



The Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces requires that all clergy, employees, and volunteers undergo a background check, participate in the VIRTUS Protecting God's Children training module, and sign a Code of Conduct every five years. **For questions regarding compliance with these requirements.** please contact our safe Environment Coordinator Mary Frances Garcia at mgarcia@rcdlc.org



The Immaculate Cristeros of San Joselito IHM Youth Group



They Meet Every Friday from 6pm-8pm Grades 7th to 12th are invited to attend!

An invitation for you. Knight of Columbus

We Meet on the Third Tuesday of the month from 5:30pm-7:30pm



Join today. Visit KofC.org/JoinUs Council # 17083 IHM

Contact: Grand Knight Bob Miyagishima (575)640-6375

YOUR AD HERE! Call Our Office



Marissa Love, LPCC
Magnoliacounseling@therapymail.com (575)214-3658
401S. Don Roser, E-3 Las Cruces, NM 88001
Scan QR code to follow us

Support Our Supporters

MISSION ROOFING Commercial and Residential 35 years of Experience
• New Roofs • TPO • Shingles • Metal • Re-Roof • Torch-down • Coating • Tile
GB-98 lic# 390255
Bonded & Insured Free Estimates
Hector Pacheco, Jr. 575-650-9280 missionroofingnm.com

Baca's FUNERAL CHAPELS AND SUNSET CREMATORY
Full-Service Funeral Home Offering Burial & Cremation Services
Advanced Planning Options to Suit Your Needs
300 EAST BOUTZ ROAD (575) 527-2222

Piano Lessons Clases De Piano
Zoila Luz Garcia-Salas 813-898-3320
Garza Art Studio Academia De Arte Garza

Getz FUNERAL HOME
Terry W. Getz, CFSP
(575) 526-2419 Fax: 526-7944 1410 E. Bowman Ave. Las Cruces, NM 88001 www.GetzCares.com

JADA CONSTRUCTION LLC Jorge Mireles OWNER
New Construction Remodels & Additions Commercial & Residential
Free Estimates (575) 805-0243 mirelesjorge28@gmail.com

GABRIEL'S MOBILE HOME SERVICE Tear-down, Move Setup, Skirting & More... Bonded & Insured
gabrielmhs23@yahoo.com License Number 102100
Cell. 575-649-3773 Gabriel Villasenor

PERCHES GRAHAM'S FUNERAL - HOME
(575) 526-6891
555 West Amador Avenue, Las Cruces, NM 88005
lpgadmin@perchesfuneralhomes.com perchesgrahams.com

GENESIS TRUCKING SERVICES, LLC ELODIA ALVAREZ - ZUK, OWNER
Trucking Permits • All States • Inter-Intra State • 25 Years Experience
2407 W. PICACHO AVE, SUITE A110 LAS CRUCES, NM 88007
PHONE: 915-491-8472 e-mail: genesisstruckingservices@gmail.com

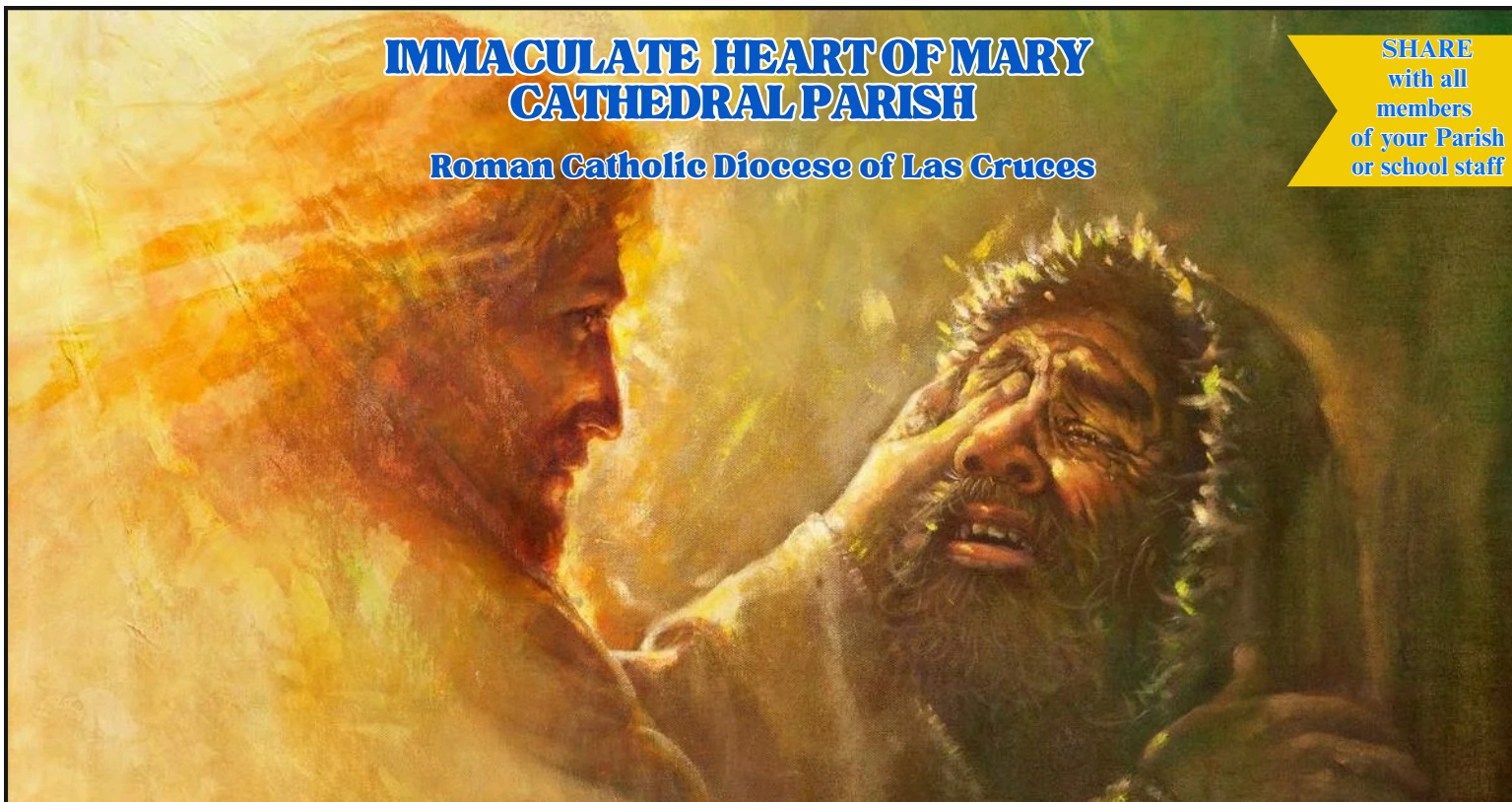
GentleCare DENTISTRY
Anton F. Milavec, D.D.S. Christopher J. Thomas, D.D.S. Dominic L. Marketto, D.D.S. Drew E. Marketto, D.D.S. Alyssa Ramirez, D.D.S.
2980 North Main Street Las Cruces, NM 88001 575.524.3722 575.524.9826 gentlecaredentistry@gmail.com
www.gentlecaredentistry.org

Local Bank. Local Deposits. Local Mortgage. Local Impact.
CITIZENS BANK www.citizenslc.com

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHEDRAL PARISH

Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces

SHARE with all members of your Parish or school staff



March 15, 2026

1240 S. Espina, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001 (575) 524-8563 Email: frontdesk@ihmcathedral.org Fax (575)523-2252

CLERGY

Bishop: Most Rev. Peter Baldacchino, J.C.L.
Rector: Very Rev. Alejandro Reyes Cardenas
Deacons: Deacon Ed Fierro Deacon Ruben Gutierrez



Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:30 - 4:30p.m.

O C I A
Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

SCHEDULE OF LITURGIES / MISAS

WEEKDAYS / FINES DE SEMANA
Saturday Vigil/Vigilia del sábado: 5:30p.m. (English)
Sunday/domingo: 7:30 / 11:00a.m. (English) 9:00a.m. (Español)
WEEKDAYS / DIAS DE LA SEMANA
Monday-Saturday: 8:15a.m. (English)
Tuesday / martes: 6:00p.m. (Español)
Thursday / jueves: 6:00p.m. Hora Santa en (Español)
Friday / viernes: 3:00p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet (English)

Baptism / Bautizos: Classes offered every third Saturday of the month. Call the Office to Register for Classes
Spanish: 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.
English: 9:00a.m. -12:00p.m.
Marriage: Call the office for more info. Six months for prep.
Anointing of the Sick: Upon Request
Reconciliation: Monday - Friday 7:30-8:00a.m. Saturday: 4:00p.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF
Lent

• Grisell Gonzalez, Office Manager • Mayela Director of Religious Education • Lenisa Gutierrez, Carmen Trejo Receptionist • Wilman Oliveros, Custodian, Emi PT Custodian • Anthony Moreno, Maintenance

Registration: We welcome new parishioners, winter visitors and visiting friends to our parish. New members should register by completing a WELCOME envelope available at the church office. A registration form will be mailed to you. Once it is completed and returned to the church or office you will be registered. **We encourage you to use your envelopes if you donation is a modest this help us to know that you are an active parishioner.**

O.C.I.A First Scrutiny March 7, 2026



Confirmation II Retreat March 6-7, 2026



Taller de Madres
Catolicas Regina
Matrix.

Te invitamos a participar en nuestro taller en donde podras aprender mas de nuestro hermoso regalo de ser Madres.

Lugar: Salon Guadalupe.

Parroquia: Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Horario: Todos los Lunes de 10:00 am a 12:00 pm.

interesada comunicarse a las oficinas parroquiales al numero.

(575) 524-8563



STATION
OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during
Lent

English-5:30 P.M.

Spanish-6:30 P.M.

At the Church



Catholic Daughters
of the Americas®

Scholarship

Unlock Your Future with Our Scholarship Program! Apply now and take the first step toward achieving your academic dreams. Three recipients of this scholarship will receive \$1000 each paid in full once enrollment verification is provided to the committee. Applications due March 31, 2026

REQUIREMENTS

APPLICANT MUST BE A SENIOR GRADUATING IN 2026

APPLICANT MUST HAVE THE HOLY SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

APPLICATION MUST BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY
Incomplete applications will not be considered.

750 WORD ESSAY

Answer the question:
How can you use your Catholic faith to make a positive difference in today's world and the future?

OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS

Must have a 3.0 GPA or better

2 LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

-1 from dean, counselor or educator
-1 from a priest, deacon or religious education coordinator

COPY OF ACCEPTANCE LETTER FROM A COLLEGE/INSTITUTION



REGISTER NOW



MORE INFORMATION
JESSIE A. CARABAJAL
575-202-5759
dancingjessie@msn.com



FRIED FISH, TACOS
& SHRIMP SOUP

Every Friday during Lent

Immaculate Heart of Mary
Cathedral

at Finley Hall
10:00A.M. to 6:00P.M.



Call the office for more information

(575) 524-8563 1240 S. Espina Las Cruces, NM

YOUNG
ADULT
GROUP

LOCATION: GUADALUPE
ROOM IN FINLEY HALL

7-8:30PM

- ADORATION
- BIBLE STUDIES
- SOCIAL EVENTS
- COMMUNITY

MEETING DATES

MAR 5 TH	JUNE 25 TH
APR 2 ND	JULY 9 TH
APR 16 TH	JULY 23 RD
APR 30 TH	AUG 6 TH
MAY 14 TH	AUG 20 TH
MAY 28 TH	SEP 3 RD
JUNE 11 TH	SEP 17 TH

AGES
18+

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
OMAR CHAIREZ (575) 635-1820



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a 9-day novena, praying the Holy Rosary adjacent to the Adoration Chapel at IHM Cathedral.

The novena will start on **March 17, 2026, and end on April 2, 2026, from 12:10 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.,** and will be led by the Grand Knight.

Pope: Do Christians responsible for war examine their conscience?

Pope Leo XIV invites Christians who bear responsibility for war to make a serious examination of conscience, as he meet with future confessors.

By Devin Watkins

Pope Leo XIV held an audience on Friday with participants in the 36th Course on the Internal Forum, organized annually by the Apostolic Penitentiary.

The course offers priests and seminarians extended training regarding issues connected with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and typically concludes with a papal audience.

In his address to future confessors, Pope Leo reflected on the power of Confession to foster peace and unity in the human family.

“One might ask: do those Christians who bear serious responsibility in armed conflicts have the humility and courage to make a serious examination of conscience and to go to confession?” he wondered.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, he added, offers a “laboratory of unity,” since it restores unity with God and infuses the penitent with sanctifying grace.

Confession also teaches people to live in unity with each other and with the Church, building on the interior unity which it restores to us. Pope Leo invited current and future priests to remain aware of their great responsibility to offer God’s forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

He pointed to the many priests who became saints in the confessional, including St. John Mary Vianney, St. Leopold Mandić, and more recently, St. Pio of Pietrelcina and Blessed Michał Sopoćko.

As sacramental confession builds up a person’s interior unity, it also builds up the Church herself, giving her new energies to engage with society and the world, he said.

In conclusion, Pope Leo urged confessors to receive the Sacrament of forgiveness themselves “with faithful constancy,” so that they may become ministers of divine mercy, of which they are the first beneficiaries. [See full article](https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-leo-xiv-penitentiary-course-audience-confession-war.html)

[at:https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-leo-xiv-penitentiary-course-audience-confession-war.html](https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-leo-xiv-penitentiary-course-audience-confession-war.html)



Pasolini: La fraternidad no es un ideal, sino una responsabilidad

La gracia y la exigencia de la comunión fraterna estuvieron en el centro de la segunda meditación de Cuaresma pronunciada esta mañana, 13 de marzo, en el Aula Pablo VI, en presencia del Papa. El predicador de la Casa

Pontificia se detuvo en la intuición de san Francisco al considerar las relaciones interpersonales como una oportunidad para aprender la lógica del Evangelio. [Ver artículo completo en:https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-s-march-prayer-intention-for-disarmament-and-peace.html](https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-s-march-prayer-intention-for-disarmament-and-peace.html)

El Papa: ¿Los cristianos que tienen responsabilidad en las guerras hacen un examen de conciencia?

León XIV recibe a los participantes del 37º Curso sobre el Fuero Interno de la Penitenciaría Apostólica y recuerda que el perdón de los pecados fomenta la paz y la unidad en la familia humana, y que solo quien se reconcilia con Dios, la Iglesia y consigo mismo “es capaz de vivir de modo desarmado y desarmante”. Sin embargo, señala que el Sacramento de la Reconciliación es un tesoro de misericordia a menudo desaprovechado por los cristianos.

Alessandro Di Bussolo – Ciudad del Vaticano

Para el Papa León XIV, el Sacramento de la Reconciliación restablece la unidad con Dios, la Iglesia y uno mismo, fomentando así la paz y la unidad en la familia humana. “Cabe preguntarse: ¿Los cristianos que tienen una grave responsabilidad en conflictos armados tienen la humildad y el valor de realizar un examen de conciencia serio y confesarse?”

Solo quien se ha reconciliado vive con humildad y sencillez

El Papa se hizo esta pregunta esta mañana, 13 de marzo, en la Sala Clementina del Palacio Apostólico, al recibir a los 400 participantes del 37º Curso del Fuero Interno de la Penitenciaría Apostólica. Recordó que este «dinamismo de unidad» que se encuentra en la confesión «es un requisito indispensable para la paz entre las personas y los pueblos».

“¿Solo una persona reconciliada es capaz de vivir con humildad y sencillez! Quienes dejan a un lado las armas del orgullo y se dejan renovar continuamente por el perdón de Dios se convierten en agentes de reconciliación en su vida diaria. En ellos se cumplen las palabras atribuidas a San Francisco de Asís: «Señor, hazme un instrumento de tu paz». [ver artículo completo en:](https://www.vaticannews.va/es/papa/news/2026-03/el-papa-los-cristianos-que-tienen-responsabilidad-en-las-guerr.html)

<https://www.vaticannews.va/es/papa/news/2026-03/el-papa-los-cristianos-que-tienen-responsabilidad-en-las-guerr.html>



Pope Leo XIV: Learn hospitality from St. Joseph and Holy Family

Pope Leo XIV calls on communities to look to the Holy Family of Nazareth to rediscover their calling to welcome others and learn to walk the path of service, as he addressed participants in the "Cathedra of Hospitality." [See full article at:https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-s-march-prayer-intention-for-disarmament-and-peace.html](https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-s-march-prayer-intention-for-disarmament-and-peace.html)



Pope Leo XIV: Learn hospitality from St. Joseph and Holy Family

The Spanish writer Javier Cercas reflects on Pope Leo XIV’s Message for the 2026 World Day of Social Communications. *By Javier Cercas*

Pope Leo XIV’s Message for the 60th World Day of Social Communications, entitled, “Preserving Human Voices and Faces”, is an important text. It is important for Catholics and non-Catholics, for believers and for non-believers. It is important because of its many implications – political, religious, moral, social, economic – and because of many more reasons than I am unable to comment upon here. I will mention just a few of them. I am not an expert in Artificial Intelligence, but I am surprised when I hear the same or similar apocalyptic forecasts that have been repeated throughout the course of history, every time there was a big technological revolution (and there is no doubt that AI is that). In Plato’s Phaedrus, King Thamus complained of the advent of writing, an extremely dangerous invention that would “implant forgetfulness in their souls” and cause them to “cease to exercise memory” because mankind would rely on what is “written”. Moreover, Plato’s character said that writing would make the relationship between teacher and student irrelevant – a relationship that is essential for all learning. Writing he continued, will not give people wisdom but “the conceit of wisdom” which will lead to the end of authentic culture. [See full article at:https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-leo-xiv-penitentiary-course-audience-confession-war.html](https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-03/pope-leo-xiv-penitentiary-course-audience-confession-war.html)



From The

Pastor

“Now you are saying, ‘We see,’ So, your sin remains.” John 9: 1-41

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This Sunday’s Gospel presents us with the powerful story of the man born blind. This man represents all of us, according to St. Augustine, and this story is not just about physical blindness but spiritual blindness, as well. Because of sin we are born blind. But now, through the grace of God and Jesus’ healing, we can see. And as we sing in the song, Amazing Grace, we were lost but now we are found.

According to Pope Francis, the miracle is narrated by John in just two verses because the evangelist does not want to draw the attention to the miracle itself, but rather to what follows; to the discussion—and gossip—it arouses. So many times, a work of charity arouses gossip and discussion, because there are some that do not want to see the truth. John, the evangelist, wants to draw attention to something that also occurs in our own day when good work is performed. The good man who is healed is interrogated by the astonished crowd—even though they saw the miracle—and then by the doctor of the law who also interrogates his parents. In the end, the healed man attains to faith, and this is the greatest grace that Jesus grants him; “The light of the world” (John 9:5).

Today Jesus wants to us to see. He wants us to be healed, but also, we need to want healing. There is a saying that reads: “There are none so blind as those who will not see.” The meaning is that there are some people who deliberately close their minds to evidence or facts regardless of how obvious they are. For that reason, we ask the Lord today to open our eyes and the eyes of our hearts so that we can see the truth and the light. There is a serious sin attached to this spiritual condition named pride. Sometimes we make mistakes and it is hard for us to say, “I’m sorry” or “Forgive me!” Most commonly we take the wrong path; we blame others to hide our own faults.

While the blind man gradually draws near to the light, the doctors of the law sink deeper and deeper into their blindness. Locked in their presumption, they believe that they already have the light, therefore they do not open themselves to the truth of Jesus.

Oh, how sad this condition is which can lead us to spiritual death or perdition. If only we could understand the danger of this capital sin, which makes us remain in darkness. Today, as we advance in our spiritual journey, the Lord wants us to see, to “live as children of the light, to learn what is pleasing to the Lord”, and not to “take part in the fruitless works of darkness” Ephesians 5:8-14. We are but sleepers invited to wake and rise up from the dead.

As we continue to pray for those receiving their sacraments and those who are being welcomed into full communion with the Church this year, let us ask the Lord to help them to see the beauty and greatness of what they are receiving. We all have a responsibility to be truthful to them and to help them to understand the seriousness of what they receive. They have been through a process marked by study, prayer and rites at Mass. They are known as catechumens, and they have undergone a process of conversion as they have studied the gospel. They have professed their faith in Jesus and the Catholic church and now their eyes will be opened—just like the blind man. Dear Catechumens: God, Jesus wants to wash away your sins and is offering you a new life and His light. The Lord told the blind man, “Go and wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means ‘sent’). Today you are also being sent. “So he went and washed and came back able to see” John 9:7. We also want you to see. As a family of faith, we want you to experience and to see what we have seen: The greatness and mercy of God!

“His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, ‘Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?’ Some said, ‘It is,’ but others said, ‘No, he just looks like him.’ He said, ‘I am!’” John 9:8-9.

Dear fellow brothers and sisters; like this man, we too were beggars, our misery has been transformed into blessings and now we are here to give testimony to the truth. Jesus’ authority and origin is put to question, and he is seen as a sinner because of the blindness of others. But the healed man said, “If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see” John 9:25. We can learn from this man who humbles himself, recognizes his blindness and gives testimony to the love of Jesus and his healing power. In a world which questions everything, we also are called to give an answer based not on the consensus but on the ontological truth. Today, again, the Lord asks you to profess your faith in Him. Do you believe what you pray? “You have seen him and the one speaking to you is he” John 9:37. Let’s not remain in the darkness of error and sin, let’s not be obstinate with the untruth. Jesus is offering us a new life, eternal life, true life in Him. Sin only leads us to death.

Have a blessed fourth Sunday of Lent!

Sincerely,
Father Alejandro Reyes, Rector

MASS INTENTIONS



Vigil / vigilia Saturday / sábado March 14th

5:30p.m. † Joseph Medina (by Medina Family)

Sunday / domingo March 15th

7: 30a.m. † Simplicio Ogay (by Annua Family)

9:00a.m. † Gilberto Vargas (por la Familia Vargas)
(sp) † Longina Verdugo (by Son & Family)
Por las almas del purgatorio

11:00a.m. † Bertha Maese Gallegos
(by Jose & Marie Gallegos)
†Natalia Villa (by Jose & Marie Gallegos)

Monday / lunes March 16th

8: 15a.m. † Pablo O. Lara (Suzanna L. Mejia)
† Juana Chavez
(by Gutierrez & Chavez family)

Tuesday / martes March 17th

8:15a.m. Divine Mercy (by Denise Ingram & Family)

6:00p.m. For our community
(sp).

Wednesday / miércoles March 18th

8:15a.m. † Juana Chavez
(by Gutierrez & Chavez Family)

Thursday / jueves March 19th

8:15a.m. Our Father St. Joseph (Carmelite)
Bishop Anniversary ordination

Friday / viernes March 20th

8:15a.m. For our community

Saturday / sábado March 21st

8:15a.m. † Juana Chavez
(by Gutierrez & Chavez Family)

What is happening

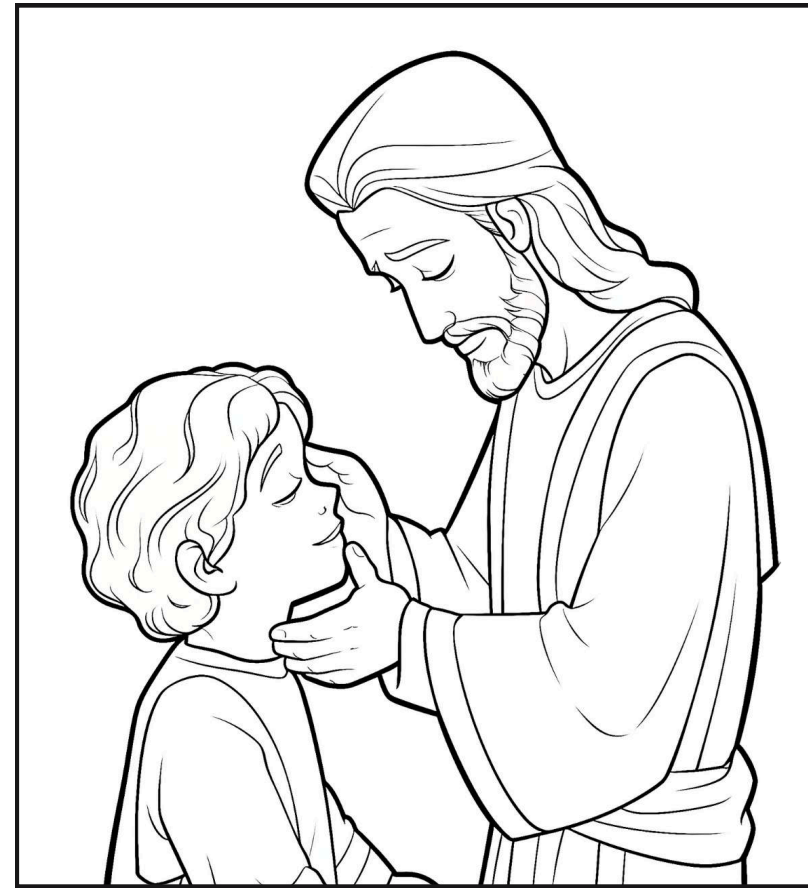
- Oración durante los 40 Días por la Vida,
28 de Marzo a las 4:00 p. m.
Gran Rally de Clausura the Lords Ranch- Vado NM.
- 40 Days of prayer for Life as we stand together in
faith and hope for the protection of all life.
March 28, 2026, at 4:00 PM
Closing Rally at the Lords Ranch- Vado NM.
- Station of the Cross Every Friday during the Lent
5:30p.m. in English and 6:30p.m. in spanish
- Practice for lectors for Palm Sunday & Holy week on
March 19, 2026 at 6:00pm
- Se invita a todos los lectores a asistir a la práctica
para Domingo de Ramos y Semana Santa.
19 de marzo de 2026 a las 6:00p.m.

Pray for the members of our parish who are ill.

Mary & Tony Gallegos	Margie y Carlos
Raymond Matlak	Armendariz
Mr. & Mrs. Montoya	Stella Armenta
Mike Ortega	Christina Arrieta
Julieta Rojas	Mrs. Arvizu
Rose Sedillo	Daniel J. Castillo
Daniel Telles	Alice & Carlos Castro
Sally Torres	Alice Romero
Ceylon Mendenall	Bill & Raquel Chubb
Jaime Adaime	Joe Contreras
Jose Luis Moncada	Narciso Dominguez
Ignacio Romero	Rick & Gerry Duran
Luke Simmons	Elizah & Zurayah
Beverly Zubia	Benavidez family
Caesar Lopez	Olivia Marshall
Lidia Arredondo	Valito Sanchez
Cruz Trejo Rojas	Pearl L. Whitcomb
Alfonso Santa Maria Jr.	Victor Arguello
Miguel Sanchez	Linda Monroe
Sam Trujillo	Lupe Saiz
Debbie Villegas	Ernie Garcia
Andrew Gustamante	Ben Baca
Phylis Larkin	Lupe Mendez
Mary Horton	Toni Jesus Frietze
Ken Singh	Rudy Franco
Bu Rudy Franco	Joseph Lopez
Irene Pando	Patrick Flores
Mike Walker	Joseph Moncada
Mary H. Sedillo	Msgr. Juan Moreno
Deacon Ed Misquez	
Sylvia Briseño	

Money Collection

1 st Collection	\$4,482.00
2 nd Collection	\$1,088.00
Office.....	\$7,109.25
Gift Shop.....	\$290.50
Mailings.....	\$1,743.00
Other.....	\$ 5,186.00



Parish Ministries

- Adults Confirmation
 - Altar servers
 - Alter Society
 - Baptism Catechists
 - Bereavement
 - Choir Group
 - Eucharistic Adoration Holy hour
 - Extraordinary Minister of the holy Hour
 - Extraordinary Minister of the holy Hour to homebound
 - Fisher of men - Vocational formation
 - Financial committee
 - Flor del Carmelo
 - Knight of Columbus
 - Lectors
 - Los Hombres de Valor
 - MDS Marriages Group
 - MFCC
 - Mother Teresa of Calcutta
 - Mujeres a los pies de Jesus-Fe, Servicio y formación
 - Neocatechumenal Way
 - OCIA Core Team (catechists)
 - Pastoral council
 - Pascuales
 - Religious Education
 - Rosary Makers
 - Sacristan
 - Sacred Heart Society
 - St. Joselito Youth Group
 - Talleres de Oración y Vida
 - Talitha Kum - Overcoming addiction w/ Personal support
 - Ushers
 - Wedding Sacristan/Server
- If you wish to be involved in one of our ministries,
call our office (575) 524-8563

Saint of the Day / Santo del dia

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Patron of the Universal Church



The Just Man

In his Gospel, Matthew describes St Joseph as "just". Mary's future husband, faced with the inexplicable pregnancy of his fiancé does not consider his wounded pride or dignity. Instead, his first thought is to save her from popular animosity or, worse still, from the stoning to which she risks being condemned. He does not want to repudiate her publicly but intends divorcing her informally and in secret. It's precisely at that moment of understandable anguish and suffering that the love of God comes, in the shape of an Angel, to encourage him. The Angel inspires Joseph to make the right choice, which is always to overcome fear. These are the words of the Angel: "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name Him Jesus".

Protector of the Dying

Joseph does not appear in any of the four Gospels that recount the public life of Jesus, nor at His crucifixion on Calvary, nor at the Resurrection. It is fair to presume, therefore, that he died before Jesus began his preaching. According to tradition, Joseph died with Mary and Jesus by his side – which is why he is also invoked as the Protector of the Dying. It is the wish of every one of us to leave our earthly home in the company of Jesus and His Mother.

S. José, Esposo de la B. V. María, patrón
de la Iglesia Universal

Un hombre justo

Lo primero que nos dice el Evangelio de Mateo sobre José es que es un hombre justo. Ante el inexplicable embarazo de María, su prometida, no piensa en su propio orgullo o en su dignidad herida: piensa en salvarla de la maldad de la gente y de la lapidación a la que podía ser condenada. Como no quiere repudiarla públicamente, planea despedirla en secreto. Pero pronto, en medio de esa comprensible angustia, de ese gran sufrimiento, el amor de Dios llega para consolarlo: un ángel le habla y le inspira la elección más justa, que es la de no tener miedo: "No temas recibir a María tu mujer, porque el Niño que se ha engendrado en ella es del Espíritu Santo. Y dará a luz un hijo, y le pondrás por nombre Jesús" (Mt 1,20).

Protector de los moribundos

José no aparece en ninguno de los cuatro Evangelios durante la vida pública de Jesús, ni en el Calvario, ni en el momento de la Resurrección. Se deduce que murió antes de que Jesús iniciara su predicación. Según la tradición, José habría muerto teniendo a su lado a María y a Jesús, y por esta razón se le invoca como protector de los moribundos, ya que todos deseamos dejar esta tierra teniendo a nuestro lado a Jesús y a su Madre.