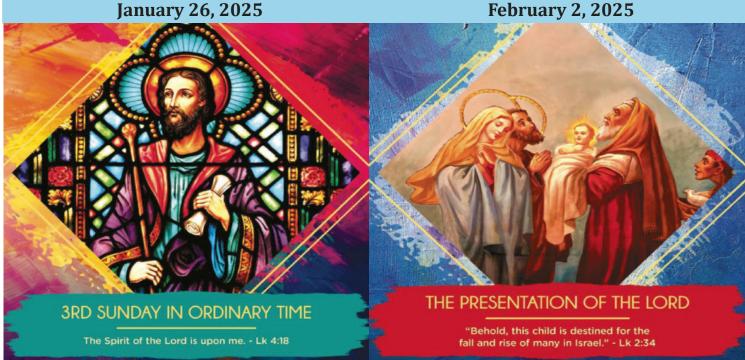
# Holy Cross Catholic Community

Pastor, Father Jose Issac Deacon Joe Haggarty Deacon Herbert Melendez Address | 5650 Vista Boulevard, Sparks NV 89436 **Parish Phone** | 775-358-2544 Parish Fax | 775-626-8281

Parish Email | hccchurch@sbcglobal.net

**February 2, 2025** 

Website | www.HolyCrossSparks.com



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil | 5 p.m. Sunday | 8:00a.m., 10:00a.m., 4:30pm (English) 12:15p.m. (Spanish) Daily Mass | Monday—Friday 12:00 p.m. Noon Reconciliation | Saturday 4:00 Office Hours | Monday-Thursday: 9:00am to 5:30pm | Lunch 12:30 to 1:00pm Saturdays 9:30am- 5:00pm | Sundays: 9:00am- 5:00pm | Office Closed Fridays Parish Staff | Parish Secretary: Elizabeth Martinez Associate Assistants: Norma Perez & Luz Martinez Janitorial Services: Arnoldo Olivares Building & Grounds: Randy Roberts



## SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, February 1 | 9:30am-1:30pm Retreat for all second year children in the Monday Family Catechesis program will take place on Saturday February 1 from 9:30am to 1:30pm. This is a required retreat for all students in their second year. We ask the community to please keep the children, their families & the catechesis in your prayers as they engage in this retreat and as they continue to participate in the final months before the children receive the sacrament of first Holy Communion.

# IMPORTANT nnouncements

- When writing a check for Holy Cross, whether it be for Sunday offering, WTSA, Second Collections, etc. Please make the check payable to Holy Cross Catholic Community and in the memo line note the intended purpose.
- Scam Alert, Please be aware: Some parishioners have • contacted the parish office, to inform us that they received emails or text claiming to be on behalf of Fr. Jose, requesting funds or assistance in an urgent matter. This is not a legitimate request, It appears the requests are asking for gift cards. Unfortunately there are a variety of scams out there, which are going around all the time, please be mindful of this and do not send funds this way. All appeals for donations are made through the bulletin, the pulpit and letters mailed from Holy Cross to parishioners.
- To all parish groups, for any event your group plans to have within the parish building, please make sure to obtain permission from the parish office, for any event in the Worship area, from the Pastor.
- For your safety, when exiting the parking lot, please consider turning right & going towards the apartments or Raley's. Use the stoplight to turn in and go to the roundabout. This will save you time, is safer & eases up the traffic at the entrance of Holy Cross.
- CRY ROOM: We encourage parents with little ones to make use of our classrooms, the 4 classrooms have a speaker for your family to be able to hear the Mass and the windows allow you to see the celebration while your little ones can be comfortable and all can enjoy Mass. Please do not open the windows, the speaker allows all in the room to hear the Mass.
- All special celebrations must be scheduled thru the Parish • office along with a 50% deposit to reserve the date/time.

## Second Collection: Priests' Relief February 1 & 2, 2025

Once a year the Diocese of Reno takes up a special second collection for the benefit of the Diocesan Clergy. The Priests' Relief collection gives us an opportunity to express our thanks to all the Priests of the diocese of Reno who have touched the lives of so many in Northern Nevada. This collection will be taken up on February 1 & 2, 2025.



We are all aware that as we live longer, our health care needs also increase. All proceeds donated for this collection stay here in the Diocese and are set aside to maintain the special help, care and retirement needs of our Priests.

Please be as generous as you can. Your gift enables us all to say "Thank You" to them for all of their dedication and service.

Pray For ...

Joshua Alarcon John Allen Sandra Askins Scott Anderson Consuelo Barboza Christopher Beach Bob Burns Nicholas Bushgens **Richard** Chase Benjamin Chavez Jackie DaMichele Sandi DaSilveora Patsy Dearing Heather Deason Jim Ellis Mercy Escobar Eduardo Espinoza Gwen Flores Jose Fonseca Garcia Jeannette Franklin Edward Fulton Mary Gardenas Rosemary Geis Mauricio Guillen Dan Gustafson Dcn. Joe Haggarty Scott Hastings Veronica Hastings Mary Helen Jeanette Jesch Kenneth Jones **Richard Kihs** Jennifer Krush Richard Kunold Sebastian Laird Maria Larsen Sr. Marie Lemert Desiree Lintz

Zachary Lintz Rebekah Lucey Rosario Lund John Lyninger Theresa Lyninger Judy Medek Joyce Montgomery Majorie Ann Myers Carl McAdams Michael McCarthy Shawnee McGraw Lori O'Connor Alejandra Ortiz Alan Ortiz Edlvn Ortiz Sandra Ortiz Bob Patterson Berta Perez Remi Plummer **Travis** Porter Becky Prevost Samuel Prieto Maria Rodriguez Sam Salisbury Rene Salomon Jon Sciabica Erick Smith Nanette Smith Carey Snyder Brianna Stuart Vincent Stuart Angela Teague Isaac Vargas James Vonderhaar Bill Wehinger **Bob Wolf** Sean Wolff Steve Woods

Ministries & Parish Groups Adult Faith Formation | Father Jose Issac Lectors | John Bell 775-331-0377 Liturgical Ministers | Barbara Beverly **Baptism Class** (Eng) Libby Hoops 775-223-2809 (Span) Yrma Plascencia Marriage Preparation |Father Jose Issac Nursing Home Ministry | Vilia Natchez RCIA / Come & See | Parish Office Centering Prayer | JOIN A Mark Miskulin 775-771-5889 Women's Group |

MINISTRY OR Debbie Schiwart 775-742-8432 GROUP **Confirmation** | Parish Office TODAY!

Joy Group | Earlene Rummel Knights of Columbus | Anthony Watts

**Respect Life** 



Saturday, January 25 5:00pm Sally Loranger<sup>+</sup> by Family Sunday, January 26 8:00am **Parish Family 10:00am** Garcia-Gurrola Family S.I. by Velasco de Alba Family **12:15pm** Raul Antonio Aguirre<sup>+</sup> by Family 4:30pm Katie Histing<sup>†</sup> by Susie & Randy Roberts Monday, January 27 12:00pm Betty Bishop S.I. By Luz Martinez **Tuesday, January 28 12:00pm** Rosa Rangel<sup>†</sup> by Family Wednesday, January 29 **12:00pm** Chief Sam Okorie<sup>†</sup> by Okorie Family Thursday, January 30 12:00pm Donald Danen<sup>†</sup> by Paul Danen Friday, January 31 **12:00pm** Castulo Guttierrez Lopez<sup>†</sup> by Family Saturday, February 1 Valeria & Antonio Dangcalan† 5:00pm by Family Sunday, February 2 **8:00am** David Celay<sup>†</sup> by Family **10:00am** Parish Family **12:15pm** Castulo Gutierrez Lopez<sup>†</sup> by Family **4:30pm** Mercedes Torres S. I. by Family Monday, February 3 **12:00pm** Salvador Espinosa Alvarado<sup>†</sup> by Family **Tuesday, February 4 12:00pm** Juan Quintana Rascan<sup>†</sup> by Family Wednesday, February 5 **12:00pm** Betty Bishop & Juan Martinez S.I. by Luz Martinez Thursday, February 6 **12:00pm** Parish Family Friday, February 7 9:00am William Deyo<sup>†</sup> by Janet Simpkins Saturday, February 8 **5:00pm** Fernando Alvarenga<sup>+</sup> by Family

### Upcoming Feasts to Remember

January 1/28 St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church 1/31 St. John Basco, Priest February

2/2 The Presentation of the Lord

- 2/3 St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr
- 2/4 St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr
- 2/11 Our Lady of Lourdes

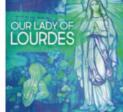
#### Liturgical Ministry Team for February 1 & 2

Sat., February 1 5:00pm **G:** Dee Fedore AS: Gracian & Christian L: Vilia Natchez Mary Diebel **EM:** Earlene Rummel **Bob Bertchinger** John Kadlic Cyndi Maria Don Turner U: GP: Gina Morato & Family Sun., February 2 8:00am **G:** Stephanie Neder AS: Sarah & Katie L: Maggie Lee Gwen Flores **EM:** Lisa Holleman Bob Holleman Allegra Welton U: Bill Conn **GP:** Giada Nuti & Family **R:** JoAnn Jones & Family 10:00am **G:** Melyse Sanchez & Fam. AS: Ben, Abigail & Demetrio L: Barbara Beverly Briana Esquivel **EM:** Mae Doreza Tony Pagano Kathia Oliguin Victor Corona U: **GP:** Kylie, Mayalani & Jeremiah Martinez & Family **R:** Litzy Ventura & Family 12:15pm G: Enedina Guzman y Familia AS: Lucia & Karen L: Lourdes Ramirez Raul Macias **EM:** Bertha Alvarez Manuel Alvarez Chely Canseco U: Enrique Canseco **GP:** Jamie Gonzalez y Familia **R:** Evelyn Martinez/Ximena Rubio y Familias 4:30pm **G:** Angie Marconato & Fam. AS: Mitchell & Matthew L: Sierra Higley Theresa Choman **EM:** Noreen Pary Doug Parry Sarah Naegele Annette Granberg

- U: Noreen Pary
- GP: Rebecka Danen & Fam

for February 8 & 9 Sat., February 8 5:00pm G: Nora Turner AS: Lauren & Peter Jaxon Kris Dondero L: Marcia McClain **EM:** Risa Ronan Kathy Wegner Paul Danen Jane Burke Ron McClain U: **GP:** Dan & Lisa Garon Sun., February 9 8:00am **G**: Fonseca-Espinosa Family **AS:** Maria Jose & Isabella L: Ophelia Wilson Jessica Guzman **EM:** Cathie Bundersen Yunuhen Espinosa Deacon Herbert U: Charlie H GP: Harper/Gryson Jones & Fam R: **Rita Rollings & Family** 10:00am G: Sinsav Family AS: Kaye, Khaylen, Natalia L: Osbel Lopez Maderos **Terry Jenkins EM:** Linda Navarrete Sonia de Leon Deacon Herbert U: Gael Lopez-Madera **GP:** Lluvia Martinez & Fam. **R**: Eduardo Hernandez & Family 12:15pm Carmen Jones y Familia G: **AS:** Lilianna y Karel L: Maria Villanueva Cecilio Urias **EM:** Julieta Paz Sandra Ortiz Deacon Herbert U: Jose Villanueva **GP:** Bryan Garcia y Familia **B:** Max/Donaji De Silvero y Familia 4:30pm Anne Carbajal & Family **G**: AS: Grace & Hayley L: Marlene Humphreys Nathan Carpenter **EM:** Kathleen Fralick Leo Humphreys Gene Seidlitz Noreen Parry **U:** Kathleen Fralick **GP:** Bartlett Family

**Liturgical Ministry Team** 



## **BEING 'PILGRIMS OF HOPE' IN THE DIGITAL LANDSCAPE**



written by <u>Sister Hosea Rupprecht</u>, OSV NEWS January 19, 2025 www.osvnews.com/2025/01/19/being-pilgrams-of-hope-in-the-digital-landscape/

The Jubilee Year 2025 is upon us, and Pope Francis has asked that we all attempt to be "pilgrims of hope" to witness to the love and power of Jesus Christ in the world today. What does that mean in practical terms? How am I to be a pilgrim of hope to the world?

The Oxford dictionary defines a pilgrim as one who journeys to a sacred place for religious reasons. Pilgrim can also mean one who journeys through life. This is the aspect of "pilgrim" that's captured in "pilgrims of hope." We are all pilgrims on the journey of life, looking forward to being with God forever in heaven once our earthly life is over.

There are many complexities to the journey of life. We may sometimes be tempted to fall into nostalgia about "simpler times" or "the way things used to be." One aspect of 21st-century life that can complicate the journey is the digital landscape. How can we be pilgrims of hope when it comes to the digital media culture? How do we cultivate an attitude of hope when so much media, especially social media, seems self-centered, introspective and anything but hopeful?

Even more importantly, how do we encourage the young, who are so immersed in digital everything, to buck the selfish trend and be a hopeful and faithful presence in their online interactions? The answer lies in fostering an attitude of media mindfulness and putting some practices in place to help us out of the digital rabbit hole when we find ourselves falling in.

With some determination and effort, these suggested practices can bring us a sense of hope as we journey every single day through the digital landscape. If we, as adults, learn these practices, they can offer us hope as we endeavor to teach the young how to navigate our media world as followers of Jesus.

• Bring your faith and values to bear within the digital landscape. It takes practice, but asking ourselves if what we're doing online is helping us grow in our relationship with God and with others can give us the pause we need to look at the way we use media. Stopping every once in a while and doing an examination of conscience about our online activities can be spiritually healthy and hopeful.

• Practice discernment. Pope Francis, in many of his writings, has emphasized how crucial discernment is to our spiritual lives. Asking the Holy Spirit to help us understand what it is God wants of us is desirable in all areas of life, but especially in our digital lives. Is what I'm watching, reading, listening to, interacting with, in line with God's holiness?

• Be critical thinkers. Applying critical thinking skills to our digital lives and the messages that we get from the media we experience means that the negative aspects of media can have less influence on our ways of thinking. When we bring media messages into conversation with the values we hold as Christians, recognizing what is good and worth keeping and what we want to discard becomes easier. This is especially hopeful for parents trying to instill responsibility in their kids for the way they use media.

• Hope implies a trust that God has things in hand, that he is in charge and is with us on the pilgrimage of life. Hopefully, we've had experiences that have shown us just how much God holds us in love. Other experiences, however, may have us wondering where God is. Using these tips give us hope that even in our media and digital interactions, God is present and leading our life's pilgrimage.

If our online lives are out of balance, other parts of our lives will be, too, especially our relationships, and that includes our relationship with God. Being a "pilgrim of hope" encompasses all aspects of our life journey. As we set off on this jubilee year, let's take up the challenge to incorporate the virtue of hope into our own digital landscape.



Many times we may prefer to keep our emotions private. The reasons for this are numerous and practical. However, when we have experienced the profound loss of a spouse, parent, child or someone with whom we've had a close relationship, the grief journey begins. This journey has many twists and turns, some which may be difficult to understand or handle.

Rather than toughing it out on your own, having a safe place to hear other's experiences and the opportunity to express your thoughts and feelings can be very helpful. Yes, sometimes there will be tears, but that is part of the healing process. Healing is the goal. We invite you to visit the Healing Hearts support group at Holy Cross.

**Meeting on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 2:00pm.** If you have questions, please contact Randall Hedrick, 775-240-7345.

Upcoming Events   January   Mon 27 Baptism Class in English 6:00pm   February   Sat 1 Family Catechesis in Yr 2 Retreat 9:30am   Wed 5 Joy Group 11am   Healing Hearts Support Group 2pm   Thur 6 Mass at Hearthstone 1:30pm   Fri 7 Mass & Anointing 9am	FAMILY CATECHESIS PROGRAMS There will be classes on the following days: Family Catechesis Come & See: February 2, 9 & 23 Family Catechesis Mondays: January 27 & February 3,10 & 25 Family Catechesis Confirmation: January 29 & February 5, 12, 19 & 26
Fri 7 Mass & Anointing 9am Adoration 9:30am-4:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet 3pm Sun 9 Baptism Class in Spanish 1:30pm	January 29 & February 5, 12, 19 & 26 OCIA (RCIA): January 30 & February 6,13,20 & 27

## Fr. George Wolf Memorial Scholarship

We are honored to announce the 2025-2026 Fr. George Wolf Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship aims to celebrate and continue Fr. George 's legacy of dedication, passion, and commitment to our community. Fr. George was a remarkable individual who touched the lives of many during his nearly five decades of priestly vocation. As both a faculty member and principal at Bishop Manogue Catholic High School Fr. George recognized the importance of education. His unwavering dedication to the Catholic Church has left an indelible mark on our community.

**Celebrating Three Years of Impact:** This year marks the third year we have had the privilege of awarding the Fr. George Wolf Memorial Scholarship. Over the past three years, we have supported and empowered numerous students to pursue their educational goals. We are proud to continue this tradition and look forward to seeing the incredible achievements of our scholars. We invite all eligible students to apply and honor Fr. George's memory by continuing their pursuit of education and service.

- Eligibility: Open to high school seniors and post-secondary students (college or technical) that are active members of Holy Cross.
- Award Amount: Up to \$2000 per recipient.
- Application Deadline: April 1, 2025

**How to Apply:** Beginning January 2025, interested applicants can request an application through the parish office or by emailing HolyCrossScholarship@gmail.com.

**Support:** We invite you to join us in honoring Fr. George by contributing to the Fr. George Wolf Memorial Scholarship. Your generous donations will help us continue to support deserving students in their educational pursuits. For more information on how to donate, please contact the parish office.

## 2024 Scholarship Recipients:

- \* Mackenzie Lee
- \* Azul Guzman

Jillian Camero

- \* Brisa Guzman
- \* Hayley Higley
- \* Dulce Infante-Silva
- Magdalene Lee
- \* Cindy Martinez Barrera
- \* Isabella McCloskey
- \* Elda Noble

Congratulations, the community at Holy Cross is proud of these individuals for pursuing higher education. Please keep these young women and men in your prayers.

- \* Adrian Rodriguez Zavala
- \* Scheccid Sanchez Contreras
- \* Jewel Zahradka

## **MEMORIAL TREE**

The Memorial Tree will be a great addition to our Prayer Garden. It is a great space one can sit outside and pray. The surroundings are very quiet and peaceful. We enjoy real Communion with nature. We experience real solitude and assurances. The Memorial Benches are a great place to sit, reflect, give thanks and pray. The setting here upon the hill overlooking Reno/Sparks is quite amazing and almost otherworldly. The Memorial tree will reflect our enduring relationship with our departed loved ones. At Holy Cross Catholic Community our emphasis is on relationality. We are relational beings and death does not destroy our relationships. I encourage all parishioners to support this new addition: Thank you and God Bless.

Fr. Jose Issac

Memorial Tree Update So far the community has purchased: 49 Copper Leaves 32 Silver Leaves 46 Gold Leaves



#### 10 of the 10 Small Stones 3 of the 3 Large Stones

#### January 26, 2025—3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time GOSPEL MEDITATION

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their five-year old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, "Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news." "Actually," they said, "she burst into tears. She wanted a baby sister!" How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don't approve of the way he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is "fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize this man is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God's word announces the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What's required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God's gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad?

#### — Father John Muir ©LPi

#### Sending Rites #1: "The Lord be with you" "Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." - John 20:21 NIV

As at the beginning of the Mass, the Priest will once again offer the blessing of God, saying, "the Lord be with you." As stated in an earlier bulletin insert, every time the Priest says this, something new and important is about to take place. The same is true

here. While we might be leaving the Church building, we are really embarking on the next part of the Mass: to live it in the world. And so the priest offers God's blessing, that we might be able to take

what we have received in the Mass, and bear fruit that will last in the world.

What is your vocation in the world? Is there any specific person you feel called to help?



#### February 2, 2025—Presentation of the Lord GOSPEL MEDITATION

What is the secret to sharing in God's power to overcome our difficulties? Mary teaches us this in the prophecy of her pierced heart. This Sunday, the old man Simeon prophecies that when her son faces opposition, Mary's soul will be pierced by a sword. The seemingly pointless agony of a mother helplessly watching her son be mocked, tortured, killed and then cruelly desecrated in death by a spear — somehow this piercing of her heart releases a power by which "the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:35). What to make of this?

Whatever problems we currently face, the deepest threat is finally that evil thoughts are hidden in the human heart: hatred, envy, pride, lust, greed and so on. Behind every tyrant's injustice, for example, is a heart unpierced by love. Evil hides in our hearts. Mary's pierced heart, and its suffering love for her son, reveals and scatters these evil thoughts, and replaces them with love, forgiveness, generosity and peace.

This week, I invite us to ponder Mary's pierced heart. Her heart is quietly at work for us in the Church and world, exposing our evil thoughts and making a path for her son's divine love. This is how she gently cooperates in our salvation. Closed hearts are our biggest problem; love-pierced hearts are the ultimate power to overcome every difficulty.

### WHY GIVE ONLINE?

1. You can share your gifts... Any way you want to. When you want to. Where you want to. 2. Leave your checkbook at



home. Set up your recurring gift using a credit card, checking or savings account.

3. Your funds are protected. Your donations are automatically transferred to our parish so it's safer and more secure.

4. Support our parish consistently, even if you are unable to attend Mass.

5. Give on-the-go! Access the site from your mobile phone or tablet.

### SIGN UP TO GIVE ONLINE

- If you've never donated online before, signing up is easy!
- 1. Visit holycrosssparks.com and click Give Online.
- 2. Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3. Set up your donation or payment. That's it!

Once you've added your account information, donations will automatically deduct from your account. It's that easy!

### **QUESTIONS? Contact the parish office at 775-358-2544**



## Weekly Offering January 5, 2025

Total	\$ 20,889.38
Mass Intentions	\$ 2,325.00
Fr. George Wolf Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$ 3,000.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 1,839.00
Women's Group Gift Cabinet	\$ 28.00
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	\$ 100.00
Christmas	\$ 2,310.00
Catholic University of America	\$ 10.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 2,329.61
Sunday Offering	\$ 8,947.77

## Weekly Offering January 12, 2025

Total	\$ 10,278.75
Mass Intentions	\$ 2,860.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 30.00
Women's Group - Gift Cabinet	\$ 2.00
Christmas	\$ 20.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 200.00
Sunday Offering	\$ 7,166.75

## FR. GEORGE WOLF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Amount raised to date for the scholarship fund from the community: **\$289,739.40** 

Amount remaining to be raised to reach goal of \$300,000 of initial deposit: \$10,260.60

Initial Amount Deposited Into Scholarship Fund in October 2023: \$300,000.000

Total amount in the scholarship fund to date: \$333,891.44

Total Amount Given In Scholarships to youth in 2024: \$15,000.00

Thank you for supporting higher education opportunities for the Parish Youth and for continuing to help us reach the goal!

## Parish Registration Form / Formulario de Registro Parroquial

Names of your Family Members / Nombres de los miembros de su familia:

Mailing Address / Dirección postal : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number/ Número de teléfono :

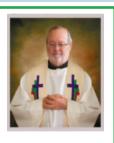
Alt Phone Number / Número de teléfono alternativo : \_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address / Correo Electrónico : \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mass Time / Horario de Misa preferido : \_\_\_\_\_\_Ministry you would like to be involved in /

Ministerio en el que le gustaría participar: : \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution envelopes/Sobres de contribución : \_\_\_\_\_\_or Online Giving/o Donaciones en línea: : \_\_\_\_\_\_





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