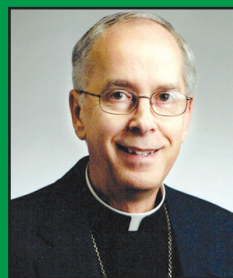


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InSeitz-Into The Faith
The Art of Celebrating
the Eucharist
Pg. 3

VOL.26 NUMBER 2

SERVING 646,340 CATHOLICS IN THE DIOCESE OF EL PASO

JUNE 2017

**50th Ordination
Anniversary
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Article by
New Guest
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Fr. Tad
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the World
Through
Education
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**A Tale of Two
Seminaries
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Hundreds Installed at Tepeyac Ceremony

By: Deacon Jesus Cardenas, Tepeyac Institute

The Tepeyac Institute was founded in 1988 to enable the laity to take their rightful role in the mission and ministry of the Church. For the past 30 years over 30,000 persons from throughout the diocese have participated in our Tepeyac programs.

The Institute provides a two-part formation program the Christian Formation Program (CFP) and the Ministry Formation Program (MFP). The CFP offers a solid theological framework for ministry based on the vision of Vatican II, scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the teachings of Pope Francis. The MFP offers more of the practicum needed by participants in their ministry. These ministerial practica are divided into the categories of Priest, Prophet and King. Tepeyac also offers a Summer Institute during the month of June with local and visiting faculty.

The courses are taught at the Tepeyac Institute facilities at the Diocesan Pastoral Center although Tepeyac has offered programs at most of the parishes in the diocese. Over the years, the response from the people and the support of their pastors has been overwhelming. This year, for example, Bishop Mark J. Seitz installed over 750 ministers for service in our diocese.

Our Bible Study Certification has been very successful offered in coordination with the Instituto Biblico San Francisco. This is a three-year program of biblical study. This year we had the first graduates in the program: 7 parishioners who completed the program successfully.

Tepeyac also offers an Adult Formation Program, which is a three-year program with 12 courses with some of the top theologians of the diocese who teach Christology, Social Justice, Moral Ethics, The Gospels, Old Testament, and other courses. We have been graduating participants for the past 9 years, and this year we graduated seven people.

As Tepeyac continues to grow, it continues to offer ministry formation programs based on

the needs of the parishes. Our Mourning and Accompaniment program is a good example. This year we graduated a large group for service in our parishes.

On April 28 Tepeyac celebrated the Installation as Ministers by Bishop Seitz at St. Mark Church. The opening words of

our bishop were: "Wow, is there anyone else left in El Paso?" The church was packed with ministers and their families. They came to be installed and missioned by the bishop. After the special installation ceremony, the newly installed ministers picked up their certificates and ID cards. As

we were processing out of the parish, the church bells rang and the Mariachi Son de Mexico was welcoming the ministers to the Guadalupe Shrine where they presented flowers to the Virgin.

En Español en Página 6

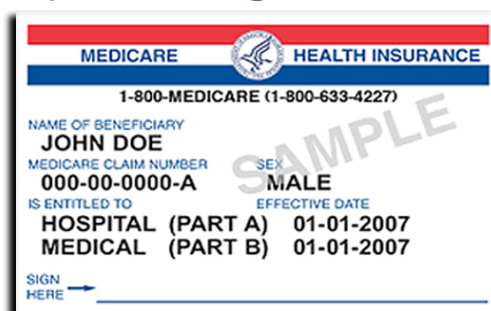


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Thank You Our Lady of Assumption

By: Nancy Ramos, Rio Grande Catholic Editor

“Our Lady of Assumption Pray For Us”. Every day my children said these faithful words at the close of their school’s morning prayer. I love this school and three of my children are Our Lady of Assumption Catholic School (OLA) Saints. And yes, the recent closing of the school is difficult for the entire parish, but I have realized just how blessed we are to be a part of the family of El Paso Catholic Schools. During this transition, our neighboring Catholic schools reached out with love in many ways. Besides offering tours to help our children get placed and providing families with informational collateral in weekly folders, they offered support to our Pastor, Father Saul Pacheco.

Father Pacheco is working diligently to guide

his community as best as he can. He can shepherd us beyond our wants and beyond our fears. Thank you, Father Pacheco!

The kindest gesture of support for my children came from clear across town from Our Lady of the Valley. OLV came to OLA for a visit. They came with gifts like the three wise men we know. They brought pictures of Pope Francis attached to Mounds candy bars for everyone, letting each OLA student know they were sending us Mounds of Love & Support. From the bottom of my heart, thank you Our Lady of the Valley!

I am grateful that we can pray in our schools and we can offer each other prayer as support, unlike in secular schools. El Paso’s community of Catholic schools demonstrates our love

for Jesus Christ and His great love for every single one of us.

Most recently I was told by Bishop’s Liaison to



Youth Ministry and Pastor of Buen Pastor Catholic Church, Father Fabian Marquez, that Pope Francis reminds us that our Catholic youth now are representative of who the Catholic Church is

today. They are not just our future church. My children, all the children at OLA and all our children at El Paso Catholic Schools are truly representative of our Catholic Church and what we are living today in Gospel values.

With the recent headlines of kids being bullied to the point they commit suicide I am reminded that we are all facing the horrifying truth that our families and children are being targeted. We are living through a bullying crisis targeting America’s youth and our schools. This is a crisis that sometimes results in suicide and violence against others. I am witnessing how we are becoming a less civil society and frankly it can be scary parenting in these times.

My husband and I make the decision to send

our children to a Catholic school and so many times I personally witness the children at these schools demonstrate love and kindness in the most remarkable ways. At the core of my children’s existence they know that every human being is a person and is a direct reflection of God’s image. They know and believe that every person’s life and dignity is something we must protect. I am proud to say and so grateful that this social teaching is part of my children’s moral fabric. It is also a vibrant representation of the fruit reaped from the work done at Our Lady of Assumption and the work being done at our El Paso Catholic Schools.

OLA enabled me to raise amazing young citizens with Catholic moral identities and characters. From the bottom of my heart, thank you Our Lady of Assumption!

This past weekend my kids and I watched PBS Nature’s episode, Animal Misfits, and it featured the Artic woolly bear caterpillar moth. In the woolly bear’s life cycle while in the caterpillar stage, this creature eats and waits for its chance to cocoon and become a moth. But to become a moth it must survive several winter seasons, sometimes up to fourteen winter seasons. This caterpillar literally freezes to death every winter. For several winters this animal falls into a deep freeze where his heart stops beating and his blood freezes solid. Like the story of the thawed secret agent, Austin Powers or Transformer’s evil antagonist, Megatron, each summer the woolly bear caterpillar thaws and resurrects. After being frozen for months it thaws and comes back to life!

My children were so impressed that this caterpillar was like Jesus. This is one of the most amazing things allowed by God. The woolly bear demonstrates for me the grace and power that is our Lord. This is how we as a Catholic community of schools of faith go through difficult changes in order to begin anew. Regardless of the challenge, we rise and give Glory to God.



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The Art of Celebrating the Eucharist

(This is taken from a presentation I recently gave to Priests and Deacons of our Diocese. All who gather at Mass have a special, even essential role in the Liturgy. We all participate in offering the Sacrifice to God in union with the priest since we share in the royal priesthood of Christ by virtue of our Baptism. Although these reflections are primarily directed to priests and deacons understanding them should assist us all to better prepare and to participate more fully.)

Celebration of the Eucharist is the very reason for our being. Our whole life and ministry as priests is summed up and given its highest expression there.

If something is important it is worth being done right and to be carried out with care. It's amazing the attention we pay to relatively unimportant things. If you want to be effective with your golf swing or if you want to be a good tackler in football you will be expected to learn and to practice specific techniques. If you want to learn how to communicate effectively in a language you will need to know the rules of its grammar. Sure, you could ignore them, but people would not understand you well.

The Liturgy is a language and a certain style of communication that comes down to us from the ages. It is a language of signs and symbols that are read universally by people in the Church. To be sure, there are regional and cultural aspects that are rightly represented as local communities worship, but these are secondary to the expressions that unite us across times and places. It is of great importance that we ourselves understand the 'language' of the symbols.

So I think it serves us well as priests and deacons to give attention to these things from time to time. Neither the Church, nor I am looking for rigid robotic uniformity. Each person will very rightly incarnate the Liturgy according to their own personality, but hopefully not in a way that seems to make

the Liturgy more about them than about God. Rather the way we celebrate should allow us to be more and more transparent instruments of God. God wants to use us and to use the gifts he gave us to make us signs of Christ present in the flesh presiding at our act of worship.

The Church, since the reform of the Liturgy initiated by the II Vatican Council, has been seeking a balance between horizontal and vertical dimensions of the Liturgy, between the way the Liturgy is intended to unite the community gathered as the Body of Christ and our encounter with the Divine. The former ways of worship tended to focus on the individual's encounter with God. Our present tendency is to focus more on our gathering with one another.

The truth I believe is that both dimensions need to be represented in a balanced way. God gathers us and forms us into a people so that as the Body of Christ we can participate in his self-offering to the Father. If we lose either dimension the work of God is something less than what God intends it to be.

Your role as a presider at Liturgy, and the role of everyone who has a leadership role through a Liturgical ministry, is to facilitate the self-discovery of the People of God. In the Liturgy they should come to know themselves as individuals and within community as an ordered Body that makes Christ present in the world. We will do that by our spirit of peace and joy, of respect and love, and by our prayerful attention to God's work in the midst of His people.

The awesome work of God in our worship will be effectively conveyed by our preparedness, which is the fruit of prayer and reflection as well as our familiarity with texts and Liturgical actions. It will be conveyed also by our focus and our willingness to be present in the moment in a way that is unrushed and smoothly flowing. Everyone who has a ministry should know their responsibilities. There should be no need for

extraneous movement or talk.

If you go to the



By
Bishop
Mark J. Seitz



theater or even to a football game you rightly expect the actors or players to be well prepared, to know their lines and to know the plays. Is it not reasonable to expect at least that level of preparation at the times we celebrate the work of our salvation in the presence of the Almighty God?

I am very grateful for the wonderful service you, my brother priests and deacons, already provide in our Diocese. As I travel from place to place I am constantly moved by the level of commitment and energy our people bring to their gathering around the altar. This certainly says a great deal about your own dedication to this central act of your ministry. May God, through His Spirit show us how we can move forward to make our worship an even more pleasing Sacrifice of Praise.

Bp. Mark

El Arte de Celebrar la Eucaristía

(Esto fue tomado de una presentación que di recientemente a los sacerdotes y diáconos de nuestra diócesis. Todas las personas que se reúnen en Misa tienen un papel especial, incluso esencial en la Liturgia. Todos participamos en ofrecer el Sacrificio a Dios, en unión con el sacerdote, ya que participamos en el real sacerdocio de Cristo en virtud de nuestro Bautismo. Aunque estas reflexiones se dirigen primordialmente a los sacerdotes y diáconos, comprenderlas debe de ayudarnos a todos a prepararnos mejor y a participar más plenamente.)

La celebración de la Eucaristía es la razón misma de todo nuestro ser. Su más alta expresión se resume completamente de ahí a nuestras vidas y ministerios como sacerdotes.

Si algo es importante, vale la pena hacerlo bien y vale la pena hacerlo con cuidado. Es increíble la atención que ponemos en cosas relativamente poco importantes. Si usted desea ser eficaz con su "swing" (balance al pegar a la pelota de golf) de golf o si desea ser un buen "tackleader" (abordar y tirar al contrario en el juego de fútbol americano) en el fútbol, se espera de usted que aprenda bien y practique técnicas específicas. Si desea aprender a comunicarse eficazmente en un idioma, necesitará conocer las reglas de su gramática. Claro, podrías ignorarlos, pero la gente no te entendería bien.

La Liturgia es un lenguaje y un cierto estilo de comunicación que nos fue entregada desde hace siglos. Es un lenguaje de signos y símbolos que son leídos universalmente por la gente en la Iglesia. Ciertamente, hay aspectos regionales y culturales que se representan correctamente como comunidades locales, pero son secundarios a las expresiones que nos unen a través de los tiempos y lugares. Es de gran importancia que nosotros mismos entendamos el "lenguaje" de los símbolos.

Así que creo que nos sirve bien como sacerdotes

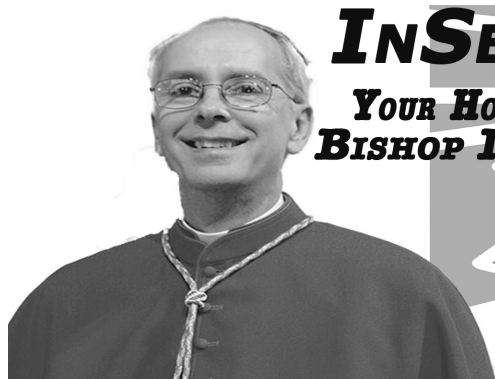
y diáconos prestar atención a estas cosas de vez en cuando. Ni la Iglesia, ni yo estamos buscando una rígida uniformidad robótica. Cada persona encarnará con razón la Liturgia según su propia personalidad, pero esperemos que no lo hagamos de una manera que parezca que la Liturgia es más cercana a ellos, que el mismo Dios. Más bien la forma en que debemos de celebrar es permitiéndonos ser instrumentos de Dios, cada vez más transparentes. Dios quiere usarnos y usar los dones que nos dio para hacernos signos de Cristo presente en la carne, predominando nuestro acto de adoración.

La Iglesia, desde la reforma de la liturgia iniciada por el Concilio Vaticano II, ha buscado un equilibrio entre las dimensiones horizontales y verticales de la Liturgia, entre la forma en que la Liturgia pretende unir a la comunidad reunida como Cuerpo de Cristo y nuestro encuentro con la Iglesia con la Divinidad. Los primeros modos de adoración tendían a centrarse en el encuentro del individuo con Dios. Nuestra tendencia actual es centrarnos más en nuestra reunión entre nosotros mismos.

La verdad creo yo, es que es ambas dimensiones necesitan ser representadas de una manera equilibrada. Dios nos reúne y nos forma en un pueblo para que, como Cuerpo de Cristo, podamos participar en su auto-ofrenda al Padre. Si perdemos cualquier dimensión, la obra de Dios es algo menos de lo que Dios quiere que sea.

Su papel como tutelar (los sacerdotes) en la liturgia y el papel de todos los que tienen un papel de liderazgo a través de un ministerio litúrgico, es facilitar el auto-descubrimiento del Pueblo de Dios. En la Liturgia deben llegar a conocerse a sí mismos como individuos y dentro de la comunidad como un Cuerpo ordenado que hace a Cristo presente en el mundo. Lo haremos con nuestro espíritu de paz y alegría, de respeto y amor y con nuestra atención orante a la obra de Dios en

Continuacion en Página 4



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Rev. Faustino Ortiz-Suarez, MNM	6-24
Rev. Edward Paul Roden-Lucero	6-29

Ordination Anniversaries

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Msgr. Robert Calles	5-22
Rev. Stephen Peters	5-25
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Rev. Frank R. Lopez	5-29
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Rev. Jose Alfredo Ramirez, OFM	6-29
Rev. Jose Maximino Rangel, OFM	6-29
Rev. Mark N.P. Salas	6-29
Rev. Gerardo Francisco Salgado, OFM	6-29
Rev. Jose Vera-Perez, OFM	6-29
Rev. Wallace Blake Fry	6-29

Continuacion de Pagina 3 medio de Su pueblo.

La impresionante obra de Dios en nuestra adoración será efectivamente transmitida por nuestra preparación, la cual es el fruto de la oración y la reflexión, así como nuestra familiaridad con los textos y las acciones litúrgicas. Se transmitirá también por nuestro enfoque y nuestra voluntad de estar presente en el momento de la Eucaristía, sin prisas y suavemente fluida. Todos los que tienen un ministerio deben de conocer sus

responsabilidades. No debe de haber necesidad de movimientos extraños o de hablar.

Si vas al teatro o incluso a un partido de fútbol, es justo que esperes que los actores o jugadores estén bien preparados, que conozcan sus líneas y conozcan las obras. ¿No es razonable esperar al menos ese nivel de preparación en los momentos en que celebramos la obra de nuestra salvación en presencia del Dios Todopoderoso?

Estoy muy agradecido por el maravilloso servicio que ustedes, mis hermanos

sacerdotes y diáconos, ya están proveyendo a nuestra Diócesis. Mientras viajo de un lugar a otro, me siento constantemente movido por el nivel de compromiso y energía que nuestra gente aporta a su reunión alrededor del altar. Esto ciertamente dice mucho acerca de su propia dedicación a este acto central de su ministerio. Que Dios, a través de Su Espíritu, nos muestre cómo podemos avanzar para hacer de nuestra adoración un Sacrificio de Alabanza aún más agradable.

Obispo Mark

Special Collections



Collections for Our Sister Diocese

A Special Offering to be held the weekend of June 17 and Sunday, June 18, 2017 for the Diocese of Choluteca in Honduras. The funds from this collection will help the Diocese of Choluteca with humanitarian and evangelization projects under their direction. Following Hurricane Mitch in 1998, the Catholic Bishops of Texas reached out to the church in Honduras and matched each diocese in Texas with a diocese in Honduras. The cities of El Paso and Brownsville were matched with Choluteca, which is one of the poorest regions of Honduras and the city that was the second-hardest hit by the hurricane. The bishops were interested in developing a long-term relationship among the dioceses, not merely sending aid in the aftermath of the hurricane.

Our Diocese of El Paso has had a solidarity relationship with the Diocese of Choluteca in Honduras since 1998. For several years now, we go in small groups to do mission work over there and they also send some of their missionaries to our diocese. Perhaps you know someone in your parish who has gone as missionary or your parish has received one of their missionaries. To learn more about this missionary exchange, contact the Peace and Justice Ministry at 915-872-8422 or mrapos@elpasodiocese.org.

This year of 2017, our solidarity collection is trying to help the Diocese of Choluteca Minor

Seminary whose roof was over 50 years old and on the brink of collapsing. It was replaced at a cost of 97,000 US dollars. We have already contributed 57,000 towards that amount and we are now trying to send the remainder 40,000. So, we appeal to your generosity. If 4000 Catholics give \$10, we can get that in less than one hour! The collection will take place in our parishes on the weekend of June 17 and 18, or you can mail your donation to the Peace and Justice Ministry at 499 Saint Matthew Street, 79907 indicating that it is for the Diocese of Choluteca seminary roof repair.

Collection for Our Holy Father

The Peter’s Pence Collection for the works of the Holy Father will be held on the weekend of June 24 and 25, 2017. Each year, the annual Peter’s Pence Collection in support of the works of the Holy Father is held in parishes across the country. The proceeds from this collection provide emergency assistance to the most disadvantaged – those who suffer because of war, oppression, disease, and natural disaster. When we contribute to this fund, we are actively living the truth in love and speaking the truth in deeds. As we participate in this special appeal, we join with more than 1 billion Catholics in a loving expression of worldwide solidarity. More than 98 cents of every dollar raised goes directly to the Holy Father’s spiritual and charitable efforts around the globe.

La Ofrenda Especial

Colecta Para Nuestra Diócesis Hermana

La Ofrenda Especial para la Diócesis de Choluteca en el país de Honduras que se llevará a cabo el fin de semana del

17 de junio y el domingo, 18 de junio del 2017. Los fondos recaudados de esta colecta ayudaran a la diócesis de Choluteca con proyectos humanitarios y evangelización bajo su dirección. Después del

huracán Mitch en 1998, los obispos católicos de Texas decidieron solidarizarse con la Iglesia de Honduras y coordinaron una diócesis de Texas con una diócesis de Honduras. Las ciudades de El Paso y Brownsville fueron coordinadas con Choluteca, que ésta en una de las regiones más pobres de Honduras y que fue la segunda ciudad donde ocurrieron más daños por el huracán. Los obispos están de acuerdo en formar una amistad a largo plazo entre las diócesis, y no nada más en ayudar después de desastres naturales.

Nuestra Diócesis de El Paso ha tenido un hermanamiento con la Diócesis de Choluteca en Honduras desde 1998. Por varios años ya hemos estado yendo a en pequeños grupos como misioneros allá y ellos también han venido acá como misioneros. Tal vez usted conozca alguien en su parroquia que ha ido como misionero o su parroquia ha recibido unos de ellos como misionero en su parroquia. Para saber más como involucrarse como misionero, llame al Ministerio de Paz y Justicia al 915-872-8422 o mrapos@elpasodiocese.org.

Este año de 2017, nuestra colecta de solidaridad está tratando de ayudar al seminario menor de Choluteca el cual ha tenido que remplazar completamente su techo pues que ya tenía más de 50 años y ya estaba por caer. Se lo remplazaron por un costo de 97,000 dólares. Hemos enviado ya 57,000 dólares en años pasados y ahora estamos tratando de mandar el que les falta que son 40,000. Así que les hacemos el pedido por su generosidad hacia nuestros hermanos de Choluteca. ¡Si 4000 católicos donan \$10, podemos recaudar los 40,000 en menos de una hora! 4000 católicos es un número pequeño dentro de nuestras 56 parroquias con una población de más de medio millón de católicos en nuestra Diócesis de El Paso.

La colecta será hecha el 17 y 18 de junio en su parroquia, o si desea, lo puede mandar su donación al Ministerio de Paz y Justicia al 499 Saint Matthew Street, 79907 indicando que es para el techo del seminario de la diócesis de Choluteca.

Colecta Para Nuestro Santo Padre

La Colecta para las Obras del Santo Padre

será recogida en el fin de semana del 24 y 25 de junio, 2017. Todos los años se realiza en las parroquias de todo el país la Colecta Peter's Pence, u Óbolo de San Pedro, en apoyo de las obras del Santo Padre. Lo recaudado en esta colecta financia asistencia de emergencia a las personas que sufren por la guerra, la opresión, enfermedades y los desastres naturales en todo el mundo. Cuando contribuimos a este fondo, estamos activamente hablando la verdad en el amor, y viviendo la verdad en los hechos. Al participar en esta petición especial, nos unimos a más de mil millones de católicos en una amorosa expresión de solidaridad mundial. Más de 98 centavos de cada dólar recibido se destinan directamente a los esfuerzos espirituales y caritativos del Santo Padre en todo el mundo.

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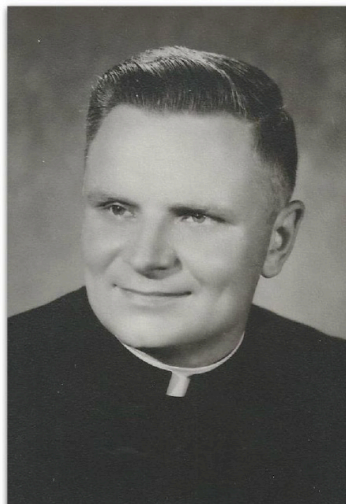
50th ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

MONSIGNOR FRANK SMITH & FATHER STEPHEN PETERS

By: Joe Garcia The Bridge-Radio Program Director

This year marks two very special ordination anniversaries for two of El Paso's dearest members of the clergy, Monsignor Frank Smith and Father Stephen Peters.

Monsignor Frank Smith was born in Chicago. He completed his studies at Christ the King Seminary at St. Bonaventure University. He came to El Paso in 1962 and was ordained in 1967. Monsignor Smith served several years as pastor to many faithful at parishes like All Saints Church, St. Pius and then of course St. Raphael's. He was appointed Vicar General of the Diocese of El Paso by both Bishop Raymundo Pena and Bishop Armando X. Ochoa. He was



Msgr. Francis Smith

also appointed a Protonotary

Apostolic by Pope John Paul II. In one El Paso Herald Post article Msgr. Smith stated "Being a priest is like being a doctor...but a spiritual one". Smith said, "I wanted to serve people in some capacity. Serving people has been the high point of my life, and the best way I could have done this is the priesthood".

Thank you Monsignor Smith for your years of dedication and hard work. Happy 50th Anniversary.

The Bridge/ El Puente Radio recently interviewed special Guest Father Stephen Peters about his 50th Ordination Anniversary.

Fr. Peters shared the following:

1. Tell us about yourself, where are you from what was your childhood like? Why did you become a priest?

"Native El Pasoan, parents Leonard and Gwendoline Peters, one older brother and one younger sister. Lived across the street from the old Bronco Theatre. Later moved to Ascarate Township used to be called that. Lived in a mobile home, Dad ran a help yourself laundry till the automatics came about and he went to work for El Paso Natural Gas till retiring. Mom worked at home, we always had a procession of Jesuits priests because my dad had been in a Jesuit seminary in Louisiana for 2 years then

decided priesthood was not for him. The priests would always stop in El Paso to visit my dad, everyone thought I would be Jesuit priest. I said No I want to be a priest at the place I grew up, I want to be a Diocesan Priest."

2. When and how did you receive your call to become a priest?

"I knew I was going to be a priest with so many visiting my home. It was in me so I wanted to enter a high school seminary but we didn't have one here. I knew Santa Fe had one so I asked my cousin who went there, my Cousin Fr. John Peters who was very well known in Santa Fe. He asked me, are you thinking about that? I said, Yeah. My cousin said, "Give it a try". That's all you can do, so when I arrived, the whispers in the hallway were "He's related to Fr. John Peters. That's his cousin". "

3. What advice would you give to a young person who is considering religious life?

"My Mom used to tell us after I told her that I was thinking I'd wait till I graduated from High School before I go to the seminary...she told me, "If you do not go now...you never will". She was so very correct. God calls us when we are so very young. Being involved in Vocations my whole priesthood I can only offer as advice is make it through



Fr. Stephen Peters

the discernment process and remember you don't know until you give it a try.

4. As a priest what was your most memorable moment in the priesthood?

"The Gifts that God gave me, the people I met and worked with, the Sacrament of the sick and praying for those in need of a little miracle. I have seen people walk out of ICU totally healed. Otra oportunidad The Lord would give them. Still amazes me.

5. Did you ever see your life differently for example married with kids or another type of calling?

"NO, I am an example of Catholic Education, St. Joseph's School was where it all began for me. All the way through high school in Santa Fe, I knew what my calling was at a very young age."

6. This year marks your 50th anniversary of your ordination to the priesthood,

what does this milestone mean to you?

"How blessed I am to be able to see the Lord's work. To be able to serve Him and my Diocese and my loving communities I have worked for. Jesus touches us through Sacraments and it's truly a wonderful gift.

7. What do you remember about your ordination day 50 years ago?

"1967 There were 6 of us ordained here, all my trials and tribulations, all the discernments I went through in vocations turned out to be what I was called to do, I have been in and out of Vocations my whole priesthood."

Thank you Father Peters, Happy 50th Anniversary.

Find Father Peters The Bridge 1150am Interview at www.elpasodiocese.org

Ceremonia de Instalación de Tepeyac

El Instituto Tepeyac fue fundado en 1988 para permitir a los laicos desempeñar el rol en la misión y ministerio de la iglesia. Por los últimos 30 años más de 30,000 personas de toda la diócesis han participado en nuestros programas del Tepeyac.

El Instituto proporciona un programa de formación en dos partes: El Programa de Formación Cristiana (PFC) y el Programa de Formación de Ministerio (PFM). El PFC ofrece un marco teológico sólido para el ministerio basado en la visión del Vaticano II, escritura, el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, y las enseñanzas del Papa Francisco. El PFM ofrece más de la práctica necesaria para los participantes en su ministerio. Estas prácticas ministeriales se dividen en las categorías de Sacerdote, Profeta y Rey. Tepeyac también ofrece un Instituto de Verano durante el mes de junio por la facultad local y visitantes.

Los cursos se enseñan en las instalaciones del Tepeyac, aunque se han ofrecido programas en la mayoría de

las parroquias de la diócesis. A través de los años, la respuesta de la gente y el apoyo de nuestros pastores ha sido abrumador. Este año, por ejemplo, el Obispo Mark J. Seitz instaló a más de 750 ministros para el servicio en nuestra diócesis.

Nuestra Certificación en Estudio Bíblico ha sido muy exitosa; se ofrece en coordinación con el Instituto Bíblico San Francisco. Este es un programa de estudio bíblico de tres años. Este año tuvimos los primeros graduados en el programa: 7 parroquianos que completaron exitosamente el programa.

Tepeyac también ofrece un Programa de Formación de Adultos, el cual es un programa de tres años con 12 cursos con algunos de los mejores teólogos de la diócesis quienes enseñan Cristología, Justicia Social, Ética Moral, Los Evangelios, Antiguo Testamento, y otros cursos. Hemos estado graduando a los participantes por los últimos nueve años, y en este año graduamos a siete de ellos.

Así como el Tepeyac continúa

creciendo, así sigue ofreciendo programas de formación de ministerio basados en las necesidades de las parroquias. Nuestro Programa de Duelo y Acompañamiento es un buen ejemplo. Este año graduamos un gran grupo para servir a nuestras parroquias.

El 28 de abril el Tepeyac celebró la Instalación de

Ministerios por el Obispo Seitz en la Parroquia San Marcos. Las primeras palabras de nuestro obispo fueron: "¡Guau! ¿queda alguien más en El Paso en algún lugar esta noche?" La Iglesia estaba llena con ministros y sus familiares. Vinieron a ser instalados y misionados por el obispo. Después de la ceremonia especial de

instalación, los ministros recién instalados recogieron sus certificados y tarjetas de identificación. Al salir en procesión de la parroquia, sonaron las campanas de la iglesia y el Mariachi Son de México recibió a los ministros en la Gruta de Guadalupe donde le presentaron flores a La Virgen.



DOPING ATHLETES

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

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

Her case was made more complicated by her claim that she was taking the drug for health reasons, a claim viewed with skepticism among other athletes and ultimately rejected by the Independent Tribunal appointed by the ITF to review the case. Former British Olympic sprinter and world championship bronze medalist Craig Pickering described the real pressure

that top athletes can face:

"I would bet my life savings that Sharapova was taking this medication because of its purported performance enhancing effects... Athletes are always going to push the boundaries in order to have a chance at success. That is what happens when you introduce competition."

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

Cheating through doping involves an attempt to step outside these rules and suppositions, and play a different game, one that circumvents or removes the "on a par" assumption without revealing the fact. In this sense, cheating through doping is wrong because it is a form of lying, a form of presenting one's initial endowment as if it were "natural," and the result of athletic discipline, even though it really may not

be so at all.

Several of Sharapova's opponents expressed frustration at what they took to be a further injustice, namely, that in April 2017, she was given a wild card re-entry into World Tennis Association (WTA) tournament play in Germany. They insisted that she should, at a minimum, have to work her way back up from whatever her ranking had declined to after more than a year of tournament inactivity. Others, such as fellow player Eugenie Bouchard, perceived the doping transgression as even more serious, and argued that Sharapova should be banned from playing for life:

"She's a cheater and so to me... I don't think a cheater in any sport should be allowed to play that sport again. It's so unfair to all the other players who do it the right way and are true. So, I think from the WTA it sends the wrong message to young kids—cheat and we'll welcome you back with open arms."

Some commentators have noted how event organizers typically like to include big name draws like Sharapova in their line ups, and former number one player Caroline Wozniacki opined that, "obviously the rules are

twisted and turned in favor of who wants to do what." Others have expressed concerns about corporate sponsors and

advertisers continuing to promote high profile sports personalities after they have been suspended for doping, individuals who may already be among the wealthiest athletes in the world. It seems fair to conclude that doping constitutes a form of cheating not only of one's competitors, but also one's fans, oneself, and the integrity of the sporting activity itself.

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



Making Sense Out of Bioethics

Fr. Tad Pacholczyk

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

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

Sister Julia Romero Remembered

Sister Julia Romero, a Sister of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, passed away on April 26. Born Ciria Romero, the sixth child of Angel Romero and Julia Campos in Guanajuato, Mexico, she entered the contemplative branch of the Religious of the Good Shepherd in 1940. Sister Julia made her first vows in 1945 and her perpetual profession on July 22, 1950. She

was transferred to the monastery in Mesilla, NM in 1962 and moved with all the nuns to begin the monastery in El Paso on Old County Road in Ysleta in 1969. Sister Julia lived the consecrated contemplative life for seventy-two years. She was an example of Jesus among her Sisters in community and devoted her life to prayer for the needs of the world.

Hermana Julia Romero Recordada

La hermana Julia Romero, hermana de Nuestra Señora de la Caridad del Buen Pastor, falleció el 26 de abril. Nació Ciria Romero, sexto hijo de Ángel Romero y Julia Campos en Guanajuato, México, entró en la rama contemplativa de las Religiosas del Buen Pastor en 1940. La hermana Julia hizo sus primeros votos en 1945 y su profesión perpetua el 22 de julio de 1950. Fue trasladada al monasterio

en Mesilla, Nuevo México en 1962 y se mudó con todas las monjas para comenzar el monasterio en El Paso en Old County Road en Ysleta en 1969. La hermana Julia vivió la vida consagrada contemplativa durante setenta y dos años. Ella era un ejemplo de Jesús entre sus hermanas en comunidad y dedicó su vida a la oración para las necesidades del mundo.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

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 Mount 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.

Cementerio de Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo

El cementerio de Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo es el único cementerio en El Paso establecido específicamente para servir a la comunidad Católica. Cuando usted más lo necesite, el Cementerio de Monte Carmelo es una extensión de la familia parroquial que proporciona servicios y apoyo para ayudarle a tomar las decisiones difíciles y detalles de los arreglos prácticos que vienen al final de la vida.

Facilities and Services

Our Lady of Mount Carmel offers a full range of options:

- * Intimate chapel for on-site services
- * Traditional burials, in-ground or in a mausoleum
- * Interment of cremated remains in the columbarium or the chapel
- * Peaceful, well-kept grounds maintained with environmentally-responsible reclaimed water

Aside from the immediate need services available at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, staff members can provide assistance with arrangements for future needs

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DON'T TAKE A VACATION FROM CHURCH THIS SUMMER

By: Karina Sandoval, Stewardship Coordinator

Summer is here, exciting vacations plans are underway, children are out of school and the sun is brighter than ever. We get busy with our summertime activities and we know Jesus also wants us to enjoy our summer activities. Believe it or not, we can get closer to Jesus during our summer vacation.

Here are some suggestions:

1) Renew Your Connection with the Mass and the Sacraments

Friends of St. Ignatius mentioned that Mass brought Ignatius to tears and that Mass and the Sacraments were an essential part of his spirituality. This summer, consider learning more about

the Mass and the theology of the Sacraments. Participate more frequently in daily masses, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (To learn more about our Catholic faith, contact Tepeyac Institute at 915-872-8420).

2) Engage in Spiritual Reading

Is there a book that has been standing on your bookshelf for months? This summer, discern one or two topics on faith or spirituality or read an autobiography which can nourish your relationship with Christ. A great example is Thomas Merton's The Seven Story Mountain.

3) Continue to Give Your Weekly Offering to Your Parish

You can feel at peace when you are on vacation by leaving your weekly offering in advance at your parish office or arrange for automatic draft. Your pastor and parish administrator will greatly appreciate it.

4) Join the Company of the Marginalized

Saints were dedicated to the poor, the sick, the lonely and the suffering. Through their example, you can spend time this summer reflecting on a social cause or charity to participate in. For example,

research how you can assist an organization or a parish during the summer that supports the life of immigrants on our border.

5) Contemplate the Heavens

Surrender and contemplate God by gazing quietly at the stars. If you cannot make it out of El Paso, try to steal a moment in the morning and let God read your heart and translate it back to you.

Prayer, service and giving this

summer will help you develop a stewardship way of life. For more information on stewardship, contact Karina Sandoval, Stewardship Coordinator at the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso at 915-872-8412 or at ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org



NO TOMES VACACIONES DE LA IGLESIA EN ESTE VERANO

Por: Karina Sandoval, Coordinadora en Corresponsabilidad

El verano está aquí, los planes para las vacaciones están ya casi listos, los niños ya salieron de la escuela y el sol está más brillante que nunca. Estamos en medio de las actividades de verano y sabemos que también Jesús quiere ser parte de nuestros planes. Sin duda podemos acercarnos más a Jesús en este verano, especialmente en las vacaciones.

Aquí hay algunas sugerencias: 1) Renueva tu conexión con la Misa y los Sacramentos

Los amigos de San Ignacio mencionaban que la Misa le ocasionaba lágrimas a San Ignacio. Ellos mencionaban que la Misa y los Sacramentos eran una parte muy esencial para su ministerio. Este verano, considera aprender más sobre la Misa y la Teología de los Sacramentos. (Para más información sobre donde aprender más sobre nuestra fe, favor de comunicarte al Instituto

Tepeyac: 915-872-8420), Participa frecuentemente de la Misa diaria, especialmente en el Sacramento de la Confesión.

2) Comprométete con una lectura espiritual

¿Acaso hay un libro en tu cajón que no has tocado en meses? Discierne uno o dos temas sobre la fe y la espiritualidad. A veces las autobiografías pueden enriquecer nuestra relación con Jesús. Un ejemplo es la vida de Thomas Merton en "La Montaña de 7 Pisos."

3) Continúa ofreciendo tu ofrenda semanal a tu Parroquia

Puedes sentirte en paz antes de irte de vacaciones al dejar tu ofrenda semanal en la oficina parroquial o hacer arreglos para retiro bancario automático. Tu pastor y el personal administrativo te lo van a agradecer abundantemente.

4) Acompaña a los

marginalizados.

Los santos se dedicaban a los pobres, a los enfermos y a los que sufren. A través de su ejemplo, tú también puedes compartir tu tiempo en este verano reflexionando sobre una causa social, o participar en un programa de caridad. Por ejemplo, durante el verano, investiga cómo puedes ayudar a una organización o parroquia que apoya la vida de los inmigrantes en nuestra frontera.

5) Contempla el Paraíso

Entrégate y contempla a Dios, mirando silenciosamente las estrellas. Si no puedes salir de El Paso, trata de robarle un momento a tu mañana y deja que Dios descifre tu corazón y te interprete a ti.

La oración, el servicio y la entrega en este verano te ayudarán a desarrollar un estilo de vida de corresponsabilidad.



Para más información sobre la corresponsabilidad, comuníquese con Karina Sandoval, Coordinadora de

la Corresponsabilidad en la Fundación para la Diócesis de El Paso - 915-872-8412 o ksandoval@elpasodiocese.org



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A SPOTLIGHT ON
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



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Our Lady of the Valley School:

Our Lady of the Valley School had 16 students graduate from eighth grade

on May 19. A few of them had been attending the school since Kindergarten and first grade. Five eighth-graders have already been accepted to Ysleta High School Early College, one to Mission Valley Early College, several to Cathedral High School and Loretto Academy.

OLV School will be busy during the summer months with programs and summer camps. The camps and programs are not just open to OLV School students but to all area children. All camps cost only \$50 and some offer a discount or free t-shirt with early registration.

A summer enrichment program is offered from May 30 to June 23, from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. This program focuses on reading and language arts and is open to students from first to eighth grade. Cost per student is \$100.

A Soccer and Sports Camp, as well as, an Arts and Crafts camp will be offered. The Soccer Camp will develop soccer skills, concentrate on specific technical and tactical skills including trapping, heading, shooting, dribbling, defensive tackling and position roles.

The Sports Camp will expose participants to various sports including flag football, kick ball, dodge ball, field hockey and water fun day. In the arts and crafts camp, participants will be able to express themselves through hands on activities and encourages development of individual

News Around The Catholic Schools

style and creativeness and have fun too. The arts and crafts camp includes projects made from recyclable items, nature jewelry, bead making, painting, drawing and other art projects. Most materials are provided with the exception of some recyclable items that participants can get from home. A Computer Enrichment camp will also be offered. Participants will learn some basic computer usage, internet connections, social media, creating and saving documents, design, how to use google documents and much more.

New this summer will be a Lego Camp. The camp will run for one week at the cost of \$30 per participant. The camp will stimulate participants' creativity, develop motor skills, learn cooperative play, use their imagination, and have fun.

In addition to camps and programs, the OLV School cafeteria is participating in the Summer Free Lunch program and offering free lunch to students participating in any of the camps and programs as well as to any other students or children 18 years of age or younger in the area as well as to surrounding day cares. Free lunch will be served from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm from May 30 to August 4.

Registration is open for the 2017-2018 school year from 4K – eighth grade. For more information, please call the school office Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. or visit www.olvschoolep.org or www.Facebook.com/OLVCatholicSchool.

Information: 915-859-6448

Most Holy Trinity School:

Most Holy Trinity graduated 19 eighth graders this last school year. This will be the largest graduating class since the

2001-2002 school year. This year's graduates are heading to the following high schools: Cathedral, Trans Mountain Early College, Burges Early College, Parkland Early College, Silva Health Magnet, Chapin Pre-Engineering Magnet, Chaparral, Chapin, El Paso, Franklin and Parkland high schools.

Outgoing NJHS President, Alyssa Medina, has attended Most Holy Trinity for nine years. "I am a little sad because I am leaving a great place. I have had many good teachers and great experiences. This is where I learned how to act and what kind of person to be. I know everything I learned here will stick with me because the school is such a big part of me," said Medina.

"We are very proud of this class," said Principal Jim Horan. "They worked very hard this year and provided good leadership to the student body."

The class mentored third grade students, escorted Pre-Kindergarten students to Mass, helped with special events, as well as, participated in NJHS, athletics, Speech and Drama and Science Fair. "We are hoping our next class will lead like this class did," said Horan. Information: 915-859-6448

Cathedral High School:

Recently, Cathedral High School renovated a small classroom on the third floor inside the school building and converted it into the newly dedicated San Pedro Maldonado Chapel, which now houses the Blessed Sacrament. The chapel was dedicated on May 1, by Bishop Mark Seitz. To begin the celebration, Mass was held at the St. Patrick Cathedral with students from Cathedral High School.



Afterwards, a procession from the Cathedral to the high school's chapel was led by Bishop Seitz, who carried the Monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament. Choir members and student representatives processed with Bishop while other students formed an honor guard the whole route to welcome the Blessed Sacrament to the chapel. Bishop Seitz placed the consecrated host in the new chapel. The new chapel is named for San Pedro Maldonado, who was a Mexican diocesan priest, the first canonized saint and martyr from Chihuahua City, Mexico. He was ordained a priest on January 25, 1918, here in El Paso at St. Patrick Cathedral.

The school is grateful to Bishop Seitz for donating a first class relic of San Pedro Maldonado for the chapel. School Principal, Aurora Lujan, and Cathedral President, Brother Nick Gonzalez, both lent their full support to the project and grateful to all who helped create such a wonderful place for reflection and prayer inside the school.

The creation of the chapel took a team of people. Sister Dolorette Farias worked on getting approval of having the Blessed Sacrament in the

school building. She was also the liaison with the workers who did the renovation. Lucy West spearheaded the donations of icons to the chapel, Father Marcus McFadin, from St. Stephen Deacon & Martyr Church, donated the stunning tapestry icon of San Pedro Maldonado, the Brothers Community donated the Lasallian icons, members of the Brittain family donated the icon-style Stations of the Cross, and Bishop Seitz donated a monstrance for Eucharistic adoration.

Mrs. West and Selene Vega prepared a book with the stories of each saint on the icon walls and prayers for the Stations of the Cross, and Brother Javier Hansen and Brother Nick prepared the book on the Lasallian icons.

Two walls of the chapel are covered with icons, and the wall closest to the Tabernacle has the tapestry of San Pedro Maldonado and the fourth wall has the Lasallian saints depicted in an icon style.

The chapel is truly a blessing for the students, faculty/staff, alumni and community of Cathedral High School and all are invited to experience the beautiful San Jesus Maldonado Chapel.



Sr. Elizabeth Says Thank You

As I close my 21 years as Superintendent of Catholic Schools I would like to take the time thank the many people I have worked and ministered with over the years.

First, the Diocesan Board of Education who worked tirelessly on the many projects over the years from the initiation of the annual SEED Awards, the Diocesan-wide Raffle and the annual Golf Tournament which helped

to unite the schools to work toward common goals to the benefit of all. Oversaw the growth of the Scholarship Fund from \$97,000 to over \$700,000 today and the establishment of the Teacher Salary Subsidy Fund from \$0 to over \$400,000 today with distributions from these two funds amounting to almost \$500,000. They also revised and proposed policies, made recommendations to help strengthen the schools, and donated hundreds of hours on these projects through their volunteer hours. Worked on solutions to help the schools, made the difficult recommendations to close three schools and to open a new school on the west side of El Paso. The Education Assistance Fund Board has overseen the investments and approves the distribution of the financial aid for students and teacher salary grants. Their work has also been invaluable.

Second, many princi-

pals and faculty and staff members who worked with their school communities to strengthen their Catholic identity, stabilized their finances, built websites to promote their schools and keep parents informed, worked on curriculum committees to initially publish guides in all areas of curriculum and then begin the revision process beginning with revising guides in Religion, English Language Arts, and Mathematics. Teaching students about stewardship and service as components of our curriculum. Volunteering to serve on various committees, projects and initiatives to help all schools not just their own. We have had three successful years with the Thanksgiving Parade featuring all of our schools as well as winning awards for our entrees each year.

Third, parents and the business communities who have supported these endeavors

through the use of their time, talent and treasure. Without the many parent volunteers we could not have made our endeavors as successful as they were.

Fourth, our students who have stepped up to learn more about their faith and through the age appropriate service projects have learned and put into practice what we have tried to instill in them. Their spirit of generosity towards those who have needs whether they be to feed and cloth those fleeing violence or locally mothers who need basic supplies for their newborns, coats to shield them against the cold, compassion to senior citizens who need their homes repaired, families who don't earn enough to feed themselves, people in other countries to help with school supplies, sponsoring an animal that would provide a source of income, housing, clean water and other basic needs.

Fifth, our bishops, pastors with and without schools, deacons, parish groups such as the Knights of Columbus, LOLAs, Guadalupanas and others who helped with providing our schools with an opportunity to recruit new students, sell raffle tickets, sponsor students with scholarships and support the schools in various projects.

Lastly, but not least, I would like to express my appreciation to those who have worked in the Office of Education as employees or as volunteers and the other employees at the Pastoral Center who helped to facilitate the work of Catholic education.

I have enjoyed ministering in the Diocese of El Paso and leave the Office of Education with many friends and many fond memories as well as challenges I faced. May God continue to bless the schools with many dedicated leaders and supporters!

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Transforming the World through Education

By: Sister Janet Gildea, SC, Liason for Women Religious

Sister Elizabeth Anne Swartz is a School Sister of Notre Dame, a congregation of religious women founded by Blessed Theresa Gerhardinger in nineteenth century Bavaria to educate girls in small towns and villages. The Diocese of El Paso has been blessed to be the focus of Sister Elizabeth's ministry as an educator and administrator during the past twenty-one years as she accepted the call to serve as Superintendent of the Catholic Schools.

Sister Elizabeth first met the School Sisters (SSND) when they came to offer summer bible school near her home in the farmland of Maryland. She attended public school until her final two years of high school at the Academy of Our Lady in Washington, DC, which was staffed by the order. She entered the Baltimore Province of the School Sisters along with fifty other postulants after high school in 1962. As was common in those days, she was sent on her first mission as an elementary school teacher having completed only a couple of years of study. She taught first and fourth grades at a parish school in Cumberland, Maryland for the next six years. Studying summers at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland she finally achieved her Bachelor of Arts in Education in 1972.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help school in the inner city of Washington, DC was her next teaching assignment. "Those

were the days of segregation," she recalled, "and the church and school were established as a black parish." Sister taught fourth grade for four years while also being the school librarian and in charge of the after-school and summer tutoring programs. All the while she continued to study, achieving a Master of Arts in teaching in 1974.

As the changes of Vatican II opened up new opportunities in religious congregations, Sister Elizabeth transferred to the Dallas Province of the SSND in order to be closer to her family that had moved to Arizona shortly after she entered the community. She taught in a public school in Coolidge, AZ where her classroom included Native and Mexican American students. She became even more aware of the impact of prejudice, poverty and public policy on the educational system.

Sister Elizabeth was asked to return to Dallas to teach sixth and seventh grade math and religion for two years at a school her congregation staffed. Meanwhile, she was encouraged to get her certification in administration at Texas Women's University so that she was ready to accept a position as principal at Holy Rosary School in San Antonio in 1980. Under her leadership the school that was on the verge of collapse, physically and financially, was restored and became the first school in the archdiocese to have a

computer lab. And it was time to move on!

The demand for Sisters in Catholic school administration increased as the number of women religious serving as classroom teachers decreased. Sister Elizabeth Anne accepted challenging positions as principal and eventually leadership at the diocesan level. "I've always been mentored by our Sisters and was encouraged to prepare for administration," she recalled. In 1996 Bishop Ochoa hired Sister Elizabeth as Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of El Paso. In her second year she also accepted the responsibility for the schools in the San Angelo diocese.

During her twenty-one years of service at the diocesan level, Sister has seen schools open and close. She appreciates the ways that the particular charisms and values of the founding congregations imbue the institutions they have sponsored: Franciscan Brothers, Sisters of Loretto, Brothers of the Christian Schools, Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Fr. Yermo. In the schools of the Diocese of El Paso there are currently just nine religious sisters and



Photo by El Paso Times Ruben Ramirez

three religious brothers in teaching or administrative positions. Sister Elizabeth Anne strongly believes in the importance of nurturing and mentoring lay teachers to carry on the tradition of Catholic education.

She has worked to build up the scholarship fund so that tuition assistance is available for those who desire a Catholic education but cannot afford it. As well, she has worked to establish a fund to make teachers' salaries more equitable in schools across the diocese.

Now this School Sister of Notre Dame, fifty-three years professed, is going to take a

year of sabbatical. She looks forward to having time to read, to pray, to visit her family and to play some golf. She'll be listening for the next directions of the Spirit, but she's hoping to stay in the area. A teacher at heart, perhaps she will be substituting in a classroom now and then. "The challenge is to educate and form our Catholics- period!" said Sister Elizabeth in her usual matter-of-fact tone. That challenge expresses the description of the mission of the School Sisters of Notre Dame: Transforming the world through education! It is a mission that Sister Elizabeth Anne has truly embraced.

Transformar El Mundo a Traves de La Educación

Por: Sister Janet Gildea, SC, Liason for Women Religious



La hermana Elizabeth Anne Swartz es una Hermana Escolar de Notre Dame, una congregación de religiosas fundada por la Beata Theresa Gerhardinger en el siglo XIX en Baviera para educar a las niñas en pequeños pueblos y aldeas. La Diócesis de El Paso ha sido bendecida por el enfoque del ministerio de

la Hermana Elizabeth como educadora y administradora durante los pasados veintidós años al aceptar el llamado a servir como Superintendente de las Escuelas Católicas.

La hermana Elizabeth se reunió por primera vez [con] las Hermanas Escolar (SSND) cuando vinieron a ofrecer la

Continuacion en Pagina 14

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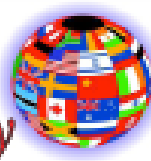
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"The world is a book, and those who do not travel, only read one page"
- St. Augustine

EL PASO CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL CELEBRATES WORLDWIDE GOLDEN JUBILEE, JUNE 23-24

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the El Paso Diocese invites everyone to come celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the worldwide movement, beginning Friday, June 23, at 7 PM in Las Alas Center, 501 E. Paisano. The gathering continues on Saturday, June 24, starting at 9 AM and ending with Mass at 6 PM followed by healing prayer with the laying on of hands.

The bilingual

program will include speakers, prayer and live music for praise and worship. For those not familiar with charismatic spirituality, this is an opportunity to learn about the movement, experience joyful worship and hear personal testimonies from people involved in the Renewal for many years, including Sister Linda Koontz and others who ministered in Juarez with Father Rick Thomas and

his prayer group at Our Lady's Youth Center.

A special guest is Sister Magdalena Casas-Nava of the charismatic Franciscan order "Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ" based in the Amarillo Diocese. Local early pioneers will share the history of the Renewal in this area. "The Carrillo Family and the Disciples" will provide music. There is no registration or fee required. A love offering



Sister Linda Koontz

to help defray costs will be taken. Food trucks will



be available Friday and Saturday.

OPEN ARMS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC COMMUNITY MARKS 45TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION JUNE 25

Open Arms Community's newsletter states: "Praising the Lord together since 1972". Thus 2017 is the 45th anniversary of the prayer group. An Open House is planned for Sunday, June 25, from 2-6 PM at 8210 North Loop Drive. The gathering will include prayer and praise, testimonies, and sharing memories. Those who can are asked to bring something for pot luck.

Everyone is invited; the event is not just for Open Arms. Leaders suggest this would be a good time to "come and see who we are and what we do".

History: On the Feast of the Sacred Heart in June, 1972, a small group of Catholics who had experienced the charismatic renewal met in a home in the Lower Valley to pray. They grew in numbers. In 1973 they moved to the

Corpus Christi Monastery on Mockingbird Road at the invitation of the Sisters. By 1974 a larger hall was needed. Mount Carmel Parish opened their doors. During thirteen years of weekly prayer meetings, hundreds were introduced to the Charismatic Renewal. In 1993 the community purchased the old Felipe Duran Dance Hall on North Loop. In addition to weekly prayer meetings, one in

English, one in Spanish, and periodic retreats, a large Food Bank ministry developed, providing food and clothing to the needy.

The group is inter-parochial, with participants are from many different parishes.



For more information: www.openarmscommunity.org; openarmselpaso@gmail.com; 915-595-0589

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escuela biblica del verano cerca de su hogar en las zonas rurales de Maryland. Ella asistió a la escuela pública hasta sus dos años finales de la preparatoria en la Academia de Nuestra Señora en Washington, DC, que fue provista por la orden. Entró en la Provincia de Baltimore de las Hermanas Escolar junto con otras cincuenta postulantes después de la preparatoria en 1962. Como era común en aquellos días, fue enviada en su primera misión como maestra de escuela primaria habiendo completado sólo algunos años de estudio. Ella enseñó primero y cuarto año en una escuela parroquial en Cumberland, Maryland para los siguientes seis años. Estudiando veranos en el Colegio de Notre Dame de Maryland, finalmente logró su Bachillerato en Artes en Educación en 1972.

La escuela Nuestra Señora del Socorro Perpetuo en el centro de la ciudad de Washington, DC fue su siguiente posición como maestro. "Esos fueron los días de la segregación", recordó, "y la iglesia y la escuela se establecieron como una parroquia de la raza negra." La hermana enseñó cuarto año durante cuatro años, mientras que también encargada de la biblioteca de la escuela y a cargo de la tutoría después de la escuela y los programas del verano. Todo el tiempo ella continuó estudiando, alcanzando un Maestría de Artes de Enseñanza en 1974.

A medida que los cambios del Vaticano II abrieron nuevas oportunidades en las congregaciones religiosas, la Hermana Elizabeth se trasladó a la provincia de Dallas de la SSND para estar más cerca de su familia que se había trasladado a Arizona poco después de entrar en la comunidad. Ella enseñó en una escuela pública en Coolidge, AZ donde su salón de estudiantes incluyó Americanos-nativos y mexicanos. Se hizo aún más consciente del impacto de los prejuicios, la pobreza y las políticas públicas en el sistema educativo.

Se le pidió a la hermana Elizabeth que regresara a Dallas para enseñar matemáticas y religión del sexto y séptimo año durante dos años en una escuela donde su congregación estaba a cargo de la administración. Mientras tanto, se le animó a obtener su certificación en administración en la Universidad Texas Women's para estar preparada para aceptar una posición como directora en la Escuela Santo Rosario en San Antonio en 1980. Bajo su liderazgo la escuela que estaba al borde del colapso, físicamente y financieramente, fue restaurado y se convirtió en la primera escuela en la archidiócesis a tener un laboratorio de computación. ¡Y era hora de seguir adelante!

La demanda de Hermanas en la administración de las escuelas católicas aumentó al mismo tiempo que disminuía el número de mujeres religiosas que servían como maestras. La Hermana Elizabeth Anne aceptó posiciones desafiantes como directora y eventualmente liderazgo a nivel diocesano. "Siempre he sido orientada por nuestras hermanas y me animaron a prepararme para la administración", recordó. En 1996 el Obispo Ochoa contrató a la Hermana Elizabeth como Superintendente de Escuelas Católicas para la Diócesis de El Paso. En su segundo año también aceptó la responsabilidad de las escuelas de la diócesis de San Angelo.

Durante sus veintiún años de servicio a nivel diocesano, la Hermana ha visto abrir y cerrar varias escuelas. Aprecia la manera en que los carismas y valores particulares de las congregaciones fundadoras impregnan las instituciones que han patrocinado: Hermanos Franciscanos, Hermanas de Loretto, Hermanos de las Escuelas Cristianas, Hermanas del Verbo Encarnado y el Padre Yermo. En las escuelas de la Diócesis de El Paso actualmente sólo hay nueve hermanas religiosas y tres hermanos religiosos en puestos docentes o administrativos. La hermana Elizabeth Anne cree firmemente en la importancia de educar y formar a los maestros laicos para que sigan la tradición de la educación católica.

Ella ha trabajado para construir el fondo de becas para que la asistencia de matrícula esté disponible para aquellos que desean una educación católica, pero no pueden pagarla. Además, ha trabajado para establecer un fondo para hacer los salarios de los maestros más equitativos en las escuelas a través de la diócesis.

Ahora esta Hermana Escolar de Notre Dame, profesada de cincuenta y tres años, va a tomar un año sabático. Espera tener tiempo para leer, rezar, visitar a su familia y jugar al golf. Ella estará escuchando las siguientes direcciones del Espíritu, pero ella espera permanecer en el área de El Paso. Una profesora de corazón, tal vez se va a sustituir en un salón de vez en cuando. "¡El reto es educar y formar nuestros católicos- punto!", dijo la hermana Elizabeth con su tono habitual de realidad. Ese reto expresa la descripción de la misión de las Hermanas Escolares de Notre Dame: ¡Transformar el mundo a través de la educación! Es una misión que la Hermana Elizabeth Anne ha abrazado verdaderamente.

LA RENOVACIÓN CARISMÁTICA CATOLICA DE EL PASO CELEBRA EL JUBILEO DE ORO, 23-24 DE JUNIO

La Renovación Carismática Católica en la diócesis de El Paso invita a todos a celebrar el Jubileo de Oro de este movimiento mundial, comenzando el viernes, 23 de junio, a las 7 PM en el Centro Las Alas, 501 E. Paisano. La reunión continúa el sábado, 24 de junio, comenzando a las 9 AM. El programa bilingüe incluye, predicación, alabanzas, oración, testimonios, y servicio

de sanación. La misa de clausura será a las 6 PM. Para aquellos que no están familiarizados con la espiritualidad carismática, esta es una oportunidad para conocerla, experimentar el gozo en la alabanza, la manifestación de los dones del Espíritu Santo y escuchar testimonios de personas involucradas en la renovación durante muchos años, incluyendo Hmna. Linda Koontz y

otros que trabajaron con el Padre Rick Thomas y en su ministerio en Cd. Juárez y con su grupo de oración de Our Lady's Youth Center. Invitada especial es la Hna. Magdalena Casas-Nava de la orden carismática franciscana "Discípulas del Señor Jesucristo" de la diócesis de Amarillo, TX. Los primeros pioneros locales compartirán la historia de la renovación. Participarán en la alabanza

el ministerio de música "Carillo Family and the Disciples. Entrada libre. Se recogerá ofrenda de amor para sufragar los gastos. Habrá venta de comida viernes y sábado.



Fr. Thomas, SJ

LA COMUNIDAD CARISMÁTICA CATÓLICA OPEN ARMS CELEBRA SU 45 ANIVERSARIO JUNIO 25

Su boletín informativo dice: "Alabando al Señor juntos desde 1972". Una reunión de festejo está prevista para el domingo, 25 de junio, de 2 a 6 pm en 8210 North Loop Dr. ¡Venga, el evento no es solo para esta comunidad de Open Arms sino esta abierta a todos para convivir y conocernos mejor! Alabemos juntos al Señor con cantos de júbilo y con oración! Habrá tiempo para compartir testimonios de experiencias vividas en la renovación.

A los que puedan, se les pide traer platillo para compartir

Historia breve: En la Fiesta del Sagrado Corazón en junio de 1972, se reunió por primera vez un pequeño grupo de oración en una casa. Pronto creció en número. En 1973 se

trasladaron al Monasterio de Corpus Christi en la calle Mockingbird a invitación de las Hermanas Adoratrices. Para 1974 se necesitaba un lugar más grande. El párroco de Monte Carmelo abrió sus puertas y durante trece años de reuniones semanales de oración en ese lugar, cientos de personas fueron introducidas a la Renovación Carismática. En 1993 la comunidad, por bendición de Dios, adquirió el viejo salón de baile Felipe Duran en la calle North Loop. Además de dos asambleas de oración semanales, una en inglés, otra en español y retiros de formación, se desarrolló un gran ministerio de comida y ropa para los necesitados. Para más información: www.openarmscommunity.org; Openarmselpaso@gmail.com; 915-595-0589



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A COLLEGE GRADUATION AND THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A PRIEST

By: Fr. Mariano Lopez, Director-Vocations Office

I once asked the children at a Catholic school mass for vocations if they thought I was born a priest, or if they imagined that I fell from the sky and arrived to this earth as a priest. There were a few who raised their hands in affirmation. While many of the others who were there laughed and apparently knew this was not true, we often do not stop to think about this reality. Subconsciously, we forget that God's work is a gradual process. It is not instant or expedited. It takes constant labor, dedication, and love.

On the 13th of May, I visited our seminarians at Conception Seminary College in Conception, Missouri for their graduation. Cesar, Peter, and Sergio are the three El Paso seminarians who studied there for the past years. Each of these seminarians arrived with the desire to be a priest and were somewhat scared by the process when they realized that it would take from eight to nine years on average. Sergio,

from Chihuahua, had the task of learning English before he could engage in the necessary studies. Peter and Cesar are from El Paso and were raised speaking English and Spanish, yet they had challenges of their own that they needed to overcome. Our three students arrived at Saint Charles Seminary in El Paso when they first began their seminary process with Fr. Miguel Angel Sanchez. At Saint Charles, they began to enter the discipline of seminary life and to take some preliminary courses for their future studies in philosophy, until the diocese made the commitment of sending them to study philosophy at Conception. They desire to become priests for El Paso.

The United States Catholic Bishops, in their program for Priestly Formation, require that seminarians obtain a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy, or the equivalent, before engaging in five years of theological studies at the Master's level. Cesar, Peter, and Sergio celebrated that they completed this requirement

and are now ready to continue on their journey. The process has been one in which they have studied with dedication, but also one in which they have been attentive to God's calling. They continue to perceive that this calling is to love Him and give themselves to Him and His people as priests of El Paso in the future. We pray that as the Church of El Paso we can help them to persevere in this desire to respond to God's initiative faithfully.

In the meantime, the Lord continues to call others to engage on this journey. We celebrate that seven of our seminarians completed their first year of introductory formation at Saint Charles Seminary. Like Cesar, Peter and Sergio, they will face several more years of studies in Philosophy and then



Cesar Garcia and his mom, Claudia Garcia, (to the left) with Fr. Mariano Lopez and friends from Our Lady of Assumption Parish during the celebrations leading to graduation.



Peter Venegas, Sergio Legarreta and Cesar Garcia (from left to right), celebrate their graduation from Philosophical Studies at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Conception, Missouri.

Theology, and they too will arrive at milestones on their journey. In addition, several others continue to seek guidance and support from our Vocation Office as they feel moved to initiate this journey of discernment and formation by becoming seminarians. The Diocesan Admissions Committee prays and discerns that they can accurately assess the candidates in order to make a recommendation to Bishop Mark in regards to their eligibility to begin a slow and meticulous

process of becoming like Christ the Shepherd. The Lord is slowly and gradually answering our prayers and Saint Charles Seminary and the Vocation Office are at a privileged place to see God's providence at work. Slowly, but surely, he is providing us with shepherds after his own heart!

UNA GRADUACIÓN UNIVERSITARIA Y EL PROCESO DE CONVERTIRSE EN SACERDOTE

Por: Padre Mariano Lopez, Director-Oficina de Vocaciones

Una vez en misa, le pregunte a los niños de una escuela católica si se imaginaban que yo nací como sacerdote, o si pensaban que caí del cielo y llegue a la tierra como sacerdote. Hubo algunos que respondieron que sí. Otros se rieron y parecían saber que no era el caso, pero en realidad no nos detenemos frecuentemente para pensar en esta realidad. Subconscientemente, se nos olvida que Dios trabaja gradualmente. No trabaja instantáneamente ni inmediatamente. Su obra requiere de trabajo, dedicación y amor.

El 13 de mayo, visité a nuestros seminaristas en el Seminario de Concepción en Concepción, Missouri para su graduación. Cesar, Peter, y Sergio son los tres seminaristas de El Paso que estudiaron allí durante los últimos años. Cada seminarista llegó con deseos de ser sacerdote y algo temerosos por el proceso cuando se dieron cuenta que

duraría de ocho a nueve años. Sergio, de Chihuahua, tuvo la tarea de aprender inglés antes de comenzar los estudios requeridos. Peter y Cesar son de El Paso y crecieron hablando inglés y español, pero hubo otros retos que tuvieron que sobrellevar. Nuestros tres estudiantes llegaron al Seminario San Carlos en El Paso y comenzaron su proceso de formación con el Padre Miguel Ángel Sánchez. En San Carlos, ellos comenzaron a conocer la disciplina de lo que es vivir en seminario y a tomar cursos preliminares para sus futuros estudios en filosofía, hasta que la diócesis aceptó el compromiso de enviarlos a estudiar filosofía en Concepción. Ellos quieren ser sacerdotes para El Paso.

En su programa de formación sacerdotal, los Obispos de Estados Unidos requieren que los seminaristas obtengan una Licenciatura en Filosofía, o el equivalente, antes

de entrar a cinco años de formación teológica al nivel maestría. Cesar, Peter y Sergio celebraron que cumplieron con este requisito y ahora siguen con el resto de la jornada. El proceso ha sido uno donde han estudiado con dedicación, pero también donde han sido atentos al llamado de Dios. Ellos continúan percibiendo el llamado a amar a Dios y darse a Él y a su pueblo como sacerdotes para El Paso en el futuro. Oramos que como Iglesia de El Paso podamos ayudarles a perseverar en su deseo de responder fielmente a esta iniciativa divina.

En el transcurso, el Señor sigue llamando a otros a tomar esta jornada. Celebramos que siete seminaristas de San Carlos han terminado su primer año de introductorio en el Seminario San Carlos. Al igual que Cesar, Sergio y Peter, ellos seguirán con estudios Filosóficos y después Teológicos, y ellos también llegarán a las diferentes



Peter Venegas, Sergio Legarreta and Cesar Garcia (from left to right), celebrate their graduation from Philosophical Studies at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Conception, Missouri.

metas de la jornada. Más aun, varios continúan buscando guía y acompañamiento de parte de la Oficina de Vocaciones al sentir el deseo de convertirse en seminaristas. El Comité Diocesano de Admisiones ora y discierne que pueda adecuadamente evaluar a los candidatos para hacer una recomendación al obispo en referencia a su idoneidad para comenzar un proceso

meticuloso y lento con el fin transformarse cada vez más en la imagen de Cristo el Pastor. El Señor responde a nuestras oraciones lentamente y gradualmente y el Seminario San Carlos y la Oficina de Vocaciones están en un lugar privilegiado para ver esta obra en desarrollo. ¡Lentamente, pero constantemente, Él nos está proporcionando con pastores según su corazón!

Seminarian Summer Assignments

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Ivan Montelongo, Michael Lewis, Christus Alapini, Victorino Loresca, Miguel Perez, German Alzate and Angel Valdez.

Summer Spirituality Institute for Priestly Formation in Omaha Nebraska:

Sergio Legarreta, Cesar Garcia, Wilbert Colas, Peter Venegas and Alfonso Coronado

Parish Assignments:

Francisco Enriquez- Corpus Christi Parish
Edrout Jean-West Texas Catholic Communities
Jose William Arevalo- West Texas Catholic Communities
Martin Munoz-Catechetical Center (Residence at Saint Patrick Cathedral)
Angel Tarango- Saint Paul Parish
Luis Rodarte- Saint Patrick Cathedral
Sam Anchondo- San Antonio Parish

ENSEÑOREADO EL “SINSENTIDO”

Vivimos tiempos de agitación, el nerviosismo y el estrés. Tiempos en el que el padre de la mentira a inficionado las inteligencias de los hombres y mujeres, haciéndoles llamar al bien mal y al mal bien, dando luz por oscuridad y oscuridad por luz, sembrando en sus conciencia la duda y el escepticismo que agotan en ellas todo brote de esperanza en un horizonte de plenitud que el mundo con sus alagos no sabe ni puede dar.

Los resultados de tan diabólica empresa o actividad son evidentes: Enseñoreado el “sinsentido” y la pérdida de análisis y transcendencia de tantos hombres y mujeres, no solo han olvidado, sino que han extraviado el camino, porque antes olvidaron el Camino. Guerras, violencias de todo género, cerrazón y egoísmo ante la vida: Anticoncepción, abortos, eutanasia, odios raciales, apatías e intolerancia... Familias rotas, juventudes “desnortada” y una sociedad polarizada y en la incertidumbre. Constituyen la gran mentira sobre la que se asienta buena parte del triste andamiaje de la sociedad del tan cacareado

“progreso”. En medio de todo este penumbroso panorama, Jesucristo, Príncipe de la Paz, repite a los hombres de buena voluntad con su infinita mansedumbre: “No se turbe sus corazones. Creen en Dios y Creen también en mí” (Jn. 14,1). Nosotros los cristianos sabemos el Camino que nos lleva a Jesús. Ya sabemos dónde encontrarlo, que hacer para empezar esta Vida Nueva, pero debemos decidirnos. Dejemos de sustitutos del Verdadero Mesías, dejemos de auto engañarnos y engañar a otros, transmitiendo irresponsablemente nuestras dudas, incertidumbre y apatía espiritual. No perdamos el tiempo y nuestra vida en vanas divagaciones.

Un hombre sin ideas claras, es un hombre desorientado, es un hombre sin ruta o al menos es un hombre que sigue una ruta que no termina en una meta, sino que sigue caminos y caminos que se chocan y se entrecruzan pero no conducen a un fin, parece que viviera en un laberinto. La idea es la madre de la acción; a ideas claras seguirán acciones definidas

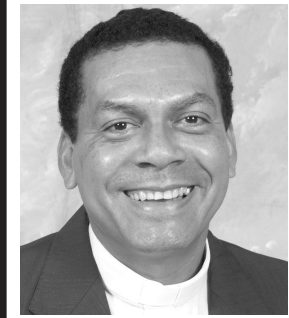
y con orientación hacia su objetivo bien conocido y amorosamente buscado. Dios es la Verdad; cuanto más nos alejamos de Dios, mas nos alejamos de la luz y más nos circundas las tinieblas del error; y por más esfuerzos que hagamos más nos enfrascamos en la oscuridad del error y en la maldad. Y cuando el hombre camina en el error y la maldad, por más que el crea que se halla en la verdad y en el bien, no deja de dirigirse hacia la catástrofe, menos esperada por él. Por eso para llegar a Dios, nada mejor que ir a Él y buscarlo con sincero corazón (Mt. 7,7).

No es la vida la que tiene alicientes. Es el sentido que nosotros le damos a la vida. En este caso cuando la vida no tiene sentido profundo y orientador, cuando nuestras acciones no trasciende el momento, cuando no se da una prospectiva hacia el mas allá, tiene aplicación el dicho popular: “ Para vivir como vives, mejor no morir de viejo “No es pues ni la juventud, ni la salud, ni el dinero lo que puede ser una razón suficiente de nuestro existir; es más bien el sentido que demos

a nuestras acciones y a la vida en general.

Te lamentas a n t e un mundo dividido y enfrentando por los diversos conflictos sociales e ideologías irreconciliables, ambiciones encontradas. Te asquea las mentiras, el cinismo y los manejos turbios, las injusticias, la hipocresía y la tiranía de los “libertadores” Y que haces? Comentarlos en el café, en las reuniones, en la oficina? El mundo seguirá igual. Quizá peor. Al mundo no lo cambian los que critican, sino los que obran en el, los que se esfuerzan en volcar en él su generosidad, su entusiasmo, su entrega, su sacrificio. El idioma de la solidaridad, misericordia y caridad, lo entiende hasta los más ateos e indiferentes. Esto es lo que la gente quiere ver en los cristianos. Empecemos ya...

Pongamos en acción: Lo que vemos, escuchamos y podemos hacer... Dios no nos pide hacer lo imposible, sino el bien posible. Veamos, un hombre caminaba por la playa del mar vio a lo



Vida del Espiritu
por el Padre Wilson Cuevas

lejos una persona que se agachaba y se levantaba, cuando se acerco, vio que era un hombre que estaba regresando los pecados que el mar había arrojado a la playa. Se acerco y le dijo. Mirar que cantidad de peces hay sobre la arena, se van a morir para que pierdes tiempo regresando unos pocos, al fin y al cabo son más lo que se van a morir que los que vas a poder regresar al mar... El otro hombre le dijo: Yo se que son pocos los que voy a salvar pero eso hace una diferencia. A lo que le respondió, halla tu, yo no perdería el tiempo en eso y siguió su camino. Si uniéramos nuestros esfuerzos en causas que parecen imposibles de resolver definitivamente, si podríamos hacer una gran diferencia. Pensemos en el bien que todos los días podemos hacer y dejemos de lamentos y excusas. A

ESO no lo lla mes poder humano, llámale MILAGRO. Y tú tienes ese poder. Amino!

WALKING IN DAD’S FOOTSTEPS

“I have no idea what we’re going to do,” complained our friend. “We used to have fun together but now he doesn’t listen to a word I say except to argue with me.

My husband commiserated with our friend, reassuring him that it would get better.

“Better!” he exclaimed. “We’re at our wits’ end. You have no idea how difficult a teenage boy can be.”

At this, my husband laughed out loud. He hadn’t meant to laugh but he couldn’t help it. “Oh, yes, I do!” he quickly explained. “Many times, right in the middle of the frequent arguments with our son, we had to just walk away to avoid saying something that we’d regret if we continued arguing.”

“But you have a great son,” complained our friend. “He’s nothing like my kid.”

“I agree that our son is terrific,” my husband said, “but he had his fair share

of testing our boundaries and trying to tear down the fences that he felt unfairly restricted his freedom. I had to put my foot down so many times, that I think one leg is shorter than the other from repeated impact with his stubbornness.” Again, he laughed. “Keep trying. You may not think so, but your son is listening. He’s also watching you and learning from everything you do and say.”

“What do you mean?”

“Let me tell you about the first time we met one of our son’s co-workers,” my husband replied. “It was a few years after our son had graduated from college. He was working in Austin and had been promoted to a position in which part of his job was training new employees. We arrived in town earlier than expected and, so, he told us to come by his workplace and pick up the key to his house.

“We walked into the lobby and asked for him. As

he greeted us and handed us the housekey, the person behind the counter quietly asked him if I was the ‘duck guy.’ He chuckled, said yes, and introduced us as his parents. Of course, we were curious but he said he’d explain later.”

“The duck guy?” asked our friend.

“Yes,” my husband smiled, “it seems that during one training session, someone asked a question that wasn’t in the manual. She said she understood that customer service was important, but she had encountered some grumpy customers already and wasn’t sure how to remain positive in such situations.

“My son closed the training manual and said that a wise man had once advised him to ‘Be a duck.’ When they all laughed at him, he explained. ‘We cannot control what others do or sometimes even what happens to us, but we can control how we choose to react to various situations, deciding which things to

soak up and which ones to let go. Watch a duck paddling around a lake. Sometimes it rains but the duck just continues to happily paddle around the lake while rain pours down on his head and back. So, when troubles rain down on us, we should be a duck and let angry words or problems just slide off our back while we keep doing our best to get where we want to be.”

“Okay, I get that you gave your son that advice,” our friend said, “but I don’t understand how that helps me with my son.”

“Actually,” my husband continued, “I never gave him that advice. He said it was something he heard me say one time when he was in high school and my wife and I were talking about problems we were having with some difficult people. I was amazed and humbled that he had not only listened but remembered. In



Sidewalk Jesus
by Janet M. Crowe

fact, he said that he quite often uses pieces of my advice, particularly from those teen years when we thought he wasn’t even hearing us or taking any of our guidance to heart. So, your son won’t show it now, but he is watching, listening, and learning from everything you say and do. Just keep trying. Also, remember how much you love him.”

Happy Father’s Day to all the Dads who guide their children in the right path by walking beside them and encouraging them in all they do. Dads like you reflect our Heavenly Father’s love for us in everything you say and do for your family.



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May 11, 2017
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SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

The Diocese of El Paso is growing and expanding. We are blessed with an abundance of upcoming events and expanding ministries which we want to share with you.

- The Diocese of El Paso now has a radio station - The Bridge – which you can listen to at 1150 AM. Start listening today to hear music, prayer, Catholic programming and to learn about upcoming events.
- We have been praying for new seminarians and our prayers have been answered! The Diocese anticipates as many as 30 seminarians in formation this fall. On Friday, May 26, Bishop Seitz will ordain Deacon Cong Vo to the priesthood and two seminarians – Germán Alzate and Victorino Loresca – will be ordained as deacons, one of the final steps toward becoming a priest.
- The Diocese will be launching a parish app that will allow you to receive updated information on your smartphone about your parish,

Mass times, and upcoming events. Through the app, you will receive messages from your priest, link to the radio station and The Rio Grande Catholic newspaper, and follow Bishop Seitz’s blog.

- The Religious Formation Ministry has opened a Youth Formation Center at Holy Family Church near UTEP. Centro San Juan Diego will provide for the catechesis, leadership formation, and evangelization of middle school and high school youth.

The Diocese of El Paso covers 10 counties and serves thousands of families. One of the main ways that the Diocese of El Paso is able to reach out to families is through the Bishop’s Annual Appeal. Progress funds 17 ministries, including the ministries mentioned above. If you have not made your donation this year to the Progress Appeal, we ask that you please do so by visiting www.progress2017.org or calling the Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso at (915) 872-8412.

COMPARTE LAS BUENAS NOTICIAS

La Diócesis de El Paso está creciendo y expandiéndose. Estamos siendo bendecidos con una abundancia de próximos eventos y ministerios en expansión y de los cuales queremos compartirles

- Diócesis de El Paso ahora tiene una estación de radio – “El Puente” – la cual usted puede escuchar en el 1150 AM. Comience a escuchar música, oraciones, programación católica y sobre los próximos eventos.
- ¡Hemos estado orando para tener nuevos seminaristas y nuestras oraciones han sido contestadas! La Diócesis anticipa llegar a tener hasta 30 seminaristas en formación este otoño. El viernes 26 de mayo, el Señor Obispo Seitz ordenará al diácono CongVo al sacerdocio y a dos seminaristas - Germán Alzate y Victorino Loresca – quienes serán ordenados como diáconos, uno de los pasos finales para convertirse en sacerdote.
- La Diócesis lanzará una aplicación parroquial, la cual le permitirá recibir información actualizada acerca de su parroquia, en su teléfono inteligente, entre otros recibirá horarios de misa y eventos

próximos. A través de la aplicación, recibirá mensajes de su sacerdote, enlace a la estación de radio y el Periódico católico Rio Grande, además de permitirle seguir el blog del Señor Obispo Seitz.

- El Ministerio de Formación Religiosa abrió un Centro de Formación para Jóvenes en la Iglesia de la Sagrada Familia, cerca de UTEP. El Centro San Juan Diego proveerá la catequesis, la formación de liderazgo y la evangelización a los jóvenes de escuela media escuela secundaria.


La Diócesis de El Paso cubre los 10 condados y presta sus servicios a miles de familias. Una de las principales maneras en que la Diócesis de El Paso puede llegar a las familias, es a través de la Campaña Anual del Obispo. Progreso financia a 17 ministerios, incluyendo los ministerios mencionados anteriormente. Si usted no ha hecho su donación este año a la Campaña de Progreso, le pedimos que lo haga hoy, visitando www.progress2017.org o, llamando a la Fundación para la Diócesis de El Paso al (915) 872-8412.

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

La Diócesis ofrece asistencia a las víctimas de abuso sexual

El Obispo Mark J. Seitz invita a cualquier persona que haya sido víctima de abuso sexual por un sacerdote, diácono, religioso o ministro de la iglesia, para que se comuniquen con la Coordinadora de Asistencia a Víctimas, Sra. Susan Martínez, LCSW, al teléfono 872-8465 o con la Cancillería, 872-8407. La Iglesia desea sanar a toda persona que haya sido lastimada.



A TALE OF TWO SEMINARIES

By: Sofia Larkin Appleby, Major Gifts Officer, Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso

During a recent visit to Mundelein Seminary, outside of Chicago, the Associate Academic Dean, Christopher McAtee, a former Mundelein seminarian, sat across from me and the El Paso seminarians and said, “What can these guys do to help you fundraise for seminarian education?” I was taken aback and pleasantly surprised, and our young men listened intently to the answer. “They can make themselves available and connect with people from our diocese during events for seminarians, at gatherings, during internships, visits to churches, and our Pastoral Center, they can sit with guests of the annual Foundation of Faith Dinner so people get to know them; they can prepare for priestly service by simply sharing their experiences and becoming part of our lives.”

It’s a two-way street. In order for me to fundraise for the Diocese and to better raise awareness for main areas of focus and initiatives, like seminarian education, I believe I need to be with the very people I’m serving and helping, rooted in their lives. And that’s how I ended up in my Tale of Two Seminaries.

In January of this year, I had the good fortune of joining guests from dioceses across Texas to celebrate the Scanlan Foundation’s 70th anniversary. I took that opportunity to schedule a visit with our El Paso seminarians Alfonso Coronado and Christus Alapini, 1st and 2nd year Theology students, at St. Mary’s Seminary. I secretly prayed that Cardinal DiNardo would be at the big event, that he would remember me from his visit to El Paso, and joked (sort of) about him inviting me to dinner. Instead I met a great group of local priests—huddled together in the back of the room laughing and having a great time, just like brothers do. We took some pictures and I scored a gracious lunch invitation from my new friend, Fr. John Rooney, the Director of Spiritual Formation at St. Mary’s Seminary. Alfonso greeted me warmly when I arrived at the seminary on a crisp winter afternoon. He’s known for being sociable, kind, and good to everyone. During lunch, we talked about human formation, spiritual formation, the life of a seminarian, the culture of the seminary and the changing Church. I couldn’t let the education stop there and when I asked Fr. Rooney if I could sit in on a scripture class with Christus, he said, “absolutely”.

The class was on the Gospel of John and the professor at the University of St. Thomas School of Theology (on the seminary campus), Dr. Laura Manzo, an ex-cop, was dead serious, articulate, and engaging. The men were all bright and relaxed, had detailed discussions about each word, the historical context of the scripture, the meaning, and where the people in the story came from physically and philosophically, and while I desperately tried to flip through my United States of Catholic Conference Bishops readings and cheat sheets on my phone, they jumped way ahead. It was impressive and my eyes were opened. Alfonso gave me a tour, talked about his classes and their lives there, and talked openly about the challenges of the rigorous academic program, especially for a native Spanish speaker. He showed me the mail room and told me how great it is to receive news from home (so drop our seminarians a line, they will really appreciate it). Christus spoke about his speech and English classes, the fact that he speaks several languages, and how he and Alfonso were discouraged from speaking Spanish socially because they need to practice their English. They are both gifted and will



Alfonso Coronado
in St. Mary’s mail room

make great priests one day. At the end of a very long day and a beautiful Mass celebrated in English and Vietnamese by a newly ordained priest and graduate of St. Mary’s, all of the men from the seminary, along with their rector and visitors from the community, gathered to celebrate the Chinese New Year. It was time for everyone to come together, to eat delicious food prepared with love, to drink a little sake and to just let loose for a brief moment. The life of a seminarian is a disciplined, structured existence. The life of a Catholic seminarian includes daily Mass, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, regular conferences, days of recollection, apostolic work, classes, prayer, meditation, and devotions, as well as a lot of study time—it takes 9 years to become a priest.

This May, I hopped in a little blue rental car and drove from Chicago to Mundelein, Illinois, where I was greeted by Iván Montelongo, a 2nd year Theology student, Germán Alzate, a 3rd year Theology student who will be ordained to the priesthood in 2018, and Angel Tarango, a Pre-Theology student. 2nd year Theology student Michael Lewis was in El Paso on an internship. At the entrance of Mundelein Seminary is a sign that says, “University of St. Mary of the Lake”. As you drive in along a beautiful path surrounded by trees and cross several bridges, you encounter a serene lake and an incredible villa built for Cardinal Mundelein. As part of the work study program, Iván cleans the villa where Cardinal Cupich now stays. The institution became known throughout the world in 1926 as a site for the International Eucharistic Congress. Iván and Michael are trying to determine, through studies made possible through the Canary Grant they were awarded in 2016, if San Pedro de Jesús Maldonado visited Mundelein during the Congress. We headed out to dinner and I could see that the seminarians had something they wanted to ask me. Eventually one of them said, “Why are you here? Do you have a conference, a meeting?” I said, “I’m here to see you!” As was the case at St. Mary’s, the seminarians were full of gratitude for the visit and incredibly generous with their time. Iván was done with finals and able to give me a complete tour. He did so with great pride and provided a tremendous amount of detail. I was impressed with how much the seminarians knew like why Cardinal Mundelein founded this particular seminary, why he chose the architecture—Cardinal Mundelein thought that a beautiful soul is shaped in beautiful surroundings—and how it is laid out symmetrically. They talked about the Column of the Immaculate Conception and the great story behind it (About the 19th Century column in Rome, Cardinal Mundelein told the powers that be, “I want it for my new seminary.” Rome said no. So he built the identical statue, only one foot taller), and what was the significance of the

seven steps leading up to the high altar in the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. They showed me their dorms, living,



German Alzate, Iván Montelongo &
Angel Tarango at St. Mary’s

and recreation areas to get a real sense of seminary life, introduced me to every staff and faculty member, and friend we encountered, talked about medieval philosophy finals the details of the paper on Isaiah, invited me to Mass, included me in every meal (it was great to hear someone exclaim at breakfast, “It’s Thursday, we get bacon!”), and like my own children, they began to sigh heavily when I asked for just one more picture. I could not leave Mundelein without meeting Seminary Rector Fr. John Kartje (Germán tried hard to teach me how to pronounce his name but to no avail). Fr. John has a B.A. in Mathematics, a B.S. in Physics, and a Ph.D. in Astrophysics from the University of Chicago; M.Div (Master of Divinity), S.T.B. (Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology Degree) from the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary; and S.T.L. (Licentiate in Sacred Theology), S.T.D. ((Doctor of Sacred Theology) from the Catholic University of America. Last month he presented a lecture on Faith and Science at the Adler Planetarium. He told me I could

call him any time to learn more about the seminary and said he looks forward to coming to El Paso, hopefully next year for the priestly ordination of Germán Alzate.

When you have the opportunity, visit the seminaries where the men who will be incardinated for the Diocese of El Paso study. We have seminarians in our introductory phase at Saint Charles Seminary in El Paso and seminarians at different levels of formation in the areas of philosophy and theology at Assumption Oblate Seminary (San Antonio), Mundelein Seminary (Illinois), St. Mary’s Seminary (Houston), and Sacred Heart Seminary (Milwaukee). Most of all, pray for our men in formation and for more vocations.

May the Holy Spirit fill newly ordained Fr. Cong Vo, a graduate of Assumption Seminary, with grace as he starts his priestly service to the people of God as the Parochial Vicar at St. Raphael Parish on June 15.

There are 22 men in priestly formation, a 100% increase from 2008, and we expect up to 14 more men in the fall. The average cost to educate a priest is \$35,000 annually and it takes 9 years to become a priest.

We are grateful for our priests who benefit our lives with the pastoral and professional work they provide—baptisms, weddings, last rites, confession, celebrating Mass, spiritual direction, counseling and so much more. Our need for well-trained, highly educated priests is great, and the responsibility of providing priests for the Diocese of El Paso, both spirituality and financially, belongs to all of us. “The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few.” – Matthew 9:37

To give to the Seminarian Education Endowment Fund or for more information about our seminarians and upcoming events, like Bowling for Seminarians on Friday, August 4, visit pray4priests.org. To learn more about seminarian education and vocations to the priesthood, contact Fr. Mariano H. López, Rector of St. Charles Seminary at the Vocations Office at 915.872.8460 or mlopez@elpasodiocese.org. You can reach Major Gifts Officer Sofia Larkin Appleby at 915.872.8412 or slappleby@elpasodiocese.org. The Foundation for the Diocese of El Paso is located at 499 St. Matthews Street and office hours are Monday – Friday, 9-12, 1-5, and by appointment.



Christus Alapini, Alfonso Coronado
and Fellow Seminarian

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