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New Assignments for Several Parishes in the Diocese

By Fernie Cenicerros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

The Most Rev. Mark Seitz, D.D., Bishop of El Paso, announced new pastoral assignments for various clergy serving the Catholic Diocese of El Paso. **San Francisco Xavier Parish (South Central El Paso)**

Priests from the religious community of the Augustinians of the Assumption will begin serving the Diocese for the first time, and will assume pastoral leadership of San Francisco Xavier Parish in South Central El Paso. The parish will house three priests of the Order, who will serve this parish as well as focusing their pastoral attention on the increasing needs of migrant refugees along the El Paso-Juárez border. Three priests will be assigned to the parish: the Pastor, Fr. Peter Precourt, AA; Fr. Ron Sibigan, AA; and a third Augustinian of the Assumption priest to be announced.

“I trust that the assignment of the Augustinians of the Assumption to St. Francis Xavier will invigorate this wonderful parish community and also strengthen all of our service to migrant refugees along the U.S.-Mexico Border,” Bishop Seitz said. “It is in keeping with Pope Francis’ wishes to be a Church for all God’s people with special attention to those brothers and sisters on the peripheries of society,” he added.

The Order of the Augustinians of the Assumption was founded in 1845 in Nimes, France, by Venerable Emmanuel d’Alzon. The order’s provincial office in the United States is located in Brighton, Massachusetts. **Santo Niño de Atocha Parish & Our Lady of the Light Parish (South Central El Paso)**

The neighboring parishes of Santo Niño de Atocha and Our Lady of the Light in South Central El Paso will receive the experienced pastoral leadership of their new Pastor, Fr. Wilson Cuevas. Ordained in 1981, Fr. Cuevas has served in the Diocese of El Paso for 24 years in various ministries, including as Pastor of Corpus Christi Parish in the Mission Valley. He recently served the Diocese as Pastor of St. Pius X Parish and as the Vicar Forane for the Vicariate of St. Paul in Central El Paso.

Along with the pastoral leadership of Fr. Cuevas, the parishes will be sacramentally served by Priest-in-Residence, Fr. German Alzate. Fr. Antonio Lasheras, who is 81 years old, will also



Father Peter Precourt, AA and Father Ron Sibigan, AA, priests from the religious community of the Augustinians of the Assumption will begin serving the Diocese for the first time, and will assume pastoral leadership of San Francisco Xavier Parish. *Photo by Fernie Cenicerros*

continue to assist the two parishes as Parochial Vicar. Deacon Bobby Saucedo will return to his home parish of Our Lady of the Light after his years of service as the Administrator of Holy Family Parish in Sunset Heights. **St. Patrick Parish (Canutillo) & Immaculate Heart of Mary Mission (Westway)**

Maryknoll Fathers have long served this parish and mission and, thanks be to God, their dedicated service will continue. These senior priests that Maryknoll is able to send will now be able to focus on providing pastoral and sacramental care under the pastoral leadership of Fr. Hector Chicas, who will serve as the Parish Administrator.

Gratefully, Deacon Ignacio Torres, who has provided administrative assistance in recent years, will continue now as the deacon serving these communities. Fr. William Donnelly, MM,

will continue his service at the parish and will soon be joined by a second Maryknoll priest. **St. Patrick Cathedral & Holy Family Parish (Downtown El Paso)**

Fr. Trini Fuentes will continue his service as Rector of St. Patrick Cathedral and has also been named Pastor of Holy Family Parish. Grateful for the dedicated service that Deacon Bobby Saucedo has provided as Parish Administrator over these past 4 years, Holy Family will now benefit from the ministry of an experienced priest-Pastor. While both parishes will remain distinct and self-sustaining, they will benefit from efficiencies created by their mutual cooperation. Fr. Miguel Perez has been assigned the parochial vicar for both St. Patrick Cathedral and Holy Family Parish. **Cristo Rey Parish (Mission Valley)**

Fr. Jose Vera has been appointed Pastor of Cristo Rey Parish in the Mission Valley. “I am very grateful for the nine years of dedicated service as a lay Parish Administrator provided by Mr. Manny Barrios, who will continue to serve the parish as Business Administrator,” Bishop Seitz said. “They will find in Fr. Jose Vera a humble holy pastor who will work alongside Fr. Esteban Sescon, Parochial Vicar, and Deacon Joe Zaragoza to serve this dynamic community,” he said.

St. Pius X Parish & San Juan Bautista Parish (East Central El Paso)

Fr. Edilberto “Beto” Lopez has been appointed Pastor of St. Pius X and San Juan Bautista parishes. Fr. Lopez has served as Pastor in various parishes around the diocese over the last 15 years, and most recently served as pastor of Our Lady of Peace

in Alpine, Texas. Fr. Lopez will be joined by Fr. Charles Rajan Michael as parochial vicar. He previously served as the Parochial Vicar at St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Parish in East El Paso. **Corpus Christi Parish (Mission Valley)**

Fr. Ralph Solis has been appointed Pastor of Corpus Christi Parish in the Mission Valley. Fr. Solis served most recently as Pastor of San Felipe de Jesus Parish in Socorro, Texas, and at various other parishes in El Paso County and in the other nine counties of the diocese in West Texas. Fr. Solis will be joined by Fr. Antonio Jovino Martinez, who will serve as Parochial Vicar. Fr. Martinez most recently served as Parochial Vicar at San Judas Tadeo Parish in West El Paso.

Continued on Page 4

When It Rains, It Pours

This year’s August 13th marked 20 years since I first walked through the doors at St. Charles. To mark the 20th anniversary of my time at St. Charles, I’d like to take this opportunity to share some life lessons I learned during my time there. These lessons have been useful to me since then.

Lesson one: Anything is possible. Especially when I decided it would be a good idea to leave the windows in my car rolled down. I think my decision making was sound, given that it was the middle of August without a cloud in sight. Still, God had a funny way of reminding me that anything was possible. Like a torrential



Fernie Cenicerros

downpour on the car, I decided it would be a good idea to leave the windows rolled down. It made for the fun time of letting my car air dry for three whole days.

Lesson two: Patience, its a virtue! Especially when it came to the car, as mentioned earlier.

That 1982 Nissan Stanza had an engine that would overrun. To the point that even when I would turn off the car, take the keys out of the ignition, step out of the said car, it would still sputter until it finally turned off. If only I had the patience to wait-it-out the day, I was late to prayer. If I had the patience, my car wouldn’t have been sputtering outside as I went running to make it on time to prayer. It sure was fun when I had my brother seminarians mention to me as I ran into prayer, that the car is still trying to turn itself off. Parishioners at Holy Spirit can ask Fr. Jose, about my little car that could!

But above all those lessons,

here is the most important lesson. Pray, pray, and when your done praying, pray some more. In my time at St. Charles, it was made abundantly clear that prayer was the cornerstone of every aspect of my life in everything I was enduring. It was the answer to that time when certain things in the world seemed unsurmountable in my young life. Prayer was the great equalizer.

Twenty years later, I sit here as the Director of Communications for the diocese and the Editor of this paper. I frequently find myself in prayer, and God continues to answer my prayers. My prayers and discernment to use me as His

instrument to spread His Good News. He has called me to be of good service as a husband and a father, and to all of you in our diocese.

So in closing, to mark the 20th anniversary of my time at St. Charles Seminary. I want to take this opportunity to ask you all to pray for our seminarians, priests, deacons, our religious brothers and sisters, and our Bishop. That they may have the courage always to answer God’s call in their faithful service. I also ask that you join me in praying for future vocations to the priesthood and the religious life.

Cuando llueve, llueve a chorros

El 13 de agosto de este año se cumplieron 20 años desde que entré por primera vez en el seminario de San Carlos. Para marcar el 20 aniversario de mi estancia en San Carlos, me gustaría aprovechar esta oportunidad para compartir algunas lecciones de vida que aprendí durante mi estancia allí. Estas lecciones me han sido útiles desde entonces.

Lección uno: Todo es posible. Especialmente cuando decidí que sería una buena idea dejar las ventanas de mi carro bajadas. Creo que mi decisión fue firme, ya que era mediados de agosto y no había ninguna nube a la vista.

Aún así, Dios tenía una forma curiosa de recordarme que todo era posible. Como un torrencial aguacero en el carro, decidí que sería una buena idea dejar las ventanas bajadas. Fue una forma divertida de dejar que mi coche se secara al aire libre durante tres días enteros.

Lección dos: La paciencia, es una virtud! Especialmente cuando se trata del carro, como se mencionó anteriormente. Ese Nissan Stanza de 1982 tenía un motor que se desbordaba. Hasta el punto de que incluso cuando apagaba el carro, sacaba las llaves del encendido y salía del mismo, seguía chisporroteando hasta que

finalmente se apagaba. Si tuviera la paciencia para esperar el día que llegaría tarde a la oración. Si hubiera tenido paciencia, mi coche no habría estado chisporroteando fuera mientras corría para llegar a tiempo a la oración. Fue muy divertido cuando mis hermanos seminaristas me mencionaron cuando me encontré con la oración, que el coche todavía está tratando de apagarse. Los feligreses del Espíritu Santo pueden preguntarle al Padre José, sobre mi pequeño coche que podría!

Pero sobre todas esas lecciones, aquí está la lección más importante. Oren, oren, y cuando terminen de orar, oren un poco

más. En mi tiempo en San Carlos, se hizo muy claro que la oración era la piedra angular de todos los aspectos de mi vida en todo lo que estaba soportando. Era la respuesta a esa época en la que ciertas cosas del mundo parecían insuperables en mi joven vida. La oración era el gran ecualizador.

Veinte años después, me siento aquí como el Director de Comunicaciones de la diócesis y el Editor de este periódico. Con frecuencia me encuentro en la oración, y Dios continúa respondiendo a mis oraciones. Mis oraciones y discernimiento para usarme como su instrumento para difundir su Buena Noticia. Él me ha llama-

do a ser de buen servicio como esposo y padre, y a todos ustedes en nuestra diócesis.

Así que para terminar, para marcar mi 20 aniversario en el Seminario de St. Charles. Quiero aprovechar esta oportunidad para pedirles a todos ustedes que recen por nuestros seminaristas, sacerdotes, diáconos, nuestros hermanos y hermanas religiosos y nuestro Obispo. Que tengan el valor de responder siempre a la llamada de Dios en su fiel servicio. También les pido que se unan a mí en la oración por las futuras vocaciones al sacerdocio y a la vida religiosa.

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499 St. Matthews St.
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Phone: (915) 872-8414
Fax: (915) 872-8435

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

Editor: Fernie Cenicerros
Twitter: @FCenicerrosphoto

Advertising Manager: Norma Muñoz

Spanish Translation: Fernie Cenicerros,

Contributors: Janet M. Crowe, Fr. Wilson Cuevas

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INSEITZ INTO THE FAITH

Go Out to All the World!": Priests and Deacons Hear the Call

When they found him, they said to him, ‘Everyone is searching for you.’ He answered, ‘Let us go one to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.’” (Mk. 1:37-38)

Jesus took the same approach with his disciples when he sent them out, instructing them to travel lightly so they could be free to bring his word wherever they were needed. In my life moving to different assignments was always a challenge, because as a priest I came to feel very much a part of the community I served. On the other hand I also found this movement to be a very rich time in my own understanding of my calling and my commitment to it.

Jesus calls the rich young man to lay aside his other attachments and concerns and to “Come and follow me.” I had to take this to a new level when I was called to serve as your bishop. I never would have imagined myself serving in this wonderful West Texas region, but God did. In this spirit of a desire to be open to God’s will I adopted my Episcopal Motto, “Paratum cor meum”,

which translates, “My heart is ready”. The call to leave behind what is familiar and move on to a new place to share the Good News echoes through the ages and continues among us today. Priests are called to be radically committed disciples of Jesus Christ who reflect his way of life and ministry.

This month a number of new assignments for priests in our Diocese will take effect. If your pastor or vicar is among those moving I am sure this will be painful for you who have come to know and love your pastor over a number of years. That you love them so is a great blessing. It is understandable that you would. Our priests are some pretty special people! As scripture says, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.” They are there for you in some of the best times (like weddings and baptisms) and in some of the most difficult times (like times of illness and death). They share our lives and feel like members of our families.

I can assure you that the regular movement of priests within a diocese is neither a punishment nor is it simply for the sake of

change. This is a normal part of priestly ministry. Like the first disciples we do not claim a specific place as our own. Diocesan Priests are Ordained for the service of a particular diocese, not for a particular parish. We each bring certain gifts and talents. We also have very human shortcomings. Some priests are very effective with the youth, others with the elderly. Some are more effective with one culture or language group than another. Regular movement allows for those gifts and talents to be shared more broadly and for the weaknesses only to be experienced for a time by the community.

When a priest is in one place for too long a time, since he is a key sign of Christ within the community, the people can overly identify Christ with the individual priest. No one priest can represent Christ in his fullness. Each Christian community is a special locus of Christ. It is not healthy for it to be seen simply as “Fr. Jones’ Parish”. It needs to be identified as the “Parish of St. _____, served by Fr. Jones”. When Fr. Jones moves to another parish the community retains its



Bishop Mark J. Seitz



identity and its mission.

We have in the Diocese a great Personnel Board made up of well-respected priests of the diocese. They are: Fr. John Telles, Fr. Joe Molina, Fr. Miguel Angel Sanchez and Fr. Tony Celino. I have worked with them to find the best ways to fill the needs that lie before us and we have prayed earnestly to the Holy Spirit for guidance. The task is challenging because right now we simply do not have enough priests to fill all our needs.

We have been blest to find priests from other countries who are assisting us greatly. Our need for Vocations coming from our own communities for the future is great. I am happy to report that the number of young men

stepping forward to discern a call to the priesthood is growing and now that we have a full time Vocations Director, Fr. German Alzate, we will be able to give a new energy to this essential ministry. There is great hope for the future!

I want to encourage you to do your best to make a challenging moment in our priests’ lives as smooth as possible. Encourage your priests who are being asked to take a new assignment. Assure them of your support and your love. Don’t make them explain over and over why they are being faithful to their calling. When your new pastor arrives go out of your way to show him the same hospitality you have always shown me.

Salir a todo el mundo!": Sacerdotes y diáconos escuchan el llamado

Cuando lo encontraron, le dijeron: ‘Todo el mundo te está buscando’. Respondió: “Vayamos uno a los pueblos vecinos, para que yo pueda proclamar el mensaje también allí, porque eso es lo que he venido a hacer”. (Mc. 1:37-38)

Jesús tomó el mismo enfoque con sus discípulos cuando los envió, instruyéndolos a viajar con ligereza para que pudieran ser libres de llevar su palabra a donde se les necesitara. En mi vida, cambiar de destino siempre fue un desafío, porque como sacerdote me sentí parte de la comunidad a la que servía. Por otro lado, también encontré que este movimiento fue un momento muy rico en mi propia comprensión de mi vocación y mi compromiso con ella.

Jesús llama al joven rico a dejar de lado sus otros apegos y preocupaciones y a “Ven y sígueme”. Tuve que llevar esto a un nuevo nivel cuando me llamaron para servir como su obispo. Nunca me hubiera imaginado sirviendo en esta maravillosa región del oeste de Texas, pero Dios lo hizo. En este espíritu de deseo de estar abierto a la voluntad de Dios adopté mi lema episcopal, “Paratum cor meum”, que se traduce como “Mi corazón está listo”. La llamada a dejar atrás lo que es familiar y pasar a un nuevo lugar para compartir la Buena Nueva resuena a través de los tiempos y continúa entre nosotros hoy. Los sacerdotes están llamados a ser discípulos radicalmente comprometidos con Jesucristo que reflejen su forma de vida y su ministerio.

Este mes entrarán en vigor

nuevas asignaciones para los sacerdotes de nuestra Diócesis. Si su párroco o vicario está entre los que se mueven, estoy seguro de que esto será doloroso para ustedes que han llegado a conocer y amar a su párroco durante varios años. El hecho de que los quieran tanto es una gran bendición. Es comprensible que lo haga. ¡Nuestros sacerdotes son personas muy especiales! Como dicen las escrituras, “Qué hermosos son los pies de los que traen buenas noticias”. Están ahí para ti en algunos de los mejores momentos (como bodas y bautizos) y en algunos de los más difíciles (como los momentos de enfermedad y muerte). Comparten nuestras vidas y se sienten como miembros de nuestras familias.

Puedo asegurarles que el movimiento regular de sacerdotes dentro de una diócesis no es un castigo ni es simplemente para cambiar. Es una parte normal del ministerio sacerdotal. Como los primeros discípulos no reclamamos un lugar específico como propio. Los sacerdotes diocesanos son ordenados para el servicio de una diócesis en particular, no para una parroquia en particular. Cada uno de nosotros trae ciertos dones y talentos. También tenemos defectos muy humanos. Algunos sacerdotes son muy eficaces con los jóvenes, otros con los ancianos. Algunos son más efectivos con una cultura o grupo de lenguaje que con otro. El movimiento regular permite que esos dones y talentos sean compartidos más ampliamente y que las debilidades sólo sean experimentadas por un tiempo por la comunidad.



Cuando un sacerdote está en un lugar durante demasiado tiempo, ya que es un signo clave de Cristo dentro de la comunidad, la gente puede identificar demasiado a Cristo con el sacerdote individual. Ningún sacerdote puede representar a Cristo en su plenitud. Cada comunidad cristiana es un lugar especial de Cristo. No es saludable que sea vista simplemente como la “Parroquia del Padre Jones”. Necesita ser identificada como la “Parroquia de St. _____, atendida por el Padre Jones”. Cuando el Padre Jones se muda a otra parroquia, la comunidad conserva su identidad y su misión.

Tenemos en la Diócesis una gran Junta de Personal formada por sacerdotes muy respetados

de la diócesis. Ellos son: P. John Telles, P. Joe Molina, P. Miguel Ángel Sánchez y P. Tony Celino. He trabajado con ellos para encontrar la mejor manera de llenar las necesidades que tenemos ante nosotros y hemos rezado fervientemente al Espíritu Santo para que nos guíe. La tarea es desafiante porque ahora mismo no tenemos suficientes sacerdotes para cubrir todas nuestras necesidades.

Hemos sido bendecidos al encontrar sacerdotes de otros países que nos están ayudando mucho. Nuestra necesidad de vocaciones provenientes de nuestras propias comunidades para el futuro es grande. Estoy feliz de informar que el número de jóvenes que se acercan a discernir una llamada

al sacerdocio está creciendo y ahora que tenemos un Director de Vocaciones a tiempo completo, el P. German Alzate, podremos dar una nueva energía a este ministerio esencial. Hay una gran esperanza para el futuro!

Quiero animarles a hacer lo mejor para que un momento de desafío en la vida de nuestros sacerdotes sea lo más fácil posible. Animen a sus sacerdotes a los que se les pide que tomen una nueva tarea. Asegúrenles su apoyo y su amor. No les hagan explicar una y otra vez por qué son fieles a su vocación. Cuando llegue su nuevo pastor, hagan un esfuerzo para mostrarle la misma hospitalidad que siempre me han mostrado a mí.

Continued on Page 1

St. Paul the Apostle Parish (Mission Valley)

Fr. Apolinar Samboni has been appointed Pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in the Mission Valley of El Paso. Fr. Samboni will take on his third pastoral assignment at St. Paul the Apostle, after most recently serving as Pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Van Horn, Texas and the rural mission of Our Lady of Miracles in Sierra Blanca, Texas. **San Felipe De Jesus Parish (Socorro)**

Fr. Antonio Mena, another long-standing priest, has been appointed Pastor of San Felipe de Jesus Parish in Socorro, Texas. Fr. Mena has served the Diocese of El Paso for almost 30 years as a priest in various pastoral ministries, most recently as Pastor at Corpus Christi Parish in the Mission Valley of El Paso. **Our Lady of Peace (Alpine)**

Fr. Pablo Matta has been appointed Pastor of Our Lady of Peace Parish in Alpine, Texas. A native of Pecos, Texas, Fr. Matta comes to Alpine having served in various ministries throughout the Diocese of El Paso, most recently as Pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in the Mission Valley of El Paso. As Pastor, Fr. Matta will be tasked with serving the faithful of Alpine, Texas, and St. Joseph Mission in Fort Davis, Texas and St. Mary Mission in Marathon, Texas.

Our Lady of Fatima (Van Horn)

Fr. Frank Hernandez will take on his third pastoral assignment as Administrator of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Van Horn, Texas. Fr. Hernandez serve the people of Van Horn and the rural mission of Our Lady of Miracles in Sierra Blanca, Texas.

Vocations Director (Diocese-wide)

Helping young men to

Diocesan News

recognize God’s call to give themselves in a special way to serve as deacons and priests, and guiding women and men to hear God’s call to the religious life are essential works of the Church and a key to the Church’s continued life and growth.

To carry out this work in the Diocese of El Paso, Bishop Seitz is pleased to announce the assignment of a new full-time Director of Vocations: Fr. German Alzate, STL. “The appointment of a full-time Director of Vocations signals the importance that this work has for the future of the Church in the Diocese of El Paso, as well as the commitment that the entire Diocese should have to grow future vocations to the priesthood, permanent diaconate, and religious life,” Bishop Seitz said.

Parochial Vicars (Diocese-wide)

Fr. Ivan Montelongo, ordained a priest this summer, has been

appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Raphael Parish in East El Paso. Fr. Montelongo will continue his studies in canon law while serving the faithful of St. Raphael Parish.

Fr. Cong Vo has been appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Parish in East El Paso. Fr. Vo, who most recently served as Parochial Vicar at St. Pius X Parish in East Central El Paso, will also continue his studies in canon law while serving the faithful of Mother Cabrini Parish.

Fr. Victorino Loresca has been appointed Parochial Vicar at San Judas Tadeo Parish in West El Paso. Fr. Loresca most recently served as Parochial Vicar at St. Raphael Parish in East El Paso.

Fr. Michael Lewis, STL, has been appointed Parochial Vicar at St. Mark Parish in East El Paso. Fr. Lewis, who recently earned a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the University of

September 2020

Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelien, Illinois, most recently served as Parochial Vicar at St. Patrick Cathedral.

Fr. Roberto Alvarado will serve as the new Parochial Vicar at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Northeast El Paso. Fr. Alvarado most recently served as Parochial Vicar of Corpus Christi Parish in the Mission Valley of El Paso.

Seminarians

Seminarians Loyd Divinagracia, Jose William and Edroud Jean have completed their seminary studies and will have parish assignments prior to their Ordination, which we are hopeful will take place next year. Loyd Divinagracia has been assigned to Corpus Christi, Jose William has been appointed to St. Patrick Cathedral, and Edroud Jean has been appointed to Mother Cabrini.

The new parish assignments will be effective on September 18, 2020.

Nuevas asignaciones para varias parroquias de la diócesis

Por Fernie Ceniceros
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

El Reverendísimo Mark Seitz, D.D., Obispo de El Paso, se complace en anunciar nuevas asignaciones pastorales para varios clérigos que sirven a la Diócesis Católica de El Paso.

Parroquia de San Francisco Xavier (Centro Sur de El Paso)

Sacerdotes de la comunidad religiosa de los Agustinos de la Asunción comenzarán a servir a la Diócesis por primera vez, y asumirán el liderazgo pastoral de la Parroquia de San Francisco Xavier en el centro sur de El Paso. La parroquia tendrá tres sacerdotes de la Orden, que servirán a esta parroquia, además de centrar su atención pastoral en las crecientes necesidades de los

refugiados migrantes a lo largo de la frontera entre El Paso-Juárez. Se asignarán tres sacerdotes a la parroquia: el Párroco, el P. Peter Precourt, AA; el P. Ron Sibugan, AA; y un tercer sacerdote agustino de la Asunción que se anunciará.

“Confío en que la asignación de los Agustinos de la Asunción a San Francisco Xavier fortalecerá esta maravillosa comunidad parroquial y también reforzará todo nuestro servicio a los refugiados migrantes a lo largo de la frontera entre EE.UU. y México”, dijo el obispo Seitz. “Está en consonancia con los deseos del Papa Francisco de ser una Iglesia para todo el pueblo de Dios con especial atención a los hermanos y hermanas de las periferias de la sociedad”, añadió.

La Orden de los Agustinos de la Asunción fue fundada en 1845 en Nimes, Francia, por el Venerable Emmanuel d’Alzon. La oficina provincial de la orden en los Estados Unidos está situada en Brighton, Massachusetts.

Parroquia del Santo Niño de Atocha y Parroquia de Nuestra Señora de la Luz (Centro Sur de El Paso)

Las parroquias vecinas de Santo Niño de Atocha y Nuestra Señora de la Luz en el centro-sur de El Paso recibirán el liderazgo pastoral experto de su nuevo párroco, el P. Wilson Cuevas. Ordenado en 1981, el P. Cuevas ha servido en la Diócesis de El Paso durante 24 años en varios ministerios, incluyendo el de Párroco de la Parroquia de Corpus Christi en el Valle de la

Misión. Recientemente sirvió en la Diócesis como Párroco de la Parroquia de San Pío X y como Vicario Foráneo del Vicariato de San Pablo en el centro de El Paso.

Junto con el liderazgo pastoral del P. Cuevas, las parroquias serán atendidas sacramentalmente por el sacerdote residente, el P. German Alzate. El P. Antonio Lasheras, que tiene 81 años, también continuará ayudando a las dos parroquias como Vicario Parroquial. El Diácono Bobby Saucedo regresará a su parroquia natal de Nuestra Señora de la Luz después de sus años de servicio como Administrador de la Parroquia de la Sagrada Familia en Sunset Heights.

Parroquia de San Patricio (Canutillo) y la Misión del Inmaculado Corazón de María

(Westway)

Los padres de Maryknoll han servido durante mucho tiempo a esta parroquia y misión y, gracias a Dios, su servicio dedicado continuará. Estos sacerdotes veteranos que Maryknoll puede enviar ahora podrán centrarse en proporcionar cuidado pastoral y sacramental bajo el liderazgo pastoral del P. Héctor Chicas, que servirá como administrador de la parroquia.

Agradecidamente, el Diácono Ignacio Torres, que ha proporcionado asistencia administrativa en los últimos años, continuará ahora como diácono sirviendo a estas comunidades. El P. William Donnelly, MM, continuará su servicio en la parroquia y pronto se le unirá un segundo sacerdote

Continuado en la Pagina 6

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FATHER!

Fulgencio Mayorga (Extern)	Sept. 13
Donald J. Adamski, OFM Conv	Sept. 17
Alfonso Bonilla (OP)	Sept. 19
Jose Vera-Perez, OFM	Sept. 18
Ronald W Eid	Sept. 23
Richard Sotelo, SJ	Sept. 30

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FATHER! (RETIRED)

Blake Fry	Sept. 8
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ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Joe Molina	9/2/95
Jesus Antonio Esponceda Quintana (OAR)	9/6/61
Robert Edward Mosher, SSC	9/18/82

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES (RETIRED)



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 Assitance 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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Diocese Ordains 2 Men As Transitional Deacons

By **Fernie Cenicerros**
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

Deacon Wilbert Colas and Deacon Alfonso Sanchez Coronado were ordained to the transitional diaconate on August 14th at St. Patrick Cathedral by The Most Rev. Mark Seitz, Bishop of the Diocese of El Paso, during a socially distanced ordination mass held at 25% capacity.

“This is an exciting time for Wilbert and Alfonso as they take a firm step toward ordination to the priesthood,” Bishop Mark Seitz said. “This is the time when Alfonso and Wilbert take their vows of celibacy and obedience to myself as Bishop and to my successors,” he said.

Wilbert Colas, 39, originally from Haiti, came to the diocese of El Paso after his studies in the Diocese of Costa Rica and has continued his studies as a seminarian for the Diocese of El Paso over the last few years. Colas will be starting his final year of Theology Studies at Sacred Heart Seminary in Milwaukee,



Deacon Wilbert Colas and Deacon Alfonso Sanchez Coronado were ordained to the transitional diaconate on August 14th at St. Patrick Cathedral by The Most Rev. Mark Seitz, Bishop of the Diocese of El Paso, during a socially distanced ordination mass held at 25% capacity. **Photo by Fernie Cenicerros**

Wisconsin. Colas expressed his gratitude to the people of the diocese for welcoming him with open arms.

“I don’t think I have enough words of gratitude for what God has done for me in my life.”

Deacon Wilbert Colas said. “But I am so thankful to God for our Blessed Virgin Mary being a large presence in my life and my vocation to the people of the Diocese of El Paso,” he added. Alfonso Coronado-Sanchez,

30, comes to the Diocese of El Paso by way of the Archdiocese of Chihuahua. He has been a seminarian for the diocese in the last few years as well. Coronado-Sanchez is in his final year of studies for the priesthood for the

diocese in St. Mary’s Seminary in Houston, Texas. “I’d like to take this time to Thank Bishop Seitz and the El Paso community for the trust you have given Wilbert and me in our vocation to the priesthood,” Alfonso Coronado-Sanchez said. “Thank you to everyone in the diocese that has opened the doors for us, and for the constant prayers for our vocation, we are in great need of it,” Coronado-Sanchez said. Coronado-Sanchez and Colas have returned to their respected seminaries and will complete their final year of Theology studies on the road to Ordination to the priesthood. “You will learn a lot during your diaconate year, Bishop Seitz said. “My prayers are continually with you, and I am joyfully awaiting to be able to ordain you to the priesthood in the coming year,” he said. Coronado-Sanchez and Colas are scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood sometime in 2021.

La Diócesis Ordena A Dos Hombres Como Diáconos De Transición

Por **Fernie Cenicerros**
Editor, Rio Grande Catholic

Los diáconos Wilbert Colas y Juan Alfonso Coronado Sánchez fueron ordenados al diaconado transitorio el 14 de agosto en la Catedral de San Patricio por el Reverendísimo Mark Seitz, Obispo de la Diócesis de El Paso, durante una misa de ordenación con distanciamiento social que se celebró con una capacidad del 25%.


“Este es un momento emocionante para Wilbert y Alfonso mientras dan un paso firme hacia

la ordenación sacerdotal”, dijo el obispo Mark Seitz. “Este es el momento en que Alfonso y Wilbert hacen sus promesas de celibato y obediencia a mí como obispo y a mis sucesores”, dijo. Wilbert Colas, originario de Haití, llegó a la diócesis de El Paso a través de la Diócesis de Costa Rica y ha estudiado como seminarista para la Diócesis de El Paso durante los últimos años. Colas comenzará su último año de estudios de teología en el Seminario del Sagrado Corazón en Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Colas expresó su gratitud a la gente de

la diócesis por recibirlo con los brazos abiertos. “Creo que no tengo suficientes palabras de gratitud por lo que Dios ha hecho por mí en mi vida”, dijo el diácono Wilbert Colas. “Pero estoy muy agradecido a Dios por la gran presencia de nuestra Santísima Virgen María en mi vida y mi vocación con la gente de la Diócesis de El Paso”, añadió. Alfonso Coronado llega a la Diócesis de El Paso a través de la Arquidiócesis de Chihuahua. También ha sido seminarista de la diócesis en los últimos años.

Coronado está en su último año de estudios para ser sacerdote de nuestra diócesis en el Seminario de Santa María en Houston, Texas. “Me gustaría aprovechar este tiempo para agradecer al obispo Seitz y a la comunidad de El Paso la confianza que nos han dado a Wilbert y a mí en nuestra vocación al sacerdocio”, dijo Alfonso Coronado. “Gracias a todos los de la diócesis que nos han abierto las puertas, y por las constantes oraciones por nuestra vocación, las necesitamos”, dijo Coronado.

Coronado-Sanchez y Colas han regresado a sus respectivos seminarios y completarán su último año de estudios de teología en su camino a la ordenación sacerdotal. “Aprenderán mucho en este año que viene durante su diaconado, dijo el Obispo Seitz. “Mis oraciones son continuas por ustedes este año que viene, y espero con alegría poder ordenarlos al sacerdocio el año que viene”, dijo. La ordenación al sacerdocio de Coronado y Colas está programada para el 2021.



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cemetery

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cemetery is the only cemetery in El Paso established specifically to serve the Catholic community. In your greatest need, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is an extension of the parish family that provides services and support to help you manage the difficult decisions and many practical details that come with end-of-life arrangements.

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Aside from immediate need services available, staff members can provide assistance with arrangements for future needs

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Heroes Bringing Hope To Catholic Community During Covid-19

By **Karina Sandoval**
Stewardship Coordinator

The Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso is honored to announce the top four finalists of the 2020 Steward of the Year Contest COVID-19 edition. We’re excited to help celebrate a few of the inspiring stories of Stewardship throughout our diocese.

Since 2018, the Foundation has extended an invitation to churches in the Diocese of El Paso to nominate a parishioner who demonstrates an exemplary life of prayer, service and giving. This year the Foundation asked pastors and parish administrators to nominate someone who has continued to help the parish even in the midst of the pandemic.

The 2020 Steward of the Year will receive special recognition at the 14th Annual Foundation of Faith Event: Come and See with Bishop Robert Barron and Catholic singer songwriter Matt Maher on September 17, 2020, they’ll be featured in a story on Foundation media, and they will be gifted dinner for two at a local restaurant. In addition, the winning parish will receive a cash prize of \$1,000.

Let’s meet the heroes and heroines who are bringing Christ’s hope and peace to people in times of fear and uncertainty.

Nora Trujillo

Nora is a person of great faith, spiritual life and service. During

the pandemic, she has participated by contributing her regular donation and helping in private celebrations of the liturgy at San Lorenzo Parish in Clint as a Lector and Eucharistic Minister, disinfecting the parish before and after the celebrations of the Mass in English, and preparing the church for the eight people who attend Mass. — Fray Faustino Ortiz-Suárez.

Olga Church

Olga is a widow in her early 80’s (with the energy and desire-to-serve of a 27-year-old). She has been teaching Confirmation classes, she is the lead member for the Spanish choir, she also volunteers her time and energy to clean the church and serves as a lector. In times of pandemic, this 80ish-year-old woman took it upon herself to raise money to support St. Mary’s Catholic Church for anything necessary to see the parish through with its ongoing bills and expenses. She and her choir were able to raise \$700. Keep in mind, Ms. Olga is in an age group that is said to be most vulnerable to the virus, yet her energies and time for the parish continued even in this time of social distancing and pandemic. — Fr. John Paul Madanu

Ernesto Padilla

Ernie has been a committed parishioner at San Antonio de Padua Parish for many years. A leader in the St. Vincent de Paul ministry, he coordinated with El Pasoans Fighting Hunger



Photographed here are the Stewards of the Year for 2020, Tony and Adriana Posada, Nora Trujillo, Olga Church, and Ernesto Padilla. *Photos courtesy of the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso.*

to provide a food pantry at the parish. Thanks to his initiative, San Antonio de Padua has had a “parking lot” food pantry since April. The pantry is now available on a weekly basis with close to 400 families receiving the necessary food. A variety of parishioners, from members of our youth group to members of our liturgical ministries, are able to participate and they feel united to the parish, and its mission, at this time. An acknowledgement for Ernie is an acknowledgement for so many who cooperate with him in several ways and an example of how the Church can work con-

cretely with civil organizations for the common good.” — Fr. Mariano H. López

Tony and Adriana Posada

Tony and Adriana are very committed to the St. Mark Parish ministry for the poor. They have organized parish breakfasts to raise funds to help the poor, successfully organized a parish partnership with a parish community in Choluteca, Honduras doing mission work in that parish every summer. They organize the Wednesday morning food bank distribution for over 750 families each week. They have been involved in our social justice for-

mation programs to get parishioners involved in justice issues and very strong advocates for the immigrant community. Tony and Adriana are always very generous with their time and in service to any needs in our community. They see their service from a spiritual perspective of working to build the kingdom of God among us. — Rev. Msgr. Arturo Bañuelas.

You can reach Stewardship Coordinator Karina Sandoval at ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org or 915.872.8412.

Continuado de la Pagina 4

de Maryknoll.

Catedral de San Patricio y Parroquia de la Sagrada Familia (Centro de El Paso)

El P. Trini Fuentes continuará su servicio como Rector de la Catedral de San Patricio y también ha sido nombrado párroco de la Parroquia de la Sagrada Familia. Agradecido por el dedicado servicio que el Diácono Bobby Saucedo ha prestado como Administrador de la Parroquia en estos últimos 4 años, la Sagrada Familia se beneficiará ahora del ministerio de un experimentado sacerdote y pastor. Aunque ambas parroquias seguirán siendo distintas y autosuficientes, se beneficiarán de las relaciones creadas por su mutua cooperación. El P. Miguel Pérez ha sido asignado como vicario parroquial de la Catedral de San Patricio y de la Parroquia de la Sagrada Familia.

Parroquia de Cristo Rey (Misión del Valle)

El P. José Vera ha sido nombrado párroco de la parroquia de Cristo Rey en el Valle de la Misión. “Estoy muy agradecido por los nueve años de servicio dedicado como Administrador Parroquial laico proporcionado por el Sr. Manny Barrios, quien continuará sirviendo a la parroquia como Administrador de Negocios”, dijo el Obispo Seitz. “Encontrarán en el P. José Vera un humilde y santo pastor que trabajará junto al P. Esteban Sescon, Vicario Parroquial, y al Diácono Joe Zaragoza para servir a esta dinámica comunidad”, dijo.

Parroquia de San Pío X y San

Juan Bautista (Este Central de El Paso)

El Padre Edilberto “Beto” López ha sido nombrado párroco de las parroquias de San Pío X y San Juan Bautista. El P. López ha servido como párroco en varias parroquias de la diócesis durante los últimos 15 años, y más recientemente como párroco de Nuestra Señora de la Paz en Alpine, Texas. Al Padre López se unirá al Padre Charles Rajan Michael como vicario parroquial. Anteriormente sirvió como vicario parroquial en la parroquia de St. Frances Xavier Cabrini en el este de El Paso.

Parroquia de Corpus Christi (Misión del Valle)

El sacerdote P. Ralph Solis ha sido nombrado párroco de la parroquia de Corpus Christi en el Valle de la Misión. El padre Solís sirvió recientemente como pastor de la parroquia de San Felipe de Jesús en Socorro, Texas, y en varias otras parroquias en el condado de El Paso y en los otros nueve condados de la diócesis en el oeste de Texas. Al padre Solís se le unirá el P. Antonio Jovino Martínez, quien será el vicario parroquial. El Padre Martínez sirvió recientemente como Vicario Parroquial en la Parroquia de San Judas Tadeo en el oeste de El Paso.

Parroquia de San Pablo Apóstol (Misión del Valle)

El P. Apolinar Samboni ha sido nombrado pastor de la Parroquia de San Pablo Apóstol en el Valle de la Misión de El Paso. El P. Samboni asumirá su tercera tarea pastoral en San Pablo Apóstol, después de haber servido recientemente como Pastor de la

Parroquia de Nuestra Señora de Fátima en Van Horn, Texas y a la misión rural de Nuestra Señora de los Milagros en Sierra Blanca, Texas.

Parroquia San Felipe de Jesús (Socorro)

El Padre Antonio Mena, ha sido nombrado párroco de la parroquia de San Felipe de Jesús en Socorro, Texas. El P. Mena ha servido a la Diócesis de El Paso durante casi 30 años como sacerdote en varios ministerios pastorales, más recientemente como párroco de la Parroquia de Corpus Christi en el Valle de la Misión de El Paso.

Nuestra Señora de la Paz (Alpine)

El P. Pablo Matta ha sido nombrado párroco de la parroquia de Nuestra Señora de la Paz en Alpine, Texas. Nacido en Pecos, Texas, el P. Matta viene a Alpine habiendo servido en varios ministerios a través de la Diócesis de El Paso, más recientemente como Pastor de la Parroquia de San Pablo Apóstol en el Valle de la Misión de El Paso. Como párroco, el P. Matta tendrá la tarea de servir a los fieles de Alpine, Texas, y de la Misión de St. Joseph en Fort Davis, Texas, y de la Misión de St. Mary en Marathon, Texas.

Nuestra Señora de Fátima (Van Horn)

El P. Frank Hernández asumirá su tercera tarea pastoral como Administrador de la Parroquia de Nuestra Señora de Fátima en Van Horn, Texas. El P. Hernández servirá al pueblo de Van Horn y a la misión rural de Nuestra Señora de los Milagros en Sierra Blanca, Texas.

Director de Vocaciones

Ayudar a los jóvenes a reconocer la llamada de Dios a darse a sí mismos de manera especial para servir como diáconos y sacerdotes, y guiar a mujeres y hombres a escuchar la llamada de Dios a la vida religiosa son obras esenciales de la Iglesia y una clave para la vida y el crecimiento continuos de la Iglesia.

Para llevar a cabo este trabajo en la Diócesis de El Paso, el Obispo Seitz se complace en anunciar el nombramiento de un nuevo Director de Vocaciones de tiempo completo: P. German Alzate, STL. “El nombramiento de un Director de Vocaciones de tiempo completo señala la importancia que este trabajo tiene para el futuro de la Iglesia en la Diócesis de El Paso, así como el compromiso que toda la Diócesis debe tener para hacer crecer las futuras vocaciones al sacerdocio, al diaconado permanente y a la vida religiosa”, dijo el Obispo Seitz.

Vicarios parroquiales

El P. Ivan Montelongo, ordenado sacerdote este verano, ha sido nombrado Vicario Parroquial de la Parroquia de San Rafael en el este de El Paso. El P. Montelongo continuará sus estudios de derecho canónico mientras sirve a los fieles de la Parroquia de San Rafael.

El P. Cong Vo ha sido nombrado Vicario Parroquial de la Parroquia de Madre Cabrini en East El Paso. El P. Vo, que recientemente fue Vicario Parroquial en la Parroquia de San Pío X en East Central El Paso, también continuará sus estudios de derecho canónico

mientras sirve a los fieles de la Parroquia de Madre Cabrini.

El P. Victorino Loresca ha sido nombrado Vicario Parroquial en la Parroquia de San Judas Tadeo en el oeste de El Paso. El padre Loresca sirvió recientemente como vicario parroquial en la parroquia de San Rafael en el este de El Paso.

El P. Michael Lewis, STL, ha sido nombrado Vicario Parroquial en la Parroquia de San Marcos en el este de El Paso. El Padre Lewis, quien recientemente obtuvo una licencia en Teología Sagrada de la Universidad de Santa María del Lago en Mundelien, Illinois, recientemente sirvió como Vicario Parroquial en la Catedral de San Patricio.

El P. Roberto Alvarado será el nuevo Vicario Parroquial en la Parroquia del Santísimo Sacramento en el noreste de El Paso. El Padre Alvarado sirvió recientemente como Vicario Parroquial de la Parroquia de Corpus Christi en el Valle de la Misión de El Paso.

Seminaristas

Los seminaristas Loyd Divinagracia, José William y Edroud Jean han completado sus estudios en el seminario y tendrán asignaciones parroquiales antes de su ordenación, que esperamos tenga lugar el año próximo. Loyd Divinagracia ha sido asignado a Corpus Christi, José William ha sido nombrado a la catedral de San Patricio, y Edroud Jean ha sido nombrado a Madre Cabrini.

Las nuevas asignaciones serán efectivas el 18 de septiembre de 2020.

Catholic Counseling Services: Progress Ministry Spotlight

By **Martha Marmolejo**
Progress Coordinator

Catholic Counseling Services is a place where God is included in therapy without any type of restrictions. The ministry offers faith-based therapy services in the Diocese of El Paso that is open to everyone regardless of religion, gender, ethnicity.

Executive Director Jose Castellón, LCSW and Susan Martinez, LCSW, both clinical social workers, have served the Diocese of El Paso for more than 30 years. They bring hope and consolation to those who desperately need the peace of God in their lives, especially during these trying times. Martinez strongly recommends that you create a schedule that includes exercise, arts and crafts, or house projects to decrease the levels of anxiety and depression.

Catholic Counseling Services is currently offering sessions via telephone, Skype video call, and one-on-one sessions at the Pastoral Center by appointment. According to Castellón, “This is the only place that I can talk about God and I am able to use

scripture to help people.” Susan Martinez said that a significant number of clients see an improvement in their levels of anxiety and depression when they apply faith to therapy.

Jose Castellón has helped the Catholic community for over 40 years and utilizes Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), which helps to relieve negative beliefs that are formulated as a result of loss or trauma and reduce hyper vigilance. According to the EMDR Institute, it is “now recognized as an effective form of treatment for trauma and other disturbing experiences by organizations such as the American Psychiatric Association, the World Health Organization and the Department of Defense.” Castellón worked with a refugee who witnessed the murders of her mother and daughter in Mexico during the drug cartel wars. She could not sleep or handle any type of social encounters following the tragic loss. With EMDR, she was able to sleep again and deal with grief normally.

Catholic Counseling Services has been a ministry in



the Diocese of El Paso since 1938. It started as Catholic Social Services and has undergone several name changes and programs as well. This ministry has been recognized as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization since 1941. Catholic Counseling Services is vital to the community because it’s the only setting where you’re permitted to talk about God in therapy without

any type of restrictions.

Catholic Counseling Services wants to expand virtual therapy counseling sessions using Zoom video conferencing and you can help with a donation. You can reach them at (915) 872-8424 or here en español. Catholic Counseling Services is a ministry supported by Progress, the Catholic Ministry Appeal. Martinez and Castellón are able

to continue to provide therapy and offer spiritual counseling to the community during these extraordinary times because of donors like you and a grant from the Progress Appeal.

For more information about the Catholic Ministry Appeal, please contact Progress Coordinator Martha Marmolejo at 915-872-8412 or at mmarmolejo@elpasodiocese.org.

Office of Education: Progress Ministry Spotlight

By **Martha Marmolejo**
Progress Coordinator

The Office of Education serves 11 Catholic schools on nine campuses in the El Paso area—Cathedral High School, Father Yermo Schools, Loretto Academy, Most Holy Trinity Catholic School, St. Joseph’s School, St. Matthew Catholic School, St. Patrick Cathedral School, St. Pius X Catholic School, and St. Raphael Catholic School—and is the central nervous system that connects Catholic educational institutions, administrators, teachers, staff, students, and parents to the Diocese of El Paso and to the larger community. Catholic schools in the Diocese of El Paso date back to 1879 when the Sisters of Loretto opened Loretto Academy in San Elizario. In September 1892, the Sisters of Loretto opened St. Joseph Academy in El Paso in the building formerly occupied by a school operated by the Sisters of Mercy. St. Mary’s School was opened for Catholic children in El Paso in 1903 and many schools followed—the Sisters of Loretto would open and run seven more Catholic educational institutions including Holy Family, St. Ignatius, and Our Lady of Assumption. Catholic Schools are proud to continue the 100-plus years of

sustained legacy of talent and leadership contributions to the Borderplex region.

In 2019, the Office of Education established the Teacher’s Salary Subsidy Fund to ensure that educators at each of El Paso’s 9 Catholic educational institutions in the Diocese of El Paso have the funds necessary for salary support. In February 2020, the Diocese of El Paso and the Diocesan School Board of Education announced the appointment of Dr. Lanny K. Hollis as the new Superintendent of Catholic Schools. Dr. Hollis joins the Diocese of El Paso after spending the majority of his 30-plus-year career serving students and their families in the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio as a teacher and administrator. For the past two years, he served as Headmaster and President of St. John Paul II Catholic High School in Huntsville, Alabama. He officially began his tenure on July 1 and has immersed himself in the needs of the school communities and plans for the fall.

Dr. Hollis’ goals for the Diocese of El Paso are to ensure schools are proudly Catholic, academically excellent, accessible to all, and sustainable for the future. He says one of his primary tasks is to share the good




news that Catholic education is spirit filled, welcoming, inclusive, safe, available, and outstanding. He adds that some of the benefits of attending Catholic schools are that its graduates are seven times more likely to be active in their faith, students of color who have attended Catholic schools are 2.4 times more likely to earn a College degree, and that Catholic school graduates earn an average of 14% more in their chosen careers than graduates of non-Catholic schools.

The Office of Education recently announced that El Paso Catholic schools have moved their first day of in-person instruction to September 8 after the Labor Day weekend as the number of COVID-19 cases have increased in the area. The schools will follow the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Interim Fall Guidance for Reopening Plan for everyone’s safety. In an effort to make Catholic education accessible to students who are unable to cross the bridge from Mexico into

El Paso during the pandemic, the Office of Education is considering an educational satellite in Juárez.

The Office of Education is supported by Progress, the Catholic Ministry Appeal. Your gifts to Progress help make this important work possible. For more information, please contact Progress Coordinator Martha Marmolejo at 915-872-8412 or mmarmolejo@elpasodiocese.org. To speak to the Office of Education, call 915-872-8426.




The Shepherd's Corner

Gifts & Books

Hours of Operation:
Monday & Tuesday 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Wednesday - Friday 9 am -12 pm
Saturday 3rd and 4th Saturday 10 am -1pm
Saturday 5 - 6
Sunday 10 am - 2:30 pm & 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

St. Luke Catholic Church

930 E. Redd Road, El Paso Texas 79912



14th Annual Foundation of Faith Event with Matt Maher and Bishop Robert Barron

By Sofia Larkin
Major Gifts Officer

We’re going VIRTUAL! That means we can reach more people, raise more funds to support this great mission, and you get to have even more fun. Registrations are \$75 per household and include a surprise swag bag and your code to “enter”. There will be raffle prizes, clergy clips, sponsor shout outs, fund a needs that send 100% of your contribution to the ministry or school you’re supporting, a live auction, and our incredible guests! The event is set for Thursday September 17, 2020 from 7-8pm and will be live streamed on YouTube. Get registered TODAY at fofdinner.org.

The Foundation is excited to bring two very special guests. MATT MAHER is a highly acclaimed, sought after, GRAMMY nominated Catholic singer songwriter. He was our special guest at last year’s dinner and he brought the house down! We are so excited for Matt to “visit” us again. BISHOP ROBERT BARRON founded Word on Fire Cath-

olic Ministries. He’s a #1 Amazon bestselling author and he’s been invited to speak about religion at the headquarters of Facebook and Google. It will be virtual but it will be no less engaging, inspiring and uplifting. We’ll even have special appearances from our diocesan priests and Bishop Mark Seitz. We’re inviting you to Come and See.

Registrations include a surprise swag bag full of fun stuff along with your household entrance to the big night, the chance to win raffle prizes and the opportunity to bid by phone during the live auction. The best part is you don’t have to leave your house to have an amazing evening and all of your donations go to support the mission of the Foundation. It will be easy to connect through the Internet and we’ll provide you with instructions. We’re excited to offer you sponsorship opportunities that will feature you, your family or your business with recognition at the Foundation of Faith event that will reach people throughout the Diocese of El Paso and across the United States.



This is a great opportunity to see your name in lights. Deadline for swag bag delivery to your home is September 5.

Thank you to our Virtual Happy Hour Co-Sponsors, The Herrera Group and The Manor. In addition, the Foundation would like to thank The Glass

House (Silver), Anonymous, Farrish, Halter, Butler Wealth Management Group, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tigua Indians, and Martha & Allen Stumbo (Bronze) for their support! You can be a sponsor too! Visit fofdinner.org for details.

Need help getting registered?

Want more information? Contact Alyssa at asalazar@elpasodiocese.org or Sofia at slarkin@elpasodiocese.org.

Proceeds from this event support the work of the Foundation in sustaining the long-term needs of the ministries, charities, parishes and schools of our diocese.

Sharing the Blessings: The Gift that Keeps on Giving

By Sofia Larkin
Major Gifts Officer

Manny and Maureen de la Rosa are synonymous with Stewardship. They give of themselves constantly and in every way that God calls them to.

The parents of six children, Manny and Maureen have been together since their university years at Notre Dame. Manny says that he would not have made it through his Pre-Med Chemistry classes without Maureen who has a master’s degree in the subject.

The devoted couple were fully prepared to pay for law school for their fifth child, Mercedes, when something remarkable happened. Their daughter was invited to interview for a fellowship with a Milwaukee law firm, one of only six students chosen to interview. The Godfrey and Kahn Law Firm would pay for all three years of law school at Marquette University and provide mentorship as part of the fellowship. The interview went very well and Mercy was accepted. Maureen lovingly refers to the law firm as GODfrey and Kahn.

The devoted Mom and Dad knew there was only one thing to do: give the \$150,000 they

had set aside for law school to the Church “because, after all, it’s His to share.” In 2017, they reached out to the Foundation to discuss their philanthropic plans and prayerfully chose to donate to their two passions, the Seminararian Education Endowment Fund and Catholic Schools. Manny, Maureen and their daughter all say they felt God’s presence and guidance directing Mercy’s path.

Mercy, a graduate of Notre Dame University who wanted to be a social worker until a mentor pointed out she would make an incredible attorney, is passionate about helping people. It’s easy to understand how her parents would have done anything to support her. She’s bright, dynamic, engaged and focuses all of her energy on giving to others and making the world a better place. Three years after this journey began, Mercy has a law degree from Marquette University and works as a Wisconsin Assistant Public Defender. She’s part of a thriving parish community, devoted to her faith, and following in her parents’ footsteps to live a life of service.

You can reach Major Gifts Officer Sofia Larkin at slarkin@elpasodiocese.org or 915.872.8412.



Manny and Maureen de la Rosa photographed with their daughter Mercedes at Notre Dame on Graduation Day. *Photo Courtesy of the de la Rosa Family.*



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Tragedies in Human Medical Experimentation



Fr. Tad Pacholczyk

Between 1932 and 1972, a series of highly unethical medical studies were performed on a group of 400 African-Americans by doctors from the U.S. Public Health Service.

Officially referred to as the Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male, the research protocol enrolled 399 impoverished sharecroppers from Macon County, Alabama, all of whom had syphilis, and a control group of 201 others who were free of the disease. The 399 were never told that they had syphilis or that their condition was sexually-transmitted, but only that they had “bad blood.”

The study began at a time when no effective treatments for syphilis existed, but as penicillin became the standard of care during the mid-1940s, the infected men were not offered the new drug; in fact, it was withheld from them during the next 25 years, to enable researchers to track the progression of their disease.

The outcry that followed the public revelation of these unethical research methods, described in an investigative report in the Washington Star, resulted in the study’s finally being shut down. By then, there had already been widespread devastation, with 28 participants having died

from syphilis, 100 more having perished from related complications, and the subjects’ having transmitted the disease to at least 40 spouses and 19 of their children.

In May, 1997 President Clinton issued a public apology to the victims and their families, stating, “The United States government did something that was wrong—deeply, profoundly, morally wrong.” Many afterward questioned how such ethically offensive research could have continued unabated for so many decades.

In the final analysis, the Tuskegee syphilis experiments relied upon a defective theory of ethics, still popular today, known as “utilitarianism.” Utilitarianism seeks to determine right from wrong by focusing on a calculation of consequences (and so is sometimes also called “consequentialism”), asserting that the best ethical choice is the one that produces “the greatest good for the greatest number” and maximizes “usefulness.”

For the Tuskegee experiments, the usefulness was the knowledge gained through studying the progression of syphilis in human patients, including what consequences (like blindness, insanity) typically can be expected to occur, at what stages, etc. This basic medical knowledge could end up serving the interests of thousands or millions of other individuals in the future, it was asserted, even as doctors overlooked the litany of sufferings and harms inflicted on an unfortunate few.

A utilitarian approach to justifying scientific research on humans usually implies that



we need to “balance” the value of new scientific discoveries against the dignity of human experimental subjects. In this view, the two represent “competing values,” and in a world with no moral absolutes, some individuals may emphasize one set of values, while others will give more weight to another. Compromise can then open up a “middle” solution, allowing for some experimentation on humans to be carried out for the good of research, even if it might at times be harmful, debilitating or lethal to its subjects. In any real world setting, this means that those who are most vulnerable — the poor, the weak, the disenfranchised and the sick — become rife for exploitation whenever particular research goals are declared worthy of pursuit.

This utilitarian approach to “balancing values” provides a highly flawed ethical framework that has been used to justify other immoral biomedical research

projects like the German medical experiments on prisoners during the Second World War, human embryonic stem cell research, and other forms of exploitative human experimentation.

In each of these, researchers have been motivated by good goals like learning about disease, developing treatments, and helping others. Finding treatments and making progress against disease is clearly very praiseworthy. But a good end cannot justify an immoral means. That is where the need for a non-utilitarian ethical understanding becomes paramount. Maintaining immovable negative ethical norms against the abuse of research subjects is key, including norms like: “Do no harm,” “do not kill,” “always secure informed consent,” etc.

The rights of patients to these protections should not be taken as values to be balanced against the goals of research. This risks sweeping away the vital interests of human subjects in a tide of appeals to societal utility or

medical progress. The negative norm, which requires that one should never harm, exploit or destroy human life in the pursuit of laudable research goals, can only be fulfilled in one way: by refusing to violate the norm.

These kinds of negative norms serve the essential role of setting fixed and clear boundaries for ethically acceptable research, strict limits on the pursuit of even the most worthwhile of scientific goals. This helps assure that humans, who are endowed with an absolute value and a unique dignity in themselves, are appropriately protected from any forms of utilitarian reckoning.

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.



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Does kindness have an expiration date?



Janet M. Crowe

Years ago, when I was in college – yes, many years ago – I returned home for a weekend visit. As a treat for my younger siblings, I offered to take them out for ice cream. However, we had barely driven past the corner of our street when the fighting between them began. An argument erupted with name calling and ridiculous pettiness. Of course, I tried to stop the bickering, but they didn’t hear a word I said.

Finally, about five blocks from the house, I pulled the car over to the side of the road and told them both to get out of the car. They looked at me with such surprise. What was I doing? What about ice cream? Nope, no ice cream and they could walk home as well. They then started arguing with me: I couldn’t make them walk home. Look how far it was. Blah, blah, blah. In reality, they both walked farther than that every day on their way home from school, but just then it looked like miles to them.

I got out of the car, opened their doors and told them to walk home. Then I got back into the driver’s seat and restarted the engine.

Such sad puppy dog eyes as one had never seen gazed at me like I had broken their hearts. I refrained from laughing and opened a window to give my ultimatum. Be nice to each other or walk home. No excuses, no blaming, no fighting.

Immediately, they leaped back into the car, but I took it one step farther and made them apologize to each other. Now those eyes

spoke volumes about their inner debates of whether the ice cream and air-conditioned car were worth apologizing or if the walk home would be better. In the end, they apologized.

Along with the ice cream cones, I served up a “big sister talk” (rephrasing words our mother had delivered to me at about their same age) about being nice to each other because friends would come and go, but, as sister and brother, they had a special connection and should always be there for one another and have each other’s back no matter what life tossed their way.

Years passed and I repeated the same speech to my own children, many times, along with several other similar ones. Doing good for others versus selfishness. The rewards of being generous in giving of our hearts to help others would make us feel better than doing something for ourselves. You know, all the parent stuff that every parent does throughout the years. At the times of these discussions, we parents never know how much our children will really take to heart, but I’m sure all of us can look back and smile to realize that many of our talks took root and grew in our children’s hearts.

I was reminded of this a couple months ago during the big toilet paper debacle. My grown son called to share that he had seen a neighbor’s garage completely stacked with packages of toilet paper. “I guess he didn’t get your ‘think about others and don’t be selfish’ speech, Mom.” We both laughed but I was walking without touching the floor for the rest of the day – floating on happiness.

Last month was also a reminder of kindness versus anger, forgiveness versus revenge. My heart still glows when I think of the reaction by so many El Pasoans to the horrible hate crime against our city a year ago. Strangers became neighbors and



friends. Love rippled across the city in waves of kindness. Our actions shouted loudly and clearly that hate would not beget hate in our town. Instead, we would face that hatred and respond with loving action in helping as many people as we could.

We have another reminder this month of hatred that resulted in sadness but also in loving responses to those around us. In 2001, our nation was shaken to its core with horrible and tragic acts of hatred in the form of terrorism. September 11th is a date of sadness as well as pride because, as a nation, we responded to neighbors and strangers alike with kindness, looking out for one another and helping each other. Terrorism tried to destroy

us, but our nation became united instead.

Sadly, those good responses fade over time. During this pandemic isolation, it seems our tempers may have become short. Have we resorted to a ‘looking out for number 1’ mentality? This year’s toilet paper hoarding – while comical in hindsight – is a perfect example of how some answered our current crisis with selfishness rather than compassion.

We need to look inside ourselves once again and find the goodness in our hearts that had responded with love. We know that there are those around us who are in need. They are in need of us. Our response to their needs. Will our response be one

of selfishness or kindness and loving action?

As Catholic Christians, we are called to follow Christ and do as He would do. Remember the popular phrase of a few years ago – WWJD? What Would Jesus Do?

Let’s resurrect that motto and turn our hearts toward compassion and kindness. Helping one another, especially the least among us, is what Jesus expects us to do if we truly are Christ followers.

In a world and a time in history when we can become anything we want to be, let us make the best choice of all. Let us Be Kind!



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No Es Cuestion De Saber...



Padre Wilson Cuevas

Una abuela le da a su nieta mayor de seis años, diez dólares y le dice que le de la mitad a su hermana pequeña, que tiene tres años. Al momento le da a la hermana menor, cinco - monedas (de veinticinco centavos cada una). La abuela le pregunta: Pero cariño, no sabes que la mitad de diez dólares son cinco dólares? Y la nieta muy tranquila, le contesta: Yo sí lo se, abuela, pero mi hermana, no. No basta con saber; hay que querer. La inteligencia y la voluntad son dos facultades que nos hacen humanos. No es suficiente con cuidar la inteligencia; hay que mejorar la voluntad. A formar la inteligencia hay mucha gente que nos ayuda: padres, maestros, abuelos, catequistas, internet, lecturas...Fortalecer y mejorar la voluntad es, ante todo, labor personal.

Y la voluntad, como los músculos se fortalecen a base de ejercicio. Y ese ejercicio consiste en HACER LO QUE UNO VE QUE DEBE HACER, aunque a veces, cueste. O, lo que es lo mismo, buscar en la vida el cumplimiento del deber, en lugar de buscar el placer El afán de servir es el antídoto del egoísmo. “Dormí y soñé que la vida era alegría. Desperté y vi que la vida era servicio. Servi y vi, que el

servicio era la alegría. (R. Tagore).

¡Cuánto cuesta cambiar! El médico y pensador español Gregorio Marañon, decía que el hombre de talento se conoce ante todo por su capacidad de adaptación. ¿Sin dejar de valorar todo lo bueno del pasado. Se yo adaptarme a todo lo positivo que me ofrece los nuevos tiempos? Ojalá aplique a mi vida esa virtud que el Papa Juan XXIII irradió a la Iglesia Católica para renovarla: el aggiornamento, es decir ponerse al día y actualizarse.

La apertura y la tolerancia me permiten innovar sin traumatismos y avanzar con una credibilidad creativa. La sabiduría me dice cómo debo adaptarme y me impide absolutizar lo que es relativo o convertir en esencial lo que es secundario. Vivir es saber cambiar, porque sin cambio no hay vida. El verdadero descubrimiento no consiste en buscar nuevas tierras, tecnologías o planetas; sino en mirar con ojos nuevos.

Muchas veces lo que vale, lo necesario, y lo importante no es lo que reluce sino lo que menos brilla o lo que no se ve a simple vista. Es malo dejarse deslumbrar por el oropel o por la publicidad, son las cosas que más atraen nuestra mirada y atención y poco o nada se exalta a las raíces silenciosas, al tallo, a la savia, a las hojas o a quienes con el ejemplo de una vida ordinaria nos enseñan las lecciones más grandes de la vida... Necesitamos darle más importancia a la base de la pirámide que a la cúspide (Cristo piedra angular...)

Es injusto fijarse solo en lo que



más figura.

“Unimos treinta radios y lo llamamos rueda, pero en el espacio vacío es donde reside la utilidad de la rueda. Moldeamos arcilla para hacer una vasija, pero en el espacio vacío es donde reside la utilidad del recipiente. Al construir una casa ponemos puertas y ven-tanas y son estos agujeros los que nos permiten usar la casa. Y la casa es habitable por el vacío que nos ofrece. Los seres humanos le damos importancia a lo que es y deberíamos darnos cuenta de la utilidad de lo que no es” (Lao Tse).

Podemos aprender mucho y llevarnos grata sorpresas al no quedarnos en lo superficial, en lo que aparece, en lo que se ve; valorando la grandeza de lo pequeño y lo que nose aprecia en el mundo del tener y del aparecer. Por eso tenemos dificultades para very creer en Dios, en sus maravillas, en sus bendiciones y sus manifestaciones constantes nuestra vida. Abundan los

milagros por todas partes, dentro de nosotros y a nuestro alrededor y aun así dudamos, no creemos y no agradecemos a Dios... ¿Tú sabes el milagro de tener vida? Lo que cada instante está pasando dentro de tu cuerpo, en tu cerebro, corazón, en los millones de células, ¿etc.? Cuando el corazón llora por lo que ha perdido, el espíritu ríe por lo que ha encontrado! (el que no sabe es como el que no ve...).

Siempre se ha dicho que lo más grave no es caer si no levantarse. Las enfermedades se vencen con remedios oportunos. Vivimos mejor cuando se nos educa con realismo para aceptar los errores y sacar valiosas lecciones de las crisis. No hay que temer a las crisis sino a la actitud pasiva o angustiosa frente a las mismas, ya que toda crisis ensena algo y es un llamado a corregir errores o aprender cosas nuevas. Cuál ha sido nuestra actitud frente a esta Pandemia del COVID-19? ¿Qué estamos dispuestos a corregir

y que cosas nuevas estamos aprendiendo? El desespero o el enojo no resuelven las crisis. No debemos perder energías en culparnos o culpar a otros, sino esmerarnos en buscar soluciones y tener una actitud de aprender a hacer cambios en nuestras vidas. “Los grandes hombres hacen de sus errores escalones hacia el éxito” (Frank Crane). Veo, habitualmente dificultades o veo oportunidades. De mi visión dependerá en gran medida, mi fracaso o mi éxito En la vida hace falta valentía para enfrentarse con las dificultades. Nos conviene también tener muy presente que no estamos solos. Tenemos en todo momento la ayuda de Dios. (1 Corintios 10,13 y Isaías 40, 27ss). Pensar que las dificultades o crisis humanas son superiores a la gracia divina, además de ser un error, sería una herejía. Nada es imposible para Dios. (San Lucas 1:37, S. Mateo 16: 19-20)

It’s Not A Question Of Knowing

A grandmother gives her older granddaughter age six, ten dollars and tells her to give half to her little sister, who is three years old. She then gives the younger sister, five coins (twenty-five cents each). Grandma asks: But honey, don’t you know that half of ten dollars is five dollars? And the granddaughter very calmly, replies: I do, Grandma, but my sister doesn’t. It is not enough to know something; you have to want it.

The intelligence and will are two faculties that make us human. It is not enough to be aware of our intelligence; one must want to better the will. To form intelligence there are many people who help us: parents, teachers, grandparents, catechists, the internet, readings... But strengthening and improving the will is, above all, a personal endeavor.

And the will, like muscles, is strengthened by exercise. And that exercise is about DOING WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE, even if sometimes, at a cost. Or, in the same manner, seeking in life the fulfillment of duty, instead of seeking pleasure. The desire to serve is the antidote of

selfishness. “I slept and dreamed that life was joy. I woke up and saw that life was service. I served, and I saw, that service was joy (R. Tagore).

Oh, how much cost there is to change! The Spanish physician and thinker Gregorio Marañon, said that the talented man is best known for his ability to adapt.

Without valuing all the good of the past, do I adapt to all the positive that these new times offer me? I hope that this virtue is applied to my life as Pope John XXIII irradiated it to the Catholic Church to renew it: update, that is to say catch up and go forward.

Openness and tolerance allow me to innovate without trauma and move forward with a creative credibility. Wisdom tells me how I should adapt and prevents me from rigidly perceiving what is relative, and making what is secondary essential. To live is to know how to change, because without change there is no life. The real discovery is not to seek new lands, technologies or planets; but to see them with new eyes.

Many times, true worth, necessary things, and what is

important, is not what stands out for us, nor what can’t be seen with the naked eye. It is wrong to be dazzled by glamour or by false advertising, these are the things that most attract our gaze and attention; and little or nothing exalts the silent roots, the stem, the sap, the leaves or those who, with the example of an ordinary life teach us the greatest lessons of life. We need to give more importance to the base of the pyramid than to the cusp (Christ, the cornerstone...)

It is unfair and unwise to look only at what is most alluring.

“We join thirty spokes and call it a wheel, but in the empty space is where the utility of the wheel lies. We mold clay to make a vessel, but in the empty space is where the usefulness of the vessel resides. When building a house, we put doors and windows. It is these apertures that allow us to use the house. And the house is habitable by the emptiness that it provides.” Human beings attach importance to what is and should realize the usefulness of what is not” (Lao Tse).

We can learn a lot and get pleasant surprises by not staying

in the superficial, in what seems to be, in what is seen; valuing the greatness of the small and what is not appreciated in this world of excessiveness and appearance. That’s why we have difficulty seeing and believing in God, in His wonders, in His blessings and His constant manifestations in our lives. Miracles abound everywhere, within us and our surroundings, and yet we doubt, do not believe, and do not thank God... Do you know the miracle of life? What is happening at every moment inside your body, in your brain, heart, in the millions of cells, etc.? When the heart cries for what it has lost, the spirit laughs for what it has gained! (he who doesn’t know is like one who doesn’t see...).

It has always been said that the worst thing is not to fall but to not get up again.

Diseases are overcome with timely remedies. We live better lives when we are reinstated with realism to accept mistakes and draw valuable lessons from crises.

Don’t be afraid of crises but of the passive or distressing attitude towards them, for every

crisis teaches something and is a call to correct mistakes or learn new things.

What has been our attitude towards this COVID-19 pandemic? What are we willing to correct and what new things are we learning? Despair or anger does not solve crises. We must not waste energy in blaming ourselves or blaming others, but strive to find solutions and have an attitude of learning to make changes in our lives. “Great men make of their mistakes steps to success” (Frank Crane). I can see either difficulties or I can see opportunities. My failure or my success in life will depend to a large extent on my own vision. Success in life requires courage to face difficulties. We would do well to keep in mind that we are not alone. We have God’s help at all times. (1 Corinthians 10:13 and Isaiah 40: 27). To think that human difficulties or crises are superior to divine grace, besides being a mistake, would be heresy. Nothing is impossible for God. (St. Luke 1:37, St. Matthew 16: 19-20)

Diocesan Deacon And Wives Will Be On A Virtual Retreat

Every year, all deacons have the obligation of attending a spiritual retreat to continue exercising their ministry; this year due to the pandemic, we started the search for a top retreat master who could help us discover the strength and peace that only God can give to our lives. Searching among the directors of the Permanent Diaconate Office, I was able to find a deacon who has been handpicked by Pope Francis to help in the commission of researching about deaconesses, he is Executive Director of Diaconal Ministries and Director of Di-



aconal Formation for the Diocese of Joliet. His name is Dominic Cerrato and he has a Bachelor in Theology from Franciscan University, and a Master and PhD in Theology from Duquesne University. He was pleased to come to El Paso for the yearly retreat of deacons and wives, but unfortunately, due to the pandemic and the health measures that we have to take, we are moving to have a virtual retreat with him. It will give us the opportunity of growing spiritually as a group of dedicated individuals, and also to

find our inner peace that only the presence of God can give. The retreat will take place on the weekend of October 4th, at St. Francis of Assisi, so deacons will be out of service for a week-end, but charging our batteries for the upcoming challenges after the Covid-19 pandemic. Please pray for our deacons of the Diocese every day, as we need your prayers for God to give us strength, humbleness, mercy, dedication, wisdom and most of all, charity in our ministry.

Diáconos Diocesanos Y Sus Esposas Estarán En Un Retiro Virtual

Todos los años, todos los diáconos tienen la obligación de asistir a un retiro espiritual para seguir ejerciendo su ministerio; este año, debido a la pandemia, comenzamos la búsqueda de un maestro de retiros de alto nivel que nos ayude a descubrir la fuerza y la paz que sólo Dios puede dar a nuestras vidas. Buscando entre los directores

de la Oficina del Diaconado Permanente, pude encontrar un diácono que ha sido escogido por el Papa Francisco para ayudar en la comisión de investigación sobre las diaconisas, es Director Ejecutivo de Ministerios Diaconales y Director de Formación Diaconal de la Diócesis de Joliet. Se llama Dominic Cerrato y tiene una licenciatura en teología

de la Universidad Franciscana, y una maestría y un doctorado en teología de la Universidad Duquesne. Se alegró de venir a El Paso para el retiro anual de diáconos y esposas, pero desafortunadamente, debido a la pandemia y a las medidas de salud que tenemos que tomar, nos estamos moviendo para tener un retiro

virtual con él. Nos dará la oportunidad de crecer espiritualmente como un grupo de individuos dedicados, y también de encontrar nuestra paz interior que sólo la presencia de Dios puede dar. El retiro tendrá lugar el fin de semana del 4 de octubre, el diácono de San Francisco de Asís, así que estaremos fuera de servicio por un fin de semana,

pero cargando nuestras baterías para los próximos desafíos después de la pandemia de Covid-19. Por favor, recen por los diáconos de la Diócesis todos los días, ya que necesitamos sus oraciones para que Dios nos dé fuerza, humildad, misericordia, dedicación, sabiduría y sobre todo, caridad en nuestro ministerio.



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