



St. John of the Cross

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Our Parish COMMUNITY

• May 11, 2025

• **Fourth Sunday of Easter (C)**

• Acts 13:14, 43-52 / Revelation 7:9, 14b-17 / John 10:27-30



Good News!

May 11, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Easter (C)

Acts 13:14, 43-52 / Revelation 7:9, 14b-17 / John 10:27-30

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Just as we may hear the voice of our mother echoing in our head long after she has passed away, in much the same way do we who gather week after week as people of faith begin to hear the words and wisdom of the Lord Jesus. It is how he shepherds us, and how we follow him—by hearing and then living his word.

There are some who say they are not religious, but they are spiritual. Ultimately, to be spiritual is to have a core set of values by which one lives. One's core values can take many shapes. For us, who call ourselves disciples of Jesus, to be spiritual is to take on the values and wisdom of Jesus—to allow his way to take root in the core of who we are. It means living by the wisdom of his word. Being spiritual includes *honesty, gentleness, patience, joy, civility, simple living, mercy, compassion, peace, reverence and awe, obedience, justice, courage, balance in life, humility, chastity, kindness, generosity, lightheartedness, care for the common good, prayerfulness, and respect for all of creation as holy.*

Spirituality is about absorbing the lifestyle of Jesus, about his word echoing in our lives, something that takes a lifetime. Religion, specifically our Catholic faith, is the practice of that spirituality in the company of others who are also trying to put those values into practice. Such practice, including weekly Mass and participation in the sacramental life of the Church, is necessary for the faithful followers of Jesus. ●

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Mass Schedule

Saturday: 6:00 PM

Sunday:

7:30 AM & 11:00 AM ~ English

6:00 PM ~ Spanish

Daily Mass:

Mon., Tues., & Fri. ~ 8:00 AM

Thurs.(Sp.) ~ 6:00 PM

1st Saturday Mass: 8:00 AM

Adoration

Thurs.~ Spanish—6:30PM

Reconciliation

Thursday: 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Saturday: 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Sunday: 5:30 PM

Please contact Fr. Patrick by phone or email if you need to make an appointment for **Confession** or **Anointing of the Sick.**

Parish Office Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs:

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

CLOSED FOR LUNCH
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

OFFICE IS CLOSED
Fri., Sat., & Sun.

Worship, Prayer, & Ministries

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

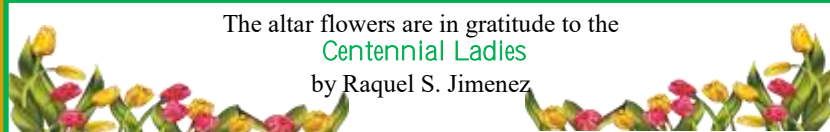
| | |
|--|--|
| Sat.-10 6:00PM <i>St. John of Avila</i> | † Jesus Cantu by Robert and Norma Cornejo † Eddie Skrobarek by Earl and Roline Baldeschwiler † Maria Luisa Hernandez Toscano by Anita Bazan Special Intention by Jana Robinson |
| Sun. 11- 7:30AM Mother's Day | † Gary Graham by Joe and Mary Ortiz † Margarita O. Guerrero (Heavenly birthday) by Bazan, Leal, and Hinojosa Family † Mae Gwosdz by Her Family † Enriqueta Puente by Her Loving Family Living and Deceased Members of the St. John of the Cross Cemetery Association |
| 11:00AM | † Raul Hernandez by Janie Beltran † John Mankin by Ellie Mankin For Vocations by Evans Family |
| 6:00PM | † Elena Centeño by Anita Bazan Las familias de la parroquia |
| Mon.-12 8:00AM <i>St. Nereus and Achilleus</i> | † Eddie Galvan Unwed Mothers Mother's Day Novena #1 |
| Tues.-13 8:00AM <i>Our Lady of Fatima</i> | Special Intention for Liza Ochoa and Family by Liza Ochoa Strength and Comfort of widows and widowers Mother's Day Novena #2 |
| Thurs.-15 6:00PM <i>St. Isidore</i> SPA | † Eddie Galvan In thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Anita Bazan Mother's Day Novena #3 |
| 6:30PM | ADORATION / HOLY HOUR |
| Fri.- 16 8:00AM | † Jon Kiggans by Schneider Family First Responders Mother's Day Novena #4 |

Masses for May 17 & 18

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Sat.- 17 6:00PM | † Feliciano Borrego, Jr., by Jose F. Borrego † Elvira A. Ortiz (2nd anniv.) by Liza Ochoa Mother's Day Novena #5 |
| Sun.—18 7:30AM | † Allen Migura by Migura Family † Raul Pozos by Consuelo Trejo † Enriqueta Puente by Her Loving Family Living and Deceased Members of the Sociedad Guadalupanas Mother's Day Novena #6 |
| 11:00AM | † Mr. L. D. Henderson by Robert and Norma Cornejo † Bobby K. Hughes by Eva Medrano Hughes |
| 6:00PM | † José Rosario Becerril Resendiz by Maria Ordenez Healing of Ayleen Becerril by Anita Bazan Special Intention for Margarita Quintanilla by Franco Family Las familias de la parroquia Mother's Day Novena #7 |



The sanctuary light is offered in memory of
Domitila P. Sanchez
by Raquel S. Jimenez



The altar flowers are in gratitude to the
Centennial Ladies
by Raquel S. Jimenez

Ministry Schedule for Mass

Ministry Schedule



May 17— 6:00PM—Lector: Liza Ochoa

EM: San Juanita Gaza, Anita Bazan,
Luis and Nora Romanos

May 18—7:30AM— Lector: Ed Ortiz

EM: Maria Miller, Luz Paiz, Margie Svetlik,
Volunteer

11:00AM-Lector: Karol Kocurek

EM: Kathleen Garza, Janie Flores,
Don and Kim Rokohl, Volunteer

6:00PM-Lector— Elva Cavada

EM—Voluntarios

PRAYER LIST

We continue to pray for the needs of those in our parish:

**Joe Acosta, Roberto Alvarado, Sr.,
Lionel Chapa, Art Forbes, Angelica Frees,
Eloy Gonzales, Oscar Hinojosa, Cindy Lopez,
Jose Martinez, Antonio Medrano,
Diana Sandoval, Freddy Serna,
Amilia Nicole Smithwick, Dianna Thomas,
Diana Villarreal, and Oneda Woods**



*The names of newly added persons will remain for three
weeks. Contact the Parish Office if names need to be added
to the prayer list.*

Praying for expecting mothers and their babies:

Grace Hill, Theresa Laurienti, and Laura Perez



Praying for our Military

**We remember these service personnel in each
'Mass for the Families of the Parish'**

Air Force: Preston Holliday,

Christopher Randall Lauer II, Alayah Moore

Army: J. W. Craig, Madeleena Delaney,
Celine De Los Santos, Allen McDonald,
Jacob Madrid, Fernando Ramos III

Coast Guard: Corey Bunton and Joshua Salinas

Marines: Aurora Alarcon and Hunter Frees

Navy: Dominique Cardenas and Cory Elyasevich



Military Care Packages Project ~ We would like to honor
and thank the 15 service members on our Military prayer
list by sending them care packages.

Please submit the A.P.O. address for the service member on
our prayer list to the parish office.

We are asking for donations of non-chocolate
snacks, hygiene articles, and reading
material for the care packages.

We'd like to get the packages to the service
members for **July 4**. Please submit addresses
and donations by **June 20, 2025**.



A Note From Our Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,
Habemus Papam! We Have a Pope!
Happy Mothers' Day!
International Day of Prayer for Vocations!



This weekend, we celebrate three very momentous events, our new Pope - Pope Leo XIV, Mothers' Day, and the Day of Prayers for Church Vocations. And while it might look as totally divergent events, there is a common thread that unites all three – Responding to the Vocational Call.

How many women do we know who have given birth to a child, but they do not become a “mother” to their child? There is the biological “motherhood” in the generation of a new life, and there is the loving and nurturing maternal care for a new life. This last Friday, I joined a couple for dinner and a movie. And as I was reflecting on this letter on Mothers' Day weekend, I thought of this woman, who has never given birth to a child, but has been a mother to children three times over. Christy is the oldest of four children in her family, and she simply responded to the call of caring for her younger siblings while she herself was still a young person. Her parents were very hard working to care for the family, and they were often at work and unfortunately missed some of the daily opportunities to be the mother / father to the children. So, Christy stepped in to fulfill that nurturing and caring role – making lunches and meals, binding up scraps and injuries, and comforting them in their distresses. She was being a mother without ever having given birth to these children. After her marriage to a wonderful man, she continued caring for her siblings and took on the additional caring for other older children in the extended family that came to live with them in their house due to all sorts of other situations and difficulties. She was mother to three young children all the way through their time in college. Then almost twenty years later, she and her husband received the blessing of adopting a child from a woman who couldn't care for or keep the child. And she is one I truly call a “blessed” mother. Motherhood is responding to the call for the caring and nurturing of children in love, hope, and faith.

On May 8th, the college of cardinals in Rome selected one from among their members to be the Pope for our Catholic Church. According to the tradition, after the vote is counted, the Cardinal Camerlengo, stands before the one elected, and asks directly for their response, “Do you accept the role and responsibility to be the next pontiff of the Church?”. This man had already responded to the vocation of priesthood, then the vocation as a bishop, and finally to the vocation of being a cardinal, and then once more called to serve the Church in yet another capacity as Holy Father. It is a vocational choice that is being presented to him, to serve God and the Church. I am grateful that he accepted to be Pope Leo XIV.

And that is the prayer for this Day of Prayer for Vocations – that more people will respond to the call being given them by God to serve the Church. And this is not only as Priests or Religious Sisters, but even in the vocation of Marriage and the vocation to the single life. All Catholics at the moment of their Baptism (or later at Confirmation for those baptized as infants) are called in that sacrament to a vocation in the Church. It is that Vocational Call that all of us are to respond to. Each year we renew that vocational call of Baptism on Easter Sunday. Married couples do it on their wedding anniversary, as well as priests on their anniversary of ordination.

And this Sunday as we listen to the Gospel of the Good Shepard, may we all reflect on the vocational call God has placed before us and respond with a life of love and service. Pray for our Pope Leo, pray for the vocation of marriage and the single life, and pray for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood for our diocese and for the Church.

Love and Prayers,
Fr. Patrick

Stewardship of Treasure

| Week #44 | COLLECTION | Totals Prior Week - | Goal | Actual | Total Annual Over / (under) | YTD Goal | TOTAL OFFERTORY |
|----------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 5/4/2025 | Envelope Collection | \$ (10,438.25) | \$ 2,400.00 | \$ 4,039.00 | \$ (8,799.25) | \$ 105,600.00 | |
| | Loose Collection | \$ (5,959.78) | \$ 1,250.00 | \$ 998.77 | \$ (6,211.01) | \$ 55,000.00 | |
| | On-Line Collection | \$ (2,802.54) | \$ 1,500.00 | \$ (485.05) | \$ (4,787.59) | \$ 66,000.00 | |
| | TOTAL Collection | \$ (19,200.57) | \$ 5,150.00 | \$ 4,552.72 | \$ (19,797.85) | \$ 226,600.00 | \$ 206,802.15 |

There is a **SECOND** collection this weekend to support our **Summer Electric** bill. Please prayerfully consider your contribution to keeping our parish buildings cool and comfortable during the hot summer months.

Before you go on vacation this summer, have you set up your summer months' parish contributions online? It's quick and easy and ensures our parish operations run smoothly, even while you're away on vacation.

Master Plan Renovations Capital Campaign update ~ The Parish Council, Finance Council and Master Plan Council all voted to begin a capital campaign for the necessary repairs to our parish buildings. If you are interested in helping lead this effort or are willing to help in other capacities, please let the office know as it will take the efforts of our entire parish to complete the renovations of our parish campus.



Parish Organizations

PARISH COUNCIL

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 2 @ 6PM

PARISH MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 6 @ 2:30PM

ALTAR SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING: MAY 19 @ 6PM

Meeting hostesses: Jana Robinson, Pam Herschap, Norma Cornejo, Shirley Syamken

ALTAR DUTY CLEANING SCHEDULE

May 15-16—Sabrina Lopez, Maria Castaneda, Rosa Castro, Daniella Rodriguez, Kathaleen DeLaPena

May 22-24—Anita Suarez, Patricia Bernal, Lesley Rodriguez, Kristina Lott, Maria Diaz

SOCIEDAD GUADALUPANA

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 16 @ 6PM

Corporate Mass— May 18 @ 7:30AM

Rosary @ 7:00AM

Leader: Jana Robinson

Offertory: Aurora B. Garcia & Elaine Lopez



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS # 8335



NEXT MEETING: JUNE 3

CASA DE LUCY

MEETS TUESDAYS @ 9AM

Case de Lucy Helping Hand Quilting Ministry sews Prayer Quilts for the terminally / critically ill persons needing prayers. Please contact the office if you know anyone in need of a quilt.

Congratulations to the Casa de Lucy's raffle winners:

Maple Island Quilt—**Ernest Henderson**

Who Let the Hogs Out Quilt— **Janie Beltran**

Sulphur Creek Buckhorn & Mesquite Cutting Board & Spring Table Runner—**Sammy Syamken**

Christmas Nativity Panel stretched on a 40 X 30 canvas — **Ernest Henderson**

Piece Bronze Bistro Set—**Alexis**

Walmart \$100 gift card and card holder—**Janie Flores**

Attraction Quilt—**Lupita De Los Santos**

Jesus Loves Me Quilt—**Margaret Kroese**

Brighton silver cross necklace—**Erika**

basket with various spring items—**Elo Becerril**



Faith Formation

Confirmation Mass Practice—**May 14 at 6:30PM** in the church.

Confirmation presentation Mass at St. John of the Cross on **Sunday, May 18 at 11AM Mass**

Confirmation Mass—**May 20 at 6:30PM** at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Alice.

Graduation Mass for all seniors (high school and/or college) on **May 25 at 11AM**



Works of Mercy



Coastal Bend Food Bank distributions:

St. Francis of Assisi on **Saturday, May 24**, at 9AM

St. John of the Cross on **Thursday, June 5**, at 9AM



The next bread and pastries distribution

at SJoC will be on **May 14, 28, and 31** at 9AM
and at SFOA starting **June 14**.

Diocesan News

Corpus Christi Cathedral Closure ~ The Corpus Christi Cathedral will close for renovation. The temporary closure of the Cathedral will begin **May 26, 2025**. The last Masses before the closure will be the weekend of May 24th and 25th. Daily Mass and Mass Intentions will continue in the Emmanuel Chapel for the time being.

Beginning May 31st, all weekend Masses and Mass Intentions will be transferred to Sacred Heart Church, located at 1322 Comanche Street.

Ministry Leaders and Cathedral volunteers are welcome to attend an open house at Sacred Heart Church on Tuesday, May 13 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss details of the transition to Sacred Heart Church.



Pray for Vocations!

As Catholics, we firmly believe that God has a plan for our lives! He calls some to marriage, some to the priesthood, and others to religious life or to live as generous single people. Fully living our own vocations—and teaching young people how to discern God's call—is a serious duty, but also a joyful one. During this week, please encourage the young people in your life—children, grandchildren, students, and friends—to be open if God calls them to priesthood or religious life.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS ~ The World Day of Prayer for Vocations is **THIS Sunday, May 11**.

HIGH SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The Diocesan High School Leadership Retreat is set for **June 9th and 10th**. All high school students are invited to apply to be a part of the Diocesan High School Leadership team.

Apply at <https://form.jotform.com/communicationsdofcc/high-school-leadership-application>

FR. WALSH'S SUMMER CAMP ~ Join us for a fun-filled day of adventure and faith at this year's True North Vacation Bible School (VBS)! Designed for children ages 4 to 13 with a special ability who are blind, deaf, or hard of hearing, this 1-day event will take place on June 13, 2025, at the St. John Paul II High School Cafeteria (3036 Saratoga Blvd). Check-in and breakfast begin at 9:00 a.m., and programming runs until 2:00 p.m.



The non-refundable \$15 per child registration fee includes a camp t-shirt and snacks. Extra t-shirts are available for \$10. Siblings are welcome to attend with paid registration. Space is limited. Registration is complete only once payment and forms are received by May 22.

Register at <https://catholiccharities-cc.org/vbs>

Rachel's Vineyard ~ This is a weekend retreat for women, men, families, and friends of those who have lost a child through miscarriage or abortion. This retreat is scheduled for the weekend of October 24 through 26, 2025. Cost is \$100.

Rachel's Vineyard retreats allow you to experience God's forgiveness, mercy, and compassion.

The retreats offer a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem broken hearts. Register at <https://form.jotform.com/communicationsdofcc/rachelsvineyard>



Liturgy & Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick: Upon request – please call the office. Any person who is sick (either homebound or in the hospital) or about to have surgery, is encouraged to receive Anointing of the Sick. As current Federal Law prohibits hospitals from the release of any patient's name, Father will not know you are in the hospital unless you call the office.

Baptisms of Infants: (0 to 5 yrs.): Please bring the child's civil birth certificate to the parish office to register the child, their parents & the Godparents for the one-hour Pre-Baptismal Preparation Class. Godparents must be able to provide Certificates for Catholic Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation, & if married, Marriage Certificate in the Catholic Church. Donation for the class and Baptism is \$30.00, for the class only is \$15.00. Date & time for the Baptism is scheduled after attending the Baptismal Class.

Confessions: The Sacrament of Reconciliation (or Confessions) is available on Thursday from 5:30 PM—6:00 PM and on Saturdays from 5:00 PM—5:30 PM and at any time by appointment with the Priest.

Quinceañeras: The honoree and their family must be registered and participating in the parish for two years prior to the year of the Quinceañera (or Quinceañero). The young person must have Baptism & Communion in the Catholic Church, & be attending the parish Religious Education Program. The family is strongly encouraged to contact the Church for **2 years** before the intended date.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made with the priest or deacon, preferably one year before the intended date, (minimum of six months in advance) to complete the necessary requirements. At least one person must be an active and registered member of this parish. No wedding date is guaranteed until ALL diocesan requirements have been fulfilled.

Blessing of Civil Marriages – If you were married before a judge, or a non-Catholic minister, and wish to be readmitted to Holy Communion, there needs to be a Blessing of your Civil Marriage. Please call the parish office and set up an appointment with Father Patrick so he can hear your particular situation and can guide you through the process. Father Patrick is always saying “Don’t wait! Start the process NOW!”

Dear Padre,

When is it OK to medicate for pain? If my relative is in hospice, should I permit the use of drugs that hasten his or her death?

When someone we love is dying, we do not want him or her to be in pain. It is only natural to want to ease or end all suffering. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* offers these guidelines: "The use of painkillers to alleviate the sufferings of the dying, even at the risk of shortening their days, can be morally in conformity with human dignity if death is not willed as either an end or a means, but only foreseen and tolerated as inevitable" (CCC 2279). In other words, it is permissible to medicate for pain, but you must not use narcotics as an end or means to hasten someone's death—only to alleviate pain and minimize a person's suffering. To give medication to cause death rather than merely to relieve pain is not allowed.

It is important to have a discussion about the types of treatment a person would want when they are dying. It is also important to have a discussion with your pastor or another priest or chaplain—someone who can help you discern whether the action, the intention, and the circumstances are consistent with Church teaching. Many times, one is forced to make very difficult decisions about medical care, and it is always good to have someone we trust who can help us make the best choice. ●

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR / DearPadre.org

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| May 12 | May 13 | May 14 | May 15 | May 16 | May 17 | May 18 |
| <i>Easter Weekday</i> | <i>Easter Weekday</i> | <i>St. Matthias, Apostle</i> | <i>Easter Weekday</i> | <i>Easter Weekday</i> | <i>Easter Weekday</i> | <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> |
| Acts 11:1–18 | Acts 11:19–26 | Acts 1:15–17, 20–26 | Acts 13:13–25 | Acts 13:26–33 | Acts 13:44–52 | Acts 14:21–27 |
| Jn 10:1–10 | Jn 10:22–30 | Jn 15:9–17 | Jn 13:16–20 | Jn 14:1–6 | Jn 14:7–14 | Rv 21:1–5a |
| | | | | | | Jn 13:31–33a, 34–35 |

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



NANCY BAUER / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

What do those who follow Christ do?... They go to seek those who are lost (cf. Lk 15:4), they take an interest in those who are far away, take to heart the situation of those who suffer, know how to weep with those who weep, they reach out their hands to their neighbors, carrying them on their shoulders.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 8, 2022