14th Annual Blue Mass
September 27, 2023
As we gather here today for the Blue Mass, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your service to the communities on behalf of the people of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. Your commitment to serve and protect our communities is greatly appreciated. I know you put yourself in harm’s way protecting us, while making our communities safe for us to live in. I know the sacrifices your families also have to make. I pray that God will protect and keep you safe as you continue to serve our communities.

May the peace and love of God be with you and your families.

Yours in the Risen Lord,

Most Rev. John C. Wester
Gathering Song
National Hymn by George Warren/Daniel C. Roberts

God of the Ages

1. God of the ages, whose almighty hand
2. Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
3. From war’s alarms, from deadly pestilence,
4. Refresh thy people on their toilsome way;

leads forth in beauty all the starry band
in this free land with thee our lot is cast;
be thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
lead us from night to never-ending day;

of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay,
thy true religion in our hearts increase;
fill all our lives with love and grace divine,

our grateful songs before thy throne arise.
thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.
thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.
and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.
Greeting  Please Stand

Penitential Rite/Glory to God

Opening Prayer

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And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ, so that we may no longer be infants, tossed by waves and swept along by every wind of teaching arising from human trickery, from their cunning in the interests of deceitful scheming.

Rather, living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into him who is the head, Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, with the proper functioning of each part, brings about the body's growth and builds itself up in love.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23

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Gospel Acclamation  / “Alleluia!” Please stand.

GOSPEL
The Lord be with you.
And with your Spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test him and said, "Teacher, what must I do to I inherit eternal life?"

Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?"

He said in reply, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

He replied to him, "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live." But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied, "A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead.

A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn and cared for him.

The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction, 'Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.'

Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?"

He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ .

Homily: Please be seated.

Blessing of the Coins

Intercessions: Please stand. Response: Lord, Hear our Prayer

Presentation of the Gifts Please be seated.
For the Healing of the Nations

Dunstan

1. For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with
   For a just and equal sharing
   Of the things that earth affords. To a life of
   love in action Help us rise and pledge our word.

2. Lead your people into freedom, From despair your
   world release That, redeemed from war and hatred,
   All may come and go in peace. Show us how, through
   care and goodness, Fear will die and hope increase.

3. All that kills abundant living, Let it from the
   earth be banned: Pride of status, race, or schooling,
   Dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common
   quest for justice May we hollow life’s brief span.

4. You, creator God, have written Your great name on
   human-kind; For our growing in your likeness
   Bring the life of Christ to mind, That by our re-
   sponse and service Earth its destiny may find.
Eucharistic Prayer  Please Stand
Holy, Holy

Misa Santa Fe
Mary Frances Reza

Memorial Acclamation

Misa Santa Fe
Mary Frances Reza
Amen

THE COMMUNION RITE

Our Father

(Concluding the Our Father response)

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever!

Sign of Peace  (All exchange a sign a peace)

Lamb of God

Cantor:  Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world

All: Miserere nobis

(Have Mercy on us)

-Repeat-

Cantor:  Lamb of God You take away the sins of the world

All: Dona nobis pacem, Dona nobis pacem

(Grant us peace)

Ike Ndolo, Matt Maher, Tam Le-Mass of Communion
Communion Song: Litany of Peace

1. God of love, your gift of peace is planted
2. God of peace, wherever there is hatred,
3. May we bring your hope and gladness where despair,
4. May we seek to understand another
5. Faithful God, wherever there is darkness,
6. God of mercy, help us to forgive when
7. Gracious God, wherever people hunger,
8. Set us free from all our fear and anger;

Refrain

1. deep within our hearts: Make me an instrument
2. may we bring your love:
3. spair and sadness are:
4. with a patient heart:
5. may we bring your light:
6. there is injury done:
7. may we fill their need:
8. set us free to love:

of your peace. Make me an instrument of your peace.

“Litany of Peace.” Text: Based on the prayer traditionally ascribed to St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226).
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Communion Song

Where You Lead Me

Verse
Where You lead me
I will follow
With Your rod and staff to guide me
Over mountains
Through the valleys
You will bring my heart through safely
And I will rest in the shadow of Your wings
My soul follows hard after Thee

Chorus
O my God You are my keeper
And You have everything I need
You're my Shepherd
My soul follows hard after Thee
Jacque DeShetler | Shawn Craig
Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music)

Prayer after Communion

Please be seated

Special Prayers of Commendation

Prison Chaplain-Prayer
Police Chaplain– Prayer and Last Dispatch
Fire Department Chaplain-Prayer
Fire Department Chaplain–Striking of the 4 5’s
Please stand
National Guard Chaplain– Prayer
Taps
Bagpipes– Amazing Grace

Dignitary Comments

Tim Keller, Mayor of Albuquerque
THE CONCLUDING RITE

Final Blessing  Please Stand

Dismissal

Recessional Song  Christ, Be Our Light! by Bernadette Farrell
America, The Beautiful- Patriotic Hymn by Ward/Bates

CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness, Longing for truth, we turn to you.
   Make us your own, your holy people. Light for the world to see.

2. Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
   Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

3. Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
   Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.

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America the Beautiful

1. O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
   For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!
   America! America! God shed His grace on thee
   And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!

2. O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,
   Who more than self their country loved And mercy more than life!
   America! America! God shed His grace on thee And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea!
Alamogordo Police Officer Anthony Ferguson died after being shot early Saturday morning, July 15, 2023, in the line of duty. Officer Anthony Ferguson, 41, was an 11-year veteran of the Alamogordo Police Department and served in the Patrol Division as a Field Training Officer. He is survived by his mother, father, four brothers, daughter, and son.
A POLICE OFFICER'S PRAYER

Lord I ask for courage
Courage to face and
Conquer my own fears...
Courage to take me
Where others will not go...
I ask for strength
Strength of body to protect others
And strength of spirit to lead others...
I ask for dedication
Dedication to my job, to do it well
Dedication to my community
To keep it safe...
Give me Lord, concern
For others who trust me
And compassion for those who need me...
And please Lord
Through it all
Be at my side...
--Author Unknown

THE FIREFIGHTER'S PRAYER

When I'm called to duty, God,
wherever flames may rage
give me strength to save a life
whatever be its age
Help me to embrace a little child
before it is too late
or save an older person from
the horror of that fate
Enable me to be alert
to hear the weakest shout
and quickly and efficiently
to put the fire out
I want to fill my calling and
to give the best in me
to guard my neighbor and
protect his property
And if according to your will
I have to lose my life
bless with your protecting hand
my children and my wife.
--Author Unknown

A SOLDIER'S PRAYER

When I am called to serve, Dear Lord,
Wherever war may be,
Give me courage to fight the battles,
My country may ask of me.
Grace me with Your presence,
And know that I love You,
While I fight the enemy,
My country needs me to.
Help me protect my comrades,
As You expect me to,
And keep me in Your loving hands,
While I do what I must do.
I want to do my duty,
And to give the best in me,
To do what I've been called to do,
And protect our liberty.
And if, according to Your will,
I must give up my life,
Please bless with Your protecting hand,
My children and my wife.
Fred White
Chief Warrant Officer
U.S. Army (Retired)

CORRECTIONS OFFICER'S PRAYER

Lord, when it's time to go inside,
That place of steel and stone.
I pray that you will keep me safe,
So I won't walk alone.
Help me to do my duty,
Please watch me on my rounds.
Amongst those perilous places
And slamming steel door sounds.
God, Keep my fellow Officers
Well and free from harm.
Let them know I'll be there too,
Whenever there's alarm.
Above all when I walk my beat,
No matter where I roam.
Let me go back whence I came,
To family and home.
By Lt. Larry Peoples
Thank you to all who helped to make this event special:

Most Reverend John C. Wester, Archbishop of Santa Fe

The Honorable Timothy M. Keller, Mayor of Albuquerque

City of Albuquerque, New Mexico

Archdiocese of Santa Fe Blue Mass Committee

French’s Funeral Home

New Mexico State Council of Knights of Columbus

Catholic War Veterans

Most importantly, thank you to the First Responders and their families.

PLEASE THANK OUR SPONSOR
A Special Thank You

Music Provided by the Choir & Student Body of Chesterton Academy of Albuquerque

Mr. Steven Woodbury, Music Director
Mr. William Norris, Head Master

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Thank you to all who attended this special Mass today.