

THE SOUTHERN CROSS

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En Español — Sección B



¡NO ESTÁN SOLOS!
'YOU ARE NOT ALONE!'

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Diocese welcomes four new permanent deacons
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THE SOUTHERN CROSS

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Two Seminarians Ordained to Transitional Diaconate

By Denis Grasska

BONITA — Marking a major milestone on their path to priesthood, two diocesan seminarians recently entered the transitional diaconate.

Raymond Philip Napuli and Michael Maurice O'Connor were ordained by Bishop Robert W. McElroy during a diocesan liturgy celebrated June 2 at Corpus Christi Parish in Bonita.

"For me, it's ... the culmination of a long process of preparation and yet the beginning of another stage," said Deacon Napuli, 28, reflecting on his recent ordination. "God has taken this earthen vessel and placed in me an immeasurable treasure, configuring me to the person of Christ the Servant as He continues to form me to become a priest."

Unlike the four men who were ordained to the permanent diaconate the previous evening at Our Mother of Confidence Church, Deacons Napuli and O'Connor will only be ministering as deacons until their ordination to the priesthood, which is expected to take place next summer. Before then, they will return to Mount Angel Seminary in St. Benedict, Oregon, to complete their studies.

Despite its transitional nature, the diaconate is far from simply one more box for seminarians to check off on their vocational journey.

"I think that the transitional diaconate must not be seen as a stepping stone to ministerial priesthood," said Deacon O'Connor, 32, "but the invitation from Our Lord Jesus Christ to deepen our sense of service [to] God's people for their good and the glory of His name."

Noting that service lies at the heart of the diaconal ministry, he said, "To see this state of life as simply fixed between two book-ends" — ordination to the diaconate and then to the priesthood — "is to miss the

opportunity to fall deeper and deeper in love with God and with His people."

In his homily, Bishop McElroy addressed the two men directly, just moments before he would ordain them.

"Michael and Raymond Philip, your faith-filled and enthusiastic response to the call which the Lord has given you to enter the diaconal and priestly orders is a great grace and a living witness to our Local Church," he said. "But it is the call of God which is the greater grace this day, the grace that will sustain you in your moments of exhilaration and accomplishment and joy, and in your moments of hardship and struggle in service to the Church."

Deacon Napuli was born in Maasin, Southern Leyte, Visayas, Philippines. As a young child, he moved to San Diego with his family. For him, God's invitation to the priesthood came at an early age.

"As a small boy, I had always thought of becoming a priest," he recalled. "I was blessed to be surrounded by many rich Catholic traditions in our town in the Philippines, as well as devotional practices within my family."

After his graduation from the Conservatory of Music, University of the Pacific, in Stockton, California, he "felt the Lord intensely calling me through the Eucharist."

Deacon Napuli, who was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Chula Vista, sees a beautiful symmetry in the ways that the Eucharist has been a common thread through his journey. It was on the Feast of Corpus Christi (Latin for "Body of Christ") that he decided to enter the seminary, he was ordained as a deacon at a parish of the same name, and it was on the Feast of Corpus Christi, the day after his ordination, that he was able to serve as deacon at the



NEWLY ORDAINED: Transitional Deacons Raymond Philip Napuli and Michael Maurice O'Connor, with Bishop Robert W. McElroy behind them, smile as they process out of Corpus Christi Church on June 2, following their ordination to the transitional diaconate.

altar for the first time.

Deacon O'Connor, whose own home parish happened to be Corpus Christi, first recognized a call to the priesthood about eight years ago, when he was working full-time as a neurobiology researcher at the University of California, San Diego.

He was already a committed Catholic, attending Mass and praying the rosary every day, but he decided at that time to begin volunteering as a catechist at his parish. He soon discovered that he was devoting most

of his time to the Church and organizing his schedule around it. He regularly found himself thinking about upcoming catechism lessons while engaged in his scientific work.

"I noticed that it was my work in and for the Church, more than the work in the laboratories, which I enjoyed immensely, that I found most fulfilling," Deacon O'Connor said. "Here, in joyful labor in the Church, I was living out what I believed was my purpose in life."

The Southern Cross

One-Year-Old Family Life Office Among the Fruits of Recent Synod

By Aida Bustos

SAN DIEGO — On a recent Saturday morning in Borrego Springs, the temperature had already reached 95 degrees. Inside St. Richard Parish, however, the mood was cold.

Father George Decasa had tapped some congregation members to be a part of the Committee for Family Life and Spirituality being formed at the parish and they were meeting for the first time.

What happened at the gathering is a microcosm of what's occurring across the diocese, as parishes and the diocese itself implement proposals to strengthen marriage and to welcome and support today's Catholic families. The proposals were the result of an extraordinary synod held two years ago inspired by the pope's sweeping teaching document "Amoris Laetitia" [Joy of Love].

At the meeting at St. Richard's in May, six Latino parishioners sat on one side of a room and five Anglo ones sat on the other. Ricardo Márquez, the associate director of the diocese's new Office for Family Life and Spirituality, was on hand to facilitate the meeting. He was struck by how separate the two groups were.

After the opening prayer, each person took turns introducing him or herself. The Latinos were up first. They spoke in Spanish as a fellow member translated.

"The first person began by saying her name and what ministry she belonged to," Márquez said. "Then she spontaneously began to speak from the heart, about the time she had strayed from the Church, about her problems, her work, about her conversion experience and the many graces she had received on her journey."

The next five Latino parishioners did the same. They talked candidly about their families and jobs cleaning homes, caring for the elderly and cooking.

Then it was the Anglos' turn.

"I'm amazed because I come to Mass on Sundays," the first man told the Latinos. "I see you, I know who you are but I knew nothing about your lives, nothing about your families."

Then he, too, shared his personal story, as did his fellow members, speaking about marriage, divorce, challenges with kids and their jobs.

By the time the meeting had ended, the mood had warmed up; the members were smiling and embraced. Each had spoken from the heart and the others had listened. And that experience had paved the way for them to begin to work together, figuring out what they were going to do in their parish to strengthen marriage and families.

At the end of the synod, in October 2016, its delegates

presented 15 proposals to Bishop Robert W. McElroy, who pledged to bring them to life.

The person who led their implementation, Paulist Father John Hurley, said all 15 have been carried out or are in the process of being implemented. They ranged from launching a newly organized office to serve families, which opened last July, to creating a culture of support for those separated and divorced, to ministering to LGBT Catholics.

Father Hurley ended his leadership of the synod in June and reflected on its accomplishments.

He said 55 of 98 parishes in the diocese have set up Committees for Family Life and Spirituality or are in the process of doing so, involving around 1,000. The committees decide what ministries they are going to develop, picking from 12 identified by pilot parishes that initially implemented the proposals.

"The great fruit of the synod has been the establishment" of these committees, Bishop McElroy said.

The synod implementation committee selected a new program to be used at the diocese to prepare engaged couples to marry. The program, called Witness to Love, pairs the engaged couple with a mentor couple they choose who accompanies them as they prepare for marriage and after the

STORY CONTINUES NEXT PAGE

‘A Line That Should Not Be Crossed’

Bishop denounces family separation at border, shows solidarity with detainees

By Alexandra Mendoza

OTAY MESA — When Jesus was born He was hunted by the government, forcing His family to flee the country and seek refuge, Bishop Robert W. McElroy told an estimated 1,000 people who gathered outside the gate of a federal detention facility.

“I grieve because I think of the fact that if Mary, Joseph and Jesus had come to our border last week as refugees, the child Jesus would have been ripped from their arms and put in a cage,” he told them.

On June 23, Bishop McElroy and Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan joined dozens of faith leaders from across California who rallied outside the Otay Mesa Detention Center, where immigrants are held, to support families that had been separated after entering the country illegally.

The demonstration came three days after President Donald Trump issued an executive order halting the practice of separating the families after searing photos and audio recordings of desperate, crying children sparked widespread public outrage.

The order, however, continues the president’s “zero tolerance” policy, which calls for the criminal prosecution of anyone entering unlawfully into the U.S. The Pentagon announced that it was preparing to build temporary camps for detained immigrants at two military bases to house as many as 20,000.

Immigration authorities struggled, meanwhile, to explain how they were going to reunite 2,300 children in their custody with their parents.

The issue of immigration is a deeply divisive one, differences sharpened in recent years by the pronouncements of then-candidate Trump and his actions as president.

Based on Catholic theology and social teaching, U.S. bishops have consistently called for the humane treatment of immigrants, regardless of their legal status. On June 13, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops denounced the policy of separating families and again urged comprehensive immigration reform.

“Families are the foundational element of our society and they must be able to stay together,” said Cardinal Daniel DiNardo. “While protecting our borders is important, we can and must do better as a government, and as a society, to find other ways to ensure that safety. Separating babies from their mothers is not the answer and is immoral.”

Bishop McElroy echoed those themes at the rally outside the detention center.

“We must understand the dignity of every single human person,” said Bishop McElroy. “That all of us together are brothers and sisters, and that is the foundational assertion of who we are as a people and what we believe.”

Working through Catholic Charities, the Diocese of San Diego is helping Dreamers renew their DACA permits, helping families to prepare for possible detention or deportation (particularly important for undocumented parents with U.S.-born children); and providing legal support for migrants in detention or in deportation proceedings.



IN SOLIDARITY: Bishop Robert W. McElroy (top) speaks on behalf of detained immigrants during a June 23 rally outside the Otay Mesa Detention Center; Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan (bottom, left) is seen marching toward the facility with other faith leaders.

At the same time, in response to the surge of families being detained, the diocese is working on a plan to provide temporary housing for mothers and their children who are released by immigration authorities and are able to legally stay in the country pending the outcome of their case.

The San Diego Organizing Project, a coalition of faith organizations, along with PICO California, organized the demonstration at the detention center and a candlelight vigil the night before at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in San Ysidro. Catholic priests, pastors, rabbis and Buddhist nuns, among other clergy, participated in both events, some traveling from northern California to the border.

As they marched toward the detention center, the demonstrators chanted “No justice, no peace!,” “Let our children go!” and “No cages, no walls!”

The detention center houses immigrants in custody of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) who are awaiting court proceedings.

One of the most emotionally powerful moments came when the marchers approached the gate and yelled out, “¡No están solos!” [You are not alone!]. Cheers could be heard coming from inside in response.

“That was very moving, that the people inside heard us and understood our support of them,” said Bishop McElroy.

At the demonstration, he spoke about the effects of the policy not only on migrants but on America as a whole.

“We come here today because we are grieving. Grieving for the hurt imposed upon those people who were apprehended on our borders and separated from their children, and treated like rejects of our society,” he said. “But even more, we grieve this day for the soul of our nation, which we love so much.”

Then he reflected on the Bible story of the Holy Family forced to flee their country and take refuge in Egypt to protect



the baby Jesus from being killed by King Herod.

“I grieve because I think of the fact that if Mary, Joseph and Jesus had come to our border last week as refugees, the child Jesus would have been ripped from their arms and put in a cage.”

He urged everyone to “open our hearts and link with the vast people of the United States who have come to see that this is a line that should not be crossed and must never be crossed again.”

The faith leaders agreed that it was important to stand in solidarity with the most vulnerable. After the faith leaders spoke, several dozen demonstrators participated in an act of civil disobedience; they ignored orders to stop and were able to reach the center’s front entrance, where they came together to pray and sing.

“Don’t be afraid, I’m with you,” chanted the demonstrators, who opened a path so those visiting their loved ones inside could enter the center.

Meanwhile, *The San Diego Union-Tribune* reported that the private prison company CoreCivic, which operates the detention center, plans to add 512 beds to the facility. The center, which has a current capacity of 1,458 beds, would grow by 35 percent once the expansion is complete.

The Southern Cross
Aida Bustos contributed to this story.

wedding, introducing them to parish life.

“The program has been better received than we could have imagined,” said Father Hurley.

The engaged couples’ retreat formerly called “Pre Cana,” has been revamped and decentralized, so couples can attend these sessions in locations closest to them rather than at the diocesan Pastoral Center.

“Wow! What a fantastic day. I felt extremely welcome,” wrote one person who attended one of the recent prep sessions in

the evaluation form. “Absolutely would recommend this for any couple interested in putting God in their relationship.”

“As a Catholic bringing a Jewish woman to this retreat, I felt pride in the hospitality and affection that characterized this event,” wrote another. “I walk away knowing that the last seven hours has given the two of us a better foundation going into our marriage.”

For the director of the new office, Laura Martin-Spencer, the greatest lesson of the diocese’s synod was “how important it is

that the Church is listening.”

She noted that the first ideas of how to strengthen marriage and families came from the listening sessions held at each of the parishes where parishioners spoke from the heart about their own experiences.

“These experiences not only informed the proposals but it activated people,” she said. “They have a sense of owning their own faith, of owning their discipleship.”

She and the office’s three other staff members — Ricardo Márquez, John Prust and

Joseph Dowling — listen to what each parish committee wants to do. Then they provide the bilingual programs, resources and support to the members, so they can roll out new programming.

Bishop McElroy marvels at what’s been accomplished to strengthen the Catholic vision of marriage and today’s families.

“The greatest revelation to me was the ability and willingness to undertake new creative and substantive initiatives in God’s grace.”

The Southern Cross

Plan for Diocese's Schools Represents 'Culture Shift' in the Classroom

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — The diocesan Office for Schools has a vision for what local Catholic education will look like in 2022.

A five-year plan, crafted by the Schools Office with its Curriculum Leadership Team of seven local principals, is already well-underway and about 500 teachers throughout the diocese are currently involved. That plan seeks to promote a classroom environment that fosters critical thinking and intellectual curiosity.

Ultimately, students are better prepared for life if they graduate with a "love of learning" rather than simply having "figured out school" well enough to memorize the correct answers and earn passing grades, said Dr. Julie Cantillon, associate director of the Schools Office.

To produce such students requires a paradigm shift for teachers, she said.

Picture this scenario: Groups of students are seated together at a table for an interactive activity called "Chalk Talk." On the table is large sheet of paper with a question at the center. The students each take turns writing answers to that question and jot down comments about what their classmates have written, even if it's simply an acknowledgement that they agree. Teachers,

walking from table to table, are able to ascertain at a glance just how well their students are grasping the material and can then modify their lessons to reach those students who are noticeably struggling.

The phrase "Making Thinking Visible," taken from the title of a book recently read and discussed by a group of diocesan teachers, has become diocesan shorthand for this new educational model. In addition to making their thinking visible, it also involves helping students to understand that there are different paths to solving many problems — and often more than one correct answer.

Mary Elizabeth Murphy, a third grade teacher at Good Shepherd Catholic School in Mira Mesa, has implemented "Making Thinking Visible" routines across most subject areas in her classroom.

In Social Studies, for example, her students did "Chalk Talk" on the question: "What qualities did President Lincoln possess that made him a great leader?" In English class, her students were asked to craft newspaper headlines for significant moments from E.B. White's classic children's novel *Charlotte's Web*, which they were reading together as a class.

The new approach represents a "shift

away from providing one correct answer and instead empowers students to ask questions and construct their own knowledge," said Murphy, a member of the Schools Office's Teacher Liaison Team, whose seven members have learned to plan lessons inspired by these new methodologies and are helping other local educators to do the same. "It is a student-centered approach where the teacher acts as a guide."

The diocese's push toward making thinking visible differs from what has traditionally been seen in the classroom, she said, because it encourages students to see learning as "a growing process" and to view their mistakes as "learning opportunities."

While it took some time for them to overcome their fear of giving the so-called wrong answer, Murphy said her students now feel "empowered" to share their thoughts and articulately explain their reasoning.

"It's really amazing to see this growth," she said.

Mary Cordeiro, an instructional coach who has been working with the diocese's teachers on implementing these strategies, said the time had come for such changes in the classroom. The presence of so many students with varied learning styles means that Catholic school classrooms are increasingly

diverse, she said, and this has made one-size-fits-all approaches untenable.

"Teachers are already using multiple approaches to design quality units of instruction that are student-centered," said Cordeiro, who hopes that the practice will continue to expand.

In preparing its five-year plan, the diocese is working in close collaboration with principals and teachers. The Curriculum Leadership Team has been developing research-based professional learning for educators. The Schools Office's Facebook group also hosts an ongoing discussion, where teachers share best practices and explain how they are bringing these strategies into their own classrooms.

"What we are trying to do is shift the culture," Cantillon said, "and it's scary for a lot of people because you're going away from what you've been doing for, in some cases, 30 to 40 years and by all measures has worked for you.

"But the learners in today's classroom are different and we're preparing them for careers that don't exist [yet]," she said, "so we need to think a little bit differently about that, about creating that love of learning."

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Parara USA Hosts Annual Conference in San Diego

Organization serves Bari people from South Sudan

By Will F. Peterson

SAN DIEGO — Over the Memorial Day weekend, close to 200 members of the Bari people, a tribal community from what is now South Sudan, came together in San Diego for Parara USA's annual conference.

Almost all of the attendees now live in the United States. Many had been forced to leave their Bari homeland in the last decades because of civil strife and violence.

"Parara" means "bright light" in the Bari language, and Parara USA works to provide that light to the Bari people who have been scattered across the United States. The organization was founded in 2006 with the mission to ease the transition from life in South Sudan to life in America.

That mission is fulfilled every Memorial Day weekend during the annual conference, which is rotated among different cities throughout the U.S. Each year, people come from across the country and beyond.

"The conference is a time to come together as one big family and to share ideas," explained Parara USA's outgoing president, Dr. Emmanuel Sokiri Pitia. "We have people in our community who are getting older, and we need to understand the healthcare system for them. We also need to make sure we understand the education system for our youth."

Dr. Pitia is an example of the success of that educational system. He arrived in the U.S. when he was 15 and has gone on to receive a Ph.D in polymer engineering from the University of Akron.



CULTURAL CELEBRATION: Members of a Bari choir sing in procession from Blessed Sacrament Church to the parish hall after a Mass on May 27.

This year's conference theme was "Bari Ti Likin," or "The Bari People Will Not Disappear." Multiple attendees confirmed that it is crucial that, though they are no longer in their Bari homeland and most find themselves in cities with only one or two other Bari families, the culture and its traditions must continue to be passed along to their youth.

Indeed, there were at least 60 children ranging from newborns to teenagers, who were there with their families. These young people received special notice at a Mass celebrated May 27 at Blessed Sacrament Church by two Bari priests who had traveled from

South Sudan for the conference.

Father Phillip Pitia called all the children up to the altar during his homily. Turning to them, he said, "We cannot disappear. We cannot be a footnote to human history." He continued, "Be proud of who you are. Tell people, 'I have a name. I have an ancestry. I am somebody.'"

The adults in the congregation responded with loud cheers.

Francis Olimpio, one of the founders of Parara USA, came from Virginia with his wife and two children for the weekend. He has been to all 13 annual conferences because he wants his children to know their

family's culture.

An important part of that culture is the Bari people's strong commitment to the Catholic faith.

When asked why it was important to attend Mass together during the weekend, Olimpio said, "Over 80 percent of us are Catholic, and we must give thanks to God after the meetings are held."

Father Gabrielle Asada, the concelebrant at the Mass and Episcopal Vicar for Terekeka in the Archdiocese of Juba in South Sudan, agreed and added that a Mass celebrated in the Bari tradition is a great gift that the people can give their adopted American homeland.

It was a lively celebration with a choir of about 40 women in matching floral robes singing in Bari, girls in their own special robes serving as liturgical dancers, and a marriage officiated by Father Pitia during the Mass.

The Mass and reception afterwards served as an example of how the community is adjusting to life in America. During the Mass, readings alternated between Bari and English. Father Pitia delivered most of his homily in English and implored the congregation to be thankful for what America has provided them.

Having just concluded his four-year term as president, Dr. Emmanuel Pitia explained at the reception what would bring him the most satisfaction.

"If the community is gathering again ... in San Diego in 20 years, I will be a happy, happy man," he said, "because it means the next generation has stayed connected to this culture."

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LOCAL BRIEFS

Catholic Press Awards for 'Southern Cross,' Grasska

SAN DIEGO — Both *The Southern Cross* staff as a whole and its assistant editor, Denis Grasska, were among the winners of this year's Catholic Press Awards. The awards were presented during the 2018 Catholic Media Conference, held June 12-15 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. *The Southern Cross* received honorable mention as "Newspaper of the Year" (non-weekly, circulation of 25,001 or more). Meanwhile, Grasska took home a first-place award in the "Best Feature Writing" category (non-weekly, circulation of 25,001 or more) for his article about students from John Paul the Great Catholic University who shot a "Star Wars" fan film. Of Grasska's article, the judges wrote, "A fun story told through a lighthearted but professional tone made this article stand out."

Eighth-Graders Raise \$1,000 for Homeless

ENCINITAS — Thirteen eighth-graders from St. John School's Faith in Action class organized and served a pancake breakfast June 4 that raised \$1,000 for the Oceanside chapter of Stand Up for Kids, a national organization that helps homeless youth.

Jerry Sova, owner of Captain Keno's restaurant in Leucadia, donated most of the food. Parish youth minister Isaac Deken helped the students coordinate the project. Faith in Action teacher Teresa Roberts said, "The students did this just days before their graduation, which makes it even more inspirational. Caring to the end!"

Holy Cross Sister Celebrates Jubilee



NOTRE DAME, Ind. — Sister M. Veronique (Wiedower), who currently serves as president of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, will be honored on July 15, during a jubilee celebration in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary's, Notre Dame, Ind., for her 50 years of consecrated life. Among her many assignments, she served for two years as director of the diocesan Office for Women Religious in the Diocese of San Diego. Born in San Diego, Sister Veronique worked as an office assistant before entering the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross on Sept. 9, 1965. Sister Veronique made her initial profession of vows on Aug. 15, 1968, and her perpetual profession on Aug. 6, 1973.



GERARDO ROJAS

Catholic Emblems

Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan celebrated Mass with Catholic members of the Girl Scouts and American Heritage Girls on June 5 at St. Gabriel Church in Poway. The liturgy included the annual emblem ceremony for those Scouts who had completed the requirements for the Catholic religious emblem programs administered by the National Catholic Committee on Girl Scouts and Camp Fire. The programs, which are designed to complement the catechetical efforts of Catholic parishes and schools, include: "God Is Love" (kindergarten and first grade), focusing on God's love for His creations; "Family of God" (second and third grade), which reflects on how God is present in one's family/community life; and "I Live My Faith" (fourth through sixth grade), which undertakes a deeper exploration of Catholic life, including such concepts as belief, sacrament and prayer. Recognitions were also presented to adults who have served as facilitators for these programs.

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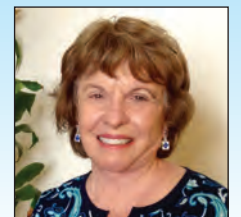
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THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED BY THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP:



Father Miguel Campos is pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish, Chula Vista, effective July 1.

Father Mihn Do is associate pastor of St. Mary Magdalene Parish, San Diego, effective July 1.

Father Gerardo Gomez Zapien is associate pastor of St. Mary Parish, El Centro, and Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, El Centro, effective July 1.

Father Manuel Gutierrez del Toro is associate pastor of St. Mary Parish, Escondido, effective July 1.

Father Ignatius Kipchirchir is associate pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, San Diego, effective July 1.

Father Andrew Kunambi, a priest of the Diocese of Morogoro, Tanzania, is associate pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Brawley, St. Margaret Mary Parish, Brawley, and St. Joseph Parish, Westmorland, effective July 1.

Father Showri Raju Nagothu, OCD, is associate pastor of San Rafael Parish, San Diego, effective July 1.

Father Roldan Nunez, a priest of the Diocese of Butuan, Philippines, is associate pastor of St. Francis Parish, Vista, effective July 1.

Father Romeo Velos, CS, is associate pastor of St. Jude Shrine of the West Parish, San Diego, effective July 1.

Deacon Oscar Lopez, who will be ordained a priest of the Diocese of San Diego on June 29, has been appointed associate pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Vista, effective July 1.

Deacon Antonio Morales, who will be ordained a priest of the Diocese of San Diego on June 29, has been appointed associate pastor of St. Jude Shrine of the West Parish, San Diego, effective July 1.

JULY

EVENTS

MORNING OF PRAYER

Young women ages 18 to 39, who are open to considering God's call to the religious life, will pray together and listen as sisters from the Missionaries of Charity share their vocation stories. Held at Mission San Diego de Alcalá, "Beauty Beloved: A Morning of Prayer & Witness" will begin with Eucharistic adoration in the historic mission church. Refreshments and witness talks will follow in La Sala.

WHEN: Saturday, July 7, 10 a.m.-noon
WHERE: Mission San Diego de Alcalá, 10818 San Diego Mission Rd., San Diego 92108

BLUE MASS

St. Therese of Carmel Parish honors the work of law enforcement and public safety personnel, both living and deceased, with a Blue Mass. The Mass will include the blessing of their badges, prayers for their protection, and the opportunity to thank them for their commitment to public safety. A reception will follow in the parish center. *RSVP before Thursday, July 5, to seisold@sbcglobeal.net. For information, call (858) 481-3232.*

WHEN: Thursday, July 12, 7 p.m.
WHERE: St. Therese of Carmel Church, 4355 Del Mar Trails Rd., San Diego 92130

CATHOLIC NIGHT AT PETCO PARK

Catholics from throughout the diocese will join Bishop Robert W. McElroy and Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan for an evening of fellowship and excitement, as the San Diego Padres take on the Chicago Cubs. *Tickets are expected to sell out; they can be purchased at www.Padres.com/CATHOLIC. For parishes or groups of nine or more, contact Sean Nickelsen at (619) 795-5134.*

WHEN: Friday, July 13, 7:10 p.m.
WHERE: Petco Park, 100 Park Blvd., San Diego 92101

MENTAL HEALTH MASS

All are invited to join Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan, the 22 parishes with mental health ministries, and the diocesan Office for Social Ministry for a special Mass for mental health. Attendees will pray for individuals and families who are experiencing mental health challenges, as well as for the agencies and professionals who serve them. The Mass will be followed by a reception that includes luncheon hors d'oeuvres, several exhibitors, and special presentations. It will celebrate the collaborative work of the San Diego



BLUE MASS

Mental Health Ministry Network. The event is free, but registration is required by Thursday, July 18. *For information or to register, call (858) 490-8323 or email mvalencia@sdccatholic.org.*

WHEN: Saturday, July 21, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
WHERE: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 13541 Stoney Creek Rd., San Diego 92129

MIND, BODY AND SPIRIT WORKSHOP

A half-day workshop focuses on the relationship among mind, body and spirit, and how to appreciate and serve the whole person. Two workshops — one in English and

the other in Spanish — will feature presentations by experts in their fields, as well as a panel discussion and Q&A. English workshop presenters will include Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan on the spirit. The free event is intended primarily for clergy, parish leaders and mental health professionals, but is open to family members of those who have struggled with mental health challenges. Registration is required by Tuesday, July 24. *For more information, call (858) 490-8323 or email mvalencia@sdccatholic.org.*

WHEN: Thursday, July 26, 9 a.m.-noon (English) and 6:30 -9 p.m. (Spanish)
WHERE: Diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego 92117



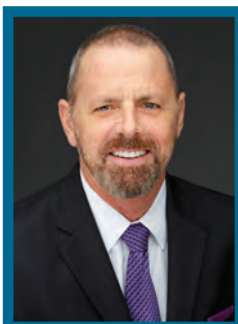
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Diocese Welcomes Four New Permanent Deacons

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — The Diocese of San Diego welcomed four new deacons on June 1.

Lyle Blackmon, Kevin Helfers, Marco Huizar and Andrés Sánchez were ordained to the permanent diaconate by Bishop Robert W. McElroy during a diocesan liturgy at Our Mother of Confidence Parish.

In his homily, Bishop McElroy noted that the four men had been prepared for their new ministry, not only by their five years in the diaconal formation program, but also through their vocations as husbands and fathers. Even after ordination, he said, their marriages and family lives would continue to be their “first service to God and the Church.”

But, with ordination, they would also be empowered to preach, assist at Mass, baptize, and preside at weddings and funerals, among other duties.

“Your parish communities and the whole of our Local Church have chosen you and found you to be worthy of the calling for which they present you to me today,” the bishop told them, after recounting the unique paths that had led each of them to the diaconate.

In closing, he expressed this hope for those he would ordain moments later: “May you root your new ministry firmly in ... a stance of openness to the glories of God which lie all around us, and may the Lord who has begun His work in you, bring it wonderfully to fulfillment.”

The following are profiles of the diocese’s new deacons.

Deacon Lyle Blackmon Camp Pendleton Catholic Chapels, Oceanside

It was unlike anything Lyle Blackmon had ever experienced.

One Sunday at Mass, he couldn’t help but notice that the deacon had become visibly emotional while performing his sacred duties.

The sight touched him and triggered the memory of a prayer he had made a year earlier, when he invited God to come into his heart. In that moment he renewed that prayer, and God’s answer was palpable.

“I felt an overwhelming sensation come over me,” said Deacon Blackmon, 55. “I have never felt this before, but it was one of total peace and love.”

After Mass, he immediately went to speak with his parish’s pastor and deacon, telling them of his interest in entering the diaconate. Within a few months, he was being interviewed for admission into the formation program.

“Serving the Church as a deacon is very humbling,” said Deacon Blackmon, who retired after 20 years in the U.S. Marine Corps and has worked for more than eight years as an adjunct professor at MiraCosta College in Oceanside.

In his diaconal ministry, he said, he looks forward to ministering to military families, as well as serving at the altar for Mass and working with North County’s homeless.

Deacon Blackmon and his wife, Emily, have been married for 34 years. Members of the Catholic community at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton for 32 years, they have two adult children.

Deacon Kevin Helfers St. Louise de Marillac Parish, El Cajon

Kevin Helfers admits that he received various “suggestions and nudges” from God over the years, but did a good job resisting them.

A turning point came during a Cursillo weekend when he was, in his words, “convicted by the Holy Spirit ... for not being open to God’s will.”

Through prayer, he came to believe that God wanted him to be at least open to the idea of serving the Church as a deacon. He kept himself open to the possibility, and that proved to be a blessing for him.

“As I walk this journey with Him, I see how He has been at work, forming me all



DEACON LYLE AND EMILY BLACKMON



DEACON KEVIN AND YVETTE HELFERS



DEACON MARCO HUIZAR AND
MARÍA DEL REFUGIO RUIZ



DEACON ANDRES AND IVÓN SÁNCHEZ

along,” said Deacon Helfers, 50, president/CEO of Helfers Electric Company, Inc.

He grew up attending a Baptist church in Chula Vista, but became Catholic in 1997 at Holy Trinity Parish in El Cajon. Active in the Cursillo movement for 24 years, he has been a member of St. Louise de Marillac Parish for six years.

“It is an honor to serve the Church, he said. “I am humbled to be chosen and eager to be used by God to bear fruit through His people.”

Deacon Helfers and his wife, Yvette, have been married for 26 years. They have six living children, ranging from age 24 to 7, and five children who have passed away.

Deacon Marco Antonio Huizar St. Didacus Parish, San Diego

Marco Antonio Huizar’s active involvement with the Church really started with the Worldwide Marriage Encounter movement and the evangelization ministry *Católicos de Conversión*.

“My life of service for others began to grow,” he said, reflecting on how these ministries changed him.

But despite his desire to serve, when his pastor invited him to consider becoming a deacon, he had to decline. He was an undocumented immigrant, and his immigration issues were a seemingly insurmountable obstacle.

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“If this is God calling us, He will provide,” the 47-year-old said, recalling the attitude that he and his wife adopted.

As he continued his involvement with various ministries, he saw that his path toward the diaconate was being smoothed out. His immigration case settled, he was ultimately able to enter the program.

As a deacon, he is uniquely empowered to reach out to the many people suffering in the community.

“There are a lot of them in our parish, but there are even more outside that don’t go to church,” he said, “and we have to go to them.”

He said his “mission” is “to let people know that ... God loves you because you are His beautiful child.”

Deacon Huizar has been a landscaper with a small family business for 15 years. He and his wife, María Del Refugio Ruiz, have three adult children and have been members of St. Didacus Parish for about nine years.

**Deacon Andrés Sánchez
St. Mary Parish, Escondido**

His twin sons were preparing for their First Holy Communion, and Andrés Sánchez was an active member of St. Mary Parish.

He sought out opportunities for spiritual growth, including retreats, and it was at one of those retreats that he first felt called to the diaconate.

“The call to be a deacon surprised me a lot because I didn’t know what it meant to be a deacon,” he admitted. “That’s why I was looking for an excuse to deny the call, but I couldn’t find any excuse.”

Between hearing the call and applying for the diocese’s diaconal formation program, he spent a year learning more about the role



ORDINATION: Pictured (from left) after the diaconal ordination Mass are Deacon Andrés Sánchez, Deacon Marco Antonio Huizar, Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan, Bishop Robert W. McElroy, Auxiliary Bishop Neal J. Buckon of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, Deacon Lyle Blackmon and Deacon Kevin Helpers.

and responsibilities of deacons.

“For me, serving the Church as a deacon means that I have the opportunity to express my faith and live what I believe by serving others,” said Deacon Sánchez, 55, who has worked for 18 years as a testing supervisor for a communications company.

“The role of a deacon is to help the local pastor by visiting the sick, teaching the faith, counseling couples and individuals, working on parish committees and councils,

and giving advice to the pastor,” he said. “Every aspect is important, but I am most looking forward to teaching the faith.”

Deacon Sánchez and his wife, Ivón, have been married for 20 years and have 18-year-

old twin sons. They have been members of St. Mary Parish for 10 years.

The Southern Cross

Editor’s Note: Three diocesan seminarians — Oscar Lopez, Antonio Morales and Eric Tamayo — will be ordained to the priesthood on June 29 at St. Therese of Carmel Church. Please look for coverage of this event in our August issue.

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‘It’s a Real Place of Worship Now’

Bishop dedicates Resurrection Parish’s long-awaited church

By Denis Grasska

ESCONDIDO — Resurrection Parish’s tireless efforts to construct a permanent church had been marked by a series of starts, stops and delays.

Standing in the sanctuary of the newly constructed Resurrection Church, dwarfed by a 17-foot sculpture of the Risen Christ, Bishop Robert W. McElroy acknowledged the appropriateness of the parish’s name.

“Like the event for which it was named, Resurrection, this church has come back time, and time, and time again until it finally got built,” Bishop McElroy said during the dedication Mass celebrated June 7.

To the knowing laughter of the congregation, he quipped, “I’ve come to think of it as ‘The Lazarus Project.’”

More than 1,100 people gathered for the dedication. Enthusiastic parishioners were joined by representatives of Kluger Architects, Domus Studio Architects and Questar Construction, as well as various diocesan staff members and 23 priests. Retired Auxiliary Bishop Gilbert E. Chavez and Abbot Sharbel Ewen of Prince of Peace Abbey also were in attendance.

Before the Mass began, a massive crowd assembled outside the front doors, where parish representatives presented the keys of the church and the architectural plans for the building to Bishop McElroy, who then handed the keys to the parish pastor, Father Kenneth Del Priore, inviting him to open the doors.

The liturgy that followed featured a series of meaningful moments, which came from the special Catholic ritual for the dedication of churches. For instance, the altar and walls were sprinkled with holy water and anointed with sacred chrism, a perfumed holy oil, and relics of various saints were interred beneath the altar.

In his homily, Bishop McElroy praised the beauty of the new church as well as the faith of the community whose patience and sacrifices had made it possible.

“This church is a magnificent place of God’s presence,” he said, “but far more beautiful is the fact that, in the life of this community, the message of God — forgiveness and mercy — is alive.”

Designed in Renaissance Mission style and costing \$7 million, the 16,000-square-foot church represents the realization of a decades-old dream for the parish, which was established in 1970.

Several unforeseen factors, including the Diocese of San Diego’s decision to file for bankruptcy in 2007 and Bishop Cirilo Flores’ death in 2014, had forced the church to temporarily abandon its construction plans. Like any construction project, the parish also encountered its share of bureaucratic red tape. Even the date of the dedication Mass had to be pushed back twice.



DEDICATION: Various scenes from the dedication of Resurrection Parish’s new church include (from left) Bishop Robert W. McElroy giving his blessing from the sanctuary; crowds gathered outside the church before the entrance procession; and a glimpse of the church interior as seen from behind the baptismal font.

Toni Cain, 73, was among those early parishioners who remember when Sunday Masses were celebrated in the founding pastor’s garage.

Describing the atmosphere at the dedication as “very triumphant,” she said, “It’s been a long journey and, for those of us who have been here a long time, we’re very excited.”

With the completion of the permanent church, the parish concluded a three-phase construction project that began in 2009. The final phase, the construction of the church itself, commenced in January 2017.

“I feel so proud for this moment,” said

Marta Aguinaga, 54, a parishioner for 20 years. Originally from Mexico, she said the beauty of the new church reminds her of the many churches that she knew in her native country.

Her 19-year-old daughter, Angela, who has been a member of the parish since birth, said that after seeing artistic renderings of the proposed church and updates on its progress for so long, “it’s kind of crazy to think that it’s finally here.”

Cindy and Mario Busalacchi, parishioners for more than two decades, reflected on the new church as both a testament to its parish-

ioners’ faith and as a possible means of evangelization.

“I think it shows the faith of all the people that worship here,” said Cindy, 67. “It shows how important the Church is to them that they’re willing [to do what is necessary] to have something so beautiful.”

Mario, 86, said he shared Father Del Priore’s hope that the new church might serve as “a beacon for all of Escondido,” especially for fallen-away Catholics, and inspire them to “come inside, come back home. That’s where He’s waiting.”

Since 1973, a multi-purpose building had



served as the parish's worship space.

Father Del Priore said that, when he arrived at the parish in 2001, he led an effort "to freshen the building up a bit."

New paint and decorations, as well as the greenery outside, had made the multi-purpose building "like a church," Father Del Priore said. But even with those refurbishments, the structure can hardly compare with the new building, which is adorned with art and furnishings crafted by Peru's Artesanos Don Bosco and paintings donated by renowned Italian artist Maurizio Rinaudo.

Still, Father Del Priore recalled what he told his flock the night before the dedication, during the last Mass in the multi-purpose building: The many sacraments celebrated there over the years have made it "a very sacred space."

The older building will continue to serve the parish, now as a chapel.

Father Del Priore speaks with pride of the new church and what it means for the spiritual and sacramental life of his parishioners.

"It's a real place of worship now," he said. "It's a place of

really reflecting and knowing the presence of God."

He commented on one of the most eye-catching features of the new church — the massive sculpture of the Risen Lord, which towers above the sanctuary and is backed by colored glass in the shape of a cross — and he reflected on the feelings that it engenders.

"When you see ... those opened arms, you're welcomed," he said.

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- Leslie Noonan
- M. Agatha Ono
- Regina Palacios
- Sharon (Marie Francis) Stecker
- Linda Wanner
- Cecilia Marie (M. David Patrick) Warner
- Mary Willette
- Jeanne (Mary Andrew) Wingenter

† Deceased in 2018



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Latter-day Saints Fulfilling Missionary Service Through Catholic Charities

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — Local members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints needed mission experience; the San Diego chapter of Catholic Charities was in the market for reliable, long-term volunteers.

It was like a match made in Heaven.

Young Latter-day Saints are strongly encouraged to serve as missionaries, spreading the Gospel and the teachings of their church in a foreign country. But, for a variety of reasons, not all of them are free to travel or to serve in this way, and they risk missing out on what is often a transformative experience.

It was for these church members that the leadership of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints established its Service Mission program almost three years ago. Currently being piloted in San Diego, as well as at missions in Arizona, Idaho and Utah, it provides an alternative to a proselytizing missionary assignment abroad, allowing church members to serve as missionaries either within their church or at one of several agencies in their hometown. These missionaries devote themselves exclusively to community service and do not proselytize on behalf of their church.

Catholic Charities is one of several faith-based and secular community organizations in the San Diego area that have accepted Latter-day Saints missionaries. It welcomed the first of them about 18 months ago. Initially, they served exclusively in the organization's refugee services program, teaching English and assisting the newly arrived in acclimating themselves to life in the United States. Today, they also serve at the agency's food resource centers and in its senior residential programs.

"We've just had an amazing relationship with Catholic Charities," said Elder Robert D. McKinley, who with his wife serves as assistant mission leader for the San Diego Service

Mission of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. "We love having our missionaries serve there [and] they love it."

Over the past two and a half years, more than 100 men and women have come on board as service missionaries, McKinley said. Some have already completed their missionary service, but about 60 are still active and more are joining their ranks all the time. In total, he said, there have been about 15 service missionaries placed with the local chapter of Catholic Charities.

McKinley said that, like the proselytizing missionaries, service missionaries typically range in age from 18-26 for men and 19-26 for women and make a commitment of two years for men and 18 months for women. However, if necessary for health reasons or other concerns, the commitment for service missionaries can be as short as six months.

The positive feelings about the relationship between Catholic Charities and the Latter-day Saints' San Diego Service Mission are mutual.

"I think it's a good opportunity because they're faith-driven," Dr. Robert Moser, executive director of Catholic Charities, said of the missionaries.

Neither the missionaries nor their supervisors at Catholic Charities preach to clients or attempt to convert them, Moser said, but it is clear that their respective faiths shape their values and inspire their service.

"[The service missionaries] have respect for family, for life, for the belief that we're all children of God, and that fits into who we are as an agency," he said.

McKinley said that, thanks to the pilot program's success, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is preparing to officially adopt this as a new church initiative to be rolled out nationally later this year.

Msgr. Dennis Mikulanis, the Diocese of San Diego's vicar for interreligious and ecumenical

Happy Anniversary!



DENIS GRASSKA

The Diocese of San Diego launched a video tribute to retired Auxiliary Bishop Gilbert E. Chávez to celebrate the 44th anniversary of his consecration. The video, in English and Spanish, is available on the diocese's Web site, sdcatholic.org.

Chávez, 86, became the first Mexican-American bishop in the San Diego Diocese when he was consecrated on June 21, 1974, and only the second one in the nation. He was one of the first Catholic leaders to advocate for the Church in the U.S. to recognize the unique needs of the Latino community and to develop a ministry to serve them. Chávez, who retired in 2007, continues to be a revered leader among the diocese's Hispanic priests and faithful in San Diego and Imperial counties. Though he's battled health problems in recent years, he attends major diocesan events, such as the dedication Mass for Resurrection Parish's new church in Escondido on June 7. He lives at Nazareth House, where his friends visit him often.

Pictured: Bishop Chávez interacts with the lay faithful at St. Charles Parish, after celebrating the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination, in a file photo from March 2010.

affairs, played a role in connecting McKinley with Moser. He sees this ongoing collaboration as sending a hopeful message about ecumenical relations.

"We are all God's people and the sooner we realize that working together will bring justice

and peace to the world, then the better off we will be," he said. "Hands and hearts joined together in service are far better than clenched fists and closed minds."

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For Jesuits, Ordination Near Border a Way to Call Attention to Immigrants' Plight

By Aida Bustos

SAN YSIDRO — “What does it mean for me, for my family and the Jesuits to come here?”

Elías Puentes pondered the question as he stepped inside Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish a few days before he and three other men would be ordained into the priesthood there in the Society of Jesus.

For he and his family, who had immigrated from Mexico some 33 years before, it was a returning to their roots in a locale within sight of the border.

For the Portland-based Jesuit West Province, it was a way to call attention to the current plight of immigrants, particularly the undocumented.

And it was a celebration of the work they have traditionally done, “bringing Jesus Christ to the suffering and poor and marginalized,” as Bishop Robert W. McElroy said during the ordination Mass for the four men on June 9.

More than 800 people packed the small, simple parish church, a dramatic contrast to the big church or cathedral the Jesuits use for their ordinations, mostly in Los Angeles.

They included dozens of priests and staff from the West Province, which includes 10 states from Alaska to California.

“We see before Tijuana, *la frontera*, the border between the U.S. and Latin America,” Bishop McElroy said in his homily. “Is this border a bridge or a barrier? This is the question that our nation is wrestling with in this disturbing moment of our history.

“At the heart of the debate lies our heritage as a nation of immigrants and the reality that the U.S. was largely forged by the journeys of those who came here seeking freedom, economic security and refuge from oppression. The present-day denial of those journeys is our nation’s shame.”

He pointed out the border had already played a vital role in the lives of the four men being ordained.

Puentes had immigrated at age 13 from the town of Ayotitlán, in Jalisco state, with his three siblings and parents, who initially worked as farmworkers. The 46-year-old will complete his master’s at Boston College before moving to Tacoma, Wash., where he will work at the Bellarmine

Jesuit Community and help establish a Hispanic ministry at a local parish.

Oscar Alejandro Xavier Báez González also had immigrated from Mexico as a teen. The 41-year-old, who once studied vocals and piano at Juilliard, has master’s degrees in music education and divinity. He, too, will be heading to Tacoma to serve as a music instructor at Bellarmine Preparatory School.

Thomas Flowers, 34, and John Tillman Tanner, 36, worked at a humanitarian organization founded by the Jesuits in Nogales. Flowers will pursue a doctorate in England, and Tillman will become a minister at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Los Angeles.

The bishop said Pope Francis is calling on Catholics across the world “to see with new eyes, and to build bridges where there have only been barriers before.” Addressing the four men becoming priests, he said, “It is the task of building new bridges to the life of the Church that you commit yourselves today.”

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Late Msgr. Lyng Exemplified the 'Gospel of Service'

SAN DIEGO — Msgr. Edward (Eamonn) Lyng, a priest of the Diocese of San Diego for almost 60 years, died June 1.

He was born Jan. 28, 1935, in Kilkenny, Ireland. Answering a call to priesthood, he entered the St. Kieran College Seminary in Kilkenny and, on June 8, 1958, was ordained for the Diocese of San Diego.

At the time, the diocese included San Diego, Imperial, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Msgr. Lyng built churches, expanded facilities, and contributed to the advancement of Catholic education by opening Good Shepherd School, the first Catholic school in the diocese after a 15-year moratorium.

Beginning in 1958, he served as an associate pastor at a succession of parishes, including St. Joseph, Upland; Holy Spirit, San Diego; St. Rose of Lima, Chula Vista; and

Sacred Heart, Coronado.

His first appointment as pastor came in 1968 at St. Thomas Indian Mission, Fort Yuma. He would later serve as pastor of St. Peter and Paul, Alta Loma (1970-1977); Good Shepherd, San Diego (1977-1993); and Mary Star of the Sea, La Jolla (1993-2008).

After retiring from active ministry in 2008, he was a priest in-residence at Mary, Star of the Sea and then St. Joseph Cathedral.

In March 2010, he moved into the Nazareth House San Diego assisted-living facility, where he continued to reside until the time of his death.

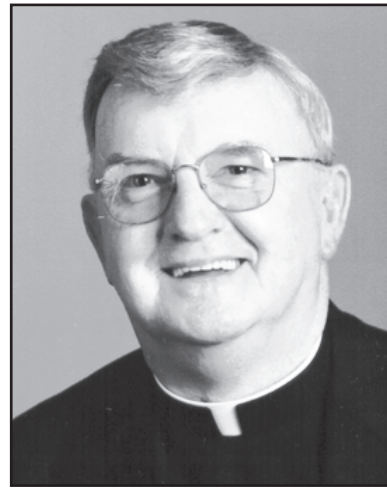
In addition to his pastoral assignments, Msgr. Lyng also served as Vicar Forane and was a member of the Board of Education Ministry, Clergy Personnel Board, and the College of Consultors. In 1985, he was honored to be named a Monsignor by St. John Paul II. He was also

an active member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre.

Father Peter McGuine, pastor of Our Lady of Grace Parish in El Cajon, fondly remembers Msgr. Lyng as his "first pastor" after his ordination to the priesthood. In June 1990, as a newly ordained priest, Father McGuine was assigned to Good Shepherd Parish, where he served for 14 months under Msgr. Lyng.

"I learned a tremendous amount from him, most importantly, the place priestly hospitality and fraternity must have in the life of a priest," he said. "He was always kind, patient and the perfect example of what a 'gentleman priest' should be. I will always be grateful for his great example to me in this regard."

Father David Ungerleider, a Jesuit who is based in Tijuana but currently working on a project in Montgomery, Alabama, composed a



written reflection on Msgr. Lyng's life and ministry.

"Msgr. Eamonn lived the Gospel of service to others, always encouraging us to be better, to do better," he wrote.

Father Ungerleider came to know Msgr. Lyng at Mary Star of the Sea Parish. Msgr. Lyng was the pastor, and Father Ungerleider celebrated the parish's Saturday evening

Spanish Mass. Over the past 20 years, they came to enjoy a close friendship.

"Thank you, Eamonn, and thank God for priests like you!" Father Ungerleider wrote.

A vigil for the deceased was held June 7 at Our Mother of Confidence Church.

The funeral Mass was celebrated on June 8, which happened to be the 60th anniversary of Msgr. Lyng's priestly ordination, also at Our Mother of Confidence. Bishop Robert W. McElroy presided, and Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan was the homilist. Retired Bishop Robert H. Brom and retired Auxiliary Bishop Gilbert E. Chavez were among a large turnout of priests, including one from Ireland.

The Rite of Committal for Msgr. Lyng was held at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery.

The Southern Cross

Are You Still Looking for a Vacation Bible School Program?

Many parishes throughout the Diocese of San Diego are offering Vacation Bible School (VBS) programs this summer to provide children with fun ways to grow closer to God. Upcoming ones include:

El Centro Catholic VBS

"Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus," July 15-19, at St. Mary's Parish Center in El Centro. For kindergarten through fifth grade. Cost: \$10. Register by June 30 at <https://vbspro.events/pl/events/shipwreck18>. Email francisco@elcentrocatholic.org.

Good Shepherd Parish, San Diego

"Shipwrecked," Aug. 13-17. For ages 5 to 10. Cost: \$70. Email zeke@goodshepherdparish.net.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Ramona

"Splash Canyon: God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride," July 23-27. For pre-K through

fifth grade; sixth- through 12th-graders can assist as volunteers. Cost: \$25 per child. Call (760) 789-6151 or visit www.ihmramona.org.

Mission San Luis Rey Parish, Oceanside

2018 Summer Bible Camp, July 10-20, 8:30 a.m.-1:20 p.m. in St. Francis Hall, Room #13. Call (760) 547-0716 or (760) 547-0715.

Our Lady of Light Parish, Descanso

"Cathletics: Training to Be Champions for Christ," July 30-Aug. 3. For ages 4 to 12. Cost: \$35 for one child; \$25 each for two or more children. Call (619) 445-3620 or email Jeannine@ourladyoflight.church.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Lakeside

"Parachute with the Angels!" July 30-Aug. 3, 9:30 a.m.-noon. For kindergarten through incoming sixth grade. Cost: \$40

per child; \$95 family rate (three or more). Email aztecgirly@yahoo.com.

Our Mother of Confidence Parish, San Diego

"Splash Canyon," July 30-Aug. 3, 8:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. For 4-year-olds through those starting eighth grade. Cost: \$45 for one child; \$35 each for siblings. Email jmas_care@san.rr.com or call (858) 453-3554.

St. Brigid Parish, San Diego

"Shipwrecked," July 16-20, 9 a.m.-noon. For ages 3 and older; helper roles available for preteens and teens. Cost: \$60 for one child, \$110 for two, or \$160 for three. Email gayle@saintbrigidparish.org or call (858) 483-3032.

St. Gregory the Great Parish, San Diego

"Shipwrecked," July 30-Aug. 3. For ages 4

through 10. Cost: \$95 for the first child; \$50 for each additional. Register at www.stgg.org or email Ginger@stgg.org.

St. Patrick Parish, San Diego

"Shipwrecked," July 30-Aug. 3. For second through eighth grade. Cost: \$85. Contact Eneida at (619) 295-2157.

St. Peter the Apostle Parish, Fallbrook

"Shipwrecked," July 9-13. For kindergarten through sixth grade. Cost: \$50. Call (760) 689-6212.

Santa Sophia Parish, Spring Valley

"Shipwrecked," July 30-Aug. 3, 9 a.m.-noon. For transitional kindergarten through sixth grade. Cost: \$30 per child; \$50 for two in the same family. Call (619) 463-0488.

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New Seuss-Inspired Musical Headed to The Old Globe

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — The Lorax may speak for the trees, but H. Adam Harris speaks for the Lorax.

The actor provides the voice for the diminutive character, a creation of children's book author Dr. Seuss, and is one of three puppeteers responsible for bringing him to life on stage.

"Dr. Seuss's The Lorax," which will run at The Old Globe Theatre from July 2-Aug. 12, is based on a story that was first told in the pages of a 1971 picture book and was later adapted for television and film.

In the story, the titular creature speaks on behalf of the Truffula trees, warning of the dire environmental consequences that will result if they are all cut down by a greedy industrialist called the Once-ler. His words fall on deaf ears and a lush forest becomes a polluted wasteland.

For Harris, the story's environmental message is "so current and necessary" in today's

world. But, unlike the way the environmental debate is typically conducted, "Dr. Seuss's The Lorax" approaches the issue from a different angle.

The musical play makes no attempt to fill audience members' heads with new facts and figures about our present-day environmental woes, Harris said. Instead of such appeals to the mind, which often leave people feeling overwhelmed by the immensity of the problem, the play makes an appeal to the heart.

It acknowledges that much damage already has been done, he said, but it imparts the hopeful message that, if people truly care, things can change for the better.

In addition to providing the Lorax's voice, Harris also operates the puppet's head and left arm. With Rick Miller, who controls the feet, and Meghan Kreidler, who is responsible for the right arm and the rest of the body, it's his job "to channel the essence of the Lorax."

In a surprising way, through the magic of



NO STRINGS ON HIM: (From left) Meghan Kreidler, Rick Miller and H. Adam Harris, as the Lorax, confront the Once-ler (Steven Epp) in "Dr. Seuss's The Lorax."

puppetry, the character seems to take on a life of its own on stage.

"We disappear," Harris said, explaining that the audience's attention is always on the puppet as a character rather than on any of the individual parts controlled by the puppeteers. "The puppet begins to live, and we begin to be extensions of what the puppet wants to do."

The three puppeteers collaborate closely and have had to learn to breathe and think together.

Harris sees something beautiful about the fact that more than one person is needed to bring the puppet to life. It might be a necessity of stage production, but it also dovetails nicely with the play's environmental message.

"It's going to take more than just one person," he said of efforts to protect the planet. "It's going to take a community of people

coming together to really think about what are we doing to the environment, and what are we leaving for future generations."

For fans of "Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" — a holiday staple at The Old Globe for the past 20 years — the theatre might seem like the perfect home for "The Lorax." But, unlike "The Grinch," this new Seuss-inspired show didn't originate there. It was actually first produced at The Old Vic in London, and its U.S. premiere represents a collaboration between The Old Globe and the Minneapolis-based Children's Theatre Company. Before heading to San Diego, the show ran in Minneapolis from April 17-June 10.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.theoldglobe.org or call (619) 23-GLOBE.

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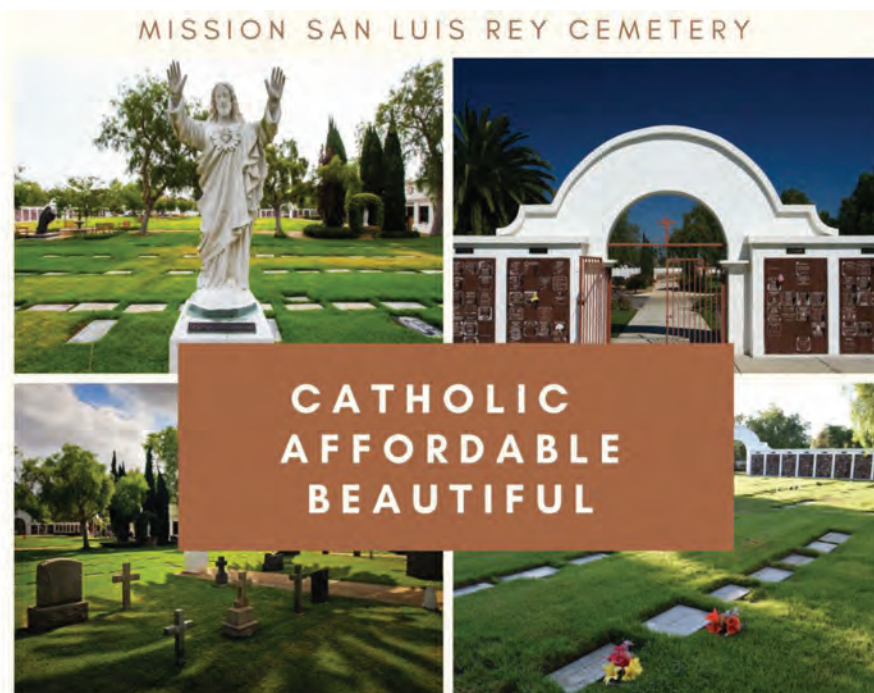
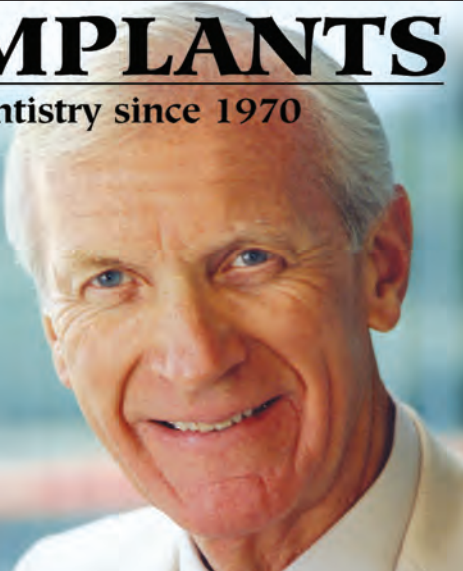
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East Meets West

'King and I' revival comes to San Diego

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — One of the many memorable songs in Rodgers & Hammerstein's "The King and I" is "Getting to Know You."

Appropriately enough, when the touring Broadway production comes to the San Diego Civic Theatre June 26-July 1, audiences will get to know the characters more intimately than ever before.

During a June 7 telephone interview with *The Southern Cross*, cast member Joan Almedilla said the approach taken by this production is "so different from how it's been done in the past," and audiences have been quite surprised by that.

Set in 1862, the stage musical was inspired by the real-life story of Mongkut, the king of Siam, and Anna Leonowens, the British schoolteacher he hires to provide his multitudinous progeny with a modern education.

Almedilla, who plays Lady Thiang, the "head wife" of the polygamous king and mother of his heir, said previous productions have tended to play up the opulence of the king's palace. This time around, she said, the palace décor is sophisticated, but perhaps less ostentatious.

In place of some of the gleaming gold, she said, theatregoers should expect to find an even more valuable treasure: a focus on humor and character development.

"You've never seen these characters in that kind of light before," Almedilla said, credit-

ing director Bartlett Sher with giving audiences a window into their internal struggles.

"The King and I," which premiered in 1951 and has returned to the stage several times over the years, won the 2015 Tony Award for Best Musical Revival under Sher's direction.

Almedilla, who remembers watching the 1956 film adaptation during her childhood in the Philippines, believes the musical's unwavering popularity can be attributed to one of the very things that inspired her to audition for it: the songs.

Rodgers and Hammerstein "wrote so many classics and ... unforgettable tunes," and this musical is no exception, she said, listing "Getting to Know You," "Hello, Young Lovers," "Shall We Dance?" and "Something Wonderful" (sung by Lady Thiang) as just a few examples.

The current U.S. tour began in fall 2016. Making it even more special for Almedilla has been the fact that her real-life son, C.J. Uy, is one of her co-stars. The 9-year-old is making his stage debut as one of the royal children.

While the show is a uniquely family affair for her, Almedilla said that it can also be one for audiences.

"It's for the entire family," she said.

"You will laugh, you'll cry," she added, and — at least, while the two main characters are performing the duet "Shall We Dance?" — "you're going to want to dance."

For more information, show times or tickets, visit www.broadwaysd.com.

The Southern Cross



FAVORITE WIFE: Joan Almedilla stars as Lady Thiang, the "head wife" of the king of Siam, in Rodgers & Hammerstein's "The King and I."

'Mister Rogers' Documentary Now Playing at Your 'Neighborhood' Theater

Fred Rogers was ordained for the Presbyterian Church, but instead of a clerical collar, he ministered wearing a red cardigan sweater.

The much-loved children's television figure, who died 15 years ago in 2003, is the subject of a new documentary, "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" one of the hallmark lines he used in making nearly 900 episodes of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." The movie opened in San Diego-area theaters on June 15.

Rogers' religious faith was inextricably bound up with what he did on his show, which aired new installments for 45 years on PBS, according to "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" producer Nicholas Ma.

"Did it ever! He was someone who woke up every morning reading the Bible in Hebrew or Greek. The Bible was his constant companion," Ma said.

"He was ordained in the ministry of television."

Ma noted the Fred Rogers Archives are housed at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, in the Diocese of Greensburg, which adjoins the Diocese of Pittsburgh, where Rogers filmed "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." Ma said Rogers and Benedictine Archabbot Douglas Nowicki, whose order oversees the college, were great friends.

Catholic News Service



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The Essentials of Being a Disciple

In three significant ways, a Christian disciple's relationship with Jesus is radically different from the relationship a first-century Jewish male would have had with a rabbi.



Msgr. Steven Callahan

First, it was always the other person who sought out the rabbi; with Jesus, He is the one who takes the initiative in seeking out disciples. Second, the focus of the relationship with a rabbi was content, a body of teaching; with Jesus, the focus is the person of Jesus Himself. Third, once someone had learned everything he could from a rabbi, the two would go their separate ways; with Jesus, a disciple is called into a lifelong relationship, and the learning is never completed.

We use the word "disciple" frequently in conversation, but do we really understand what it entails?

Being a follower of Jesus is a dynamic, fluid experience. It is something that we never quite live perfectly or in its fullness. Even within a given day, sometimes we think and act like a follower of Jesus, and sometimes we don't. Being a disciple is a vision to which we commit ourselves at the beginning of each day, and it can serve as an examination of conscience for our prayerful reflection at the end of each day.

A disciple is a lifelong student, a learner on a journey rooted in a relationship with Jesus. We receive the call to be a disciple at our baptism, but at what point in our lives do

we respond to it?

A disciple has fallen in love with Jesus and is a follower of Jesus, regardless of the cost. Can we identify the moment or period of time in our lives when we fell in love with Jesus? Has it happened yet?

A disciple seeks to imitate Jesus more and more in Jesus' way of thinking and acting. Jesus calls us not just to admire His way of living, but to embrace it as our own. This will always involve conversion and transformation if we continually challenge ourselves with the question: What ways of my own thinking and acting are not like those of Jesus?

A disciple is a living sign of Jesus' presence in the world today. In the words of St. Teresa of Avila, we are to be His eyes and ears, His voice, His hands and feet.

A disciple allows the Lord to lead him/her in the way he/she lives. This becomes a critical turning point in our lives as disciples, when we no longer decide what to do and ask the Lord to bless it. Instead, we listen for the Lord at work, taking the initiative and seeking to lead us in what He wants us to do.

A disciple comes to a growing awareness of his/her charisms or gifts received from the Lord and seeks to use them in service of others. These gifts and charisms can change over the course of one's lifetime. In the language of stewardship, a disciple recognizes all that one has as gifts from God and uses his/her time, talent and treasure in loving service.

A disciple lives with a conscious sense of meaning and purpose, of being sent on mission by the Lord. Every disciple has a unique mission entrusted to him/her.

A disciple knows him/herself as a beloved child of God

and strives to see all other human beings as beloved children of God. At what point in our lives do we come to this awareness, not just in our heads but also in our hearts, in the depths of our being?

A disciple reflects regularly on the Word of God. This is essential. How else do we come to know the One who calls us into relationship with Him? As St. Jerome said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."

A disciple participates regularly in a faith community, knowing "me and Jesus" is not enough. The Gospels reveal to us that Jesus did not call disciples into individual, one-on-one relationships with Him. He called disciples together into relationship with Him and one another.

A disciple has a rule and rhythm of life. In *The Holy Longing*, Father Ronald Rolheiser categorizes this in terms of four non-negotiables: personal prayer and personal morality; social justice — concern for the poor, weak, vulnerable, marginalized; mellowness of heart and spirit — grateful, joyful, compassionate; and being active in a community of faith.

A disciple makes disciples, wanting others to share in the joy of a love relationship with Jesus. To be blunt, you are not really a disciple unless you are inviting and encouraging others to be disciples. This is not so much a duty or obligation as it is the fruit of a love relationship with Jesus. Love always flows outward to share its joy with others.

The Southern Cross

Msgr. Steven Callahan is pastor of St. Brigid Parish and judicial vicar for the Diocese of San Diego.

Suicidal Thoughts

When you have a little time, please visit my Web site, *JohnCatoir.com*, and scroll down past the white cross and the "Special Blessing," then click on the left side under my portrait and view my video interview on the topic of spiritual joy. It has a section on suicidal thoughts, that has helped a lot of people.



Father John Catoir

One lady who was overwhelmed with despair at first didn't want to have anything to do with a priest. She was lost at the bottom of a pit and saw no way out. Nevertheless, there was a way out. She found out slowly that safety, freedom and happiness were all waiting for her as soon as she discovered the escape hatch. A new life and a new love was just around the corner. She prayed and received the grace to reverse her thinking. In time, she lived to discover great peace and happiness.

Once she decided to spend a little time with this video of mine, she gradually came to understand that all the good things of life can be regained, once you open your eyes to the love of God, and exercise a little patience.

I explain how to clear your mind of self-sabotage. If you've read my columns over the years, you'll recognize my line of reasoning. First, I lay the groundwork for joy to begin the liberation process. Slowly, the suicidal thoughts begin to lose their power. Remember, I ran a drug and alcohol rehab for a few years, and I know what I'm talking about.

This two-pronged strategy begins with the pursuit of spiritual joy, and proceeds with the rejection of deadly, self-destructive thoughts. One of the first things you need to grasp is the fact that you are not your thoughts. You are the observer of your thoughts. More precisely, you can reject the phony belief that you have no choice. You really want liberation, not death. Suicide is permanent and it has eternal consequences. You have been deceived. It's no solution; only a knee-jerk reaction. Delete suicide from your mind.

You are destined for happiness, here and hereafter. With God's help, happiness can be yours once again. It takes an act of the will to persevere in praying for God's grace to enable you to change your direction. Millions of desperate souls have done it successfully over the centuries, and so can you.

I explain the process of renewal in my video. I promise it will lead you to a happier life. Keep in mind, if you do decide to take your life, you'll be putting a blight on the conscience of everyone who ever cared about you, especially your parents and relatives living and dead. Also, you'll be setting a terrible example for your children and grandchildren. Let your final act be one of heroism, not despair.

"Don't be afraid," said the Lord. Those words appear 365 times in the Bible. It means that you have the power to banish needless anxiety. Jesus would never have promised to be your strength and your joy if He didn't intend to follow through. You have the power to imagine yourself as a hero or heroine.

You can choose to be Joan of Arc or the Angel Gabriel. Be a winner for all eternity. Just around the corner of the dark tunnel

you might be in, there's an underground railway ready to whisk you away to freedom, refreshment and healing. Believe the Lord Jesus who said, "Fear is useless, what you need is trust" (Luke 8:50).

Father John Catoir is a priest of the Diocese of Paterson, N.J., and a past president of the Catholic Press Association.

IN LOVING Memory

INTO THY HANDS, O Lord, we commend the spirits of these beloved ones who are gone before us into the realm of thy eternal happiness and peace. AMEN

Luz Gonzalez Ruvalcaba	St. Patrick Church	4/11/2018
Robert Ray Bell	Our Lady of Angles	5/15/2018
Lennae Frances Halvorsen	St. Martin Of Tours	5/27/218
Edward Ralph Mendoza	Our Lady Of Grace	5/30/2018

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PARISH EVENTS

Healing Mass
Quarterly healing Mass, 7 p.m., July 25, at St. James Parish in Solana Beach. Witness testimony and praise music begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass and prayers for healing. Celebrant: Father Gerard Lecomte, CJM.

Glory Immersion
A unique time in God's presence with joyous music, prayers, Scripture, words of comfort, healing and fellowship. 7-8:30 p.m., June 26 and July 24, at St. Timothy Parish in Escondido. For information, call (760)741-1134.

Summer Series
"Who Do You Say I Am?" Facilitated by Deacon Chris Hulburt. 7-8:30 p.m., Tuesday nights, June 19-July 31, at St. Brigid Parish. All ages welcome; childcare by RSVP. For information, visit www.saintbrigidparish.org/SOP.

"Recognizing Satan"
7 p.m., June 28, in the upper hall at Our Lady of the Rosary Parish. Father Dave Leon will explain how to recognize Satan's evil influence and the importance of wearing "the Whole Armor of God." Register at www.SD-Catholic.com.

Summer Camp
St. Rose of Lima Parish in Chula Vista is offering several summer camps June-August, focusing on such topics as Music, Sports, Religion, Glee, Literature and Technology. Cost: \$95 per week; includes lunch, snacks and camp T-shirts. Dates

PARISH EVENTS

vary. For information and to register, visit www.strosevcschool.com.

Wine Festival
A premier wine festival, benefiting St. Pius X Parish in Jamul, will support the parish's building improvement fund and youth group program. 5:30-9 p.m., June 30, at D&S Farms, 2801 Jamul Highlands Rd., Jamul 91935. Ages 21 and up. Tickets: \$65/person or \$100/couple in advance; \$75/person at the door. Call (619) 669-0085 or visit www.stpiusxjamul.com.

Schola Choir Music Camp
Annual summer camp for ages 7-14. 9 a.m.-noon, Aug. 6-10 (including 10:30 a.m. Mass, Aug. 12), at St. Joseph Cathedral. Participants will learn a variety of pieces of sacred music, from antiquity to today. No cost. For information, call (619) 239-0229, ext. 114, or email youthmusic@sdccathedral.org.

DIOCESAN PROGRAMS

Basic Catechist Formation
48-hour course required for all who minister in the areas of catechesis, RCIA and sacramental prep. Cost: \$75. For exact dates, times, and more details about upcoming courses, visit www.sdccatholic.org/OECMSD, email Lvaca@sdccatholic.org or call (858) 490-8230. Upcoming locations include:

- Mary, Star of the Sea Parish, La Jolla, starting at 6 p.m., Monday, July 2

DIOCESAN PROGRAMS

- Good Shepherd Parish, Mira Mesa, starting at 9 a.m., Monday, July 16
- Online course offered through Diocese of San Diego, starting on Tuesday, Sept. 25. Registration deadline is Sept. 20.

DIOCESAN INSTITUTE

For information or to register, visit www.sdccatholic.org/SDDIRegister, email danderson@sdccatholic.org or call (858) 490-8212.

S410 Conscience and Its Formation (10 hours)

Christopher Schnitzius, M.T.S. Wednesdays, July 11-Aug. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Corpus Christi Parish, Bonita. Cost: \$35 for credit/professional development; \$25 for audit.

GROUPS

Garden of Carmel
The Garden of Carmel Confraternity of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is for lay persons who wish to have a deeper prayer life and live the evangelical life through Carmelite spirituality. One group meets from 7:30 a.m.-noon, every third Saturday, at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Chula Vista; a second group meets from 8 a.m.-noon, every third Wednesday, at Most Precious Blood Parish in Chula Vista. For information, call (619) 656-5423, email aespangilinan@gmail.com or visit gardenofcarmel.wordpress.com.

GROUPS

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Celebration
The Garden of Carmel Confraternity of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel invites everyone

GROUPS

to a feast day celebration of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Mass at 6 p.m., July 16, in St. Rose of Lima Parish's St. Benedict Chapel. Celebrants: Father Luke Jauregui and Father Silverio Espenilla, assisted by

GROUPS

Deacon Alan Pangilinan. Reception will follow. For information, call (619) 656-5423 or email aespangilinan@gmail.com.

What Are You Reading?



Maria Santizo (left) and Pat Berkebile (right), a member of Ascension Parish, pose with a copy of *The Southern Cross* on the street in Antigua, Guatemala, during one of many *Semana Santa* (Holy Week) processions through the city. Send us a photo of you or your family posing with *The Southern Cross* during your travels, and you might be included in a future issue. High-resolution photos accompanied by captions explaining who is in the photo, where the photo was taken and when it was taken can be emailed to dgrasska@sdccatholic.org.

'Teach-In'



On June 16, the diocesan Office for Social Ministry sponsored an event called a "Teach-In" at the diocesan Pastoral Center. Its purpose was to increase awareness of climate change, to share experiences and to animate efforts to respond, inspired by faith and Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si." The morning event featured a keynote speaker, Dr. Thomas English (pictured, center), an internationally known environmentalist and lecturer. Besides Dr. English, 11 other speakers directed two half-hour breakout sessions. Speakers from the scientific perspective were Jessica Barlow, professor at San Diego State University; Franco Garcia of the Environmental Health and Justice Coalition; Dr. Suzanne Till, director of the Academy of Science at Mater Dei Catholic High School; Arnold Bernardo, environmental engineer; David Larom (pictured, right), lecturer at SDSU; and Robert Gilleskie (pictured, left), professional engineer. Speaking from the theological and religious perspective were Dr. Maureen Day of the Franciscan School of Theology and Victor Carmona, a professor of theology at the University of San Diego. Those speaking from an applied action perspective were Anne Marie Oldham, sustainability director at St. James Academy; John Ohle, director of facilities and operations at Our Mother of Confidence Parish; Kristofer Patrón Soberano, coordinator of the SAGE Program at SDSU; and various coordinators of the 15 parish Creation Care Teams. The event drew 120 participants and featured six information tables. Parishes interested in sponsoring a free, one-and-a-half-hour workshop, should contact the Office for Social Ministry at (858) 490-8323, or Father Emmet Farrell at (619) 419-8345 or elf620@yahoo.com.



Thinking of Retirement?
Nestled in the hills of Rancho San Diego, amid lush landscaping and manicured gardens, sits Good Samaritan Retirement Center - a Catholic non-profit assisted living facility for the elderly owned and operated by The Chaldean Sisters Daughters of Mary's Immaculate Conception. Their mission statement is simple - to ensure all residents are treated with love and respect which exemplifies what it truly means to be a Good Samaritan.
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with Auxiliary Bishop John Dolan

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Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church
 13541 Stoney Creek Rd. San Diego, CA 92129



Register yourself or your group at SocialMinistrySanDiego.com by July 18

Join Bishop John Dolan, the 22 parishes with mental health ministries and the Diocesan Office for Social Ministry to pray for individuals and families who are experiencing mental health challenges. We'll also pray for the agencies and professionals who serve them and at the reception, celebrate the collaborative work of the San Diego Mental Health Ministry Network.

This Mass is open to all and Reception is free, but registration is required.



"All people are a gift from God, we proclaim."

There is no charge to attend the celebration, but registration is required. Register early for the "The Mass and Reception", at: SocialMinistrySanDiego.com
 For more information, call or e-mail Maria Valencia: (858) 490-8323 or mvalencia@sdcatholic.org
 Please carpool if possible to guarantee on-site parking.



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PÁGINAS 3

MOVILIZACIÓN: El Obispo Católico de San Diego, Robert McElroy, se unió a una manifestación el 23 de junio afuera del centro de detención para inmigrantes en Otay Mesa para expresar su respaldo a las familias separadas.

Se Inaugura Resurrección

Tomó 13 años de esfuerzo para abrir nueva iglesia en Escondido

Por Denis Grasska

ESCONDIDO – Los esfuerzos incansables de la parroquia Resurrección para tener una iglesia permanente han sido una serie de comienzos, paros y retrasos.

De pie en el santuario de la nueva Iglesia Resurrección, una figura pequeña comparado con la escultura de 17 pies del Cristo Resucitado, el Obispo Robert McElroy reconoció qué apropiado es el nombre de la parroquia.

“Como el evento que representa su nombre, Resurrección, esta iglesia ha resucitado una vez, otra vez y aún otra vez hasta que finalmente se construyó”, dijo el Obispo durante la Misa de dedicación el 7 de junio.

“He llegado a considerarlo el Proyecto de Lázaro”, bromeó, provocando risa en la congregación.

La iglesia sirve una comunidad católica que es 68 por ciento hispana y 25 por ciento anglo, según las más recientes estadísticas, y ofrece servicios y recursos en español e inglés.

Más de 1,100 personas asistieron la dedicación, incluyendo parroquianos, 23 sacerdotes, personal diocesano y directivos de las firmas que diseñaron y construyeron la iglesia, Kluger Architects, Domus Studio Architects y Questar Construction. También asistieron el ya jubilado Obispo Auxiliar Gilberto

VEA IGLESIA, PÁGINA 6



NUEVO HOGAR: La comunidad de la parroquia Resurrección utilizó un edificio de usos múltiples por 45 años para sus Misas hasta la apertura de una iglesia formal.

Las Cosas Pequeñas Muy Seguido Tienen un Gran Impacto

¿Alguna vez has escuchado la expresión “más es menos” o, “Entre más grande, mejor”?

Estas son dos frases que utilizamos muy seguido dentro de nuestro idioma y muy seguido vemos que así es como se rige la sociedad: “entre más grande, mejor”. Las mismas empresas así funcionan tratando de crecer, de expandirse, pensando “entre más grande, mejor”.



El Padre Bernardo Lara

Por ejemplo, agarremos Disney como empresa: Son dueños de las cosas Disney enfocadas para niños, así como también de la cadena de deportes ESPN para los papás, y dueños de la cadena ABC de noticias, entre otras cosas. También en los últimos meses hemos visto que T-Mobile se unió a Sprint en las cadenas de celulares. Más recientemente el restaurante “IHOP” está con una promoción que le cambia el nombre por “IHOB” – todas pensando “entre más grande, mejor”.

Nosotros también pensamos así muy seguido: Entre más grande la casa, mejor; entre más grande el carro, mejor; o, “entre más dinero tenga en el banco, mejor”.

Sin embargo, en la vida espiritual muy seguido es al

revés; son las cosas pequeñas las que muy seguido vienen a crear un impacto en nosotros. Jesús mismo nos lo predice en el Evangelio: “Con qué compararemos el Reino de Dios?... Es como una semilla de mostaza que, cuando se siembra, es la más pequeña de las semillas; pero una vez sembrada, crece y se convierte en el mayor de los arbustos... tan grande que los pájaros pueden anidar en su sombra”.

Una semilla de mostaza, para que te des una idea, es casi del mismo tamaño que una semilla de fresa, de esas de color amarillo. Entonces, ¡Sí que es muy pequeña! Sin embargo, Jesús así compara el reino de Dios.

Nuestro llamado como católicos es a sembrar, no a recoger frutos. Estamos llamados a “regar semillas” por todas partes. En sí, tú no sabes si el cajero del supermercado está teniendo un mal día, pero con tu saludo o tu despedida de “Que Dios te bendiga” le puedes cambiar el día. Tampoco sabes si la persona que te ayuda en la tienda, se siente deprimido, pero con tus actos le puedes cambiar su forma de sentir.

Más aun, ¡son los pequeños actos los que vienen a transformar a la familia! ¿De qué sirve que tus hijos tengan una casa grande, si nunca te ven? ¿De qué sirve que tus hijos puedan tener un carro grande, si nunca les das el don de tu persona (lo único que es irremplazable)?

Tú mismo ponte a pensar, ¿recuerdas exactamente el costo de la casa donde creciste? O recuerdas exactamente

¿cuánto dinero tenía tu papá en el banco cuando tenías siete años? Lo más probable es que no. Más bien, te acuerdas de sus acciones como, por ejemplo, te acuerdas si estaba siempre contigo, o si nunca estuvo contigo; te acuerdas de si fue un padre cariñoso o agresivo; te acuerdas de si te traía a Misa o si no; más bien te acuerdas de si era un padre divertido, o si tenía problemas con el alcohol.

Así pasa con las personas y más con tu familia. Por eso reitero, ¿“entre más grande, mejor”? No necesariamente. Más bien, si eres cariñoso con tus hijos- esos son los detalles pequeños, las semillas pequeñas; si le hablas a otras personas sobre el amor de Dios, ahí estamos sembrando una semilla pequeña; si los hijos te ven que vas a Misa y que vas también a confesarte, ahí estas sembrando una semilla pequeña; si les enseñas a rezar, ahí estas sembrando una semilla... este tipo de cosas son semillas pequeñas que llegan a crecer tan grade que llegan a dar sombra a otras personas.

Por eso, aunque aplaudo el deseo de crecer y superarse a sí mismo por su bien y el de los demás, también no hay que caer en el error de que nada más las cosas grandes valen la pena. Muy seguido son los detalles pequeños los que eventualmente tienen un impacto grande.

El Padre Bernardo Lara es vicario parroquial en la iglesia St. Mark en San Marcos. Se puede contactar en fatherbernardolara@gmail.com.

Diócesis presenta taller en español para ministerios de música hispana

Por Aída Bustos

Todos los ministerios de música hispanos en la diócesis están invitados a participar en un taller de formación y capacitación en español el 4 de agosto.

“El Instituto OCP – Cantemos al Señor” se llevará a cabo en la parroquia San Judas de 8:30 de la mañana a las 4:30 de la tarde.

“OCP” se refiere a la organización sin fines de lucro Oregon Catholic Press, una de las principales editoriales de música católica litúrgica. Sus instructores presentarán seis sesiones para salmistas, cantores, miembros del coro, instrumentistas y todo miembro del ministerio de música. Los instructores serán Pedro Rubalcava, Anna Betancourt, Rebecca Ramírez y Rodolfo López.

Narciso Guzmán es el coordinador de eventos para la Comisión de Habla Hispana de la Diócesis de San Diego y miembro del ministerio de música de la parroquia Santa

Rosa de Lima por 33 años.

“Más que nada la idea es formar a los ministerios de música por la necesidad que vemos de la falta de conocimiento al momento de cantar en las Misas”, explicó.

Dijo que algunos ministerios y movimientos no están formados litúrgicamente hablando; es decir, presentan cantos en la Misa que no son litúrgicos. El propósito del taller es compartir esa información. También habló de la importancia de la formación espiritual, el tema de la plática principal.

“No solamente se trata de ir a pararnos y cantar, sino es algo espiritual, algo que nos eleva a Dios.”

El taller presentará sesiones en: La dinámica de la Misa y la música; ¡Cantemos al Señor! El papel del músico en la liturgia; ¡Eleva tu voz al cielo! - Técnicas de vocalización; Un pueblo, una voz: Cómo guiar a la asamblea en el canto; La selección de la música para la liturgia: ¿Cuál es el comienzo?; y El Misal Romano y su impacto para el ministro de música.

La inscripción para el taller en la parroquia San Judas es \$10 por persona. Está ubicada en 1129 South 38th Street, San Diego, CA 92113. Favor de contactar a Alejandra Diaz para más información y para inscribirse al teléfono (858) 490-8306, el correo electrónico adiaz@sdccatholic.org o en la página de Internet de la diócesis, sdccatholic.org.

La Comisión de Habla Hispana solicitó el taller a la Oficina de Liturgia de la diócesis, dirigida por Noreen McInness, la directora que coordinó la capacitación.

Video homenaje celebra al Obispo Chávez



La Diócesis de San Diego estrenó un video homenaje al Obispo Auxiliar Gilberto Chávez para celebrar el aniversario 44 de su consagración. El video, con versiones en inglés y español, se puede ver en el portal diocesano, sdccatholic.org.

El Obispo fue el primer obispo mexicano-americano de la diócesis y solamente el segundo en el país con tales raíces. Fue consagrado el 21 de junio del 1974.

Fue uno de los primeros líderes católicos que abogó que la Iglesia reconociera las necesidades singulares de la comunidad hispana y que desarrollara un ministerio para servirla. Dedicaría sus 33 años como obispo a cumplir esa visión, enfocándose en la formación de líderes pastorales hispanos.

El Obispo, quien se jubiló en el año 2007, continúa siendo un campeón entre los sacerdotes hispanos y los fieles en San Diego y el Valle Imperial.

A pesar de enfrentar problemas de salud en años recientes, el Obispo, de 86 años, asiste eventos importantes de la diócesis, inclusive la dedicación de la Iglesia Resurrección el 7 de junio en Escondido. Actualmente vive en la Casa Nazareth, donde sus amigos lo visitan seguido para disfrutar su compañía y recibir su sabiduría.

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Obispo clama trato compasivo de migrantes

Por Alexandra Mendoza

OTAY MESA – Si la Sagrada Familia hubiera llegado a la frontera estadounidense en búsqueda de refugio como lo hicieron en Egipto, hubiera sido encarcelados, reflexionó el Obispo Católico de San Diego Robert McElroy.

El Obispo se unió a otros líderes religiosos de California que el pasado sábado 23 de junio se congregaron en las afueras del centro de detención para inmigrantes en Otay Mesa para expresar su respaldo a las familias que han sido separadas a consecuencia de las políticas migratorias de la actual administración federal.

Uno de los momentos más emotivos, fue cuando los cientos de manifestantes llegaron a un costado del inmueble, justo frente a las rejas que resguardan el centro de detención, gritando “¡No están solos!”

Desde el interior, se pudo escuchar los gritos de agradecimiento por parte de los inmigrantes ahí reclusos, que hicieron saber que estaban al tanto de lo que sucedía al exterior.

“Eso fue muy conmovedor, que la gente al interior nos haya escuchado y que haya entendido nuestro apoyo hacia ellos”, consideró el Obispo McElroy.

La acción formó parte de una serie de multitudinarias movilizaciones a nivel nacional que se realizaron a pesar de que días atrás, el Presidente Donald Trump emitió un decreto para frenar esta práctica, aunque no la detención de las familias que cruzan la frontera de forma irregular.

Esta crisis humanitaria se generó a raíz de la denominada “política de cero tolerancia”, bajo la cual, se enjuicia a toda persona que ingrese al país sin documentos. En consecuencia, el gobierno estadounidense habría llevado a diversos albergues y centros de detención a 2,300 niños que viajaron con adultos.

El Departamento de Defensa, mientras tanto, anunció que se preparaba para construir campamentos temporales en dos bases militares para inmigrantes detenidos, posiblemente hasta 20,000.

Además de alzar su voz a favor de inmigrantes, la diócesis de San Diego, a través de su organización Caridades Católicas, está apoyando a la comunidad de inmigrantes con servicios gratuitos. Estos incluyen ayudar a los Soñadores a renovar su permiso de DACA; presentar foros para preparar a familias para una posible detención o deportación, especialmente aquellas con hijos nacidos en este país; y ofrecer apoyo legal a inmigrantes ya detenidos o que enfrentan una orden para su deportación.

Y en respuesta a las familias ya detenidas, la diócesis está preparando un plan para poder proveer albergue temporal a las madres con hijos que son liberados por las autoridades migratorias y pueden permanecer legalmente en este país mientras su caso está pendiente.

Para el Obispo McElroy, era importante manifestar el rechazo a las “violaciones horribles hacia lo sagrado que es la familia”, que han acontecido en las últimas semanas.

Durante su discurso, hizo el comparativo con la historia bíblica de la Familia Sagrada,



UNIDOS: Más de mil personas de todo el estado se congregaron afuera del Centro de Detención Otay Mesa el 23 de junio para rechazar la separación de familias y apoyar a los ya detenidos. Sacerdotes católicos, pastores cristianos, rabinos, budistas, musulmanes y gente de fe pidieron trato compasivo y justo para los inmigrantes.

la cual huyó de su país para buscar refugio en Egipto para proteger al Bebé Jesús de Herodes, quien buscaba matarlo.

“Si María, José y Jesús hubieran llegado a nuestra frontera la semana pasada como refugiados, el Niño Jesús había sido separado de los brazos de sus padres y llevado a una jaula”, señaló McElroy ante los manifestantes.

El Obispo lamentó que funcionarios federales, como el Fiscal General de Estados Unidos, Jeff Sessions y la vocera presidencial, Sarah Huckabee Sanders, hayan citado la Biblia para justificar el mandato que separó a miles de niños de sus padres.

“La gente utiliza la Biblia todo el tiempo para formas que son contradictorias al verdadero significado de la Biblia”, consideró. “Sí, San Pablo dice que hay que obedecer la ley, pero al mismo tiempo, San Pablo fue sacrificado por haber defendido el Evangelio de Cristo en contra de la ley, y fue arrestado por el gobierno de Roma”.

El Obispo instó a todos a abrir sus corazones a los inmigrantes.

“Todos nosotros debemos llenarnos de esperanza, fuerza y amor a nuestro país y a todos los que llegan aquí en búsqueda de una nueva vida.”

Y una vez más unió su voz a todos los obispos del país pidiendo una reforma migratoria justa.

Posterior al mensaje del obispo y de otros líderes religiosos, un grupo participó en un acto de desobediencia civil y logró llegar



hasta la puerta del centro de detención en donde se unieron en oración. “No tengas miedo, estamos contigo”, expresaron los manifestantes quienes hicieron un pasillo por el que pasaron familias que fueron a visitar a sus seres queridos al interior.

Activistas de diversas organizaciones en San Diego coincidieron en que es momento de solidaridad con los más vulnerables.

“Dios es amor, Dios no es un Dios de miedo, por lo tanto yo me paro aquí ante ustedes y les pido que abran su corazón, abran sus brazos, abran sus puertas a los extranjeros”, exclamó Gloria Morales de la agrupación San Diego Organizing Project (SDOP). Esta coalición de líderes de fe organizó la manifestación en coordinación con su contraparte estatal, PICO de California.

El tema de la inmigración se ha vuelto aún más divisivo en los últimos años tras las declaraciones primero del candidato Trump y luego de sus órdenes como presidente.

Afirmando la teología y enseñanza católica, los obispos consistentemente han aboga-

do por el tratamiento humano de todos los inmigrantes, sin importar sus estatus. El 13 de junio, el presidente de la Conferencia de Obispos denunció la política de separar a familias y una vez más instó al Congreso que adoptara una reforma migratoria justa.

“Las familias son pieza fundamental de nuestra sociedad y deben mantenerse juntas”, dijo el Cardenal Daniel DiNardo. “Sí, la protección de nuestras fronteras es importante, pero podemos y debemos trabajar mejor como gobierno, y como sociedad, para encontrar otras formas de asegurar nuestra seguridad. El separar a bebés de sus madres no es la respuesta y es inmoral”.

Mientras tanto, el diario *The San Diego Union-Tribune* reportó que la firma privada que opera el Centro de Detención de Otay Mesa, CoreCivic, planea añadir unas 512 camas. El centro, que tiene una capacidad actual de 1,458 camas, se ampliaría por 35 por ciento una vez que se complete la expansión.

—Aida Bustos contribuyó a esta noticia.

Ordenación con ‘sabor a pueblo’

Orden lleva a cabo su rito en la frontera

Por Aida Bustos

SAN YSIDRO – “¿Qué quiere decir para mí, mi familia y los jesuitas venir aquí?”

Elías Puentes se hizo esa pregunta al entrar a la parroquia Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo unos días antes de que él y tres otros hombres fueran ordenados sacerdotes en la Sociedad de Jesús ahí.

Para él y su familia, que había emigrado de México hace unos 33 años antes, era un regreso a sus raíces en un local con vista a la frontera.

Para los Jesuitas de la Provincia del Oeste, con base en la ciudad de Portland, Oregón, era una forma de llamar atención a la crisis que actualmente enfrentan los inmigrantes indocumentados.

Y también era una forma de reconocer el trabajo que tradicionalmente han desempeñado los jesuitas alrededor del mundo, “llevando Jesucristo a los que están sufriendo, a los pobres y a los marginalizados”, dijo el Obispo Robert McElroy, quien celebró la Misa de ordenación el 9 de junio.

Más de 800 personas llenaron la humilde parroquia, un sitio drásticamente diferente que las iglesias grandes o catedral que se utilizan para las ordenaciones jesuita, principalmente en Los Ángeles. Decenas de padres jesuitas y personal de la Provincia – que abarca diez estados de Alaska a California – hicieron el viaje a la frontera para la celebración.

“Vemos a la ciudad de Tijuana en frente de nosotros y vemos la frontera entre los Estados Unidos y América Latina”, dijo el Obispo en su homilía. “¿Esta frontera es un puente o una barrera? Nuestro país está luchando para contestar esa pregunta en este momento tan alarmante en la historia de nuestro país.

“El meollo de este debate es nuestra herencia como una nación de inmigrantes y la realidad que los Estados Unidos fue forjado por los que vinieron aquí buscando libertad, seguridad económica y refugio de la opresión. El actual rechazo de estas vidas es una gran pena de nuestro país”.



FOTOS POR JON ROU / JESUIT WEST PROVINCE

CELEBRACIÓN DE FE: La Provincia Jesuita del Oeste llevó a cabo su ordenación anual en la parroquia Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo de San Ysidro. El Obispo Robert McElroy celebró la Misa, que involucró actos como los ordenandos postrándose y la bendición individual de cada hombre, inclusive de Elías Puentes (imagen en la parte baja de página). Al final, los nuevos sacerdotes recibieron el aplauso de familiares y amigos. Ellos fueron, izquierda a derecha, John Tillman Tanner, Elías Puentes, Oscar Alejandro Xavier Báez González y Thomas Flowers. Mariachis tocaron en el festejo después de la Misa, con el nuevo Padre Báez añadiendo su toque personal.

Destacó que la frontera ya había tenido un papel importante en las vidas de los cuatro hombres que entraban al sacerdocio.

Elías Puentes había emigrado a la edad de 13 años del pueblito de Ayotitlán, Jalisco, con sus dos hermanas y un hermano y sus

padres, quienes trabajaban en el campo. Puentes, de 46 años, completará su maestría en Boston College antes de mudarse a la ciudad de Tacoma, en el estado de Washington, donde trabajará en la Comunidad Jesuita Bellarmine y ayudará a establecer una pastoral hispana en una parroquia local.

Oscar Alejandro Xavier Báez González también había emigrado de México a este país cuando era un adolescente. El ahora hombre de 41 años, que una vez estudió piano en la escuela famosa Juilliard, tiene maestrías en educación de música y divinidad. Él también ha sido asignado a vivir en Tacoma y servir como maestro de música en la Escuela Preparatoria Bellarmine.

Thomas Flowers, de 34 años, y John Tillman Tanner, de 36, trabajaron para una organización humanitaria fundada por los jesuitas en Nogales. Inicialmente, Flowers estudiará un doctorado en historia en Inglaterra y Tillman servirá como un padre en la parroquia Blessed Sacrament en Los Ángeles.

“Su entendimiento que la frontera es un

puente y no una barrera subraya su compromiso a la Sociedad de Jesús y su dedicación al trabajo misionero de la Iglesia, una dedicación que no se rinde ante fronteras, barreras o límites”, dijo el Obispo, dirigiéndose a los cuatro hombres.

El Obispo aseguró que el Papa Francisco llama a todos los católicos “que vean el mundo con ojos nuevos y que construyan puentes donde solamente ha habido barreras”.

“Hoy, ustedes se comprometen a la tarea de crear nuevos puentes a la vida de la Iglesia”, les dijo a los cuatro hombres.

Elías Puentes se había preparado por 12 años para llevar a cabo esa tarea.

En una entrevista unos días después de su ordenación, contó su camino al sacerdocio. Dijo que él creció una familia católica que practicaba su fe.

Tras emigrar a este país, y a medida que pasaron los años, vivió un “poco de desintegración de fe porque cada uno tomó su propio camino”.

Después de un tiempo regresó a la Iglesia, sin la influencia de la familia, y todavía con





la idea de ser cura. Pero le faltaba una base sólida de educación porque se había tenido que mudar varias veces y no había terminado sus estudios.

Tras graduarse de la preparatoria, trabajó como voluntario y luego como empleado de un albergue para inmigrantes de la Misión Dolores en Los Ángeles. Se había convertido en el director del programa cuando terminó su tiempo ahí ocho años después.

Durante todo ese tiempo, los jesuitas lo animaron a continuar sus estudios, empezando con asistir un colegio comuni-

tario. Tras construir una base académica sólida, Puentes entró al programa de formación de los jesuitas en el 2006 y trabajó en varios cargos en San José y Los Gatos.

Siempre le interesó hacer trabajo social y pastoral entre las comunidades vulnerables, no solamente predicar dentro de una iglesia.

Cuando se comenzó a planear la ordenación hace un año, Puentes dijo que habló con el Provincial Scott Santarosa, el director de la Provincia.

“Le dije que estaban demonizando a los inmigrantes”, contó. “Y que nuestra ordenación debería de reflejar la experiencia de



ALZAN SUS VOCES: Los ordenandos Thomas Flowers y Óscar Alejandro Xavier Báez González participaron en una manifestación a favor de inmigrantes en el Parque Chicano el 8 de junio.

‘La Iglesia no conoce fronteras’

Por **Alexandra Mendoza**

Hoy más que nunca, líderes de la Iglesia Católica buscan unirse en solidaridad con las comunidades migrantes de San Diego y Valle Imperial.

Recientemente, una delegación de religiosos, activistas y miembros de la comunidad se reunieron en el histórico Parque Chicano de San Diego para un momento de oración y reflexión en apoyo a quienes se encuentran más vulnerables por el endurecimiento de leyes migratorias.

“Abre nuestros corazones, abre nuestros brazos y abre nuestras puertas en bienvenida”, rezaron decenas de personas que se dieron cita el pasado viernes 8 de junio.

La ceremonia sirvió para dar la bienvenida a una delegación de jesuitas de la Provincia del Oeste, que eligió la iglesia de Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo en San Ysidro para impartir la Misa de ordenación sacerdotal para cuatro hombres, dos de ellos, inmigrantes.

“Vivimos en una iglesia en una situación tanto política como religiosa en la cual no podemos evadir la realidad del migrante y del refugiado”, consideró el ahora sacerdote Alejandro Báez. “El hecho de venir a una parroquia que está tan cerca de la frontera lo hace un evento muy bonito y emotivo”, señaló el también inmigrante mexicano.

Dicha ceremonia representó una buena oportunidad para tocar un tema que cobra relevancia a nivel nacional y que afecta a un gran número de fieles, explicó el Padre Scott

Santarosa, el líder de la Provincia Jesuita del Oeste.

“La inmigración es un tema importante para la Iglesia Católica”, recalcó. “El amor no conoce fronteras, la Iglesia no conoce fronteras, el ser documentado o indocumentado no significa nada para nosotros en la Iglesia”.

Y es que muchos migrantes le han expresado que “se sienten perseguidos”, una situación que no se veía antes, mencionó Santarosa. Por ello, consideró que las iglesias deben ser “sitios de resguardo, de refugio y de justicia”, en donde además se inspire a más personas para que se movilicen en favor de los más vulnerables.

Líderes religiosos hicieron énfasis en el simbolismo de realizar una oración en el emblemático sitio del Barrio Logan, que junto a sus decenas de murales, se ha convertido en un símbolo de la lucha por los derechos humanos de comunidades latinoamericanas que residen en Estados Unidos.

También se invitó a inmigrantes para que compartieran sus experiencias. Una de ellas, fue Dulce García, abogada de inmigración y beneficiaria del programa de Acción Diferida para los Llegados en la Infancia (DACA).

“Necesitamos más compasión para ya no tener más familias separadas”, dijo. “Eso va a requerir que todos nosotros tomemos acción”.

The Southern Cross

inmigración”.

Las decenas de jesuitas, familias y el personal de la Provincia tuvieron que dejar sus lugares cómodos e ir a un lugar desconocido. Tuvieron que ajustarse a una parroquia

chica y humilde donde le dieron la bienvenida hasta con mariachi.

“La ordenación tuvo sabor de pueblo.”

— The Southern Cross

► IGLESIA

CONTINUACIÓN DE PÁGINA 1

Parroquianos trabajaron más de una década para construir nuevo hogar

Chávez y el Abad Sharbel Ewen de la Abadía Príncipe de Paz.

Antes de la Misa, una gran multitud se congregó en frente de la entrada, donde representantes de la parroquia le presentaron las llaves de la iglesia y los planos arquitectónicos del edificio al Obispo McElroy, quien luego le dio las llaves al pastor de la iglesia, el Padre Kenneth Del Priore, invitándolo a abrir las puertas.

Posteriormente se llevaron a cabo rituales católicos para la dedicación de una iglesia. Por ejemplo, el obispo salpicó el altar y las paredes con agua bendita y los consagró con crisma sagrada, un aceite perfumado, y enterró reliquias de varios santos en el altar.

En su homilía, el Obispo elogió la belleza de la nueva iglesia y la fe de la comunidad cuya paciencia y sacrificio la había hecho posible.

“Esta iglesia es un lugar magnífico para sentir la presencia de Dios”, dijo, “pero mucho más bello es el hecho que, en la vida de esta comunidad, el mensaje de Dios – el perdón y la misericordia – están vivos”.

El edificio de 16,000 pies cuadrados fue diseñado en el estilo Renacimiento Misión y costó \$7 millones. Representa el cumplimiento de un sueño de décadas en la parroquia, la cual fue establecida en 1970.

Varios factores inesperados la forzaron a abandonar el plan para construir una iglesia nueva, entre ellos la decisión de la Diócesis de San Diego de declararse en bancarrota en 2007 y la muerte del Obispo Cirilo Flores en 2014.

Y como cualquier proyecto de construcción, la parroquia tuvo sus retos burocráticos. Inclusive la fecha de la Misa de dedicación fue retrasada dos veces.

La parroquia comenzó el proyecto de tres etapas en el año 2005. La última, la construcción de la iglesia misma, comenzó en enero del 2017.



GRAN APERTURA: Más de mil personas llenaron la nueva iglesia Resurrección, que incluye arte y mobiliario de Perú y pinturas de Italia.

“Estoy tan orgullosa de este momento”, dijo Marta Aguinaga, miembro de la parroquia por unos 20 años. Dijo que la belleza de iglesia nueva le recordaba de muchas de las iglesias que ella conoció en México, donde nació.

Su hija de 19 años, Ángela, miembro de la parroquia desde su nacimiento, dijo que después de ver dibujos de la iglesia y escuchar actualizaciones por tanto tiempo, “es un poco increíble que finalmente se terminó”.

El matrimonio de Cindy y Mario Busalacchi, miembros por más de 20 años, vieron la iglesia nueva no solamente como prueba de la fe de los parroquianos, pero un posible medio para la evangelización.

Mario, de 86 años, dijo que compartía la esperanza del Padre Del Priore que la nueva iglesia podría servir como “una luz para todo Escondido”, especialmente para aquellos católicos que se habían alejado de su fe, que podría inspirarlos a “que entren, a que regresen a su hogar. Es ahí donde Él los está esperando”.

Desde 1973, un edificio de usos múltiples había servido como lugar para la Misa. El Padre Del Priore dijo que cuando

llegó en 2001, hubo un esfuerzo para “refrescar el lugar un poco”. Aún con esos cambios, esa estructura no se puede comparar con el edificio nuevo, adornado con arte y mobiliario elaborado por Artesanos Don Bosco de Perú y pinturas donadas por el artista italiano de renombre Maurizio Rinaudo.

Se va a continuar a utilizar el antiguo edificio, ahora como una capilla.

El Padre, que es totalmente bilingüe, habla con orgullo sobre la iglesia nueva y lo que significa para la vida espiritual y sacramental de sus parroquianos.

“Es un lugar real para orar”, aseguró. “Es un lugar para realmente reflejar y conocer la presencia de Dios”.

Comentó sobre una de las características más impresionantes de la iglesia nueva – la masiva escultura del Cristo Resucitado con su trasfondo de vidrio colorido en la forma de una cruz – y los sentimientos que inspira.

“Cuando ves ... esos brazos abiertos, te sientes bienvenido.”

The Southern Cross

‘No sabía nada de sus vidas’

Compartir desde el corazón reconocerse como semejantes, como seres humanos

Después de casi dos años de haber terminado el Sínodo sobre La Familia, ya existen 55 Comités para la Vida Familiar y Espiritualidad en la Diócesis, fruto del trabajo incansable y entusiasta del Padre John Hurley quien nos acompañó en sus funciones de Coordinador del Sínodo hasta junio. Estamos agradecidos de su siembra y pedimos fuerza para cuidarla.



Ricardo J. Márquez, PhD

El Padre Hurley hizo los contactos con el Padre George para iniciar la formación de un Comité de Vida Familiar y Espiritualidad en la parroquia de St. Richard, Borrego Springs.

Llegué a las 10:30 am, hora pautada para la primera reunión. Al entrar en el salón vi claramente dos grupos distintos, un ambiente frío afectivamente hablando, aunque el calor afuera llegaba a los 95. Por un lado americanos y por otro lado hispanos.

Iniciamos la reunión con una oración que hizo el Padre George. Yo propuse entonces que nos presentáramos, diciendo el nombre, el ministerio en el que cada quien servía

dentro de la parroquia y la razón de su presencia en la reunión.

Comenzamos por el grupo hispano y nos apoyamos con dos personas bilingües para hacer la traducción. La primera persona comenzó diciendo su nombre y las otras preguntas sugeridas, pero de una manera espontánea empezó a hablar desde el corazón, de su experiencia de conversión, de sus épocas de lejanía de la Iglesia, de sus penas, trabajos y gracias recibidas en el camino.

La siguió otra persona del grupo hispano que continuó en la misma tónica, hablando desde la experiencia y de su vida. Así participaron seis personas del grupo hispano. Hablaron y comentaron de sus familias y trabajos, limpiando casas, cuidando ancianos, haciendo comida.

Continuó la ronda con el primer participante de los cinco que había en inglés. Sus primeras palabras fueron: “Estoy asombrado, porque yo vengo a Misa los domingos, los veo, se quiénes son ustedes, pero no sabía nada de sus vidas, ni de sus familias”.

Ahora nos tocaba traducir del inglés al

español. Continuó el grupo de anglo-parlantes y con más discreción también compartieron de sus vidas, sus divorcios, problemas con sus hijos y trabajos. Uno de ellos era el conductor del autobús escolar. Del grupo hispano una señora le comentó que él llevaba a sus nietos para la escuela. El señor le dijo que sí reconocía a sus nietos y que ahora que identificaba a su abuela podía decirle que eran los más educados y bien portados del bus escolar.

Sonrisas, aprecio y reconocimientos mutuos.

Los hielos y las fronteras comenzaron a desaparecer. Compartir desde el corazón, de lo que cada uno vivía y sentía les permitió reconocerse como semejantes, como seres humanos con las mismas búsquedas, anhelos y necesidades.

Una señora hispana se dirigió a una de las americanas y le dijo: “Cómo hago para saber más de ti y hablar contigo si no conozco tu lengua?”.

Espontáneamente una del grupo respondió: “La próxima vez me invitan a mí y yo les ayudo a conocerse, yo les traduzco”.

Al final de intercambio tuvimos un descanso para tratar los puntos que faltaban que eran más de planificación. Para mí fue impresionante notar cómo había cambiado la energía fría del inicio. Espontáneamente ahora se acercaron, se abrazaron, se rieron y comieron juntos.

La dinámica se fue dando de una manera diferente a la que yo había planificado desde mi cerebro. Pude constatar cómo se crean los vínculos cuando se habla desde la honestidad del corazón. Pude vivir el gozo de la comunión que se crea cuando nos miramos y tratamos como semejantes, con respeto y admiración...eso es el “Espíritu” en acción, que congrega y da vida.

La planificación de actividades y los compromisos salieron fluidamente. Fijaron la fecha para algunas actividades y la próxima reunión, y nombraron dos coordinadores, un americano y una hispana.

Yo salí diciendo, “Gracias Señor porque le has revelado tu sabiduría a los más sencillos, a su ritmo y a su estilo. Gracias Señor porque he visto con mis ojos cómo vive tu Iglesia en el desierto”.

Ricardo J. Márquez, PhD, es director asociado de la Oficina de Vida Familiar y Espiritualidad.

BREVES LOCALES

Foros preparan familias para posible deportación

El personal acreditado de Caridades Católicas presentará dos foros en español gratuitos el julio 23 y 24 para preparar a familias para posible detención o deportación.

Los foros cubren temas sobre cómo organizar la custodia de los hijos, protección de bienes y derechos legales. Los participantes recibirán un cuaderno para organizar datos de la familia, documentos importantes y contactos de emergencia.

Los foros están programados para el 23 y 24 de julio, ambos en la parroquia Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, 345 Anita St., Chula Vista, CA 91911, a partir de las 7 p.m. Puede reservar un lugar en la página web plandeemergencia.org. Informes en (619) 498-0722.

Los foros están abiertos a todos no solamente católicos y son presentados por personal acreditado y confiable.

Boletos disponibles para conferencia para familias

La Comisión de Habla Hispana de la Diócesis de San Diego continúa vendiendo boletos para su conferencia "La Familia Hispana Modelo de Fe" que se llevará a cabo el 17 de agosto en el centro de San Diego.

El orador principal de la conferencia será el Padre Ronal Mauricio Pulido, de Colombia,

conocido como un gran predicador. El enfoque de la conferencia es hablar con las familias hispanas sobre la importancia de la fe. Además, habrá mesas de información de todos los movimientos de la diócesis de San Diego. Y también habrá venta de librería y comida.

Los boletos tienen un costo de \$15 por persona y jóvenes y niños menores de 18 años podrán entrar gratuitamente. Ya se pueden adquirir de los representantes de los movimientos o de sus parroquias, o en los números de teléfono (619) 726-4982 y (619) 423-2474.

Grupos invitan a jóvenes católicos en San Ysidro

La Pastoral Juvenil de Nuestra Señora de Monte Carmelo en San Ysidro tiene dos grupos juveniles de la parroquia que se reúnen cada semana.

El grupo Hijos e Hijas de la Luz es para jóvenes de 19 a 39 años de edad y se reúne todos los jueves de 7:30 a 9:30 p.m. en el salón parroquial. El nombre del coordinador es José Yépez.

La Comunidad Juvenil Renovados en Jesús es para jóvenes de 13 a 17 años de edad y se reúne todos los martes de 6 a 8 p.m. en el salón parroquial. El nombre de la coordinadora es Ivonne Raya

Favor de contactar al director de la Pastoral Juvenil, Tony Medina, para más información sobre estos grupos y sus eventos y programas al (619) 428-1415.

En memoria de los que murieron



La Ciudad de San Diego abrió un almacén para que 500 indigentes puedan guardar sus pertenencias cerca de la escuela católica Our Lady's School un día después de que las clases terminaron. La comunidad de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe continúa su oposición al almacén, el cual concentra aún más servicios para indigentes en la vecindad de Sherman Heights. El día que abrieron el almacén, el 13 de junio, la comunidad de la parroquia llevó a cabo un servicio en memoria de los 20 hombres y mujeres indigentes que murieron de Hepatitis A en el último año. Representantes de la comunidad, inclusive el Padre John Auther de la parroquia, dicen que el concentrar la población en una zona permite que la enfermedad se extienda más rápidamente. Piden que las autoridades municipales sean justas y muevan estos servicios a otras vecindades. Informes en el portal fairsharesd.com.

TERRENO SAGRADO, ESPIRITU FRANCISCANO



CEMENTERIO DE LA MISIÓN SAN LUIS REY

La Antigua Misión de San Luis Rey ofrece varias oportunidades especiales para honrar a los seres queridos:

Entierros de cuerpo completo en el *Mausoleo de Santa Clara*, nichos en las paredes del *Mausoleo de Santa Bárbara* o en la *Capilla de Nuestra Señora de Los Ángeles*, entierro de cuerpo completo en la sección de la *Reina de Paz*, entierro de restos cremados en la sección de *San Jose*, criptas y nichos en el nuevo *Mausoleo de San Mateo*.

Tenemos precios razonables y hablamos Español

Horas de Oficina: Lunes a Sábado: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Para más información visite: www.sanluisrey.org

(760) 231-8445, ext 133 o ext 139 / correo electrónico cem@sanluisrey.org



MISA Y RECEPCION PARA LA SALUD MENTAL

Con el Obispo Auxiliar John Dolan

Misa precedida por el Obispo Dolan a las 10:00 am. Recepción a las 11:00 a.m. con bocadillos, exhibidores y presentación especial.

Habrà traducción visual simultànea en español de la misa y de la recepción

SÁBADO, JULIO 21, 2018
10:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

Iglesia de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo
13541 Stoney Creek Rd. San Diego, CA 92129

Inscríbese e inscriba a su grupo en SocialMinistrySanDiego.com antes de Julio 18.

Únase al Obispo John Dolan, a las 22 parroquias con ministerio de Salud Mental y a la Oficina Diocesana de Ministerio Social para celebrar el trabajo de la Red del Ministerio de Salud Mental y para orar por todos los que se enfrentan a los desafíos de la salud mental y sus familias en esta misa especial y recepción. También oraremos por las agencias y las personas que sirven profesionalmente a estas familias.

Todos son bienvenidos a este evento gratuito. Sin embargo se requiere inscripción.



"Toda la gente es un regalo de Dios, proclamamos"

No hay costo para este evento, pero se requiere inscripción. Inscríbese en SocialMinistrySanDiego.com Para más información, comuníquese con Maria Valencia al (858) 490-8323 o mvalencia@sdccatholic.org Si es posible, haga un viaje compartido para garantizar el estacionamiento en el lugar.

Tradición

Dedicado en 1919, Holy Cross Cemetery and Mausoleum es un hermoso campo con más de cuarenta acres, un lugar no solo de servicio reverente a los difuntos, pero de consuelo espiritual para los que permanecen.



Santuario

Holy Cross no es una empresa comercial o cívica, sino una institución de la iglesia operada y mantenida como un encargo sagrado. El entierro se puede organizar como se desee, en tierra consagrada o en el mausoleo imperecedero, que es prueba solida contra el tiempo y los elementos.

Fé

Holy Cross responde a las inquietudes de las familias católicas para darle un lugar final de reposo a los difuntos, en tierra consagrada reservada exclusivamente para los creyentes y para sus familiares inmediatos.

Compromiso

Este es nuestro compromiso: mantener cada instalación con una anticipación inteligente para cada necesidad y deseo. Un santuario completo de tranquilo aislamiento, para la reflexión contemplativa, la meditación, las memorias inolvidables y para buscar la paz con uno mismo, con nuestro mundo y con nuestro Dios.

**Representantes están disponibles
diariamente para guiarle en su visita
personal de las instalaciones
de Holy Cross.**

HOLY CROSS

Catholic Cemetery and Mausoleum

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