

The Salt Of The Earth

by Ruth G. Rothe

Father Heriberto Mejia, the Catholic Priest of the San Andres Catholic Church at 315 East 100 North, Payson, is happy to be in our area. He was born at Palmira, Valle de Cauca, Colombia, on May 23, 1959. He studied at public school, then attended high school and junior college. He studied Philosophy for three years at the Seminary of the Mayor of Bogota City and Theology at the Jesuit University and received a Bachelors Degree in Theology. He was a good leader during his school years and in his Christian service and feels that this is a gift from God.



He was ordained a Catholic Priest in December of 1984 and during his life in the ministry, he has had some special pastoral jobs: Military Chaplain, Air Base and Army; high School chaplain; Director of Family Pastoral, Director of Youth Pastoral, founded Scout group and Christian youth camp.

In 1990, Bishop William Weigand, the Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Salt Lake City, invited him to work with his Diocese and especially with the Hispanic people here in Utah. He came to Utah on March 22, 1990, to the St. Joseph Catholic Church in Ogden. At this time he could not speak a word of English. He attended Weber State University in Ogden for two quarters to study English. On August 5, 1991, Bishop Weigand gave him his appointment in Payson so that he could bring pastoral care to Payson and all of Southern Utah County below Springville and to the Nephi, Ephraim and Elberta Missions. He also helps with the Spanish speaking people in at Sunday Masses in Provo and American Fork. Saturday services are: Spanish Mass, Payson, 5:00 p.m.; Spanish Mass, Elberta, 2:00 p.m. Sunday services are: English Mass, Nephi, 8:00 a.m.; English Mass, Payson, 10:00 a.m.; Spanish Mass, Ephraim, 5:00 p.m. On Saturday, August 15, they will have a special Mass and blessing of the grotto at 6:00 p.m. This will be followed by a potluck dinner and there will be no Sunday Mass. On Sunday, August 30, there will be the San Andres Parish Festival with Mass at 11:00 a.m., followed by food, games, music and entertainment, etc.

This appeared in a recent bulletin:

An Hour Of Time

"Dad, how much do you make an hour?"

The father gave his son a harsh look and replied, "Don't bother me, I'm tired."

But the boy insisted, "Please tell me how much you make an hour?"

The father's reaction was less severe. He only answered "Ten dollars per hour."

"Dad, could you lend me five dollars?"

The father became angry and said "Go to bed and don't bother me again."

Night had fallen. The father had thought about what had happened and felt guilty. Trying to ease his aching conscience, he looked into his son's room. In a low voice, he asked the child, "Are you asleep, son?"

"No dad," the boy answered sleepily.

"Here is the five dollars you asked me for," said the father.

The boy thanked his father, reached under his pillow and pulled out some money.

"Now I have enough. I have ten dollars. Would you please sell me an hour of your time?"
the end.