



Official Publication of the Polish National Catholic Church

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Issue #8

Jesus, the Holy One of God

Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop

For the past many weeks, within the Holy Gospel we have been hearing at Mass, we have been contemplating the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand with bread, then as we have traveled the weeks we have had an extended reflection upon the meaning of this sign and our encounter with this bread within the Church today.

Before this time, as we were working our way through the Gospel of St. Mark in this second year of liturgical readings, we were contending with the issues of faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We heard our Lord chastising the disciples for their lack of faith. We saw the strong faith of the woman with a hemorrhage. We heard our Lord say to the synagogue official, Jairus, when his faith and trust were tested, "Do not fear, only believe." (Mark 5:36b) and then finally, almost as a transition, we came to the miracle or sign of the feeding of the five thousand. It is here that we transitioned to St. John's Gospel taking up the same miracle. In fact this miracle appears in all four of the Gospels, but within the Gospel of St. John, it is followed by an extended reflection on its meaning, so we have taken the time through several Sundays, to ponder these reflections.

After the miracle is accomplished, Jesus withdraws from the crowds because He knows that they will try to "take Him by force to make Him king" (John 6:15b). He then travels to a different area around the Sea of Galilee, but the crowds continue to follow Him. They are motivated by the fulfilling of a physical need and desire. They had eaten their fill of

bread for one day and now they were looking for Jesus to continue meeting this need.

Jesus' response to this encounter with the crowd is to tell them bluntly, "Do not work for food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you" (John 6:27a). While we, as ones who presently attend Holy Mass within our parish churches, know that Jesus is speaking here about Holy Communion, it is important for us to reflect upon the entire saying of our Lord. Jesus warns us, "Do not work for food that perishes," but isn't this often exactly what we do. Now Jesus is not telling us to forsake our daily bread entirely, but rather asking us where we put primary emphasis. Is it in fulfilling our own selfish desires? Is it in seeking only to satisfy ourselves, forsaking others? Is it putting aside almighty God for any number of other wants? This is the question we are confronted with.

But again those following Jesus do not quite understand and they ask Him to perform a 'sign' for them. They confront Him by saying, "Moses gave them bread from heaven to eat," during the wandering in the desert. They conclude by asking what He will do for them. Jesus corrects them by reminding them that, "It was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is My Father Who gives you the true bread from Heaven" (John 6:32b). Jesus is reminding them that it was Almighty God Who had been beside the people in their entire journey from slavery to freedom and this was a foreshadowing to an even greater freedom, the freedom from sin that is being

(Continued on Page 3.)

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God's Field — Rola Boża Publication Information

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Email articles and photos to secretarytopb@PNCC.org and to godsfield@PNCC.org. If your submission was successfully delivered via email, you will receive an acknowledgement email stating that your submission was received. To ensure clarity of graphics, please send JPEG or TIFF formatted pictures with a resolution of at least 300 pixels per inch. **Please identify individuals in photographs or caption photographs.**

Typewritten articles and photographs may be submitted to:

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Scranton, PA 18505-4109

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accomplished in the life of our Lord Jesus. It is for this reason that St. John, within his Gospel, refers to miracles, such as this one of feeding the five thousand with bread, as a 'sign' since it points to something larger and better. The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand with bread points to Almighty God feeding the disciples and followers of Jesus with the bread from heaven, the Holy Eucharist, within the celebration of Holy Mass.

In the reading of the Holy Gospel in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Sundays in Ordinary Time we hear our Lord being much more concrete about where this 'sign' is pointing. He tells the crowds, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in Me will never be thirsty" (John 6:35). But of course, as Jesus gets more explicit in His description of the sign, the crowds find it more and more difficult to fully accept both the explanation and the self-designation of Jesus.

It is within the final Sunday where we reflect on the fullest meaning of the Holy Eucharist that we begin to hear of those falling away. Again, the Gospel tells us: "Because of this many of His disciples turned back and no longer went about with Him" (John 6:66). Again, we must pause here for a reflection upon our own lives. While many of us may attend church, do we truly believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist? Do we truly believe that Jesus comes to us in the reception of Holy Communion? Does this presence of Jesus transform us to be more like Him? And further can we then confess ourselves as the body of Christ in the world today, accomplishing the work and will of Jesus to build the kingdom of God?

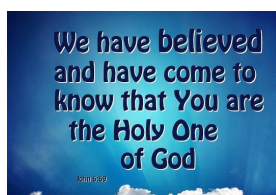
This then comes to the forefront when Jesus puts a question to the disciples, "Do you also wish to go away?" (John 6:67b). This is also the question that is put to us whenever we find ourselves challenged by

the world around us. In times of difficulty, when we do not understand fully the workings of God and the world around us, we are challenged with this question.

It is especially during these difficult times that we must renew our commitment to join in the worship of Almighty God in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. It is then that we have to renew our commitment to acknowledge Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist, gather with our parish family and to receive Him in Holy Communion. Getting back to the earlier discussions of faith in Jesus where we left off in the Gospel of Mark, it is especially in difficult times that we must renew and strengthen our faith in Jesus as the Son of God and our salvation.

It is in difficult times, whether within our own personal lives, or even when we are faced with a national or world-wide difficulty like the present, that we must make the determination to join with the people of God within our parishes to worship Him; join with our parish family to receive Jesus present in the Eucharist and go about doing the work of God and witness to His saving help around us; join with others as an active and faithful follower and disciple of Jesus Christ.

My brothers and sisters, St. Peter, within the words of the Holy Gospel, shows us the attitude we must take when we are confronted and challenged by the difficulties of life when he says, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68a). Jesus has the words of eternal life and He is the "Word of God." The Word that was in the beginning, the Word through which all things came into being. The Word that became flesh and lived among us. This Word, this flesh, is certainly and truly available to us when we gather in the celebration of Holy Mass and receive the Holy Communion. Jesus is still present within the Holy Eucharist. Let us proclaim like St. Peter, "We have come to believe and know that [Jesus is] the Holy One of God" (John 6:69).



Speak Where God Speaks

Rev. Jim Konicki, Chair, P.N.C.C. Vocations Commission

Means of communication? Perhaps it is the 'old guy' in me remembering the black dial telephone in the little nook at the bottom of our stairs. It seemed to take forever to dial someone; the dial was hard to move, and you paid for every call. I remember wishing that a person's telephone number would not have nines or zeros. When the big holidays arrived, mom would call my uncles in Florida and Delaware so my Busia could talk to them (in Polish, of course). We were provided with exactly one second to say hello – long distance was expensive.

We no longer pay-per-call – we have plans. Long distance – it is a distant memory. A call, text, message, or e-mail – second nature. Where we wore out our fingers dialing, we now wear them out texting and e-mailing.

Perhaps, we can take a moment to consider where we are speaking as well as where God speaks to us. It is not so much the mechanics or means - the how - but rather where our and God's appeals are directed?

Throughout history, God focuses on the heart of His people; for from the right heart comes love, unity, and peace with God and each other. When people strayed from God and betrayed each other, He did not say He was going to fix their brain, but rather would provide them *a new heart, and a new spirit* (cf. Ezekiel 11:19, 36:26). When God uses heart in this sense, He is speaking about our entire being. The Hebrew word for heart, *lev/levav* more often referred to a person in their wholeness, their complete being, heart, soul, and mind, rather than the anatomical. God would give His staying people a new and clean self; their entire being would be renewed – and He fulfilled that in Jesus Who calls us to new life.

In the West we have a very long tradition of over-intellectualization. Everything about God's relationship and communication with us and our relationship and communication with God and each other must be philosophically, theologically, and scientifically analyzed. All mystery must be removed, because if we do not understand it cannot be true. We are overly mind focused often to the exclusion of our hearts and souls in our acceptance of God's great mysteries. We recite prayers rather than live them. As such, we must take a caution in relationship and communication so

as not to rely on, as Proverbs tells us, our own understanding (our brain alone): *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.* (Proverbs 3:5). We are called then, by God, to focus our relationships and communications based on His way of doing things, i.e., with our whole selves, our *lev/levav*.

Jesus told us that the greatest commandment requires us to: "*love the Lord our God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our mind,*" and also that we "*love our neighbor as ourself.*" (Matthew 22:37,39) We are to be all-in with our whole selves: heart, soul, and mind, our *lev/levav*. We cannot exclude one part of ourselves in our engagement with God and each other.

So, we understand that our mean of communication, the where of our speaking to God and each other, must be whole person focused. Our appeals to God in faith and to each other in encouragement must come from our whole being. Our communication must be towards God's and each other's whole being for that is how God speaks to us. As an athlete dedicates his or her whole being to their endeavors, let us dedicate our whole selves to God and each other.

God is not silent, nor has He abandoned us. He remains engaged with us. He speaks, but perhaps we may not be listening with our whole selves, at the *lev/levav* level. If we see and experience conflict among each other, we may be speaking to each other at the wrong level. If people reject our overtures and invitations to faith, we might not be putting our whole selves into the effort. It is not too late, for God has not abandoned us. He is speaking and so must we.

Rather than pick up the phone, text, e-mail, or messenger, let us pick up our whole selves and engage with God and each other, bring the word that God loves us completely. Listen for God who calls us to His love, unity, and peace. He is sending His call to the priesthood and diaconate, and to faithfulness among all Christians, at our *lev/levav*.

If you are hearing God's call to the priesthood or diaconate, please communicate (ok, text or call me) at 518-522-0944 or e-mail me at frjim@holynamencc.org.



Future Direction August Message

As August is now upon us, this month we focus on the story of Job, his relationship with God and what we can learn from it.



Holy Scriptures

Scripture:

Job 1:1-2:10; 17:1-16; 38:1-41:34; 42:1-6

Reflection and Action Item:

The story of Job is both a literary masterpiece and an attempt to theologically plumb the depths of the great mystery of human suffering. At the end of the Book, though, the mystery remains, and all that Job — and we — come to understand is that suffering is somehow part of God's great plan. As Christians, we have an advantage that Job did not — we know that the key to this riddle comes in the shape of a Cross.

Yet, from the ancient story of Job we learn that we must persevere in affliction, even when we don't completely understand. We know that God is with us always and so we can remain confident in His love even when suffering comes our way. As an act of compassion this month, pray **Psalm 46** every Friday, asking that those who are experiencing some burden, illness or hardship may draw their strength and hope from Christ crucified and risen.

Prayers from our P.N.C.C. Prayer Book

For Every Need

Heavenly Father, Your Son assured us: "whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive if you have faith; and that the Father will give you whatever you ask Him in My name." As Your child I turn to You and in the name of Jesus I offer my humble prayer for: (*Offer your petition or request to God.*) I put my faith and trust in You, dear Father, for You always know what is right and best. May Your will be done. Amen.

In Time of Sorrow

O Crucified Jesus, in every sorrow that I encounter, may I lift my eyes to You without doubt or fear. In my grief and sorrow draw me to Your cross where I will find Your infinite mercy. Through Your Resurrection bring Your light into my darkness, for there is no place or time where You are not present. In death and in life assure me that I am Yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Can You Help The Archives Complete Its Collection of God's Field?

One of the many goals of the Archives of the Polish National Catholic Church [P.N.C.C.] is to obtain three copies of every P.N.C.C. published document. The P.N.C.C. Archives would like to maintain three copies of each document to insure access by researchers and against damage or loss of any single copy. The most likely place for copies of P.N.C.C. published documents are the clergy and members of the P.N.C.C.. This year the Archives is continuing its program to obtain documents that it does not yet have.

One of the P.N.C.C. published documents, is *God's Field* [*Rola Boża*]. As you know, God's Field is the second official newspaper of the Polish National Catholic Church. As such, it contains many articles about the activities of the Church, its members and clergy. It is a valuable asset and resource for anyone looking for information about the P.N.C.C. and its parishes. The P.N.C.C. Archives would like to complete its collection of *Rola Boża* [*God's Field*].

However, our collections is incomplete. We would like to obtain copies of these missing issues:

For 1924 - Numbers 36, and 39;

For 1926 - Numbers 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23;

For 1927 - Numbers 1, 16, 24 and 25;

For 1928 - Numbers 1, 2;

For 1929 - Numbers 8, through 17, 20 through 26;

For 1931 - Numbers 7 and 13;

For 1932 - Numbers 11, 12, 16, 22 and 26;

For 1946 - Numbers 46 and 47;

For 1968 - Number 10;

For 1969 - Number 6;

For 1977 - Number 1;

For 1988 - Number 8;

For 1990 - Number 19;

For 1995 - Number 15;

For 1996 - Numbers 2 through 5, 24;

For 2000 - Numbers 16 and 20;

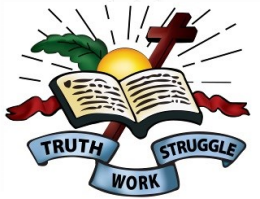
For 2001 - Numbers 4, 13 and 23.

You can help to publicize the many wonderful aspects of the Polish National Catholic Church and help others to understand and appreciate our gem.

Please send any or all of the above listed copies to the P.N.C.C. Archives at the National Church Center, 1006 Pittston Avenue, Scranton, PA 18505

Joseph Francis Seliga,
Chair, P.N.C.C. Commission on History and Archives





United Young Men's
Society of Resurrection
1006 Pittston Ave.
Scranton, Pa
18501



Call to the 75th United YMS of R Convention

With this official notice, The United Young Men's Society of Resurrection is calling its 75th Biennial Convention to be scheduled from **Friday, September 24 - Sunday, September 26, 2021** in the presence of the Most Rev. Anthony Mikovsky, Prime Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church, Rt. Rev. John Mack, Bishop Ordinary of the Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church, and Fr. Scott Lill and all the faithful of Our Lady Mount Carmel Parish. The United YMS of R has a two-fold objective: first to unite the youth of the Polish National Catholic Church in God's name and in the name of the endeavor for the perfection of life.

In the words of the YMS of R's organizer Prime Bishop Francis Hodur, "Our society is what individual members desire it to be, based on our own will and effort, coupled with God's eternal plan in the microcosmic world in which we live and work. If we seek a particular course and prepare ourselves properly for this pilgrimage, then surely, we shall attain our designated objective and our goal. We learn from history, religion, and human experience."

We desire that all Polish National Catholic Church youth never lose their link to our Polish Heritage and traditions of our past generations, but to reunite them through strong ties and shall stand ready to fulfill mutual tasks and obligations.

This effort is a lofty and noble one, worthy of the combined efforts of the young and the old- but particularly of the youth. The United YMS of R needs your help to carry out this mission and preserve our heritage and traditions.

In order to realize this aim, it requires work and proper preparation, constant vigilance, and an energetic centralized administration. We need an organization committed to this cause; an organization that will unite the youth under one banner, inspire it with spirit and perseverance, and lead us to a brighter tomorrow.

The Young Men's Society of Resurrection is indeed such an organization. We cordially welcome the Bishops of the Polish National Catholic Church, the Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers, and our YMS or R Brothers to our 75th Convention.

Branches needing information can contact President Nick C. Kazinetz at (570) 604-2620, Robert Giczkowski (716)-783-9596 or RAYMOND LASINSKI - erldad@atlanticbb.net

**Nick C. Kazinetz President
United Young Men's Society of Resurrection**



UNITED Y.M.S. of R.
75th Biennial Convention Registration Form
 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel 133 Hilltop Road Lilly, PA. 15938

Branch Number _____ Parish: _____ State: _____

Name of delegates attending. (No limit on delegates)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Branch Committee

Priest: _____

President: _____

Secretary: _____

Treasurer: _____

Number of Delegates/Guests _____ x \$60 (registration fee) = _____

All Registrations need to be returned with payment by AUGUST 24, 2021

Mail this form along with your check to:

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel 133 Hilltop Road Lilly, PA. 15938

75th YMSR Biennial Convention Registration Instructions Friday, September 24 - Sunday, September 26, 2021

- Registrations shall be sent to: **Our Lady of Mt. Carmel**
133 Hilltop Road Lilly, PA. 15938 (814-886-4904)
- The registration fee is **\$60.00** per delegate. Make checks payable to:
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and mail to the address above.

(Registration does not cover the cost of the hotel)

Deadline for **Convention** registration is **AUGUST 24, 2021**

HOTEL INFORMATION

Wingate by Wyndham Altoona Downtown/Medical Center
909 Chestnut Ave
Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 515-2233

We encourage you to make **reservations immediately**. This same weekend is a home Penn State football game. As such, hotel rooms, apart from the reserved block, will cost upwards of \$225.00 per night.

The **hotel reservations** deadline is **August 24, 2021**. Rooms **MUST** be made by this date. **PLEASE DO NOT WAIT**

Reservations may be made online at:

<http://www.wyndhamhotels.com/hotels/48749?checkInDate=09/24/2021&checkOutDate=09/26/2021&groupCode=092421PNC>

Open the link - Click search rooms (left margin) - Book preferred room

or by calling the hotel **(814) 515-2233**. Refer to group reservation: **PNCC-YMSR**

Rooms include free WIFI, walk-in showers, micro-fridge, microwaves, and coffee makers. Free breakfast is included each day. There is an exercise room, indoor pool, bar/lounge, sundries mart, and free parking. Block room rates are:

1 king or 2 Queens @ \$119.00 per night

FOR CONVENTION QUESTIONS - INFO - DIRECTIONS CONTACT: RAYMOND LASINSKI - erldad@atlanticbb.net

Friday evening will be hospitality night at the Hotel. Time TBD

75th YMSR Biennial Convention Registration Instructions
Friday, September 24 - Sunday, September 26, 2021
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel 133 Hilltop Road Lilly, PA. 15938 (814-886-4904)

****AGENDA Saturday, September 25th ****

8:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration of Delegates- Coffee Hour
9:00 am	Convention Opening - prayer- daily scripture
12:30 pm	Convention Luncheon

1. Words of Welcome given by:
 - A. **Fr. Scott Lill**, Pastor, Our Lady of Mount Carmel
 - B. YMS of R Branch President
2. Greetings and Invocation: **Prime Bishop Anthony Mikovsky** of the Polish National Catholic Church
3. Singing of the Star-Spangled Banner and the Hymn of the YMS of R-
“Forward O Youth”
4. Official opening of the convention: President **Nick C. Kazinetz**
5. Selection of Convention Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Mandate Committee
6. Greetings by representatives of church committees and invited guests
7. Reading of telegrams and letters
8. Report of Mandate Committee
9. Swearing in of Delegates
10. Election of Committees: Resolution, Grievance, Press and Constitution.
11. Reading of the minutes of the previous Convention
12. Discussion of Minutes and Old Business
13. Reports of officers of the Central Committee
14. Report of various committees
15. New Business
16. Election of Officers to the Central Committee
17. Report of the Resolution Committee
18. Selection of the site of the next convention
19. Adjournment and benediction

Mass will be held Sunday at Our Lady of Mount Carmel at 9AM

More details in the future for Saturday Evening Entertainment

Buffalo-Pittsburgh Diocese

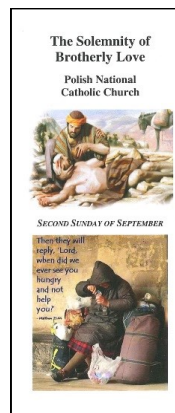
Mass on the Grass

Parish of Our Lady, Brant, NY

On Sunday, July 25th, Parish of Our Lady in Brant, NY, participated in the annual Mass on the Grass and Family Picnic. It was a beautiful summer day and everyone had a wonderful time in worship and fellowship.



The Solemnity of Brotherly Love P.N.C.C. Pamphlets Available to Parishes



The Solemnity of Brotherly Love is Sunday, September 12, 2021. A full color brochure describing this unique feast of the Polish National Catholic Church is available for purchase from the Office of the Prime Bishop.

This brochure was created to help us understand and commemorate this Solemnity, and we hope that all parishes will help to spread the awareness of the Solemnity of Brotherly Love by sharing this information with all parishioners.

25 brochures:	\$8.50
50 brochures:	\$15.00
75 brochures:	\$21.50
100 brochures:	\$27.50

(All prices include shipping costs.)

Checks, payable to P.N.C.C. Book Department, should be sent to:

P.N.C.C. Book Department
National Church Center
1006 Pittston Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505

Central Diocese

Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish July Events Dupont, PA

Y.M.S. of R. Branch #2 of Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish in Dupont, PA held its Annual Open Pit Chicken BBQ on Saturday, July 17, 2021. We would

like to thank our BBQ crew for their hard work as well as all of our patrons who supported this annual event.



Seated: Paul Kazinetz Jr., Al Micka, Fr. Sr. Zbigniew Dawid, Paul Kaspriskie Jr., Nick Kazinetz; **Standing:** Paul Kazinetz III, Atty Andrew Shumlas, David M Petrosky, Jeffrey Baldan, Angelo Conforti Sr., Anthony Shumlas, Frank Kotula, Angelo Conforti Jr., John Bondurich III.

On July 18, 2021, parishioners from Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish in Dupont, PA volunteered at “Meals on Wheels” in Pittston, PA. They packed dinners to

be delivered to the homes of senior citizens and homebound people living in Pittston and the surrounding communities.



Seated: Adele Sabach; Joyce Jopling; and Lois Morreale; **Standing:** Lois McHugh and Debbie Fritz

Lillian Jane Voras was baptized by Very Rev. Zbigniew Dawid on July 24, 2021 at Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish in Dupont, PA. She is the daughter of Dr. Zachary Voras and Dr. Samantha Voras (Shumlas).

Godparents are Dr. Leslie Shumlas and Anthony Shumlas. We welcome her into God's Family and our parish!

Submitted by Very Rev. Zbigniew Dawid



On July 25th the first meeting of the 2021 Dozynki Planning Committee was conducted in the Parish Hall. The 45th Dożynki Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2021 from 11:30 AM till 6 PM on Holy Mother of Sorrows Parish grounds, 212

Wyoming Ave., Dupont, PA. Mass will be celebrated at 10 AM, followed by the blessing of the Harvest Wreath in the church.

There will be plenty of food, fun and fellowship, so if you are able, please join us!



Eastern Diocese**July at Blessed Trinity Parish
Fall River, MA**

During July Blessed Trinity Parish was blessed to hand out free ready-made meals to kids in need in the city as part of the ongoing collaborative effort with Boys and Girls Club of Greater New Bedford and

YMCA Fall River, MA. The meals are being distributed on Mondays and Thursdays. Let us continue to live out our discipleship each and every day - to God give the glory!



July 30th was a wonderful evening for the summer Blessed Trinity Parish cookout. We enjoyed each other's company and of course many of the kids didn't

want to leave - some of them had some great face painting. Close to 50 joined us for a fun evening of delicious food and fabulous fellowship.



Western Diocese

Confirmation at Parroquia San Juan Bautista

Chicago, IL

St. John the Baptist Parish - Parroquia San Juan Bautista - in Chicago, IL, celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, July 31, 2021.

Rt. Rev. Jerry Rafalko, Bishop of the Western Diocese, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a group of 40 young members of the Saint John the Baptist Parish - Parroquia San Juan Bautista. Thank you Father Jose Rojas, parish pastor, for preparing such a wonderful celebration. May God Bless you, the parish, and these young confirmands.

Rt. El Rev. Jerry Rafalko, Obispo de la Diócesis Occidental, administró el Sacramento de la Confirmación al grupo de 40 jóvenes miembros de la Parroquia San Juan Bautista - Parroquia San Juan Bautista. Gracias Padre José Rojas, párroco, por preparar tan maravillosa celebración. Que Dios los bendiga a ustedes, a la parroquia y a estos jóvenes confirmados.

Submitted by Rt. Rev. Jerry Rafalko



