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Janice Cox

**Youth Minister**  
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Leslie Farquhar

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Allison Van Antwerp

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Gwen Edwards

**School Secretary**  
Amanda Stary

**Cemetery Supervisor**  
Kirk Stary

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# SAINT PHILIP THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

FOUNDED 1909

DIOCESE OF VICTORIA IN TEXAS



304 W. Church St., El Campo, Tx. 77437  
979-543-3770 • fax: 979-578-8831

**PARISH SCHOOL:**  
979-543-2901 • fax: 979-578-8835

Parish Homepage: [www.stphilipapostle.org](http://www.stphilipapostle.org)  
Parish Email: [apostle@stphilipapostle.org](mailto:apostle@stphilipapostle.org)  
School Homepage: [www.stphilipschool.org](http://www.stphilipschool.org)

**Pastor:** Rev. Dalton R. Ervin  
**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Samuel K. Owusu

**Deacons:** Deacon Jerome Grahmann  
Deacon Larry Hoelscher

**Community Mission Statement...** *We, the people of God of Saint Philip the Apostle, in the loving and evangelizing spirit of St. Philip, form a family community that challenges each of us to proclaim and live the gospel messages of Jesus Christ in the world through worship, evangelization, Christian formation and service.*

## Sunday Eucharist Schedule

Saturday (Vigil of Sunday) ..... 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday ..... 7:00 a.m.; 10:00 a.m.; 6:00 p.m.

## Holy Day and Weekday Schedule

Holy Days ..... (check the Bulletin)  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, First Saturday ..... 8:00 a.m.  
Wednesday ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Friday during School Season ..... 8:15 a.m.

## Perpetual Adoration and Rosary

Perpetual Adoration ..... Monday 8:30 a.m. until Friday 5:00 p.m.  
Rosary ..... 30 minutes before 5:00 P.M. Saturday Evening Mass  
and 7:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday 4:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.; Saturday 3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.;  
by appointment and season schedule during Advent and Lent

## ~ PASTORAL CARE INFORMATION ~

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Please inform the Parish office at least six months before due date. Further instructions and baptismal materials will be provided at the Parish office.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Please register at the parish office as soon as possible, but at least six months prior to anticipated date.

**Ministry to the Sick and Homebound:** Call the Parish office when a family member is sick and would like a visit or would like to receive Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.

**New Parishioners and Status:** Welcome to St. Philip Parish! Call or come by the Parish office to register. Also notify us when moving out of the parish or when you have a change of family status and address.

Mass Intentions Jan 8 – Jan 13		
MON	8:00 a.m.	+ Melissa Miller
TUE	8:00 a.m.	Holy Souls in Purgatory
WED	1:45 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Priest Intention + Larry Karasek
THU	8:00 a.m.	Parishioners Intentions
FRI	8:15 a.m.	+ Mildred Janda
SAT	5:00 p.m.	+ Rudolph and Julia Janak
SUN	7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	+ Regina Kaspar Parishioners Intentions + Erin Thonsgaard, Ernest and Ann Baker



### The Epiphany of the Lord

They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

- Matthew 2:11b

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR JAN 13 & JAN 14

#### **SATURDAY— 5:00 p.m.**

**Lector:** Tish McAlister

**Cantor:** Tommy Marek

**Altar Servers:** Elizabeth Juranek, Paul Juranek

**Hospitality:** Lillian Bartek, **Need Volunteers**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**  
Rian Juranek, **Need Volunteer**

#### **SUNDAY 7:00 a.m.**

**Lector:** Donna Shelton

**Altar Servers:** Jade Thibeaux, Jude Thibeaux

**Hospitality:** Terry Priesmeyer, **Need Volunteers**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**  
Lisa Bubela, Michael Feagin

**Vocation Crucifix:** Justin and Mari Thibeaux

#### **SUNDAY— 10:00 a.m.**

**Lector:** Jim Van Antwerp, Dot Hermansen

**Cantor:** Wendy Korenek

**Altar Servers:** Rhett Dertien, Kathryn Lutringer, Matthew Van Antwerp

**Hospital/Meridian:** Dale Kight

**Hospitality:** Bruce Allgayer, Dennis Korenek, Gerry Mikeska, Jimmie Triska

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**  
John Hancock, Rita Hancock, Veronica Marek, Mary Kay Price, Ron Price

**CLOW:** Lianne Janak

#### **SUNDAY— 6:00 p.m.**

**Lector:** Polly Wilkins

**Cantor:** Abby Wallis

**Altar Servers:** Caleb Porter, Harrison Porter, Sophie Porter

**Hospitality:** **Need Volunteers**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:**  
Lynn Cox, Kevin Pavlas

### *The Epiphany of the Lord* *January 7, 2024*

#### **A Message From Our Pastor**

It is with heartfelt thanksgiving to God and sincere gratitude for you that we offer our thanks for all the many cards, gifts, sweets, snacks, and other items delivered to the rectory for us over these past few weeks. While neither of us feel quite worthy of the outpouring of appreciation and love, which you have showered us with in this Christmas Season, we receive each with gratitude in our hearts for all your goodness to us. While we wish we could acknowledge each and every one of you with a personal message, we would still be writing notes until next year! So please, accept this note as our thanks, and be assured of our prayers for you, especially when we go to the altar.

Likewise, your generosity towards the annual Gift of Christ appeal has far exceeded any expectations and is a testament to your commitment to continuing to build upon the shoulders of the giants who, before us, built up St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church to be the haven of souls and an oasis of mercy that it is today. As we embark on this new year, we do so, knowing that the future is bright for our parish, because it is Christ who is our light as we strive to be his hands and feet, bringing his mercy and his love to the men, women, and children of El Campo, Texas.

Your kindness, goodness, love, and faithfulness are inspirations to us, calling us to deeper dedication, to more steadfast service, and most importantly to greater holiness as we strive to live out God's call in our lives to serve as his priests. Perhaps we can all find the strength and grace we need to grow stronger in the greatest gift of all, the beautiful Eucharist.

May God continue to fill you with the joy of Christmas today and throughout this blessed new year.

With the tenderness, compassion, and mercy of the loving Savior,

-Fr. Dalton & Fr. Samuel

### **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

#### **Pray For The Sick...**

Annabelle Van Deursen, Anton Tupa, Dolores Priesmeyer, Melody Macha, Milton and Henrietta Machacek, Kristen Lezak, Abby Goerig, Carly Walker, Lisa Respondek Holt, Leonard Hubenak, Jennifer Martin, Irene Sedlock, Eugene Graham, Cindy Junek, Bill Culver, Carl Siglock, Shirley McMahon, Cindy Schmidt, Edith Farish, Kristi Baker, Lorrie Goodman, L. C. Koehne Jr., Lawrence Korenek, Linda Vaclavick, Frank Kacal, Cindy Blaha, Kim Underwood, Vicky Pavlu, Margaret Waters, Rickie Wiesner, Gail Zaruba, Kim Peikert, Douglas Hansen, Sue Maxwell, Frances Kappelmann, Austin Tice, Pat Cunningham, Daisy Zella, Laura Thane, Blair Ross Couey Jr., Barbara Junek, Darrell Nohavitza, Dorothy Faas, Walter and Stephanie Stepan, Louise Kubena, Billy Berry, Stephen Gaines, Gerald Ripple, Calynne Reckaway, Ginger McMasters Preite, John Scogin, Amelia Lyford, Betty Hlavinka, Jesse Wheeler, Candace Janecka, Douglas "Bubba" Dornak, Elaine Janik, Albert Socha, Clifton Bram, Alvin Merta, Dolores Resendez, Patsy Mican Smith, Melodie Kacal, Larry Grubbs, Eleanor Mican, Julia Rodriguez, Evelyn Dybala, Darlene Kahanek, Nancy Kacal, Marilyn Goerig, Braden Mican, Trent Mican, Alice Bacak Richardson, Anna Peter, Chris Dettling, and the homebound.

**FIRST READING** - 1 Samuel 3:3-10,19

Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the LORD where the ark of God was. The LORD called to Samuel, who answered, "Here I am." Samuel ran to Eli and said, "Here I am. You called me." "I did not call you," Eli said. "Go back to sleep." So he went back to sleep. Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. "Here I am," he said. "You called me." But Eli answered, "I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep." At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD, because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet. The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me." Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect.

**SECOND READING** - 1 Corinthians 6:13-15,17-20

Brothers and sisters: The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body; God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies

are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.

**GOSPEL** - John 1:35-42

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" — which translated means Teacher —, "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" — which is translated Christ —. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" — which is translated Peter.

**Key Scriptural Passage...**

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother. (Matthew 2:10)

**Questions for Discussion:**

**Adult:** When have you found the presence of Christ in an unexpected place?

**Child:** Where and in whom will you look for Jesus this week?

**Readings For The Week (Jan 8 – Jan 13)**

Monday.....Is 55:1-11/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11  
Tuesday.....1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28  
Wednesday.....1 Sm 3:1-10,19-20/Mk 1:29-39  
Thursday.....1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45  
Friday.....1 Sm 8:4-7,10-22/Mk 2:1-12  
Saturday.....1 Sm 9:1-4,17-19,10:1/Mk 1:13-17

**Men's ACTS Retreat...** Feb. 22 thru Feb 25, at the Cathedral Under the Oaks in Weimar. Registration forms are available in the church office or by contacting Joe Esquivel at (832) 725-3969, Casey Tyler at (832) 465-8507, or Randy Viktorin at (979)799-7257. Cost is \$200.00 per person; however, finances should not prevent anyone from registering. There are scholarships available.

**Adorers Needed:** We are needing adorers for **Wednesday** from 2:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m., and **Thursday** from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., Please pray and answer God's call. For more information, call Janet Holub at 543-6130.

**Pray For Our Seminarians:**

Deacon Joseph Blackburn, Aaron Padilla, Shane Goertz, Caleb Kriskchke, William Pettus, Alex Woods, Nelson Lagos

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**Epiphany Chalking The Doors...**

Epiphany (also known as Twelfth Night, *Theophany*, or Three Kings Day) marks the occasion of a time-honored Christian tradition of "chalking the doors." The formula for the ritual — adapted for 2024 — is simple: take chalk of any color and write the following above the entrance of your home: **20 + C + M + B + 24.**

The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi — Caspar, Malchior, and Balthazar — who came to visit Jesus in His first home. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and the "20" at the beginning and the "24" at the end mark the year. Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.



**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

**Those Going Home to God**

Patsy Konarik

*Life has changed, not ended...*

**Pray For Those Serving In The Military and Law Enforcement**

Nathan Cox LCRA Ranger, Zachary Elledge, IT1 US Navy, Lance Corp. Casey Winfield, USMC, David Haugh US Army Staff Sgt., Robert Drapela, Coast Guard, Zachary Montello Master Chief Sub-Lant Lance Corp., Mason Miller USMC, Spec. Christopher Alford, U.S. Army, Chris Bird, Texas Game Warden Wharton County, Lane Kocian Air Force, Shannon Srubar Sheriff, Clint Savino Chief Deputy WCSO, Captain Larry Hensley, WCSO, Captain Jason Mican, WCSO, SRO Jeffery Pfeil, ECPD, Greg Pasak Travis County SO, James Scott DOJ, James Sanders Houston PD, Arthur Debo ECPD, Braden Mican ECPD, SR Reece Mazel, Navy, Joseph Dornak, Private E2, Billy Edmiston, Infantry Marine, Brenden Norman Coast Guard, Colton Holub Army, Hunter Koudela WCSO, Jonathan Elledge, Staff Sgt. U.S. Air Force, Sgt Kurt Korenek, PD - Cy Fair ISD, Kaci Korenek USMC, Joshua Graham Douglas, Texas Guard



**We would like to thank the following families and individuals for their memorial donations to the Christmas flowers.** The total thus far is **\$1,925.00. In loving memory of:**

*Jason and Jeffrey Kachmar* by Florine Kachmar, *Anton and Edna Supak, Anton and Adella Staff* by M/M Larry Staff, J.P. Anderson, *Henry & Hattie Staff* by Margaret Anderson, *Francis Stock* by Sablatura and Stock family, *L.T., Adela, and Robert Vinklarek* by Gerry Graham. Flower memorials also given by M/M Michael Bolcik, and M/M Michael Couvillion, M/M Gerry Mikeska.

**2023 Gift To Christ...**We would like to thank the following families and individuals who have contributed to the appeal of **GIFT TO CHRIST: The total thus far is \$57,408.00.**

Lillian Bartek, M/M Raymond Viktorin Jr., M/M Michael Couvillion, M/M James McAlister, M/M Tom Bodungen, Michael Popp, M/M Steven Young, M/M Troy Malek, M/M Bill Schmidt, M/M Richard Laughlin, M/M Chad Schmidt, M/M Justin Thibeaux, M/M David Zalman, M/M Larry Cerny

M/M Sean Amestoy, Julie Strnadel, Barbara Roy, Patrick Bartos, Martha Bartos, Bernice Popp, Ruthie Buzek, Annie Kasper, M/M Phil Dornak, Irene Nohavitz, M/M Terry Priesmeyer, M/M Eugene Graham, M/AM Ben Altenhoff, Alice Blaha, Romona Stepan, M/M Mark Cochrun

Clayton Brandes, Faye Supak, Alice Koenig, M/M Gary Tupa, M/M Larry Wagner Jr. Mark Merta, Elizabeth Ramos, M/M Michael Bolcik, Jeanette Stock, M/M Larry Staff, Zachary Edwards, M/M Frank Marek, M/M Kevin Pavlas.

#### January ~ Blessing of Silence and Rest

The start of a new year: a time to renew and get back on track. But before carrying out our resolve for the year, it serves to remember that rest and silence are also valuable.

Winter's natural stillness allows a welcomed pause to the frenzied pace of our lives. As the activities of the year come to an end, we may also feel the need to slow down. The boisterous hum of family life and work is now replaced by quietness, if only for a moment.

The month of January is a good time to avail yourself to silence and rest. Do these appear as strangers to us? With practice, silence and rest can become trusted friends that fill us with deeper awareness, recharge us, and provide greater creativity for the tasks that await us in the coming spring.

In the spirit of this month's blessing, consider fasting or preparing a simple meal on the day of the blessing. Gather with family or friends in the early evening. Light a candle. After a moment of silence, begin this prayer:

Bless this silence. Teach us to recognize the treasures it gives and to desire it more often.

Bless this rest. Help us to trust it with the same faith which we give to work. Strengthened by our participation in holy silence and rest, may we come to see in winter not a death that is a final ending, but rather an opening that leads to the next life.



#### Sacrificial Giving

12-24-23 .....	\$17,884.00
12-25-23 .....	\$10,640.00
12-31-23 .....	\$14,998.00
Maintenance .....	\$605.00
School .....	\$335.00

#### New Year's Prayer for Church and State

ALMIGHTY and eternal God, You have, through Jesus Christ, revealed Your glory to all nations. We pray You to preserve the works of Your mercy, that Your Church, being spread through the whole world, may continue with unchanging faith in the confession of Your name.

We pray You, who alone are good and holy, to endow with heavenly knowledge, sincere zeal, and sanctity of life our Chief Bishop, Pope Francis, the vicar of our Lord Jesus Christ, in the government of His Church; our own Bishop; all other bishops, prelates, and pastors of the Church; and especially those who are appointed to exercise among us the functions of the holy ministry and conduct Your people into the ways of salvation.

We pray You, O God of might, wisdom, and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment decreed, to assist with Your holy spirit of counsel and fortitude the President of the United States, that his administration may be conducted in righteousness, and be eminently useful to Your people over whom he presides; by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion, by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy, and by restraining vice and immorality.

Let the light of Your divine wisdom direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government, so that they may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety, and useful knowledge, and may perpetuate to us the blessing of equal liberty.

We pray for his Excellency, the Governor Of this state, for the members of the Assembly, for all judges, magistrates, and other officers who are appointed to guard our political welfare, that they may be enabled, by Your powerful protection, to discharge the duties of their respective stations with honesty and ability.

We recommend likewise to Your unbounded mercy all our brethren and fellow citizens throughout the United States, that they may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of Your most holy law; that they may be preserved in union, and in that peace which the world cannot give; and after enjoying the blessings of this life, be admitted to those which are eternal. Amen.

#### Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord...

Jesus is God's epiphany, God's self-disclosure. In Jesus all people can walk in God's ways as sons and daughters of God. Though Jesus illuminates the path to God, not everyone follows it. The Herods of the world, who rule through domination and violence, are greatly disturbed by threats to their wealth and power. The dark clouds of fear and terror they create obscure the path to peace.

Only the wise ones—women and men who can see with the eyes of the heart—are able to perceive God's appearance on earth. They speak God's words to the downcast: "Look up and see!" Hearts that are broken throb with joy and gratitude. When we raise our eyes, we see God's glory and walk by God's light. No longer do we follow the paths of the world; we take another route, guided by the light of Christ, who leads us to our true home.



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**Calendar of Events...****Monday, January 8**

- Men's bible study at 6:00 a.m. - Meeting House.
- Bible study group session at 10:00 a.m. - Meeting House.

**Tuesday, January 9**

- KJZT will meet at 6:00 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Room.
- Upper room prayer group will meet at 6:00 p.m.
- Women's bible study at 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 10**

- CCE Grades K-12 at 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday, January 14**

- Baptism instruction class at 8:30 a.m. in the Meeting House.
- St. Philip Youth fried chicken dinner at 11:00 a.m. with plates to go only at the Columbus Club Hall. \$12.00 per plate.

**St. Philip School Catholic Super Prize Drawing Winner** for December 22 is *Clint Blaha* and December 29 is *Bennie Marek*.

**St. Philip Catholic School Distinguished Graduate Award**

St. Philip Catholic School recognizes a distinguished graduate whose accomplishments reflect the values and character of St. Philip alumni. We ask for nominations for one such graduate using the following simple criteria:

The Distinguished Graduate Award Nominee:

- Must be a graduate of St. Philip Catholic School
- Should have graduated from St. Philip at least 10 years ago
- Should have made some significant contribution to American, Texas or local society and /or the Catholic Church which reflects favorably on the education the nominee received at St. Philip Catholic School.

If you know of someone who meets the above-mentioned qualifications, please complete a nomination form. Past nominees will be considered. They can be picked up at the school office during normal business hours. Deadline for nominations will be **Jan. 12, 2024**. The 2024 Distinguished Graduate will be announced during Catholic Schools Week.

**St. Philip Youth Fried Chicken Dinner...**

St. Philip Youth will sponsor their annual fried chicken dinner Sunday, Jan. 14, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. with plates to go only at the Columbus Club Hall. \$12.00 per plate. Contact any St. Philip High School CCE student or tickets may be purchased at St. Philip rectory office.



**Strength For The Journey Grief Support Ministry** monthly meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 9th at 6:30 pm at Assumption Catholic Church Parish Hall in Ganado, Tx. Please also note a day retreat will be held Saturday, March 9th at St Philip Catholic Church, El Campo, Tx. For information contact *Pat Hoelscher* 979-257-9984 or [phoelscher@victoriadiocese.org](mailto:phoelscher@victoriadiocese.org).

**Ladies Bible Study...Come As You Are! You are welcome here! Join us for Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point.** Each lesson stands alone so please join us as we continue to explore the fundamental questions of our Catholic faith and our relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Monday mornings** beginning Jan. 8 from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. in the St. Philip Meeting Room. Questions call *Dot Hermansen* at (979)541-3023 or *Rita Hancock* at (979) 541-7475.

**Tuesday evenings** beginning Jan. 2 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Mikeska Fellowship Center. Questions call *Linda Bolcik* at (979)541-3172 or *Angie Socha* at (979) 541-6385.

**2024 SPS RUN WITH THE SAINTS**

Saturday Jan 27, 2024

St. Philip Catholic School

Join the Movement!  
New name, same great FAMILY TIME! Kick off Catholic Schools Week with our annual fun run.

Choose Your Distance

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For Inquiries, Contact Us at:  
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Register → <https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/ElCampo/RunwiththeSaints5K>

Diocese of Victoria's 2024 Men's Conference

**This IS My Body  
This IS My Blood**

February 17 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Holy Family Catholic Church, Victoria

Cost is \$60. Includes lunch, a T-shirt and snacks. Priests, deacons, and seminarians admitted free. Bring your sons, ages 15-25 at a discounted rate of \$30.



[www.DOVmen.com](http://www.DOVmen.com)

**Speakers:**

Coach Lou Holtz  
KEYNOTE



Justin Reyes



Father Dempsy Rosales Acosta

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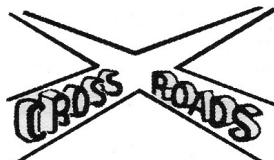
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