

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, FR. ROY!

This is the **Fifth Sunday of Easter Time**, the beginning of the fifth week of the Easter Season, season of the resurrection of Christ. We celebrate in the white vestments with the Paschal candle lit in the sanctuary, the symbol of Christ risen and present among His people. We're in Easter Season until the seventh week of Easter Time, the week after the feast of the Ascension of the Lord (40 days after His resurrection) ending with the great feast of Pentecost (50 days after Easter).

IT'S A GREAT ADVENTURE!

WE'RE ON "THE WAY"... **...SEEKING "THE TRUTH", LIVING "THE LIFE!"**

¡QUE COSAS! A BIG PART OF THE EASTER MYSTERY!

Speaking of great adventures, and "adventurers," **Saturday, May 21st**, we celebrate the **150th Anniversary of the death of St. Eugene de Mazenod, the founder of the Oblates** and the one who ordained and sent +Fr. Peter Keralum, OMI, and the first Oblates to the Rio Grande Valley, back in the mid 1800s. His dream was that we'd be "down home" and preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a way that people could relate to and appreciate... from the heart to the heart! How do you reckon we're doin' 150 years later?

"To aim at elegance of style rather than solidity of doctrine would go directly counter to the spirit of our Rule... Our one and only aim should be to instruct the people... Not only to break the bread of the Word for them, but to chew it for them as well; In a word, to insure that when our discourses are over, they are not tempted to heap foolish praise on what they have not understood, but, instead, that they go back home edified, touch, instructed, able to repeat in their own family circle when they have learned from our mouth." – From the Oblate Rule of 1818-

Saturday, May 21st, was also predicted by some to be the "end of the world!!" How'd that work out? Looks like we're still here, don't it?! That "rapture" business is not something the Catholic Church has ever gotten out of the Sacred Scriptures! ¡Que cosas!

THE GREAT ADVENTURE IS...



...NOT OVER YET!

O.M.I.

He has sent me to preach the Gospel to the poor.

We celebrated our **3rd First Communion Mass** last Friday night with a lot of faith, hope for God's beautiful sons and daughters who received Christ in Holy Communion for the first time. What a beautiful mystery! Today (Sunday) **Our Guadalupe School kids make their 1st Communion**. Congratulations to all of our First Communion classes, teachers, parents, padrinos, abuelos, and to our whole parish! It's a really healthy sign of the power of Christ's love, alive and active in our families, and so in our parish, and so in us!

May is the month of Mary, the Mother of Christ and Our Mother. We will be praying the rosary and offering flowers to her every day at 6:00 P.M.. You are all invited! Families or youth groups or parish groups or other clubs and societies could take a day or more to pray the rosary and offer flowers. Don't let these noble old traditions die. We want to "stoke the fire" of our traditions, not let them die!

Otra Aventura! Our Oblate Trail Riders took off from the Cathedral in Brownsville on Saturday morning, arriving at La Lomita later in the day, where we blessed and fed them! We'll be hearing all about their adventures and misadventures as we celebrate this weekend and week! It was a good day in the neighborhood!

How would you say we are doing at valuing, deepening, nourishing, developing and transmitting that faith in Christ to our sons and daughters, to each other? What do you think Mary (or St. Thomas or St. Eugene) would say about of values, about how we operate and relate to her son and our family the Church? What would He say as He looks into our hearts and minds?

¿**Como podemos saber el camino**? How can we know the way? Good question! Are we even looking for the Way? Where have we been and where are we going?

OUR LATE GREAT, JOHN PAUL II, talking to the country people in Cuilapan, Mexico, said: "The rural world possesses enviable human and religious richness; a deep love of family, a sense of friendship, help to the needy, deep humanism, love of peace, and community, religious awareness, confidence and openness with God, cultivation of the love of the Virgen Mary and many other virtues." What's happening to the heritage of "enviable human and religious richness" in us and our families here and now?

Speaking of building of the Body of Christ which we are as a family of faith... **This month (May) we conclude the BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL**. He (& we) was hoping and praying for 100% participation. No big goal, just the hope that everybody would pitch in something. Have you? Well, you got this month to do it! The Bishop's dream that we'd all make some sacrifice (a few bucks even!) is a healthy one, a dream and prayer for a healthy, robust Church. **Thanks for your generosity!!** We know it ain't easy in these days of soaring gas prices & economic recession. We're not "high rollers" around here, but we're pretty generous! Remember the parable of the poor widow. Her "little bit" was magnificent in God's eyes. That's really how it is! That's what Bishop Daniel is talking about when he says, "I'd rather have 500,000 poor people each give us two bucks than have one rich man give us a million!" (Not that we'd turn down another million!) **PLEASE DO PITCH IN!**

Cantina's three pups are getting fatter & prettier every day! We'll probably have the "presentation in the temple" in a week or two!

If you're looking for "First Communion Paraphernalia"—medals, prayer books, rosaries, veils, etc., etc., we got some you might like!

Mass for the Graduates, next Sunday, May 29th, at 9 A.M.! All graduates, high school & college, are invited to come & celebrate, in your cap & gown. Call the front office if you're graduating from the University so we can get your name & where you graduated from in our program!

Prayer for Rain: Lord God, in you we live and move & have our being. Help us in our present time of trouble, send us the rain we need, and teach us to seek your lasting help on the way to eternal life! San Isidro, pray with us and for us!

Bishop's Appeal: Pledged: \$13,788.78—Paid: \$11,265.78—Thanks y'all! Keep 'em coming in!

Last Week's Collection: \$12,491.04

We will tenderly and lovingly remember all our sick friends and parishioners at all our masses. Also, please remember in your prayers, **+Dustin Ray, +Lydia L. Perez, +Esther Bazan, & +Guadalupe Bazan**, who died last week, and their families in their great sorrow. **Que brille para ellos la luz perpetua.**

St. Thomas wasn't thinking exactly that it was the end of the world, but he was sure feeling like that. Everybody does sometimes and that doesn't really kill the quest. It enhances and energizes our own search for and experience of the Way, the Truth and the Life. Don Williams sings "Lord, I Hope This Day is Good." So do we and Christ sends us His Spirit by way of that experience & prayer!

Lord, I hope this day is good,
I'm feeling empty and misunderstood.
I should be thankful Lord I know I should,
But, Lord, I hope this day is good.

I don't need fortune and I don't need
fame,
Send down the thunder, Lord, send down
the rain.
But when you're planning just how it will
be,
Plan a good day for me.

Lord have you forgotten me I've been
prayin' to you faithfully
I'm not saying I am a righteous man
But Lord I know you understand.

Lord, I hope this day is good,
I'm feeling empty and misunderstood.
I should be thankful Lord I know I should,
But, Lord, I hope this day is good.

You've been the King since the dawn of
time,
All that I'm asking is a little less cryin'.
It might be hard for the devil to do,

But it would be easy for you...

Lord, I hope this day is good,
I'm feeling empty and misunderstood.
I should be thankful Lord I know I should,
But, Lord, I hope this day is good.