



# Saint Francis Catholic Community in Cuenca

1<sup>st</sup>. Sunday of Lent-A, February 22, 2026

*In Service to the English-speaking Catholic Community and Visitors of Cuenca*

**WELCOME TO OUR  
ENGLISH-SPEAKING  
CATHOLIC FAMILY IN  
CUENCA!**

### OUR PASTORS:

**Padre Joffre Astudillo,**  
Pastor of San Francisco



**Father Kevin Codd,**  
Presider of the English-  
Speaking Catholics of  
Cuenca. Contact Father  
Kevin at:  
Mobile: 099-726-0770

WhatsApp: +1 509-991-2411  
Email: [KACODD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KACODD@GMAIL.COM)

### REGULAR EVENTS:

#### Mass in English:

Sunday: 10:00 am  
*Followed by Coffee & Not Donuts*  
Iglesia San Francisco  
Padre Aguirre y Pde. Cordova  
(Plaza San Francisco)

**Weekday Mass:** Wednesdays, 11:00 am,  
Father Kevin's home: Edificio Alqamari,  
Los Capulíes y Los Molles. Apt. 502.

**Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick:** By appointment. Please contact  
Father Kevin to schedule.

### We're on Social Media

- ❖ Our WEBSITE:  
[CuencaCatholic.org](http://CuencaCatholic.org)
- ❖ You can find us on FACEBOOK  
at [CUENCA ENGLISH MASS](#)
- ❖ Audio of Father Kevin's recent  
homilies can be found at:  
[kacodd.podbean.com](http://kacodd.podbean.com)

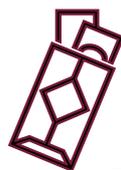
### A Lenten Invitation to our Community: Rice!

During this Lenten season, the members of our community are invited to fulfill the Lenten responsibility to be particularly sacrificial in works of charity. **Please bring to Mass on the Sundays of Lent a bag of rice** (or other non-perishable foods) to support the special ministry of our parish's *Posada San Francisco*, which feeds and houses the homeless and vulnerable in the *Centro Histórico* of Cuenca.



### Lenten Book Study

The Episcopalian community of St Christopher's has extended an invitation to us to join their Lenten book study as they read the Christian classic, *The Cost of Discipleship* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. They will meet Tuesdays at 10:30, Flora Caffé, beginning February 24 and ending March 31. This Lenten discussion will include conversation about grace, the Sermon on the Mount, and the challenges and joys of living a Christian life. For more information call Carolyn Kennedy, the moderator for the book study: 99 532 4413.



### Little Brown Envelope Sunday

Just a reminder that February has been a short month and the final Sunday of the month is already upon us, which means that this Sunday we will be distributing our Little Brown Envelopes to benefit the **Fundación Santa María de la Esperanza** in Chordeleg and Gualaceo, as we have been doing for over three years. Please be as generous as your means allow!

### Reconciliation and Wednesday Mass

For those who wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this Lenten season, Father Kevin will be available at any time by appointment or on Wednesday mornings prior to our Wednesday Mass in his apartment from 10:00 am until 11:00 am.



### Prayers for Ned

A number of us will be going to the Santa Ana cemetery to visit the niche of Ned Flottman, pray for him, and place in his niche his favorite Rosary and a photo on **Saturday, March 14, 11:00 am**. If you'd like to join us, please let Father Kevin know.

## A Few Words from Father Kevin...

Dear Friends,

With the Lenten season comes the lovely custom of making “Lenten resolutions”, personal commitments to either forgo something we like (“sacrifices”), to clean up some failing in our daily life, or to actively do something we may have been neglectful of the rest of the year. All have the intention to not just to make a momentary course correction, but to truly make changes in our lives for the better. I recently saw a video from the Newman Center in Pullman, Washington, (Washington State University), where I was pastor for some years; a bunch of the students one after another were bouncing into the camera frame and announcing their Lenten resolutions; they ranged from “sleeping on the hard floor” to “taking cold showers”, to “eating only non-processed foods”. I enjoyed the earnestness and enthusiasm with which each of these young people shared their Lenten resolution! It was a great sign of their commitment to living their faith in concrete ways in their lives on campus...and a real witness to their fellow students who may be living “the college experience” in less healthy ways.

Pope Leo suggested to the Church a particular Lenten resolution, one that *all of us* might take to heart during this season and one that would also be a great witness to our neighbors and family members, reflecting to them our own commitment to live our faith *practically and positively*...and one that might be easier to actually do than sleeping on a cold floor...or *maybe it is actually much harder*. Anyways, here is Pope Leo’s invitation to us:

*"I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbor.*

*Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities.*

*In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace."*

## Church Doors to be Closed

The large grilled doors between the church vestibule and the main body of the *Iglesia de San Francisco* are now being closed during the Liturgy of the Word through the end of our Mass to minimize the disruption of the liturgy by our friends coming for the 11:00 am Mass. Please strive to arrive at church on time for Mass!

## An Urgent Appeal for Support

Cuenca’s orphanage needs your help! *Hogar Miguel León* has been in existence for 150 years and currently houses 19 girls between the ages of 3 and 17 as well as 35 elders. The seven nuns work tirelessly to provide for the people who live there, providing them with shelter, clothing, food, education, health care and stability.

The building is an ancient patrimonial house The city has mandated that the building is in need of a fire prevention system throughout. The estimated cost for these repairs is \$300,000. It involves an enormous amount of retrofitting and re-wiring. Currently, the sisters are doing repairs in increments as they have funds available.

If you can help, please contact Barbara at the email below for more information and the banking information for any contributions you might like to make. Any amount is greatly appreciated.

Contact for Barbara: [bvaecuador@gmail.com](mailto:bvaecuador@gmail.com)

## Mardi Gras Thank You!

To all who joined us for our Mardi Gras celebration on Sunday evening and especially those who brought along a delicious item to share, *Thank you!* It was a most fun gathering, especially our own version of the Mardi Gras parade to the tune of *Mardi Gras Mambo!*

## *Let Us Pray!*

- FOR THE CONTINUED HEALING OF LINDA SORRENTO’S FRIENDS, **CINDY**, AND HER BROTHER, **DON**, BOTH WITH CONGENITAL HEART CONDITIONS.
- FOR FATHER KEVIN’S BROTHER, **PAUL CODD**, WHO HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH PROSTATE CANCER AND IS AWAITING SURGERY.
- FOR **CHRYSTAL HOLLEY**, WHO IS RECOVERING FROM FOOT SURGERY IN TEXAS.
- FOR SHARON FLOTTMAN’S GOOD FRIEND, **CHRISTY**, WHO IS EXPERIENCING SEVERAL SEVERE MEDICAL ISSUES.
- FOR THOSE WHO ARE OR WILL SOON BE TRAVELLING, ESPECIALLY **CHRYSTAL HOLLEY** AND **KATHY CASE**.
- FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN UKRAINE AND IN ALL COUNTRIES AFFLICTED BY WAR.
- FOR ALL WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM THE FLOODING IN AYUASI.