

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be celebrated for the last time this Friday. Stations begin at 6pm, followed by our PENANCE SERVICE. (See below.)

St. Mary's School pray the LIVING

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Holy Week, on Tuesday, April 4, at 9am, in the Church. You are most welcome to come and pray with the students.

Here is a local Lenten Penance Service which all may attend:

✧ Tuesday / Martes, March 28, at Holy Rosary.

There will be a  
Parish Penance  
Service on Friday,  
March 31,  
following the  
Stations of the Cross  
(at approximately 6:45pm).



There will be opportunity to go to individual confession to a priest at this Service.

Please note that **AFTER MARCH 31**, Fr. Steve and Fr. Rob will not be hearing confessions at normal confession times until **AFTER Easter**.

So, please take advantage of the Penance Service on Friday, March 31, if you wish to go to confession before Easter.

Find our Holy Week schedule on Page 3.

#### OUR PASTORAL TEAM

- ✧ Fr. Steve Rosera, Parish Administrator;
- ✧ Fr. Robert Bustamante, Parochial Vicar;
- ✧ Deacon Don Roseborough, Baptisms, Bereavement, Funerals, and Homebound Ministry;
- ✧ Deacon George Sandoval, Ph.D., Retired;
- ✧ Mrs. Rebecca Maestas-Sanchez, Principal of St. Mary's School;
- ✧ Sr. Teresa Aparicio, OLVN, and Debbie Garcia, Co-Coordination of Faith Formation;
- ✧ Ms. Michelle Rusk, Social Media Director; and
- ✧ Ms. Dianne Dragoo, Jesuit Volunteers Liaison.

THE PARISH OFFICE is open:

Monday—Friday: 9am to 4pm.

Parish Office: (505) 247-4271 ~ Website: [iccabq.org](http://iccabq.org)

#### MASS SCHEDULE:

- ✧ Monday, Wednesday, & Friday—12:10pm
- ✧ Tuesday, Thursday, & Saturday —7am
- ✧ First Friday of each month—7am and 12:10pm
- ✧ SUNDAY LITURGIES:
  - ❖ Saturday—4pm;
  - ❖ Sunday—8am, 10am, and 12:30pm (SPANISH).

#### CONFESSIONS:

- ❖ Fridays and Saturdays from 11am to 12noon; and
- ❖ By appointment. Call (505) 247-4271 to make an appointment.

#### UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTION:

- ✧ March 25 & 26: Renovation Fund
- ✧ April 1 & 2: St. Mary's School

Online Giving  
is available at  
[ICCABQ.org](http://ICCABQ.org)

Pray with the Pope for his intention each month:

APRIL ~ FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE:

We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

[Download Small Group Reflection \(PDF\)](#)



**Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network**  
UNITED STATES | CANADA APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER



Immaculate Conceptions Council 15788 is having a membership drive.

You can join for free through June 30, 2023.

Online, go to [KofC.org/joinus](http://KofC.org/joinus) or scan the code above with your phone camera and enter Council 15788 when you fill out the information. The code is **BLESSEDMCGIVENY**.



**It's Spring, remember what Pope John XXIII said....** Catholics are not meant to be museum keepers, but rather gardeners whose responsibility it is to prepare a beautiful harvest for a glorious future!

## Next Sunday's Readings



Palm Sunday  
of the Lord's Passion  
Sunday, April 2, 2023

### [This Sunday's Reading](#)

#### GOSPEL AT THE PROCESSION WITH PALMS:

*Matthew 21: 1-11*; Jesus enters Jerusalem as the crowd waves palm branches and shouts, "Hosanna!"

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 50: 4-7

The Lord's Servant will stand firm, even when persecuted.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 22: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24

A cry for help to the Lord in the face of evildoers

SECOND READING: Philippians 2: 6-11; Christ was obedient even to death, and God has exalted him.

#### GOSPEL READING: Matthew 26: 14—27: 66

Jesus is crucified, and his body is placed in the tomb.

BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING: Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In communities that celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with catechumens, these liturgies take on special importance because they invite the catechumens and the community to enter together into the central mysteries of our faith. These days are indeed profound and holy.

In Cycle A, we read the Passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Matthew on Palm, or Passion, Sunday. (On Good Friday, we will read the Passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John). The story of Jesus' Passion and death in Matthew's Gospel focuses particularly on the obedience of Jesus to the will of his Father. As Jesus sends his disciples to prepare for Passover, he indicates that the events to come are the will of the Father (Matthew 26:18). In Jesus' prayer in the garden, he prays three times to the Father to take away the cup of suffering, but each time, Jesus concludes by affirming his obedience to the Father's will (Matthew 26:39-44). Even Matthew's description of Jesus' death shows Jesus' obedience to the Father.

Another theme of Matthew's Gospel is to show Jesus as the fulfillment of Scripture.

~~ Continued on Page 7.

Mass Intentions	
Saturday, March 25, Vigil of the <a href="#">Fifth Sunday of Lent</a>	
4 pm	+ Richard James Callahan + Logie Perea & Suzanne Ulibarri + Dennis & Kenneth Perea
Sunday, March 26, <a href="#">Fifth Sunday of Lent</a>	
8 am	+ Marie S. & Louis G. Romero
10 am	For the People of Our Parish Community
12:30 pm Spanish	+ Rumualdo & Isabel Duarte + Blanca Duarte
Monday, March 27, <a href="#">Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent</a>	
12:10 pm	For the intentions of Liz, Lisa & Michelle Garcia For the intentions of Gino & Matthew Garcia + Heather Garcia
Tuesday, March 28, <a href="#">Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent</a>	
7 am	+ Robert Mendoza + Isaac Brown ~ Anniversary
Wednesday, March 29, <a href="#">Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent</a>	
12:10 pm	+ Father Rob Sullivan, SJ
Thursday, March 30, <a href="#">Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent</a>	
7 am	For the Intentions of the Victims of Sexual Abuse
Friday, March 31, <a href="#">Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent</a>	
12:10 pm	+ James Martin Leyba + Phillip Audencio Sr. ~ Anniversary
Saturday, April 1, <a href="#">Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent</a>	
7 am	For the Intentions of Those Seeking Employment
Saturday, April 1, Vigil of the <a href="#">Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion</a>	
4 pm	For the Healing of Mary & Dave Spear + John Gallegos
Sunday, April 2, <a href="#">Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion</a>	
8 am	+ Marie S. & Louis G. Romero
10 am	For Our Parish Community
12:30 pm Spanish	For Our Parish Community

**During Lent ~ PRAY ✕ FAST ✕ GIVE ✕ LEARN**



## Upcoming Events

### Holy Week Schedule



AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

- ✧ **Solemnity of the Lord's Passion (Palm Sunday)**, April 2, regular Sunday Schedule: Saturday 4pm (in English), Sunday 8am (in English), 10am (in English), 12:30pm (in Spanish).
- ✧ On Monday: regular weekday Mass at 12:10pm.
- ✧ On Tuesday: regular weekday Mass at 7am.
- ✧ On Wednesday: regular weekday Mass at 12:10pm.
- ✧ **Holy Thursday**, April 6, 7pm: Traditional Holy Thursday Liturgy, with Adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament until 12am (midnight). There is no daily Mass
- ✧ **Good Friday**, April 7, 3pm: Good Friday Service with Communion, Veneration of the Cross, and a Solemn Reading of the Passion of the Lord. There is no daily Mass or First Friday Devotions.
- ✧ **Holy Saturday**, April 8, 8pm, Solemn Easter Vigil, with the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation (baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist). There is no 4pm Mass on Holy Saturday.
- ✧ **Easter Sunday**, April 9: 8am (in English), 10am (.in English), 12:30pm (in Spanish). Blessing of the Easter Baskets: Youngsters and the young at heart are invited to bring their Easter baskets to be blessed at all of the Easter Masses.



### VOCATIONS TO RELIGIOUS LIFE

Keep all young people discerning religious life and priesthood in your prayers!

MONTHLY LUNCHEON  
Thursday, April 20



Members of the parish meet for lunch once a month ~ that's Thursday, April 20, this month. We meet at the Sawmill Market (1909 Bellamah Ave NW). We try to meet in the center of the building around 11:30am. Come join us. All are welcome. It's fun and the food is good -- you can choose from many restaurants.

### ICC PARISH RECEPTIONIST POSITION:

Fr. Steve is looking for a person interested in working at Immaculate Conception Parish as a receptionist. The hours are Monday thru Friday, from 8:30am until 12:30pm. There is the possibility down the road to move to full time.

In addition to answering the phone and taking care of parishioners who come to the Office, the receptionist also posts contributions into the various accounts for tracking purposes, and also records Mass requests, and other "tasks as needed."

If interested, or if you know of a family member, friend or neighbor who might be interested, please ask them email Fr. Steve (srosera@iccabq.org) as soon as possible.



### BECOME A VOLUNTEER - MAKE A DIFFERENCE



### PILGRIMAGE TO THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE ON HER FEAST DAY.

Saturday, December 9 through Saturday, December 16, 2023. Join the thousands who honor Our Lady with their devotions, prayers and dances on December 12. Also visit the colonial cities of Puebla, Guanajuato, San Miguel de Allende, Queretaro, etc. Spiritual directors: Frs. Nathan Libaire and Juan Mendez. \$2,699.00 per person, double occupancy. Limited spaces available. Sign up by May 1 for \$200.00 off. For more information and booking: Holy Land Travel Center 866-339-3323 or [info@holylandtc.com](mailto:info@holylandtc.com)



### GET HELP IN VIOLENT SITUATIONS

The ALBUQUERQUE FAMILY ADVOCACY CENTER provides victims of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault and their families with a safe setting to assist in addressing and overcoming the trauma of their experience and break the cycle of violence that destroys families.

The Center is open 8am to 5pm weekdays.

Staff can be reached 24 hours a day at 505-243-3333.

The website is [www.cabq.gov/albuquerque-family-advocacy-center](http://www.cabq.gov/albuquerque-family-advocacy-center) and it lists many more resources.



**Dial 988: Help & Hope in New Mexico**  
**The 24/7 Lifeline for Emotional, Mental, or Substance Misuse Support**

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 13—MARCH 19, 2023:

**INCOME INCLUDING ONLINE GIVING**

Weekly Collection	\$ 9,358.50
St. Mary's School	130.00
Rejuvenation Fund	676.00
St. Vincent de Paul Society	761.00
Bread & Blessings	565.00
Francis House and Trinity House	120.00
Special Collections	11.00
Office, Candles, ACA, CRS, Flowers	2,655.90
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 14,252.40</b>

**EXPENSES**

Liturgy and Worship	\$ 2,100.40
Religious Education	1,786.12
Ministries	00.00
School Support	3,666.67
Clergy Administration	365.48
Parish Administration	1,892.10
<u>Building and Land Operations:</u>	<u>5,305.71</u>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 15,116.48</b>

**Correction to Last Week's Expenses Report.** Last week's report of Expenses was off by quite a bit. It reported that we had \$28,844.41 in expenses. We had only \$6,189.98 in expenses for March 6 to 12.

Expenses:	Incorrect	Correct
03.06—03.12		
Liturgy and Worship	2,164.74	0.00
Religious Education	3,091.14	28.48
Ministries	0.00	0.00
Schools Support	0.00	0.00
Clergy Administration	6,270.78	-222.07
Parish Administration	12,993.88	2,024.71
Buildings & Land Operations	0.00	4,358.86
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>28,844.41</b>	<b>6,189.98</b>

Office Depot contributes 5% of your purchase to a local school of your choice whenever you shop with them.

St. Mary's' School ID with Office Depot is 70068725.

**Office DEPOT**  
**OfficeMax®**



## Math Baseball

Rooted in over 20 years of tradition, St. Mary's School hosted the annual Math World Series Baseball. There is no better way to learn math facts than at "the old ball game."

The junior-kindergartners through 8<sup>th</sup> grade competed together on three different teams. As a "player" came up to bat they were

flashed a math fact/problem appropriate for their grade level.

Our special guests included Orbit from the Isotopes as well as our own Cougar mascot and cheerleaders. "For its root, root, root for the home team...." So much fun and smiles everywhere!

~~Carol Johansen,  
Teacher & Parishioner



**MISSION STATEMENT:** Saint Mary's Catholic School, a dual language community, embraces the Gospel message by enriching the world through Catholic teachings, academic excellence, Christian leadership and service.





## Volunteer Opportunities



GIFT BEARERS are needed for weekend Masses to carry the bread and wine to the Presider during the Preparation of the Gifts. Gift Bearers can be couples, families, or individuals. Talk to an usher before Mass to see if you are needed. If you have questions, contact Erne Woodley at 505-340-5292.

### Francis House Catholic

**Worker** is in need of REGULAR VOLUNTEERS AND SUBS whom we



can call when our regulars can't come. Please, please consider being a regular or a sub or an occasional donor to do any of the following:

- ❖ make 60 sandwiches or make a big soup (talk with Linda for details: 505-515-6241);
- ❖ make cookies;
- ❖ bring fresh fruit;
- ❖ package bread, crackers, and other offerings;
- ❖ amend our supply of gloves and beanies;
- ❖ come at 8:30am for a few hours;
- ❖ raid your closet for warm coats, men's belts, gently used shoes, and jeans/sweats;
- ❖ PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN VOLUNTEER; and
- ❖ also: cash or a tax-free donation using the following URL (our expenses have gone up like yours).  
<https://www.osvhub.com/iccabq/giving/funds/francis-house-catholic-worker>

We are grateful as always for your companionship on this journey! Francis House is open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays, 8:30 to 1:30 or until food runs out. It is closed on Wednesdays and Thursdays. It's address is 8016 Zuni SE (storefront) just past Dallas across from Car Wash.

~~Linda ([lbluejay46@yahoo.com](mailto:lbluejay46@yahoo.com))

~~and Glenn ([gmrosendale@gmail.com](mailto:gmrosendale@gmail.com))

### VOLUNTEER PARISH POSITIONS AVAILABLE ~~

#### **Videographers Needed.**

If you are interested in helping to stream, the 10am and 12:30pm Sunday Masses, please let Fr. Steve know by calling the Parish Office at 505-247-4271 or by email at [srosera@iccabq.org](mailto:srosera@iccabq.org).

Streaming the Mass is fairly easy, and most of the setup is already in place. The work involves redirecting the camera during the Mass so that it focuses on the action taking place. This is a volunteer position.



### The 2023 FIESTA PLANNING

COMMITTEE needs various donations to help make our event successful.

If you are able to donate any of the following items, please email Kathleen at [kathleen.j.sandoval@gmail.com](mailto:kathleen.j.sandoval@gmail.com) or take your donations to the Parish Office.



Donations needed:

- ❖ Monetary donations for the purchase of Fiesta supplies;
- ❖ Silent Auction items; and
- ❖ Cakes for the Cake Walk on the day of the Fiesta.

And, of course, we need volunteers to run various games and booths, or for set up and clean up for our Fiesta on Saturday, June 10.

Thank you kindly! Kathleen Sandoval, Coordinator

### ALTAR SERVERS



If you are in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade or older and have made your First Holy Communion and you would like to be an altar server then, **WE NEED YOU!**

*We especially need altar servers at the Saturday 4pm Mass and the Sunday 8am Mass*

Please contact Fr. Steve through the Parish Office or at [srosera@iccabq.org](mailto:srosera@iccabq.org). Thank you.



*St. Benedict Joseph Labre Ministry* serves the homeless and others in need with care packages that you and other parishioners can hand out from your vehicle when you encounter a person asking for money. We ask your help to:

- ❖ Create or provide supplies for the care packages;
- ❖ Make the care packages;
- ❖ Take the care packages with you at the end of your Sunday mass so you may hand them out.

*Commonly needed items are:* Protein bars, Granola, breakfast bars, snack bags of nuts, water cartons (for environmental purposes), toothpaste, toothbrushes, Personal Cleansing Cloths, Woman's personal hygiene products, Chap stick, Socks (for winter), Gloves (for winter), hand lotion, anything that can be placed in a 1-gallon zip lock bag, so long as it is not bulky; and 1-gallon zip lock bags.

For information, call Phyllis Ortiz at 505-231-5902.

~~ Continued from page 2.

Throughout the Passion narrative, Matthew cites and alludes to Scripture to show that the events of Jesus' Passion and death are in accordance with all that was foretold. And if the events were foretold, then God is in control. In addition, Matthew is particularly concerned that the reader does not miss the fact that Jesus is the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament.

Jesus acts in obedience to the Father even in death, so that sins may be forgiven. Matthew makes this clear in the story of the Lord's Supper. As Jesus blesses the chalice, he says: "... for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:28)

While the Gospels of Matthew and Mark have many parallels in their narrative of the Passion, there are a few details worth noting that are unique to Matthew. Only Matthew indicates the price paid to Judas for betraying Jesus. The story of Judas's death is also found only in Matthew, as is the detail that Pilate's wife received a warning in a dream and that Pilate washed his hands of Jesus' death. Finally, Matthew's Gospel alone mentions the earthquakes and other phenomena that happened after Jesus' death.

Matthew places the responsibility for Jesus' death on the Sanhedrin, the chief priests and elders who were responsible for the Temple. However, the animosity that those Jewish leaders and the Jewish people demonstrate toward Jesus is not to be interpreted in ways that blame the Jewish people for Jesus' death. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, the narrative reflects the tension that probably existed between the early Christian community and their Jewish contemporaries. At the Second Vatican Council, the Council Fathers made clear that all sinners share responsibility for the suffering and death of Jesus and that it is wrong to place blame for Jesus' Passion on the Jewish contemporaries of Jesus or on Jewish people today.

There are many vantage points from which to engage in Jesus' Passion. In the characters of Matthew's Gospel, we find reflections of ourselves and the many ways in which we sometimes respond to Jesus. Sometimes we are like Judas, who betrays Jesus and comes to regret it. We are sometimes like Peter, who denies him, or like the disciples, who fell asleep during Jesus' darkest hour but then act rashly and violently at his arrest. Sometimes we are like Simon, who is pressed into service to help Jesus carry his cross.

~~ Continued in next column.

## THE POWER OF SACRIFICE

**Lent can feel like a long time. Sometimes we'd like to skip right to Easter!**

**But through prayer and sacrifices, we share in Christ's suffering and prepare for the joy of his resurrection.**

**This Lent, we've learned how people in Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya made sacrifices so their families and communities can thrive.**

**How have your Lenten sacrifices helped your family and community and communities around the world?**

Visit [crsricebowl.org](https://crsricebowl.org) to learn more.

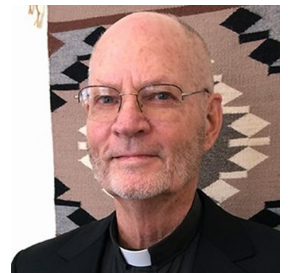


**FOR LENT  
FOR LIFE**

WHAT YOU GIVE  
UP FOR LENT  
CHANGES LIVES.

+ Father Robert L. Sullivan, SJ,  
died Sunday, March 12, 2023,  
in Florissant, Missouri.

He was 86 years old,  
a Jesuit for 68 years  
and a priest for 55 years.



We remember with gratitude all that God has done through Fr. Sullivan's life of service to God and God's people, and especially us here at Immaculate Conception, where he served from 2016 to 2021.

Memorial gifts may be made to the USA Central and Southern Province of the Society of Jesus at 4511 West Pine Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108 or [through this website](#).

~~ Continued from previous column.

Sometimes we are like the leaders who fear Jesus or like Pontius Pilate, who washed his hands of the whole affair. Jesus dies so that our sins will be forgiven.

The events of Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection are called the Paschal Mystery. No amount of study will exhaust or explain the depth of love that Jesus showed in offering this sacrifice for us. After we have examined and studied the stories we have received about these events, we are left with one final task—to meditate on these events and on the forgiveness that Jesus' obedience won for us.

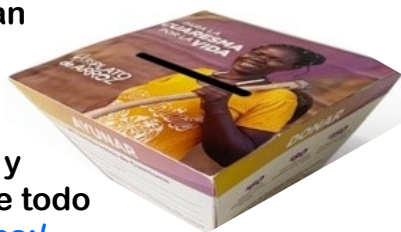
## LA CATEQUESIS

Las clases religiosas se reanudarán el domingo 8 de enero de 2023, de las 11:15-12:15 antes de la misa. Recordatorio que la asistencia a la misa es importante y parte del catecismo

### QUINTA SEMANA DE CUARESMA

#### EL PODER DEL SACRIFICIO

La Cuaresma puede sentirse como un periodo muy largo. Quizás, a veces quisiéramos pasar directamente a la Pascua. Pero mediante la oración y los sacrificios, compartimos el sufrimiento de Cristo y nos preparamos para la alegría de su resurrección. Esta Cuaresma, hemos aprendido cómo la gente en Honduras, Filipinas y Kenia ha hecho sacrificios para que sus familias y comunidades puedan prosperar. ¿Cómo han ayudado tus sacrificios cuaresmales a tu familia y comunidad, y a las comunidades de todo el mundo? Visita <https://crsplatodearroz.org> para saber más.



Las Familias que necesitan información para recibir los Sacramentos de: **Bautismo, Confirmación, Primera Comunión.** O, para otra información favor de llamar a la oficina de la parroquia de los manana: O, llamar Sister Teresa Aparicio at 505-249-2781

AYUDA DISPONIBLE, hable con alguien hoy.  
No está solo.

#### CADENA NACIONAL DE PREVENCIÓN DEL SUICIDIO

Abierta por 24 horas al día en español e inglés.

APRENDA MÁS ~ 988

A partir del 16 de julio, los estadounidenses podrán llamar o enviar mensajes de texto a un nuevo número de teléfono, 988, si sienten que están experimentando una crisis de salud mental y/o corren el riesgo de suicidarse.

Líneas de Crisis en Nuevo México  
1-855-NMCRISIS (1-855-662-7474) [nmcrisisline.com](https://nmcrisisline.com)

## Ongoing Activities

**“What does it mean to lament?”** is this Sunday morning’s discussion topic – **after the 10am Mass**, in the vestibule near the coffee. We’ll watch 11 minutes of video and discuss what we’ve heard. Starts at 11:10. Done by noon.

Note: Each week’s YouTube video is different. It may be a TED talk. The videos are discussion starters. Feel free to disagree with the speaker.



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**

**40 CANS FOR  
LENT**

Turn a small sacrifice into a  
big help to someone in need...  
Donate, collect, give what you can. Together we CAN fight hunger!

**CAN You help?**  
*Place items in the containers  
by the Church doors.*

#### AT HOME WITH THE WORD ~ BIBLE STUDY

Our weekly bible study group, in which we discuss the upcoming Sunday Readings, meets every Wednesday from 2:30 to 3:30pm in the Rectory.

You are welcome to join us at any time.

We are using LTP’s At Home with the Word, 2023.

Copies of the book are available in the Parish Office for \$15 each. All are welcome.

#### BOOK READING GROUP

The Book Reading Group meets Wednesdays, 6pm to 7pm. We are currently reading Richard A. Levins’ God or Greed: The Market as Culture. This small booklet (60 pages) is available from the Parish Office for \$8.00.

#### Weekend conversation starter --

**NAMETAGS.** Look for the nametag tables as you enter the church for your weekend Mass. As a way of inviting a conversation with a stranger, put your first name on a nametag.







Archdiocese of Santa Fe  
Office of Communications/Social Media  
4000 St. Joseph's Place NW | Albuquerque, NM 87120-1714  
Leslie M. Radigan, Director  
Voice: 505.831.8180  
lradigan@archdiosf.org | archdiosf.org

An Open Letter to Sexual Abuse Claimants within the Archdiocese of Santa Fe

ALBUQUERQUE – Thursday, March 16, 2023– IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Most Reverend John C. Wester, Archbishop of Santa Fe, has issued the following open letter of apology to the sexual abuse claimants within the Archdiocese of Santa

Archdiocese of Santa Fe  
4000 St. Joseph Place NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87120



Telephone: 505-831-8120  
Fax: 505-831-8101  
Email: archbishop.office@archdiosf.org

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

March 16, 2023

To Sexual Abuse Claimants within the Archdiocese of Santa Fe,

With this open letter, I wish to express my profound regret and sorrow over the tragic and inexcusable harm done to you by clergy sexual abuse. As Archbishop of Santa Fe, I apologize to each of you and to all those who have been harmed by sexual abuse perpetrated by Roman Catholic Clergy in this archdiocese. The Archdiocese takes responsibility for the abuse. I am ashamed of what happened to you and even more so that it happened within the auspices of the Catholic Church. There are no words that can convey how sorry I am and how committed this archdiocese is to keep children and young people safe.

I also wish to affirm that none of you are to blame for the abuse perpetrated upon you. Sadly, it is not unusual for those victimized by clergy sexual abuse to carry guilt for the abuse they received. This guilt is often encouraged by the perpetrator and is entirely unfounded. You were completely innocent and did nothing to deserve, encourage or sustain the hideous crime of sexual abuse of a minor.

It is my fervent hope that the Chapter 11 process that is concluding now will bring you all some measure of justice. I pray that this moment will be yet another step in the healing process and that you will find the peace and well-being that is your God-given right.

With admiration for your courage, I remain

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Wester".

Most Reverend John C. Wester  
Archbishop of Santa Fe