

# *PENTECOST*

*is the Power of the Apostolic Spirit  
 to Celebrate and to Serve*



*Apostles are  
 called  
 to love  
 Others  
 The Poor  
 The Homeless  
 Racial Victims  
 The Abused  
 The Sick  
 The Incarcerated  
 Military Veterans  
 The Bullied  
 Enemies  
 Orphans  
 Refugees  
 Gang Members  
 The Undocumented  
 The Marginalized  
 Victims of Human Trafficking*



*Apóstoles son  
 llamados  
 a amar a  
 los Demás  
 los Pobres  
 los sin Hogar  
 los Víctimas de Racismo  
 los Abusados  
 los Enfermos  
 los Encarceratos  
 los Veteranos Militares  
 los Intimidados  
 los Enemigos  
 los Huérfanos  
 los Refugiados  
 los Pandilleros  
 los Indocumentados  
 los Marginados  
 los Víctimas de Tráfico Humano*

**From the Desk of Msgr. Raymond C. Dreiling,  
Vicar General**



I wanted to let you know that I received a letter from the Pontifical Mission Societies of the United States expressing gratefulness for the generosity given to them by the good and faith-filled people from the Diocese of Fresno. Because of your generosity and sacrificial giving, a check for \$134,718.46 was sent to The Society for the Propagation of the Faith and a check in the amount of \$1,026.35 was given to The Missionary Childhood Association.

What do these two organizations do and how will they use your generous gift?

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith provides assistance to 1,150 dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and remote regions of Latin America. Help is offered for pastoral and evangelizing programs, for catechists and catechetical work, to build churches and chapels, for the work of Religious communities in health care and education, and for communication and transportation needs. Your prayers for their missionary efforts are also very much needed and appreciated. According to their historical records, the very first collection of the Propagation of the Faith was in 1822 and was used to support the vast diocese of Louisiana, which then extended from the Florida Keys to Canada, as well as the missions of Kentucky and China.

The Missionary Childhood Association was founded in 1843, and at the time the 'children of France were encouraged to reach out in faith and love to help the children of the missions in our young country of America and of the children of China.' Today, the MCA continues to encourage young people to offer prayers and financial help so that children may know Christ and experience His love and care through the service and love of those called to serve among them.

Thank you again for your generosity and willingness to share your resources with our brothers and sisters living in the mission fields of today throughout the world. May God richly bless you with his providential care.

**Del escritorio del Mons. Raymond C. Dreiling,  
Vicario General**

Me gustaría informarles que he recibido una carta de la organización Pontifical Mission Societies (Obra Misionera Pontificia) de los Estados Unidos, expresando agradecimiento por la generosidad proporcionada a esta organización por la gente de buena fe en la Diócesis de Fresno. Debido a su generosidad, hemos enviado un cheque por la cantidad de \$134,718.46 a nombre de "The Society for the Propagation of the Faith" (La Sociedad para la Propagación de la Fe), y un cheque por la cantidad de \$1,062.35 para la organización "Missionary Childhood Association."

¿Qué es lo que estas dos organizaciones hacen y cómo van a utilizar su generosa donación?

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith (La Sociedad para la Propagación de la Fe) provee asistencia a 1,150 diócesis en Asia, África, las Islas del Pacífico y regiones remotas en América Latina. Ofrecen ayuda pastoral y proveen programas de evangelización para catequistas y trabajos de catequesis, para construir iglesias y capillas, para el trabajo de comunidades religiosas en el cuidado de la salud, educación, comunicación y necesidades de transportación. Sus oraciones son necesarias y muy apreciadas para el incesante trabajo misionero de esta organización. De acuerdo a su registro histórico, la primera colecta que realizó La Sociedad para la Propagación de la Fe fue en el año 1822 la cual fue usada para apoyar a la Diócesis de Louisiana, que posteriormente fue extendida desde Florida Keys hasta Canadá, así como para apoyar las misiones en Kentucky y China.

La organización Missionary Childhood Association fue fundada en 1843 y en ese entonces, los "niños de Francia fueron animados para ofrecer en fe y amor ayuda a los niños de las misiones de nuestro país joven de América, así como a los niños en China." Actualmente, esta organización continúa animando a los jóvenes a ofrecer sus oraciones y ayuda financiera para que así los niños puedan conocer a Cristo y experimentar su amor y cuidado, a través del servicio y amor de aquellos que han sido llamados para servir entre ellos.

Nuevamente, gracias por su generosidad y deseo de compartir sus recursos con nuestros hermanos y hermanas que viven en los campos misioneros de hoy en todo el mundo. ¡Que Dios les bendiga abundantemente con su cuidado providencial!

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<p><b>Voice OF THE BRIDEGROOM</b></p> <p><b>Mondays at 7:30 pm</b></p>	<p><b>FAITH WORKS</b></p> <p>Award winning singer-songwriter Kara Klein talks about living out her faith and sharing it with the world through music.</p> <p>May 28 at 8:30pm May 29 at 8:00 pm</p>	<p><b>FAITH WORKS</b></p> <p>Sr. Carolyn Osiek is a respected author of 12 books on the New Testament and the early church.</p> <p>Watch it again on our YouTube Channel: <a href="http://Youtube.com/knxt1">Youtube.com/knxt1</a></p> <p><b>YouTube</b></p>

## “TRANSFORMING TRAGEDY, ENGENDERING EMPATHY, AND AWAKENING ACTIVISM:

### A Fitting Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.”

by Matthew Ari Jendian, Ph.D., Department Chair and Professor of Sociology at California State University, Fresno

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

- Spanish philosopher George Santayana (1905)

In 2015, among many other things, we commemorate ...

1) the 67th anniversary of the United Nations (UN) pledge to achieve “the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms” through the passage of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948;

2) the 67th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide defined and codified genocide; and

3) the 100th anniversary of the commencement of the Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Turkish government from 1915-1923.

While the 20th century observed major advances in the forging of international agreements and treaties with respect to human rights, genocide, and other crimes against humanity, it was also one of the bloodiest centuries on record. And, the bloodiness has continued into the 21st century.

Some scholars (Ball 1999) suggest at least 15 major genocides have occurred since WWII, during which some 15 million people have been massacred. Legal agreements and international laws—which have been undermined through weak enforcement and limited application—are incapable, by themselves, of preventing genocide.

What does the anti-genocidal slogan “Never Again” mean? Does it mean, as David Rieff facetiously interprets, “Never again will Germans kill Jews in the 1940s in Europe,” or, similarly, “Never again will over a million Armenians be slaughtered in Asia Minor”? No, “Never Again” is uttered as an aspirational hope that we will take action—at the individual, national, and international levels—to prevent crimes against humanity, particularly genocide.

Yet, as recently as 2006, then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan pondered whether the United Nations was an effective defender of human rights, while condemning the world’s failure to halt the bloodshed in the Darfur region of Sudan: “Sixty years after the liberation of the Nazi death camps and 30 years after the Cambodian killing fields, the promise of ‘never again’ is ringing hollow.”

The genocide campaign carried out against the Darfur region since 2003 by the Sudanese government of President Omar al-Bashir has resulted in the deaths of over 300,000 and the displacement of over three million Darfuris. Unfortunately, despite the issuance of a warrant for the arrest of President al-Bashir on ten counts of crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide by the International Criminal Court, the ceasefire of 2010 between the Sudanese government and the Darfuri rebels, and the deployment of a UN Security Force of 4,200 peacekeepers in 2011, violence continues to escalate with more than a half million people displaced in 2014 and 36,000 more during the first month of 2015.

Why do we stand idly by while tragedy unfolds? It’s NOT true that many people don’t know what’s going on. It’s NOT true that many people don’t fully appreciate the magnitude of the situation. The real reason the U.S. has not done what it could and should do to stop genocide throughout the 20th century and today has not been because lack of knowledge or influence, according to Samantha Power, but a lack of will: “U.S. leaders KNEW what was going on, BELIEVED it to be wrong, but were not prepared to invest the military, financial, diplomatic, and domestic political capital needed to stop genocide.”

But, in a democracy, it is not enough to say that our president and our leaders failed us, for we the people have the ability to create enough pressure for an administration to act. And, if the

world does not act and remains silent, we send a clear message to current and future perpetrators of genocide. Indeed, Hitler’s comment, eight days before invading Poland in 1939, “Who today, after all, speaks of the annihilation of the Armenians,” demonstrates his awareness of the fact that within two decades what had been the most important international human rights catastrophe of the 20th century had been forgotten.

Passive participation reassures perpetrators of the legitimacy of their actions and reveals in a breakdown of empathy. As Jane Elliot reminds us, “To remain silent is to cooperate with the oppressor.”

According to Samantha Power, the U.S. should stop genocide for two reasons: “1) We have a moral responsibility to act; and 2) it is in our enlightened self interest to act.” Allowing genocide undermines regional and international stability, creates militarized refugees, and signals dictators that hate and murder are permissible tools for state usage.

But this burden to act must be shared. It is not enough for the U.S.

government to engage in a unilateral intervention, as we primarily saw in Iraq since 2003. The United States needs to exert whatever influence and leadership it has left in the world—and let’s be honest and recognize that the U.S. government has lost some of its credibility in the world due to our misadventures into Iraq—but our government, and we the people, must use our voice and our remaining influence to ensure that the United Nations or some other coalition of countries acts to prevent further atrocities in Darfur and in other places around the globe.

Moving from the societal to the individual level, I want to reflect on our personal responsibility in thinking about and responding to genocide. We must not think about cases of genocide in isolation and focus on our particular group’s experience alone. The term “genocide” or “holocaust” is not copyrighted; it does not belong to any one group. We must recognize and learn from all genocides and join with one other, across ethnic and national boundaries, in order to prevent new genocides from occurring.



**Survivors from Agn and Trabzon:** A Janazian family portrait of my grandmother Mariam Janazian with her uncles (her father’s brothers) taken at the dock as they board ship in 1920 to come to America. Back row left to right, aunt Altoun, Mariam and sister Shabouhie, both orphaned, their parents were killed at the onslaught of the 1915 Genocide; seated left to right, uncle Alexan and Janig, and cousin Baidzar, the daughter of Janig and Altoun. My grandmother Mariam, the last living survivor of the Genocide of her family, passed away in Mission Hills, California at the age of 88.



**Survivors from Van:** An Antranikian family portrait taken in Kingsburg, California, circa 1925. My grandfather Avedis Antranikian (standing, center top) with Abrigsemeh Antranikian (mother), Yeghiazar Hovhannisian (brother, both seated), Elize (nee Voskerichian, sister-in-law, standing at right), nephews and niece, (standing, left to right) John Ohanesian, Armen Ohanesian, and Roxie Yenovkian. The three children of Yeghiazar and Elize were born in the United States. My grandfather Avedis passed away in Fresno, California at the age of 67.



**Survivors from Sepastia:** A Jendian family portrait taken in Sepastia (Sivas), Historic Armenia, Ottoman Empire, of my grandfather Mardiros Jendian (front row, center) with his family, prior to his father’s departure to the United States in 1912; left to right: brother Mugrdich, father Yeghia, younger brother Ohannes (standing above), mother Noyemzar, sister Zabel, and baby sister Haiganoush Chorekjian, the last living survivor of the Genocide, passed away in Franklin Square, Long Island, New York at the age of being one month shy of 103. My grandfather and three of his siblings were the only survivors of the deportation during which his sister Zabel and mother Noyemzar perished.

### Acknowledgement of Armenian Genocide

by Dianna Zamora-Marroquin,  
Communications Director  
for Congressman Jim Costa

Washington, D.C., Rep. Jim Costa released the following statement after Pope Francis publicly recognized the Armenian Genocide during a Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica.

“With the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide upon us, I cannot express the extent of my gratitude for the Pope’s formal recognition of the devastating violence committed against the Armenian people. His dedication to defending those who have faced great injustice brings hope and inspiration to us all.

“The Pope’s actions show that it is high time for the Armenian Genocide to be acknowledged worldwide. As such, I appreciate the Pope’s leadership and will continue to take an active role in urging Congress and the President to go on record recognizing this atrocity once and for all.”

## Beatificación del Arzobispo Salvadoreño Monseñor Oscar Arnulfo Romero Galdámez, Mártir

by Rev. Miguel Mancía, St. John's Cathedral

Con gran alegría se encuentra el país de El Salvador, Centro América, porque pronto será realidad, la Beatificación del Arzobispo: Oscar Arnulfo Romero Galdámez, específicamente este 23 de mayo de dos mil quince en la Plaza "Salvador del Mundo", de la ciudad de San Salvador.

Con motivo de esta celebración un grupo de Jóvenes misioneros de El Salvador que pertenecen a una organización católica, no lucrativa, llamada "Fundación Huellas" vinieron a compartir a algunas parroquias de la Diócesis de Fresno, una obra teatral de monseñor Romero llamada: "Romero, un Sendero de Justicia". En la Obra se destaca la vida y homilias del primer mártir Salvadoreño, a través de la danza, teatro, cantos, imágenes y videos multimedia. En la Catedral de San Juan, se presentó el sábado, 28 de marzo.

También siempre con relación a esta fiesta, en dicha Catedral celebraremos una santa Misa en honor a su Beatificación el día, 23 de mayo a las 5:30 de la tarde.

A continuación daremos a conocer una pequeña biografía de monseñor Romero.

Nació en Ciudad Barrios, del departamento de San Miguel, El Salvador, Centro América, el 15 de Agosto de 1917, (día de La Asunción de la Virgen María).

Fue el segundo de los 8 hermanos de una humilde y modesta familia como tantas del pueblo. Fue bautizado, el 11 de mayo de 1919, en la iglesia parroquial de su ciudad natal. Su padre, Santos Romero, era telegrafista y empleado de correos. Su mamá fue Guadalupe de Jesús Galdámez, se ocupaba de las tareas domésticas.

Era un niño como otros tantos del pueblo pobre; hijo de una familia cristiana ejemplar, de su padre aprendió el gusto por la lectura. Se cuenta que ayudaba a su padre a repartir las cartas y los telegramas a sus vecinos del pueblo. De su madre aprendió la devoción a los santos y a la Santísima Virgen. Oscar Arnulfo fue conocido por su carácter tímido y reservado, no obstante en la escuela destacó en materias humanísticas más que en matemáticas.

A la edad de 13 años, ingresó al Seminario Menor de la ciudad de San Miguel, que era dirigido por sacerdotes Claretianos. Luego, en 1937 ingresó en el Seminario de San José de la Montaña de San Salvador. Ese mismo año, su Obispo lo envía a Roma a estudiar teología. Así Oscar Arnulfo avanzó en su ideal de entregar su vida al servicio de Dios y del pueblo.

Fue ordenado de Diácono el 12 de Abril de 1941 y de Sacerdote el 4 de Abril de 1942 a la edad de 24 años.

Regresó a El Salvador en el año 1943, donde fue párroco de algunas Iglesias. Recibió la Consagración Episcopal el 21 de junio de 1970. El 15 de octubre de 1974, fue nombrado Obispo de la Diócesis de Santiago de María en el departamento de Usulután. El 3 de febrero de 1977, fue nombrado por el Papa como Arzobispo de San Salvador.

Algo imprescindible en la vida de Monseñor fue la oración, de una

tremenda importancia vital.

En su ministerio defendió los derechos de los desprotegidos. Monseñor Romero denunció en sus homilias los atropellos contra los derechos de los campesinos, obreros, sacerdotes, y de todas las personas que recurrían a él, en el contexto de violencia y represión militar que vivía el país. Sus homilias denunciaban la violencia tanto del gobierno militar como de los grupos armados de izquierda. Señaló los hechos violentos como los asesinatos por escuadrones de la muerte y la desaparición forzada de personas por los cuerpos de seguridad.

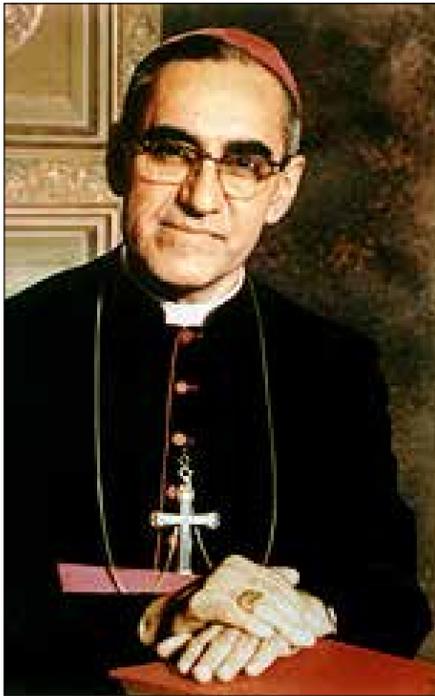
Un día antes de su muerte, hizo un enérgico llamamiento al ejército salvadoreño: "Yo quisiera hacer un llamamiento, de manera especial, a los hombres del ejército. Y en concreto a las bases de la Guardia Nacional, de la policía, de los cuarteles... Hermanos, son de nuestro mismo pueblo. Matan a sus mismos hermanos campesinos. Y ante una orden de matar que dé un hombre, debe de prevalecer la ley de Dios que dice: 'No matar'. Ningún soldado está obligado a obedecer una orden contra la Ley de Dios. Una ley inmoral, nadie tiene que cumplirla. Ya es tiempo de que recuperen su

conciencia, y que obedezcan antes a su conciencia que a la orden del pecado. La Iglesia, defensora de los derechos de Dios, de la Ley de Dios, de la dignidad humana, de la persona, no puede quedarse callada ante tanta abominación. Queremos que el gobierno tome en serio que de nada sirven las reformas si van teñidas con tanta sangre. En nombre de Dios pues y en nombre de este sufrido pueblo, cuyos lamentos suben hasta el cielo cada día más tumultuosos, les suplico, les ruego, les ordeno en nombre de Dios: Cese la represión."

El día lunes 24 de marzo de 1980 a la edad de 62 años, fue asesinado cuando oficiaba una Santa Misa en la capilla del hospital "La Divina Providencia" en la colonia Miramonte de San Salvador. Un disparo hecho por un francotirador impactó en su corazón, momentos antes de la Sagrada Consagración.

Los restos del arzobispo se encuentran en la cripta de la Catedral Metropolitana de San Salvador, justo debajo del altar mayor del templo y dentro de un mausoleo que ostenta su nombre. El monumento fúnebre es una estructura de bronce que representa al cuerpo de Monseñor Romero rodeado de cuatro ángeles que simbolizan los cuatro evangelios.

El 3 de febrero de 2015 el papa Francisco autorizó la promulgación del decreto de la Congregación para las Causas de los Santos que declaró a



## Beatification of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero Galdámez, Martyr

Translated by Fr. Jim Rude, S.J.

El Salvador is to experience great joy because soon will be the beatification of Archbishop Oscar Romero, specifically this May 23, 2015 in the Plaza Salvador del Mundo of the city of San Salvador.

Because of this celebration, a group of young missionaries of El Salvador who belong to a Catholic non-profit organization, called "Footprint Foundation", came to share with some Fresno parishes a theatrical work about Romero, entitled "Romero, a Planter of Justice". In their work, they emphasize the work and homilies of the first Salvadorean martyr through dance, theater, songs, pictures and multimedial videos. In the Cathedral of St. John, it was presented on Saturday, March 28.

Also always with relation to this feast, in St. John's Cathedral we will celebrate a holy Mass in honor of his beatification on May 23, at 5:30 in the afternoon.

Now we present a small biography of Msgr. Romero.

Born in Ciudad Barrios, of the department of San Miguel, El Salvador, Central America, August 15, 1917 (the feast day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

He was the second of eight brothers of a humble and modest family as were so many of

the people. He was baptized May 11, 1919, in the parish church of his birth city. His father, Santos Romero, was a telegraphist and post office employee. His mother was Guadalupe de Jesus Galdámez, who involved herself in domestic work.

He was a child like so many others of the poor: son of an exemplar Christian family; he learned from his father the delight of reading. It is said that he helped his father deliver letters and telegrams to their neighbors in the city. He learned from his mother's dedication to the saints and to the Holy Virgin. Oscar Arnulfo was known for his timid and reserved character despite the fact that in school he stood out in humanistic matters more than in mathematics.

At the age of 13, he entered the Minor Seminary of the city of San Miguel, which was directed by Claretian priests. Then in 1937, he entered the Seminary of San Jose de la Montaña of San Salvador. That same year, his bishop sent him to Rome for theological studies.

Thus Oscar Arnulfo advanced his ideal of delivering his life to the service of God and the people. He was

Monseñor: Óscar Romero Mártir de la Iglesia, asesinado por «odio a la fe».

Beato Monseñor Romero: Ruega por nosotros.

ordained a deacon April 12, 1941, and priest on April 4, 1942, at the age of 24. He returned to El Salvador in 1943, where he served as a parish priest in various parishes. He was ordained a bishop on June 21, 1970. October 15, 1974, he was named Bishop of the Diocese of Santiago de María, in the department of Usulután. On February 13, 1977, he was named by the Pope as Archbishop of San Salvador.

Something essential in the bishop's life was prayer, a very important part of his life.

In his ministry he defended the rights of the poor and needy. Bishop Romero denounced in his homilies the crimes against the rights of farmers, workers, priests and of all persons who appealed to him because of violence and military repression which was common in their country.

His homilies denounced the violence of the military government as much as of armed gangs from the right. He mentioned the violent acts as much as the assassinations by death squadrons and the forced disappearance of people by security guards.

One day before his death, he made an energetic call to the Salvadorean army: "I would like to make a call, in a special way, to the men in the army. And specifically to the National Guard, the police, the cartels.... Brothers, they are all members of the same people. They kill their rural brothers. And over an order to kill which someone gives, the law of God ought to win out, which says: 'Do not kill.' No soldier is obliged to obey an order which is contrary to the law of God. An immoral law, no one has to obey. It is time to recover one's conscience and to obey one's conscience rather than an order of sin. The church, defender of the rights of God, of the law of God, of the human dignity of people, cannot remain silent before such abominations. We wish that the government takes seriously that nothing serves reforms if they intend to darken them with blood. In the name of God then and in the name of this suffering people, whose laments rise up to heaven every day more tumultuous, I beg you, plead with you, I order you in the name of God: Stop the repression."

Monday March 24, 1980, at the age of 62, he was killed when officiating at a Mass in the hospital chapel of "La Divina Providencia" in the colony of Miramonte of San Salvador. A shot by a sharpshooter hit him in the heart, moments before the Sacred Consecration.

The remains of the archbishop can be found in the crypt of the Metropolitan Cathedral of San Salvador, just below the main altar and in a mausoleum which has his name.

The funeral monument is a structure of bronze which represents the body of Msgr. Romero, surrounded by four angels who symbolize the four Gospels.

February 15, 2015, Pope Francis authorized the promulgation of the decree of the Congregation of the Cause of the Saints which declared Msgr. Oscar Romero Martyr of the Church, assassinated by hatred of the faith.

Blessed Msgr. Romero, pray for us.



A group shot...One...



TWO!!



Sixth grader Sebastian Pires gleefully "pinks" his teacher, Robbie Aldaco.

## St. Aloysius School Holds Second Annual Color Run/Walk

by Jane Machado

St. Aloysius School in Tulare has always been a bit colorful, but on April 11 it took colorful to a whole new level! The St. Aloysius Parents' Club, with Kortnee Faria as event chairperson, put on their second annual Color Run/Walk on the school's fields. The event was open to the public of all ages and those that participated were in for a fun morning.

As the event was getting underway, kids, parents and grandparents, wearing pristine white "Colored in Faith" t-shirts, were mingling in the school courtyard. Several alumni and staff volunteers called out greetings to old and new friends. St. Aloysius School principal Barbara Xavier led all in prayer.

And then... And then the run/walk began. As participants made their way through the course, they were pelted with color by the alumni and parent volunteers who only moments ago had been smiling and making small talk. Sixth grade teacher Robbie Aldaco added "insult to injury" by greeting runners/walkers with a quick burst of water from a hose. (Note: the hose was used with a nozzle that could be turned on and off. Bursts were short and it all happened over the driest part of the fields. We realize we are in a drought!) Parents used children as shields from color. Organized chaos and color ensued!

When it was over, formerly pristine white t-shirts were a rainbow of colors. Several people took on Smurf-like appearances. Cameras were everywhere, taking it all in. The one thing that never changed? The laughter and smiles.



Student Council President Dax Sousa uses the water burst from 6th grade teacher Robbie Aldaco to his advantage.



Alumnus Jacob Cardoza perfects his color throw.



Mallory Mendonca gets Kindergarten teacher Chrissy Beck with a hit of pink.



Boys After Color Run—Dawson Faria, Ethan Cardoza, Overlin Zamora, Daniel Tristao, Lorenzo Nunes, Canon Costa, Blain Faria and Joseph Cardoza show off their newly colorized selves.

## Archbishop Oscar Romero—a Footnote

by Fr. Jim Rude

I would like to add a footnote to the article on Archbishop Oscar Romero.

The Archbishop was a very close friend of a Salvadorean Jesuit by the name of Rutilio Grande, from their seminary days. In fact, they were so close that Romero asked Rutilio to be his master of ceremonies at his installation as bishop in 1975. Rutilio played a very important part in Romero's life, and yet I have only noticed his name once in all the articles I have read about the archbishop.

Grande was ordained a priest in 1959, in 1965 was appointed director of social action projects at the seminary. In 1972 he was assigned to the parish in Aguillares where shortly he became its pastor. I met him when I visited Salvador one year later.

Grande was responsible, along with many other Jesuits, for establishing Christian base communities. He spoke against the injustices at the hands of an oppressive government, and dedicated his life's work to organizing the impoverished, marginalized rural farmers of El Salvador.

On Saturday, March 12, 1977, Rutilio was driving up into the hills to celebrate Mass, along with his sacristan, Manuel Solorzano, 72, and an al-

tar server, Nelson Rutilio Lemus, 16. They were all three killed by soldiers on the road.

Upon learning of the murders, Archbishop Romero went to the church to celebrate Mass, but also to try to convince the Jesuits there to be less activist, to stop working against the government. But you might say that Romero had a 'tragic fault': he listened. He spent hours talking with the Jesuits and hearing stories of suffering local peasant farmers that changed his conservative attitude toward the government.

The next morning, Romero announced that he would not attend any



Rutilio Grande, SJ

state occasions nor meet with the president until Grande's death was investigated. As no investigation ever was conducted, this decision meant that Romero attended no state occasions whatsoever in his three years as Archbishop.

And on March 24, 1980, the government killed him.

The Grande mentality continues in a wonderful way, with Rutilio Grande's grandniece Ana Grande, very active in social justice work in Los Angeles.

## ASB Members Attend Chrism Mass

by Kay Nowatzki, St. Francis School, Bakersfield

The ASB members and Mrs. Kay Nowatzki (Religion teacher) of St. Francis Parish School were very blessed to be able to attend the Chrism Mass held at Holy Spirit Church in Fresno last month. They were witnessed to a beautiful and sacred ceremony where the bishop, joined by the priests of the diocese, blessed three oils: the Oil of Catechumens, the Oil of the Infirm, and Holy Chrism which will be used in the administration of the sacraments throughout the diocese for the year.

It was exciting to see nearly 100 priests perform the renewal of their priestly promises, and observe many deacons who renewed their diaconal promises as well. There was a renewal of commitment of religious men and women, and finally we, the laity, made our renewed commitment to proclaim the Good News of God's love for all.

Let us pray for our bishop and the



priests who are the ministers of the sacraments in the parish, that they may be the humble and generous servants of the Lord.



## The Lastiri Corner

Two articles by Rev. Jean-Michael Lastiri, Director of the Office of Worship, Diocese of Fresno and Pastor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Hanford

### A Reflection of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy *Misericordiae Vultus*

On Saturday, April 11, 2015, on the Vigil of the Second Sunday of Easter, now known as Divine Mercy Sunday, Pope Francis issued the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.

This document, calling forth a Holy Year of Mercy, to begin on December 8, 2015, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, and to end on the Feast of Christ the King in November 2016, was issued by the Holy Father during a Penance Service held at St. Peter's Basilica this past Lent.

The entire pontificate of Pope Francis so far, has focused on the mercy of God. **Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy.** This line opens this marvelous and deeply inspired work of the Bishop of Rome as to the relationship of God and humanity, found in the intimate ministry of Jesus, the God-man. This relationship, which finds its ultimate completion in the Resurrection, after the death on the cross, is the final victory over sin and death.

**Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God,** finishes the first paragraph of the document. Rooted in the following pages, all sixteen, are all the foundations of the teachings regarding mercy, found in Holy Scripture and in the Tradition of the Church. The Holy Father carefully crafts a well thought out manuscript that takes into account our fallen state, how sacramentally the Church offers mercy. Mercy is to be the source and completion of our joy in God. We find in mercy the true peace that God offers.

This theme of mercy is not new, and certainly previous popes have spoken or written on the mercy of God, and the mission of the Church in reflecting mercy. The very life of the Church is based on the mercy of God. Every sacrament reflects this theme of mercy, with baptism removing sin and gathering people into the Body of Christ. Confirmation endows and strengthens the newly baptized to follow the Master of mercy, Jesus Himself. The Eucharist, source and summit of the Church, is the primary means of salvation, the saving action of both cross and the empty tomb, allowing us the share in eternity. Reconciliation is offered to forgive transgressions, and the Anointing of the Sick comforts the sick and dying with God's presence, and allows the dying to transition into eternity. Ordination and Matrimony are means to extend God's mercy, to either the entire Church in ordained ministry, or in compli-

menting one human being to another in a sacrament of life of mutual love, creating a family out of that love.

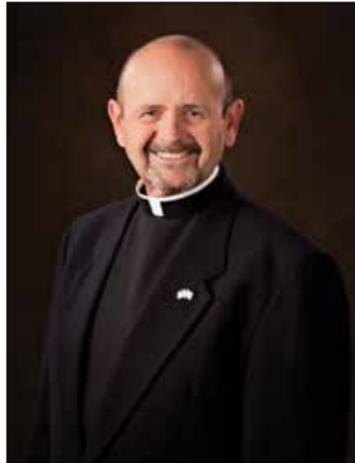
Mercy has peace as its ultimate consequence. When we forgive, offer the other cheek, give coat and shirt, we offer mercy, and we are bound by hatred, retribution, and misery. The immediacy of mercy ends a life that can be burdened with regrets and wrath, which eats at the human soul. Thus peace, offered by Jesus on the day of his resurrection, frees the person from a lifetime of grief.

Pope Francis continuously recalled passages from the Gospel of how Jesus always directs his disciples and us today to the ways of mercy. The perfect prayer, The Our Father calls us to pardon and be pardoned.

**The Church's first truth is the love of Christ.** These are not empty words. There is a force to be reckoned with by all the members of the Body of Christ. The Holy Father reminds us that we are servants of God's love. As he puts it so well, **in our parishes, communities, associations, and movements, in a word, wherever there are Christians, everyone should find an oasis of mercy.** This call will be important for all our parishes in Central California, and for all our parish groups, as well as non-parish groups, such as the Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters of America, etc.

The Bishop of Rome intends, during Lent in the Holy Year, to send out **Missionaries of Mercy**, who will be priests who will be granted the authority to pardon even sins reserved to the Holy See, so that no sin is left bounded, as granted to the Pope, successor of St. Peter. The mandate of Jesus to Peter, to loosen sins will be made real and concrete.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is to be offered at every opportunity during the Holy Year, especially during Lent. Parishes will be encouraged to have Penance Services, and possibly offer a time when confessions are heard for 24 hours at a time. Priests will be challenged to preach on the mercy of God, and to offer absolution to those who come with a sincere heart for



### The Environment and Climate Change Why Should the Pope Care?

The Bishop of Rome is once again irritating many people, who would prefer that he quietly keep to the business of Church and not meddle in the causes that affect the world in which he lives. Yet, Pope Francis sees the problems of environment, such as climate change, pollution, and other issues as a matter of social justice, for these things create burdens on the poor and disenfranchised peoples of the world.

Pope Francis is planning to use the strongest means of his thoughts by the means of an encyclical aimed at expressing his views on the environment. As head of the Church, he wants to point to how harming the environment directly affects all human beings on the earth. The Vatican sponsored on April 28, a conference on the environment, on its effects, *"intrinsic connection between the respect for the environment and respect for people, especially the poor, the excluded, victims of human trafficking and modern slavery, children, and future generations."*

An example is the elimination of the rain forest in South America, which has caused great pain to the local indigenous peoples who have lived peacefully in the Amazon region, now losing homes to aggressive landowners and those who will grow rich from the former rain forest. Martyrs have died for these matters, recalling an American Sister who was murdered as she stood arm and arm with the local poor farmers and those who live near the Amazon. Trees that have been cut down in the rain forests have contributed directly to air pollution as fewer trees absorb the particles in the air. Pollution affects the poor in the large cities, where factories are found, i.e., Mexico City being an urban center that suffocates many children, leading to serious health issues like asthma and lung diseases.

mercy and forgiveness.

Pope Francis pleads, in particular, to those who belong to criminal organizations to change their ways, and come to the sacrament at this special time. He begs those who participate in corruption to respond with an open heart to conversion. We in

Climate change debates continue, yet we in the United States, and particularly in California are experiencing great changes in our rain patterns. California faces another year of drought, and the east coast has had the wettest year in history, from snow and now rain. Europe is once again this year, facing damaging floods with record rains. This could be a cycle, or very well could be from damage to the ozone layer. It is a concern that will affect food production in the near future, with record prices for food that feeds the poor and fewer jobs for farm workers in our Valley, leaving devastating poverty to grow in small towns, leading to their demise.

The Pope faces great challenges from both inside and outside the Church on this very difficult and debatable subject. Many think the Church is not competent to speak on these issues. Others feel that these issues are not conclusive, that the Church should be cautious. Many are putting labels on the Holy Father, because of his strong stance on behalf of the poor and suffering of the world. In recent days and weeks, conservative Catholics have directly attacked the pope, referring to him as *an ideologue and a meddling egoist*, according to Maureen Mullarkey, who wrote in an especially trenchant column at the conservative journal *First Things* about what she called the Pope's *"premature, intemperate policy endorsements" on the environment.*

St. John Paul II and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI have both spoken on the need for careful protection of the environment. Pope Francis only continues the call for stewardship of what God has given us and to protect it as much as possible.

As Catholics and members of the human race, we need to at least carefully listen to the mind and heart of the Vicar of Christ as he challenges the world in caring for the world in which we live. We have no other world; this is the only one we have. It is a gift of God, created out of nothing, for our good.

Read more here: <http://www.sunherald.com/2015/04/17/6181692/pope-francis-throws-the-weight.html#storylink=cpy>

the Diocese of Fresno will have to opportunity in the coming months, through our Bishop, and his many offices, to prepare and to participate fully in Jubilee of Mercy. It is the root of our existence, and the great gift of God the Father, given in the Person of Jesus our Redeemer.

### KNXT Explores Catholic View on Organ Donations

by Randy Reed, Production Supervisor, KNXT

Sebastian Amezcua was just nine years old when a negligent driver ran a red light, slamming into the family car. His father, mother, and younger brother survived the accident but Sebastian's injuries were fatal.

Though deeply in grief in that moment of tragedy, German and Jesse Amezcua made the decision to honor the memory of their son with a gift of life to others.

Sebastian's moving story is one of several featured on *Donate Life: A Catholic View*, produced earlier last month by KNXT Television. The program explores the position of the Church on organ and tissue donation and offers insights for Catholics who are considering whether to register as donors themselves.

"It goes to the very heart of our faith," said Father Dan Avila, Vocations Director for the Diocese of Fresno. "The Lord Jesus Christ gave his life for the salvation of all people. So, too, we are all called to emulate that gift of self giving."

Father Dan appears on the show along with Sister Emily Demuth, Chaplain at St. Agnes Medical Center. They are joined by Barbara Alaimo, a parishioner from St. Anthony in Reedley. Her husband, Charlie, received a donor kidney, which extended his life by several years.

"Charlie's transplant allowed us both to stay active in our faith, including ongoing work with young couples through Marriage Encounter," Barbara said. "Through Charlie's experience, I became such a strong

advocate for organ and tissue donation because of the wonderful gift of life it was to both of us."

The program was produced in cooperation with Donor Network West. "I hope the stories we're sharing about Sebastian and



Charlie will spark a conversation in homes across the Diocese," said Marcella Corona, Community Development Liaison.

*Donate Life: A Catholic View* was broadcast on Thursday, May 14 at 8:30pm and Friday, May 15 at 8pm on KNXT Channel 49. The show can also be viewed at any time on KNXT's online YouTube channel. For more information on KNXT TV programming, visit [www.knxt.tv](http://www.knxt.tv) or call 559-488-7440.

(L to R) Father Dan Avila is joined in the KNXT studio by Barbara Alaimo, Sister Emily Demuth and Marcella Corona.

**Donate Life: A Catholic View aired May 14 on Channel 49.**

## Sr. Mary Clennon, CSC, Director of Holy Cross Center for Women, and Cruz Avila, Executive Director of Poverello House

**Fr. Jim:** I want to thank both of you for this interview. It is Pentecost and that means that the Spirit is with us to serve. And both of you do a great job. I'd like to ask Cruz the first question, because I know what your answer will be, Sister. Cruz, you're the director of Poverello House, and that name connects me with St. Francis of Assisi. Is Poverello essentially a religious institution or just people working for the poor?

**Cruz:** It is just people working for the disadvantaged in our community. Though most of our staff people may be Catholic, we are not known as a faith-based organization. We are here to serve anybody and everybody, no questions asked.

**Fr. Jim:** That's beautiful. Sister, how long have you been working here at Holy Cross?

**Sister Mary:** Eighteen years.

**Fr. Jim:** Wow! What prompted you to come here?

**Sister Mary:** Back in the '70s, I started working with the Catholic Relief Services in emergency services overseas, for about ten years, so I was around the world, and then at the headquarters in New York City. Then when I had the chance to come back to Fresno, I said "yes". I liked what we were doing here.

**Fr. Jim:** Were you the superior at that time?

**Sister Mary:** I am the director of the Clinic and Women's Center. First when I came back to Fresno, I was director of the clinic and Sister Christine Healy was director at the Women's Center. But she was in poor health and so about a year later, I was asked to assume responsibility for the Women's Center as well and to develop the educational programs and activities for the women.

**Fr. Jim:** Cruz, I don't think you've been here at Poverello for eighteen years, but how long?

**Cruz:** God willing, it will be 2 years September 16, 2015. It was a great blessing for me when I came back to Fresno County. I was raised in Sanger, born at St. Agnes, moved to Southern California in 2000, lived there for about thirteen years in Tustin and Riverside County, in Southern California working as a counselor, working for non-profits, working for affordable housing, and I came back with the goal simply to serve, to do what I do. God called me and it's a blessing.

**Fr. Jim:** We're celebrating Pentecost, and Pentecost is about the Spirit and I'm impressed that both of you are responding beautifully to that Spirit.

**Cruz:** There is a purpose that we all have in our lives, and that was my purpose, that was my journey when I came back to Fresno. I call it the boomerang effect: I went and I came back. Home is where the heart is. I came back to serve the community where I was born and raised.

**Fr. Jim:** You know, I have a problem with a lot of Catholics. They think that 'vocation' has to do with priests and sisters, but in fact everybody has a vocation. God is calling everyone to do something. That's what you guys are doing in such a beautiful way. What's the best thing that's happened to you here, any special experiences?

**Sister Mary:** That's a difficult question to answer. We have a variety of things that we do to help people, and one of the recent things that really pleases me is that some of the women have successfully completed their GEDs and one of them recently got her citizenship. So we are trying to help them with programs and services they need. And the basic thing many women need is a place that is safe, especially homeless women. I was talking

with a woman who has a drug problem, she is bi-polar, and she can't go back where she'd been living. But if she's here and she can stay at Naomi's House overnight then she's safe. And hopefully she can get on the right road.

**Fr. Jim:** You have a program here that I was asked to come in and address, at their graduation. And during the time, one woman suddenly stood up and told what beautiful things had been happening to her here because of the program. She told us how grateful she was. That was great!

**Sister Mary:** The "You Are Worthy" program has four to six presentations in April and in September on topics that will be of interest or benefit the women. Some of them are homeless, others are not.

**Fr. Jim:** Cruz, what's the best thing that you have experienced?

**Cruz:** Every day that I come in for work, there are new experiences, always excitement, sometimes good or bad, but by the end of the day, it's incredible—we'd done something good for someone who'd come through our gates and doors at Poverello House, and not only us but also with our partners here at Holy Cross. Recently there is something new at Poverello. MAP Point at Pov, we are providing services to clients to help them with mental health issues, with substance-abuse issues, or housing some of the many services offered. When they come in, they are given a survey that they fill out that helps us know where or what kind of service they need, or if they need some type of housing. Depending on the number of the survey, it tells us what kind of services the client needs. If it's ten or above, they can be assigned a navigator, and the navigator is someone who will help them get documents ready for housing. If they rank nine and below, they may be eligible for certain federal housing funds. As of late February 2015 we've seen over 162 new clients, and we were able to provide some kind of service, whether it is housing or other social service needs. Poverello staff has been placed in Map Point at Pov as part of a grant from the city. Agencies also participating in grant are West Care and Turning Point. Poverello staff has done an amazing job as Case Managers and Navigators to help these clients in need.

**Fr. Jim:** I was amazed when I came in today, Sister, because a security person stopped me from coming in. Has there been something happening recently, because I don't recall it happening to me before?

**Sister Mary:** There's no problem if the security personnel know the individual who is coming in. But we have some children in the day care and we know we have to take steps to protect them and there are also women who have been hurt and we have to take care to protect them as well. Some of the women have been victims of domestic violence, so we have to be careful. There are some men who come for English as a second language or for the GED classes. And the security staff recognizes them.

**Fr. Jim:** You mentioned partnership with Poverello. How do you work together?

**Sister Mary:** An example is the clinic. It has evolved over a long period of time. It is located in the Poverello House. We have a dental clinic with two chairs and four exam rooms for medical patients. We have a nurse practitioner, three other staff members, and several volunteers. The physicians and dentists are all volunteers. If we have something that's electric that's burned out or other minor repairs, we call Poverello and they are very helpful. It's a great help to us to be able to ask people on site, because there's so much we can't do,

especially with plumbing and electrical problems.

**Cruz:** I really have to give recognition to our duty director of operations for Poverello House Paul Stack for his leadership and dedication on a day-to-day basis, as well as his team and Shane, Edsel and Rick who are constantly working on the operation side for Poverello House and needs of the Holy Cross. We're all considered on the same path here, and whatever the needs may be, we are happy and able to help them out just as they help us.

**Fr. Jim:** How do they help you out?

**Cruz:** Holy Cross and Sr. Mary bring us the expertise in providing assistance by working with our female clients and families. In the summer time they have a summer educational program for youth and their families. They also have educational classes for women and for men, complete with graduation ceremonies. It's wonderful to see our groups come together and help those in need on a day to day basis.

**Fr. Jim:** There was something about your two institutions that I have been wrong about. I had thought you were here for the homeless, but that's not true.

**Cruz:** And that's where the partnership comes into play as they provide assistance to women and their children. Holy Cross does not simply work with homeless women but to needy families as well. And it's the same for Poverello. At Poverello we not only serve the homeless but also families in need as well. Every client is different, every family is different and we're here to help, no questions asked, just like Holy Cross Center. That's the amazing partnership that we have with Holy Cross.

**Fr. Jim:** What year was Holy Cross founded?

**Sister Mary:** The Center was opened in 1984, but the clinic was much earlier in the '70s.

**Fr. Jim:** And when was Poverello started?

**Cruz:** We became "official" in 1973.

**Sister Mary:** It actually started as a soup kitchen. It started with hunger and giving out sandwiches, but then it developed to the point of serving chili and other food. The volunteers who helped began to notice that some people who came for food had medical problems. The administrator at Saint Agnes was approached to see if there were personnel who could give some kind of advice or service to those who had medical needs, and so it evolved until we had a permanent clinic. There was very little in terms of services for women such as laundry, bathing and a place to stay at night. And so thankful to St Agnes, Marjorie Mason and Pov, they gave us the Naomi House, which is an overnight shelter. So subsequently, that was helped by HUD, it was the three agencies together that started all this.

**Fr. Jim:** Can the women at Naomi's stay there or is it just for the night?

**Cruz:** Naomi's House has 24 beds for single homeless women, 18 or above. We don't have anything for families as of yet, but, God willing, we are working on that process.

**Fr. Jim:** Do you have anything like that for men?

**Cruz:** We do have resident rehabilitation program for men, 28 beds, and it's becoming a workforce education program. Many come from the court system others from self referral. Residents work in our kitchen, run security and grounds maintenance. They have required classes they must complete. These classes include



domestic violence, anger management. Resident rehabilitation program runs six months to a year dependent on their court ordered requirements.

**Fr. Jim:** You mentioned the court system. Is there a connection with inmates?

**Sister Mary:** Some of our women are victims of domestic violence, but even here there are occasional moments of violence.

**Cruz:** One of the biggest assets that we have encountered as well, and really blessed with, is the Homeless Task Force. This was put together by Chief Dyer and the Police Department, and has five officers. All five officers patrol the streets, city wide but do concentrate on F Street, G Street and Santa Clara. They are a real blessing to Poverello House and our community. They have turned into social workers, but with a gun and a badge. But the true blessing is Mike McGarvin "Papa Mike" our founder who is still very active within our community. He talks to our clients on a daily basis and provides support when needed.

**Fr. Jim:** There was a few years ago a huge encampment over on G street, and a lot of tents all over the streets around Poverello, but what I heard as an outsider is that it was not good to clean them all up because now the people don't have a place to sleep.

**Cruz:** When the homeless encampments were removed, that's when the Homeless Taskforce (HTF) was created to help maintain and keep order and protect clients. There are still some clients who are sleeping on the streets, but that's what we're here as an organization for to provide clients access to social services. We know it's not going to happen overnight, but as our mission and our vision here at Poverello House we are helping with that process. We want to break that cycle and provide the services the people need. Everyone is a human being and we're here to help them.

**Fr. Jim:** There was a sad letter to the *Bee's* editor from a person who didn't get it. He said there'd be no homeless if everyone got up and went out and got a job. He really didn't understand the situation. There are all sorts of different types of people out on the streets, and you both are doing a great job in responding to those needs.

**Cruz:** Educating the community is one thing that Poverello has been doing and continues to do. We educate people on what the true issues are. If you're not approaching the homeless population with a humanistic approach, it will never work. In order to help someone, they have to be treated with respect, and the respect goes both ways.

**Fr. Jim:** There was a word in last Sunday's first reading that really blew me away. Paul mentioned the men who had executed Jesus, and then called them his brothers. Incredible.

**Cruz:** At the end of the day we are given decisions and we are given tasks. We have to look around to see all the others humanely, and they all have a lot of stories they

*continued on page 11*

**A Visit from Rome**

Mother Teolinda Salemi, the Superior General of the Daughters of Divine Zeal and Sr. Purificacion Beramendi, Secretary General of the Congregation came from Rome for the Canonical visit to the community of the Daughters of Divine Zeal in Reedley. She visited St. La Salle School and met with students, staff, board members, parents and members of the Parent/Teacher group. Mother thanked the parents for their involvement and support for St. La Salle. She encouraged the sisters to cultivate the spirit of prayer in their life and continue to spread the prayer for Vocations among young people. She exhorted the sisters about the importance of the Catholic Education and to care about the poor and needy. We thanked Mother Teolinda, for the visit and for her support and asked her to continue to pray for us and guide us.



From left to right: Sr. Mary Lilly, Sr. Purificacion, Mother General Teolinda Salemi, Sr. Lucy, Msgr. John Esquivel, Sr. Bernadita, Sr. Marita, Sr. Angelie

**Daughters of Divine Zeal**

The Daughters of Divine Zeal were founded in 1887 in Messina, Italy by St. Hannibal Di Francia, who was canonized in May of 2004 by St. John Paul II. He called St. Hannibal a “distinguished apostle of prayer for vocations.” The Daughters of Divine Zeal are an international community about 700 members present in: Italy, Brazil, Australia, USA, Philippines, Rwanda, Bolivia, Cameroon, Spain, India, Korea, Albania, Mexico, Vietnam, Indonesia and Angola. There are three sisters serving the Diocese of Fresno since 1997. They are staffing St. La Salle School in Reedley, teach CCD at St. Anthony’s Church in Reedley. They also hold retreats for young women in search of their vocation and participate in the prolife movement.

The Daughters of the Divine Zeal are the actual and concrete expression of the Zeal of the Heart of Jesus. They respond to his command: “The Harvest is rich but the laborers are few, pray therefore the Lord of the Harvest to send laborers to His har-

vest.” (MT. 9:38) which St. Hannibal Di Francia, their founder received from Jesus and it embraces all. Like their founder they become “holy laborers” by serving people in various ways. The sisters take a fourth vow, the Rogate — to pray for holy vocations to the priesthood, religious life, missionary life, married life and single life.

The Daughters of the Divine Zeal reach out into fields of activity as the needs arise, in six continents, to foster the growth and mission of the church. The following are some working fields of the sisters: Cenacles of prayers for vocations, youth centers, charitable and promotional works as well as women rehabilitation centers, orphanages and abandoned children, homes for unwed mothers and their children, schools, missions, training centers in domestic arts, homes for deaf and mute children, homes for the aged, parish activities, catechesis and housing for refugees from North Africa and North Korea.



From left to right: Sr. Lucy, Sr. Bernardita, Our Bishop Armando Ochoa, and Sr. Mary Lilly



From left to right: Sisters renewing their vows on the feast of St. Joseph

**Presentation Sisters in Tipton**

by Sr. Rita Jovick, PBVM

In 2006, the Sisters of the Presentation established Las Rosas Center in Tipton, offering classes for adults in English, Computer, Guitar, Citizenship and Photo Journaling. Baby sitting was made available.

Sisters Rita Jovick, Pati Reinhart and Catherine Mary King have had the privilege of serving hundreds of adults and children in Tipton and in Woodville. Regrettably, their congregation, the Sisters of the Presentation, is no longer able to provide personnel for this ministry. They will be leaving Tipton during the summer of 2015.

For the Sisters, coming to know the richness and the poverty of the Central Valley, the treasure of its many cultures, and the goodness of its people, has been an unforgettable experience. And without the support of so many ---bishops, pastors, and fellow religious, the wonderful people of St. John the Evangelist, and generous and faithful benefactors— these years of service would have been impossible. For this, the Sisters are extremely grateful.

In a letter that the Sisters wrote last October, they said, “We do not know what the future of adult education will be. However, we are heartened by the words of Archbishop Oscar Romero:

*“We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the Master Builder and the worker. We are the workers, not the Master Builders... ministers not Messiahs. We are prophets of a future that is not our own.”*



The Tipton Trio

**Sisters of the Immaculate Conception**

by Sr. Pilar Borregon, RCM

We, Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, have been in the Diocese of Fresno since 1962. The number of Sisters have varied from time to time as we moved from one school to another, starting in Clovis, Firebaugh next, and Madera. In the early 1980’s we expand to the Archdiocese of San Francisco, where we are still present. Today there are seven Sisters in the diocese.

Mary under the mystery of the Immaculate Conception, as contemplated by Saint Carmen, is at the center of our charism which is Trinitarian, Christ-centered and Eucharistic. The mission that flows from the charism is carried out essentially through education, having its roots in Christ the Teacher and in Mary Immaculate, the first fruit of the Redemption. The missionary commitment is essential to our spirituality and charism. Although we work in other areas of evangelization such

as parish religious education programs, youth groups, houses of spirituality, orphanages, detention ministry, parish dining rooms, and campesino ministry, our main apostolate remains the education of children and youth as entrusted to us by our foundress Saint Carmen Sallés. It is this mystery of Mary that fascinated Saint Carmen and motivated her mission: to educate the minds and hearts of children after the model of Mary Immaculate to prevent evil in their lives, that once they know Jesus as the Truth, they may follow him as faithful disciples. To help the children and youth in their decision making in order to live honest and useful lives in our society and, finally, to become citizens of heaven, is the purpose of our mission. In all parts of the world where we are located, the mission of evangelization continues to be carried out by the Sisters according to their needs and culture.



From left to right: Sisters Ana Rosa Gordo, Olvido Galiana, Esperanza Fernandez, Isabel Lopez de Dicastillo, Clara Borregon, Pilar Borregon, Monica Martinez

## Sisters of the Love of God

by Sr. Invecion Canas, RAD

The Congregation of the Sisters of the Love of God was founded in 1864 by a remarkable man, Venerable Father Jerónimo Usera. This year we are celebrating the 151st Anniversary of the founding of the Congregation.

The Venerable Father Jerónimo Usera was born in Madrid, Spain, in 1810, to a highly educated and devout family. The family environment of rich culture and deep faith made of him a person of multiple facets, priest, missionary, and founder. He expanded with love, passion, and untiring zeal, his service to God, to the Church and to Humanity, not only in Europe but also in Africa and in America.

The charism of the Sisters of the Love of God is "To incarnate the love of God in one's life so that every Sister may be a permanent manifestation of the Love of God in the world." Our charism urges us to evangelize, to commit ourselves to building a Culture of Love. Compelled by God's love, we dedicate ourselves to: Catholic Education, Pastoral Ministry, Health Care, Foreign Missions, Social Centers and Nursing Homes.

For 151 years the Sisters of the Love of God have continued Father Usera's vision in many parts of the World through education and evangelization. We are grateful for the 55 years in California and the 46 years in the Diocese of Fresno.



Back Row (left to right): Sr. Invecion Canas, RAD, Sr. Maria Fe Taboada, RAD, Sr. Maria Eugenia Guzman, Sr. Carmen Fernandez, RAD. Front Row (left to right): Sr. Rocio Alonso, RAD, Sr. Piedad Crespo, RAD, Sr. Milagros Martin, RAD

## Norbertine Sisters of the Bethlehem Priory of St. Joseph: Cloistered Contemplatives at the Heart of the Church

### Living the "Vita Apostolica"

— Canonically erected Oct. 7, 1997 by St. Michael's Abbey (Orange);

— Fresno Diocese continually since May 2000; 33 sisters as of April 2015 (newest postulant entered 3/25/15)

Although the Norbertine (Premonstratensian) Order was founded in 1121, we are the first community of Norbertine canonesses (nuns) in the United States. Walking in St. Norbert's footsteps, we embrace the evangelical way of life, the following of Christ as in the Gospels, and the apostolic way of life, like the first Christian community in Jerusalem. In accord with our founder's charism, our Constitutions and the Rule of St. Augustine, we thus share all things in common through vowed lives of chastity, poverty, obedience, and daily conversion; we continually work towards increased self-sufficiency; and we are especially devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary. As Norbertine canonesses, the heart of our life is prayer, and specifically, liturgical prayer: the solemn and reverential celebration of the Sacred Liturgy together in choir is our first and essential apostolate. As cloistered religious, our mission of prayer and sacrifice is eminently spiritual. Separated from the world, we are intimately united with all of God's People, and especially our Fresno Diocese and local church communities: "Through prayer, especially the celebration of the liturgy, and

their daily self-offering, [cloistered nuns] intercede for the whole people of God and unite themselves to Jesus Christ's thanksgiving to the Father." (*Verbi Sponsa*, 6) Like the heart that pumps the life-force of blood throughout the body, cloistered nuns have been described as the hidden members of Christ's Mystical Body who help to pump God's divine gift of grace to all of her members. As St. Therese of Lisieux, patroness of our Fresno Diocese, Doctor of the Church, and a cloistered nun wrote: "Yes, I found my place in the Church ... in the Heart of the Church, my Mother, I will be Love." Lord, may we be instruments of your Love, all for God's honor and glory, and the salvation of souls.

*Our chapel is open to the public for prayer, and all are welcome to join us for the Sacred Liturgy (except Holy Mass on Sundays, which is only for the sisters, Bethany House guests, and visitors meeting with sisters).*

*Our e-mail prayer request line for sending confidential intentions: pray\_req@cybersurfers.net*

*Our convent address, phone/fax: 17831 Water Canyon Road, Tehachapi, CA 93561; 661-823-1066*

*For private retreats or overnight stays at our Bethany Guest House, please call, write or e-mail us: nsguestmistress@gmail.com*



## History of the Pious Disciples of the Divine Master

by Sr. Eugenia Pia Bianco, PDDM

*They are currently called Sister Disciples of the Divine Master who are the modern version of the Women of the Gospel!*

It was founded by Blessed James Alberione, in Alba, Italy, on February 10, 1924, the third of the ten Religious Congregations and Institutes of the Pauline Family.

We were officially recognized by the Church in the following stages: April 3 1947: Diocesan approval granted by the Bishop of Alba, H.E. Msgr. Luigi M. Grassi; January 12 1948: Pontifical approval by His Holiness Pope Pius XII; August 30 1960: Definitive approval by His Holiness Pope John XXIII.

The Center of our Discipleship is Jesus the Divine Master, present in the Eucharist, in the Priesthood and in the Liturgy. So we have Chapels of Adoration, open to the public, where we fulfill a ministry of unceasing intercessory prayer for the needs of the Church, the Pauline Family and humankind, especially for the good use of the means of social communication and in reparation for the evil done through them,

This is complemented by various Eucharistic activities, such as spirituality workshops and retreats on prayer. We support

the ordained ministers of the Church with prayer and loving service from the beginning to the end of their priestly life, especially when they are needy and sick. To help people understand and live the liturgical life we use the means of art and music, also preparing items for the various Sacraments, displayed and distributed through our Liturgical Centers.

Our Sisters first came to Fresno at the beginning of 1951 at the request of Bishop A. Willinger to provide for the needs of the seminarians at Ryan Seminary, which closed in 1969. In the mid 1950's, Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Luccardo donated land for our convent which was completed in 1958 with the donations of so many benefactors.

Since then our Sisters have continued to serve our Diocese in the Eucharistic, Priestly and Liturgical ministry; through daily adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the preparation of liturgical vestments, the liturgical center and retreat ministry and spirituality.

All are welcome to visit and benefit from the Eucharistic Blessings.



(back row, standing from left to right): Sr. Margarita Ceballos, Sr. Crucis d'Amico, Sr. Alba Scellato, Sr. Rosario Gallardo, Sr. Natalie Donola, Sr. Verias Montecchio, Sr. Eugenia Pia Bianco. (front row, squatting — from left to right): Sr. Aurora Magtagnob, Sr. M. Margaret Tapang, Sr. Clare Tovio

## The Adrian Dominicans in Delano

by Sr. Mary Jean Williams, OP

The Adrian Dominican Sisters came to St. Mary's in Delano in the Diocese of Monterey-Fresno in 1947. The sisters were at St. Mary's parish until 1976. These sisters ministered as teachers: Marie Celine Carrier, Marie Immaculata Hebestreit, Lorraine Marie Mackin, Mary Roseen Maier, Francis Loretto McNicol, Margaret Richard Pillon, Adrienne Piennette, and Jean Annette Rudolph. Elizabeth Dickerson was secretary and Church organist, Mary Ann Rissert was a "teacher and secretary," Mary Teresita Mahon was "office staff and librarian", and Diana Miller was an elementary and religious education teacher and principal for a couple of years.

Madelene Rowden was chaplain at St. Agnes Hospital, Fresno, 1983-1985, Ann Patrick Deegan was sponsorship coordinator for Kenosha Catholic Health Care in Merced 1987-1988, Clara Ann Budenz was Director of

Religious Education at Sacred Heart Church, Fresno, 1995-2000, Director of Ministries and Vicar for Religious until 2011, and Mary Jean Williams, Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Education, 2006-2015.

The sisters exercise their charism for preaching through diverse ministries, the arts, social justice activism, various forms of liturgical preaching, education, administration, law, social work, health care, pastoral ministry, and office work.

The international Congregation of 723 vowed women religious minister in 25 states and five countries. Their roots go back to St. Dominic in the 13th century. They are committed to preaching the Word of God, the formation of community centered on faith, and ministry to further the values of the Gospel. The Motherhouse is in Adrian, Michigan.

# CELEBRATING CONSECRATED LIFE

## The Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

by Sr. Cristina Caballero, RSM

“To be Mercy is to listen, to lend a hand, to encourage, to reach out, to absorb complaints, to comfort, to respond gently, to smile, to share worry, to forgive, to speak honestly, to understand, to stand with, to pray, to seek justice, to receive and reflect the compassion of God.”

This quote is taken from the first Sister of Mercy, Catherine McAuley. This is an expression of the Charism of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. The Sisters of Mercy are a Pontifical and Apostolic Religious Community of women. There are currently 5 Sisters of Mercy ministering in the Bakersfield area. Four of our Sisters minister in the Dignity Health System at our Mercy Truxton, Mercy Southwest, and Bakersfield Memorial Hospitals. Our fifth Sister is the principal of St. Francis Parish School.

The Sisters of Mercy have been serving the Church in the Diocese of Fresno



Top row, left to right, Srs. Josie Gonzalez, RSM, Sherry Dolan, RSM, Cristina Caballero, RSM  
Bottom row, Srs. Mary Hope Sanchez, RSM and Judy Morasci, RSM

no since 1910. We minister in a variety of different areas from chaplaincy services, prison ministry, low cost housing, Social Services, and missionary works in Central and South America. Currently, our primary ministries here in the Central Valley are education and healthcare.

## Day of Reflection for Religious

by Sr. Rosalie Rohrer, IHM

On Saturday, April 18, 54 sisters took a day out of their busy schedules for a Day of Reflection hosted by the Defendis Family at the D&D Ranch, Ave. 12 in Madera.

Sr. Invention Canas, Vicar for Religious, introduced Sr. Danielle Witt, SSND, retreat facilitator. Sr. Danielle is a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She is presently offering the 34 week Ignatian Retreat in Spanish with Msgr. John Griesbach.

The sisters and several invited guests enjoyed the beauty of the out-

doors and enjoyed a special lunch catered by Pardini's. After spending just a few short hours together in prayer



and conversation, everyone was energized to go back to their various works and parishes.

## 8th Annual St. Benedict Catholic Worker Yard Sale

by Lisa Apper, Catholic Worker Director

The “Friends of the St. Benedict Catholic Worker,” under the leadership of Natalia Bolanos-Monreal, will be hosting the eighth annual St. Benedict Catholic Worker Yard Sale to help support the work of the St. Benedict Catholic Worker. The St. Benedict Catholic Worker, now in its 18th year, serves meals on the porch of Fresno County Jail, offers hospitality to those in need of a place to stay, has an emergency food pantry, conducts grief education and support groups, Bible study nights and roundtable discussions.

The eighth annual St. Benedict Catholic Worker Yard Sale will begin on Saturday, June 13 through Sunday, June 21. Items for donation are needed. Your donated items serve a two-fold purpose. First, they make those items

available at a fair cost to those who can't pay full retail value. Second, the money that is raised from the sale of those items supports the ministry of the St. Benedict Catholic Worker.

All donations are tax deductible. For further information, please contact Natalia Bolanos-Monreal at 916-0344. You can also learn more about the St. Benedict Catholic Worker through their website: [www.sbcw.org](http://www.sbcw.org).



## Servants of the 11th Hour, SJE (for St. John Eudes)

by Sr. Anne Marie, SJE

Our community was established for women 45 to 65, (hence our name Servants of the 11th Hour, Matt. 20:19) who feel called to a consecrated life. It was approved in 2003 by Archbishop Rafael Romo Muñoz of Tijuana, Mexico. Our foundress, Mother Antonia Brenner, lived in La Mesa prison in Tijuana for over 30 years. Several of our sisters live and work in Tijuana; others live and work throughout the U.S. Our Community has been in the Diocese of Fresno for three years. Presently there are two sisters here, and we hope to have a total of four by the end of the year.

Our mission is to bear in our hearts and in our lives, the pain of the imprisoned, the poor, the sick, the rejected, the forgotten and abandoned children of God. We have a home in Tijuana for women just released from prison and for women and children undergoing cancer treatment.

We have daily Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, Adoration, Rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet. Our vows of chastity, poverty, obedience and service to the poor with love are renewed annually on March 25, the feast of the Annunciation of Our Lady.



## Catholic Charities Volunteers

by Monica O'Rourke, Volunteer Coordinator, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Fresno

Catholic Charities is proud to have been serving the community since 1968. Through the generosity of many, we served over 142,000 clients in 2014! Our three locations, Fresno, Merced and Bakersfield are blessed to have many supporters who help us with our mission to provide food and clothing to those in need.

Our volunteer team is a valuable part of our organization. Have you ever thought of volunteering? Now is the time to take action. We welcome anyone who has a little time: one morning or afternoon a week, twice a month, or more often. Teachers off for summer vacation, students who want to keep busy this summer and give to the community, we are looking for you. As the

old saying goes, “Many hands make light work”. We are looking for your hands.

If you are out of work and want a way to bolster your resume, volunteering will provide that for you. Many people have come to volunteer while they were in between jobs and gained a few skills along the way that make them a more “marketable” employee.

Anyone interested in our volunteer opportunities please contact Monica O'Rourke 559-237-0851, or [MO'Rourke@ccdof.org](mailto:MO'Rourke@ccdof.org) for Fresno area, Dena Medeiros 209-383-2494 [dmedeiros@ccdof.org](mailto:dmedeiros@ccdof.org) for Merced area, and Dinah Marquez 661-281-2130 [dmarquez@ccdof.org](mailto:dmarquez@ccdof.org) for the Bakersfield area.



## Immaculate Heart Community, Los Angeles

by Sr. Rosalie Rohrer, IHM

The Immaculate Heart Community, whose history is that of a Roman Catholic Order of women, was founded in 1848. Today, we are a community of women and men rooted in Jesus Christ who work for justice, reconciliation, and peace. Following the Church in its expanded view of mission, this community believes it belongs wherever there are people in need of food and drink, clothing, housing, medicine, employment, education, wherever others lack the facilities necessary for living a truly human life.

The members of the Immaculate Heart Community are united by faith in Christ and their commitment to carry out His redemptive work. The two great commandments of the Gospel, love of God and love of neighbor, provide the total meaning and direction of our dedicated life. The members' commitment exercises itself

through loving service of neighbor, thereby manifesting the presence of Christ in the world. We are persons who choose community as a way of achieving relationships, which support a life of simplicity, joy, and service.



The Immaculate Heart Community members join with other Christians in an ecumenical spirit that supports adversity in lifestyle and work. Its members are committed to fostering shared prayer, deepening spirituality and working towards peace and justice.

The Immaculate Heart Community serves through community-sponsored institutions as well as with various churches, organizations, and religious groups throughout California. Presently there are two IHMs in the Diocese of Fresno. Others work in several cities in California and in some countries outside the United States.

## Rev. Thomas Timmings, 1945-2015

Rev. Thomas Michael Timmings died on April 4, 2015. He was ordained on May 22, 1970 at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Fresno. He was assigned to a variety of parishes from Delano to Atwater and served for 45 years in the Diocese of Fresno.

A vigil prayer service was held at St. Anthony Church, Atwater, on Tuesday, April 7, 2015. A Mass of Christian burial was held at St. Anthony of Padua, Fresno, on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. Remembrances may be made to St. Anthony Church, 1799 Winton Way, Atwater, 93501 or to St. Anthony's School, 1801 Winton Way, Atwater 93501.

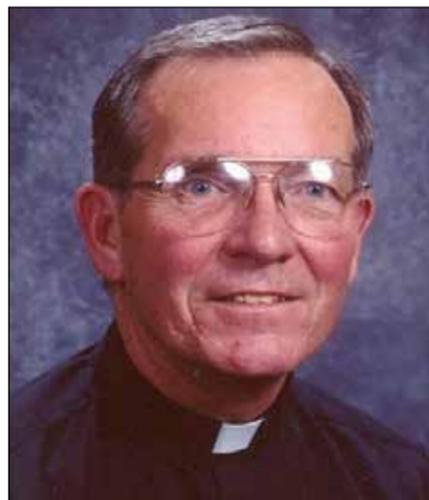
## Good and Faithful Servant

In 1994 Father Tom Timmings became the pastor of St. Anthony's Parish in Atwater. Over the next 21 years, he guided the parish family through the joys and sorrows of life. He performed countless baptisms, first communions, marriages and funerals. And he did it all with a genuineness that was unsurpassed. There is no way to summarize Father Timmings because of the immensity and complexity of his personality. However, when you talk with the parish family about him, the same words are being exchanged – simplicity, devotion, humanness.

Father was simplicity in its purest form. He wasn't materialistic and only required basic items to get through his day. He drove the same blue Nissan for the 21 years he was with us and must have kept it in good condition because it never seemed to break down. He was always busy and yet always interested in the members of his parish. There was no "flying under the radar" with Father. He would often compliment individuals on the smallest of actions that he would notice even though others would not. Many an altar server would receive a donation for a 4H or FFA project once he found out about it.

Father's devotion to his parish and members was always at the forefront. His leadership gave the parish the structure that was needed to insure future growth and stability. Some of Father's best conversations with individuals often took place as he was walking to the back of the church to begin Mass. He would greet those gathered as he walked up the aisle and stop to tell someone something that he had meant for just that person. Father was known to be a very private person, however, but was always there for those in need. Regardless of the circumstances of a situation, he would always minister to those in need of his spiritual guidance.

Humanness, the act of being human, was not lost on Father. His homilies would



many times be just the word or phrase that a person may have needed to hear to be able to take on a trying situation. He would often say that he wanted us to sit back and reflect during Mass and to use the time to contemplate and to listen to God's Word. He would often make reference to sport figures or individuals in the news. He would present individuals who had to overcome obstacles to succeed and explain how perseverance and patience in prayer was a strength that was all we had. He never "preached" to the congregation. He talked to them. He spoke of family life with parents and children, husbands and wives and extended relatives and how it was an ongoing journey that would always continue to evolve. He spoke of God as a loving benevolent father who was there to shepherd and guide his people, but not be vengeful. He spoke often of forgiveness and the grace of giving and receiving. He continuously wanted us to realize the "goodness" in others and to "accentuate the positive" in those we met.

And so it is with heavy hearts that we say our farewells to Father Tom Timmings because we didn't just lose a pastor and mentor. We lost a friend who shall always remain in our hearts.

## Fresno's Saint Anthony's School Community Embraces Service Projects

by Lisa Birrell

In the spirit of Pentecost and the work of the Holy Spirit, the faculty and students of Saint Anthony's Catholic School continue to embrace their culture of service. Together they strive to honor their school slogan -- Where Faith and Learning Grow Hand-in-Hand -- in both educational excellence and assistance to others in need.

This spring, SAS has participated in a variety of heartfelt service projects, resulting in positive changes to the community, including:

\* **Porterville Water Drive** -- Bishop Ochoa challenged the SAS students during Catholic Schools Week to assist the community of Porterville where 170 wells have dried up due to the drought. As a result, SAS families donated 1,303 cases of water to residents! Bishop Ochoa awarded the students of the fifth grade classrooms to a pizza lunch for donating the most bottles of water.

\* **Pennies for Patients** -- What an incredible and generous response from the SAS students for the Pennies for Patients drive to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The students donated coin after coin after coin for a total of \$4,537.

\* **Student award** -- Luca Fanucchi, an

SAS sixth grader, was honored as a recipient of the Prudential Spirit of Community Award for middle and high school students across America for his outstanding volunteer service. In addition, he was also honored with a President's Volunteer Service Award for Americans of all ages who have volunteered significant amounts of service to their communities and country. These awards grew out of a project he initiated to raise funds for Charlie DeGrange, an Our Lady of Victory School student who was diagnosed with a brain tumor.

\* **Baby Bottle Lenten Project** -- SAS students raised \$4,829.30 to benefit Right to Life.

\* **The Rice Bowl Lenten Project** -- SAS students raised over \$11,300 to assist Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities.

\* **Bake Sale to assist Labrador Retriever Rescue** -- SAS students raised \$500 for the cause.

Along with a thank you to everyone in the SAS community who participated in these wonderful causes, it's also graduation time. We congratulate the SAS graduating Class of 2015 and wish them the very best in the next chapter of their lives.

Bishop Ochoa treats the fifth grade to pizza for donating the most bottles of water to the Porterville Water Drive.



## Fr. Jim's Interview, con't

have to tell. The world has to take that time to listen and to lend an ear or lend a shoulder to cry on, and that's when you know you're doing what you have to do.

**Sister Mary:** My thought is that we have to help all of these people. Some women are interested in some brief scriptural study and at times we've had volunteers who would do this with them. We don't proselytize nor do we permit others to come in and proselytize. We have Mass here two times a year, Mothers' Day and All Souls, but it's simply open to the any individuals who want to attend. This is an interesting and very vital place to work. Of course you're going to have some people who have emotional, mental or drug related problems. And there are other people who come here to be involved in activities or to attend classes.

**Cruz:** I have to agree with Sr. Mary. I was humbled and blessed with a family I have at Poverello. I refer to my Poverello staff as family because they are here on a day-

to-day basis. It's truly a blessing when you have staff that puts their heart and soul into their work especially with some of the situations that arise. These are true blessings from God, and I am humbled and thrilled that I'm part of it every day. I pray when I go to bed that I can wake up and meet the challenges and carry out the blessings of each new day.

**Fr. Jim:** And I am humbled and thrilled listening to you both. Cruz, is there a final word you would like to say?

**Cruz:** We continue to enrich the lives and spirits of all who pass our way.

**Fr. Jim:** Sr. Mary, is there any last thing you would like to say?

**Sister Mary:** Well, sometimes people are fearful of coming here but they need to know that it's a safe place and a wonderful place to serve. If they are planning to help people, they're offered an opportunity here in a variety of ways.

**Fr. Jim:** I want to thank you both very much.

**Pope Francis keeps telling us that we should be reaching out to the poor.**

## Garces Memorial Senior Class Academic Awards

submitted by Lou Ann Durrett, Director of Marketing

On Tuesday, April 28, 2015, Garces Memorial held an awards assembly to honor outstanding seniors in the Class of 2015. The awards given and the recipients are listed below:

**Valedictorian** - Renee Senining  
**Salutatorian** - Kylie Minor  
**Top English, Math & Physical Science Student** - Renee Senining  
**Top Life Science Student** - Matt Pandol  
**Top Social Studies Student** - Alexander Ortiz  
**Top Theology Student** - Althea Martinez  
**Top Music Student** - Natalie Moss  
**Top World Language Student** - Althea Martinez

**Top Arts Student** - Kelsey Turner  
**President's Award for seniors with a GPA of 4.5 or higher:**

Renee Senining, Kylie Minor, Rishi Prasadha, Alexander Ortiz, Mary Jo Etcheverry, Blair Burkhart, Tehnad Mangat, Mateo Lopez, Matt Pandol, Allen Eschete, Sydney Garza, Matthew Staugaard, Emily Tovar  
**Principal's Awards for seniors with a GPA 4.0-4.49:**

Gale Acabal, Erica Delgado, Lilyana Espinoza, Kathryn VanderPoel, Katherine Morton, Jenna Storey, Gurleen Brar, Victoria Nguyen, Jae Woong Yoon, Luke Vazquez, Nathan Esch, Abby Hulsey, Maveric Guzman, Althea Martinez, Lisa Darquea, Adrianna Buenviaje,

Kelsey Turner, Kyle Haffermann, Amandeep Dhaliwal, Samuel Tobias, Trey Alderete, Logan Aspeitia, Joseph Antongiovanni, Stephanie Torres, Nicoleta Apperti

**National Merit Hispanic Recognition Award** - Mateo Lopez and Alexander Ortiz

**AP Scholars:** Mateo Lopez, Kylie Minor, Alexander Ortiz, Natalie Pandol, Rishi Prasadha

**AP Scholars w/Distinction** - Alexander Ortiz

**SAT Perfect Score Award** - Jae Woong Yoon and Renee Senining

**American Heart Association Science Award** - Rishi Prasadha

**Athena Gonzales Memorial Scholarship** - Adrianna Buenviaje and Althea Martinez

**Catherine Ann Sill Award** - Emily Tovar

**Philip Eagleson Award** - Allen Eschete

**Mike Farrell Award** - Bridget Boylan

**Sheila O'Connell Roussell Award** - Miguel Loreto and Amanda Armstrong

**Community Service Award** - Paige Sakowski

**Eagle Scout** - Nathan Esch and Samuel Birchfield

**Girl Scout Gold Award** - Kendall Rudie and Adrianna Buenviaje

**Link Crew Award** - John Soper and Kylie Minor

**Music Ministry Award** - Emily Tovar

**Outstanding Four-year Athletes** - Tanner Henderson and Breann Bonkosky

## Catholic Education at San Joaquin Memorial

JD Freitas, San Joaquin Memorial, Valedictorian

My name is JD Freitas. I am a graduating senior at San Joaquin Memorial High School and will be attending Texas A&M University in the fall. I have attended SJM since my sophomore year, and before I came to SJM I had attended Fresno Christian from second grade through my freshman year. Being a Protestant Christian my whole life, and attending a Christian school for most of my life, my education and faith have always gone hand in hand. For these past three years of high school, receiving a Catholic education has been very meaningful. The experiences I have had at San Joaquin Memorial have not only been very memorable, but have also been very enlightening in learning about not only life, but also about myself. Receiving a Catholic education has been and will continue to be a very big influence on the way I live my life and treat others.

While attending SJM, I would say that my faith has been significantly increased and I have become much closer to Jesus. Having a religion class every year has helped me to become more focused on

God, which in return has helped make my life much easier whenever I'm dealing with a lot of stress in my life. Along with improving on my own religious beliefs, I have also learned to become much more tolerant with other peoples' religious beliefs. During my senior year, I have taken a World Religions class where I was able to study some of the world's major religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Sikhism, along with tribal religions from Africa and Australia. Learning about the beliefs of these religions has given me a better understanding of other peoples' cultures and beliefs, which has helped me to become more tolerant and less judgmental of how other people live their lives. SJM has taught me many things about life, and I am very grateful for these lessons. Along with the excellent education that I have received while attending this school, the many experiences and life lessons that I have also received have prepared me for my future and have given me opportunities that I would not have been able to receive at any other school in Fresno.

## What Does Catholic Education Mean?

Jose Chavez, San Joaquin Memorial, Valedictorian

What has Catholic education meant to you and explain how your experience(s) has led you to pursue the next chapter of your life?

I have had the privilege of Catholic education for six years, starting in middle school at St. Anthony's of Padua and continuing to San Joaquin Memorial High School. As I evolved in my faith and was challenged by the every distraction of schoolwork, extracurricular activities, and family life, Catholic education, especially at San Joaquin Memorial, always seemed to revive my faith either in the classroom or in outside activities. When I doubted my intelligence, felt consumed by secular popular culture, seemed lost in myself, even a simple prayer in the morning before announcements gave me strength to carry throughout the day, one of the precious privileges of attending a Catholic school. Looking back on all four years, Catholic education at San Joaquin Memorial meant that I could grow intellectually and religiously at the same time, developing a personal relationship with God, a positive work ethic, and an opportunity to serve my peers in church and school; I would have been much different if I had attended a public high school.

My most meaningful experiences have been San Joaquin's religious retreats, where I grew immensely in faith and helped other seek God in their lives. My vision of God changed; I saw him as a per-

sonal and forgiving friend. With my peers, I felt more compelled to act myself instead of somebody I am not, which allowed me to make new relationships like never before. So, after being a retreatant on the Junior Retreat and Kairos my junior year.

I returned as a senior, this time as a leader. As I am about to start a new chapter of my life, I think that the best way to stay faithful to my current understanding of religion is to find that religious spirit I had at Memorial in my university. Catholic education and my experiences have led me to pursue the next busy chapter of my life gratefully because it has provided me a sense that anything is possible.

Next year I will be attending the University of California, Berkeley, one of the most liberal and prestigious public university in the world, which means I will be exposed to different teachings, information, and social life. There, I want to continue to see God as a friend, but I want to approach him differently by surrendering myself to him, meaning all my trust is in God and his plan for me. Religion will keep me emotionally healthy in the crazy life throughout college and assure that I will have spiritual guidance. Again, I am very grateful to have attended San Joaquin Memorial; if I had another chance to go back in time, I would have chosen San Joaquin Memorial. There I have felt at home, and my religion is thriving among my peers.

## Intellectual Merit and the Holy Spirit Educators and Students Need Rest and Renewal

by Ezequiel B. Gutierrez, M.Ed, Ph.L., Vice Principal—San Joaquin Memorial

The academic year well perfectly with the liturgical calendar. Schools culminate their course of study in late spring with finals while the Church celebrates the Feast of Pentecost.

By the time May rolls around you can ask any teacher or student what they most desire and many would surely reply—a vacation.

After hours of studying and preparing for summative assessments, students' brains are overloaded and fried. Teachers find themselves with similar fatigue after long hours of preparing lessons and grading. Offering a chance to reflect on the gifts of the Spirit, this time of year sets the stage for both respite and continued learning.

Teachers, students and families eagerly anticipate the summer months for vacationing and planning for the upcoming

school year. But in order to nurture our mind, body and soul with the new knowledge gained from the work and study of the previous year, time ought to be set aside for spiritual works and service.

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit filled weary and tired apostles with renewed energy. Being slain with the Spirit they were afforded skills and talents to work at fulfilling Christ's mission. The summer months are a great way to tap into the power of the Holy Spirit in our own lives. The time off can be used for spiritual and professional growth: Find ways of applying theoretical knowledge to practical tasks. Develop new skills. Exercise the mind. Read literature, religious texts or professional journals. Let's be empowered by the Spirit so that we can return to school refreshed and with a greater sense of purpose.



## Garces Memorial's "Play Day"

by Lou Ann Durrett, Director of Marketing

On Friday, April 24, 2015, Garces Memorial High School hosted over five-hundred students with special needs at their 21st annual Garces Play Day on their campus. Students with special needs throughout the community were invited to come to the campus and enjoy a carnival like atmosphere. Students came from several local school districts and were paired up with a Garces Memorial student "buddy". They had a wonderful, memorable day enjoying a variety of fun and interactive activities.

Some of the activities were a magic show, a petting zoo, face painting, carnival games, soccer shoot, t-ball challenge, Frisbee toss, and pony rides. Also on campus providing entertainment for the students were the Bakersfield Police Department,

Kern County Sheriff Search and Rescue, Kern County Fire Department, and the California Highway Patrol. All of the visitors and students were served lunch courtesy of McDonalds. The day is made possible by a grant through Chevron Corporation and through our partnership with the Kern County Superintendent of Schools.

Garces Memorial holds this annual event to further our mission. This day helps us to remind our students the importance of being socially responsible and acting with compassion. Our entire campus gets an on-hands lesson in the importance of caring for others, especially those who cannot care for themselves, and the reward of seeing the joy that an act of kindness can bring into the life of a child with special needs.



Garces High students with their buddies at Garces Play Day

Nikki Jamieson to the lower left  
Bianca Burkhart to the lower right



## Catholic Education Is a Lifestyle

by Jacob Hambalek, San Joaquin Memorial, Valedictorian

As I was finishing my elementary education, I had a tough decision to make: to attend a charter school, with a highly specialized education and an emphasis on the arts, or attend San Joaquin Memorial, a school rooted in faith, with high academic rigor and abundant opportunities. I chose San Joaquin Memorial for a variety of reasons, but the predominant factor was such: I wanted to do everything possible to remain connected to my faith. I am a proud product of thirteen years of private Catholic education, and my faith would be in a completely different state had my parents and I decided not to attend a Catholic school. Integrating religion into a daily routine, participating in school sponsored faith-based activities, and later joining the Ministry team on campus and leading these faith-based events has shaped the passion I have for my religion.

Catholic education is more than just a class on religion: it is a lifestyle. Classes on Sacraments and Morality are extremely important and enlightening, but the true value of Catholic education comes from the quality of character instilled in a pupil. Jesus was an advocate of demonstrated care and concern for all peoples, especially for the youth. His teachings have been put into practice by all faculty and staff I have encountered in my education. It is this nurturing I have received that has left an indel-

ible mark on my character, and has inspired me to apply this principles in my own daily interactions. As a Campus Minister, I have the privilege to provide for the students of San Joaquin Memorial enriching and powerful events rooted in faith: masses, prayer services, and retreats. Witnessing my peers experience God in their lives is just another way that I find God in my own life. I am blessed to be a servant-leader for my school, and it is my upbringing in Catholic education that has inspired my love for this service.

As I look to the future, I realize that I will be leaving the secure and comfortable environment that Memorial has provided for me. In the fall, I will be attending the University of California, Los Angeles, and thus will no longer be a student of a Catholic school. However, the strength of my faith, reinforced by Catholic education, has motivated me to continue expressing my faith as overtly as possible. I have already joined the University Catholic Center at UCLA, an organization that provides for Catholic students at UCLA an opportunity to express their faith in loving community. I look forward to becoming an integral part of this organization, and further developing my faith as I continue my education. This enthusiasm to kindle the fire God has set inside me has been and forever will be a product of my Catholic education.

## Catholic High School Environment

by Ryan Beecher, San Joaquin Memorial, Valedictorian

The environment created at a Catholic high school is one every student is lucky to be exposed to. I have been blessed to have received all of my education at a catholic schools, starting off in kindergarten at St. Anthony of Padua all the way through my senior year at San Joaquin Memorial. The person who I have grown up to be to this point is something I owe to my education in such supportive environments. I want to discuss how I have been changed by such an education, and where it is leading me next.

Memorial has really helped me find my own voice. This has been achieved by letting students choose their path and providing them opportunities in the classroom to formulate an opinion. Although I have not finished my growth as a person, Memorial has set me down a positive path. I have tried new things and have been able to live out who I am. I have never felt lost in the crowd at Memorial but rather as an individual who is proud of who I am. This experience is interesting as you care less about the person you think you should be, and start opening up to who you truly are. The Catholic teaching of God's love for everyone is a big part of that, as He loves who you are even with your faults.

My relationships with others have also

benefited from my time at Memorial. I have grown much closer to many of my best friends, and some people I had never known. This is largely due to my increased level of empathy for others. I have grown to be more aware of the struggles people go through every day. This was most evident on my Kairos retreat. People I had gone to school with for over 11 years were total strangers to me. I learned more about what people go through, and the true types of people they are in those few days than I had in many years. It opened my eyes to what people struggle with, without anyone knowing. Without such an experience like Kairos, available only to people receiving a Catholic education, I would never been exposed to such powerful lesson.

As I begin the next step in my life, I look back on everything San Joaquin Memorial has taught me and I am truly grateful. They have provided me with the tools and environment to grow both in my academics and faith. I will be attending Stanford University next fall, the school of my dreams since I was a little kid, and I know that without Memorial this is an opportunity that may never have presented itself to me. I hope to continue to grow and learn in the next steps of my life, and to never forget what my Catholic education has taught me.

## St. Helen's Homeless Committee

by Anne Stratman

On any given Monday in the City of Fresno, you can see two or three individuals in bright neon vests, distributing peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to the homeless. This ministry began in June of 2013. We started on a small scale of 200 sandwiches and six cases of water per week. Our second year, we increased those amounts to 300 sandwiches and nine cases of water. As of the two year anniversary of our ministry, we will have distributed over 25,000 sandwiches and 750 cases of water.

This is truly a parish mission. Not everyone is free to go out to the streets on Mondays, so others make sandwiches or donate water, peanut butter, jelly, sandwich bags, brown bags, hygiene items, head scarves, gloves, hats and socks. The Knights of Columbus contribute monthly cash donations to help purchase water. The CCD classes have made gift bags with personal messages of love and hope.

As a part of our mission, on the first Friday of every month, the Homeless Committee volunteers to cook and serve a hot dinner for the homeless at Millbrook Presbyterian Church.

We are now in the process of asking for donations of household items to be used for homeless individuals who have been helped to secure housing. These are being distributed through collaboration with another faith-based non-profit organization, Wings Fresno. We have been able to do limited fund-raising at the Lenten Fish Fry dinners and have received about \$800.00 from these and individual donations.

We pray as individuals, and as a parish for those who continue to be homeless. Although we do not wear identifying clothing, or drive cars that say where we are from, the one question that comes up every week is, "what church are you from?" The homeless also see this as a ministry.

## Executions Have To Go

by Maria Telesco, Death Row Volunteer and Member of California People of Faith

There hasn't been an execution in California since January, 2006. Judges and legal experts have ruled that executions here are arbitrary and "wrong." They don't say it's wrong for the government to kill, and they don't want to stop legalized state killing completely. They say they are simply seeking a "better" way of killing people in the name of "the people."

Some experts say the existing tri-chemical lethal injection causes extreme pain to the prisoner being killed; sometimes the procedure lasts an hour or longer before death. American pharmacists have refused to provide the chemical drugs because their job, they say, is to heal, not to kill. Orange County Federal Judge Cormac J. Carney ruled that to execute Ernest Jones, sentenced to death in 1995, would be unconstitutional because of the extremely long time that a California condemned inmate must wait for death. Carney said this delay is "cruel and unusual punishment" as per the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution. Carney did not say the death penalty is unconstitutional in all cases, but only in Jones's.

Those of us who abhor and oppose the death penalty are gradually increasing in number. Those who favor government killing are becoming fewer, but they have largely increased their finances, increasing their power. Their strength outweighs our numbers. They claim to be working diligently to find ways to perform executions that will get around the judges' recent rulings. Some promoters of executions are talking about going back to hanging, the gas chamber, the electric chair, even decapitation.

In about another year and a half, we will be voting for a new President and other authorities. When elections are on the ho-

rizon, executions are on the menu. Some individuals who run for office will exclaim that they are "tough on crime", and they want to kill some people who are on Death Row to protect you and me. But that man, or woman, who has been on Death Row for twenty, thirty, even forty years, has not killed anyone during those years. He or she is not going to kill again, certainly not just before election day. The majority of people on Death Row actually die of old age.

The death penalty does not protect or benefit anyone. Its only purpose is to enable someone to claim he is "tough on crime," and to support revenge for a crime that occurred decades ago. Pope Francis opposes the death penalty. The Catholic Bishops oppose the death penalty. All the countries in Europe and on our continent, except for the U. S. A., have deleted the death penalty from their laws.

The "random few" who will be executed "will have languished for so long on Death Row that their execution will serve no retributive or deterrent purpose and will be arbitrary," Carney said. "No rational person," Carney wrote, "can question that the execution of an individual carries with it the solemn obligation of the government to ensure that the punishment is not arbitrarily imposed and that it furthers the interests of society."

What ever bills are on the ballot in November, 2016, it is your duty, and mine, as Catholic Christian human beings, to vote "no" to anything that promotes the death penalty. The politicians say they execute "in the name of the people of the state." If you vote "yes" you, too, are morally a murderer. So when the time comes, remember to vote "no" and help Catholics and other people of faith end the death penalty.

## Here Comes the Death Penalty Again

by Fr. Jim Rude, Board Member of California People of Faith

I am happy to be able to announce that we had another meeting of the CPF, the California People of Faith Working Against the Death Penalty. We worked hard for the bill that did not win back in 2014, and we are working for another bill that will be introduced for the 2016 election. In 2014, we didn't have enough votes, but the number of people who understood the Christian truth that is denied in the death penalty increased, and we are hoping that that will continue so that our state can be one of those who see the inherent evil in state executions.

Terry McCaffrey from Palo Alto is the president of our group, which includes priests and laypeople from all over the state. I was honored to be the host of this meeting which was held in our Ministry's conference room on Friday, April 17. Sr. Marie Francis of Bakersfield, the diocesan assistant director for Social Justice, and Jim Grant from our KNXT, and my friend Maria Telesco were also attendees.

It was an exciting meeting, one that gave me hope that more of our people will see that state killing is simply contrary to the love and mercy that Jesus reveals and our Catholic Church teaches and represents.



Please Join Most Rev. Armando X. Ochoa, D.D.

as we celebrate the annual outdoor

**Memorial Day Mass**

Monday, May 25

at 10:00 a.m.

St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery

264 Blythe Ave., Fresno 93706

559-488-7449

## Religious Anniversaries

### June 2015

Sr. M. Bernardita Nudalo, FDZ June 2, 1989  
 Sr. Dorothy Bushnell, IHM June 5, 1960  
 Sr. Rosalie Rohrer, IHM June 5, 1960  
 Sr. Goretta Perez, RAD June 14, 1970  
 Sr. M. Clare Ioane, PDDM June 28, 1987

### July 2015

Sr. Leonita Diaz Encizo, MEMI July 1, 2000  
 Sr. Joan Litch, SHF July 14, 1956  
 Sr. Amalia Diaz Torres, MEMI July 16, 1967  
 Sr. M. Aurora Magtagnob, PDDM July 16, 1969  
 Sr. Ana Rosa Guzman, MEMI July 16, 1969  
 Sr. Lillian Stacy, FHIC July 16, 1994  
 Sr. Teresa Norberto, MCSTNJ July 19, 1997  
 Sr. Martha Elva Arteaga Valdez, MEMI July 24, 1988  
 Sr. Reynalda S. Maldonado, MEMI July 29, 1957  
 Sr. Danielle Witt, SSND July 29, 1967  
 Sr. Elvia Margarita Ramirez, MEMI July 31, 1994

### August 2015

Sr. Judy Morasci, RSM August 4, 1962  
 Sr. M. Cristina Caballero, RSM August 4, 1979  
 Sr. Marie Francis Schroepfer, CSJ August 6, 1966  
 Sr. Celestine Bowens, OP August 9, 1960  
 Sr. Maria Rosario Conceicao, FHIC August 10, 1954  
 Sr. Francis Christine Alvarez, CSC August 15, 1958  
 Sr. Joanne Bauer, CSC August 15, 1963  
 Sr. Irma Campos, SJS August 15, 1986  
 Sr. Rose Carey, SN August 15, 1958  
 Sr. Mary Clennon, CSC August 15, 1957  
 Sr. Emily Demuth, CSC August 15, 1951  
 Sr. Margaret Mary Larkin, SN August 15, 1954  
 Sr. Mary Hope Sanchez, RSM August 15, 1970  
 Sr. Mary Anne DiVincenzo, CSJ August 1964  
 Sr. Juana Vera, MCSTNJ August 20, 1995  
 Sr. Susana Del Toro, SJS August 24, 2002  
 Sr. Catherine Mary King, PBVM August 25, 1960  
 Sr. Helen Petrovich, FHIC August 28, 1977

## Priest Anniversaries

### June 2015

Rev. Richard Bevenour June 1, 1957  
 Rev. Albert Mello June 1, 2013  
 Rev. John Schmoll June 1, 1985  
 Rev. Charles Pham, CMC June 3, 2006  
 Rev. Francis Simeone June 3, 1961  
 Rev. Raul Sanchez Flores June 4, 2011  
 Rev. Carlos Serrano June 4, 2011  
 Rev. Dennis Alvernaz June 5, 1971  
 Rev. Michael Burchfield June 5, 1993  
 Rev. John Gracey June 5, 1993  
 Rev. Msgr. Raul S. Sanchez June 5, 1993  
 Rev. Loren Blessing June 6, 1981  
 Rev. James Catalano, OSJ June 6 1981  
 Rev. Msgr. Harvey Fonseca June 6, 1992  
 Rev. Charles Casale June 7, 1969  
 Rev. Denis Collins, SJ June 7, 1969  
 Rev. Msgr. Nicolas Herrero June 7, 1959  
 Rev. John Warburton, OSJ June 7, 1980  
 Rev. James Rude, SJ June 10, 1964  
 Rev. Msgr. Richard Urizalqui June 11, 1977  
 Rev. Steven Peterson, OSJ June 12, 2004  
 Rev. James Gallas, SJ June 13, 1962  
 Rev. Enrique Fierros June 17, 1978  
 Rev. Michael Moore June 21, 1997  
 Rev. Antero Sanchez, MSC June 27, 1965  
 Rev. John Bruno, RCJ June 29, 1974  
 Rev. John Fluetsch June 29, 1991  
 Rev. Msgr. Patrick McCormick June 29, 1975  
 Rev. Angel Sotelo June 29, 1991  
 Rev. Henry Williams June 30, 1978

### July 2015

Rev. Dan Coyle July 1, 1989  
 Rev. Raul Marta July 1, 1972  
 Rev. Adrian Kim July 5, 2002  
 Rev. John Okeke Agwu, SMMM July 10, 2004  
 Rev. Marcelinus Ekenedo, SMMM July 10, 2004  
 Rev. Bartolomew Ifionu, SMMM July 10, 2004  
 Rev. Jose Montiel July 14, 1957  
 Rev. Gustavo Lopez, OSJ July 18, 2009  
 Rev. Victor T. Dinh July 19, 2003  
 Rev. Juan Manuel Flores July 19, 2003  
 Rev. Genaro Demecais July 20, 1982

### August 2015

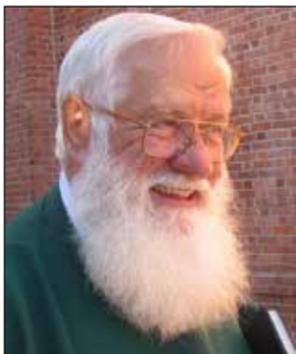
Rev. James Torrens, SJ August 5, 1961  
 Rev. Hilary Silva August 12, 1989  
 Rev. Denis Ssekannyo August 14, 1999  
 Rev. Lucas Azpericueta August 15, 1969  
 Rev. Regino Quijano August 15, 1984  
 Rev. Maurice Emelu August 20, 2005  
 Rev. Loji Pilonas, RCJ August 23, 1986

### Deacon Anniversaries

Rev. Richard Lambert June 8, 2002  
 Rev. Mr. Jesus Hernandez July 2, 1988  
 Rev. Mr. Julian Ponce July 3, 1977

## Apóstoles de la Palabra

by Hna. Julia Valencia Coordinadora



**Apóstoles de la Palabra, son una Familia misionera fundada por el padre Flaviano Amatulli Valente, en México, el 2 de Julio de 1978. Son sacerdotes, hermanas consagradas y grupos de laicos. En Estados Unidos se establecieron el año 2000, 168 Cone Ave, Merced.**

### Apostolado:

1.- Primacia de la Palabra de Dios.

Lema: **Biblia para todo, Biblia para todos Todo con la Biblia, nada sin la Biblia.** Biblia para Misa, que no falte la Biblia.

El sueño del padre Amatulli, es: que un día en todas las Misas, los católicos lean las lecturas con Biblia en mano. ¡Se vale soñar, dice el Papa Francisco!  
 Biblia para niños. Que desde el primer día en que los niños inician su curso de catequesis, inician la bella experiencia de conocer la Biblia. Oración del hogar, con Biblia.

2.- Dar a conocer la Palabra de Dios con todos los medios posibles.

Retiros y cursos bíblicos a catequistas y pueblo en general. Visitas domiciliarias, casa por casa. Enseñar a las familias a entender la Biblia de una forma sencilla, buscando que se enamoren de Dios y aprendan a orar con la Biblia. Misiones, temas por radio, TV, teatro, libros, CDS, DVDS.

3.- **Apologética =defensa de la Fe.**

No es pelear con protestantes, sino tener identidad y autoestima católica.

Significa que todo católico este seguro de su fe. Que no se acompleje, ni tenga miedo de compartir su fe con quienes lo cuestionen. (1 Pe 3,15-16) Hoy más que nunca, urge la formación bíblica del católico. Apóstoles de la Palabra,

## Pentecost Means There Is Work To Do

by Fr. Jim Rude, S.J., Co-editor

There are millions of Catholics out there in our American world, but I'm not so sure we are all the same kind of Catholics. Some celebrate their faith only for an hour every Sunday; some get bored during the Masses they attend, because they do not understand it; some just follow rules and regulations.

And still there are some out there who try to keep on developing a close relationship with Jesus, trying to follow him in their view of the world around them. They truly believe that being a Catholic means being filled with the power of the Spirit of love and so reaching out to others, or better, serving others.

They see Jesus as a person who apparently broke some of the rules of his day, like reaching out to non-Jews and to women, even being willing to "work" on a Sabbath when he cured a sick person. But how can that be against what God wanted when what Jesus was doing was showing his love for others?

No question the kids running over the border from Mexico and Central America are acting illegally, but our love should make us realize that they are running away from violence and evil, and so we should embrace them, not deport them.

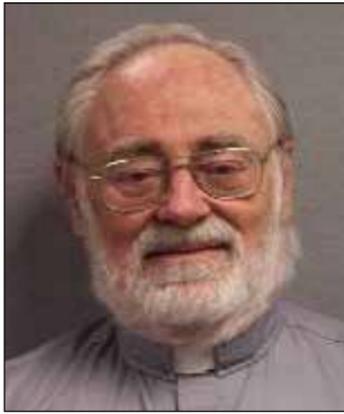
Jesus forgave the guys who killed him, and Peter even called them his brothers, and so how can we demand bigger and longer sentences and even the death penalty? It doesn't make any Catholic sense. In the Our Father we ask God to forgive us just as we forgive those who hurt us, but that means that we can't live revenge. Justice yes, but no revenge.

Matthew tells us in his chapter 25 that when we help the needy, we are helping Jesus. Jesus identifies himself with the needy. But what is truly amazing, Jesus also identifies himself with each of us, for example, at Mass when we go to Communion, or to express it better, when we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus into our very bodies. We walk up, we receive, but do we really appreciate what it is we are receiving? It's Jesus, not just a piece of bread. Think about that, and you will find it amazing. In fact, I find it truly amazing that I can pick up a round bit of bread, say some words and turn that bread into Jesus. Amazing! But 'amazing' is not a strong enough word to express what happens.

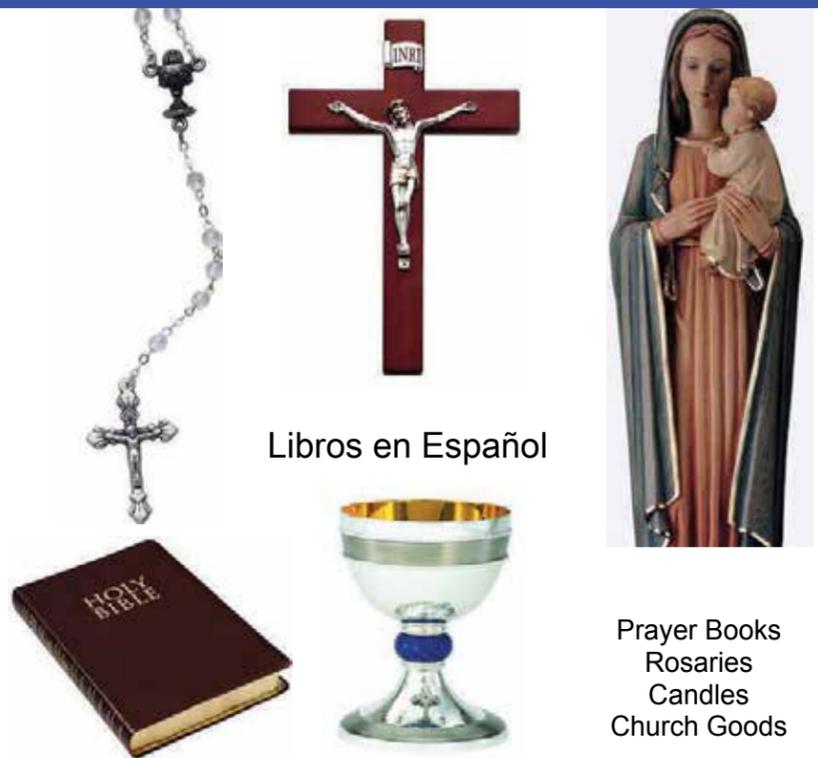
And there is another reality at the Communion time. If each of us receives the Communion, and thus relate ourselves in an incredible way to Jesus, then we are also relating ourselves in that same incredible way to all the other people at that Mass, and all the other people round the world who are also receptive of Communion. But Jesus is not just the Savior of communicants, but of every single person in the world. We are all one!

Articles are written about how many people are leaving the Catholic Church. They leave because of priestly mistakes, or the insistence on following rules, or the apparent ease of committing mortal sins, or a lack of appreciation of the value of women in our world. But I ask you to think about it. All of those people are leaving the Church because they do not understand what the Church is all about—it is basically and essentially that relationship with Jesus and through him with the Father and then through the power of the Spirit with all others. The Gospels tell us that Jesus called God 'abba'. But 'abba' does not mean 'father', it means 'dad' or 'pop'. Jesus had that intimate a relationship with God, and He is inviting us to have that same kind of relationship—with him, with the Father, and so with all of our brothers and sisters throughout the world. But that's not going to be easy.

Remember, Pentecost means that we have a lot of work to do.



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we should be spreading the gospel of joy.*

### FR. HARVEY'S 2015 PORTUGUESE FESTA SCHEDULE

APRIL 23—EL NIDO, SÃO JORGE, 11:30 MASS

MAY 03—BUHACH, SENHOR SANTO CRISTO

03—HILMAR, CASA DOS AÇORES, ESPÍRITO SANTO

10—DOS PALOS, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

10—STRATFORD, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

17—CROWS LANDING, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

17—KERMAN, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

24—BUHACH, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

24—EASTON, FRESNO, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

24—HANFORD, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

24—MODESTO, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

BULLFIGHT IN STEVINSON, MON. MAY 25, 8PM

24—NEWMAN, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

31—LEMOORE, SANTÍSSIMA TRINIDADE

31—LOS BANOS, SANTÍSSIMA TRINIDADE

31—SELMA, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

31—TURLOCK, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

JUNE 07—TULARE, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

21—STEVINSON, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

BULLFIGHT, MON. JUNE 22, 8PM

24—HOPETON, SÃO JOÃO BAPTISTA

28—ATWATER, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

28—EASTON, FRESNO, SÃO PEDRO

28—PATTERSON, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

JULY 05—LIVINGSTON, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

12—MONTEREY, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

19—EASTON, FRESNO, SANTO ANTÓNIO DE LISBOA

19—GUSTINE, DIVINO ESPÍRITO SANTO

BULLFIGHT, MON. JULY 20, 8PM

AUGUST 02—HANFORD, SANTO ANTÓNIO DE LISBOA

09—TIPTON, SANTO ANTÓNIO DE LISBOA

16—PISMO BEACH, SANTO ANTÓNIO DE LISBOA

16—TURLOCK, NOSSA SENHORA DE ASSUNÇÃO

SEPT. 13—GUSTINE, NOSSA SENHORA DOS MILAGRES

BULLFIGHT, MON. SEPT. 14, 7:30PM

27—VISALIA, NOSSA SENHORA DE FÁTIMA

OCTOBER 04—TULARE, NOSSA SENHORA DE FÁTIMA

11—EASTON, FRESNO, NOSSA SENHORA DE FÁTIMA

11—LOS BANOS, NOSSA SENHORA DE FÁTIMA

18—THORNTON, NOSSA SENHORA DE FÁTIMA

BULLFIGHT, MON. OCT. 19, 8PM

25—HILMAR, NOSSA SENHORA DO ROSÁRIO DE FÁTIMA

## Celebrate Pentecost

by Rose Hernandez, Director, Office of Ministries

The celebration of Pentecost is sometimes shadowed by the wonderful celebration of Easter. It often comes without a “bang”, but with a quiet “pop” in the background of things already happening in the parish: First Communion Celebrations, Confirmation, getting ready for summer, and Memorial Day.

For me, Pentecost is a wonderful time not just to reflect on the great gifts of the Holy Spirit that we receive to continue Christ’s mission on earth, but to truly CELEBRATE the gifts we have been given! I’m not talking about a party (although I have hosted Pentecost parties in the past and they are fun...red food, everyone dressed in red...but I digress), but to truly celebrate by living out the gifts that we have and sharing them with others!

Do you know the spiritual gifts of the persons living in your household? With those you see every day? With those with whom you share ministry?

You might think the gifts of those in ministry are the easiest to spot. But take a closer look: what about those who have the gift of counsel,

those people who listen to us vent and try to help us solutions; those who let us cry on their shoulders? Or those who have the gift of the awe of the Lord, those we witness seeing God in every moment of creation and life, whose enthusiasm and love are a testimony to us?

Let us rejoice in the amazing gifts our God has given us, not only on one day, but every day of our lives. The fulfillment of our Baptismal mission is clearly here in the gifts we share. Thank you, Lord, for giving them to us!

If you would like to explore your gifts or share your gifts in ministry, please make sure to join us for our 27th Annual Diocesan Congress, which takes place on October 10 at the Visalia Convention Center! We will have speakers focusing on different areas of ministry, on personal spirituality, and on the faith of our family in Christ. Registration materials will be available beginning July 1. For more information, please contact the Office of Ministries at (559) 488-7474, or email rhernandez@dioceseoffresno.org. All adults are welcome!



## Diocesan Congress/Congreso Diocesano

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2015



*This Diocesan event is for everyone in your parish!*

Featuring: Local/National Presenters

Presentations in Multiple Languages:

- ✓ English
- ✓ Spanish
- ✓ Vietnamese
- ✓ Hmong
- ✓ Korean

New Young Adult Track



## Youth Day/Dia Juvenil

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2015

Youth Conference is specific to meet the needs of the Youth with an opportunity for our Youth to interact with one another

Engaging & Dynamic Speakers

High Energy Praise & Worship Music

- PRIESTS AND DEACONS
- RELIGIOUS SISTERS
- ADMINISTRATIVE / SUPPORT STAFF
- PASTORAL / FINANCE COUNCIL
- RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION
- BAPTISM PREPARATION
- CONFIRMATION PREPARATION
- RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS (CATECHISTS)
- YOUTH GROUP
- LITURGY COMMITTEE
- BIBLE STUDY GROUP
- LECTORS / READERS
- LITURGICAL MUSICIANS
- EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
- YOUNG ADULT
- VOCATIONS
- RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
- SOCIAL JUSTICE
- HEALTH CARE MINISTRY
- MARRIAGE PREPARATION
- SENIORS' MINISTRY
- BEREAVEMENT
- SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRIES
- TECHNOLOGY / SOCIAL MEDIA
- PARISH LIFE, FAMILY LIFE, AND RESPECT LIFE
- MULTICULTURAL / CROSS-CULTURAL
- SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION



For more information contact:  
Diocese of Fresno  
Office of Ministries 559-488-7474

[www.dioceseoffresno.org](http://www.dioceseoffresno.org)  
Ministries Webpage

## Healing Retreat

Retreat Master: Fr. Gregory Bramlage



Fr. Gregory Bramlage

As our retreat speaker, Fr. Greg Bramlage will lead us to **"FAITH THAT MOVES MOUNTAINS"** Matthew 17:14-20  
Bring your Bibles and expect a profound transformation of both your life and your future, for God never disappoints!!

Fr. Greg was ordained in 1996 for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, Indiana. Since 2009, he has evangelized throughout the world bringing the healing ministry. In July 2011, Fr. Greg was released from diocesan ministry to pursue full-time work in evangelization to third world countries. In 2011, he founded "Missionaries of the New Evangelization" to accomplish this purpose. Fr. Greg now travels the world evangelizing with the Word of God and teaching others how to pray for miracles with expectant faith. His goal is to share the healing love of Jesus and thus bring about the renewal of all God's people.



Fr. Bramlage with St. John Paul II

St. Anthony Retreat Center  
Three Rivers, CA

Friday thru Sunday, August 14-16, 2015



### Mail In Registration Form

\$95 Deposit Per Person Double Occupancy  
\$100 Deposit for Private Room  
**Non-Refundable Deposits due June 30, 2015**  
Total balance is due by July 25, 2015

### St. Anthony Retreat Center Registration Fees

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