyar la comunicación en sus diócesis. Esto significa que The Rio Grande Catholic recibe el 50 por ciento de las donaciones que nuestros feligreses dan a esta colecta. El 50 por ciento restante se destina a programas nacionales de televisión, radio, internet e impresos que llegan más allá del nivel diocesano.

El fin de semana del 28 y 29 de mayo de 2022, por favor aproveche la oportunidad de contribuir a la Campaña de Comunicaciones Católicas. Gracias por su apoyo.

Collection for the Major Seminary Fund Appeal

There will be a Special Offering on Saturday, May 7 and Sunday, May 8, 2022 for the Major Seminarians Program.

One of the most pressing needs in the Diocese of El Paso is the recruitment and education of seminarians. The Diocese expects a total of 30 seminarians during the next academic year starting in August. The Diocese must cover the expenses of the students' tuition, room and board, and medical insurance.

On the weekend of May 7 and 8 please take the opportunity to contribute to the education of the future priests of the Diocese. Thank you for your support.

Colecta para el Llamamiento al Fondo del Seminario Mayor

Habrá una Ofrenda Especial el sábado 7 y el domingo 8 de mayo de 2022 para el Programa de Seminaristas Mayores.

Una de las necesidades más urgentes en la Diócesis de El Paso es el reclutamiento y la educación de los seminaristas. La Diócesis espera un total de 30 seminaristas durante el próximo año académico que comienza en agosto. La Diócesis debe cubrir los gastos de la matrícula, el alojamiento y la comida de los estudiantes, y el seguro médico.

El fin de semana del 7 y 8 de mayo, por favor, aprovechen la oportunidad de contribuir a la educación de los futuros sacerdotes de la Diócesis. Gracias por su apoyo.

Together, We Play an Important Role

By Tina Edwards-Milam
Pledge Fulfillment Specialist

The “We Are the Body of Christ” campaign is designed to raise the necessary funds to support our seminarians, strengthen our Catholic schools and religious education programs and nourish our parish communities. The campaign raises funds for seminary education and diaconate formation, Catholic education and religious formation, and financial assistance for parish

emergency needs and expansion.

As we continue forward in our campaign, under the guidance of Bishop Seitz, we ask for your prayers for success and prayerful discernment of the role you can play and the gifts you can provide to this effort. We are abundantly grateful to those parishioners who continue to offer their gifts to this effort sacrificially. Together, more than 6,604 faithful have provided an incredible foundation for our future by raising more than

\$15 million! Our community is generous, our community is strong, and we are encouraged as we continue our journey forward and share our gifts.

Through their spiritual guidance and pastoral leadership, our priests care for us as God’s people. The generous and supportive responses received promise to provide future generations with a strong and vibrant Catholic Church. The Eucharist is profoundly one of the most essential sacraments within the church,

because this is the way for us to bond with our Lord, Jesus, Himself as He is truly present in the bread and wine. When we receive communion, Christ dwells in us, and we in Him. Receiving the Eucharist is essential to our Catholic faith because it strengthens our relationship with God. “Without our future Priests, there is no Eucharist,” stresses Father Allan Alaka, Queen of Peace Catholic Church.

Bishop Mark Seitz also encourages us, “Now is the time,

we must fully respond to the call of discipleship. Please open your hearts to receive God’s, boundless love. Joyfully share your time, talent, and treasure to help welcome His Kingdom for our future generations.”

Please consider making a sacrificial commitment to the We Are the Body of Christ Capital Campaign. To donate, or for more information, go to www.bodyofchristcampaign.com or call (915) 872-8412, Ext 137.

Juntos, Cumplimos Un Propósito Importante

By Tina Edwards-Milam
Especialista de Cumplimiento

La campaña “Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo” está diseñada para recaudar los fondos necesarios para apoyar a nuestros seminaristas, fortalecer nuestras escuelas católicas y programas de educación religiosa y nutrir nuestras comunidades parroquiales. La campaña recauda fondos para la educación del seminario y la formación del diaconado, la educación católica y la formación religiosa, y la ayuda financiera para las necesidades de emergencia y

la expansión de la parroquia.

A medida que avanzamos en nuestra campaña, bajo la dirección del Obispo Seitz, pedimos sus oraciones para el éxito y el discernimiento en oración del papel que puede desempeñar y los regalos que puede proporcionar a este esfuerzo. Estamos muy agradecidos a los feligreses que continúan ofreciendo sus dones a este esfuerzo de forma sacrificada. Juntos, más de 6.604 fieles han proporcionado una base increíble para nuestro futuro al recaudar más de 15 millones de dólares. Nuestra comunidad es

generosa, nuestra comunidad es fuerte, y nos sentimos alentados mientras continuamos nuestro camino hacia adelante y compartimos nuestros dones.

A través de su guía espiritual y liderazgo pastoral, nuestros sacerdotes cuidan de nosotros como pueblo de Dios. Las generosas y solidarias respuestas recibidas prometen proporcionar a las futuras generaciones una Iglesia católica fuerte y vibrante. La Eucaristía es profundamente uno de los sacramentos más esenciales dentro de la Iglesia, porque es la forma de unirnos a nuestro

Señor, Jesús, en persona, ya que está verdaderamente presente en el pan y el vino. Cuando recibimos la comunión, Cristo habita en nosotros, y nosotros en Él. Recibir la Eucaristía es esencial para nuestra fe católica porque fortalece nuestra relación con Dios. “Sin nuestros futuros sacerdotes, no hay Eucaristía”, subraya el padre Allan Alaka, de la iglesia católica Reina de la Paz.

El Obispo Mark Seitz también nos anima: “Ahora es el momento, debemos responder plenamente a la llamada del

discipulado. Por favor, abran sus corazones para recibir el amor ilimitado de Dios. Compartan con alegría su tiempo, talento y tesoro para ayudar a dar la bienvenida a Su Reino a nuestras futuras generaciones”.

Por favor, considere hacer un compromiso de sacrificio a la Campaña de Capital Somos el Cuerpo de Cristo. Para donar, o para más información, vaya a www.bodyofchristcampaign.com o llame al (915) 872-8412, Ext 137.



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

Permanent Endowed Fund for Seminarian Education Surpasses \$4 Million

By Sofia Larkin
Major Gifts Officer

The Seminarian Education Endowment Fund, managed by the Catholic Foundation, surpassed \$4 million at the end of 2021. Thanks to the generosity of many donors, we're 82% towards our short-term goal of \$5 million. A fund of this size will generate \$200,000 in annual support.

To a man responding to a call to the priesthood, the cost of higher education should not be an obstacle to his vocation. Fortunately, seminarians studying for the Diocese of El Paso receive financial support for the cost of their education as they commit their lives to serving as diocesan priests.

The Seminarian Education Endowment Fund was created to ensure continual resources for the recruitment and training of seminarians to serve as the future leadership of the Diocese of El Paso.

This is an exciting time for St. Charles Seminary. There are currently 19 men in priestly formation. Our newest priest is Alfonso Coronado. He was ordained at St. Patrick Cathedral in January of this year and serves in West Texas. Father Alfonso has embraced parish life and is committed to energizing campus ministry at Sul Ross State University.

José William Arévelo Narváez, Astry Déraly, César García-Ortega, Edroud Jean, and Sergio Legarreta Carrasco will be ordained to the priesthood on Friday, May 27 at 6:30pm at St. Stephen.

Most Rev. Mark J. Seitz, D.D. ordained Ángel Aguilar & Ángel

Tarango to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate on Friday, April 29 at St. Patrick Cathedral.

The diaconate is the first of three ranks of ordained ministry in the Catholic Church, which also include the priesthood and the episcopacy, or the ministry of a bishop. Men studying for the priesthood are ordained as transitional deacons prior to beginning their final year of study before ordination to the priesthood. Deacons are able to preach at Mass, baptize, and celebrate weddings.

Loyd Divinagracia was ordained a transitional deacon earlier this year. He, and the other two new deacons, will be ordained to the priesthood in 2023.

We are grateful that they have all heard the call to a life in the priesthood rooted in intimate prayer and spiritual leadership.

The blessing of vocations comes with a particular challenge: funding. The average cost to prepare one seminarian is \$45,000 annually...and it takes at least nine years to become a priest. This includes room and board, education, health insurance, and travel expenses. Men are not allowed to work while in the seminary; they must devote themselves to prayer and study. The annual budget to run the seminary is now \$1 million.

Recruiting and educating seminarians is a significant and critical investment. The responsibility of providing priests for the Diocese of El Paso, both spiritually and financially, belongs to all of us.

Funding for seminarian edu-



Deacons José William Arévelo Narváez, Astry Déraly, César García-Ortega, Edroud Jean, and Sergio Legarreta Carrasco photographed here with Bishop Mark Seitz during their diaconate ordination in 2021.

Photo by Al, Baeza

cation comes from a variety of sources including the Seminarian Education Endowment Fund, the Progress Catholic Ministry Appeal, Serra Club, Filipino-American community, Knights of Columbus, second collections, and generous individuals and organizations.

Donors may create a Named Fund with a gift or pledge of \$10,000 or more over a five-year period benefiting the Seminarian Education Endowment Fund. You can also add to a Named Fund at any time in honor of a special event or in memory of a loved one.

Give your IRA or 401(K) to charity. You may find that your retirement plan can be an excellent additional "pocket" from which to make all or a portion of your charitable gifts each year.

When men are ordained for the Diocese of El Paso, they serve the Diocese of El Paso. These men have made a lifelong commitment to our diocese. Consider a donation to the Seminarian Education Endowment Fund in their honor to provide continual resources for future priests for years to come. Help us reach the next milestone of \$5 million.

"We need priests, for without

priests there is no Eucharist, & without the Eucharist there is no church." — Bishop Robert Barron

To create your legacy for priests and seminarians, contact Major Gifts Officer Sofia Larkin directly at (915) 433-2003 or slarkin@catholicfoundationelpaso.org. The Catholic Foundation is located at the Catholic Pastoral Center at 499 St. Matthews Street in Building G. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm and by appointment.

Your Generous Gifts at Work

By Tina Edwards-Milam
Pledge Fulfillment Specialist

The Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal is blooming with gifts from new donors and an abundance of blessings from our faithful donors who continue to support the ministries of our growing Diocese.

This year's theme is Growing in Faith, Giving in Love and donations to the Catholic Ministry Appeal, support 15 ministries serving thousands of parishioners throughout the Diocese of El

Paso, and is done 100% through your generous gifts. The Diocese includes 57 parishes and 20 missions in 10 counties of El Paso County and West Texas.

We are truly blessed and fortunate to have ministries that serve the people in our parishes through outreach, evangelization, education, and have a dedication to serving God, and we pray that they can continue to provide their generous support to our much-needed programs that continue to strengthen our Diocese.

Take a look at a few of the

fantastic works that are offered through your generous gifts.

Tepeyac Institute offers classes and certification for ministers and works with each parish to get the classes each parish and parishioners need. Tepeyac Institute assists Laity to make their rightful role in the life and mission of the Church and serve as Christ asks us to do.

The Catholic Campus Ministry offers spiritual support to Catholic students at UTEP and Sul Ross State University in Alpine. Catholic Campus Ministry is a

functioning student-led on and off-campus organization! The Mission of the Catholic Campus Ministry is striving to share the love of Christ on their campuses and in their communities through liturgy, service, and fellowship.

Catholic Counseling Services has been a ministry for the Diocese of El Paso since 1938. Catholic Counseling Services provides services to the poor and troubled of the Diocese of El Paso regardless of religion, sex, or ethnicity. This is in accordance with the Gospel of Matthew 25:

40, "The King will answer them: I assure you, as often as you did it for one of My least brothers, you did it for Me."

Your generous gifts continue to strengthen our Ministries. If you have not made your donation to this year's Progress: Catholic Ministry Appeal, please do so today by visiting www.2022progress.org or calling us at 915-872-8412.

CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL
PROGRESS 2022

GROWING IN FAITH + GIVING IN LOVE



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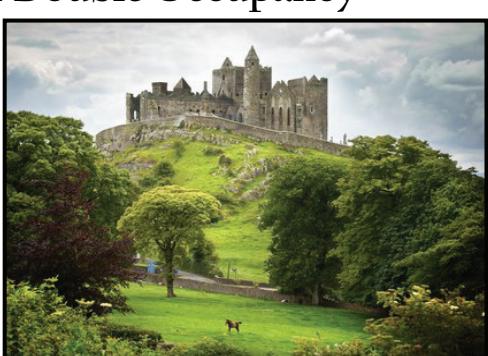
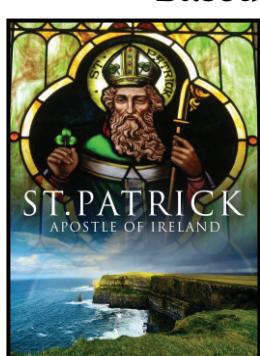
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MARIAN SHRINES
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and more!
\$4,299 from El Paso
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SPECIAL NOTE!

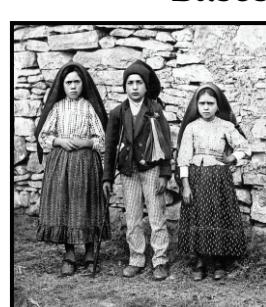
It has been announced by the Vatican that the Shroud of Turin will be on display in 2025, which is also a Jubilee Year. While details will not be available until sometime in late 2023, I do know that time and space will be limited. If you think you might have an interest in being a part of a pilgrimage to view the Shroud and visit other parts of Italy, including Rome and attend the public audience with the Holy Father, please call, email or text me to place your name on a notification list.

No obligation to travel.



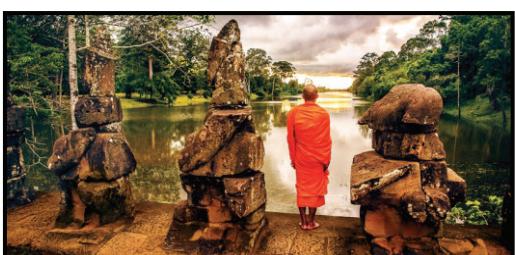
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\$4,299 from El Paso Per Person
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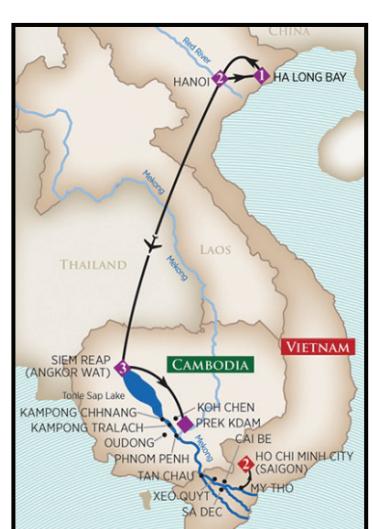
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JANUARY 2024



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