

Update on Church projects here at Sacred Heart!

Dear Friends,

Of course in the interest of complete financial transparency we publish the financials of the parish in July (after the close of the fiscal year). But I wanted to give an update of some of the things we are doing here to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us and, with those resources, what great things we are doing for the love and glory of God and for the love and support of our neighbor.

First of all, **we continue to operate here the largest food pantry in all of eastern New Mexico.** Every single week we are helping approximately 120 households to get the commodities and food they need. All of that free of charge. It is because of your generous support to the Food Pantry and because of careful use/allocation of those funds that we have been able to grow so much to meet the great need confronting so many in our community. The Food Pantry has never been bigger or in as sound of financial standing as it is right now.

As for the physical plant here, **we have also been able to put into savings a tremendous amount in case of emergency.** If we were to have, say, a leak, or a roof problem, or a boiler go out, or any sort of unforeseen expensive maintenance issue we have been able to save enough money that we will be able to deal perfectly fine with any such issue should it arise.

In addition, though, we are **doing many maintenance projects and addressing issues long deferred.** And this not touching any of the funds mentioned above we have put into savings for emergency. We are doing work in the school with the all the classrooms fixing and putting new windows and addressing issues in the gym. The school is of course over 50 years old and through the current windows we lose a lot of energy. Of course we put new heaters and air conditioners in all of the classrooms which are much more effective/efficient and which have cut our gas and electric bills very significantly. With the new insulated drywall and windows, we will be even more energy efficient and will get the school in good shape for maintenance.

Of course we are planning to **finally put new bathrooms in the church.** We are in the planning stages and have professional drawings and are considering various bids and designs. Probably the finally choice will be determined by you all through a vote of some kind when we have all the options on the table. Donations designated to the Building Fund will go directly to this project.

We are doing a lot **for the youth here,** in addition to their retreats and to the full CCD programs in both English and Spanish buying all their books, supplies and materials, **we will also be able to take our youth group on A MISSION TRIP this summer, details forthcoming.**

Lastly, **in terms of beautifying our worship and sacred liturgy we were able to get for our church a very nice piano.** A renowned concert pianist from our parish had been to Houston, Dallas, Amarillo, and Albuquerque and played over a hundred pianos(!) looking for the best one for our church. Of all those, he found only one single one that he thought would be perfect for us, and we were able to get that very one! This is something that our parish can always have and will instantly beautify our sacred worship—we are going from using a \$300 brandless, upright student piano to a concert quality one! It will also make wonderful addition for other parish events, like our children's recitals we had for Christmas at our Lessons and Carols service last December. Please note that the Children's Choir is meeting up again to get ready for Easter!

Of course it is our religious duty to give our first and best to God, and that is why we give Him our FIRSTfruits and the first tithe (i.e. first tenth) of all we have. Cf. in your Bible: Genesis 14:19–20, Genesis 28:20–22, 2Chronicles 31:4–5, Nehemiah 10:35–37, Malachi 3:8–12, Matthew 6:1–4, Mark 12:41–44, 2 Corinthians 9:6–7, among many other places. It is frightful to think that we steal from God by not giving him His due and what He asks of us. No matter how much or how little we have, our ability to give to Him cheerfully and generously a tithe of what we have is the same. God cannot be outdone in generosity!

We will still publish the full financials in July, but I wanted to give you a preliminary update on some of the great things going on and give an account of our parish stewardship. In short, we are doing A LOT to care for the poor and needy in our community, we have put a significant amount money into savings in case if ever expensive and unforeseen issues arise, we are taking care of every single maintenance issue, we run well the normal operations of the parish and have cut costs and expenses tremendously, we are finally putting new bathrooms into the church, we are constantly trying to beautify our sacred worship/space, and much more too besides.

Whenever you give your tithe to God, entrusting it to the church, a tremendous amount of good is done with it and I wanted you to have a sense of that. We take it very seriously to be the best stewards we can possibly be with all that you give.

I am also happy to answer any question you might have. It is your parish after all, not mine. Everything here is yours.

God bless you and have a great week!

+Fr Simon

¡Vía Crucis!

Todos los viernes de cuaresma, vamos a tener el Vía Crucis, las estaciones de la cruz, en una celebración bilingüe. Comenzará a las 6:15PM, es decir, inmediatamente después de la Misa a las 5:30PM que tenemos cada viernes. ¡Que vengan después a nuestra cena parroquial (obviamente sin carne) que tendremos en el gimnasio!

Stations of the Cross!

Every Friday during Lent we have here the Stations of the Cross! Please join us for this beautiful celebration and meditation on the Passion of the Lord. It goes every Friday of Lent at 6:15PM (that is right after the 5:30PM Mass). Then join us for our parish Lenten dinner—obviously meatless fare. Lastly, after dinner we will have a wonderful series of presentations this year on the Christian East. Come to any or all of these events!

Description of this year's Lenten Presentations which will be given by Mr. Tyrell Northcutt:

In May 1995, St. John Paul II published the encyclical *Ut unum sint*, the theme of which was Christian unity. Naturally, the encyclical had much to say about the separated Protestant churches that descend from the Reformation, but the Polish pope was clear about his priorities: the older, and more serious, wound to catholic Christianity is the divide between the eastern and western churches. He called on the Catholic Church to “breathe with both lungs.” More than two decades have passed since *Ut unum sint*, and Christian unity is still elusive. Moreover, Western Christians still know little about the ancient Eastern churches and are sadly unacquainted with the riches of their spiritual, liturgical, and artistic patrimony. To that end, I have prepared a set of Lenten presentations on exemplary eastern saints and the national and linguistic traditions to which they belonged. Prior to returning to eastern New Mexico, I did graduate work in precisely this area; I spent several years studying the languages and literature of the Christian East, including Greek, Classical Armenian, and Syriac. Much of this literature has not been translated and so is inaccessible to the lay reader. I hope to unlock some of this treasure chest in these presentations and play a small part in John Paul II's noble project: teaching the Church to breathe again with two lungs. -TN

March 16 St. Anthony and the Coptic Tradition

March 23 Lessons from the Christian East – Concluding Unscientific Postscript

Miracle of the Month

Miracles of Santarem

Between the years of 1225 and 1247, a woman living in Portugal was extremely unhappily married. She was under the distinct impression that her husband was being unfaithful. After trying on several occasions to bring her husband to his senses to no avail, she subsequently visited a local sorcerer. The sorcerer promised the lady that her husband would return to love her like he had prior to his transgressions. However, this would come at a cost. The request from the sorcerer was only this..... a consecrated host! The lady knew that this was a tall order and one that she was not necessarily comfortable with. She had the understanding that this would be extremely sacrilegious. After a short period of time, she decided to acquire the consecrated host. She attended Mass at her church of St. Stephen and received the eucharist on her tongue. However, she did not consume it but immediately removed it



from her mouth and placed it in her scarf. In route to the home of the sorcerer, the host inexplicably began to bleed! She did not notice the bleeding until a passerby informed her that she was bleeding. She immediately began to panic and changed her course from the sorcerer's house to her own home. Upon arriving, she wrapped the host in a scarf and placed it in a wooden chest that contained many of her personal items. She stayed with the host until night. Her husband arrived late that night and they retired for the evening. She was unable rest and remained awake. In the dark of the night, a great light began to emanate from the chest. Both her and her husband saw a vision of angels paying homage to the bleeding host. Immediately, the woman confessed everything to her husband and remained kneeling at the foot of the chest for the remainder of the night in adoration. The following morning, the woman contacted her priest. The priest went to the house and heard the amazing story from the woman. The priest took to host back to St. Stephens church in a very solemn procession accompanied by several priests and lay people. The host continued to bleed for the next three days. It was decided by the priest to place the bleeding host in a reliquary (a vessel where relics are placed) made of beeswax. There the host remained until a second miracle occurred.

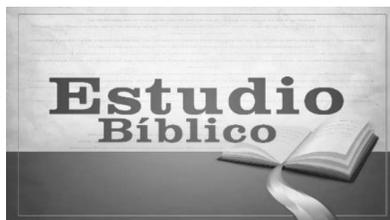
Sometime in the year 1340, the tabernacle that contained the host inside its reliquary was opened. The reliquary broke into several small pieces and in its place, was a glass recipient that contained both the host and the blood from the host together with the beeswax. The place where this host remains is called the Sanctuary of the Holy Miracle.

No se olviden, tenemos una Misa en español todos los jueves a las 5:30PM además de nuestra Misa todos los sábados a las 6PM que cuenta por domingo. Asistir a la Misa en español aquí, sábado por la tarde, uno se cumple su obligación de asistir a Misa dominical.



Clases de bautismo. Llame a la oficina para saber cuando será la próxima plática.

Estamos muy contentos de celebrar los bautismos aquí en español. Para bautizar aquí tienes que **1)** obtener y llenar los papeles, notando que la forma para los padrinos debe ser firmada por su propio párroco. **2)** asistir a la clase de bautismo que tenemos aquí en español, el próximo será el 10 de marzo, a la 1PM aquí en la escuela. La clase es obligatoria para los padres del niño(a) y para los padrinos también. **3)** Llamar a la oficina, 575-763-6947, para hacer una cita con el Padre Simón o el Diácono Juan. En la cita vamos a trabajar con usted para fijar la fecha del bautizo; las fechas son flexibles. Haremos todo lo posible para programar el bautizo cuando mejor funcione para usted y su familia.



Queremos tener un estudio de la biblia aquí en español y un grupo de oración en español también. Los tenemos en ingles, pero todavía nos faltan y necesitamos voluntarios para hacerlo en español. Si puede y esta interesado(a) en dirigir y organizar uno de esos, toda la parroquia puede beneficiar. ¡Llame a la oficina 575-763-6947!

¡Búsqenos en facebook! Nuestro grupo juvenil se llama:

“SEMBRADORES DE JESUS”

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Any ideas or concerns that you have can also be shared with the Parish Council Members:

Mary Shockley, Brenda Loya, Diana Cordova, Lora and Francisco Rodríguez, Carmen Sosa, Mary McWilliams, Ruben Lucio, Rosie Buchan, Maria Northcutt, Toni Bonney-Chavez, Joey Hodges.

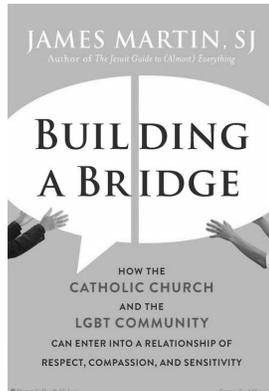
Come join us for discussion of

Fr. Martin's book. FIRST

MONDAY OF THE MONTH

6:30PM, in the school room 1.

FOR LENT TIME WE HAVE CHANGED THE SCHEDULE OF OUR LGBTQ DISCUSSION GROUP TO ONLY THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH, IN THE SCHOOL ROOM 1. The group will not meet again until Monday MARCH 5th.



Quote of the Week

“The ultimate goal of fasting is to help each one of us to make a complete gift of self to God.

—Pope Benedict XVI

Archdiocese of Santa Fe Annual Catholic Appeal

His Mercy Endures Forever...

Our Parish has to give \$37,000 to support the work of the whole archdiocese.

So far \$7,477 has been pledged and \$3,597 paid. Thank you to those who have given!!!

But this means our current shortfall is approximately \$30,000 which will come out of our Parish savings if people don't contribute.

Worst of all, of over 1,200 families in our Parish, so far only 24(!) families have participated or even pledged anything. That is not good and it reflects very poorly on us



Children's Choir Rehearsal

Our children's choir rehearsal will resume on Wednesday, February 28th at 5:50p.m. It will last approximately 15 minutes. Your children will then be escorted to CCD classes. We would like to see our children's choir grow and flourish. Please consider bringing your child to rehearsal. We are presently looking for children grades 3rd and up. We would especially like to see students who sing in school choir or play in school bands. We encourage high school students to join the adult choirs at 8:30 and 10:30 Masses on Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Tyrell or Maria Northcutt at (575)309-2353.



The food pantry operates every Saturday of the month.

Anyone interested in volunteering, please come at 8:30 am!

We are also very much in need of volunteers every Friday morning to help prepare for the food pantry on Saturday.

This is a truly beautiful ministry, an essential part of living the Gospel and really helping many in need here in our community. The Food pantry helps literally hundreds of families in this area. If you are interested, please call Rosie Buchan at (575) 309-5040 for further information.

The Food Pantry is currently in need of the following items:

Toothbrushes, tuna, soup, peanut butter, jelly, and kids drinks.

Come and be a part of this incredible ministry and service to the poor that your parish operates.

Ministers – Saturday, March 17th, 2018**Sacristans**

6:00 P.M. Lupe Sosa

Altar Servers6:00P.M. Uriel Aleman
Elijah Rodriguez
Christian Barraza**Lectors**6:00 P.M. Carmen Sosa
Myrna Barraza**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**6:00 P.M. R - Linda Robles
L - Richard Hendershot**Ministers– Sunday, March 18th, 2018****Sacristans**8:30 A.M. Mary Shockley
Jesse Alvarez
10:30 A.M. Mario Trujillo
Vivian Trujillo**Altar Servers**8:30A.M. I-Jacob Rowley
Caleb VanBeek
Angelina Ruiz
Isabella Reed
10:30A.M. Ramon Toney
Dalton Doss
Justin Bouchard**Lectors**8:30 A.M. John Schonberger
John Salguero
10:30A.M. Ricky Sisneros
Raymond Cortez**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**8:30 A.M. R - Jesse Alvarez
R - Jacquelyn Bonney
L - Katie Haynes-Burns
L - Lyn Carwile
10:30A.M. R - Paulo Manzo
R - Diana Moya
L - Francisco Rodriguez
L - Terry Curry**Tithes and Offerings - March 4th, 2018**

Envelopes	\$ 8091.50
Loose	\$ 3122.33
Needy	\$ 2481.25

Church Cleaning - March 15th, 2018Richard & Lorena Trujillo, Christy Gutierrez, Adela Tijerina,
Raymond Cortez**Altar Linens**

March : Lucille Conley

Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion**To the Homebound & Nursing Homes****March 18th, 2018**

Retirement Ranch Rick Rowley

Clovis Health Care Carmen Sosa

Home Route



Mass Offerings

Sunday**March 11th, 2018**8:30 A.M. For the people of our parish
10:30 A.M. †Johnny Jessie Chavez & Diego Romero
2:00 P.M. For the intentions of the celebrant**Monday****March 12th, 2018**

5:30 P.M. For the intentions of the celebrant

Tuesday**March 13th, 2018**

9:00 A.M. For the intentions of the celebrant

Wednesday**March 14th, 2018**

12:10 P.M. For the intentions of the celebrant

Thursday**March 15th, 2018**

5:30 P.M. For the intentions of the celebrant

Friday**March 16th, 2018**

5:30 P.M. For the intentions of the celebrant

Saturday**March 17th, 2018**

6:00 P.M. For the intentions of the celebrant

Sunday**March 18th, 2018**8:30 A.M. For the intentions of the celebrant
10:30 A.M. For the people of our parish
2.00 P.M. For the intentions of the celebrant