



Saint Francis Catholic Community in Cuenca

6th Sunday of Easter-A, May 10, 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.
Contact Father Kevin at:
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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
- ❖ You can find us on FACEBOOK
at [SAINT FRANCIS CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY OF CUENCA, EC](#)
- ❖ Audio of Father Kevin's recent
homilies and his blog are found
at: KACODD.COM/homilies



WHILE FATHER KEVIN IS AWAY

During the Sundays Father Kevin is in Spokane preparing for his move to the new house here, **Sunday Mass continues at the regular 10:00 am time.** Padre Joffre celebrates the Mass in Spanish, and the Liturgy of the Word, Reflection, and songs will be in English. The Gospel reflections are offered by members of our community. Father Kevin will be back on *Sunday, May 31st.*

"Coffee and Pastries" will still continue after Mass during his absence. Please take time to come and meet and chat with members of the community.

There will be no weekday Masses while Father Kevin is away.

Peace be with you

"Peace be with you." This was the first sentence spoken by Pope Leo XIV one year ago. If there has been one word to describe the pope's first year, it would be "peace." He has placed himself and the church at the forefront of world with his relentless call for peace. One wonders if he saw this coming and chose Leo as his name. Pope Leo I, now known as St. Leo the Great. In 452 AD, met Attila, leader of the Huns, Attila. After the encounter, Attila turned his army around and left Italy.

No one knows what was said during the encounter; perhaps Leo reminded Attila of the famine and plague that was ravishing Italy at the time. However Attila was convinced to leave, the hand of God was certainly involved.

Some of us who are old enough to remember how prayers for peace became a major theme during the 1960s and 70s. This was a time of the Cold War and the controversial Vietnam war. Christians of all denominations were urged to pray for peace. January 1, 1972 was designated a World Day of Peace. Pope Paul VI appealed to the church in his message saying, "*If you want peace, work for justice!*"

With Pope Leo's leadership, perhaps the Church is again being called to this mission with increased urgency. Conflicts, hatred, injustice seem to be spiraling upward in our modern world. People of good will, especially those who follow Jesus, must remember his words "Blessed are the peacemakers," and work for justice and pray for peace.

One year of Pope Leo XIV

On May 8, 2025 white smoke rose from the Sistine Chapel announcing that a new pope had been chosen, after one of the shortest in modern history. The biggest surprise was that an American would now walk in the shoes of the fisherman. Cardinal Robert Prevost, an American from Chicago, became Pope Leo XIV.

Unless you have decided to fast from almost all communication media, you have seen many summaries of Pope Leo's first year. I went through as many references that I could manage to gather a list of things that may indicate how he and his papacy evolves.

- Pope Leo is not Pope Francis; he is his own person. He listens and does not act impulsively.
- He has taken the position of continuing the work started by Pope Francis, such as synodality.
- Many opinions are that Francis reignited the spirit of Vatican II and Leo will implement it.
- He made significant impact with young people, addressing about one million young people during the Jubilee of Youth and the National Catholic Youth Conference.
- *Dilexi Te*, his first apostolic letter, emphasizes the idea that the poor are not simply objects of charity but also evangelists who prompt us to conversion through their example of weakness and reliance on God.
- He is a strong advocate for peace and for the dignity of all. He will not be swayed from preaching the gospel message. He has made over 400 appeals for peace and dialogue in his first year.
- He has earned followers outside of the Catholic Church who have heard his message and agree with his words and actions.
- He does not back down from a fight. He is from Chicago after all.

Pope Leo is Just Another Customer

This week a humorous story appeared in several outlets about Pope Leo. His friend, Fr. Tom McCarthy related it to a gathering in Napierville, IL last week.

A couple of months after his election, Pope Leo called his bank to update his account information. He identified himself to the customer service agent as Robert Prevost. He then went through the questions to prove that he was, indeed, the account holder, and answered them correctly. After he told the agent what he wanted to do, the agent then said that it would not be possible to make the changes and that he would have to come in person to the bank to make them. He told the agent that it really was not possible to go to the bank in person. The agent was adamant about this; rules are rules.

Pope Leo is a humble man, but this once, he thought he might try to pull rank to get the changes made over the phone. He said to the agent, "Would it matter if I told you that I'm Pope Leo?" The agent hung up!! A priest friend who knew the bank president intervened, lent a hand and got things sorted out.

Remember this, the next time you're hanging on the phone with a customer service representative, that you're just another customer too.

Let Us Pray...

- FOR **CORNELIA**, FRIEND OF RICHARD FRAUMENI WHO IS IN ICU, AWAITING FOR A NEW HEART.
- FOR SUCCESSFUL RECOVERY FROM SURGERY FOR **JOHN FRANKOWSKI**.
- FOR TROY WELCH'S UNCLE, **DAVE IDLEMAN**, WHO IS RECOVERING FROM STAGE FOUR CANCER TREATMENT.
- 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
- FOR THE CONTINUED HEALING OF LIND SORRENTO'S FRIENDS, **CINDY**, AND HER BROTHER, **DON**, BOTH WITH CONGENITAL HEART CONDITIONS. DON RECEIVED A NEW HEART, SO THAT PRAYER HAS BEEN ANSWERED.
- FOR ALL WHO ARE OR SOON WILL BE TRAVELLING: **NANCY AND WARD SMYTH, WILLIAM AND TAE SUK HARPER, AND FATHER KEVIN**.
- FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY RAGING WILDFIRES IN THE SOUTHEASTERN U.S.
- FOR AN END TO WAR AND VIOLENCE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, AND HOPE FOR JUST AND LASTING PEACE.
- FOR A PROMPT SALE OF FATHER KEVIN'S HOME IN SPOKANE