As you all know, I try to keep **The Communicator** as positive as possible. It's not difficult; you all make it very easy. Love, Community and Welcome Inclusion are what SMAAA offers along with worship and the love of God.



That said, I fear I must address the 800-pound gorilla currently facing **SMAAA**. We have recently made a difficult transition and lost many of the members of our choir to age, fatigue and, sad to say, some reasons that are human, but not particularly highminded.

We are in the process of rebuilding a music program and there are always some things we will get wrong but this mail from a parishioner who asked to remain anonymous calls us all to do better. "Know that whatever music is offered from the choir loft is sacred because it is offered to God.

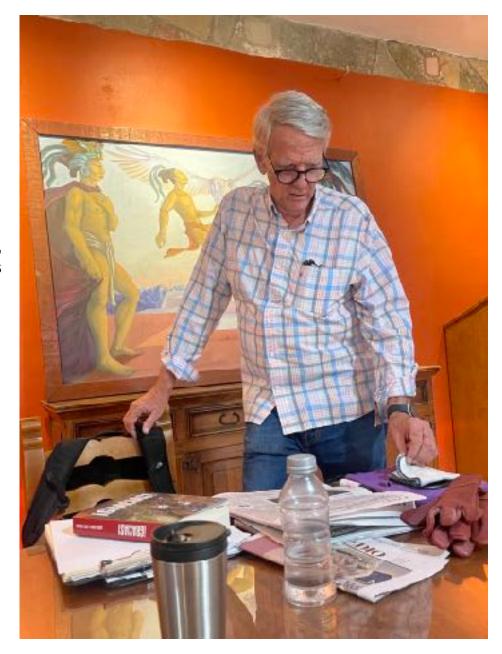
We cry with it and we laugh with it. We may even cringe with it on a rare occasion, but it is still an offering and for that reason He looks on it with love and compassion. It's not about works; it's about Grace." Let us all lift up Laurie and the choir in their efforts. And, if you sing and would like to join the choir, please show up Sunday at 9:30 for practice. We are extremely grateful to Isabel Graves for her faithfulness and her efforts to support the choir. This week's anthem is one you all know... or at least you know if you ever went to camp. "Kumbaya My Lord" lends itself to singalong — we invite the congregation to do just that.

Last week's Memorial for **Joyce DeHaas** was well-attended by members of the larger community. Thank you to everyone who made sure guests were made to feel welcome. I heard over and over again how embracing everyone was. We were also blessed by the presence of five members of the **Padilla family, Gabe, Jess, Skyler, Gaby and Shy,** who have recently moved to Mexico from Pennsylvania. In total there are 14 of them!!! We look forward with hope to meeting all of them this next Sunday!!! They even have children!!!!

Last week's Mexican
Current Events with
Charlie Goff was
excellent. I think
everyone present really
enjoyed themselves.
Current Events is held
every Wednesday,
5-6:15 PM,

Cemanahuac
Educational Community,
San Juan 4, Colonia Las
Palmas (two short
blocks from the
Glorietta Las Palmas). It
is very secure. Come
with questions with
Charlie. He can put all
Mexican current events
into historical context.
Current Events is a free
offering!!!

This next Saturday, May 25, Charlie will be leading an excursion to **Xochicalco**, leaving Cemanahuac promptly at 10AM. 600 pesos





with an INAPAM Card, 700 pesos without. Bring a sandwich, water, sunscreen and hat. Most of us have been to Xochicalco multiple times but unless you have been with Charlie Goff you really not experienced this amazing and nearby archeological site. For reservations please contact Charlie 777-328-2789 or Carol 777-328-0637 by WHATSAPP.

















Also on Saturday, May 25, **Cesar and Kris Salgado** have invited us to participate in a cleanup of **Salto Chico starting at 8:30AM**. Cesar says it will last only 2 hours. Wear comfortable shoe's, a hat and bring gloves. This is an opportunity to give something back to this beautiful community in which we reside! Salto Chico is located on Calle Privada Salto Chica. If you have never visited this impressive waterfall in the center of our city. This is your chance!



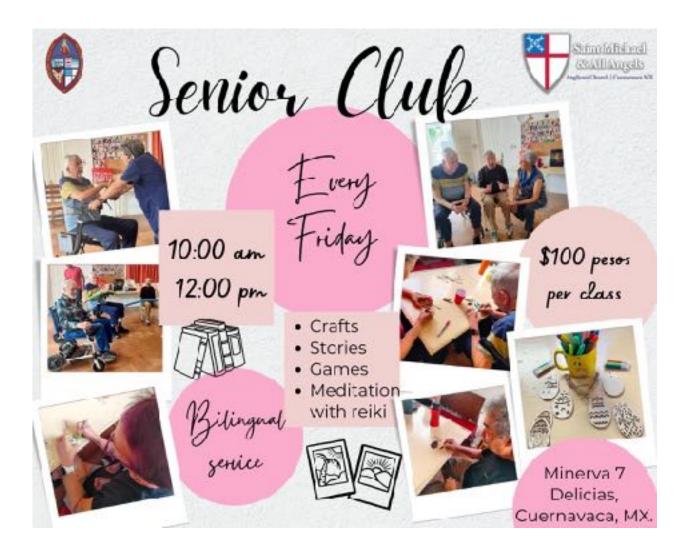
Last Sunday was **Pentecost** and most everyone was decked out in red. I'm sorry not to have photos of some of us together. It was truly Impressive.

Debbie Jeffress is finally back!!!!
We were so glad to see you
Lady!!! Debbie and Helen
conspired to have a beautiful
AND delicious birthday cake for
the church complete with an icing
flame to represent the gift of the
Holy Spirit. Our visitors were all
quite surprised by the impressive
"feast" offered after church.
Debbie, Isabel and others did a
great job in your absence but we
all missed you.

Our dear **Ann** (Thursday Yoga with Ann and Lupita too) will be with us for only two more Thursdays before her hip surgery.



**Thursday, May 30**, immediately after class we will have a **potluck**. Please coordinate your dish with **Amanda or Cecilia**. This class has become a close-knit community within a community and we are so grateful to Ann and to Lupita for providing such good examples of how to care for one another.



**Senior Club** has a new lovely poster. Sorry but Reiki is not part of the program. Everything else is accurate.



Angel Outreach Corner. What a great job everyone is doing bringing materials for the Angel Outreach! Baskets of food and toiletries have been overflowing. A Note from Pat. Please remember there are two new ways for you to give back to the wonderful community we enjoy. First, the Pastoral Care Outreach needs volunteers (English and Spanish speaking) to make well-check phone calls to members absent from church, to make home visits when appropriate, or to assist members who need a ride to medical appointments. The other is our angel outreach in conjunction with the Church of San Pablo's

outreach assisting the homeless. Thanks to donors who wish to remain anonymous we have collected 1000 pesos of the 3000 needed for additional tables and chairs; also a large soup pot has been donated. There is a pesos jar on the table at the back of the church. If you can contribute an extra peso or two, all goes directly to provide for the needs of our growing homeless community. There is a big by the church door each Sunday and during the week outside the library door for any food or hygiene items. Remember, non-perishable foods like tuna, black beans, protein bars and hygiene items such as wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet paper, lotion. "For as you do unto the least of these, my brothers and sisters, you do also unto me." Pat Manners

Father Doug will be away in Italy forthe next three Sundays. We are delighted this next Sunday, May 26, to welcome Padre Victor Hugo, priest of San Pablo's. Sundays, June 2 and 9 we welcome home the Reverend Gillian Ball.

Our next lecture, in the "Know Your Neighbor" series is one most everyone has been anticipating, Dr. Robert (Bob) Dailey will lecture on hearing issues. Dr. Bob has, as many of you know, a profound hearing loss. He has learned as much as one can about cutting edge approaches to this problem which faces so many of us. Moderated by John Mitchell, this lecture will be held in the Community Room adjacent to the

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library at 4PM on Wednesday, June 12. There will be one more lecture in this series, Walter Lopez will be speaking about the legacy of Maria Felix on Wednesday, June 26. I am delighted to also announce that John has graciously offered (I only lightly twisted his arm) to take over future planning for the SMAAA Lecture Series. So expect great things.

Don't forget Spanish Conversation, Mondays 3:30-5:30.