***Pastor’s Corner:* Passover 4/22-4/29**

According to the [Book of Exodus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Book_of_Exodus), [God](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yahweh) commanded [Moses](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moses) to tell the Israelites to mark a lamb's blood above their doors so that the [Angel of Death](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Destroying_angel_(Bible)) would pass over them: they would not be touched by the tenth [Plague of Egypt, the death of the firstborn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plagues_of_Egypt#plague10). After this Plague, Pharaoh ordered the Israelites to leave, taking whatever they wanted, and asked Moses to bless him in the name of God. The passage goes on to state that the Passover sacrifice recalls the time when God "passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt".

This story is recounted at the [Passover Seder](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover_Seder) by reading the [Haggadah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haggadah). The Haggadah is a standardized ritual account of the Exodus story, in fulfillment of the command "And thou shalt tell [Higgadata] thy son in that day, saying: It is because of that which the LORD did for me when I came forth out of Egypt."

Pesach starts on the 15th day of the [Hebrew month](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebrew_calendar) of [Nisan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nisan), which is considered the first month of the Hebrew year. The Rabbinical Jewish calendar is adjusted to align with the solar calendar in such a way that 15 Nisan always coincides with Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday. The Hebrew day starts and ends at sunset, so the holiday starts at sunset the day before. For example, in 2024, 15 Nisan coincides with Tuesday, April 23. Therefore, Pesach starts at [sundown](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erev) on Monday, April 22.

The Samaritan calendar differs because it does not limit the days the festival can begin and it has a different set of [intercalary months](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intercalary_month), so Passover coincides with the Rabbinical celebration, occurs two days later, or occurs a whole lunar month later.

For Karaite Jews, the date of Passover is different. "Karaites rely on observations for the first day of the Hebrew-calendar month, when the crescent moon makes its first appearance. When there’s a discrepancy between the calendar and the first sighting, they ignore the former and treat the sighting as the true beginning of the month, dating any holidays in that month accordingly."

Pesach or Passover can also refer to the [Passover sacrifice](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover_sacrifice), the paschal lamb that was offered when the [Temple in Jerusalem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temple_in_Jerusalem) stood; to the [Passover Seder](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover_Seder), the ritual meal on Passover night; or to the week-long [Feast of Unleavened Bread](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Passover#Matzah). One of the biblically-ordained Three Pilgrimage Festivals, Passover is celebrated for seven days in [Israel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israel) and eight days in the [diaspora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_diaspora) due to the principle of the *[yom tov sheni shel galuyot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yom_tov_sheni_shel_galuyot" \o "Yom tov sheni shel galuyot)* "the second festival day in the Diaspora". In the Bible, the seven-day holiday is known as the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

The [omer offering](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omer_offering" \o "Omer offering) was offered at [Jerusalem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerusalem) on the second day of the festival. The [counting of the omer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counting_of_the_omer) is still practiced for seven weeks until the 50th day, which is the holiday of [Shavuot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shavuot). Nowadays, in addition to the biblical prohibition of owning [leavened foods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chametz) for the duration of the holiday, the Passover Seder, at which the Haggadah is read aloud, is one of the most widely observed rituals in [Judaism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judaism).

Fr. Jim

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**Religious Education Classes:**

**Please note the following class schedule changes:**

* **Baptism and Confirmation classes will resume on May 5, with the final Spring class held on May 19. Classes will then resume in the fall.**
* **First Communion classes will resume April 28. and May 5 with the First Communion ceremony being held during the 10:30 Mass on Mother’s Day, May 12. Classes will resume in the fall.**

***Remember in Your Prayers\****

***\*Prayers or Eucharist home visits can be requested in the white notebook located next to the hymnal bookcase.***

**James Hand (Br. Charlie) 4/1 Health Concerns**

**Carmen Ruiz (Pete & Loretta Y) 4/1 God’s Blessings and Prayers**

**Rachel S.(Elizabeth H.) 4/7 Health Concerns**

**Robert T. (Elizabeth H.) 4/7 Health Concerns**

**Theresa H. (Elizabeth H.) 4/7 Health Concerns**

**Jackie V. (Jal J.) 4/7 God’s Blessings and Prayers**

**Fatima R.(Jal J.) 4/7 God’s Blessings and Prayers**

**Joe M (Fr. Jim) 4/10 Health Concerns**

**Kim S. (Bill S.) 4/11 Health Concerns**

**Carlos S. (Sanchez-Ortega Family) 4/14 Health Concerns**

**Majrigo S. (Sanchez-Ortega Family) 4/14 Health Concerns**

**Karla L. (Sandhez-Ortega Family) 4/14 Health Concerns**

**John K. (Ron C.) 4/14 Health Concerns**

**Robert S. (Tommy) 4/14 Health Concerns**

**Monna P. (Tommy) 4/14 Health Concerns**

**Waylon R. (Tommy) 4/14 God’s Blessings & Prayers**

**Orlando J. (Br. Charlie) 4/18/2024 Health Concerns**

**Roxanne (Virginia) 4/20 May She Rest in Peace**

**Joyce Ann N. (Virginia) 4/20 Speedy Recovery from Surgery**

**St. Giles Catholic Community, Palm Springs, CA (ANCC Ministries) 4/25**

***Fifth Sunday of Easter***

**Celebrant: Fr. Alex**

**Reading: Tommy**

**Order of the Mass: Page #134 in the Hymnal.**

**Entrance: All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name #490.**

**Penitential Rite/Kyrie #136**

**Gloria #136**

**Readings:**

1. **Acts 9:26-31.**
2. **Psalm: 23 #23. *Shepherd Me, O God.* Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death in life.**
3. **1 John 3:18-24.**

**Alleluia #266**

1. **John 15:1-8.**

**Homily:**

**Profession of Faith: #142**

**Preparation of the Altar: We Have Been Told #694.**

**Service Music:**

**Santus #161**

**Memorial Acclamation #162**

**Amen #163**

**Our Father (spoken)**

**Agnus Dei #165**

**Communion Music: That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright #461.**

**Concluding Rite: #154**

**Parish Announcements**

**Final Blessing**

**Recessional: The Summons #687**

**Readings for May 4 & 5: THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER.**

**Reading: Aimee**

1. **Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48.**
2. **1 John 4:7--10**
3. **John 15:9-17**

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**Holy Family American National**

**Catholic Church**

***A Catholic Church Where All Are Welcome***

**702 Parker Road**

**Las Cruces, NM 88005-2149**

**Phone: 575-644-5025 or 575-524-6807**

**WEBSITE**: <http://www.holyfamilyancc.com>

**Pastor-Fr. James Lehman, FCM**

**Email:** [jlehman@anccmail.org](mailto:jlehman@anccmail.org)

**Associate Pastor-Fr. Louie Amezaga**

**Email:** [lamezaga@anccmail.org](mailto:lamezaga@anccmail.org)

**Associate** **Pastor-Fr. Rogelio Martinez**

**Email:** [**rmartinez@anccmail.org**](mailto:rmartinez@anccmail.org)

**Associate Pastor-Fr. Alex Urena**

**Email:** [aurena@anccmail.org](mailto:aurena@anccmail.org)

**Church Secretary- Bill Sampson**

**Church’s Email**: [holyfamilyancc@qwestoffice.net](mailto:holyfamilyancc@qwestoffice.net)

**Music Director---Eike Gunnarson**

**Email:** [**eikegun@aol.com**](mailto:eikegun@aol.com)

**Church Office Hours:**

**Tuesday – Friday: 12:30p.m. – 4:30p.m.**

**Mass Schedule:**

**Saturday Eucharistic Liturgy: 4:30 p.m.**

**Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy: 10:30 am**

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**St. Ignatius of Antioch (circa 107 AD) was the first to use the word Catholic (Greek word is c*atha holos)* meaning the “gathering of the whole” of the people. The ancient undivided Church adhered to the early Ecumenical Councils. There are several Catholic Churches in this tradition. The Assyrian Church of the East, and Oriental Orthodox left in the 5th Century and the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox separated in 1054. Others left later: Anglican (16th Century) and Old Catholic Churches (19th Century) but all are part of this Catholic tradition and believe there is a need for apostolic succession of bishops. We also share a common liturgical, sacramental, and theological tradition.**