



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.
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](https://www.facebook.com/SaintFrancisCatholicCommunityofCuencaEC)
- ❖ Audio of Father Kevin's recent
homilies and his blog are found
at: KACODD.COM/homilies



FATHER KEVIN RETURNS NEXT WEEK

Next week Father Kevin will be back from his visit to the U.S. Padre Joffre will again celebrate the 10:00 am 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. "Coffee and Pastries" continue after Mass. Please take time to come and meet and chat with members of the community. There will be no weekday Mass this week.

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.

St. Francis Plenary Indulgence

Last week Chrystal Holley wrote about the plenary indulgence available for this Jubilee Year of St. Francis. Here are the details for how to obtain the indulgence.

Make a pilgrimage to any Franciscan church or to any place of worship dedicated to St. Francis anywhere in the world. In addition, one must:

- receive Holy Communion on the same day,
- go to Confession within eight days before or after the visit,
- recite the Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be for the intentions of the Holy Father.

One Question for God

Even though I'm a nerd and have the computer on for a good part of the day, it's mostly playing music on YouTube while I read, write, or develop programs.

I don't generally listen to podcasts, except for one; *The Spiritual Life with Fr. James Martin, S.J.* It tries to answer, "What does it mean to live a Spiritual Life?" Each episode is a conversation with a guest; many who are well-known, and some I've never heard of. It shows combines practical wisdom with deep reflections from spiritual masters like Joyce Rupp and Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe, and well-known seekers such as Stephen Colbert and Whoopi Goldberg—all tracing the mystery of God's activity in their own lives.

It's hard to stay up with the weekly releases. Being a nerd, I was especially drawn to an episode where the guest was Br. Guy Consolmango, S.J. who is an astronomer and the former director of the Vatican Observatory. He has degrees from MIT and a PhD in planetary science from the University of Arizona.

The discussions about faith and science, the Big Bang theory (I learned that it was first proposed by a Belgian Catholic priest, Fr. Georges Lemaître), were fascinating. There was one segment, however, that really caught my attention. It was a question about a question. I thought I would share this with those reading this: *What one question do you want to ask God about when you get to heaven?*

I've thought about this since listening to the podcast. I don't have an answer, but it is, for me, a great prompt when I want to have a meditative prayer time. Perhaps you, dear reader, might find it a fruitful way to enter into a conversation with God.

Next week, Fr. Kevin will be back. I hope I've provided some food for thought these past weeks.

--Gary

Magnifica humanitas, available May 25

The Vatican announced this week that Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, *Magnifica humanitas*, will be published on Monday, May 25. Magnifica humanitas translates to "Magnificent humanity." According to the Vatican News, the encyclical will focus on safeguarding the human person in the time of artificial intelligence. The document was signed by the pope on May 15, 2026, 135 years after Pope Leo XIII issued his encyclical *Rerum novarum* (of new things), which addressed the rights and duties of capital and labor, proposing a middle path between unbridled capitalism and socialism. It calls for a cooperative effort between the Church, the State, employers, and workers. It argues that true social peace can only be achieved when society is organized according to the principles of Christian justice and charity.

In addition to Pope Leo's focus on peace and justice, he also has discussed the benefits and evils of modern technology on humanity, especially the application of artificial intelligence.

Magnifica humanitas will be available to read and download on the Vatican website on Monday. Bishop Daniel Flores, the bishop of Brownsville, TX, wrote in an article for America Magazine: "Ironically, the first thing many will do upon the publication of the Holy Father's encyclical is ask an artificial intelligence app for a summary of it." He suggests that we **read** the document, think deeply, and pray from that place within the WORD himself dwells.

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 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
- 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.
- FOR A PROMPT SALE OF FATHER KEVIN'S HOME IN SPOKANE.