

**Bexar Co. Green Party** Contact  
210.440.1195 | www.bexargreens.org

**Celebration Circle** FB Live on Sun. 11am  
Meditation FB Live @ 7:30pm on Wed. |  
celebrationcircle.org

**DIGNITY SA** Contact 210.340.2230 |  
www.dignitysan antonio.com

**Energía Mía** Contact 512.838-3351

**Fuerza Unida** Contact 210.927.2294 |  
www.fuerzaunida.org

**Habitat for Humanity** Volunteer Mtgs on  
Hold. www.habitatsa.org

**Interfaith Welcome Coalition** Zoom  
meetings | sanantoniowelcome@gmail.com

**LULAC Orgullo LGBTQ Council** | info@  
lulac22198.org

**NOW SA** Contact 210.802.9068 |

newsaaeachapter@gmail.com

**Pax Christi, SA** Sat. Mtg via Zoom |  
210.460.8448 | www.paxchristisa.org

**Metropolitan Community Church** Check  
FB for updates | 210.472.3597

**Overeaters Anonymous** news@  
oesanantonio.org

**PFLAG** Contact 210.848.7407.

**Parents of Murdered Children** |www.  
pomcsanantonio.org

**PRIDE Center:** Contact 210.370. 7743 |  
www.pridecentersa.org

**Rape Crisis Center** Hotline:210.349. 7273 |  
210.521.7273 sschwab@rapecrisis.com

**The Religious Society of Friends** Mtgs on  
Zoom, 10am., Sun. | 210.945.8456 | www.  
saquakers.org

**S.A. Gender Assoc.** Ck for zoom  
meetings on website: sagender.net

**SA AIDS Fdn** Contact 210.225.4715 |  
www.txsaaf.org

**SA Women Will March** Contact  
830.488.7493 | www.sawomenwillmarch.org

**SGL-USA LGBT Buddhists** Contact  
210.653.7755

**S.N.A.P. | Survivors Network of those  
Abused by Priests**, 2nd Tues., Virtual Mtg.  
6-8 Contact Patti Koo @ 956-648-7385 |  
snappkoo@gmail.com

**Voice for Animals** Contact 210.737. 3138  
or www.voiceforanimals.org

**SA's LGBTQA Youth** Contact 210.  
303.0550. Check www.fiesta-youth.org for  
virtual meetings

# Notas Y Más

May 2020

Brief news items on upcoming community events.

Send items for Notas y Más to: lavoz@esperanzacenter.org  
or mail to: 922 San Pedro, San Antonio, TX 78212.

**The deadline is the 8th of each month.**

**Community meetings and art events are currently on hold due to COVID-19. Check websites, FB or call for virtual meetings and arts programming in May. • www.esperanzacenter.org**

## The Nation in Crisis

*Continued from Page 10*

*White Supremacists* with 155, the *Anti-Muslim* with 84, the *Anti-LGBTQ* with 70, the *Neo-Nazis* with 59, and the *Ku Klux Klan* with 47; other 165 groups devote themselves to a “*General Hate*” of anyone they dislike or with whom they disagree.

Furthermore, the present tragedy caused by the pandemic has been compounded by

- the widespread poverty of tens of millions unemployed or homeless so that the virus has been killing them in disproportionate numbers; the high rate of infection and of death of blacks in Chicago attest to that;
- the constant boasting about the greatness and the uniqueness of the USA, notably by its President and some of his associates; and
- **the twisting of the central meaning of Christianity** into a credo that glorifies power and exclusiveness and that shreds its essential (“Love thy neighbor”) into a reading of the Bible that totally overlooks the historical example of Jesus. The Swedish theologian Soren Kierkegaard put this way: **“In Christianity, the Master is more important than the doctrine. Jesus is the existential communication of God.”**

Time is long overdue for acknowledging our sins as a nation and ceasing the hollow boasting that characterizes the official version of our history.

**Our democracy has often been corrupted by a conservatism which worships power and money so as to control the government.**

In Western European nations, such as Sweden, Denmark, and Norway, true democracy is much more a reality than in the USA, even if conservative politicians call it “Socialism.” Pope Francis himself has called Catholics to embrace a true form of “Christian democratic Socialism,” not to be confused with Marxism or Maoism.

The first thing we must do, as a nation, is to confess our collective sins, past and present.

We have already been forced into penance by the ongoing pandemic. There is great hope, however! Millions of Americans are showing that there is great hope for a better future for this nation: they are risking their lives and their safety by placing the life and wellness of their fellow human beings first and foremost. How fortunate that we have now many true heroes and saints in our midst, people from all walks of life and from all professions: doctors, nurses, and all medical personnel; policemen and policewomen, transportation workers, food store distributors and workers, restaurateurs and their personnel, and many others. Thus, legions of Americans make our country proud and show that, yes, there is a much better future for the good, old USA. With God’s blessing, America can truly fulfill its true mission and be a beacon for the rest of the world.

*BIO: Tarcisio Beal, STL, PHD, Professor Emeritus of the University of the Incarnate Word, where he taught for 41 years was also co-founder of the old Archdiocesan Justice & Peace Commission headed by Rev. Bill Davis, then Pastor of St. Mary’s Parish.*

*NOTE: Opinions expressed here are solely the author’s own.*