



# Saint Francis Catholic Community in Cuenca

Pentecost-A, May 24, 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 the Parroquet  
de San Francisco



## **Father Kevin Codd,**



Presider  
of the English-Speaking  
Catholics of Cuenca.  
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## **REGULAR EVENTS:**

### **Mass in English:**

Sunday: 10:00 am

*Followed by Coffee & Not Donuts*

Iglesia San Francisco  
Padre Aguirre y Pdte. Cordova  
(Plaza San Francisco)

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

**Reconciliation and Anointing of the  
Sick:** By appointment.

## **We're on Social Media**

- ❖ Our WEBSITE:  
[CuencaCatholic.org](http://CuencaCatholic.org)
- ❖ You can find us on FACEBOOK  
at [SAINT FRANCIS CATHOLIC  
COMMUNITY OF CUENCA, EC](https://www.facebook.com/SaintFrancisCatholicCommunityofCuencaEC)
- ❖ Audio of Father Kevin's recent  
homilies and his blog are found  
at: [KACODD.COM/homilies](http://KACODD.COM/homilies)

## **Pray the Rosary for peace with Pope Leo XIV**

Saturday, May 30 at noon our time, Pope Leo will lead a worldwide Rosary for peace in the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes in the Vatican Gardens. Each decade will be dedicated to people impacted by war. All are invited to pray with the pope. To view the pope and pray along with him, you can go to the Vatican News YouTube channel under the Live section.

## **Father Kevin is back and so is Wednesday Mass**

Father Kevin has returned from his trip to the U.S. to visit family, sell his house in Spokane, and prepare to return here to take on ownership of his new house. The trip was successful and stressful and traveling is always tiresome. But he will preside at the Sunday Mass this week and start the Wednesday Mass at his apartment at 11:00 am, as usual.

## **Little Brown Envelopes this Sunday**

This Sunday is our own Little Brown Envelope Sunday. As we do on the last Sunday of every month, we will be distributing the now-familiar Little Brown Envelopes as we gather for Mass. Your generous donations support the important ministry of the Fundación de Santa Maria de la Esperanza in Chordeleg and Gualaceo. The Foundation gives a life-long home and care to abandoned children, adults, and the elderly of our area.

## **St. Francis at the Church of San Damiano**



Francis stepped into the fallen down San Damiano Church. But there was a cross, a glorious cross, which we now call the San Damiano Cross. It was from this image of the crucifixion that Jesus spoke to St. Francis and asked him, or rather told him, "FRANCIS, Rebuild my Church!" That San Damiano Cross has a beauty and meaning all its own. On Instagram, Chrystal Holley has "31 Days to San Damiano and Jesus." Each day has an extremely short reflection on one part of this crucifix. You can see Chrystal if you would like her to send you a copy of this document

## Magnifica Humanitas

"Humanity, created by God in all its grandeur, is today facing a pivotal choice: either to construct a new Tower of Babel or to build the city in which God and humanity dwell together." This is the opening sentence of Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas* (Magnificent Humanity).

There is not enough space here to adequately summarize the document. It is a document that every Catholic should read carefully. The document is not a light read. If you download the document from the Vatican website, you will have a 51 page, 245 paragraph document that consists of five chapters, an introduction, and a conclusion.

While most of the headlines in the news media have stressed the encyclical as focusing on the possible dangers of artificial intelligence, it is much more than that. Certainly, AI and new technologies are addressed; not as inherently good or bad, but as something that must be considered in the context of social justice and used for the common good.

Beginning with Pope Leo XIII's encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (New Things) in 1891, the document describes the dynamic approach to how Catholic Social Doctrine adapts to the challenges of a changing world. Pope Leo identifies the contributions to this doctrine from all the popes in the last 100 years. The first two chapters may very well become required reading for courses in Catholic Social Teaching.

Some, possibly many, Catholics will not read the complete document, but will hopefully find a good summary. If you do, please find one from a Catholic source and not a media outlet or an AI summary. I asked five different AI systems to summarize the document. All of them indicated the focus was mainly on artificial intelligence. Some added information about the human and social aspects. Each seemed to have its own bias.

Happy reading.

## U.S. Regional Federal Benefits Visit to Cuenca

Representatives from the Regional Federal Benefits Office will visit Cuenca on **June 4 & 5, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm** to offer services for beneficiaries or individuals with questions about U.S. Social Security benefits. The services are at the [Abraham Lincoln Center](#), Calle Borrero 5-18 y Honorato Vásquez, Cuenca.

**Appointment is necessary.** You can walk in but be prepared to wait. You can find the link for the appointment and the forms on the Embassy page: <https://bit.ly/492O3my> or use this QR code:



Foreign Enforcement Questionnaire (FEQ): FBU will accept the "proof of life" forms. These do not require appointments.

- If you receive payments in your own name, complete form SSA-7162. For your convenience, we have a copy of this form for you to download at <https://bit.ly/SSA-7162>.
- If you receive payments through a representative payee or are a representative payee, complete form SSA-7161.

## Let Us Pray...

- FOR **CORNELIA**, FRIEND OF RICHARD FRAUMENI WHO IS SUFFERING FROM HEART PROBLEMS.
- FOR 2-YEAR-OLD **MURPHY LAWSON**, SALLIE LAWSON'S GRANDDAUGHTER WHO WAS DIAGNOSED WITH WILLIAMS SYNDROME, A GENETIC CONDITION.
- FOR SUCCESSFUL RECOVERY FROM SURGERY FOR **JOHN FRANKOWSKI**.
- FOR FATHER KEVIN'S BROTHER, **BILL CODD**, WHO EXPERIENCED A POSSIBLE TIA THIS PAST WEEK.
- FOR FR. **JOSÉ LUIS MILLÁN**, A PRIEST OF SPOKANE AND A FRIEND OF FR. KEVIN, RECOVERING FROM ENCEPHALITIS
- CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR LINDA SORRENTO'S FRIENDS **DON**, HEART TRANSPLANT PATIENT, AND HIS SISTER **CINDY**, ALSO WITH CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT.
- FOR ALL WHO ARE OR SOON WILL BE TRAVELLING: **NANCY AND WARD SMYTH, LOREE RICHOT, AND FATHER KEVIN**.
- FOR AN END TO WAR AND VIOLENCE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, AND HOPE FOR JUST AND LASTING PEACE.