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# THE WEST TEXAS CATHOLIC

westtexasatholic.org



Volume 85, No. 7

Serving Catholics in the Texas Panhandle - Roman Catholic Diocese of Amarillo

April 20, 2025

## Leading Off

*The Diocesan Pastoral Center, the Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center and Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Amarillo will be closed Easter Monday, April 21. All three entities will reopen on Easter Tuesday, April 22.*

**Amarillo**—Bishop Patrick J. Zurek will preside at an Adult Confirmation Mass Saturday, April 26 at 10:00am at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1200 South Washington.

During the Mass the Sacrament of Confirmation, which is necessary for the completion of the Baptismal grace, will be conferred to all the adults who have been receiving instruction for this Sacrament since the first of the year.

The Adult Confirmandi are asked to be at the Cathedral with their sponsors by 9:30 to receive information prior to Mass, according to Sister María Elena Ferrer, SSND, Coordinator of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Amarillo.

Learn more about the Mass by calling Sister María Elena Ferrer at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 806-383-2243, ext. 113.

**Amarillo**—The Serra Club of Amarillo invites everyone to attend a Mass Friday, May 2 at 11:30am at St. Joseph's Church, 4122 South Bonham that will be offered up for the intentions of all the priests in the Diocese of Amarillo, according to Serra Club president Muff London-Bichsel.

Father Gabriel E. Garcia, pastor at St. Joseph's, will be the presider. The Serra Club is an organization that supports all the vocations in the Diocese of Amarillo.

For more information about the May 2 Mass or the Serra Club, please call London-Bichsel at 806-420-6577.

## Annual Diocesan Youth Conference April 25-27

**Amarillo**—Diocesan youth will gather Friday, April 25 through Sunday, April 27 for the annual Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC) at the Amarillo Civic Center, 401 South Buchanan.

**must bring proof of Safe Environment Training to the Amarillo Civic Center**, according to Diocesan Youth Director Oscar Guzman.

Registration opens April 25 at noon in the Heritage Room, with

competition activities will go toward our bus fund," said Diocesan Youth Director Oscar Guzman. "Covenant Teen has already raised over \$26,000 toward this fund, with the first donation toward the fund

The evening continues at 8:00 with the Opening Prayer of DCYC, followed by the first keynote presentation of the conference entitled *Being Fully Present*, given by Susej Thompson. Opening day activities conclude with Prayer Time, which includes Praise and Worship and a closing prayer for the day at 10:00.

The second day of DCYC 2025, April 26, begins with the second keynote speech of the conference at 9:00am, *Walking with Jesus—Through the Sacraments*, presented by Gian Gamboa. Round "A" of workshops follow the keynote at 11:00, with lunch served at noon.

The afternoon begins at 1:30 with Praise and Worship, followed by 2:00 with the third keynote presentation *Proclaiming Jesus*

Please see "DCYC," p.2



The theme of DCYC 2025 is *I'm Going to Walk With Jesus (Lk 24:13-25)*.

Registration fee for DCYC 2025 is \$65 per person at the door. **If registering at the door, all adults**

the first event beginning at 6:00, with a Gathering and Danzando, or danceoff in the North Exhibit Hall. There will also be Lego and Connect Four competition activities.

"All proceeds from DCYC 2025

coming in 2014 from a family in Spearman. After over 10 years raising funds to pay for a 15-passenger bus/van that will be used by parishes in the Diocese of Amarillo, it's time to accomplish this goal."

## 10 Things You Should Know About Blessed Carlo Acutis

*Editor's Note: Blessed Carlo Acutis is scheduled to be Canonized on Sunday, April 27. The following is a story from Catholic News Agency and a reflection from Bishop Patrick J. Zurek.*

A gamer and computer programmer who loved the Eucharist, Blessed Carlo Acutis will be the Church's first millennial saint.

*So who is Blessed Carlo? Here's what you need to know:*

**1. Carlo Acutis was born May 3, 1991, in London, where his father was working**

Just a few months later, he moved with his parents, Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, to Milan, Italy.



Blessed Carlo Acutis

**2. Carlo was diagnosed with leukemia as a teenager**

Before his death in 2006, he offered his sufferings for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Church, saying: "I offer all of my suffering to the Lord for the pope and for the Church in order not to go to Purgatory but to go straight to Heaven."

**3. Carlo had a special love for God**

From a young age, Carlo had a special love for God, even though his parents weren't especially devout. Antonia Salzano, his mom, said that before Carlo, she went to Mass only for her first Communion, her confirmation and her wedding. But as a young child, Carlo loved to pray the Rosary. After he made his First Communion, he went to Mass as often as possible at the parish across from his elementary school. Carlo's love for the Eucharist also inspired a deep conversion for his mother. According to the postulator promoting his cause for sainthood, he "managed to drag his relatives, his parents to Mass every day. It was not the other way around; it was not his parents bringing the little boy to Mass, but

it was he who managed to get himself to Mass and to convince others to receive Communion daily." Salzano spoke to *EWTN News Nightly* in October 2023 about her son's devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. She said: "He used to say, 'There are queues in front of a concert, in front of a football match, but I don't see these queues in front of the Blessed Sacrament' ... So, for him the Eucharist was the center of his life."

**4. Carlo's witness of Faith as a child led adults to convert and be baptized**

Rajesh Mohur, who worked for the Acutis family as an *au pair* when Carlo was young, converted from Hinduism to Catholi-

Story continues on page 24



## DCYC... from p.1

*Christ—Sharing the Truth and Love*, given by Roxana Duran. Round “B” of workshops follow the keynote at 3:45. At 5:00, Bishop Patrick J. Zurek will celebrate Mass with the youth in the North Exhibit Hall.

After the evening meal, a fourth keynote address *Bold Evangelizing Witness—Faithful Protagonist Today*, will be presented by Connor Flanagan, followed by Adoration at 8:45 and Small Groups at 10:00.

The final day of DCYC, Family Day, on April 27, begins with Mass

at a local parish, lunch and an afternoon at Wonderland Park from 1:00 to 6:00.

Catholic musician Josh Blakesley will provide music for the conference.

Youth interested in attending DCYC 2025 are asked to contact their parish youth minister or priest for additional parish delegation details. For more information, please go online to [amarillodiocese.org/dcyc-aka-youth-rally](http://amarillodiocese.org/dcyc-aka-youth-rally). Those wishing to donate toward the bus fund are asked to contact Guzman at 806-383-2243, ext. 118.

**“The laity are gathered together in the People of God and make up the Body of Christ under one head. Whoever they are they are called upon, as living members, to expend all their energy for the growth of the Church and its continuous sanctification, since this very energy is a gift of the Creator and a blessing of the Redeemer.”**

—*Lumen Gentium* #33

## Paul J. Kim In Dumas Friday, May 9



Paul J. Kim

Dumas—Paul J. Kim, one of the keynote presenters at DCYC 2014, will present a talk to youth Friday, May 9 at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, 915 South Maddox.

All youth groups throughout the Diocese of Amarillo are encouraged to attend.

Paul J. Kim is considered one of the most sought-after Catholic young and young adult speakers in the United States. Moving his audiences from laughter one moment, to deep reflection and prayer in another, Kim utilizes his numerous talents to communicate the Gospel message of Christ to people in a way that is engaging entertaining and altogether life-changing.

Kim is the author of the best-seller *A Catholic Guide to Adulthood Online Course* and is founder of the Triumph Men’s Conference. He’s released two music albums. Kim resides in Austin with his wife and six children.

Reservations are required to ensure adequate food is provided. Please RSVP to Yesenia Longoria at 806-206-0123.

## Pray The Rosary... daily as a family!!

### Ordination Anniversaries

Priests of the Diocese of Amarillo observing their ordination anniversaries in the month of April include:

**Father Anthony R. Yanamala**  
April 3, 2008

**Father Lawrence John, JCL**  
April 5, 2002

**Father Arokia “Raj” Samala**  
April 24, 2002

## IDENTITY Summer Camp/Retreat

Ceta Canyon—Sunday, June 1 is the early bird registration deadline for an *IDENTITY* Summer Camp Monday, July 21 through Friday, July 25 at Ceta Canyon Camp and Retreat Center, 37201 FM1721, between Happy and Canyon.

The theme of the *IDENTITY* Summer Camp is *SANCTUS*, focusing on the holiness of our Catholic Faith.

A number of parishes within the Diocese of Amarillo have once again joined together to bring *IDENTITY* Catholic Camps and Retreats to the Texas Panhandle this summer, according to Angela Asbill, youth director at St. Ann’s Church, Canyon.

“Thanks to generous donors we are thrilled to offer local Catholic Camps/Retreats at a fraction of the cost of other camps and conferences in the United States,” she said.

The camp is open to upcoming eighth grade students through 2025 graduated seniors, according to Asbill. Early bird registration is \$300 per person, if completed by Sunday, June 1, or \$325 per person

after June 1. The deadline to register for the camp is Monday, July 7.

“We invite all parish youth groups as well as individual teens to attend this five-day camp,” said Asbill. “Come experience hiking, swimming, a giant water slide and jumping pillow, sand volleyball, gaga-ball as well as basketball. Spiritual activities include Faith talks, small groups, Praise and Worship music, Adoration, Masses, Confession, Rosary and much more.

“We are excited to welcome Father Shane Wieck back this year as our camp priest. He will be joined by several other diocesan priests and Women Religious, who will be serving in different capacities.

“Ceta Canyon is also located within a 30-minute to two-hour drive from most parishes within the diocese. Space is limited to 150, so please register your group as soon as possible and join us for this amazing opportunity.”

For registration information or other details, please contact Asbill via email at [identitycatholiccamps@gmail.com](mailto:identitycatholiccamps@gmail.com).

**You can find additional diocesan news, national and international news from National Catholic Register, the fiscal year 2024-25 Diocesan Calendar and much more on our diocesan website. Bookmark this address: [westtexascatholic.org](http://westtexascatholic.org) and visit often to keep up with the latest in the Diocese of Amarillo.**

**Amarillo Rejoicer's Presents**





Mother's Day Prayer Brunch

**Saturday, May 10  
10:00am to Noon**

**Tickets  
\$20**

Tickets available until Wednesday, May 7



Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center  
2100 N. Spring St., Amarillo  
Top of Texas Catholic Superstore  
2500 S. Coulter St. Suite 100, Amarillo

Save the date  
**Advent Prayer Brunch Saturday, Dec. 13**

[westtexascatholic.org](http://westtexascatholic.org)

## THE WEST TEXAS CATHOLIC

Volume 85, Number 7  
Sunday, April 20, 2025

Published by the Diocese of Amarillo  
P.O. Box 5644  
Amarillo, Texas 79117-5644

**Publisher:** Bishop Patrick J. Zurek  
**Editor-in-chief:** Chris Albracht  
**Spanish Editor:** Ramón Saldaña

Official publication of the Diocese of Amarillo.

*The West Texas Catholic* is published 20 times per year. The mission of this publication is to assist the Bishop of the Diocese of Amarillo in educating and informing the Church of Amarillo. Subscription rates are \$25 a year.

*The West Texas Catholic* welcomes your letters, articles, church bulletins and captured photos, preferably in a digital JPEG format. Photos taken by cellphone cameras will not be accepted for publication in *The West Texas Catholic*. Letters must be signed and include your mailing address and telephone number; however, only the letter writer's name and city will be published. Email is the preferred method of receiving information and photos.

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Amarillo, TX 79117-5644

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Publication dates and deadlines can be found at [amarillodiocese.org](http://amarillodiocese.org), under *West Texas Catholic* tab

**This publication is partially funded by the United Catholic Appeal**





**CONDITIONS TO RECEIVE PLENARY INDULGENCE DURING THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025**

His Holiness Pope Francis, grants during the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025, a plenary indulgence to all the faithful, who are truly repentant and free from any affection for sin, who are moved by a spirit of charity and who, during the Holy Year observe the following general requirements:

1. Purified through the Sacrament of Penance,
2. Receive Holy Communion,
3. Pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff

The plenary indulgence, for the remission and forgiveness of all their sins, can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory in the following ways:

I. A Pilgrimage to any sacred Jubilee site and devoutly participating in Holy Mass. Bishop Patrick Zurek has named our local pilgrimage site **our Diocesan Cathedral (Blessed Sacrament Chapel)**.

II. Pious visits to sacred places individually or in a group (Rome, Holy Land), for a suitable period of time, engage in Eucharistic Adoration and meditation, concluding with the Our Father, the Profession of Faith and invocations to Mary, the Mother of God.

III. Works of mercy and penance if, with a devout spirit, they participate in popular missions, spiritual exercises, or formation activities on the documents of the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, held in a church or other suitable place, according to the mind of the Holy Father.

**During this Jubilee year one plenary indulgence can be obtained per day. A second indulgence can be obtained on the same day only to be applied to the souls in Purgatory, if the faithful receive Holy Communion a second time (if present to a full Mass) that day exercising charity to the deceased.**

Jubilee Plenary Indulgence can also be obtained through initiatives that put into practice, in a concrete and generous way, the spirit of penance which is, in a sense, the soul of the Jubilee through:

- a. Abstinence on Fridays from futile distractions like social media, movies, tv, or the use of phone.
- b. Abstinence from superfluous consumption (no shopping)
- c. By donating a proportionate sum of money to the poor; or by supporting works of a religious or social nature, especially in support of the defense and protection of life in all its phases, or by supporting the quality of life of abandoned children, young people in difficulty, the needy or lonely elderly people, or migrants from various countries.
- d. By dedicating a reasonable portion of one's free time to voluntary activities that are of service to the community or to other similar forms of personal commitment.

*(Extracted/paraphrased from the Decree on the Granting of Indulgence during the Ordinary Jubilee Year 2025 called by His Holiness Pope Francis, May 13, 2024)*

**Bishop's Schedule**

**MONDAY, APRIL 21**

*Diocesan Pastoral Center closed for Easter Break*

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23**

6:00pm, Confirmation Mass, St. Mary's Church, Wheeler

**THURSDAY, APRIL 24**

6:30pm, Confirmation Mass, St. Mary's Church, Umberger

**SATURDAY, APRIL 26**

10:00am, Adult Confirmation Mass, St. Mary's Cathedral, Amarillo

5:00pm, Mass, DCYC 2025, Amarillo Civic Center

**SUNDAY, APRIL 27**

10:00am, Confirmation Mass, St. Martin de Porres Church, Amarillo

**TUESDAY, APRIL 29**

6:00pm, Confirmation Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Canadian

**FRIDAY, MAY 2**

7:00pm, Confirmation Mass, St. Laurence Church, Amarillo

**SATURDAY, MAY 3**

10:00am, Bubbles for Babies Baby Shower, Amarillo Area Foundation

**SUNDAY, MAY 4**

Noon, Confirmation Mass, St. Mary's Cathedral, Amarillo

**Please pray for much needed rain!**

**Priests Birthdays**

**Priests of the Diocese of Amarillo celebrating birthdays during the month of April include:**

**Monsignor David Greka**

April 6

**Father Marco Antonio González**

April 11

**Monsignor Arturo Meza**

April 11

**Father Scott L. Raef**

April 22

**Father Arokia "Raj" Samala**

April 28



**Bishop Patrick J. Zurek reverences the Jubilee Cross for the South Deanery April 6 during a Jubilee Inauguration Mass opening the Jubilee Year of Hope for the South Deanery of the Diocese of Amarillo at Church of the Holy Spirit, Tulia. Additional photos from this Mass can be found on the diocesan website, amarillodiocese.org, under the Photo Albums header. (WTC Photo)**

*Family Life*  
DIOCESE OF AMARILLO

**Family Life Assistant Opening**

The Family Life Office in the Diocese of Amarillo is seeking a passionate person who has a heart to serve families, promote marriage and stand for life to fill the role of Family Life Assistant.

The ideal candidate will be:

- Dependable
- Creative
- Have strong communication and computer skills
- And be available some nights and weekends.

**This is a part-time position.**

Visit [amarillodiocese.org/hr](http://amarillodiocese.org/hr) for more information and please email application, cover letter, and resume to: Adrian Johnson at [ajohnson@dioama.org](mailto:ajohnson@dioama.org).





**Amarillo**—The Office of Communications for the Diocese of Amarillo has released the latest update to the diocesan calendar for 2025, listing events in the diocese, taking place between today (Sunday) and Saturday, July 26.

The calendar was compiled from listings primarily provided by diocesan organizations, parishes and schools. **Events listed here are subject to change without notice.**

Items added since the calendar update in the March 16 issue of *The West Texas Catholic* are in **BOLD**. Additional dates for updated versions of this calendar can be sent via email to westtexasatholic@gmail.com. This calendar can also be found on the diocesan website, amarillodiocese.org.

#### April

20—Easter Sunday  
21—Diocesan Pastoral Center Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center and Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Amarillo closed for Easter Break.  
22—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)  
25-27—Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC), Amarillo Civic Center (806-383-2243, ext. 118)  
25—Holy Cross Catholic Academy Calendar Party, HCCA Event Center, Amarillo (806-355-9637)  
26—Diocesan Adult Confirmation Mass, St. Mary's Cathedral, Amarillo (806-383-2243, ext. 113)  
26—Golf Tournament, to benefit Saint Joseph's School, Amarillo, Comanche Trails Golf Course, Amarillo (806-378-4281)  
26—New Orleans Night, sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council #5061 at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Dumas, Willie's Dance Hall (806-236-0555)

27-30—Uplift Your Priests Week  
27—Divine Mercy Sunday  
27—St. Mary's Barbecue Day, Parish Hall, St. Mary's Church, Clarendon (806-874-3910)  
29—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

#### May

1-10—Uplift Your Priests Week  
2-4—Deacon Formation Class, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-2243, ext. 117)  
3-4—Parish Fiesta, St. Joseph's Church, Amarillo (806-355-5621)  
3—Bubbles for Baby: A Community Baby Shower for Joseph's Project, Amarillo Area Foundation (806-376-4571)  
3—Natural Family Planning Marquette Method Course, Conference Center, Diocesan Pastoral Center, Amarillo (806-683-5561)  
3—*Frühlingsfest*, St. Mary's Church, Umbarger (806-499-3531)  
4—Cinco de Mayo Celebration, Parish Grounds, Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Dumas (806-935-5002)  
6—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)  
6—Luncheon to benefit the Downtown Women's Center, Heritage Room, Amarillo Civic Center (806-372-3625)  
9—*Worship Prayer Movie Night*, St. Francis House of Prayer, Panhandle (806-537-3182)  
9—Catholic School Teachers Appreciation, St. Mary's Cathedral School, Amarillo (806-376-9112)  
9—Paul J. Kim presentation, Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Dumas (806-935-5002)  
10—Mother's Day Women's Prayer Brunch, sponsored by Amarillo Rejoicers, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

11—World Day of Prayer for Vocations/Good Shepherd Sunday  
11—Mother's Day  
13—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)  
16-18—Online Confirmation Retreat #5 (806-383-2243, ext. 118)  
17-18—Engaged Encounter Weekend, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-410-1059)  
17—Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Men's Club at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Amarillo, Ross Rogers Golf Complex, Amarillo (806-679-3455)  
18—Brisket Dinner, St. Martin de Porres Church, Amarillo (806-376-8771)  
20—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)  
21—Baccalaureate Mass, Holy Cross Catholic Academy Class of 2025, St. Joseph's Church, Amarillo (806-355-9637)  
23—Final Day of Classes, 2024-2025 School Year, Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Amarillo  
23—Commencement Exercises, Holy Cross Catholic Academy Class of 2025, Holy Cross Catholic Academy Event Center, Amarillo (806-355-9637)  
26—Memorial Day  
27—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

29—Ascension of the Lord—**observed in the Diocese of Amarillo on Sunday, June 1**

31—The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
31—*Totus Tuus*, location TBA (806-274-7064)

#### June

1-6—*Totus Tuus*, location TBA (806-274-7064)

## DEADLINES

Issue Date	Deadline
May 4	April 24
May 18	May 8
June 15	June 5
July 20	July 10
August 17	August 7
Sept. 7	August 28
Sept. 21	Sept. 11

The deadline for photos, story ideas and advertisements is noon on deadline day.

1—Jamaica to benefit San Jose Church, Dameron Park, Hereford (806-364-5053)

3—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

5—Deadline to submit information for Golden Tributes section of June 15 issue of *The West Texas Catholic* (806-414-1075)

6-8—Deacon Formation Class, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-2243, ext. 117)

7-13—*Totus Tuus*, location TBA (806-274-7064)

8—Pentecost Sunday

8—Fiesta to benefit St. Anthony of Padua Church, Rita Blanca Park, Dalhart (806-244-4128)

8—Jamaica to benefit Immaculate Conception Church, City Park, Dimmitt (806-647-4219)

9—Feast of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

10—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

13—Feast of St. Anthony of Padua  
14-20—*Totus Tuus*, location TBA (806-274-7064)

15—The Most Holy Trinity

15—Father's Day

17—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

19—Juneteenth

20—*Worship Prayer Movie Night*, St. Francis House of Prayer, Panhandle (806-537-3182)

21-27—*Totus Tuus*, location TBA (806-274-7064)

22—Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ/Corpus Christi

24—The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

24—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

27—Feast of the Sacred Heart. World Priest Day (806-355-5621)

28—The Feast of the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

28—Jamaica, St. John Nepomucene Church, Hart (806-647-6477)

29—Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul  
30—Final day of Fiscal Year 2024-25, Diocese of Amarillo. Safe Environment 2024-25 year ends.

#### July

1—Fiscal Year 2025-2026 begins in the Diocese of Amarillo. Safe Environment 2025-2026 year begins.

1—Feast of St. Junípero Serra  
1—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

3—Feast of St. Thomas

4—Independence Day. **Diocesan Pastoral Center closed. Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center closed.**

5-11—*Totus Tuus*, location TBA (806-274-7064)

6—Feast of St. Maria Goretti

8—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

12-18—*Totus Tuus*, location TBA (806-274-7064)

12—54th annual German Sausage Festival, Nazareth Community Hall (806-945-2616)

15—Contemplative Power Hour, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-383-1811)

15—Diocesan Charter Compliance Documentation due to USCCB

16—Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

17-20—Teen ACTS Retreat, Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, Amarillo (806-344-4842)

18—*Worship Prayer Movie Night*, St. Francis House of Prayer, Panhandle (806-537-3182)

19-20—43rd Las Fiestas de Amarillo, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Amarillo (806-372-1128)

19-25—*Totus Tuus*, location TBA (806-274-7064)

19—Natural Family Planning, Marquette Method Course, Conference Center, Diocesan Pastoral Center, Amarillo (806-683-5561)

20-26—Natural Family Planning Awareness Week (806-410-3839)

## Golden Jubilees Sought

If you were joined together in marriage between April 1, 1975 and June 30, 1975, *The West Texas Catholic* would like to honor you. Please send us a current photo or your wedding photo, your names, the date and location of your wedding and we will honor you in our 50th Anniversary Golden Tributes page in the Sunday, June 15 issue of *The West Texas Catholic*, free of charge. Please, no cellphone camera photos.

Send photos via email to westtexasatholic@gmail.com or via regular mail to: P.O. Box 5644, Amarillo, 79107.

Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope with any mailed photos and we will return them after the issue date.

Please write on a Post-It-Note your name, address, phone number and email address on the back of your photo.

The deadline to submit photos and information is

Thursday, June 5.

## The Diocesan Calendar

Please check the diocesan calendar at:  
amarillodiocese.org/calendar  
to avoid scheduling conflicts.

To have your event placed on the Diocesan Calendar, please email pertinent information to westtexasatholic@gmail.com

**St. Mary's Catholic Church in Umbarger  
Invites you to our**

# Frühlingsfest

**In English (Spring Festival)**

**Saturday, May 3  
6:00pm**

**Tickets are \$150 per couple.**

**Ticket price includes a Tenderloin Steak Dinner for two,  
a Reverse Drawing,  
Calcutta, Live Auction, Beverages, Desserts  
and Dancing with live music provided by  
*Insufficient Funds.***

Must be 21 years of age to attend.

**First Prize: \$3,000 Cashier's Check  
Second Prize: \$2,000 Cashier's Check  
Third Prize: \$1,000 Cashier's Check**

Tickets may be purchased by contacting Kay Broman  
at 806-346-1234

OR online at [stmarysumbarger.com/fruhlingsfest](http://stmarysumbarger.com/fruhlingsfest)



## Meet A Catholic School Teacher

**Name:** Hallie Lackey

**School:** St. Mary's Cathedral School, Amarillo

**Grade You Are Teaching:** Second Grade

**Degree Obtained:** Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) in Business with a Minor in Management, specializing in Entrepreneurship, West Texas A&M University, Canyon

**Why do you teach at a Catholic School, compared to a Public School?** "I didn't initially set out to become a teacher—education found



me at exactly the right time in my life. I grew up watching my mom dedicate herself to public school education, and after her retirement, I saw her passion for teaching reignite when she joined St. Mary's. Seeing her experience such a renewed sense of purpose made me realize that Catholic education offered something truly special. When I had the

opportunity to join her at St. Mary's, I knew it was where I was meant to be. The small class sizes, the unwavering support from faculty and parents and the strong sense of community make this environment truly unique. I can't imagine myself teaching anywhere else."

**Why are Catholic Schools important?** "Catholic schools provide more than just academics—they nurture the whole child by integrating Faith into every aspect of learning. Faith isn't confined to a single religion class; it's woven into the school culture, the values modeled by teachers and the way students treat one another. At St. Mary's, students develop not only their minds but also their character, growing into compassionate, Faith-filled individuals. The sense of belonging and shared purpose within our school community creates a deeply meaningful and supportive environment that shapes students in ways that extend far beyond the classroom."

**What is your philosophy when it comes to the classroom?** "I believe that every student is capable of learning and growing when they feel safe, supported and inspired. My classroom is a place where curiosity is encouraged, mistakes are embraced as part of the learning process and every voice matters. I make it a priority to build strong relationships with my students because I know that meaningful connections foster confidence and motivation. While I teach them each day, they also teach me in ways that continually shape and enrich my life."

**Hobbies:** "Traveling, reading, running, planning events and spending time at the golf course."

**Favorite Television Shows:** *One Tree Hill* and *Gilmore Girls*

**Favorite Books:** "I love any book with a hopelessly romantic storyline—I enjoy being able to predict a happy ending!"

**If you had chosen another career path, what would it have been?** "If I had chosen a different career, I would have pursued event planning or even owned a wedding and event venue. I love the creativity and organization that go into bringing people's special moments to life. However, now that I have a job that allows me to enjoy my weekends, the idea of working on weekends isn't quite as appealing!"

**If you were Superintendent for a day, what would you do?** "If I were Superintendent for a day, I would focus on celebrating and recognizing teachers for the incredible work they do every day. Teachers are the heart of our schools, and their dedication often goes unrecognized. I would create more opportunities for professional development tailored to their needs and implement meaningful ways to show appreciation—whether through additional resources, extra planning time, or simply a heartfelt acknowledgment of their hard work. I would also invite students to share their experiences and ideas, ensuring that their voices play a role in shaping the future of our schools."

## 2025-26 Enrollment At Diocesan Catholic Schools

**Amarillo**—All five Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Amarillo are currently enrolling students for the 2025-2026 school year.

Principals encourage parents to contact schools in advance for further registration details or to make an appointment to register.

Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Amarillo are:

- Holy Cross Catholic Academy, 4110 South Bonham, Amarillo, 806-355-9637, [holycrossama.org](http://holycrossama.org). The principal is Craig Logan.

- St. Joseph School, 4118 South Bonham, Amarillo, 806-359-1604, [stjosephamarillo.com](http://stjosephamarillo.com). Angi Seidenberger is principal.

- St. Mary's Cathedral School, 1200 South Washington, Amarillo, 806-376-9112, [stmarysamarillo.org](http://stmarysamarillo.org). The principal is Kim Lackey.

- St. Anthony of Padua School, 410 East 13th, Dalhart, 806-244-4811, [stanthonydalhart.com](http://stanthonydalhart.com). The principal is Shay Batenhorst; and,

- St. Anthony School, Hereford, 120 West Park Ave., 806-364-1952, [herefordstanthonys.com](http://herefordstanthonys.com). Linda Gonzalez is principal.

## Fourth Annual Saint Joseph's Golf Tournament



**Amarillo**—The fourth annual Golf Tournament to benefit Saint Joseph's School will tee off Saturday, April 26 at Comanche Trail Golf Course, 4200 South Grand.

Cost of the tournament is \$500 for a team of four golfers, which includes cart and green fees. The four-man scramble is scheduled to begin at 9:30am. The tournament is limited to the first 36 paid teams and is first-come, first-served, according to Saint Joseph's School spokesperson Miekele Ronquillo.

First, second and third place teams will win a gift card to the

Comanche Trail Golf Shop. There will also be a drawing and door prizes will be awarded.

Sponsors are also being sought for this tournament, which will raise money for scholarships at Saint Joseph's School. Tee box signs are \$125; cart sponsors are \$300 each, with a maximum of six sponsors; scorecard sponsors are \$450 each, with a maximum of two sponsors; and, event sponsors are \$1,000 each. Interested sponsors are asked to call the school office during regular business hours at 806-359-1604 to sign up.

"A sponsorship or donation of any capacity can make a huge difference in making our fundraiser a successful event to benefit our students and teachers," said Ronquillo. "Thank you in advance for supporting Saint Joseph's School."

For additional information about the tournament or to sign up, please contact David Kinney at Comanche Trail Golf Course, 806-378-4281.

## Catholic Schools: An Investment in Country and Church

### "Call my Daddy!"



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- Financial Power of Attorney
- Medical Power of Attorney
- Probate, Guardianship
- House Calls Available

**Robert Hands**  
Attorney-at-Law

678-0688  
83 N. Avondale  
Amarillo, Texas 79106

**ST MARY'S DAY**  
Parish Hall, St. Mary's Church  
510 East Montgomery, Clearendon

★ ★



**BARBECUE**

**Sunday, April 27**

**11:30am to 1:30pm**

**ADULTS - \$15 CHILDREN - \$7**  
**CHILDREN UNDER 12 - FREE**

*Brisket, Ribs, Beans, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw,  
Homemade Bread and Desserts*

**FAMILY FUN COUNTRY STORE**  
**GAMES AND PRIZES SILENT AUCTION**

*Brisket and ribs available to purchase by the pound*

For more details, please call Jacob Fangman at 806-206-5737.



## Annual New Orleans Night In Dumas

**Dumas**—Tickets are still available for the annual New Orleans Night, presented by Knights of Columbus Council #5061 at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, on Saturday, April 26 at Willie's Dance Hall, 826 North Dumas Ave.

The evening begin at 6:00 with social hour, according to Council #5061 Grand Knight Miguel Nevarez, followed at 7:30 with a steak dinner with all the trimmings.

There will also be a Calcutta, with an opportunity to win a cash prize. The Calcutta will be followed at 9:00 with a dance.

Tickets are \$600 for a table of eight, which includes dinner, the

Calcutta and the dance. There will also be cash drawings, with first prize \$2,000, second prize \$1,000 and third prize \$500.

Proceeds from the evening will benefit the numerous charities supported by Knights of Columbus Council #5061, according to Nevarez. VISA and MasterCard will be accepted at the door and a ticket will be required for entrance into the event. No one under the age of 21 will be admitted. For further details or to purchase a ticket, please contact Nevarez at 806-236-0555; Coby Schacher at 806-570-3218; or Bob Brinkmann at 806-683-5738.

### Mother's Day Prayer Brunch

**Amarillo**—Wednesday, May 7 is the final day to purchase tickets for a Mother's Day Prayer Brunch Saturday, May 10 from 10:00 to noon at the Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, 2100 North Spring.

As in the past, the Prayer Brunch is a ticketed event. Tickets are \$20.00 per person and can be purchased online through the Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center website, [bdrc.org/](http://bdrc.org/)

mothers-day-prayer-brunch, or at Top of Texas Catholic SuperStore in the Signature at 2500 South Coulter. Entrance is by ticket only and tickets will not be sold at the door, according to Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ Sister Elizabeth Ann Dockery, executive director at the BDRC.

Learn more by calling the Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center at 806-383-1811.

## Umbarger Frühlingsfest Saturday, May 3

**Umbarger**—The 12th *Frühlingsfest*, or Spring Festival, presented by St. Mary's Church, takes place Saturday, May 3, beginning at 6:00pm in the parish hall at 22830 Pondaseta Road.

Tickets are still available, at \$150 per couple, which includes a Tenderloin steak dinner with all the fixings, a Reverse Drawing, a Calcutta, beverages, desserts and a Live Auction. There will also be a dance, with music by *Insufficient Funds*.

All winners will be determined in a reverse drawing, according to Father Alvin Tshuma, parochial administrator at St. Mary's Church. First prize is a \$3,000 Cashier's Check, second prize is a \$2,000 Cashier's Check and third prize is a \$1,000 Cashier's Check.

Proceeds from the evening will benefit St. Mary's Church. No one under 21 will be admitted.

Tickets for *Frühlingsfest* may be purchased by contacting Brandon Finke at 806-681-6232; Kay Broman at 806-346-1234; or, any parishioner at St. Mary's Church.



Tripp Seidenberger, a seventh-grade student at Holy Cross Catholic Academy, Amarillo, pauses before proclaiming the reading April 2 during a *Jubilee Year of Hope Mass for Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Amarillo* at St. Mary's Cathedral, Amarillo. Additional photos from the Mass can be found at [amarillodiocese.org](http://amarillodiocese.org), under the Photo Albums header. (WTC Photo)

**Please Pray For Vocations To The Priesthood And Religious Life in the Diocese of Amarillo**

**SAVE THE DATE**

# EMPOWERING Others

DWC

**DOWNTOWN WOMEN'S CENTER**

## SPRING LUNCHEON

*Trauma and addiction go hand in hand. Come hear more.*

**TUESDAY, MAY 6**

11:30am in the Amarillo Civic Center North Exhibit Hall  
401 S. Buchanan Street, Amarillo, Texas 79101

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**EMPOWERMENT \$30,000**

- TWO TABLES OF EIGHT SEATS EACH
- SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM EVENT STAGE
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- WEBSITE SPONSOR BANNER
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- TWO TABLES OF EIGHT SEATS EACH
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- LUNCHEON VIDEO SPONSOR IMAGE
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- OUTDOOR DIGITAL

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**THE JOURNEY \$10,000**

- ONE TABLE OF EIGHT SEATS
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- LUNCHEON VIDEO SPONSOR IMAGE

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**GRATITUDE \$5,000**

- ONE TABLE OF EIGHT SEATS
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- SOCIAL MEDIA THANK YOU GROUP POST LISTED ON LUNCHEON VIDEO SCREEN

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**HAVEN \$2,500**

- ONE TABLE OF EIGHT SEATS
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- SOCIAL MEDIA THANK YOU GROUP POST

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<b>ABBA \$1,200</b>	<b>MERIDIAN \$500</b>	<b>THRIFT CITY \$250</b>
• ONE TABLE OF EIGHT SEATS	• FOUR RESERVED SEATS	• TWO RESERVED SEATS

VISIT THE WEBSITE  
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Downtown Women's Center  
409 S. Monroe, Amarillo Texas 806.372.3625  
Mark Rossy [marcos@dwcenter.com](mailto:marcos@dwcenter.com)

Be a Sponsor!

Purchase Individual Tickets \$50 each

SCAN OR VISIT THE WEBSITE

## Mercy—The Message Of Easter: An Explanation Of The Significance Of The Eighth Day

By Father Seraphim Michalenko, MIC

There is something very special about the number “eight.” In chemistry, for example, there exists a law that when a number of elements are arranged in order of their atomic weights, each element resembles the eighth one before or after it.

In modern music, harmony is built upon groups of eight notes that keep recurring, but in a higher or lower register. They are called “octaves” from the Latin word that signifies the number eight.

The name “octave” has also been given to the eight-day period after a liturgical feast — as well as to the eighth day itself. This eighth or octave day of the feast is thus itself considered as a recurrence of the first day.

Each regular Sunday throughout the year is also known as “the eighth day” — a recurrence of the Feast of the Resurrection. The Octave-Day of Easter, therefore, is the model of all other Sundays of the Church Year and can be considered as the “greatest day” of the Feast itself.

This Christian practice of observing the octave day as the “greatest day” of a feast finds its roots in earlier Jewish celebrations, especially the dedication of Solomon’s Temple and the annual observance of the Feast of Tabernacles. The latter is significantly mentioned in the 7th chapter of St. John’s Gospel. There we read:

On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me; let him drink who believes in Me. Scripture has it: ‘From within him rivers of living water shall flow’” (*Jn 7:37-38*).

We need to take time to consider the meaning of these things and the connections that exist among them. What good is it to put these days on our calendars and call them “great feasts” if their meaning is not realized in our lives? We must understand them and enter into them with wholehearted participation.

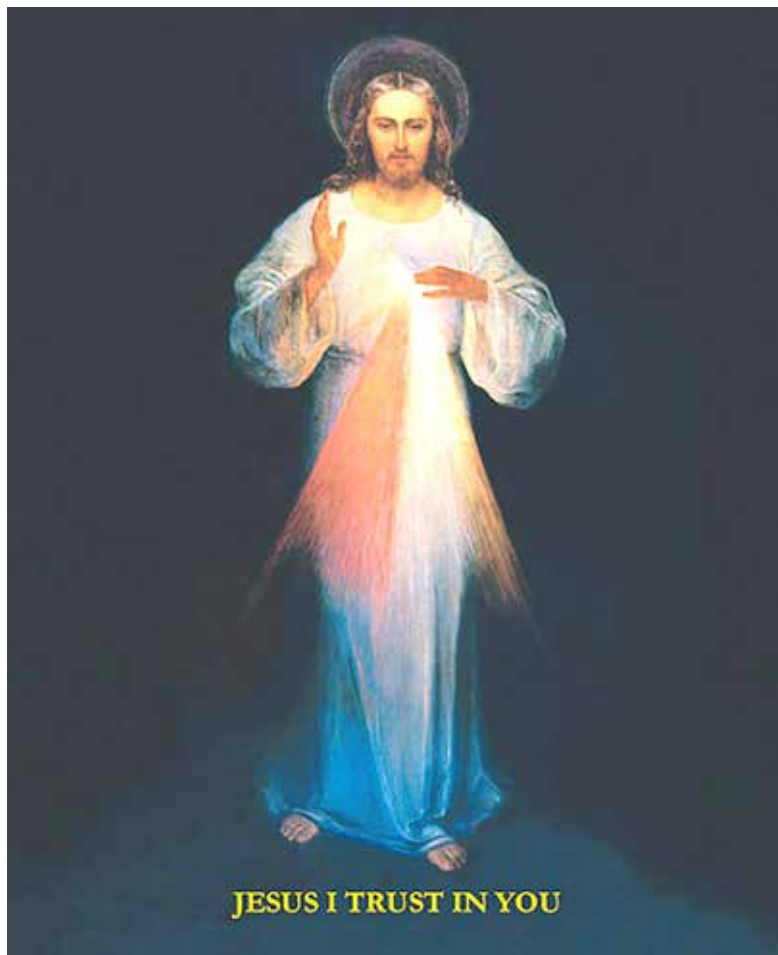
This is particularly true of the “Octave Day of Easter.”

When Jesus revealed the Sacred Image of Himself as The Divine Mercy to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska on Feb. 22, 1931, he declared:

I desire that there be a Feast of Mercy. I want this image, which you will paint with a brush, to be solemnly blessed on the first Sun-

why should I talk about it?” Jesus answered:

And who knows anything about this feast? No one! Even those who should be proclaiming My mercy and teaching people about it often do not know about it themselves. That is why I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the First



day after Easter [the eighth, or Octave—Day of the Resurrection]; that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy (*Diary, 49*).

I remind you, My daughter, that as often as you hear the clock strike the third hour, immerse yourself completely in My mercy, adoring and glorifying it; invoke its omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners; for at that moment mercy was opened wide for every soul (*1572*).

One day, as St. Faustina was offering all her prayers and sufferings so that this feast would be established as Our Lord desired, she said to Him: “They tell me that there is already such a feast and so

Sunday after Easter and want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it (*340*).

These words, I believe, help us to understand what Saint Faustina wrote for her spiritual director: “There will come a time when this work... will be as though utterly undone. And then God will act with great power, which will give evidence of its authenticity. It will be a new splendor for the Church, although it has been dormant in it from long ago” (*378*).

“Dormant!” That means “not active: in a state of suspension ... sleeping!” And “new splendor” can surely mean “a new awakening.” The spontaneity with which the celebration of Divine Mercy Sun-

day has been observed throughout the world today certainly attests to the truth of St. Faustina’s prophecy. The idea of this special celebration of God’s mercy on the Sunday after Easter is not a new or radical idea stemming simply from private revelation. Our Lord, through St. Faustina, is simply reemphasizing what was strongly urged by St. Thomas the Apostle in the earliest liturgical document in existence, the *Apostolic Constitutions*. There we read:

“After eight days [following the Feast of Easter] let there be another feast observed with honor, the eighth day itself, on which He gave me, Thomas, who was hard of belief, full assurance, by showing me the print of the nails and the wound made in His side by the spear.”

One of the greatest Doctors of the Church, St. Gregory of Nazianzen, also supports this feast, declaring that the Octave Day of Easter is even a greater feast than Easter—though it takes nothing whatever away from the greatness of the Day of the Resurrection itself. Easter Sunday is the boundary between death and life (a creation). But its eighth day, the Octave, is the fulfillment of what Easter is all about—perfect life in eternity (a second creation, more admirable and more sublime than the first).

St. Gregory’s reasoning is very much in keeping with the teaching of St. Thomas Aquinas who, following Aristotle, distinguishes a two-fold perfection: “The first looks to the essence of the thing,” he writes, “the second to its operation; and this second perfection is greater than the first.”

If, as St. Thomas teaches, creation is the first great manifestation of God’s mercy, then the attainment of the purpose of creation—eternal life in its fullness—is an even greater gift of mercy.

Easter Sunday represents our creation in the life of grace through faith in the Risen Savior. The Octave Sunday of Easter represents the fulfillment of that “creation in grace.” Thus it is, as St. Augustine says, “the most privileged octave-

day” and certainly merits the title Divine Mercy Sunday. All this depth of meaning connected with the Octave-Day of Easter in the early Church is virtually lost to us today. (And there’s a great deal more that space doesn’t allow me to go into here.)

In fact, although the title “Octave” is retained and emphasized in connection with the Feast of Christmas, this has not been the case with the Feast of Easter. Providentially, however, St. John Paul II has established the Octave-Day of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday for the whole Church. Yet many of the Faithful still do not understand its significance as the Octave-Day of Easter. Our Lord surely knew what He was saying to Sister Faustina:

And who knows anything about this feast? No one! Even those who should be proclaiming My mercy and teaching people about it often do not know about it themselves (*340*).

Most Sundays and Feasts of the Year are identified in the Gospel passage read during the liturgy. It is significant then, that, except for the Feast of Thomas the Apostle, the passage from John describing Our Lord’s appearance to Thomas is read only on the Octave-Day of Easter and on Pentecost Sunday.

Let’s take a closer look at the passage I previously quoted from the Church’s most ancient liturgical document. Thomas writes:

“Let there be another feast observed with honor, the eighth day itself, on which He (Jesus) gave me full assurance, by showing me the print of the nails and the wounds made in His side by the spear” (see *John 20:27*).

What assurance did Thomas receive by the sight of the Lord’s wounded side? Not that Christ was truly risen (for that was obvious), but that He is divine and therefore has the power of reversing sin. This assurance was accomplished by the sight of the wounded source of the

Story continues on page 9



## Mercy—The Message Of Easter... from page 8

“stream of mercy,” the source of Christ’s “transfusion” of His life-blood to the Church through the Sacraments, especially of Baptism, Reconciliation, and the Eucharist. (“From within him rivers of living water shall flow.”)

We have the key here to understanding the Image of The Divine Mercy with its rays signifying the Blood and Water that flowed from Christ’s pierced side—and to Our Lord’s insistence that this image be specially venerated on the first Sunday after Easter, which is now celebrated throughout the whole Church as Divine Mercy Sunday.

We can also see these rays as simultaneously symbolizing the Holy Spirit, whom Christ breathed into the Disciples during that same Octave-Day appearance. On the strength of that Holy Breath, all sins are forgiven and “at-ONE-ment” with the Father is accomplished. Here, God is reconciling the world to Himself (see *2 Cor 5:18*). And here the Church, the newly-born Body of Christ, is commissioned to

be the instrument of reconciliation down through the ages.

This is Christ’s **GREAT PROMISE** of complete pardon of sin and punishment on Divine Mercy Sunday through the reception of the Sacrament (which is a participation in Christ’s death to sin and rising to divine life).

How grateful we should be to St. Thomas and St. Faustina for their cooperation with the Lord in drawing us to the depths of His Mercy!

**Three parishes in the Diocese of Amarillo have announced plans to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday.**

*St. Mary’s Cathedral at 1200 South Washington, Amarillo*, is celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday with the praying of the Novena and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00pm, beginning today (Sunday) through Saturday, April 26. If you cannot join physically for any reason, please join in praying the Chaplet daily at 3:00pm.

On Sunday, April 27, Divine Mercy Sunday, there will be a celebration from 3:00pm to 5:00pm, which will include the singing of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, followed by veneration of the Divine Mercy Image, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and Evening Prayers.

*St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 4100 South Coulter, Amarillo*, invites all families to attend the Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration on Sunday, April 27 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm. Activities include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reflecting on the Sorrowful Mysteries and singing the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Jesus promised St. Faustina that on Divine Mercy Sunday, “The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened.” (*Diary 699*)

*St. Anthony of Padua Church, 411 East Texas Blvd., Dalhart*,

will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on Sunday, April 27, beginning with a bilingual Mass at 10:00am. Lunch will be served after Mass, hosted by the parish and Knights of Columbus Council #2776. During the meal, a special celebration is scheduled to honor of Canoniza-

tion of Blessed Carlo Acutis.

At noon, a conference including presentations in both English and Spanish will be offered. A bilingual Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed at 3:00, with the day concluding with a healing prayer and Benediction.

## Bubbles For Babies

**Amarillo**—Tickets are still available for Bubbles for Babies, a Community Baby Shower to benefit *Joseph’s Project: A Pregnancy Resource Center*, scheduled Saturday, May 3 from 10:00am to noon at the Amarillo Area Foundation at 919 South Polk.

Tickets are \$35 each and seating is limited, according to Jeff Gulde, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Texas Panhandle. Those planning to attend are asked to **RSVP by Monday, April 28**.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Christine Garner of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, who will share how *Joseph’s Project: A Pregnancy Resource Center* directly combats the high infant-mortality rates in Texas Panhandle communities.

*Joseph’s Project: A Pregnancy Resource Center* provides services, supplies and education for families preparing for their pregnancy and child’s infancy, said Gulde.

For those interested in sponsoring Bubbles for Babies, a Community Baby Shower, sponsorships are still available and sponsorship levels range from Individual Underwriter at \$250 to the Pearl level at \$10,000. Sponsors for Bubbles for Babies include United Supermarkets, Amarillo National Bank, Whitney Russell Printing, Roasters Coffee and Tea Company and M and R Package Store.

Learn more about Bubbles for Babies by calling Catholic Charities at 806-376-4571 or by going online to [cctxp.org](http://cctxp.org).



The Diocesan Museum is once again calling all painters to participate in an art show. We will only be accepting paintings this year, no mixed medium.

The first place winner’s painting will become the property of the museum to be placed on display.

All paintings must be at the Diocesan Museum on or before Wednesday, July 23 **and must depict a scene from the Bible.**

**JUDGES:**

**Jonathan Revett, M.F.A.**

- Art Program Director
- Professor of Art
- West Texas A&M University

**Claudia Stuart**

- Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Criminal Justice
- West Texas A&M University
- Poet

**Kay Kennedy**

*Kay Kennedy is a long-time professional with a wealth of knowledge about nonprofit fundraising, community engagement and advocating for the arts in the Texas Panhandle. She has served in the leadership role for nine arts entities, served three terms on the Texas Arts Commission Peer Review Panel including one as chairman and held the Certified Fund Raising Executive designation (CFRE) for nine years.*

**1<sup>ST</sup> \$3000**

**2<sup>ND</sup> \$1500**

**3<sup>RD</sup> \$500**

Judging will be Thursday, July 24  
6:00pm to 8:00pm in the  
Diocesan Museum  
4512 NE 24 th Ave., Amarillo

For more information  
or to participate and reserve a place  
for your art piece please email:  
**Susan Garner - [sgarner@dioama.org](mailto:sgarner@dioama.org)**

**REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**



# Steward Saints

**Sts. Nereus and Achilleus  
Died 304 (?)  
Martyrs  
Feast Day: May 12  
Optional Memorial**

The early fourth century was a dangerous time to be Christian!

The saints we honor May 12 were Praetorian soldiers who left their military service when they converted

to Christianity and were then exiled and executed for their Faith.

St. Damasus wrote of them, "The martyrs Nereus and Achilleus had enrolled themselves in the army and exercised the cruel office of carrying out the orders of the tyrant, being ever ready, through the constraint of fear, to obey his will. O miracle of Faith! Suddenly they cease from

their fury, they become converted, they fly from the camp of their wicked leader; they throw away their shields, their armor and their blood-stained javelins. Confessing the Faith of Christ, they rejoice to bear testimony to its triumph."

It is unlikely that we will be martyred for our Faith, and yet St. Augustine reminds us that "each

one of us in his own measure pays his debt to this commonwealth of ours. In proportion to our store of strength we contribute as it were a tax of suffering."

May the prayers of the martyrs, St. Nereus and St. Achilleus, strengthen us to bear cheerfully whatever suffering or sacrifice the good stewardship of our Faith requires.

*Steward Saints, from the book Steward Saints for Every Day, written by Sharon Hueckel ©1999 the National Catholic Stewardship Council.*



**Catholic Student Center at  
West Texas A&M University**  
2610 4th Avenue  
Canyon, 79015  
806-655-4345  
wtsc.com  
**Father Alvin Tshuma,**  
Chaplain/Executive Director  
**Betty Aragon,**  
Assistant Director

**Mass and Activity Schedule:**  
**Sundays:**  
5:30pm, Mass  
**Mondays:**  
8:00pm-11:00pm, Adoration  
**Wednesdays:**  
4:30pm, Confession  
5:30pm, Catholic U  
6:30pm, Mass  
7:00pm, Free Home-cooked Meal

**Nightly Prayer at 10:00**

## Deacons Birthdays

**Permanent Deacons of the Diocese of Amarillo celebrating birthdays in April include:**  
**Deacon Robert Aranda**  
April 11  
**Deacon Patrick Griffin**  
April 13  
**Deacon Sergio Estrada**  
April 14  
**Deacon Joseph Roder**  
April 16  
**Deacon Teodoro Chávez**  
April 20

**Pray The Rosary...  
daily as a family!!**

# United Catholics Appeal 2024-25

City	Parish	Quota	Pledged Amount By Parishioners	Amount Paid By Parishioners
Amarillo	St. Laurence	41,486	47,451	41,481
Amarillo	Our Lady of Vietnam	10,545	5,108	6,158
Amarillo	Blessed Sacrament	26,243	17,859	18,787
Amarillo	Our Lady of Guadalupe	31,207	29,175	22,878
Amarillo	St. Francis of Assisi	17,093	18,244	17,294
Amarillo	St. Hyacinth's	39,132	48,890	40,971
Amarillo	St. Martin de Porres	13,895	9,788	11,099
Amarillo	St. Joseph's	52,679	58,198	43,441
Amarillo	St. Mary's Cathedral	136,461	116,584	108,551
Amarillo	St. Thomas the Apostle	187,813	234,170	211,704
Booker	St. Peter's	8,585	8,726	5,352
Borger	St. John the Evangelist	36,192	36,296	32,795
Bovina	St. Ann's	8,628	5,201	5,975
Cactus	Our Lady of Guadalupe	14,177	17,690	15,785
Canadian	Sacred Heart	11,838	9,849	9,599
Canyon	St. Ann's	98,237	100,875	83,550
Childress	Holy Angels	7,589	6,449	6,316
Clarendon	St. Mary's	1,997	2,214	2,064
Dalhart	St. Anthony of Padua	57,038	50,457	52,227
Dimmitt	Immaculate Conception	13,034	12,135	10,222
Dumas	Sts. Peter and Paul	52,038	39,901	41,907
Friona	St. Teresa of Jesus	11,469	7,377	7,377
Groom	Immaculate Heart of Mary	21,048	22,604	20,878
Gruver	Cristo Redentor	4,510	6,328	3,643
Happy	Holy Name of Jesus	1,633	1,569	1,075
Hart	St. John Nepomucene	7,166	8,226	7,056
Hereford	St. Anthony's	60,835	49,521	49,959
Hereford	San Jose	44,293	40,768	40,224
Kress	St. Paul the Apostle	2,492	2,341	2,100
Memphis	Sacred Heart	2,557	2,583	2,583
Nazareth	Holy Family	45,479	46,084	43,893
Pampa	St. Vincent de Paul	42,595	41,037	34,341
Panhandle	St. Theresa's	11,684	14,611	14,511
Perryton	Immaculate Conception	33,402	38,654	25,578
Quitaque	San Juan Diego	1,350	2,758	2,598
Shamrock	St. Patrick's	5,616	7,970	7,640
Silverton	Our Lady Of Loreto	4,274	2,786	2,525
Spearman	Sacred Heart of Jesus	25,460	19,664	20,473
Stinnett	St. Ann's	3,590	3,390	2,431
Stratford	St. Joseph's	10,208	13,688	12,965
Sunray	Christ the King	3,462	3,960	3,733
Texline	St. Mary's	2,454	1,576	1,576
Tulia	Church of the Holy Spirit	13,629	14,635	11,755
Turkey	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	1,549	155	155
Umbarger	St. Mary's	13,882	11,223	11,009
Vega	Immaculate Conception	20,820	21,327	20,867
Wellington	Our Mother of Mercy	3,864	4,171	3,687
Wheeler	St. Mary's	4,800	4,439	4,001
White Deer	Sacred Heart	10,570	9,095	9,095
		1,280,598	1,277,800	1,155,885



## Guest Column: A Commitment To Charity

By Joe Lafuente

Since 1882, the Knights of Columbus have upheld the four pillars of our Order: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, impacting communities and serving as Christ's hands and feet in Councils around the world and within our own diocese. Most of our Council's goals typically involve activities that help support our parish community.

I believe that I have more directly been able to understand not only my Catholic Faith but the proper way to appreciate what we have and to be thankful for what we have in our lives. Christ died for our sins, and we can all participate in a blessed eternal life, but we must choose. The Knights of Columbus carry that message each and every day by the acts we perform and the example we show to Christ's family here on earth.

Charity is the first principle of our Order, We Knights, being followers of Christ and men of Faith must exercise this principle. As St. James reminds us, "So Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."

Therefore, as Knights we are committed to Charity, easing the plight of the less fortunate.

The Texas State Knights of Columbus Charity Board has surpassed its goal of \$807,825.00 in charitable donations. As of April 1, we are at \$817,243.35 total contributions for Charity. While this is a very lofty goal which we have surpassed, we are not resting yet. We are aiming for a goal of \$1,020,000.00 total in charitable donations from our Councils around the state, we are at 80.12% of the way there, with still three months before the end of the fraternal year.

Seventy Percent of our State Charity contributions come right back to the Diocese of Amarillo for the Bishops Charity of Choice. I was proud to present Bishop Patrick J. Zurek with a check on April 3 totaling \$11,095 for fraternal year 2023-2024 charity contributions as a donation from the Amarillo Diocesan Knights of Columbus to his Charity of Choice.

This year I have the honor of presenting the Quick Start Honor Roll Award for Fraternal Year 2024-2025 to several Councils in our diocese. This award is presented to Councils meeting the State Charity goal ahead of schedule. Congratulations to the following Councils and their Grand Knights:

Council #2778 St. Anthony's, Hereford – Mack Nielsen

Council #15782, Holy Angels, Childress – Lorenzo Ramirez

Council #7840, St. Ann's, Canyon – Rudy Fuentes Jr.

Council #2776, St. Anthony of Padua, Dalhart – Chase Graham

Council #8938, San Jose, Hereford – Edward Fuentes

Council #2654, Holy Family, Nazareth – Steven Birkenfeld

Council #4621, St. Thomas the Apostle, Amarillo – Mark Ebenkamp

Council #1450, St. Mary's Cathedral, Amarillo – Jason Yarbrough

Council #12534, Church of the Holy Spirit, Tulia – Jimmy Basaldua

Council #16205, St. Hyacinth, Amarillo – Shayne Dorotik

Council #12563, St. Francis of Assisi, Amarillo – Elliott Hussing



**Bishop Patrick J. Zurek, left, accepts a check from Joe Lafuente, Diocesan Deputy for the Knights of Columbus for \$11,095 on April 3 at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, Amarillo. The check represented 70% of monies raised in the Diocese of Amarillo by Knights of Columbus Councils during fraternal year 2023-24. (WTC Photo)**

Council #2767, St. Vincent de Paul, Pampa – William Weiman  
 Council #3558, St. John the Evangelist, Borger – Bradley Taylor  
 Council #5061, Sts. Peter and Paul, Dumas – Miguel Nevarez  
*Joe Lafuente is the Diocesan Deputy for the Knights of Columbus and a parishioner at St. Anthony's Church, Hereford.*



## SECURE YOUR ID DAY

FREE Document Shredding

Saturday, April 26

9:00am - 1:00pm

3501 Soncy Rd., Amarillo  
 Med Center Parking Lot

South Entrance (Surgery Center) - one way traffic  
 Four boxes of personal documents



Scan for details and accepted items.





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## APRIL 25-27

AMARILLO CIVIC CENTER

I'M GONNA  
**WALK WITH  
JESUS**  
LUKE 24:13-35

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806-383-2243 ext. 118

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Registration for the Annual  
Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference  
(DCYC) April 25-27 is now open  
for youth grades 7-12

Contact your parish youth minister or priest concerning your parish delegation information. For more information visit: [amarillodiocese.org/dcyc-aka-youth-rally](http://amarillodiocese.org/dcyc-aka-youth-rally)





## A COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

**SATURDAY MAY 3 • 10AM-NOON**

THE AMARILLO AREA FOUNDATION

919 S POLK STREET

**BENEFITTING**

Joseph's Project

A Pregnancy Resource Center

## FOR SPONSORSHIPS AND TICKETS

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**Development Director**

**806-376-4571 x 250**

**yhaddad@cctxp.org**

**www.cctxp.org**

## Misericordia—El Mensaje de la Pascua de Resurrección; Una Explicación del Significado del Octavo Día

Por el Padre Seraphim Michalenko, MIC

Hay algo muy especial acerca del número “ocho”. Por ejemplo, en la química existe una ley que dice que cuando un grupo de elementos se ordena según su peso atómico, cada elemento se asemeja al octavo elemento previo o posterior.

En la música occidental, la armonía se basa en grupos de ocho notas que siguen repitiéndose en tonos más altos o bajos. Se les llama “octavas”, nombre derivado del término latino que significa ocho.

El nombre de “octava” también se aplica al lapso de ocho días que sigue a una festividad litúrgica— así como al mismo octavo día. Así pues, el octavo día de una fiesta es como una repetición del primer día.

Cada domingo regular a lo largo del año se considera “el octavo día” o la repetición de la Fiesta de Resurrección. La Octava-de-Pascua es entonces el modelo de todos los demás domingos del año de la Iglesia y se le puede considerar el día más grande de la Fiesta misma.

La práctica cristiana de observar el octavo día como “el día más grande” de una fiesta tiene raíces en antiguas celebraciones judías, en especial, la dedicación del Templo de Salomón y en la conmemoración de la Fiesta de Tabernáculos. Dicha Fiesta se menciona de manera significativa en el capítulo siete del Evangelio de San Juan, donde dice:

“El último día de la fiesta, el día

más solemne, Jesús, puesto en pie, exclamó con voz potente: «El que tenga sed, que venga a mí. Pues el que cree en mí tendrá de beber. Lo dice la Escritura: De su seno brotarán ríos de agua viva» (Jn 7:37-38).

Necesitamos darnos tiempo para considerar el significado de



JESÚS, EN TÍ CONFÍO

estos detalles y las conexiones que entre ellas existen. ¿De qué nos sirve poner estos días en nuestros calendarios y llamarles “grandes

fiestas” si su significado no se hace realidad en nuestras vidas?

En particular, esto se manifiesta en el *Octavo Día de Pascua*.

Cuando Cristo reveló Su Sagrada Imagen de La Divina Misericordia a Santa María Faustina Kowalska el 22 de febrero

para que esta fiesta se estableciera como lo deseaba Nuestro Señor, dijo: “esta Fiesta según me dicen, ya existe, entonces ¿para qué he de hablar de ella?” Jesús le contestó:

“¿Quién, de entre la gente, sabe de ella? Nadie. Y hasta aquellos que han de proclamarla y enseñar a la gente esta misericordia, muchas veces ellos mismos no lo saben; por eso quiero que la imagen sea bendecida solemnemente el primer domingo después de Pascua y que se la venera públicamente para que cada alma pueda saber de ella. (340).

Creo que estas palabras ayudan a entender lo que Santa Faustina dijo a su director espiritual: “Llegará un momento en que esta obra... parecerá ser completamente destruida, y de repente Dios intervendrá con gran fuerza que dará el testimonio de la veracidad. [La obra] será un nuevo esplendor para la Iglesia, a pesar de estar [durmiendo] en ella desde hace mucho tiempo” (378).

“¡Durmiente!” Eso significa “¡inactiva: en estado de suspensión ... dormida!” Y “nuevo esplendor” seguro que significa “un nuevo despertar”. La espontaneidad con la que la celebración del Domingo de la Divina Misericordia se ha observado por todo el mundo hoy día da testimonio a la profecía de Santa Faustina. La idea de esta celebración especial en el Domingo después de la Pascua no es una

idea radical que simplemente brota de una revelación privada. Nuestro Señor, por medio de Santa Faustina, simplemente da nuevo énfasis a lo que Santo Tomás Apóstol ya instó con firmeza en el documento litúrgico más antiguo en existencia. las Constituciones Apostólicas, en donde se lee:

“Pasados ocho días [de la Fiesta de Pascua] que se celebre con honor otra fiesta, el octavo día en el que Él me dio a mí, Tomás, duro para creer, plena seguridad al mostrarme la huella de los clavos y la herida que la lanza hizo en Su costado”.

Uno de los Doctores de la Iglesia más grandes, San Gregorio Nacianceno, también apoya esta fiesta al declarar que el Octavo Día de Pascua es una fiesta aún mayor que la Pascua misma—sin quitarle nada a la grandeza del Día de la Resurrección. El Domingo de Pascua es el límite entre la muerte y la vida (una creación). Pero su Octavo Día es el cumplimiento de lo que es la Pascua; la vida perfecta en la eternidad (una segunda creación, más admirable y más sublime que la primera).

La lógica de San Gregorio está muy de acuerdo con la enseñanza de Santo Tomás de Aquino que, igual que Aristóteles, distingue una doble perfección: “La primera se refiere a la esencia de la cosa”. Y

Continúa en la página 15

### Buscamos Bodas de Oro

Si ustedes contrajeron matrimonio entre el 1º de abril de 1975 y el 30 de junio de 1975, *El West Texas Catholic* desea felicitarlos.

Favor de enviarnos una foto reciente o una foto de su casamiento, sus nombres, la fecha y el lugar de su boda y los publicaremos en la página de Tributos a los Aniversarios Dorados en la edición del 15 de junio del *West Texas Catholic*, sin costo alguno.

Envíen las fotos por email a [westtexascatholic@gmail.com](mailto:westtexascatholic@gmail.com) o por correo postal a P.O. Box 5644, Amarillo, 79107.

Favor de enviar un sobre con su nombre, dirección y estampillas con sus fotografías para poder regresárselas después de la fecha de publicación.

Por favor escriban sus nombres, dirección postal, número de teléfono y su dirección de email al reverso de sus fotos.

Se aceptarán fotos hasta el jueves, 5 de junio al mediodía.

de 1931, él declaró:

“Deseo que haya una Fiesta de la Misericordia. Quiero que esta imagen que pintarás con el pincel sea bendecida con solemnidad el primer domingo después [la Octava] de la Pascua de Resurrección; ese domingo debe ser la Fiesta de la Misericordia” (*Diario*, 49).

Recuerda, hija mía, “Cuántas veces oigas el reloj dando las tres, sumérgete en Mi misericordia, adorándola y glorificándola; suplica su omnipotencia para el mundo entero y, especialmente, para los pobres pecadores, ya que en ese momento, se abrió de par en par para cada alma” (*Diario*, 1572).

Un día, mientras Santa Faustina ofrecía todas sus oraciones y penas

## Intenciones del Papa Francisco para 2025

Por favor únanse a millones de personas del mundo entero que cada día rezan por las intenciones mensuales del Papa. Desde 1884 los miembros del Apostolado de Oración se han ofrecido a Dios por la salvación de almas, la Iglesia, las intenciones de todos los Apóstoles de Oración y las intenciones del Papa. El Santo Padre nos da dos intenciones cada mes—una es intención general y la otra es por las intenciones mundiales.

### Abril:

• **Por el uso de las nuevas tecnologías:** Oremos para que el uso de las nuevas tecnologías no reemplace las relaciones humanas, respete la dignidad de las personas, y ayude a afrontar las crisis de nuestro tiempo.



## Una Explicación del Significado del Octavo Día... de la página 14

escribe, “la segunda a su operación; y esta segunda perfección es mayor que la primera”.

Si según enseña Santo Tomás, la creación es la primera gran manifestación de la misericordia de Dios, entonces el cumplimiento del propósito de la creación—la vida eterna en su plenitud—es un don de misericordia aún más grande.

El Domingo de Pascua simboliza nuestra creación en la vida por medio de nuestra fe en el Salvador Resucitado. La Octava de la Pascua simboliza el cumplimiento de esa “creación en la gracia”. Así que, como dice San Agustín, es “el Octavo Día más privilegiado” y ciertamente amerita el título de Domingo de la Divina Misericordia. Esta profundidad del significado ligado a la Octava de Pascua en la Iglesia primitiva está prácticamente perdida hoy día. (Y

hay mucho más que decir pero no tengo suficiente espacio aquí.)

De hecho, aunque el término de “Octava” se retiene y se usa con énfasis respecto a la Fiesta de la Navidad, no ha sido así con la Fiesta de la Pascua. Providencialmente, San Juan Pablo II ha establecido el Octavo Día de la Pascua como el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia para toda la Iglesia. Pero todavía hay muchos fieles que no entienden su significado como el Octavo-Día de la Pascua. Seguro que Nuestro Señor sabía lo que le decía a Santa Faustina:

¿Quién, de entre la gente, sabe de ella? Nadie. Hasta aquellos que han de proclamarla y enseñar a la gente Mi misericordia, ellos mismos no lo saben (340).

La mayoría de los Domingos y Fiestas del Año se identifican en el

pasaje del Evangelio que se lee en la liturgia. Entonces es significativo que, el pasaje de Juan que describe la aparición de Nuestro Señor a Tomás se lee solamente en el Octavo-Día de la Pascua y el Domingo de Pentecostés.

Veamos más de cerca el pasaje del documento litúrgico más antiguo que ya mencioné. Tomás escribe:

“Que se celebre con honor otra fiesta, el octavo día en el que Él (Jesús) me dio a mí plena seguridad al mostrarme la huella de los clavos y la herida que la lanza hizo en Su costado” (ver *Juan 20:27*).

¿Qué seguridad recibió Tomás al ver el costado herido del Señor? No sólo que Cristo en verdad había resucitado (eso era obvio), sino que Cristo es divino y tiene así el poder de revertir el pecado. Esta seguridad se logró al ver la fuente herida del “río de misericordia”, la fuente de la “transfusión” de la sangre de Cristo a Su Iglesia a través de los Sacramentos, especialmente el Bautismo, la Reconciliación y la Eucaristía. (“De sus entrañas brotarán ríos de agua viva”).

He aquí la clave para entender la Imagen de la Divina Misericordia con sus rayos que representan la Sangre y Agua que brotaron del costado perforado de Cristo—y a insistencia de Nuestro Señor que esta imagen sea venerada especialmente el primer Domingo después de la Pascua que ahora se celebra en la Iglesia entera como el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia.

También podemos ver cómo estos rayos simultáneamente simbolizan al Espíritu Santo que Cristo sopló sobre los Discípulos en esa misma aparición en el Octavo-Día. En la fuerza de ese Aliento Santo, se perdonan todos los pecados y se cumple la unión

con el Padre. Aquí Dios reconcilia al mundo consigo mismo (ver *2 Cor 5:18*). Y aquí a la Iglesia, el nuevo Cuerpo de Cristo recién nacido, se le comisiona para ser el instrumento de reconciliación a lo largo de todos los tiempos.

Esta es la GRAN PROMESA de Cristo del perdón completo del pecado y del castigo en el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia a través de la recepción del Sacramento (que es una participación en la muerte al pecado y en la resurrección a la vida divina en Cristo).

¿Qué agradecidos debiéramos estar a Santo Tomás y a Santa Faustina por su cooperación con el Señor para llevarnos a las profundidades de Su Misericordia!

**Tres parroquias en la Diócesis de Amarillo han anunciado planes para celebrar el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia.**

La Catedral de Santa María, calle Washington 1200 Sur en Amarillo inicia desde hoy el Novenario y la Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia a las 3:00pm hasta el sábado, 26 de abril. Si por alguna razón no puede participar en la Catedral, haga el favor de orar la Coronilla cada día a las 3:00pm.

El 27 de abril, Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, habrá celebración de 3:00pm a 5:00pm con canto de la Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia, veneración de la Imagen de la Divina Misericordia y exposición del

### Invitamos a las Jóvenes a Las Rosas de María

**Amarillo**—Las Hermanas Franciscanas de María Inmaculada invitan a todas las jovencitas en la Diócesis de Amarillo de 15 a 25 años de edad a encuentros en el Convento Franciscano, Avenida 18 NE #4301 los sábados por la tarde entre 3:00 y 5:00. Las jóvenes que tengan menos de 18 años deben traer una nota de permiso firmada por su papá o su mamá.

Santísimo Sacramento; después habrá Bendición y Oración Vespertina.

La Iglesia de Saint Thomas the Apostle, calle Coulter 4100 Sur invita a todas las familias de la diócesis a participar en la celebración del Domingo de la Divina Misericordia el domingo, 27 de abril de 2:00pm a 3:00pm. Habrá Adoración del Santísimo Sacramento, reflexión en los Misterios Dolorosos y canto de la Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia. Jesús prometió a Santa Faustina que en el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, “El alma que se confiese y reciba la Santa Comunión obtendrá el perdón total de las culpas y de las penas. En ese día están abiertas todas las compuertas divinas a través de las cuales fluyen las gracias” (*Diario 699*).

La Iglesia de San Antonio de Padua, Boulevard Texas 411 en Dalhart, celebrará el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia el 27 de abril con Misa bilingüe a las 10:00am. Después de la Misa los Caballeros de Colón del Consejo #2776 servirán lonche y habrá celebración especial para honrar la canonización del Beato Carlo Acutis.

Al mediodía ofrecerán una conferencia con presentaciones en español y en inglés. Habrá oración bilingüe de la Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia a las 3:00 y terminarán con oración de sanación y Bendición.


Los encuentros son bilingües e incluyen variedad de actividades como oración, intercambio de experiencias, Adoración, culto, repostería, artesanías, discusión de temas significativos a mujeres jóvenes y otras actividades.

Para obtener más información, hagan el favor de llamar a las Hermanas Franciscanas de María Inmaculada, 806-383-5769.

**Escuche Programación Católica de Radio en Español en la Red de Radio Guadalupe, 1360AM y 93.5FM**

### Cierre de Oficinas


El Centro Pastoral Diocesano, el Centro de Retiros Obispo DeFalco y las Escuelas Católicas en la Diócesis de Amarillo estarán cerrados el lunes, 21 de abril para Descanso de Pascua. Dichas entidades católicas abrirán de nuevo el martes, 22 de abril.



**Oración por las Vocaciones Sacerdotales en la Diócesis de Amarillo**

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¡Oh Jesús, Pastor Eterno de las almas!  
Dígnate Mirar con ojos de misericordia a esta porción de tu grey amada. Señor, necesitamos mayor número de sacerdotes. Multiplica las vocaciones y santifica más y más a nuestros sacerdotes. Te lo pedimos por la intercesión de la Inmaculada Virgen María de Guadalupe, tu dulce y santa Madre.  
¡Oh Jesús, danos sacerdotes, según tu Corazón!  
Amén.





## Cuarto Torneo Anual de Saint Joseph



**Amarillo**—Buscamos Golfistas para jugar en el Cuarto Torneo Anual de Golf a beneficio de la escuela Saint Joseph el 26 de abril en el campo de golf Comanche Trail, calle Grand 4200 Sur.

La cuota de \$500 por equipo de cuatro golfistas, incluye carro y tarifa (*green fee*). El juego estilo *scramble* de cuatro jugadores empezará a las 9:30am. El torneo se limita a los primeros 36 equipos pagados en el orden en que se registren, dijo Mischele Ronquillo, portavoz de la escuela Saint Joseph.

Se premiarán los primeros tres

## Noche Estilo Nueva Orleans en Dumas

**Dumas**—Aún puede adquirir boletos para la Noche Anual Estilo Nueva Orleans que los Caballeros de Colón del Consejo #5061 de la Iglesia de San Pedro y San Pablo ofrece el sábado 26 de abril en Willie's Dance Hall, Avenida Dumas 826 Norte.

La noche se inicia con hora social a las 6:00, informa Miguel Nevárez, Gran Caballero del Consejo #5061. A las 7:30 habrá cena completa de bistec con todos los complementos.

También habrá calcuta con oportunidad de ganar un premio en efectivo. Después del calcuta habrá baile a las 9:00.

## Fiesta de Bienvenida al Bebé

**Amarillo**—*Bubbles for Babies (Burujas Para Bebés)* es una Fiesta de Bienvenida al Bebé para toda la comunidad que beneficia al proyecto Joseph's Project, un Centro de Recursos para ayuda durante el Embarazo. La Fiesta será el sábado, 3 de mayo de 10:00am hasta el mediodía en el local de la Amarillo Area Foundation, calle Polk 919 Sur.

“La Fiesta de Bienvenida al Bebé *Bubbles for Babies* apoya a

lugares con tarjetas prepagadas del Comanche Trail Golf Shop. También habrá sorteo y premios de entrada.

El evento recauda fondos para becas de la Escuela Saint Joseph e invita a patrocinadores de varios tipos de anuncios: punto de salida, \$125; carro, seis patrocinadores de carro por \$300 cada carro; dos patrocinadores de las tarjetas de puntuación por \$450 cada uno y patrocinadores del evento por \$1,000. Personas o negocios que deseen patrocinar, favor de llamar a la oficina de la Escuela de Saint Joseph, 806-359-1604.

“Su patrocinio o donativo de cualquier cantidad puede ayudar a que este evento tenga gran éxito con gran beneficio a nuestros estudiantes y maestros”, dijo Ronquillo. “Gracias de antemano por su apoyo a la Escuela Saint Joseph”.

Para más información o para registrarse en el torneo, favor de llamar a la escuela Saint Joseph, 806-359-1604.

Reserve su mesa para ocho personas por \$600, disfrute cena, calcuta y baile. Habrá sorteo con premios en efectivo: primero, \$2,000; segundo, \$1,000 y tercero, \$500.

Las ganancias de la noche benefician múltiples caridades del Consejo #5061, informa Nevárez. Aceptarán a la entrada Tarjetas VISA y MasterCard. Se requiere tener boleto para el evento No se admitirán menores de 21 años.

Para obtener más detalles o adquirir boletos, pueden llamar a Nevárez, 806-236-0555; a Coby Schacher, 806-570-3218; o a Bob Brinkmann, 806-683-5738.

nuestro programa que influye en las vidas de mujeres embarazadas de cualquier edad y a sus familias de menos de tres años”, dijo Jeff Gulde, director ejecutivo de la agencia Catholic Charities of the Texas Panhandle. “Invitamos a toda la comunidad a que nos acompañen en la Amarillo Area Foundation”.

Para más información acerca de Bubbles for Babies, favor de llamar a Catholic Charities, 806-376-4571 o visiten la página web cctxp.org.

## Misa de Confirmación de Adultos el 26 de Abril

**Amarillo**—El Obispo Patrick J. Zurek oficiará en la Misa de Confirmación de Adultos que tendrá lugar el sábado, 26 de Abril a las 10:00am en la Catedral de Santa María, calle Washington 1200 Sur.

Durante esta Misa se va a conferir el Sacramento de la Confirmación a los adultos que han estado recibiendo instrucciones para este Sacramento desde el principio de este año. El Sacramento de la Confirmación es necesario para completar la gracia de su Bautismo.

Los adultos que se van a confirmar debieran estar presentes en la Catedral con sus padrinos y madrinas antes de las 9:30 para recibir detalles adicionales antes de la Misa, informa Sor María Elena Ferrer, SSND, Coordinadora de Formación en la Fe en la Diócesis de Amarillo.

Para obtener más información acerca de la Misa, hagan el favor de llamar a Sor María Elena Ferrer, 806-383-2243, ext. 113 en el Centro Pastoral.

## Vengan a Jugar Pinponava ...

**Canyon**—El Consejo #7840 de la Iglesia de Saint Ann tendrá su segundo Torneo Anual de Pinponava (Pickleball) el sábado, 31 de mayo en el Amarillo National Tennis Center (ANTC), calle Bell 5000 Sur en Amarillo.

Empezarán las actividades a las 8:00am cuando anunciarán el primer nivel y el segundo nivel y los tiempos de Brackets. El torneo terminará a las 3:00pm.

La cuota de inscripción es \$50 por jugador. El registro de \$20 por el segundo evento se requiere antes de las 6:00pm el sábado, 24 de mayo para establecer los niveles. Podrán recoger sus paquetes el 31 de mayo, 40 minutos antes de jugar en el ANTC. La cuota de registro incluye camiseta y lonche que servirá el Consejo #7840. Se aceptarán pagos por correo hasta el sábado, 24 de mayo. Escriban sus cheques pagaderos a Knights of Columbus Council #7840 y envíenlos a St. Ann's Church, 605 38th Street, Canyon TX 79015.

Para registrarse en el torneo o para solicitar más información, hagan el favor de llamar a Alyssa Albers, 806-676-6523.

## Noche de Reliquias en la Capilla de San Luciano

**Amarillo**—La Sociedad Histórica Católica ofrecerá una Noche de Reliquias el jueves, 22 de mayo de 6:00pm a 8:00 en la Capilla de San Luciano, junto al Monasterio Capuchino, Avenida 18 Noreste #4201.

La noche ofrece a los fieles la oportunidad de observar reliquias que se guardan en el Museo y Centro de Archivos Diocesanos en el Centro Pastoral Diocesano, Avenida 24 Noreste #4512.

En la exposición habrá reliquias de:

- La Santísima Virgen María;
- Santa Ana;
- San Antonio de Padua;
- Santa Catarina de Siena;
- San Carlos Borromeo;

## Convocatoria a Pintores Para Exhibición Artística en Julio

**Amarillo**—¿Te gusta pintar? El Museo y Archivos Diocesanos buscan pintores para participar en una exhibición artística el jueves, 24 de julio en el museo diocesano en el Centro Pastoral Diocesano, Avenida 24 Noreste #4512.

Este año se aceptarán pinturas basadas en Escenas de la Biblia; favor de no combinar medios.

Se premiarán tres ganadores: el Premio Mayor es de \$3,000; el Segundo, \$1,500 y el Tercero \$500. La pintura ganadora se hará propiedad del museo diocesano y

## El Club Serra Ofrecerá Misa Por Los Sacerdotes

**Amarillo**—El Club Serra de Amarillo invita a todos los fieles a la Misa que se ofrecerá por las intenciones de todos los sacerdotes en la Diócesis de Amarillo el Viernes, 2 de mayo a las 11:30am en la Iglesia San José, calle Bonham 4122 Sur, informa Muff London-Bichsel, presidente del Club Serra.

- San Francisco Xavier Cabrini;
- San Francisco de Asís;
- San Juan Bosco;
- San Juan Nepomuceno Neumann;
- San José;
- San Judas Tadeo;
- San Lorenzo;
- San Patricio;
- San Pío X;
- Santa Teresa de Liseux; y,
- San Vicente de Paúl.

También estarán en exposición varias reliquias que pertenecen al Padre Richard Zanetti, JCL, pastor de la Iglesia San Jacinto.

Para más detalles acerca de la noche, favor de llamar a Susan Garner, Archivista y Curadora Diocesana, 806-414-1076.

se pondrá en exhibición.

Las pinturas se evaluarán de 6:00pm a 8:00pm en la exhibición artística. Las pinturas deben estar en el museo el miércoles, 23 de julio o antes, y deben representar una escena de la Biblia.

Se servirán refrescos.

Para información acerca de la exhibición artística del jueves, 24 de julio, favor de llamar a Susan Garner, Archivista y Curadora Diocesana, 806-414-1076, o vean el anuncio en la página 9 de esta edición del *West Texas Catholic*.

## La Oficina de la Coordinadora de Asistencia a Víctimas en la Diócesis de Amarillo

Para expresar sospechas, indagar, o reportar abuso sexual respecto a Personal de la Iglesia, inclusive el Clero, Religiosos(as), Empleados y Voluntarios de cualquier Institución Católica, diríjense a:

**Sharyn Delgado**

Coordinadora de Asistencia a Víctimas  
719 South Austin  
Amarillo, TX 79106

Tel: 806-671-4830  
FAX: 806-373-4662  
Email: skdelgado@aol.com

¡El Señor resucitó, Aleluya!



## Sor Juliana Gapasin, DLJC: 1958-2025



Sor Juliana Gapasin, DLJC

**Prayer Town Emmanuel—** La Hermana Juliana Gapasin Discípula del Señor Jesucristo (DLJC) falleció el 30 de marzo a la edad de 66 años.

Se celebró Misa en la Capilla de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles el 2 de abril, ofició el Padre Mieczyslaw “Mitch” Przepiora, pastor de la Iglesia Immaculate Conception en Vega, y capellán de las Discípulas del Señor Jesucristo. El entierro fue en el Cementerio de Prayer Town.

Sor Juliana nació el 22 de diciembre de 1958 en la provincia Tarlac de las Filipinas, la séptima de once hijos nacidos de Mauro y Esmenia Gapasin. Sus hermanas condiscípulas dicen que Sor Juliana vino de una gran familia muy unida y jovial. Dicen además que a Sor Juliana le gustaba platicar que ella aprendió a trabajar con esmero y a resolver tareas difíciles con el ejemplo que le dieron sus padres y hermanos mayores.

Sor Juliana obtuvo Bachillerato en Contabilidad de la Universidad del Este en las Filipinas. Después de graduarse, fue maestra en una escuela católica en su pueblo natal. Sor Juliana obtuvo Certificación Avanzada como Catequista de la Catholic Distance University cuando ya era integrante de las Discípulas del Señor Jesucristo y participó en numerosas difusiones evangelísticas, ministerios y

### Encuentro de Prometidos

**Amarillo—**Las parejas en la Diócesis de Amarillo que planean casarse en los próximos tres o seis meses debieran asistir al segundo fin de semana del Encuentro de Prometidos de este año el sábado 17 y domingo 18 de mayo en el

misiones con su comunidad DLJC.

Sor Juliana se integró a la Comunidad de las Discípulas del Señor Jesucristo el 14 de febrero de 1985. Hizo su primera profesión de votos el 21 de octubre de 1986 y sus votos perpetuos el 7 de noviembre de 1990. Sor Juliana trabajó en diferentes capacidades en la comunidad, inclusive estar a cargo del Departamento de Bandera, ser Superiora de Casa Local/Misionera, Directora de Vocaciones, Directora de Formación Continua, Vicaria General y Jefa del Comité General de División.

Su comunidad describe a Sor Juliana como persona brillante y dotada en muchos sentidos. Con su talento musical componía cantos y le gustaba tocar la guitarra, xilófono y teclados. Tenía “pulgar verde” y le encantaba la jardinería. Cocinaba sus platillos filipinos favoritos. Era muy diestra en sastrería y mostraba gran habilidad artística y artesanal usando varios medios. Mostraba su Creatividad e inventiva con gran naturalidad. Sor Juliana destacaba en muchos aspectos y era casi imposible ganarle en juegos de mesa o tablero.

La comunidad relata además cómo Sor Juliana tenía un corazón compasivo y generoso, especialmente hacia los más débiles y vulnerables. Le encantaba la vida religiosa, era tenaz y tenía una “mente de hierro”. Con determinación se enfocaba en las tareas. Sor Juliana no se mostraba tímida ante personalidades de alto perfil como arzobispos, obispos y otros oficiales de alto rango, inclusive los líderes del Vaticano o del gobierno.

Sus padres, su hermano Fernandito y su hermana Ermelinda fallecieron antes que Sor Juliana.

Le sobreviven ocho hermanos, Mely, Conchita, Concepcion, Jaime, Josie, Renato, Imelda y Bong, además de una gran familia extensa por el lado de su madre y de su padre.

Centro de Retiros Obispo DeFalco, calle Spring 2100 Norte.

Para obtener más detalles sobre el Encuentro de Prometidos, o para registrarse, hagan el favor de llamar a Adrián Johnson al Centro Pastoral Diocesano, 806-410-3839.

## Calendario de Jamaicas

*Iglesias, Escuelas y Entidades Católicas pueden enviar email a westtexascatholic@gmail.com para anunciar como servicio público sus jamaicas, comidas y eventos de esa índole. Si no se indica otro local, eso significa que los eventos tendrán lugar en las parroquias correspondientes.*

### VIERNES, 25 de ABRIL

**Amarillo—**Festividad del Calendario en el Centro de Eventos de Holy Cross Catholic Academy

### SÁBADO, 26 de ABRIL

**Dumas—**Noche estilo Nueva Orleans en Willie’s Dance Hall

### DOMINGO, 27 de ABRIL

**Clarendon—**Barbacoa en el salón parroquial de la Iglesia de Saint Mary

### SÁBADO, 3 de MAYO y

### DOMINGO, 4 de MAYO

**Amarillo—**Fiesta Parroquial de la Iglesia de San José

### SÁBADO, 3 de MAYO

**Umbarger—**Fiesta Primavera *Friühlingsfest* en el Salón Parroquial de la Iglesia Saint Mary

### DOMINGO, 4 de MAYO

**Dumas—**Celebración del Cinco de Mayo en la Iglesia de San Pedro y San Pablo

### DOMINGO, 18 de MAYO

**Amarillo—**Comida de Brisket en el Salón Parroquial de la Iglesia de San Martín de Porres

### DOMINGO, 1 de JUNIO

**Hereford—**Jamaica, beneficio a la Iglesia San José, Dameron Park

### DOMINGO, 8 de JUNIO

**Dalhart—**Fiesta a beneficio de la Iglesia de San Antonio de Padua en el parque Rita Blanca

**Dimmitt—**Jamaica, beneficio a la Iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepción en City Park

### SÁBADO, 28 de JUNIO

**Hart—**Jamaica de la Iglesia de San Juan Nepomuceno

### SÁBADO, 19 de JULIO y

### DOMINGO, 20 de JULIO

**Amarillo—**Las Fiestas de Amarillo en la Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

### DOMINGO, 27 de JULIO

**Bovina—**Jamaica de la Iglesia de Santa Ana

**Silverton—**Jamaica de la Iglesia Our Lady of Loreto

### DOMINGO, 3 de AGOSTO

**Amarillo—**Jamaica de la Iglesia Blessed Sacrament

**Friona—**Jamaica de la Iglesia de Santa Teresa de Jesús

## CONDICIONES PARA RECIBIR LA INDULGENCIA PLENARIA DURANTE EL JUBILEO DEL AÑO 2025

Su Santidad el Papa Francisco concede durante el Jubileo Ordinario del año 2025 una indulgencia plenaria a todos los fieles que sientan verdadero arrepentimiento, y excluyan todo afecto al pecado y movidos por espíritu de caridad y que durante el curso del Año Santo observen los siguientes requisitos generales:

1. **Que recurran al Sacramento de la Penitencia,**
2. **Y reciban la Sagrada Comunión,**
3. **Y oren por las intenciones del Sumo Pontífice.**

La indulgencia plenaria por la remisión y perdón de todos los pecados se puede aplicar en sufragio por las Almas del Purgatorio de las siguientes maneras:

- I. Una peregrinación hacia cualquier lugar sagrado jubilar y participando devotamente en la Santa Misa. El Obispo Patrick J. Zurek ha nombrado **la Capilla del Santísimo Sacramento en St. Mary’s Cathedral como el sitio diocesano de peregrinación.**
- II. Visitando piadosamente los lugares sagrados individualmente o en grupo (Roma, Tierra Santa) y que hagan Adoración al Santísimo y mediten por un tiempo razonable, y que concluyan con el rezo del Padre Nuestro, la Profesión de Fe, y oraciones o jaculatorias a la santísima Virgen María, Madre de Dios.
- III. Haciendo obras de misericordia y de penitencia y con espíritu devoto participar en Misiones Populares, o en Ejercicios Espirituales u otros encuentros de formación sobre los textos del Concilio Vaticano II y del Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica que tengan lugar en una iglesia u otro lugar adecuado, según la intención del Santo Padre.

**Durante este año Jubilar se puede conseguir una indulgencia plenaria al día. Los fieles podrán conseguir otra indulgencia plenaria al día aplicable solo a los difuntos, si reciben la Sagrada Comunión por segunda vez ese día (si están presentes en la Misa completa) realizando un acto de caridad en favor de los difuntos.**

La Indulgencia plenaria jubilar podrá ser conseguida también mediante iniciativas que ayuden de modo concreto y generoso al espíritu penitencial que es el alma del Jubileo, a través de:

- a. Abstinencia los viernes de distracciones banales como redes sociales (celular / computadora), películas, ver televisión o pasar tiempo hablando en el teléfono.
- b. Abstinencia de consumo superfluo (es decir, comprar solo lo necesario).
- c. Ayudando económicamente a los pobres; o ayudando al sostenimiento de obras de carácter religioso o social, especialmente en favor de la defensa, protección y calidad de la vida desde la concepción hasta la muerte, o ayudando a los huérfanos, a la juventud en dificultad, y a los ancianos necesitados o que estén solos, incluyendo a los migrantes.
- d. Dedicando parte de nuestro tiempo libre a actividades de voluntariado, que sean de interés para la comunidad u otras formas similares de compromiso personal.

*(Extraído/parafaseado del Decreto Sobre la Concesión de la Indulgencia Durante el Jubileo Ordinario del Año 2025 convocado por Su Santidad el Papa Francisco, mayo 13 de 2024.)*







**Bishop Patrick J. Zurek, center, proclaims a prayer April 9 during a Jubilee Inauguration Mass opening the Jubilee Year of Hope for the North Deanery of the Diocese of Amarillo at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Dumas. Pictured to the left is Father Lawrence John, JCL, pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church, Dalhart; to the left of Bishop Zurek is Father Luis René López, pastor, of Sts. Peter and Paul Church; and to the right is Father Victor Hugo Andrade, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Perryton. Additional photos from this Mass can be found on the diocesan website, amarillodiocese.org, under the Photo Albums header. (WTC Photo)**

### 28th St. Mary's Day Barbecue Dinner

**Clarendon**—The 28th St. Mary's Day Barbecue Dinner to benefit the building fund at St. Mary's Church will be served Sunday, April 27 from 11:30am to 1:00pm in the Parish Hall at 510 East Montgomery.

Tickets at the door for the all-you-can-eat meal are \$15.00 for

adults and \$7.00 for children.

Takeouts will be available and there will be entertainment, a silent auction and a country store. Barbecue beef and ribs will also be on sale.

For more details on the dinner, please call Jacob Fangman at 806-206-5737.

### Annual Brisket Dinner

**Amarillo**—The annual Brisket Dinner at St. Martin de Porres Church will take place Sunday, May 18 from 11:00am to 2:00pm in the parish hall at the corner of 16th and North Adams, according to parishioner Robin Woolsey.

Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Advance tickets can be purchased from any St. Martin de Porres parish council member. VISA, MasterCard and debit cards will be accepted for payment, as will cash and checks. The meal is dine-in or carryout.

There will be a drawing for three cash prizes. First prize is \$300, second prize is \$200 and third prize is \$100. Tickets are \$5.00 each for the drawing and can be purchased at the dinner.

For more information or to purchase tickets for the dinner, please contact Woolsey at 806-672-7211.

### Calling All Artists For July Art Show

**Amarillo**—Painters are being sought for an Art Show Thursday, July 24 in the diocesan museum at 4512 NE 24th Ave.

The show is being conducted by Diocesan Museum and Archives.

The theme of the art show is *Scenes from the Bible*. Paintings will be accepted for this year's show; please, no mixed medium.

Top prize is \$3,000. Second prize is \$1,500 and third prize is \$500. The winning painting will become the property of the diocesan

museum to be placed on display.

Paintings will be judged from 6:00pm to 8:00pm during the art show. Paintings must be at the museum on or before Wednesday, July 23 and must depict a scene from the Bible.

Refreshments will be provided. For additional information about the Thursday, July 24 art show, please call Susan Garner, diocesan archivist and curator, at 806-414-1076, or see the ad on page 9 in this issue of *The West Texas Catholic*.

### Parish Fiesta At St. Joseph's Church

**Amarillo**—The annual Fiesta to benefit St. Joseph's Church is set for Saturday, May 3 and Sunday, May 4 on the parish grounds at 4122 South Bonham.

Fiesta hours are 6:00pm to 10:00pm on May 3 and 10:30am to 9:30pm on May 4. The fiesta will feature music, food, fun and drinks.

In conjunction with the fiesta, the parish is also raising funds with a raffle. Tickets are \$20.00 each. First prize is a \$5,000 VISA Gift Card, second prize is a \$2,000 VISA Gift Card and third prize is a \$1,000 VISA Gift Card.

Learn more by calling the parish office at 806-355-5621.

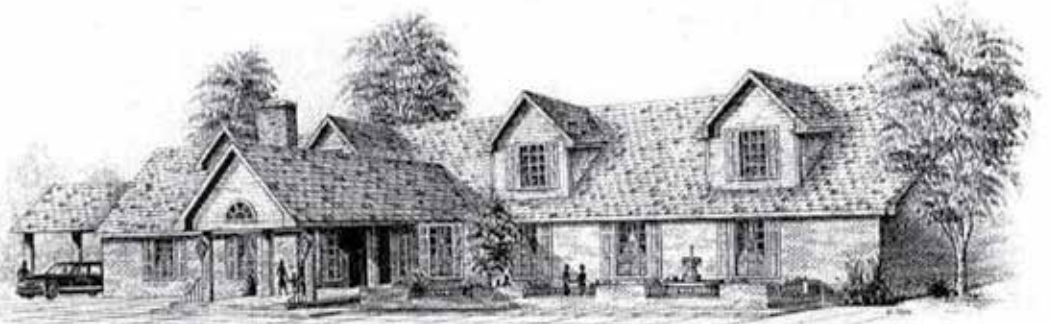
## Prayer Intentions of Pope Francis 2025

Please join the millions worldwide who pray each day for the monthly prayer intentions of Pope Francis. Since 1844 the members of the Apostleship of Prayer have offered themselves to God for the salvation of souls, the Church, the intentions of all Apostles of Prayer and the intentions of the Pope. The Holy Father gives us two prayer intentions each month—one, a general intention and the other an intention for world missions.

#### April:

• **For the use of the new technologies.** Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

  
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**Pickleball Players Needed**

**Canyon**—The second annual Pickleball Tournament, sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council #7840 at St. Ann’s Church, takes place Saturday, May 31 at the Amarillo National Tennis Center at 5000 Bell Street, Amarillo.

The tournament begins at 8:00am with first wave, second wave and bracket times to be announced. The tournament is scheduled to wrap up at 3:00pm.

Entry fee is \$50 per participant. The second event registration fee of \$20.00 is required before 6:00pm

on Saturday, May 24 to establish brackets. Packet pickup will be on May 31 40 minutes prior to play at the ANTC. Registration fee also includes a t-shirt and a meal served by Council #7840. All mailed fees must be received by Saturday, May 24. Please make all checks payable to Knights of Columbus Council #7840.

To sign up for the May 31 Pickleball tournament or for more information, please call David Rohrbach at 806-676-9077 or Bernie Wieck at 806-676-8014.

**Natural Family Planning Calendar**

**Amarillo**—A Marquette Method session in English is scheduled Saturday, May 3 at 1:00pm at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 4512 NE 24th Ave., Amarillo. For more details or to register, please contact Dr. Faye Usala at 806-683-5561 or via email, fayeobrienusala@gmail.com.

For those unable to attend on May 3, the course will be offered again on Saturday, July 19, also at 1:00pm, once again at the Diocesan Pastoral Center.

Three additional sessions in both

English and Spanish have been scheduled through Saturday, Nov. 8. The complete schedule is on the diocesan website, amarillodiocese.org/nfp.

An online, Sympto-Thermal self-paced NFP class in either English or Spanish can be accessed at ccli.org. Cost of the class is \$170, plus shipping. The class lasts approximately two months, according to Jennifer Wagner. Learn more about the course by calling Wagner at 806-433-9561.

**Information Needed For Diocesan Calendar**

**Amarillo**—Assistance is being sought to compile the latest 12-month Diocesan Calendar, covering the period of Tuesday, July 1 to Tuesday, June 30, 2026.

The calendar will be published in the Sunday, June 15 issue of *The West Texas Catholic*.

All diocesan, parish and school organizations are asked to turn in dates for events taking place in fiscal year 2025-26, which will be used for the annual Diocesan Calendar, which will also be published on the diocesan website, amarillodiocese.org. The deadline to send information for the 2025-26 fiscal year calendar is Thursday, May 29.

Calendar information can be sent via email to westtexascatholic@gmail.com; via fax at 806-383-8452; via U.S. mail to P.O. Box 5644, Amarillo, 79117-5644; or, in person during regular business hours at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 4512 NE 24th Ave.

For additional information, contact Albracht at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, at 806-414-1075.



**Bishop Patrick J. Zurek, right, blesses the Baptismal Font at St. Laurence Church, Amarillo, April 10 during a Jubilee Inauguration Mass opening the Jubilee Year of Hope for the Central Deanery of the Diocese of Amarillo. Also pictured to the left is Deacon Bryan Adams of St. Laurence Church and next to Bishop Patrick Zurek is Very Rev. Richard Zanetti, JCL, pastor of St. Hyacinth Church, Amarillo. Additional photos from this Mass can be found on the diocesan website, amarillodiocese.org, under the Photo Albums header. (WTC Photo)**

**“Therefore, all the Faithful of Christ are invited to strive for the holiness and perfection of their own proper state. Indeed they have an obligation to so strive.”**

*—Lumen Gentium #42*



**COMING TO THE HISTORIC ST. LUCIEN'S CHAPEL - OVER 50 RELICS**

Some of the Relics on display: Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Ann, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Catherine of Sienna, St. Charles Borromeo, St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, St. Francis of Assisi, St. John Bosco, St. John Nepomucene Neumann, St. Joseph, St. Jude Thaddeus, St. Laurence, St. Patrick, St. Pius X, St. Theresa of Lisieux and St. Vincent de Paul. These are some of the relics belonging to the diocesan museum. Also on display will be relics belonging to Very Rev. Father Richard Zanetti, JCL.

**Thursday, May 22**

**6:00pm to 8:00pm**

**St. Lucien's Chapel**

*(Next to the Capuchin Monastery)*

**4201 NE 18th Ave, Amarillo**



**Brought to you by the Catholic Historical Society.**





## Sister Juliana Gapasin, DLJC: 1958-2025



Sister Juliana Gapasin, DLJC

**Prayer Town Emmanuel—** Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ Sister Juliana Gapasin passed away March 30 at the age of 66.

Mass was celebrated April 2, Our Lady of the Angels Chapel, Father Mieczyslaw “Mitch” Przepiora, pastor, Immaculate Conception Church, Vega, and Chaplain to the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, presiding. Burial was in Prayer Town Cemetery.

Sister Juliana was born Dec. 22, 1958 in the Tarlac province in the Philippines, the seventh of eleven children born to Mauro and Esmenia Gapasin. According to the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, Sister Juliana came from a big, close-knit and fun-loving family. The Sisters said Sister Juliana loved to tell the story of how she learned to work hard and solve difficult tasks when she was growing up because of the example of her parents and older siblings.

Sister Juliana graduated from the University of the East in the Philippines with a Bachelor’s degree in Accounting. After graduating, she taught at a Catholic School in her hometown. Sister Juliana obtained Advanced Catechist certification at Catholic Distance University while she was already a member of the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. She participated in numerous evangelistic outreach-

es, ministries and missions for the community.

Sister Juliana joined the Community of the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ on Feb. 14, 1985. She made her first profession of vows on Oct. 21, 1986, and her final profession on Nov. 7, 1990. Sister Juliana worked in different capacities in the community, including being in charge of the Banner Department, Local/Mission House Superior, Vocation Director, On-Going Formation Director, Vicar General and Head of the General Chapter Committee.

According to her community, Sister Juliana was a brilliant and gifted person in many ways. She was a talented musician who composed songs and enjoyed playing the guitar, xylophone and keyboards. Sister Juliana had a green thumb and loved gardening. She loved cooking her favorite Filipino dishes. Sister Juliana was a skilled seamstress and showed dexterity in crafts and other forms of artwork using different media. She was naturally creative and inventive. Sister Juliana excelled in many things, including almost unbeatable board and card games.

The community added that Sister Juliana had a compassionate and generous heart, especially for the weakest and vulnerable. She loved religious life. Sister Juliana was tenacious and had a mind of “steel.” She was task-oriented and determined. Sister Juliana was unafraid to approach and meet high-profile personalities such as archbishops, bishops and other high-ranking officials in the Vatican and government leaders.

Sister Juliana was preceded in death by her parents; and two siblings, Fernandito and Ermelinda.

Survivors include eight siblings, Mely, Conchita, Concepcion, Jaime, Josie, Renato, Imelda and Bong; and a large extended family both on her mother’s and father’s side.

**“Because the human race today is joining more and more into a civic, economic and social unity, it is that much the more necessary that priests, by combined effort and aid, under the leadership of the bishops and the Supreme Pontiff, wipe out every kind of separateness, so that the whole human race may be brought into the unity of the family of God.”**

—*Lumen Gentium* #28

## Jamaica Calendar

**Parishes planning Jamaica celebrations, parish dinners, parish celebrations and parish fundraisers are encouraged to email information about these celebrations to westtexasatholic@gmail.com. These dates are published as a public service. Unless otherwise noted, the celebrations will take place at the parish.**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 25**

Amarillo—Calendar Party to benefit Holy Cross Catholic Academy, HCCA Event Center **SATURDAY, APRIL 26**

Dumas—New Orleans Night fundraiser for Knights of Columbus Council #5061 at Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Willie’s Dance Hall **SUNDAY, APRIL 27**

Clarendon—Barbecue Dinner, Parish Hall, St. Mary’s Church **SATURDAY, MAY 3- SUNDAY, MAY 4**

Amarillo—Parish Fiesta, St. Joseph’s Church **SATURDAY, MAY 3**

Umbarger—*Friühlingsfest*, Parish Hall, St. Mary’s Church **SUNDAY, MAY 4**

Dumas—Cinco de Mayo Celebration, Parish Grounds, Sts. Peter and Paul Church **SUNDAY, MAY 18**

Amarillo—Brisket Dinner, Parish Hall, St. Martin de Porres Church **SUNDAY, JUNE 1**

Hereford—Jamaica to benefit San Jose Church, Dameron Park **SUNDAY, JUNE 8**

Dalhart—Fiesta to benefit St. Anthony of Padua Church, Rita Blanca Park

Dimmitt—Jamaica to benefit Immaculate Conception Church, City Park **SATURDAY, JUNE 28**

Hart—Jamaica, St. John Nepomucene Church **SATURDAY, JULY 19 and SUNDAY, JULY 20**

Amarillo—Las Fiestas de Amarillo, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church **SUNDAY, JULY 27**

Bovina—Jamaica, St. Ann’s Church Silverton—Jamaica, Our Lady of Loreto Church **SUNDAY, AUGUST 3**

Amarillo—Jamaica, Blessed Sacrament Church

Friona—Jamaica, St. Teresa of Jesus Church

## Twenty Something By Christina Capecchi *Riding The Winds Of Change*

This is the story of a tree. An Eastern Cottonwood soaring 108 feet high, stretching its arms across three yards and anchoring the entire street. It was a defining feature of its St. Paul, Minn., neighborhood near Nativity of Our Lord Church.

“Oh, you’re the people with the tree!” locals would say when they met John and Dia Boyle and determined which house is theirs.

Sixty-something empty nesters, John is a professor of Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, and Dia is a writer. She recently published a book titled *The Thoughtful Home*.

The cottonwood had been part of that equation, one reason she loved her little home. She’d write at the table and admire the tree. “We liked the shade and the beautiful craggy bark and the squirrels and nuthatches scurrying up and down and how it filled the view from our library window,” Dia said.

Everyone loved the tree.

But it had to go.

Last June a branch fell, knocking out their electrical box, gouging the siding, shattering a window and shredding a corner of the neighbor’s roof.

The tree posed an unmistakable danger.

So the Boyles hired a tree-removal crew and set a date, a Tuesday in mid-September. The Sunday before, the couple hosted a goodwill party in their backyard so neighbors could toast to the cottonwood. Dia served champagne, beer, cookies and nuts. It was a chance to do a little PR, expressing their regret and reviewing logistics (the street would soon be blocked off and cars must be moved).

Removal of the cottonwood was the topic of conversation all week. Come Tuesday, spectators gathered for the main event, bringing coffee mugs and lawn chairs. People would walk by and stop to watch the crane and chat. Folks from the other side of the alley were observing from their elevated decks and upper floors. A neighbor invited the Boyles to come watch from his

deck. They had never been in his yard before. It was the most they’d ever socialized with their neighbors.

“What I had seen as potentially upsetting to neighbors turned out to be a really good bridge to better connections,” Dia said.

After three days of work, the cottonwood was gone.

Suddenly, Dia could see the sky. Comings and goings of neighbors. Birds fluttering around their feeders. Sunshine. The cottonwood left room to expand Dia’s garden, and this spring, for the first time, she’s planting vegetables that need sun.

The change she had dreaded, it turned out, made her happy.

The tree has become a metaphor. Dia references it when friends face upheaval—a change of mind, of address, of heart. She counsels them lovingly.

When the winds of change blow, look up and lean in to the Creator of all. Trust that He is guiding you, protecting you, loving you. Trust in the good being done beneath the surface.

Take stock in our identity as Catholics: We are Eucharistic people. In the midst of uncertainty, we are fed and fortified by the body of Christ. As the word Eucharist suggests—its meaning, a guidepost—we offer our thanksgiving. “In all circumstances, give thanks,” St. Paul urges (*1 Thessalonians 5:18*).

Be gentle with yourself. Make peace with the peculiar reality of change: that two good things aren’t mutually exclusive. Dia had loved the tree—and she loved its absence. You can love your old house and your new one; you can love your single life and married life—in different ways, for unique reasons.

Allow room in your heart to be surprised. It could work out like the cottonwood. The change you’ve feared just might broaden your view, letting you see more birds and beauty, giving you more space and sunshine, making your garden grow.

*Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn.*

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### Singers Needed For Diocesan Choir

**Amarillo**—Singers of all backgrounds from all parishes in the Diocese of Amarillo are invited to help lead the assembly in song at the Adult Confirmation Mass Saturday, April 26 at St. Mary's Cathedral, according to Dr. Greg Onofrio, Director of Music and Liturgy at St. Mary's Cathedral. Find out more about participating in the diocesan choir by contacting Dr. Onofrio at 806-376-7204, ext. 3003.

### Worship Prayer Movie Night

**Panhandle**—The next *Worship Prayer Movie Night* for teens and young adults, hosted by the Franciscan Sisters of Christ the Light, is scheduled Friday, May 9. The evening begins at 6:00 in the St. Francis House of Prayer at 125 John Paul Circle with a Holy Hour of Praise and Worship music, prayer and a brief time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. There is also a simple meal served during a movie chosen for its relativity for Faith and the modern world, according to Sister Mary Michael Huseman. The evening is scheduled to conclude at 9:30.

"Catholics and non-Catholics alike are welcome," she said. For more details, please call Sancta Maria Convent at 806-537-3182.

### Engaged Encounter

**Amarillo**—Couples in the Diocese of Amarillo planning to get married within the next three to six months are encouraged to attend the second Engaged Encounter weekend of the year Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18 at the Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, 2100 North Spring. For more details about the Engaged Encounter weekend or to sign up, contact Adrian Johnson at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 806-410-3839.

### Jerry Harpole Memorial Tournament

**Amarillo**—The 42nd annual Jerry Harpole Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament takes place Saturday, May 17 on the Wildhorse Course at the Ross Rogers Golf Complex at 722 NE 24th Ave.

The tournament will begin at 7:00am. Entry fee for the four-man scramble is \$125 per golfer. The tournament includes a golfers dinner Friday, May 16 and an awards

dinner following the completion of play.

For additional details or to sign up to play, please call Sean Saied at 806-316-6727.

### Knights Of Columbus Breakfast

**Amarillo**—Knights of Columbus Council #1450 at St. Mary's Cathedral will host a Pancake Breakfast Sunday, May 18 in the Monsignor Francis A. Smyer Activity Center at 1200 South Washington. Cost of the breakfast is a love offering, with all proceeds supporting charitable donations and projects sponsored by Council #1450.

### ACTS Retreats

**Amarillo**—A Teen's ACTS (Adoration, Community, Theology and Service) Retreat is scheduled Thursday, July 17 to Sunday, July 20, at the Bishop DeFalco Retreat Center, 2100 North Spring. Registration forms are available at parish offices or through the ACTS Community website, actsamarillo.org. For additional information about ACTS in the Diocese of Amarillo, please contact Jimmy Hund at 806-344-4842.

### Save The Date

**Amarillo**—Dr. John Bruchalski, president of Divine Mercy Care, will be the keynote speaker at the 28th annual Respect Life Banquet, set for Sunday, Sept. 21 at the Amarillo Civic Center at 401 South Buchanan.

Look for additional information about the banquet later this summer in *The West Texas Catholic*; and, on the diocesan website, amarillodiocese.org.

### Roses Of Mary Youth Invitation

**Amarillo**—The Franciscan Sisters of Mary Immaculate invite all young women in the Diocese of Amarillo between the ages of 15 and 25 to encounters at the Franciscan Convent at 4301 NE 18th Ave. on Saturday afternoons between 3:00 and 5:00. Those under 18 years of age will be required to bring a permission note from a parent. The encounters are bilingual and will include a number of activities, including prayer, sharing of experiences, Adoration, worship, pastries, crafts, discussion of themes relevant to young women and other activities. For more information, please call the Francis-

can Sisters of Mary Immaculate at 806-383-5769.

### Wanted: Communion Ministers

**Amarillo**—Volunteers are needed at BSA Hospital as communion ministers. The commitment does not require much time, according to Elma Fletcher, and training is provided.

"We offer a flexible schedule and it can be a very rewarding experience," she said.

Those interested in volunteering are asked to contact Fletcher at 806-206-4496 or via email, elma\_fletcher@yahoo.com.

### Joseph's Project

**Amarillo**—Catholic Charities of the Texas Panhandle has a program designed for moms who are pregnant or families with kids who are up to three-years-old. *Joseph's Project: A Pregnancy Resource Center* is tailored for expectant mothers and for those with new families. For more information about *Joseph's Project* or to assist with a donation of material assistance, such as diapers, wipes, unopened formula or clothing, please contact Catholic Charities of the Texas Panhandle at 806-376-4571.

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**Amarillo**—Lynda Smith, 71, passed away Feb. 15. A Graveside Service was conducted April 12, Llano Cemetery, Father John Valdez, pastor, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, presiding. Survivors include her husband, Richard Dambold; two sisters, Joyce Orr and her husband David of Austin and Janice Larkan and her husband Eddie of Amarillo; two brothers. Ben Smith and his wife Josie of Amarillo and Jim Smith and his wife Jane of Austin; a brother-in-law, John Anderson and his wife Diane of Sarasota, Fla.; and two stepdaughters, Ashlee Glasscock of Pecos, NM and Ashley Dambold of Allen.

**Hale Center**—Juan G. Castillo, 83, passed away March 18. Mass was celebrated March 20, St. Theresa's Church. Burial was in Hale Center Cemetery. Survivors include three sons, Damian Castillo and his wife Michelle of Lubbock, Ricky Castillo of Hale Center and Michael Castillo of Plainview; four daughters, Armanda "Mandy" Castillo of Georgia, Mary Alice Garza and her husband Jimmy Santiago of Abilene, Denise Adame and her husband Victor of Lubbock and Sindy Castillo of Hereford; a sister, Natalia Garcia of La Villa; 23 grandchildren; 44 great-grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

**Friona**—Leobardo Delgadillo Jr., 31, passed away March 24. Mass was celebrated March 31, St. Teresa of Jesus Church, Father Nicholas Gerber, pastor, presiding. Burial was in Mexico. Survivors include his parents, Leobardo Delgadillo Sr. and his wife Maria; a son, Geovanny Delgadillo Vazquez; two brothers, Eliseo Delgadillo and Angel Delgadillo, all of La Escalera, Durango, Mexico; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

**Plainview**—Lupe Gaona, 54, passed away March 24. Mass was celebrated March 27, Sacred Heart Church. Burial was in Plainview Memorial Park. Survivors include her husband, Jerome Gaona; two children, Jerome Lamberto Gaona and Roman Joseph Gaona, both of Plainview; two brothers, Gilbert Carrillo and his wife Libby of Plainview and Juan Carrillo Jr. and his wife Dora of Amarillo; and three sisters, Marielena Escobar and her husband Virgilio of San Angelo, Esther Carrizales of Orange and Veronica Carrillo of Lockney.

**Amarillo**—Linda B. Brandt, 78, passed away March 25. Mass was celebrated March 29, St. Mary's Cathedral, Monsignor Joe Bixenman, presiding, with Father Anthony C. Neusch, rector and Father Phillip B. Lindley, concelebrating. Inurnment was in Miramar National Cemetery, San Diego. Survivors include three sons, James Michael "Jamie" Brandt of San Diego, John Paul "Johnie" Brandt of Bella Vista, Ark. and Joseph Alan "Joey" Brandt and his wife Mary of Sun City, Ariz.; three siblings, Vanessa Rauscher and her husband Dr. Jim Rauscher and Ramona Giromini, all of Amarillo and Kennan Bourg and his wife Rose of Eules; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Perryton**—Charlie Ludi, 77, passed away March 25. Mass was celebrated March 29, Immaculate Conception Church, Father Victor Hugo Andrade, pastor, presiding. Burial was in Ochiltree Cemetery. Survivors include three sons, Michael Ludi of Meeker, Okla., Jared Ludi of Shawnee, Okla. and Travis Ludi of Fairbank, Iowa; a brother, Phillip Roybal of Hobbs, NM; three grandchildren, Alyssa Begley, Gabriel Ludi and Kaeli Riley; and a great-grandchild, Elsie Begley.

**Amarillo**—Gerald Henry Entrop, 83, passed away March 28. Mass was celebrated April 8, Church of the Visitation, Westphalia, Father Darrell Kostiha, presiding. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery, Westphalia. Survivors include two sisters, Edna Spivey of Westphalia and Lucille Reeves of Friendswood; and a brother, Lee Allen Entrop of Florida.

**Amarillo**—Lillian "Ann" Albracht, 89, passed away March 31. Mass was celebrated April 7, St. Mary's Cathedral, Father Anthony C. Neusch, rector, presiding, with Monsignor Joe Bixenman, Father Guadalupe "Lupe" Mayorga, pastor, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Pampa and Father Scott L. Raef, pastor, St. Ann's Church, Canyon, concelebrating. Survivors include six children, Kathy Raef and her husband Dr. Kevin Raef and Tim Albracht and his wife Janice, all of Amarillo, Cheryl Hohertz and her husband Jeff of Canadian, Lyn Albracht of Lubbock, Dr. Jack Albracht of Pampa and Nick Albracht of Burleson; 23 grandchildren; and 38 great-grandchildren.

**Hereford**—Hector Mendoza, 55, passed away March 31. A Memorial Service was conducted April 5, Parkside Chapel Funeral Directors, Deacon Jesse Guerrero, presiding. Survivors

include his wife, Juliana Luna Mendoza; three children, Enrique Hector Mendoza, Hector Mendoza Jr. and Gabrielle Mendoza, all of Hereford; six sisters, Edna Castro, Lydia Mendoza, Alma Mendoza, Ida Trevizo, Gloria Mendoz and Alice Mendoza all of Hereford; two brothers, Higinio Mendoza and Pete Mendoza, both of Hereford; five grandchildren, Yandel, Nissy, Ezra, Shia and Luka; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Amarillo**—Maria Prudencia Padilla, 84, passed away April 3. Mass was celebrated April 8, St. Francis Xavier Church, Clayton, NM, Father Joji Konkala, presiding. Burial was in Clayton Memorial Cemetery, Clayton, NM. Survivors include three sons, Orlando Vigil and his wife Michelle and Patrick Vigil and his wife Kelly, all of Amarillo and Alvin Vigil and his wife Rocio of Mosquero, NM; two sisters, Bertha Primm Padilla of Phoenix and Corrine Trujillo and her husband Eddie of Brush, Colo.; a brother, Floyd Padilla and his wife Maryann of Bushland; two sisters-in-law, Theresa Padilla of Brush and Teresina Montano of Clayton; nine grandchildren, Orlando Jr., Miranda, Misty, Amy, Carlos, Joseph, Joel, Cameron and Kaemon; 14 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

**Hereford**—Rebecca Bermea Constanancio, 88, passed away April 3. Mass was celebrated April 11, St. Anthony's Church, Father Nicholas Gerber, pastor, St. Teresa of Jesus Church, Friona, presiding. Interment was in Ropesville Cemetery, Ropesville. Survivors include four children, Joel Constanancio and his wife Isidra, Ezequiel Constanancio and his wife Angie, Linda Chavez and her husband Raymon, all of Hereford and Nina Bozell and her husband Michael of Austin; a sister, Aurora Ramon, of Coleman; 11 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

**Hereford**—Emergildo "E.P." Rodriguez, 77, passed away April 4. Mass was celebrated April 11, San Jose Church, Father Grant Spinhirne, pastor, St. Anthony's Church, presiding. Burial was in St. Anthony's Cemetery. Survivors include two children, Jerry Rodriguez and his wife Virginia of Lubbock and David Lee and his fiancée Delma Rodriguez, both of Hereford; a brother, Alexander Rodriguez and his wife Olivia of San Angelo; four grandchildren, Amber Rodriguez, Martin Rodriguez and Bre Rodriguez, all of Lubbock and David Rain Rodriguez of Sudan; two great-grandchildren, Abigail and Alena Vessel of Lubbock; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**Please remember in prayer the clergy of the Diocese of Amarillo who died during the month of April:**

**Father Daniel O'Sullivan, April 1, 1973**

**Father Matthias Gilberg, S.A., April 1, 1973**

**Father Barnabas Radke, April 4, 2014**

**Deacon Paul Garcia, April 13, 2012**

**Deacon Joe Frausto, April 13, 2021**

**Monsignor Antonio Rodriguez, April 18, 1991**

**Father James E. "Jim" McGhee, April 18, 2016**

**Father Rupert M. Schindler, April 19, 1966**

**Deacon Vicente Garcia, April 20, 2014**

**Father Norbert P. Choong, April 21, 2017**

**Monsignor Matthew F. Schafle, April 23, 1976**

**Monsignor Bill Brashears, April 23, 2002**

**Monsignor Frederic Hyland, April 26, 1977**

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### Delfina "Fina" Pesina: 1921-2025



Delfina "Fina" Pesina

her family in case they came over, serving their favorites. Mrs. Pesina enjoyed sewing and made many of her clothes when she was young and costumes for her grandchildren. She also loved to listen to Christian music and dancing. Mrs. Pesina took it upon herself to become a naturalized citizen on April 10, 1999.

According to her family, Mrs. Pesina was devoted to her Faith and her church, attending many church prayer meetings and hosting them at her home. She had many friends at the nursing home whom she prayed with as well. Mrs. Pesina was always ready to give advice, she was funny and loved her children and grandchildren the same and made them each feel special.

Mrs. Pesina was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Daniel Pesina Sr.; a son, Eddie Pesina Sr.; a daughter-in-law, Hope Pesina; six siblings, Refugio De Los Santos, Juan De Los Santos, Lupe Flores, Maria "Lela" De Los Santos, Catalina Pesina and Eloisa De Los Santos; and two great-grandsons, Jesus Francisco Pesina and Noah Hay.

Survivors include six children, Josie Guerrero and her husband Martin Guerrero Sr. of Austin, Gloria Alvarado and her husband LT of San Antonio, Yolanda Pesina, Ray Pesina and Dan Pesina Jr. and his wife Nora, all of Hereford and Jessie Pesina of Cedar Creek; a daughter-in-law, Amelia Pesina of Hereford; three siblings, Esperanza Martinez and Olga De Los Santos, both of Hereford and Seferino De Los Santos Jr. and his wife Blanca of Roswell, NM; 19 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; eight great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

### Volunteers Sought For Pampa Kolbe Retreat

**Amarillo**—Team formation meetings are underway for the second Kolbe Prison Retreat of the year, according to Deacon Darryl Dixon, a member of the diocesan Prison Ministry team,

The retreat is scheduled Thursday, May 15 through Saturday, May 17 at the Rufe Jordan Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Pampa.

Team formation meetings for this retreat are offered Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30, in the parlor at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 4100 South Coulter, through May 13.

Deacon Dixon is seeking the support of 30 men from the Knights of Columbus, the ACTS Community and the Cursillo Movement to make the retreat at the Dalhart Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice possible.

"We are asking for volunteers for these retreats and any assistance to this ministry will be greatly appreciated," he said.

The Kolbe Retreats are named after St. Maximilian Kolbe, the Patron Saint of Prisoners, according to Deacon Dixon. St. Maximilian was a Polish Conventual Franciscan Friar who was sent to Auschwitz during World War II in 1941. When Nazi guards selected ten people to be put into an underground bunker to be starved to death in punishment for a prisoner escaping in July 1941, Father Kolbe volunteered to die in place of one of the men selected, Franciszek Gajowniczek. Father Kolbe died Aug. 14, 1941 after a lethal injection of carbolic acid. He was canonized as a Saint by Pope (now Saint) John Paul II on Oct. 10, 1982.

For more details or to volunteer to be a team member on a Kolbe Retreat, please call Deacon Dixon at 806-290-8842. The Kolbe Prison Ministry is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are charitable donations for tax purposes. Donations can be mailed to Kolbe Prison Ministries, P.O. Box 4125, Amarillo, 79116.

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ST MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH, AMARILLO	\$	50.00
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## Blessed Carlo Acutis... from page 1



On the left, the relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis that Bishop Patrick J. Zurek received April 14, 2021. In the center, Bishop Zurek showing the relic and a photo of Blessed Carlo April 25, 2021 during his homily at a Confirmation Mass at Holy Family Church, Nazareth. On the right, Blessed Carlo Acutis. (WTC file photos left and center; CNS photo on the right. Graphic created by Michael Neuberger, Diocese of Amarillo)

cism because of Carlo's witness. Carlo taught Mohur how to pray the Rosary and told him about the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Mohur said that one of the things that most impressed him as a non-Christian was the witness of Carlo's love and concern for the poor—how he interacted with the homeless man who would sit at the entrance of the church and would bring tupperware dishes filled with food out to people living on the streets.

### 5. Carlo defended Church teaching

Carlo wasn't afraid to defend Church teaching, even in situations when his classmates disagreed with him. Many of Carlo's high school classmates remember Carlo giving a passionate defense for the protection of life from the moment of conception when there was a classroom discussion about abortion.

### 6. Carlo was a faithful friend

He was known for standing up for kids at school who got bullied, especially kids with disabilities. When a friend's parents were getting a divorce, Carlo made a special effort to include his friend in the Acutis' family life. With his friends, he spoke about the importance of going to Mass and confession, human dignity and chastity.

### 7. Carlo was a computer coder

Carlo was fascinated with computer coding and taught himself some of the basic coding languages, including C and C++. He used his computer skills and internet savvy to help his family put to-

gether an exhibition on Eucharistic miracles that has gone on to be displayed at thousands of parishes on five continents. His spiritual director has attested that Carlo was personally convinced that the scientific evidence from Eucharistic miracles would help people to realize that Jesus is really present in the Eucharist and come back to Mass.

### 8. Carlo loved playing video games

His mother recalls that he liked Nintendo Game Boy and Game-Cube as well as PlayStation and Xbox. He had conversations with his gaming buddies about the importance of going to Mass and confession and limited his video game playing to no more than two hours per week. Carlo also liked Spider-Man and Pokémon.

### 9. Carlo is buried in Assisi

Carlo died on Oct. 12, 2006, and was buried in Assisi. Initially, there were reports that Carlo's body was found to be incorrupt, but the Bishop of Assisi clarified before his beatification that his body was not incorrupt. His body lies in repose in a glass tomb in Assisi where he can be seen in jeans and a pair of Nike sneakers. Thousands came to pray at his tomb at the time of his beatification in October 2020.

### 10. Carlo to be canonized Sunday, April 27

Pope Francis recognized a second miracle attributed to Carlo's intercession in a decree on May 23, 2024. The miracle involved the healing of a 21-year-old girl from Costa Rica named Valeria

Valverde, who was near death after seriously injuring her head in a bicycle accident while studying in Florence in 2022. The first miracle that led to his beatification involved the healing of a three-year-old boy in Brazil in 2013 who had been diagnosed with a malformation of his pancreas since birth.

On November 20, 2024, Pope Francis announced that Blessed Carlo Acutis will be canonized during the Jubilee of Teenagers on Sunday, April 27, in the midst of the 2025 Jubilee Year celebrations.

## Carlo Acutis: Roadmap To Reality

**Amarillo**—A documentary film, *Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality*, will be seen in Amarillo Sunday, April 27 through Tuesday, April 29 at Cinemark Hollywood 16 at 9100 Canyon Expressway.

Showtimes are 4:00pm April 27 and 7:00pm on both April 28 and April 29.

The film explores how Carlo's spirituality guided him through the digital age, offering insights into the intersection of technology and humanity from well-known Catholic voices and technology experts.

The film is a production of Castletown Media and Jim Wahlberg in association with the National Eucharistic Congress, Inc., and the McGrath Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame. The Congress has embraced the film as part of their work to spread devotion to and belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, which was central in Carlo's Life.

Purchase tickets here: [carloacutisfilm.com/buy-ticket/](http://carloacutisfilm.com/buy-ticket/)

## A Reflection On Blessed Carlo Acutis

By Bishop Patrick J. Zurek

When I first heard of Carlo Acutis, I immediately wrote to the Archbishop of Assisi, and he immediately was open to helping me collect items and to get stories. So I wrote him a letter in Italian about six weeks after the beatification.

I wanted the homily the Archbishop gave. I wanted some more data about him, and I wanted pictures, books or pamphlets of whatever was written about him, and went on a limb and asked him for a relic, a first-class relic.

I said, 'I realize, Archbishop that you may not be able to provide all of this, but I want to try because he is very popular here in my diocese.'

He said, 'Please, when you come to Rome, next time, let me know. OK?' I told him, 'I'm going next June for my anniversary.'

I called, and it was easier for me to go to Assisi, and I wanted to see the body, etc. and say Mass there. So the Archbishop found a place for us to live, and he gave us a tour and the story of Acutis.

Coming close to the end, we met with the Archbishop twice: once at the place where we stayed, an overnighter for pilgrims, and we also met him at his home. So we had two times to engage him.

The second time, we went to the plaza after Mass there, and we wanted to get a gelato (ice cream), and as we got it, across the street was a religious good store selling albs and things a priest would wear; vestments and even what a bishop would have.

So we went there, and there was this woman who was helping us. I noticed there was a section that was devoted to items commemorating the life of at-that-time Blessed Carlo Acutis.

I finally asked, 'Did you know him?' She said, 'Did I know him? For years he was on the street here, between the house where he lived and the church in the center of the city, and he would go up and down the street asking people if they needed help. For instance, a couple who was obviously not Italian, looking for something, and he would find them. If he thought they were lost, he would find a way to turn them where they wanted to go. If they looked tired, he found a bench and maybe even got them something to drink.'

She said he was incredible. He never did anything for himself. He went to school; when school was finished, he was here on the streets, helping all the tourists, etc., and she said, 'We all knew he was a saint without any Church declaration. He was so kind, and if people looked lost and maybe even tired, or didn't know where they were or what's going on, he sat them down and talked as best as he could, or even if he had to get someone to translate his Italian into whatever language they spoke. So it was nice to get a first-hand touch.'

I said, 'Did you ever have a chance to touch him...shake his hand?' 'Oh, yes, not his hand; he always wanted a hug.'

It just goes to show once again the beautiful human side of a saint. They're not elevated to some level where they are not approachable. If anything, people were just attracted to him like a magnet to metal.