



THE OLDEST CHURCH IN ALBUQUERQUE  
FOUNDED 1706

*San Felipe de Neri Church*  
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Albuquerque, New Mexico 87194  
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April 24, 2019

Dear Parishioners, Family Members and Friends of San Felipe de Neri Church Community,

Now, that the GREAT celebration of the FIFTY days of Easter is well underway, we are keenly aware of the many blessings God has given to us over this past year. Twenty-three people at our Easter Vigil received Sacraments of initiation, Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. Over these next weeks, other young people will also celebrate First Communion and Confirmation as well as the Sacraments of Holy Matrimony and Baptism too. For ALL of these we are grateful and give praise to our God.

Another celebration that is ALSO well underway is the planning for FIESTA 2019. FIESTA 2019 will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 7-8-9. Our coordinators, Bernadette Garcia de Rodriguez and Anna Parra-Villgas have been working with a great host of other coordinators in the planning of our celebration now just about six weeks from now.

One of the main differences this year will be with our annual raffle. Last year, the Archdiocese of Santa Fe asked the leadership of our church and me to consider making some changes with our raffle. To that end, the Parish Council, Finance Council, Staff and Fiesta Council have advised me to make some changes.

First, some background: In the past, we would print 20,000 tickets that were to sold for \$2.00 each. Of those 20,000 we would generally sell about 11,000-12,000 getting us a gross receipt of at most \$24,000.00 and wasting 8,000-9,000 tickets. In the last years prizes of \$2,000.00, \$1,500.00, \$500.00 and two airline tickets on Southwest Airlines were awarded. We would ask the members of the parish to buy or, sell at least two books that would amount to \$40.00. We would often pass out the tickets or, mail them to the members of the parish. This, over the last years has been costly, difficult to manage. Often people would say they did not get their tickets, or in many cases, the tickets would get lost in the mail.

The Archdiocese suggested that we increase our price on our tickets while increasing the prizes and no longer mail anything out but handle all the sales through the parish office. This is what we have agreed to do as collective Councils.

This year, we have limited the number of tickets to 600 with a cost per ticket of \$50.00 generating a gross receipt of \$30,000.00. With the increased cost, we have increased the number and size of the prizes to: First Prize = \$5,000.00, Second Prize = \$1,000.00, Third Prize = Two Round Trip Airline Tickets on Southwest Airlines (valued at \$400.00) and 17 ADDITIONAL Prizes of \$75.00 each. So, now even with the higher prices, your chance of winning per ticket is 1 in 30. We are asking registered parishioners and associated friends to purchase or sell only ONE TICKET. Finally, once the 600 tickets are sold, we will be done with this part of the raffle project.

I have already purchased the first FOUR tickets and invite others to come to the office at your convenience to purchase yours too. We are looking at ways of even offering the purchase of your raffle tickets on our web-page. Look out for those instructions in the days to come. We realize this is a dramatic change that will be an adjustment to some. If you have any questions please call the office or, talk to any of the members of the Councils that you may know.

As always, this is just one of the ways we make our FIESATA goal of covering the cost of our property insurance on the San Felipe de Neri Church, School and San Jose Mission. Thank you for your support, prayers as we pray for the success of our FIESTA.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Andrew J. Pavlak, Pastor  
San Felipe de Neri Church