

**CLERGY** 

**Bishop:** Most Rev. Peter Baldacchino, J.C.L. **Rector:** Rev. Alejandro Reyes Cardenas

Vicar: Rev. Emmanuel Ezenneh

**Deacons:** Deacon Ed Fierro

Deacon Ruben Gutierrez

# **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

# For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son... 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

# SCHEDULE OF LITURGIES / MISAS

# WEEKENDS / FINES DE LA SEMANA

**Saturday Vigil/Vigilia los Sabados:** 5:30 p.m. (English) **Sunday/Domingo:** 7:30a.m., 11:00a.m. (English)

9:00a.m. (Español)

# WEEKDAYS / DÍAS DE LA SEMANA

Mon. to Sat.: 8:15 a.m. (English) Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. (Español)

**Thursday:** 6:00 p.m. Holy Hour (*Español*)

Friday: 3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet (English)

Baptisms: Call office for information

Confessions in Church: Mon., Wed. & Fri.: 7:30am-8am; Sat.: 4pm-5pm

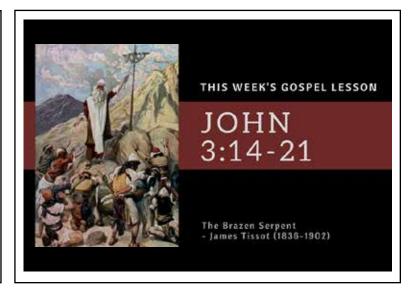
Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00am-8:15am

# OR ANYTIME BY APPOINTMENT WITH ONE OF THE PRIESTS

Anointing of the Sick: Upon Request

**Marriage:** Call Parish Office for Preparation at least 6 months

in advance and before setting a firm date.





- 1. Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent. Spanish at 5pm and 6pm in English at IHM.
- 2. Father Alejandro has his mass of Thanksgiving for the Rosary Makers Foundation anniversary.
- 3. Father Carlos Daniel Lopez of Dioceses of Ciudad Juarez, speaks to our parishioners. March 6, 2024
- 4. Thank you IHM Youth Group for you help this weekend.









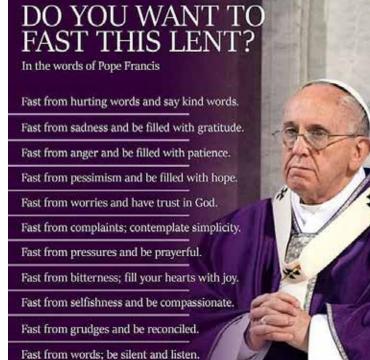




# Celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed:

Fasting, that is, learning to change our attitude towards others and all of creation, turning away from the temptation to "devour" everything to satisfy our voracity and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts. Prayer, which teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy. Almsgiving, whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. And thus to rediscover the joy of God's plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love him, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus' Pasch. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ's victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.



# From the **Pastor**

# Love and Judgement

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." (Luke 18:9-14)

There is a paradox in life that we are called to contemplate today without being scandalized. During our whole lives, we have talked about God's love for humanity; but suddenly we must be reminded that there is going be a judgement. Is our God a God of love or is he condemning? Please keep this in mind: "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Both affirmations are true. God is merciful. One day we are going to be judged—but judged according to love. Therefore, brothers and sisters, never get tired of loving others. This Lenten season offers us the opportunity to express and concretize our love for God and our neighbor, which are intrinsically united.

God's love for us is endless. Why do we not respond in the same way to his unconditional love? Many of us have had difficult experiences and suffering in life and it can be painful and complicated to understand God's love. We need to believe in God's love—even when we cannot see it.

On the other had we need to be truthful that it is not God who has condemned man; God only loved him; man has condemned himself. The man who reacts in hostility to Jesus has loved the darkness rather than the light.

There will be a verdict one day. So, today we have an opportunity to examine our consciences and ask ourselves: Are we children of the light or children of darkness? Are our works good or evil? Check your actions, even your thoughts. Do you do wicked things and hide them from others? Do you always tell the truth?

If you have not loved as you should, this is the appropriate and perfect time for repentance and conversion of the heart. I invite you during this lent to meditate upon the Word of life, which Christ left to his Church to help enlighten the journey of each of her members. Recognize the voice of Jesus who speaks to you—especially during this Lenten season.

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor -- He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you." Mother Teresa.

Happy fourth Sunday of Lent. Sincerely Father Alejandro Reyes Cardenas, Rector

# Del **Párroco**

# Amor y Juicio

"Porque de tal manera amó Dios al mundo, que ha dado a su Hijo unigénito, para que todo aquel que en él cree, no se pierda, sino que tenga vida eterna." (Lucas 18:9-14.)

Hay una paradoja en la vida que estamos llamados a contemplar hoy sin escandalizarnos. Durante toda nuestra vida, hemos hablado del amor de Dios por la humanidad; Pero de repente hay que recordarnos que va a haber un juicio. ¿Es nuestro Dios un Dios de amor o está condenando? Por favor, tenga esto en mente: "Dios no envió a su Hijo al mundo para condenar al mundo, sino para que el mundo se salve por medio de él".

Ambas afirmaciones son ciertas. Dios es misericordioso. Un día seremos juzgados, pero juzgados de acuerdo con el amor. Por eso, hermanos y hermanas, nunca se cansen de amar a los demás. Este tiempo de Cuaresma nos ofrece la oportunidad de expresar y concretar nuestro amor a Dios y al prójimo, que están intrínsecamente unidos.

El amor de Dios por nosotros es infinito. ¿Por qué no respondemos de la misma manera a su amor incondicional? Muchos de nosotros hemos tenido experiencias difíciles y sufrimiento en la vida y puede ser doloroso y complicado entender el amor de Dios. Necesitamos creer en el amor de Dios, incluso cuando no podemos verlo.

Por otro lado, debemos ser sinceros en que no es Dios quien ha condenado al hombre; Dios sólo lo amaba a él; El hombre se ha condenado a sí mismo. El hombre que reacciona con hostilidad hacia Jesús ha amado más las tinieblas que la luz.

Algún día habrá un veredicto. Por eso, hoy tenemos la oportunidad de hacer un examen de conciencia y preguntarnos: ¿Somos hijos de la luz o hijos de las tinieblas? ¿Son nuestras obras buenas o malas? Revisa tus acciones, incluso tus pensamientos. ¿Haces cosas malas y las escondes de los demás? ¿Siempre dices la verdad?

Si no has amado como deberías, este es el momento apropiado y perfecto para el arrepentimiento y la conversión del corazón. Os invito durante esta Cuaresma a meditar en la Palabra de vida, que Cristo ha dejado a su Iglesia para ayudar a iluminar el camino de cada uno de sus miembros. Reconozca la voz de Jesús que le habla, especialmente durante esta temporada de Cuaresma.

"Como la Cuaresma es el tiempo de un amor más grande, escuchen la sed de Jesús... 'Arrepentíos y creed', nos dice Jesús. ¿De qué debemos arrepentirnos? Nuestra indiferencia, nuestra dureza de corazón. ¿Qué debemos creer? Jesús tiene sed incluso ahora, en tu corazón y en los pobres, Él conoce tu debilidad. Él solo quiere tu amor, solo quiere la oportunidad de amarte." Madre Teresa.

Feliz Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma. Atentamente Padre Alejandro Reyes Cárdenas, Rector

# MASS INTENTIONS / INTENCIONES DE MISAS

~ Readings of the Week ~

# VIGIL MASS/VIGILIA: Saturday/Sábado, March 9

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-6/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

5:30 PM †Ernest & †Joe Zavastsky (by Tianna)

†Luis Garcia (by Family)

†Mike A. Padilla (Maryann & Children)

### SUNDAY/DOMINGO, March 10

7:30 AM †Eloy Flores (by Gloria Flores)

9:00 AM †José Eduardo Hernández

(por Mama, Hermanos y Familia)

Almas del Purgatorio

11:00 AM †Luis Garcia (by Family)

†Rose Prevette (by Ken & Dell)

†Terry Cardona Sanchez & †P. Cardon, Jr.

(by Kathy Cardon)

# Monday/Lunes, March 11

Is 64:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b/Jn 4:43-54

8:15 AM †Felix & †Guadalupe Vega (by Vega Family)

†Gabriel Salaiz (by Emma Galvan)

# Tuesday/Martes, March 12

Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

8:15 AM †Tony & †Letha Trujillo (by Gloria Lithgow)

6:00 pm †Hilda Gonzalez (by Familia Gonzalez)

# Wednesday/Miércoles, March 13

Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-19, 13c-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

8:15 AM †Mark Cavanaugh (by Thomas & Joan Dalton)

†María Concepción Carranza

(by Estrada Hughes Family)

### Thursday/Jueves, March 14

Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47

8:15 AM †Irene Keith (by Genevieve Padilla)

### Friday/Viernes March 15

Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-21, 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

8:15 AM IHM Families

Saturday/Sabado, March 16

Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12, Jn 7:40-53

8:15 AM †Pablo O. Lara (by Suzanna Mejia)

# Burkina Faso Bishop: We respond to bloodshed with love

Bishop Laurent Birfuoré Dabiré of Dori, the President of Burkina Faso's Bishops' Conference, reflects on gruesome terrorist attacks in the nation that have claimed countless lives, saying "To those who offer us bullets, we extend peace, faith, and hope."



# WHAT IS HAPPENING

# **Palm Sunday Procession**

Mass will Beginning at 10:15 am at Valley View Park

And will then process to

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Cathedral

The Mass will continue around 11:00am in the church





# Easter Vigil 2024

Saturday, March 30

The **bilingual Mass**will begin outside
with the blessing of the
Easter Candle

at 8:00PM

# Patriarch Pizzaballa: Gaza ceasefire more urgent than ever

In a new interview with Vatican News, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem repeats his appeal for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, calling on both sides to make compromises. That's the latest appeal for peace launched by Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem. Speaking to Vatican News' Federico Piana, Patriarch Pizzaballa stressed that a ceasefire is possible: "All that's missing is the will to make it happen." In the course of the interview, the Patriarch also touched on the "fragile" situation of Gaza's Christians, and the role the Church might play in peace negotiations.

The following transcript has been lightly edited for reasons of clarity. Patriarch Pizzaballa: This is not the first time we have called for a ceasefire and an end to all fighting in Gaza; we have been doing so continuously since October, along with many other religious authorities, foremost among them the Holy Father. Our latest appeal comes precisely because we are in contact with our population in Gaza; we are aware of how the situation is becoming more and more terrible every day.

# Q: Why do you think a ceasefire in Gaza is possible?

The elements for a possible ceasefire have always been there; all that is missing is the will to make it happen. It requires both sides to have the willingness to reach compromises, because it's clear that compromises will have to be made on both sides. It seems to me that at this moment, because Ramadan is approaching, and also because after five months, there is an obvious weariness about the situation, the time is ripe to take a different path.

# Q: There has recently been news from Gaza that has shaken the world: this carnage that happened while people were queueing for humanitarian aid. How did you feel when you heard this news? What else can you tell us about what's happening in Gaza?

My reaction was, like everyone else's, one of great dismay. Dismay for the chaos into which the entire Gaza Strip has fallen, and dismay for the hunger that has spread, especially in the north of the strip. I know personally that the delivery of food and gas to the strip is increasingly difficult, as those images showed. For example, the Christians in the Strip cook only once or twice a week, at most, and what they cook must last for the whole week. This shows the situation we're in.

Water is scarce, and what is available is not clean, so, even from the perspective of diseases, the situation is increasingly fragile. Medicines are also lacking; practically everything is missing. I think everyone realizes that we cannot go on like this. I have seen that they have started to drop parachutes with food parcels, but other more coordinated, systematic solutions need to be found because, if we continue like this, it will simply be chaos upon chaos.

Q: How is the local Church, which you just mentioned, reacting to the situation? What is the feeling from the perspective of faith: is there hope or not? There is always hope; there is always the desire for this to end, the hope to be able to return to as normal a life as possible, although I must say that these are putting it to the test. But there is faith.

I see that the Gaza community prays, has faith, and above all tries to organize itself, in order to sustain itself but also in order to help neighboring groups. As long as there is a desire to do something, to organize, to help, all is not lost.

# Q: What role does the Church have in diplomatic negotiations? Is there room for it to intervene in this somewhat complex, international situation, and have an impact in some way?

I don't know if the Church can play this role, because these are such big, complex situations where power dynamics are essential, and the Church does not have immediate power. However, I can say that the Church is very present in all communication channels, with all parties, with the task of facilitating understanding among the various parties.

# Q: So, to conclude: Is there hope for the two-state solution?

I don't know if we'll see a two-state solution: it may be two states or another solution, because the two-state solution will not be easy, even though, objectively, it seems the only possible one.

But it is clear that solutions must be found that guarantee stability, freedom, and dignity for both Palestinians and Israelis.

# SAINT OF THE WEEK



# ST. CHRISTINA OF PERSIA, MARTYR

Few details are known of St. Christina but she lived during the third century and was the daughter of a rich and powerful magistrate believed to have been named Urbain. He was deep in the practices of heathenism and had a number of golden idols, which he distributed among the poor.

Though his lovely daughter had drawn the eye of several suitors by the time she reached the age



of 11-years-old, Urbain wanted her to be a pagan priestess.

He locked his daughter in a room filled with gold and silver idols, then ordered her to burn incense before them.

Saint Christina often peered at the world outside her window and decided there must have been a great creator of the world. Turning to the idols, she came to believe they could only be false as they were forged by man.

She began to pray to the creator of the world and asked him to reveal himself to her. That was when she felt an intense love blaze from deep within her heart. She began to fast and continued to pray.

An angel came to St. Christina and taught her the Gospel of Christ. It then called her a bride of Christ but warned she would suffer for her faith.

Knowing the Truth, St. Christina smashed the false idols and threw them through the window. When her father came to visit and discovered the missing idols, he questioned St. Christina but she refused to speak to him.

After sending the servants in to speak to her, Urbain learned of her new faith. Enraged, he began to slap his daughter's face until she began to speak - but her words were to proclaim her new faith and to share the Truth. She also admitted to destroying the idols.

Urbain executed the servants who tended St. Christina and beat her before throwing her in prison. St. Christina's mother came to the prison and pleaded for her daughter to renounce her faith but St. Christina refused.

The next day, Urbain took St. Christina to trial and ordered her to worship the pagan gods and beg for forgiveness.

Rather than following her father's orders, St. Christina held fast to her Christian faith and was ordered to be tortured.

She was tied to an iron wheel above an extreme fire. As she was raked through the flames, her body was burned but she did not die. She was thrown into a prison cell and that night an angel appeared. Her wounds were healed and she was fed food the angel brought with it.

The next day, when her father found her unharmed, he ordered a stone to be tied around her neck and she was thrown into a lake. As she sank, an angel sustained then untied her. When she reappeared above the water, Urbain attributed her survival to sorcery.

He decided to execute her the following morning but that night he died suddenly.

The region's governor was sent to execute St. Christina's punishment in her father's stead, but she survived every torture. When fellow believers discovered the miracles, they began to gather at her cell.

During her time in captivity, she converted nearly 300 people until a new governor arrived and resumed her torture. When she survived five days in a red-hot furnace, she was finally executed with a sword.







# Bishops Representing Latin America, Canada, and United States Gather to Pray and Discuss Their Shared Ministry

Concluding a three-day summit, officers and members of the Episcopal Conferences of the Americas met from February 26 - 28 at a retreat center to pray and discuss their shared ministry as pastors. The twelve bishops attending included bishops from El Consejo Episcopal



Latinoamericano y Caribeño (CELAM), the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB), and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

# The bishops issued the following joint statement:

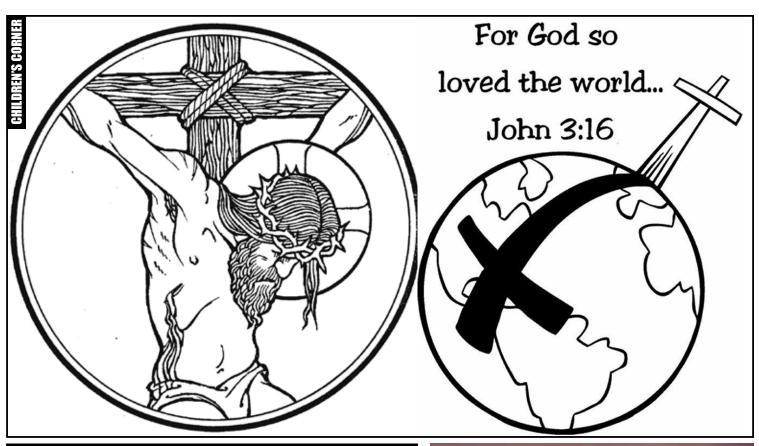
"Following a tradition of meeting that began in 1959, we came to spend time together in prayer, fraternity, listening, and sharing. We talked about our mutual concerns and approaches to pastoral ministry and moral issues including euthanasia, migration, ecological threats to our common home, and the Synod.

"Pope Saint John Paul II said there was one American continent. In our time together, we see the wisdom in that statement. We share much in common and have similar pastoral and social concerns. Our time together has strengthened our bonds of fraternity in Christ and has allowed us to discern ways we can promote a more synodal and missionary Church and work together even more effectively in the vineyard of the Lord."



# Meditate with St. Josemaria

We cannot regard this Lent as just another liturgical season which has simply happened to come around again. It is a unique time: a divine aid which we should accept. Jesus is passing by and he hopes that we will take a great step forward — today, now. (Christ is Passing By, 59)



# PRAY FOR THE MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH WHO ARE ILL

Hortencia Butler Juanita Mendoza Pat King Ernesto Salas Ernestina Rodriguez lesus Cordova Serna Freddy Castaneda, Jr. Benjamin Mendoza Dylan Wilson **Daniel Telles** Merlinda Moreno Keith Bird Pat Villines Paul Harrington Tim Thomas Alice & Carlos Castro Emanuel & Micaela Frietze and Family Angel Varela **Edward Frias** Sam Tomé Nellie Rigales Vigil Esther Holguin Mike & Inez Frietze

Bea and Silas Garcia

Leo Alirez

Manuel (Manny) Rodriguez Michael Rodriguez Roni Trevillo Gabriel Granillo Ed Fragoso

Ed Fragoso, Mother Maria & Family Demetryoas Griffith Raymond Matlak Matilda Evaro **Briana Telles** Arturo Serna Ramon Madrid Angel Baker Danny Gamboa Frank Jimeniz Robert R. Carrillo Felicia Krynitz Everardo Meza Blanca Echevarria Jose Ignacio Garcia Amparo Espinosa lose Moreno Maria Elena Moreno Fatima Aguilar Ortiz Donna & Jimmy Graham Yolanda Salas

Marko Artem Emilia Ortiz Virginia Mike Ortega Deacon Ed Misquez Sylvia Briseño Angela Varela Ralph Cadena **Eloy Flores** Liz Garcia Alicia Romero Jimmy & Josh Mary Mayers Oscar Rico Mary Moyers Arcadio Garcia Jimmy Martinez Josh Willhite Mary Sabrina Padilla Ethel Vigil Ebner Ralphie Salas Caesar Lopez Sally Lozano Alex Telles Raymond Telles

# QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH "Lent should suggest to us these basic questions: Am I advancing in my faithfulness to Christ, in

What does the

Church invite us

"Lent should suggest to us these basic questions: Am I advancing in my faithfulness to Christ, in my desire for holiness, in a generous apostolate in my daily life, in my ordinary work among my colleagues? Each one of us, silently, should answer these questions, and we will see that we need to change again if Christ is to live in us, if Jesus' image is to be reflected clearly in our behaviour." (Christ is Passing By, 58)

# El Video del Papa: Francisco pide rezar por los nuevos mártires

"El coraje de los mártires, el testimonio de los mártires, es una bendición para todos". En la nueva edición de El Video del Papa, Francisco pide rezar por los nuevos mártires de este tiempo, para que "contagien a la Iglesia su valentía y su impulso misionero". Un mártir es un cristiano que da testimonio del Evangelio hasta la muerte sin recurrir a la violencia.

A lo largo de la historia de la Iglesia Católica, muchos creyentes han sido perseguidos y asesinados por su fe. Ante esta realidad, el Papa insiste en que su testimonio "es una bendición para todos" y pide oración especial por ellos en El Video del Papa de marzo que difunde la Red Mundial de Oración por el Papa.

# Collections: 3-3-2024

Sunday Collection: \$6835.00 St. Mother Teresa: \$2986.00 Mail Donation: \$1219.00 Front Office: \$1993.00 Online Donations: \$2042.13 Upcoming 2nd Collections:
March 10 Catholic Relief Services
March 17 Building Fund
March 31 Easter
March 2024 Easter Flower Offering
During Lent, CRS Rice Bowl Program

Robert Fulton

Did you know you can sponsor?

Mass Intentions Weekday: \$10.00 • Weekend: \$15.00 • Prayer Request: Free \*\* Please request Mass Intentions at least 2 weeks in advance.\*\*

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# **Important Dates** at IHM

# Season of Lent

Wednesday, Feb. 14 -Sunday, Mar. 31 No Meat on Ash Wed. or any Fridays during this season

# **English Lenten Mission**

March 12 - 14, 2024

6pm - 8pm Father Ivan Torres

# Meatless Meal Fridays

**Every Friday During Lent** 11AM-6PM

Friday, March 15

MCELED

ne Sacred Heart Society

### Stations of the Cross

**Every Friday During Lent** Spanish: 5:00PM English: 6:00PM

# Saint Patrick's Day Celebration

Sunday, March 17

Starting at 5:00PM

Come enjoy the music and dancing for Free! Dinner Plates are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children. 2 game plays for \$1

# Chrism Mass

Tuesday, March 19 5:30PM

# Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday

Sunday, March 24

Saturday: 5:30PM vigil Sunday: 7:30AM, 9AM, 11AM\*

### \*Procession:

Begins at 10:15AM at Valley View Park and will process to IHM to continue the 11:00AM Mass

# **Holy Thursday**

Thursday, March 28, 2024

English: 7:00PM

The Altar of Repose - Adoration will begin after Mass in Finley Hall Until Midnight

# Good Friday

Friday, March 29, 2024 No Meat

English: 3:00PM

# Easter Vigil

Saturday, March 30, 2024 Bilingual: 8:00PM

# Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31, 2024 Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

IHM Staff: Sandra Guerrero, Office Manager • Blanca Chairez, Day Receptionist / Data Entry Elena Moreno, Evening Receptionist / Data Entry • Paul Alvarado, Maintenance, Ana Baitodano, Part-time Custodian 1240 S. Espina, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001 • Email: frontdesk@ihmcathedral.org • Fax: (575) 523-2252 Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8am - 5pm 575-524-8563