



March 2026

Journey to Damascus Community Newsletter

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Journey To Damascus #239



"Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed."

Matthew 8:8

Dear Journey to Damascus Community,

What an amazing Journey this has been. Since finding out I would lead JTD #239, forming the table of St Elsewhere and then the rest of the team, watching as the pilgrims were added, prayer vigil sign-ups, agape lists ... then seeing how God took what we started and then made (and continues to make) the changes He wanted.....this experience has truly been a lesson in "Let Go and Let God." We have learned to trust God in what He IS doing, that we are just here to carry out His plan.

We have been so blessed with members of the JTD Board and Community filling our prayer vigil and agape lists and more importantly, blessing us with the promise of what those lists represent...love for the Pilgrims, love for the Team and love for God. I could not have done this without the support of my St. Elsewhere team, my Board Rep, the Spiritual Directors, all of Team #239 and my biggest supporter of all, my wifeall of us together preparing for this weekend.

The weekend scripture comes from the response of the Roman Centurion when he asks Jesus to heal his servant, displaying humility in the presence of someone he recognizes as greater than himself and giving witness to the faith and trust he now had in Jesus, that no matter what he asked, it would be accomplished if Jesus just said so. No other proof needed.

This team has set out to give these graces to our Pilgrims this weekend. I invite the Community to again respond out of love for the Pilgrims and write them a letter, say a prayer or come see them while being a point of light at Candlelight on Saturday. Help bring the Joy and Peace that your Journey weekend brought to you and deliver it up to the Pilgrims of JTD #239.

Thank you,
John Porche
Lay Director, JTD#239

TEAM

Lay Director

John Porche
"Perseverance / 4th Day"

Spiritual Director

Fr Raju Thottankara
"Sacraments"

Spiritual Team

Rev Billy Storms
"Faith"
Rev Kelle Clark
"Obstacles to Grace"
Dcn Ruben Soliz
"Grace"

Board Representative

Simon Purnell
"Priesthood of All Believers"

Observing Lay Director

Daniel Bluntzer

Assistant Lay Directors

Peter Moore
"Discipleship"
Benjamin Oliveira
"Changing Our World"
John Rodriguez

Co Head CHA's

Tom De Los Santos
"Growth thru Study"
Johnny Ginn

Music Team

Mick Boudreau
Danny Lopez
Frank Newell
John Michael Pizana

Table Leaders

James Batey
Ken Davis
Justin De Los Santos
"Body of Christ"

PILGRIMS

Adrian Alvarez
Mike Bentancourt
Carlos Camacho
Tony Cantu
Jonathan Cervantes
Caesar Duenez
Christopher Dunn
Jonah French
Alfredo Garcia
Adan Garza
David Gonzalez
Michael Hogan
Santos Juarez
Eduardo Lopez
Vernon Manibusan
Albert Martinez
Troy McNeal
Dale Mock
Christopher Purnell
Mike Quintanilla
Jaime Requenez
Steve Shafer
Fred Torres
Jose Manuel Banales

David Gonzalez
"Christian Action"
Frank Hastings
Doodle Jarnagin
Michael Morgan
Juan Rementeria
"Life in Piety"
Marcos Villa
Alex Villa
Brandon Wallace

CHA's

Keith Albert
James Beltran
Joseph Cable
Israel Cavazos
Gabe Chapa
"Love & Unity"
John Doherty
Roger Flores
Ben Gwynn
Joe Hopkins
Mike Kaestner
"Priorites"
Cole Martinez
Cameron McClelland
David McDonald
Roland Moraida
Rick Oliveira
Mike Riley
Bradley Stokes
Richard Valdez

Journey to Damascus #240



Dear Journey to Damascus Community,

I am truly humbled by the outpouring of love and support shown to us during our team formation. Our journey is solely focused on Jesus and the cross. So we are reminded he carried it for each of us, so when we carry our own we can feel him along side us. Our team meetings have been filled with prayer, music, talks and we can't forget the great food! The team of JTD #240 is not only united in faith but also ignited with purpose to receive the pilgrims.

We Still need Pilgrims so please sign them up today.

For anyone considering signing up for our 72-hour Prayer Vigil, this is an opportunity to be part of something transformative. Covering every pilgrim in prayer before they even arrive is such a powerful act of faith and intercession. Even one prayerful moment can ripple through someone's life in ways we may never fully see.

Thank you to everyone who signed up to bring Agape. Our Agape list is full because of your generosity and giving hearts.

Please join us for Candlelight on April 25th. As you will recall on your Pilgrim weekend, Candlelight is going to be unforgettable. The pilgrims will walk into a room filled with love, light, and the presence of Christ through each of you. We hope to see you all there for Candlelight.

It's powerful to remember that God has already chosen each heart that will walk through this journey. Every detail is being woven together with divine intention, and your faithfulness in prayer is part of that sacred tapestry.

Pray for St. Elsewhere, our Team, our Spiritual Directors and me that we be strengthened with unity, wisdom, and joy. May the pilgrims feel the gentle tug of the Holy Spirit even now, preparing them to receive love and transformation.

JTD #240 will be the BEST Journey EVER—and it's only just the beginning.

De Colores,
Missy Socha

John 19:17 Carrying his cross, He went to the place of the skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha).



A Note of Thanks from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Journey to Damascus would like to thank everyone who attended our annual gathering. We're grateful to all who brought food, lent a hand, or helped in any way — your contributions made the evening truly memorable.

A special thanks to those who shared their testimonies. Your words of faith and inspiration captured the spirit of our community and made the night one to remember.

Dates to Remember

2026 Journey to Damascus Lay Directors & Up Coming Weekend Dates

April 23-26, 2026 Corpus Christi
Women's JTD #240,
Lay Director- Missy Socha

June 18-21, 2026 Corpus Christi
Men's JTD #242

Lay Director- Daniel Bluntzer

July 30- Aug. 2, 2026 Corpus Christi
Women's JTD #243

Lay Director- Bea Martinez

September 17-20, 2026 Corpus Christi
Men's JTD #245

Lay Director- Phil Gagnon

October 15-18, 2026 Corpus Christi
Women's JTD #246

Lay Director- Sonya Rodriguez

Applications



Prayer Vigils

PLEASE CLICK THE "SIGNUP" LINK
-access code (for all) DeColores

April 23-26, 2026 Corpus Christi
Women's JTD #240,
Lay Director- Missy Socha

June 18-21, 2026 Corpus Christi
Men's JTD #242
Lay Director- Daniel Bluntzer

July 30- Aug. 2, 2026 Corpus Christi
Women's JTD #243
Lay Director- Bea Martinez

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Men's JTD #245
Lay Director- Phil Gagnon



The community is invited to join any of the following JTD committees listed below:

Please contact Marivel Garza, President or Javier Flores, Vice President with any questions.

Board representatives for each committee are listed below. If you would like to be involved in any of these committees, please contact the Board President or Vice President.

1. 4th Day Committee: Liz Yzaguirre
2. Board of Trustees: Javier Flores & Marivel Garza
3. Candlelight/Closing Committee: Jenny Sehy & Liz Yzaguirre
4. Historian Report: Rick Svetlik
5. Music Report: Owen Gallagher & Rick Svetlik
6. Newsletter: Marivel Garza
7. Registrar Report: Jenny Sehy
8. Spiritual Director: Rev. Billy Storms & Father Joseph Lopez
9. Spiritual Team: Owen Gallagher
10. Team Selection: Lori Green
11. St. Elsewhere: Javier Flores
12. Manual Committee: Bud Colwell
13. OLCC Timeline: Rick Svetlik



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