



Saint Francis Catholic Community in Cuenca

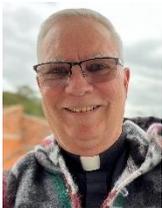
6th Sunday of Ordinary Time-A, February 15, 2026

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 this Wednesday, February 18th. We will celebrate Mass together with the blessing and distribution of 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/Carnaval

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, "Carnaval" 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 this **Sunday, February 15th, beginning at 4:00 pm**. Already on the menu: King's Cake, Chili, 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!

A Lenten Invitation to our Community: Rice!

As we soon begin the 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 Ash Wednesday and 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 Historico* of Cuenca.



A Few Words from Father Kevin...

Dear Friends,

As some of you know, for the last few months, I have been somewhat casually looking for a place to live outside of the city. There are a number of reasons for this, but perhaps the most important is that I have been feeling, hopefully under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the need to use the late years of my life in a less “active” mode than what I have been accustomed to for the past 46 years...and to become more contemplative, quieter, and certainly more open to the breezes of the Holy Spirit passing by. It is kind of a “late-vocational” thing.

Well, about a month ago, a parishioner mentioned a place that might be coming open out in the area of Santa Ana, beyond El Valle. He put me in contact with the owners in the U.S. and they sent me some photos of the place; it seemed lovely. Eventually, I visited the house and its 1,000 square meters of land and was really quite smitten with the rustic house, the ample yard, and the lovely rural neighborhood that surrounds it, a place called *Auquilula*. With great advice from some of you, last Monday I made an offer for the property, which was turned down, then a second offer, which was accepted on Thursday. I will fund the purchase from my Roth IRA, which has just enough to do this. The move out to *Auquilula* won't take place until June, presuming all goes well with the closing process.

What will this change mean for *us*? Well, I am committed to continuing the Sunday Mass at 10:00 am just as it has been the past three years...that won't change. On the other hand, I might not be quite as available during the week for other pastoral or social activities, so a bit more planning will probably be needed for those things. We will have to feel our way around for a while, I'm sure, and figure out some new ways of doing things, but that is fine. The new place is about a 25-minute drive from Megamaxi, taking the El Valle road; Cuenca's #24 bus actually terminates right in front of the house...and that ride is about 45-60 minutes depending on traffic. I will have a cheery party out there for all of you once I get settled in!

So, see you this summer in *Auquilula*!



One Time Volunteer Opportunity!

Jorge Patiño, teacher of English at the *Colegio Sagrados Corazones*, invites native English speakers to help out with their school's English language program by visiting with groups of kids to talk about their recent reading assignments...all in English. Sample questions for the kids will be provided. The program will take place this coming **Thursday, February 19th, 9:00 am- 10:45 am**. You can let Father Kevin know if you are interested or contact Jorge by WhatsApp: 093 920 6348. The *Colegio* is located at 3 de noviembre, between Leon XIII and Simon Bolivar.

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.

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!

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 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 HOUSED AND FED IN THE **POSADA SAN FRANCISCO**.