

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 11, 2026



Serving the Missions of:

Buena Vista, Cañoncito, Chacon, Cleveland, El Carmel, Golondrinas, Guadalupita, Holman, La Cueva, Ledoux, Lucero, Monte Aplanado, Ojo Feliz, Rainsville, Santiago, Turquillo

Saturday & Sunday Masses

Weekday Masses

- * Monday—Friday: 7:30AM
- * Saturday: 8AM

Saturday Vigil Masses

- * Vigil Mass : 4:00PM

Sunday Masses

- * Spanish Mass: 9:00AM
- * English Mass: 11:00AM
- * English Mass: 5:00PM

Confessions: Saturday: 3:00PM-4:00PM

Sunday: 30 minutes before all Masses



Sunday Collection for

January 4, 2026: \$4,341.00

(Envelopes: \$3,454.00 Loose: \$887.00)

Envelopes used: 120

Solemnity of Mary: \$2,441.00

Envelopes used: 74

Thank you for your generosity!

God Bless You!

Altar Society:

January 12, 2026

Amy Duran/ Mae Olivas

St. Gertrude the Great Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. Dale Craig, S.O.L.T.

Director of Religious Education: Sherry Headlee
Deacon Cristobal Eloy Roybal

Deacon Clarence Montoya: O.C.I.A

Administrative Assistant: Angelica Lujan

P.O. Box 599, Mora, New Mexico 87732

Phone: 575.387.2336

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday
10 am — 12 Noon, 1 pm — 3 pm

Website: www.stgertrudesmora.org

Email: stgertrudes.aa@gmail.com

Celebration of Sacraments

Baptism: Parents may register their child for baptism at the parish office. Please turn in necessary paperwork **two (2) weeks prior to class**. Baptism Classes will be the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Baptisms are done on the fourth Sunday of the Month.

Marriage: Contact Parish Priest/Office at least **six (6) months** before the proposed wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: Contact the Parish Priest /Office when a parishioner is seriously ill and/or is scheduled for major surgery. Emergency phone-505-835-0199.

175th Anniversary of St. Gertrude's



Help us Preserve the History of St. Gertrude's

Do you have any photos, documents, memories, or historical items related to St. Gertrude's Parish? We are in search of any information regarding the church's history and would be grateful if you would bring any historical materials, written memories, or stories to the parish office.

DEADLINE FOR THE BULLETIN IS: TUESDAY AT 12 PM IN WRITING, PLEASE!

SATURDAY—January 10

4PM Mass

+ Jimmy Griego, Della Ann Collins/by Betty Griego

Celebrant: Fr. Dale

SUNDAY—January 11 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9AM Mass

Celebrant: Fr. Dale

+ Dcn Ray Cordova, Steven & Gabrielle Cordova/by Evelyn

+ Bengie Cruz/by Family

+ Marcella Valdez (6th Anniv)/by Lisa Gallegos

Celebrant: Fr. Dale

11AM Mass

Celebrant: Fr. Dale

+ Bengie Cruz (B-day) * Health & well-being of Cruz family/by Danny & Vickie Martinez

+ Repose soul Joaquin Archuleta * Consolation Archuleta Family/by Inez & Family

5PM Mass

Celebrant: Fr. Dale

For the People of the Parish

* Health of Jeremiah & Jazzlyn Duran; strength & peace for Jarrod & Denise/by Dennis, Mary Alice & Family

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 Acts 10:34-38 Mt 3:13-17

MONDAY—January 12

7:30AM Mass

+ Miranda Serna/ by Lisa Gallegos

+ Don Coomb in honor of Sacred Heart of Jesus/ by David & Barbara

* Health of Jeremiah & Jazzlyn Duran; strength & peace for Jarrod & Denise/by Dennis, Mary Alice & Family

1 Sm 1:1-8 Ps 116:12-19 Mk 1:14-20

TUESDAY—January 13 St. Hilary, Bishop

7:30AM Mass

+ Miranda Serna/ by Lisa Gallegos

* Health of Jeremiah & Jazzlyn Duran; strength & peace for Jarrod & Denise/by Dennis, Mary Alice & Family

1 Sm 1:9-20 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8d Mk 1:21-28

WEDNESDAY—January 14

7:30AM Mass

* Mario Encinias & Santana Sanchez (B-days)/ by Della Encinias

* Health of Jeremiah & Jazzlyn Duran; strength & peace for Jarrod & Denise/by Dennis, Mary Alice & Family

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10 Mk 1:29-39

THURSDAY—January 15

7:30 AM Mass

* Health of Jeremiah & Jazzlyn Duran; strength & peace for Jarrod & Denise/by Dennis, Mary Alice & Family

+ Lorenzo Montoya 1st Anniv/ by Carol Branch

+ Lucas Valdez (B-day), * Santana Sanchez (B-day)/ by Marilyn, Andy, & Family

1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 Mk 1:40-45

FRIDAY—January 16

7:30AM Mass

* Health of Jeremiah & Jazzlyn Duran; strength & peace for Jarrod & Denise/by Dennis, Mary Alice & Family

1Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a Ps 89:16-19 Mk 2:1-12

SATURDAY—January 17 St. Anthony, Abbot

8AM Mass

* Health of Jeremiah & Jazzlyn Duran; strength & peace for Jarrod & Denise/by Dennis, Mary Alice & Family

* In honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help for Gabby Marie, Genevieve & Louis Strasser & Jack Lozano/by Maxine Maes

SATURDAY—January 17

4PM Mass

Celebrant: Fr. Dale

+ Marissa Maldonado (Anniv)/ by family

+ Irinea Valdez, Blessings from Our Lady of Guadalupe

SUNDAY—January 18 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

9AM Mass

Celebrant: Fr. Dale

* Estephany Petropoalos, Michael Trujillo Jr. & +Jonathan / by Michael & Florence

+ Mary Jo, Derek, Eric & Dominic/ by Michael & Florence

+ Francine Maes & departed family members/by Amy & May

11AM Mass

Celebrant: Fr. Dale

* Health of Jeremiah & Jazzlyn Duran; strength & peace for Jarrod & Denise/by Dennis, Mary Alice & Family

+ Betsy Wheeler & Mary Ann Sanchez/by Damian & Senida Duran

5PM Mass

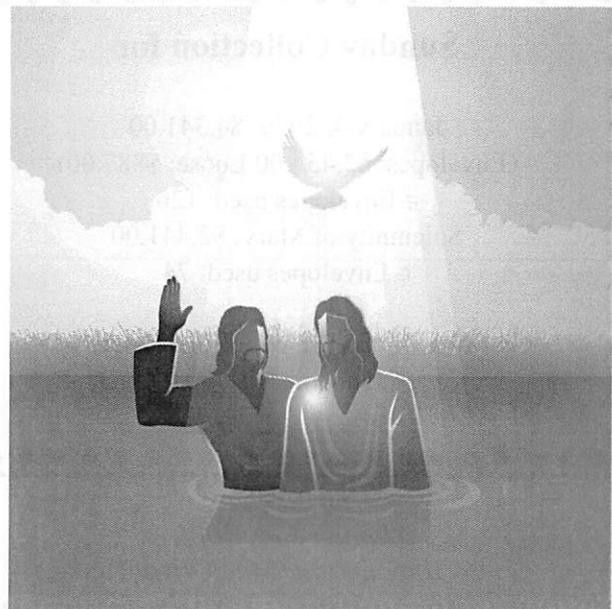
Celebrant: Fr. Dale

For the People of the Parish

Is 49:3, 5-6 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 1:1-3 Jn 1:29-34

The Baptism of Our Lord

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him. After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove [and] coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Mt. 3:13-17).



1 Sm 9:1-4, 17—19, 10:1 Ps 21:2-7 Mk 2:13-17 Eph 6:10-13, 18 Mt 19:16-26

Adoration Chapel: The Chapel is now open 24 hours. Anyone who wants to devote an hour of adoration please contact Deacon Eloy at 505-948-6887 or Ellen Hagaman 505-504-4772.

Catechism: Classes are held on Tuesdays from 3:45 to 5pm at the Mora Elementary School. Please make sure your child signs in at the baptismal font to show they have attended Sunday mass.

Cemetery Plots: All plots need to be prearranged by Mission Mayordomos or the Church Office. Also please clean & maintain your family member's plot.

Charitable Giving: Charitable Giving is on Monday's from 10-12 & 1-3pm.

Commodities: The Commodities will be distributed on Tuesday, January 13th. [USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender]

Confirmation: Classes are held in the Pastoral Center on Mondays from 6 -7:30 pm. Please make sure you sign in at the baptismal font to get credit for Sunday Mass. The date for Confirmation is set for **Monday, May 4, 2026 at Our Lady of Sorrows at 6:30 pm.**

Legion of Mary: The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday at 9am in the Pastoral Center. If your interesting in joining the Legion please come and see what its all about.

Men's Group: Men's group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month in the Chapel at 7pm.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA): OCIA classes are held at the Pastoral Center on Tuesdays at 6 pm.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society will be praying the rosary at 8:30 on the first Sunday of every month.

WINGS (Women In Need of God): The Wings group meets every Friday at 10am in the Pastoral Center for faith and fellowship. Please join us.

Bible Study: Every Wednesday at 5 PM in the Pastoral Center. Everyone Welcome.

FIRST RECONCILIATION RETREAT and 1ST COMMUNION RETREAT

Saturday, January 17
9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
Holman Convent

Children preparing for **First Reconciliation** and **First Communion** must attend. At least one parent/ guardian must attend with their child.

The retreat will help children understand God's mercy and forgiveness through prayer, activities, and quiet reflection.



Rosary Rally
In Honor of the unborn
January 31st @ 12:00 p.m. at the Parish Hall

Confirmation is set for Monday, May 4, 2026 at Our Lady of Sorrows at 6:30 p.m.

Ministry Schedule

January 17th 4 pm

Lector: Ann Lewitke

Choir:

Server:

EU Ministers: Pauline Espinoza

Mayordomos: Mike & Ann Lewitke

January 18th 9 am

Lector: Sr. Mary Teresa

Choir: St. Francis

Server:

EU Ministers: Den. Clarence, Anabelle Pacheco, and

Leo Pacheco

Mayordomos: Anabelle & Louisa Lopez

January 18th 11 am

Lector: Joe P. Chavez

Choir: St. Michael

Server:

EU Ministers: Den. Eloy, Joann Martinez, and Anita

Roybal

Mayordomos: William & Monica Romero

January 18th 5 pm

Lector: Margaret Rael

Choir: St. Therese

Server:

EU Ministers: David Rael

Mayordomos: Paul & Annette Velasquez

Collection Envelopes

Please pick up your collection envelopes from the lobby of the Church.



*"Protecting the unborn...
Supporting the expectant mother."*

Please pray for all pregnant moms that they may have a safe, healthy pregnancy.



Music Ministry: The Music Ministry will meet every second Wednesday of the month at 6 pm at the Parish Hall. All Choir members please plan to attend. All interested in music ministry are welcome.



Adoration

"Could you not watch one hour with me?" *Matthew 26:40.*

We are in need of Adorers and Substitutes for our Adoration Chapel. We have many hours available. Please call Ellen Hagaman 505-504-4772.

Office: 505-454-8148
1950 7th St.
Las Vegas, NM 87701
Gentle Hands & Caring Hearts
RANDALL E. GARCIA, D.D.S., P.C.
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry
Creating Beautiful Smiles
Since 1990!



...working together to stay connected.

Office: 575-387-2216
Fax: 575-387-9010
Toll Free: 1.800.742.7232 455 State Highway 518
<http://www.lajicarita.com>



The Best New York Style
Pizza in New Mexico!

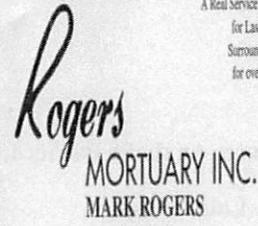
Albuquerque: 215 Central Avenue
(505) 766-6973
Las Vegas: 209 Plaza Street
(505) 454-4444

Sunday Family Specials!



PO Box 240 575) 387-2205
Mora, NM 87732 800-421-6773

Website: morasanmiguel.coop



A Real Service Institution
for Las Vegas and
Surrounding Areas
for over 70 Years

6TH & REYNOLDS AVENUE
LAS VEGAS, NM 87701
PH: (505) 425-3511
CELL: (505) 617-3965
1-800-479-3511
Website: rogersmortuarynm.com



We Provide the Care
You Need in Your Home!
505.454.9921

Please Support Our
Advertisers

Royal's Septic Service &
Portable Toilet Rentals
Hand Wash Units



Adrian Roybal, Owner

Office: 505-425-5407 Cell: 505-617-5658
website: www.roybal-septic.com
Fax: 1-844-307-5249

CHACON BELTS AND BUCKLES

PO BOX 859, 2 Park Place,
Rociada, NM 87742

Bruce Erickson

505.454.1196

Owned & Operated by
Michael & Veronica Serna
505-617-5062

Providing fresh, local grown produce, honey, eggs
and beef-all free of GMOs, antibiotics, hormones,
pesticides/chemicals or other unnatural additives.

Eggs and Beef are certified by AWA (Animal
Welfare Approved)

unnatural additives Eggs and Beef are certified
by AWA (Animal Welfare
Approved).
PO Box 134, Buena Vista, New
Mexico



►►►
ELECTRICIAN
SERVICE

- VETERAN OWNED
- INSURED & BONDED
- LICENSE #407250
- COMMERCIAL
- RESIDENTIAL

MORA & SANTA FE
NEW MEXICO



Contact Us:
+1 (505) 429-9711
VDELECTRICNM.COM
VDELECTRIC@GMAIL.COM

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

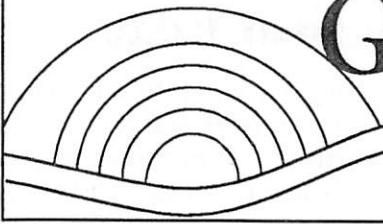
Leo P. Padilla 505-603-8140 Annabelle Padilla 505-603-8105

DIAMOND WELDING, LLC

CUSTOM WELDING & FABRICATION

Fences • Gates • Headache Racks • Metal Artwork
• Wrought Iron Work • Railing • Mobile Welding
diamondwelding@gmail.com

Leo



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

January 2026

St. Gertrude the Great Catholic Church
Father Dale Craig, S.O.L.T., Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Genevieve of Paris

Born in 422, in Nanterre, France, St. Genevieve consecrated herself to God when she was fifteen. She became known for her charity and gift of prophecy. She predicted Paris would be spared from attack by the Huns and led the people in fasting and prayer. Paris was spared. When King Chiladeric and his son Clovis I conquered Paris, Genevieve convinced Chiladeric to release his captives. She became a trusted advisor to Clovis, who converted to Christianity.

The Jesus Prayer

January is dedicated to the Most Holy Name of Jesus, reminding the faithful of the power and reverence due to His Name: *"At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth"* (Phil 2:10). A fitting prayer for this month is the Jesus Prayer, long cherished in Eastern Catholic and Eastern Orthodox traditions: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner." Simple yet profound, this prayer can be repeated throughout the day. Prayed attentively, it deepens love and reverence for Christ, invokes His saving grace, and helps cultivate a steady spirit of prayer, humility, and interior peace.

"The things that we love tell us what we are." St. Thomas Aquinas

Turning our hearts back to God

Converting our hearts back to God begins with an honest pause – not a dramatic moment, but a decision to look at our lives as they really are. What shapes our days? What gets our best energy, our first thoughts, our deepest trust? Whatever holds that place is, in practice, what we put first.

Putting God first starts with intention. We make room for Him by removing what crowds Him out. A few minutes of prayer before reaching for a phone. A short passage of Scripture read slowly instead of rushed. These small choices retrain the heart. They remind us to whom we belong.

Repentance is part of the return, but it is not about shame. It is about direction. To repent means to turn. We admit where we've drifted and choose a better path. God does not demand perfection before welcoming us back. He asks for honesty and willingness.

Trust follows close behind. Many of us profess trust in God but still rely

on our own control. Putting Him first means surrendering outcomes we cannot manage anyway. It means praying not only for help, but for guidance, even when the answer may change our plans.

Faith moves us to action. When we

"Do not let the past disturb you. Just leave everything in the Sacred Heart and begin again with joy." St. Teresa of Calcutta

align our choices with God's teachings, our hearts follow. Faith leads to action. Forgive when necessary. Serving when it is inconvenient. Giving when it feels risky. These actions reshape our priorities.

Community matters. Worship, shared prayer, and accountability keep our hearts oriented toward God when we are tempted to drift.

Turning back to God is rarely instantaneous. It is daily, deliberate, and deeply personal. Each step taken toward Him strengthens the heart's true center.

Why Do
Catholics
Do That?

Why do Catholics bless
themselves with holy
water?

Blessing ourselves with holy water when entering a Catholic church recalls the ritual washings of the Old Testament, through which the Jews purified themselves before approaching God in the Temple. St. John the Baptist built on this tradition by using water as a sign of repentance and conversion.

Today, this gesture reminds us of our Baptism and renews our commitment to live the Faith. As a sacramental, holy water disposes us to receive God's grace, strengthens us against temptation, and, with proper repentance, helps remit venial sins.

New Year, new habits build change that lasts

Starting and maintaining New Year's resolutions can be difficult for the same reason cultivating virtue is difficult: both require forming new habits. Perseverance rarely comes from sheer willpower alone. Practical strategies, supported by grace, make growth more sustainable.

Begin with achievable goals. Set yourself up for early success by practicing self-denial in small, manageable ways. Learning to say no in minor matters builds the discipline needed to resist greater temptations later.

Replace, rather than simply remove. It is often easier to abandon an unhealthy habit when it is substituted with a better one. Just as swapping potato chips for pretzels can make dietary

changes more attainable, uprooting vice is aided by cultivating the opposing virtue. Greed is weakened by generosity.

Seek accountability. A trusted friend, exercise partner, or prayer companion can provide encouragement and consistency for change. Knowing someone is watching makes it more difficult to give up when motivation fades.

Above all, rely on grace. God invites us to call upon Him, especially in moments of weakness, often marked by anger or anxiety, fatigue, hunger, or sadness. In those moments, turn to the Holy Spirit for strength and consolation, trusting the Lord's promise: "*The Lord will fight for you; you have only to keep still*" (Exodus 14:14).

from **S**cripture

Matthew 4:12-23, Discipleship is the greatest adventure

This Gospel passage recounts the call of the first disciples. They may not have known Jesus personally at first, but they knew about Him through John the Baptist (John 1:35-42). Hearing the invitation to know Jesus better and follow Him closely, the men dropped what they were doing "at once" and left everything behind.

Under Christ's leadership, the disciples went on to do amazing deeds. They worked miracles, brought the Gospel to distant lands, won countless souls for Heaven, and suffered many

hardships, even martyrdom. The secret of their success was their relationship with Christ as their God, Savior, Teacher, and Friend who promised to be with them always (Matthew 28:20).

All of us are called to be saints – friends of God. Jesus Christ invites each of us, in particular, to know and follow Him. While few of us are called to leave everything behind, we can still offer everything we have to God's service. We can still give our "Yes." Pursuing authentic holiness isn't boring but a great adventure!

**Q
&
A**

Why is the feast of the Epiphany important?

The Feast of the Epiphany, celebrated this year on January 4, is important because it celebrates the public revelation of Jesus Christ as Savior of the whole world. The word epiphany means "manifestation" or "revealing."

Originally, the feast commemorated the visit of the Magi, wise men from the East, who followed the star to Bethlehem. In honoring the Magi, the Church proclaims that salvation is universal and that Gentiles are fully included in God's plan.

Traditionally, Epiphany also encompasses two other key moments of revelation: Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan and His first miracle at the wedding at Cana. At His Baptism, the Father's voice and the descent of the Holy Spirit reveal Jesus as God's Son. At Cana, Jesus manifests His divine power publicly for the first time. Together, these events reveal who Jesus truly is.

Epiphany calls us to respond as the Magi did: to seek Christ, to worship Him, and to offer Him our lives. It reminds us that faith is not meant to be hidden, but proclaimed.

Feasts & Celebrations

January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, but also acknowledge Jesus as true God and true Man. Mary's title highlights God's humility, in that God chose to come to us through Mary, as a vulnerable newborn. This year, it is a holy day of obligation.

January 5 – St. John Neumann (1860). The first American bishop to be canonized was born in the present-day Czech Republic in 1811. St. John traveled to New York as a missionary before becoming bishop of Philadelphia. He built up the Catholic school system and established diocesan

schools. He also built more than 89 churches, several hospitals and orphanages.

January 11 – The Baptism of the Lord (1st Century). Jesus began His public ministry by getting baptized by St. John the Baptist. Jesus was to be baptized to "fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). This was also when God reveals Jesus as His "beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17).

January 13 – St. Hilary of Poitiers (367). St. Hilary converted to Christianity as a young man and was elected bishop around 350. St. Hilary spent most of his office battling the Arian heresy, which denied the Divinity of Christ. He was exiled to Phrygia. He spent his four-year exile writing and teaching against Arianism until the emperor begged him to return home.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC

Publishers of *Growing in Faith™* and *Partners in Faith™*

(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax

<http://www.infaithpublishing.com>

(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible - Revised)