



Saint Francis Catholic Community in Cuenca

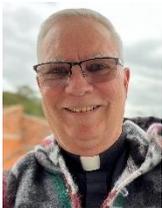
5th Sunday of Ordinary Time-A, February 8, 2026

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

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

Ash Wednesday

The Lenten season is soon to begin; Ash Wednesday is just ten days away, February 18th. We will celebrate Mass together with the blessing and distribution of ashes to begin this penitential season on **Wednesday, at 10:00 am**, in the *Iglesia de San Francisco*.

Please remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of both *fasting* and *abstinence*. "Abstinence" means not eating meat that day; seafood is allowed. "Fasting" means consuming only one substantial meal during the day (no meat) and up to two small snacks. Fasting is not obligatory for those who are ill or are over the age of 65.

All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence as well.



Mardi Gras/Carnival

With the coming of the Lenten season, it is customary in many cultures to celebrate with food and fun before the fast begins! Here in Ecuador, "Carnival" involves lots of feasting and lots of water being thrown at perfect strangers!

Our Saint Francis community will celebrate "Mardi Gras/Carnival" with a pot-luck dinner at Father Kevin's apartment on **Sunday, February 15th, beginning at 4:00 pm**. Already on the menu: King's Cake, Gumbo, and Lasagna! To add your dish to the list, please contact **Letty Foronda**: l4onda88@gmail.com or by WhatsApp at +1 713 256 0551. All are welcome!

Little Brown Envelopes!

On Sunday, January 25, we took up our Little Brown Envelope collection to support the excellent work of the *Fundacion de Santa Maria de la Esperanza* in Chordeleg and Gualaceo. Through your generosity we were able to send to the Fundación a total of **\$460**. Padre Jorge expresses to you all his great gratitude for your donations!

The just one is a light in darkness to the upright.

A Few Words from Father Kevin...

Dear Friends,

So this is Superbowl Sunday, right? Seattle Seahawks vs some team from out East, right? Oh yeah, the Pennsylvania Patriots, I think!

Well, as a Spokane boy, I am with the Seahawks all the way, though I seldom follow American football except when our Washington State team is in the running. I read recently that the Seahawks have only ever made it to the Superbowl in the years when a new pope has been elected; I'm not sure what that might mean, but it sounds about right!

The commercials for the Superbowl are a big deal as advertising agencies show off their best work; when the game itself is boring, it is the commercials that everyone talks about the next day. Sometimes, the half-time entertainment is far more entertaining than either the game or the commercials. This year's star, I understand, is Bad Bunny, a Puerto Rican pop phenom who sings mostly in Spanish. I don't know his music, but I will be listening closely to see if the lyrics make any sense to me, though I have to admit, even English lyrics in popular music nowadays don't make much sense to me. I have read that there has been some disquiet in some corners of American society about the choice of Bad Bunny as the star of the half-time show precisely because he mostly sings in Spanish and therefore is "not really American." He is a U.S. citizen, of course, having been born and raised in Puerto Rico...an American territory since the Spanish-American war, so plenty American enough for me.

I find very hard to buy the presumption that Latino-Americans, or Filipino-Americans, or Native Americans, or *any-variety Americans* are not *really* Americans unless they are light-skinned and speak unaccented English (whatever that might be: Minnesota flat? Louisiana lilt? New Jersey hard-voweled? Big City jive?). Almost all of us North Americans have our roots far from America. My great-great grandparents (on my father's side) came straight out of Ireland, and they all surely spoke with *that* lovely accent. On my mom's side, my grandparents came to Minnesota from Quebec; I remember my grandma speaking in French more than English with my aunts and uncles in the kitchen at her little house in Yakima. I loved the sound of that chatter when I was a little kid and never ever thought it was anything but American. I would now even say it was *tres Americain* as is every accent, language, and skin color in North America. So anyway, *bon dimanche de le Superbowl!*

A Note on Communion under Both Species

As you know, since the beginning of Advent, we have been making available the Blood of Christ at Communion during Sunday Mass and doing so as it is commonly done in the U.S., Canada, and other countries: *directly from the chalice*. Please note that the chalice should be taken in hand by the communicant and a small sip taken; the chalice is then returned to the hands of the Eucharistic Minister. *Dipping the host into the chalice is not generally allowed.*

Church Doors to be Closed

The large grilled doors between the church vestibule and the main body of the *Iglesia de San Francisco* will be 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!



Wednesday Mass

Please join us every Wednesday for Mass in Father Kevin's apartment, 11:00 am. Mass is followed by coffee, tea, and something to nibble on.

The sacrament of Reconciliation is available before Mass by appointment with Father Kevin.

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 A TREATMENT PLAN.
- 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 **REV. SCOTT MCCOLL**, A GOOD FRIEND OF FATHER KEVIN, WHO PASSED AWAY RECENTLY AFTER A BRIEF STRUGGLE WITH AN AGGRESSIVE LEUKEMIA.
- FOR THE BROTHER OF DON FORONDA, **ARNOLD FORONDA**, WHO IS RECOVERING FOR MITRAL VALVE SURGERY IN ROME.
- FOR THOSE WHO ARE OR WILL SOON BE TRAVELLING, ESPECIALLY **CHRYSTAL HOLLEY** AND **KATHY CASE**.