

# *First Communion*



PRIMERA  
COMUNIÓN



• • • Prince of Peace Catholic Church • • •  
• • • Iglesia Católica Príncipe de Paz • • •

## Let Gratitude Be Your Attitude

Every day of your life is a gift from God. Don't squander it. Don't waste it by being angry with anyone. Don't let it slip away by feeling sorry for yourself. Be grateful for this precious gift of life and spend it by being as happy and as thankful as you possibly can. Let your mind dwell on the good things which have happened to you. Let gratitude be your attitude. Think of your assets, and don't let anyone else spoil your day for you. Enjoy every day of your life to the fullest. Realize that you can add to the joy of each day by making someone else happy.

Heavenly Father help me to be grateful for being alive right now. Help me to realize that no matter what my problems may be, where there is life, there is hope. Help me to think positively and to realize that thousands of miracles are happening everyday. Help me to pray, and help me to remember the times when prayer brought me peace. Let me be a better listener and not be self-centered. Help me to realize that if I get my mind occupied by helping and cheering up other people I will be healthier than if I were always checking my own pulse. Help me to look for the good in everyone I meet. Let me realize that I cannot change anybody's way of thinking. Only by doing the best I can and setting a good example may I influence someone to change their behavior.

Help me understand that other people have as much right to their opinions as I do to mine. Let me love myself as I am. Make me realize when I am not proud of myself I am letting You, my Creator, down. I must be proud of the body You have given me and realize there is a purpose for every person being different. Let me realize that You, my Father, are with me always, to guide and comfort me. Let me open my heart and my pores and let Your love flow in. Let me accept the peace that You can bring, and help me to understand that You have a plan and purpose to everything that happens. Amen.

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## Stewardship: Parishioner's Answering God's Call in Hospitality

A parishioner took some extra steps to welcome back a family who had been away from the church for a while. When he discovered that one of the children had missed a sacrament with his age group, he volunteered to provide tutoring so that the sacrament could be received with the regular class. He also has embraced the entire family to ensure that they understand at Prince of Peace 'all are welcome.'

*Please submit your stewardship story examples to [cathy.yarbrough@popcatholic.org](mailto:cathy.yarbrough@popcatholic.org).*

*They may be edited for space consideration.*

# All are Welcome...

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4600 Preserve Parkway  
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[www.popcatholic.org](http://www.popcatholic.org)  
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Keep up-to-date with the latest Happenings on Facebook!

Prince of Peace-Hoover

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Sixth Sunday of Easter • April 30 & May 1, 2016

# Prayer

## Mass Intentions for May 2 - May 8

Monday	8:30 am	Jerry Bailey	Special Intention	Friday	8:30 am	Richard Reiss	†
	6:30 pm	Molly McGregor	Special Intention	Saturday	5:00 pm	Tyler Church	Special Intention
Tuesday	8:30 am	Jack Moore	†	Sunday	7:00 am	James Tomasello	Special Intention
Wednesday	8:15 am	Joe Lorino	†		8:30 am	Michael McCarthy	†
	5:00 pm	Mark Reninger	†		1:30 pm	Gael Jiménez	Intención Especial
Thursday	8:30 am	Vincent Piazza II	†		5:00 pm	Travis Weaver	†

The Prince of Peace community would like to extend our sympathy to Mimi Earnest and family on the death of her father, Charles Earnest. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

La comunidad de Príncipe de Paz quiere expresar sus más profundas condolencias a Mimi Earnest y a su familia por el fallecimiento de su padre Charles Earnest. Nuestras oraciones y pensamientos están con ustedes.



We Welcome Our Newly Baptized:

Viviana Francesca Shelton  
Addison Camille Lewis

### Prayer List

**Please remember to pray for all of our sick and recovering loved ones. If you would like to add or remove someone to/from the prayer list, please contact the parish office. Names will remain on the list for 3 months unless notified. To be part of the parish prayer chain, email [prayer-chain@princeofpeace-hoover.org](mailto:prayer-chain@princeofpeace-hoover.org).**

Jake Culotta	Tom Kilgro	Michelle Arteaga	John Durnak
Chuck Fontan	Kay Allen	Dionicia Flores	Robert Lizama
Joyce Lovoy	Joseph Owens	Dionicia Espinosa	Clarissa Cruz
Rosalie Stacco	Sue Delk	Dionica Flores	Isabel Manibusan
Mary Kay Minor	Michael Hofmann	Claudia Gil	Matilde Santos
Valerie Wallace	Bryce Garmon	Carmen Gil	Roland Santos
Clint Fikes	Nancy Emerson	Patricia Garcia	Chareen Santos-Brown
Josephine Graven	Jerry Bailey	Austin Harris	Hunter Pace
Libby Edgar	Paul Thielen	Angela Judge	Shawn Clark
Carol Jean Miranda	Mark Martincic	Lisa Woolf	Joe Pierce
Thomas Ross	Cesar David Rivas	Graham Woolf	Claudia Charne
Isla Del Bosco	Nallely Vega	Patricia Muldowney	Katie Stevens
Philip Cash	Kimberly Cisneros	Elizabeth Doyle	Angel Bowles
Errol Austin	Filigonio Buendia	Carmella Pistone	Shay McNamee
Damien Johnson	Arturo Castillo	Francis Pardi	Cecilia Ragusa
Paula England	Ana Maria Castillo	Charles Pardi	Marie Williams
Danielle White	Jose Rodriguez	Danese H. Daniel	Virginia Lorino
Baby White	Mayra Castillo	Pat Smith	Gussie Oliver
Elaine Heyne	Adan Benavides	Mary Sheppard	Jim Herring

### Financial Stewardship for April 23 & 24:

Building Fund	\$ 13,861.26
Offertory	\$ 13,785.00
Weekend Backpack Program	\$ 50.00
Faith Direct 4/1-15/16	\$ 19,970.02

### Military Prayer List

**Please pray for all of our military serving here and abroad:**

Jared Fitzgerald, USMC  
Joseph Byrd, ARNG  
Craig Hollis, USAF  
John Okon, USN  
Jessica Stephens, USN  
Matt Stephens, USN  
Mark Okon, USN  
Laurin Okon, USN  
Harold Eddy, USA  
Francisco Rodriguez, USMC  
Duffy Towey, USCG  
Joey Gable, USAF  
Amy Williams, USN  
Phillip West, USA  
Bradley Hallmark, USAF  
Matthew Russell, USMC  
Aaron Torczynski, USAF  
Austin C. Daniel, USN  
Tim O'Connor, ANG  
Charles L. Kidd II, USA  
Joseph Lujano, USN  
Eduardo Reyes, USNG



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# First Eucharist: Initiated in Christ

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Congratulations to the students who are receiving First Eucharist this weekend. We have 187 students in our Parish that are receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus for the first time. This is an amazing day for our children. Please pray for them and their families as they receive the power of the Eucharist this weekend. Take a minute to witness the wonder and awe in the faces of our children as they receive Communion for the first time. This gift of the spirit should be present in all of us as we receive each and every week.

At the Last Supper, Jesus “took the bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me’ (Luke 22:19).” We take Jesus at his word. At Mass on Sunday, the priest extends his hands over simple bread and wine and asks the Holy Spirit to transform them into the body and blood of Christ.

You are not just a body. You are a delicate composition of body and soul. If you haven’t already, one day you will discover your need to feed your soul in order to live a full and happy life. And when that day comes, I want you to remember today, because there is no better way to feed your soul than with the Eucharist. (Adapted from Decision Point)

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## Congratulations to our First Holy Communicants:

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Rosalyn Lopez Acuna

Sophía Adams

Jacob Allen

David Almazan Rubio

Saul Almazan Rubio

Miguel A. Almazan Rubio

Jacqueline Arceo

Kennedy D. Ariza

Roxana E. Ariza

Chístopfer Arroyo Ramírez

Jamie Arroyo Ramírez

Madelaine Yury Aviles

Miller Backus

Madelyn Bauman

Díego F. Bautista

Samuel Black

Ben Bodin

Liam Boryczka

Arturo Briseno III

Jessica Brito Uriostegui

Zoe Burnley

Anahí Butanda Flores

María G. Butanda Flores

Julianna Cacho Gutierrez

Zoe Caldwell

Lashmi S. Campos Plata

Dakota Canela

Caris Carr

Nathan Carrozza

Francis Cattelane

Mazaryne Chimento

Jacob Clary

Anna Grace Collins

Joseph Cornelius

Lourdes Costello

Lexi Crook

Juan J. Cruz

Luke Cunningham

Zachary Cunningham

Alejandra Delgado

Irene Duran

Erin Eicher

Sam Elliott

María G. Duran Espana

María F. España Villaseñor

Andrew Everett

Andrew Ezekiel

Emma Falkner  
Andrew Fambrough  
Nathan Ferguson  
William Fieno  
Saemid Fuentes  
Hae M. Fuentes Tejeda  
Carlos Galdino Oaxaca  
Anthony Garcia  
Jose Alberto Garcia  
Jessica L. Garcia Cruz  
Gisselle Garcia Duran  
Litzy Garcia Duran  
Bryan Garcia Garcia  
Abigail Garcia Martinez  
Andrea B. Garcia Martinez  
Delani Gardner  
Grey Gardner  
Mayra Garza Sanchez  
Ansley Gilbert  
Mariana Gonzalez  
Victoria Gonzalez  
Arnold Gonzalez Ayala  
George Gonzalez Ayala  
Estefania Gonzalez Duarte  
Barbara Gorg  
Michael Grinder  
Jeremy Gudino  
Michelle Guerra Hernandez  
Ryan Guillory  
Jennifer Gutierrez  
Estrella Gutierrez Recendez  
Anthony Guzman Medrano  
Callie Hart  
Finn Hecklinski  
Hannah Hejazen  
Alejandro Hernandez Tadeo  
Eusebio Hernandez Tadeo  
Hagen Holley  
Riley Hopping  
Amanda Jusino  
Sophie Kaczorowski  
Ella Kappler  
Isaac Kelley  
Joseph Kindall  
Madelyn Kirkpatrick  
Casey Knerr  
Avery Kononchek

Noah Kusibab  
Michael A. Laguna  
Vynneza M. Laguna  
Johnatan V. Laguna  
Ashley B. Laguna Bautista  
Jamie Laguna Bautista  
Allie Lamoureux  
Alexandra Langan  
Austin Lee  
Hannah Lee  
Addison Lewis  
Silvia E. Llanas  
Giovanny Llanas Segovia  
Maeve Loehr  
Maritza Lopez  
Giselle Lopez Perez  
Juan A. Lopez Perez  
Elena Lorino  
Jack Luttenbacher  
Jad Lutfi  
Yeri Maldonado  
Virginia Mann  
Yullius Marquez  
Ryan Martin  
Emily Martinez Duran  
Ingrid Martinez Duran  
Leslie Martinez Echavarria  
Stephanie Martinez Gutierrez  
Philip Mason  
Samantha Mauter  
Madelyn McBride  
Robin Mary McClure  
Charlotte Meinberg  
Ryan Miller  
Samantha Miller  
Avery Minnich  
Mallory Moore  
Madison Morris  
Austin Nguyen  
Jackson Odom  
Itzel G. Olalde Reyes  
Gracie Papisan  
Gianna Pasquale  
Luis R. Pastrana Rivera  
Damian Perez Zamora  
Manuel Perez Zamora  
Cole Perryman

Bryan Perryman Jr.  
Quan Pham  
Fatima J. Ramirez Salazar  
Joanna M. Ramirez Salazar  
Lorena Rangel Almazan  
Jackson Rankin  
Sofia Rathbun  
Adam Reincke  
Cameron Rey  
Joshua Robinson  
Prisila G. Rodriguez Alvarado  
Carlos Rodriguez Burford  
Emily Rohn  
Jair Rosa  
Diego I. Rosas  
Sara Roy  
Victoria Simon  
Luke Sims  
Gavin Smith  
Matthew Smith  
Rachel Streufert  
Andrew Susce  
Rachel Swetz  
Sydney Theall  
Evelyn Topazi  
Amelia Turner  
Christopher Urquiza Romero  
Gabriel A. Urquiza Romero  
Maria C. Urquiza Romero  
Jasmin Urquiza Romero  
Angel Daniel Vega  
Carlos A. Villa Duran  
Evelyn A. Villa Duran  
James Walker  
Eamon Walsh  
Blake Weise  
Claire Wensel  
Madeline Wenter  
Kelly West  
Braden White  
Owen Wilbanks  
Emily Williams  
Keegan Woodard  
Madison Young  
Michael Zarichnak  
Jovi Zimmerman



# Parish Events

## **Covenant of Love Date Night**

You're invited! Covenant of Love: Date Night is a marriage ministry that allows couples to re-connect and refocus on what's important, as well as imparts practical wisdom to become the husband and wife God desires them to be. The next Date Night is:

**Friday, May 13  
6:30 - 8:30 pm in Deasy Hall  
Eat. Drink. Talk. Pray.  
Register by May 10.**

Nursery provided.

Please visit [popdatenight.myevent.com](http://popdatenight.myevent.com) to register and get more information or contact [popdatenight@gmail.com](mailto:popdatenight@gmail.com).

## **Minus One**

This is a group for anyone who is "minus one." This can be anyone who has lost a spouse, child, parent, sibling - anyone who is minus a person they loved in their life due to any circumstance. Join us for our next lunch on Tuesday, May 10, at 11:00 am in Deasy Hall. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Charlotte Shipic at 205.425.0061.

## **Seniors Lunch**

The Seniors Lunch will be held Tuesday, May 17. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 am, followed by lunch and bingo at 11:30 am in Deasy Hall. Cost is \$6 per person. Please RSVP by calling the parish office at 205.822.9125.

## **Ladies Auxiliary**

We will meet Monday, May 16 at 6:30 pm in the St. Jude Room. The convention will be discussed and sign up for the SEC.

## **HAPPENINGS**

Childcare services are available at the POP Nursery during Sunday morning programs.

### Monday - May 2

**Centering Prayer** - 9:30 - 10:30 am - St. Martin

**Hispanic O.L.G. Dance Practice** - 6:30 - 8:30 pm - Deasy Hall

### Tuesday - May 3

**Weekday Faith Study** - 9:30 am - St. Monica

*Topic: The Dead Sea Scrolls - Biblical Manuscripts at Qumran*

**Women of Worship** - 9:30 am - St. Jude

*Topic: Walking with Purpose*

**Caring Needles** - 1:00 pm - St. Elizabeth

### Wednesday - May 4

**Wednesday Dinner** - 5:30 pm - Deasy Hall

**Bible Study with Fr. Holloway** - 6:15 pm - Chapel

*Topic: Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)*

**High School Youth Group** - 6:30 pm - Youth Room

### Thursday - May 5

**Centering Prayer** - 6:00 - 8:00 pm

### Friday - May 6

**MOMS Group** - 9:30 am - St. Monica Room

*Topic: Hike at Moss Rock - Lunch afterwards at The Boot*

*Meet in St. Monica*

*Contact: Isabelle Silko at 205.821.1390*

### Sunday - May 8

**Baptismal Prep** - 9:30 am - St. Catherine

**Scripture in "Action"** - 9:45 am - St. Elizabeth

*Topic: Discussing the Sunday Readings in Today's World*

**Adult Education Series** - 9:45 am - St. Monica

*Topic: The Lives of Great Christians - St. Francis of Assisi*

**Bread & Roses** - Contact Cathy Bertzanetti to help, 205.979.6416

**High School Youth Group** - No Meeting

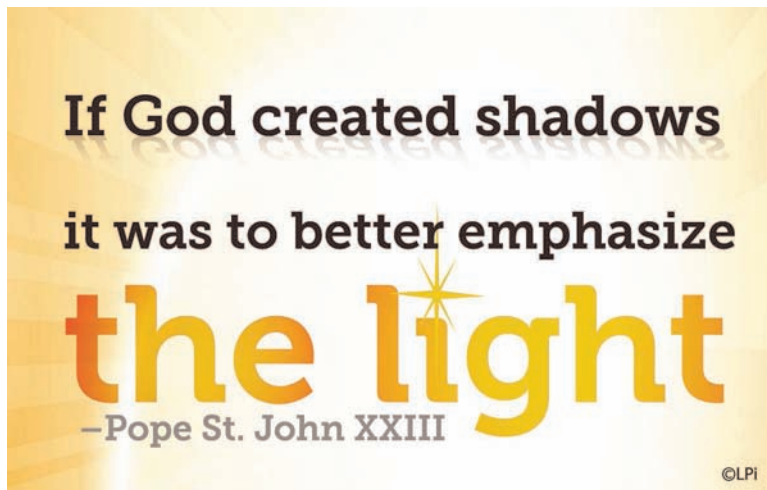
## **Ladies Monthly Social**

**May 5 at 11:00 am at The Egg and I**

RSVP by May 3 to Carol Fisher at 205.979.2667.

All ladies are welcome to join!

# Service



## Adventure Ark Nursery & Playschool

- Wednesday Night Nursery has ended. It will restart in the Fall.
- Sunday Nursery available: May 8, 15, & 22
- Last days of Playschool - May 16 & 17

## Casting Lots for the Seamless Garment (John 19:23-24)

### Take, Give, Do

It was an incomprehensible act of violence: 16 individuals, including four members of the Missionaries of Charity, were brutally shot and killed in a church-run retirement home in Yemen. Pope Francis responded to the murders on March 4 saying that the sisters were “victims not only of those who have murdered them, but also of indifference...this globalization of indifference.” It is difficult to make sense of events like this, and it sometimes seems preferable simply to turn away, to tune out such suffering. Yet as Christians we are called not only to pay attention to the suffering of others but to accompany those who are suffering in whatever way we can...

We are reminded of Christ’s transformation and the need for our own (transformation) week after week in the words of the Mass: “**Take** this all of you and eat of it. This is my body, **given up** for you. **Do** this in memory of me.” We are called to receive the body of Christ. But we are also called to build it, and, as the martyred sisters did, to transform our indifference into involvement: **take, give, do. Take** time to pray. **Give** of yourself. **Do** something kind for someone. In leading merciful lives inspired by the Resurrection, we both become and tend to the body of Christ.

(excerpt from *America Magazine*, Mar 28, 2016, p.5) (emphasis added)

## Safety Corner

Code White: Medical Emergency

Please be aware that if there is a medical emergency during mass, the safety team is trained to help. If appropriate, the ill parishioner will be helped out of the church and 911 will be called. Our safety team has been trained in AED use and will request help from any medical professionals present.

Remember to check out the church’s website for locations of our “safe places” in inclement weather should occur. Being prepared is important!

## Bread & Roses Sunday, May 8



Contact Cathy Bertanzetti at 205.979.6416 if you would like to help serve or provide food at the Church of the Reconciler.

# Formation

## Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) Study Sessions Planned

Fr. Gerald Holloway will lead a series of discussions about Pope Francis' new apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)*, on **Wednesday evenings at 6:15, starting May 4, in the chapel.** This important new document is written in a personal, pastoral style and is accessible and relevant to most readers. It is not an academic tome, but it is long---260 pages.

Maximum benefit from the document is achieved through study and discussion in parish and family groups. Pope Francis addresses such issues as the family from a scriptural perspective, love in a family context, building a sound and fruitful home, divorce and remarriage, and family spirituality.

Participants are urged to obtain a personal copy of *Amoris Laetitia*. It is available on the Vatican website, [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va), or in printed or electronic form from sources such as *Amazon.com*.

## YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

### Mark Your Calendars!

The next class at Prince of Peace is:

**May 10 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

**St. Jude Room**

Register by May 5 at:

[bhmse.weebly.com](http://bhmse.weebly.com)

Click on "Schedule of Youth  
Protection Training"

Childcare will be provided.

# Ministerio Hispano

## Horarios de Oficina

**Padre José Luis Guevara**

Lunes 10:30 am - 4:30 pm

Martes y Jueves 2:00 - 8:00 pm

**María Elena Rathbun**

Martes 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

Miércoles y Jueves 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

## Número de teléfono de la oficina

**205.822.9125 x 22**

### CLASES DE BAUTISMO

2<sup>do</sup> Jueves del mes a las 7:00 pm

4<sup>to</sup> Domingo del mes a las 11:00 am

**Es un requisito REGISTRARSE para las pláticas y bautizos en la oficina.** Por favor, llegar 15 minutos antes de las pláticas y bautizos.

### BAUTISMOS

2<sup>do</sup> y 4<sup>to</sup> Sábado del mes a las 10:00 am

3<sup>er</sup> Domingo del mes después de la misa (2:45 pm)

**Por favor, deben tomar pláticas antes.**

### QUINCEAÑERAS

Arreglos para quinceañeras deberán hacerse con 6 meses de anticipación. La quinceañera deberá tomar una preparación religiosa y prestar un servicio voluntario a la parroquia. Registrarse en la Oficina.

### MATRIMONIOS

Arreglos para la preparación al matrimonio se deben hacer con 6 meses de anticipación y consta de un curso Prematrimonial. Por favor, registrarse en la oficina.

### FUNERALES

Arreglos para funerales se deben hacer directamente en las oficinas de la Iglesia. Por favor no acuda a otras personas, la parroquia tiene formas de ayudar y los trámites son más sencillos y rápidos.

### EDUCACIÓN PARA ADULTOS RICA

Este programa es para adultos que estén interesados en la fe católica o para aquellos que no han sido bautizados, confirmados o no hayan hecho la Primera Comunión. Las clases son los domingos a las 12:15 pm. Por favor, registrarse con la Hermana Gabriela Ramirez 205.987.4771.



# Ministerio Hispano

## Respondiendo al Llamado de Dios

Un miembro de nuestra parroquia tomó algunas medidas adicionales para dar la bienvenida a una familia que se había alejado de la iglesia por un tiempo. Cuando descubrió que uno de los niños había perdido un Sacramento en su grupo de edad, se presentó como voluntario para proporcionar tutoría al niño para que recibiera el Sacramento con su clase regular. También esta persona ha abrazado a toda la familia para asegurarse de que comprendan que en la Iglesia de Príncipe de la Paz "Todos son bienvenidos".

### Formación

#### ESCUELA BÍBLICA DE VACACIÓN EN INGLÉS

*"Cave Quest – SIGUIENDO A JESÚS, La luz del mundo"*

June 6-10 de 8:30 am-12:00 pm

Para niños de PK3 a niños empezando el 5<sup>th</sup> grado. Los formularios de registro están disponibles en la página de internet: ([www.popcatholic.org](http://www.popcatholic.org)) o en las oficinas de Educación Religiosa en la Iglesia. Necesitamos adultos voluntarios para las artes, los juegos y las meriendas.

### Entrenamiento de Protección al Menor En Inglés

¡Marca tu calendario!

Será en la Iglesia de Príncipe de Paz

Mayo 10 de 6:00 - 8:00 pm

en el salón St. Jude.

Por favor registrarse antes de Mayo 5 en la pagina web:

[Bhmse.weebly.com](http://Bhmse.weebly.com)

Bajo "Schedule of Youth Protection Training"

Ofrecemos cuidado de niños durante el entrenamiento.

### Bailes Folclóricos



Todos los lunes a partir del 18 de Abril de 6:30 pm a 8:30 pm tendremos prácticas de Baile en el Deasy Hall. Si está interesado en participar, por favor anotarse en la mesa los domingos con Adriana Hernández o llamar a Alicia Sarabia al 205.382.7103.

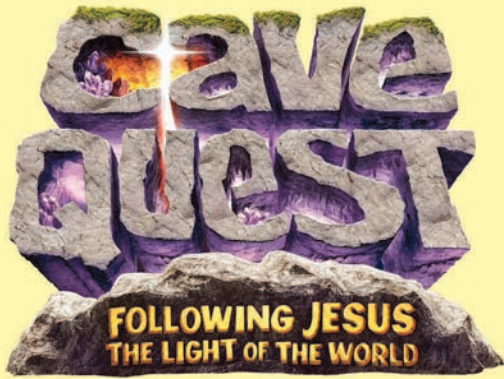
### Esquina de Seguridad

#### Código blanco: Emergencia Médica

Por favor, este pendiente. Si hay una emergencia médica durante la Misa, el personal de seguridad está entrenado para ayudar. Si es necesario, la persona enferma será asistida a salir de la Iglesia y se llamará a 911. El equipo de seguridad está entrenado con el uso del DEA (Desfibrilador Externo Automático) y pedirá ayuda a cualquier personal médico presente. Recuerde revisar los lugares seguros en la página web de la Iglesia.

## ¡FELICITACIONES A NUESTROS NUEVOS COMULGANTES!

Felicidades a los estudiantes que están recibiendo la Primera Comunión estos dos fines de semanas. Tenemos 213 estudiantes en nuestra parroquia, que están recibiendo el cuerpo y la sangre de Jesús por primera vez. ¡Se trata de un día increíble para nuestros hijos! Por favor ore por ellos y sus familias mientras reciben el poder de la Eucaristía. Tómese un minuto para ser testigo de la maravilla y asombro en los rostros de nuestros hijos que reciben el cuerpo y sangre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo por primera vez. En la última cena, Jesús "tomó el pan, y cuando había dado gracias, lo partió y les dio, diciendo: 'esto es mi cuerpo, que es para ustedes. Haced esto en conmemoración mía' (Lucas 22:19)." Nosotros tomamos a Jesús en su palabra. En la Misa del domingo el sacerdote extiende las manos sobre el vino y el pan simplemente; y pide al Espíritu Santo para transformar el cuerpo y la sangre de Cristo. "No eres sólo un cuerpo. Eres una delicada composición de cuerpo y alma. Si no lo has hecho ya, un día vas a descubrir la necesidad de alimentar tu alma para poder tener una vida llena y feliz. Y cuando llegue ese día, Yo quiero que tu recuerdes el día de hoy, porque no hay nada mejor que llenar tu alma con la Eucaristía". (Adaptado de Decision Point)



Junio 6 - 10 - 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

De PK 3 a empezando el 5to grado  
es Bienvenido a asistir!

Por favor, registrarse en nuestra página web:  
[www.popcatholic.org](http://www.popcatholic.org) o con Laura Martínez en la  
escuela de Educación Religiosa.



Necesitamos voluntarios para los juegos, el arte,  
los salones y las meriendas!

## *Amoris Laetitia* (La alegría del Amor)

*El 8 de abril, el Papa Francisco lanzó una nueva Exhortación Apostólica sobre el amor en la familia. El texto completo del documento puede encontrarse en la página web del Vaticano, **Vatican.va**. El siguiente comentario sobre este importante documento está escrito por Andrew Hamilton, Editor Consultor de la Publicación Jesuita, Eureka Street.*

El Papa Francisco describe una visión atractiva del matrimonio como un regalo que la fe cristiana ofrece. El título del documento, la alegría del amor, se encarna en su tono.

Como un comentarista, el Papa vuelve una y otra vez a la necesidad de centrarse en las caras cuando se piensa en la familia y responder a las personas, y no a martillarlos con ideales abstractos o reglas.

Su argumento más breve y centrado viene cuando reconoce la importancia de la doctrina y la ley en las conversaciones Católicas sobre el matrimonio. Al mismo tiempo, insiste en respetar la prioridad de la conciencia de la gente para decidir cómo deben actuar y de ser ellos siempre tratados con compasión.

Los católicos necesitan "evitar juicios que no tienen en cuenta la complejidad de las diversas situaciones" y "estar atento, por necesidad, a cómo las personas experimentan angustia a causa de sus condiciones."

Me llamó la atención la evocación frecuente de ternura del Papa Francisco como una cualidad central del matrimonio y la vida familiar. Ha subrayado la centralidad del amor en su descripción del matrimonio y su insistencia en la belleza y el atractivo del ideal del matrimonio cristiano. Él da esta prioridad sobre las leyes y las expectativas con las que se identifica a menudo.

La atracción a la ternura también ilumina el enfoque pastoral que el Papa espera que los católicos ofrezcan a las personas en situaciones difíciles. El documento señala los hilos que unen a las relaciones personales en las familias con las relaciones dentro de las iglesias y las relaciones con el ambiente.

La ternura se opone a juzgar, hablar mal el uno al otro, el uso de reglas o principios como una porra para golpear a la gente, y dejar de lado el dolor de las personas que son marginales o excluidos.






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