

"BUT WHOEVER KEEPS  
HIS WORD, THE LOVE  
OF GOD IS TRULY  
PERFECTED IN HIM."  
1 JN 2:5

N



**NATIVITY**  
OF OUR LORD

**February 19, 2023**

**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

nool.us | (303) 469-5171





## RETURN TO ME WITH ALL YOUR HEART

Homily, Ash Wednesday, Feb 10, 2016 (Joel 2:12-18, 2 Cor 5:20-6:2, Mt 6:1-6, 16-18)



A sin is truly a terrible thing. Sometimes we think that sin is sort of okay. But if we were to truly contemplate what a sin is, we would understand that it is truly unacceptable. We would understand that there really is no tragedy that can happen to us in life that is the equal of committing a sin. It used to be asked, would the complete works of William Shakespeare be well lost for the noncommission of one venial sin? The only correct answer to that question is, "Yes, they would be lost." In other words, we would rather lose the complete works of William Shakespeare than commit one venial sin. Why do we have things like that in our tradition? Well, it's because of the ontology. It's because of the way reality is. Everything has its origin in God. Everything comes from God. That which is of God is good, beautiful, and true. That which is not of God is destructive, corrupt, broken, hurtful, and less. This is what sin is.

One of the first things we need to have in this Lenten season is the cultivation of a horror of sin. [...] We would really and truly like to never ever be able to sin again. Unfortunately, that's probably not going to happen. That it would happen but it's probably not going to. When Christ blessed his Church with many, many gifts, one of the gifts was not superior moral standards. In actual fact, Christians are very much like every other people in terms of their morality. This is because Jesus didn't choose to give us some magic bypass on the journey of our freedom to say "Yes" to him. Adam and Eve were given the freedom to say "Yes" to God through that tree in the center of the Garden of Eden, and they chose to say "No" by eating the forbidden fruit. Each one of us has that same dignity and is endowed by God with freedom. To that freedom God makes an invitation to come to him, to be with him, to be united to him. He invites us to live our human condition entirely in him. Our freedom is given to us so that we can say "Yes" to this invitation of God. That is what our freedom is for. That's why Jesus didn't take away sin from us. To take away sin would not have been to redeem us, but rather to disfigure us, and indeed to destroy us. To do so would mean taking away his greatest gift, which is the possibility of having merit to God through our "Yes." To really participate in our belonging to God is that "Yes" that we say to him.

The first reading opened with the cry of the Lord through the prophet Joel. "Even now," says the Lord, "return to me with all your heart." The invitation of Jesus is always there. Always present and always renewed. "Return to me with all your heart." Don't go Adam's route. Don't go Eve's route. God is saying come to me. Come to me and stay with me. Use that freedom with which I created you for the purpose for which I created it, so that you could be with me forever in freedom. Do not use it to destroy and disfigure and hurt and harm yourself. Above all do not use it to say that ultimate "No" to me. That "No" would cast us out of his life forever because God will not compel our reason.

This Lenten journey has this invitation of Jesus at its core, an invitation that we all wish to accept. You wouldn't all be gathered here around this altar today, in the middle of the day, on a busy day of the week, Ash Wednesday, if we didn't want to answer "Yes" to Christ. You wouldn't be here if you didn't want to answer "Yes" to God's invitation. Even now God is saying "return to me with all your heart." There is not one of us here gathered around this altar today that does not desire in the very depths of our heart to say "Yes" to Christ. Yet somehow, we are burdened with

the fact that we know when we go out there today, tomorrow, the next day, and the weeks and months to come, that in so many little ways we will continue to say our "No" to him. Our Lenten journey is an opportunity and an invitation. It's an opportunity that the Church gives us as a people gathered together to beg the Lord and to ask for the special grace of truly being able to say "Yes" to Christ. You have to understand that discipline is not at the center of this Lenten season. Lent isn't a gloomy season of purple vestments, gloomy thoughts, sacrifice, penance, and fasting. No, no, no, no, no. This is a season in which our hearts are invited to soar!

Holy people everywhere long for the season of Lent because they know what a treasure and a beauty it is. The testimony of the saints speaks of this over and over again. Remember, my friends, you and I are called to be saints. You and I are called to enjoy this season. Not with the enjoyment of self-indulgence but with the enjoyment of a heart that finally finds its place. With the enjoyment of a heart that finally does what the heart most truly and dearly desires to do.

Jesus introduces us to the three great practices of Lent in this Gospel. Did you know that Lent and the practice of Lent are based on this Gospel reading? It's interesting the way Jesus says it. He doesn't say "Don't look for fame, because you won't get it." He doesn't say "Don't look for praise and admiration by the people when they see the intensity of your prayers, because you won't get it." He doesn't say "Don't give alms publicly, so that you are esteemed, because you won't get esteem." He tells us you will get those things. If that's what you want, you will get it. If what you want is fame, you'll get it. If what you want is esteem and honor, you'll get it. If what you want is people to look at you and say, "Oh, what a marvelous person so and so is," you'll get that. But my friends, how low we have set the standards. How low we have set the goal of our heart if all we want is a little bit of human praise. Jesus' invitation isn't to want less, but to want more. To want something greater and better. Indeed, Jesus' invitation is to want something infinitely good, which is communion and life with him. That is why Jesus invites us to engage in these practices with purity of heart. Seeking anything less than the love of God, for which our hearts were made, means our hearts cannot be satisfied.

If you think Lent would be better with banquets every single day in which we can gorge on the pleasures of this world, then do that. If you think Lent would be better by holding everything we possibly can for ourselves and making a few great killings in the stock market, then do that. If you think it would be better to be seen as a great hero of our time, then do that. But my friends, I think you and I know that there is a pearl of greater price. There is a pearl of greater price to be found here. And this is what Lent is about. Lent is about choosing, preferring, and deciding that what we want is that pearl of great price which Jesus used as an illustration, a metaphor for his life and his love.

My friends, let us ask as we celebrate and begin our holy Lenten journey that we may be truly guided through this Lenten season. Let us be guided not by some sort of a feeling or need for self-flagellation, but rather by a great desire of heart to truly be free of all the entrapments that distract us.



## DAILY READINGS

### Saturday, February 18

1st Reading: Heb 11:1-7  
Psalm: Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11  
Gospel: Mk 9:2-13

### Sunday, February 19

1st Reading: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18  
Psalm: Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13  
2nd reading: 1 Cor 3:16-23  
Gospel: Mt 5:38-48

### Monday, February 20

1st Reading: Sir 1:1-10  
Psalm: Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5  
Gospel: Mk 9:14-29

### Tuesday, February 21

1st Reading: Sir 2:1-11  
Psalm: Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40  
Gospel: Mk 9:30-37

### Wednesday, February 22

**Ash Wednesday**  
1st Reading: Jl 2:12-18  
Psalm: Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17  
2nd Reading: 2 Cor 5:20-6:2  
Gospel: Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

### Thursday, February 23

1st Reading: Dt 30:15-20  
Psalm: Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6  
Gospel: Lk 9:22-25

### Friday, February 24

1st Reading: Is 58:1-9a  
Psalm: Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19  
Gospel: Mt 9:14-15

## MASS INTENSIONS

### Saturday, February 18

9:30 † Anthony J. Le by Tu Nguyen  
4:30 † Robert Worsley  
by Ondish Family

### Sunday, February 19

7:30 † Dorothy Rodosevich  
by Mike & Sue Walker  
9:30 People of the Parish  
11:30 † David Strasburger by Family  
5:00 † Sharon Barney by Mary Barry

### Monday, February 20

7:00 † Agapito Abeyta  
9:30 † Dr. George Prichard  
by Mary Barry

### Tuesday, February 21

7:00 † Michael Horvat by Grady Family  
9:30 Nativity Choir Members

### Wednesday, February 22

7:00 † Bonnie Blazon by Jerome Blazon  
9:30 † Tom Williams by Kris Waters  
12:00 noon † Dave & Betty Malysa by Son  
7:00 pm Health of Manuel Ocampo  
by Ocampo Family

### Thursday, February 23

7:00 † Patrick Mercado  
9:30 † David Kerno by Cathy Hogan

### Friday, February 24

7:00 † Amy Tampa by Mary Artis  
9:30 Charles Diecidue  
by Cynthia Lombardi

### Saturday, February 25

9:30 † Eugene Texas by Waters Family  
4:30 † Dolores Goble by Ondish Family

### Sunday, February 26

7:30 Kevin & Amy Bowers  
by Doris Solano  
9:30 People of the Parish  
11:30 † Alfredo Cannata  
by Concetta and Cannata Family  
5:00 † Sr. Rosa Lombardi  
by Cynthia Lombardi

## PARISH CALENDAR

### Sunday, February 19

8:00 am | CL  
8:30 am | John Lay Book Presentation  
11:00 am | RCIA  
6:00 pm | High School Youth Group (GS)

### Monday, February 20

The Office/Front Desk are closed due to President's Day. All events cancelled.

### Tuesday, February 21

1:00 pm | Adult Bible Study  
1:00 pm | Day Rosary Makers  
6:30 pm | Adult CCC  
6:30 pm | RE  
6:30 pm | Venturers of the Star  
7:30 pm | CLU (CL University Students)

### Wednesday, February 22

5:30 am | St. Joseph Men's Prayer Group  
8:15 am | ENDOW  
5:30 pm | KofC  
6:15 pm | Boy Scouts Tr. 766  
6:15 pm | Divorce Support Group

### Thursday, February 23

6:00 pm | Stephen Ministry  
6:15 pm | Spring Sacrament Prep  
6:30 pm | Spring Marriage Preparation  
7:30 pm | CL

### Friday, February 24

7:30 am | Men's Moean Bible Study  
9:00 am | ENDOW  
11:00 am | T. J. Fattor Funeral/Rosary  
5:30 pm | KofC Lenten Fish Fry  
7:00 pm | Teen Star/Fr. Emanuele

### Saturday, February 25

8:00 am | CL  
8:00 am | Marian Cenacle  
8:50 am | Pro-Life Rosary  
10:00 am | Grief Ministry Workshop  
10:00 | Cub Scouts Blue & Gold

Let us ask that we might be given the grace to adhere. Let us pray that we might have God. You alone, O Lord, you alone. As they write over the main entrance to the great Benedictine monasteries, "You alone, O Lord." You alone and none other. Let us ask for that because as Jesus tells us, when we have that, everything else is given to us. We are going to distribute the ashes now. The ashes are a symbol that remind us that life has a task. They remind us that this life isn't just a bit of time that is mostly on the level. Tomorrow will be more or less the same as today, so it would be easy to think we should just eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die. No, my friends, let us find in this symbol of the ashes a greater spur to that prayer which I just expressed, the prayer of the desire for him and for him alone. ■

Reprinted from *Changing the Equation: Christ Changes Everything*, Parochial homilies by Father Michael Carvill, FSCB. 2021 Human Adventure Books. Pgs 122-127.



**ASH  
WEDNESDAY  
FEB 22**

*Be merciful, O Lord,  
for we have sinned.*

2 Cor 5:20-6:2

### SACRISTY LAUNDRY

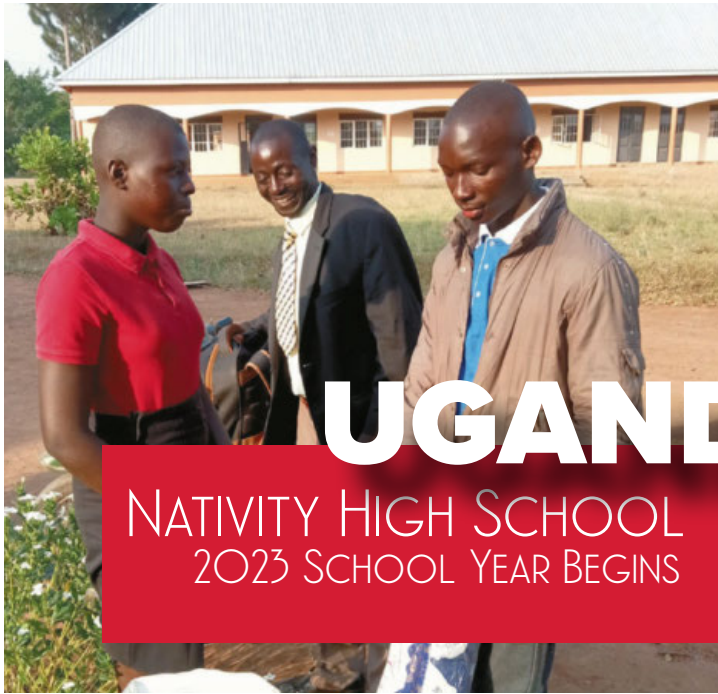
Myra Aksamit

### COLLECTION COUNTERS

**Tuesday, 2/21 - 10:00 am**

Susan Martinez  
Vickie Villegas  
Ron Riedl  
Deborah Mittleman





# UGANDA

NATIVITY HIGH SCHOOL  
2023 SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

WARM GREETINGS FROM UGANDA TO ALL PARISHIONERS OF NATIVITY! AS OUR NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS FOR OUR STUDENTS IN UGANDA, PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY AND—IF POSSIBLE—RENEW YOUR SPONSORSHIP AT ANY LEVEL TODAY!

GOD BLESS YOU AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION!

MARY BRAY-GORHAM



STUDENTS REPORTING  
FOR SCHOOL



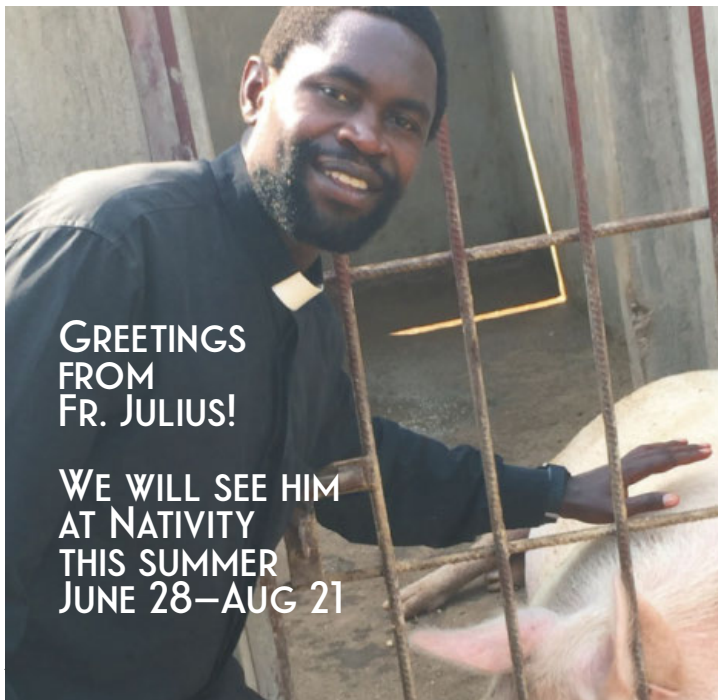
HOW TO GIVE

[www.nool.us/charity#mission-uganda](http://www.nool.us/charity#mission-uganda)

Choose one of the options on the website to contribute to our Mission Uganda Scholarship Fund!

Questions? Contact:

Mary Bray-Gorham [m.braygorham@gmail.com](mailto:m.braygorham@gmail.com)



GREETINGS  
FROM  
FR. JULIUS!

WE WILL SEE HIM  
AT NATIVITY  
THIS SUMMER  
JUNE 28—AUG 21







**NATIVITY**  
FAITH & REASON

## ALTAR SERVER TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!

### WHEN:

Trainings will be available on  
**Mondays at 10:15–11:00 am**  
**January 30–May 22**  
(with the exception of holidays).

### REQUIREMENTS:

Attend **TWO** trainings  
(ideally back-to-back)—the first  
will be a class and the second will  
be a test.

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Sr. Marilú at  
**sr.marilu@nool.us** to give your  
permission to Sr Marilú to call out  
your child to attend both training  
and test.

### TRAINER:

Trainings will be conducted by  
Luke Hellwig in the Church,  
on behalf of Father Emanuele.

## SPANISH TEACHER NEEDED

We are looking for a part time  
3rd–5th grade Spanish  
teacher (10 teaching hours a  
week) for the last quarter  
of the school year at Nativity:  
Faith & Reason.

Contact: **s.calvino@nool.us**

*"At Nativity, our kids learn  
that God doesn't just exist  
on Sundays. Christ is at the  
center of what they do every  
day at school and the way  
that they learn, and He is  
an integral part of their lives  
because of Nativity."*

– Nativity parent



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Nativity Families,

Last Saturday reminded me again of the great community that we have at Nativity. Because of your generosity, we had record setting donations that will allow us to continue growing and thriving as a school. We are set to be double rounded in every grade and will be making investments in the facilities and academic growth.

I wanted to again offer thanks to the many people who made this event possible. Megan Kranz and Erica Bardeau oversaw a team of parents that, together, spent hundreds of hours over the last months preparing and planning for every detail. The Roberts family graciously donated their beautiful space to hold the event. Our donors made the event a tremendous success with their financial generosity.

After our 3rd grade boys and 4th grade girls took home Championship trophies last week, we have two more teams playing for championships this Saturday, February 11th. If you can, please join us to cheer our teams on to victory. Go Knights!

Sebastian



### Restaurant Knight: Feb 21 4–8pm @ Noodles & Co

25% of all qualifying online and in-restaurant sales will go directly back to your organization. They are generously opening up fundraisers to online sales. For online and Noodles Rewards app orders, apply the coupon code: **"GIVING25"** at checkout. When ordering in-restaurant, remember to mention **Nativity** prior to paying. Noodles & Company Fundraising Knight Location:

**4530 W 121st Ave**  
**Broomfield, CO 80020**



Introduce the sport of running to our  
youngest Knights!

- WHO: K-3rd grade, boys and girls! | MS Mentors requested!
- WHEN: Wednesdays 3:30–4:40pm | March 22 for 8 week

Learn to love to run and have FUN!



**NATIVITY**  
FAITH & REASON




**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**FEB 22, 2023**

**MASS TIMES:**  
**7 AM, 9:30 AM,**  
**12:00 PM, 7:00 PM**

**ASH WEDNESDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR EASTERN EUROPE**



On Ash Wednesday, there will be a special collection for Eastern Europe. This collection is crucial to the works of ministries that affirm the dignity of children, youth, and other vulnerable people. Your support helps the Church bring Christ's mercy to the Ukrainian refugees, Moldovan children, and families most in need. We will be giving to this collection as part of our parish tithing, but if you would like to give an additional amount to this "second-pocket" giving opportunity, please use the envelope provided in the pews and in the gathering area or donate online at:

<https://ppay.co/l4pUMiA580g> or scan the QR code above.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
**FRIDAYS, 7:00 PM**

Stations of the Cross will be in the church every Friday during Lent at 7:00 pm.

**Food will be served at 5:30 pm** in Cabrini Hall on the following dates:

- February 24** Fish Fry + Stations of the Cross
- March 3** Soup + Stations of the Cross
- March 10** Fish Fry + Stations of the Cross
- March 17** Soup + Stations of the Cross
- March 24** Soup + Stations of the Cross
- March 31** Soup + Stations of the Cross



**SPECIAL SATURDAY/SUNDAY COLLECTION**

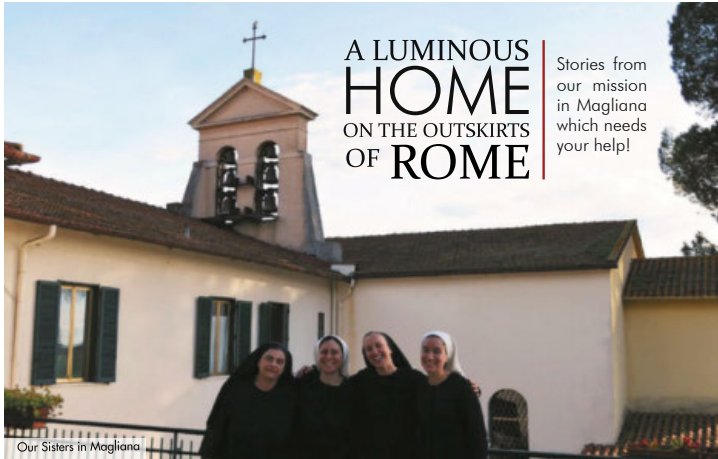
In response to the Earthquake that hit Syria and Turkey, we will give an offering from our parish tithing. If you want to make a personal contribution, we suggest sending funds through AVSI, a Catholic UN recognized NGO specialized in international relief.

**WELCOME TO NATIVITY!**

- |           |          |              |           |
|-----------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| Catalina  | Emmett   | Carly        | Gabriel   |
| Aureliano | Luis     | Derek        | Michael   |
| Maura     | Soloman  | Zellie       | Carey     |
| Andy      | Melissa  | Murat (Sean) | Elizabeth |
| Stephanie | Derek    | Ellen        | Katie     |
| A. J.     | Garrett  | Sarah        | Gregory   |
| John      | Vivian   | Chuck        | Claire    |
| Gabriele  | Claudia  | Woody        | Charlotte |
| Hannah    | Alexis   | Karen        | Julia     |
| Ryan      | Kimberly | Nathan Roger | Landon    |
| Christina | Stephen  | Chase        |           |
| Raeya     | Sarah    | Sarah        |           |
| Jakeb     | Emilia   | Natalia      |           |
| Janae     | Andy     | Rafael       |           |
| Caela     | Cora     | Andres       |           |

**24**  
**FAMILIES**





Our Sisters in Magliana

**March, 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**6 pm**  
in **Cabrini Hall**  
at **Nativity of Our Lord**

**17<sup>th</sup>**  
**anniversary**  
**of the MSCB**

BRING THE WHOLE  
FAMILY FOR **DINNER** AND  
A **JOYFUL EVENING**  
TOGETHER!



The event is free but  
space is limited!

Please pick up your ticket  
at Nativity from the  
front desk in the Parish or  
from the School Office.

DURING THE EVENING  
WE'LL MAKE AN APPEAL  
TO SUSTAIN OUR SISTERS'  
MISSION IN MAGLIANA

**PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING A DONATION**

**BANK TRANSFER**

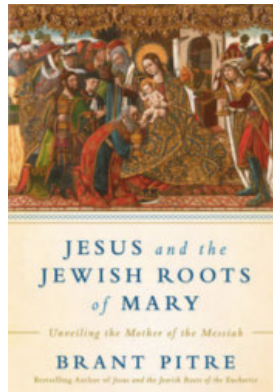
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.  
Missionary Sisters of Saint Charles Borromeo, Inc.  
Account number: 1113437238.  
Routing number: 102000076 (paper & electronic)  
121000248 (wires)

**CHECKS BY MAIL**

Missionary Sisters of Saint Charles Borromeo  
590 W. 3rd Ave Dr., Broomfield CO80020

MEMO: HOUSE OF MAGLIANA

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF  
ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO  
denver@missionariesancarlo.org  
720 277 2198



**BIBLE STUDY ON MARY**

Are Catholic beliefs about Mary (such as her perpetual virginity, sinlessness, immaculate conception, identity as the Mother of God, and bodily assumption into heaven) new or human inventions? Turns out, they are deeply rooted in ancient Christianity, and ancient Christians got their beliefs about Mary from the Old Testament, not just the New Testament.

Join us to discuss Brant Pitre's book, *Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary*. You can choose either the **Wednesday afternoon class from 1-2:30 p.m.** or the **Thursday evening class from 6:30-8 p.m.** Classes start on **March 22/23** and run **through May 17/18**. The parish gave us this book a few years ago, so you may not need to purchase it. If you do not already have the book, you may purchase it from the Nativity bookstore for \$10. The registration fee of \$5 will help offset the cost of the study guide.

Register here:

[nool.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/17/responses/new](http://nool.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/17/responses/new)

More information:

Theresa Cooley

[cooleyricktherese@msn.com](mailto:cooleyricktherese@msn.com), 720-635-8975

Steve Moser

[svmoser55@gmail.com](mailto:svmoser55@gmail.com), 989-941-8280



**OFFICE/FRONT DESK CLOSING  
DUE TO PRESIDENT'S DAY**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

The Office/Front Desk will be closed. Any events scheduled for that day will be cancelled. Thank you for your cooperation.

**RAISING AWARENESS AND FUNDING  
FOR THE HOMELESS**

Help solve homelessness by becoming a member of Catholic Charities' Team Samaritan. Join our cycling, running, or walking teams to raise awareness and funding for people who need a hand-up. Together, we are giving individuals and families hope, and a second chance at a better life. Learn more by visiting: [www.teamsamaritan.org](http://www.teamsamaritan.org) or contacting **Keith Kondratko** at [kkbiking1@gmail.com](mailto:kkbiking1@gmail.com) for cycling questions, or **Joe Lowrey**, for walking or running questions at [joe.lowrey@samaritanrunning.org](mailto:joe.lowrey@samaritanrunning.org).

**SPANISH PRAYER GROUP**

The group will not meet on Monday, February 20 as the Parish Office/Front Desk will be closed. **The group will resume on February 27.** The meetings are now scheduled for **MONDAYS** from **6:30 to 9:00 pm** in the **Conference Room**.



## ANNUAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP

**FEBRUARY 25, 2023 | NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

Nativity's Council 10961 Knights of Columbus are again hosting their Annual Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship competition on February 25, 2023 at the Nativity of Our Lord Gymnasium. Competition is open to both boys and girls from the ages of 9 to 14 (age on Jan. 1, 2022). Boys and girls will compete separately. **Registration begins at 12:30 pm and the competition will start at 1:00 pm.** Winners of each age and gender category will be eligible to compete in the State Tournament. For more information, please contact:

**Paul Fabian** by phone or text at **720-323-8456** or by email at **paulfabian3130@gmail.com**.

## MEN'S LENTEN OPPORTUNITY!

**Saturday, March 4th**, the Omni at Interlocken, Broomfield will be the site of the Catholic Men's Leadership Summit program, "Forming Intentional Disciples." The program will begin with Mass at 8:30 am celebrated by Bishop Jorge Rodriguez, followed by nationally recognized speakers, **Fr. Nathan Cromly**, St. John Institute, **Fr. Robert Spitzer**, President, Magis and Spitzer Centers, **Curtis Martin**, Founder of FOCUS, and **Jared Smyth**. Seating for this event will be by parish and seating is limited. If you've not already signed up, registration and program information can be found below. Many men from our St. Joseph's Men's Ministry, Men of Emmaus, and the Knights of Columbus have already registered for this program scheduled to conclude at 4:00 pm on the 4th. Come join us! Register at **mensleadership.org**.



## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

For those of you who are nearsighted and wear glasses, do you remember your first pair? You experienced seeing anew all over again. It felt like a whole new world. Discovering or reigniting faith during this Lenten season can feel the same. This Lent and throughout the year, support those in need by being a part of our Nativity St. Vincent de Paul chapter. Check out our Flocknote service at **nool.flocknote.com/svdp** for meeting times and updates.

## FAMILY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST – MARISOL HEALTH LAFAYETTE

Marisol Health in Lafayette is looking for a Family Development Specialist with a passion for life-affirming care and a heart for serving women and families in Northern Colorado. This critical role is vital to our mission to provide a full range of women's health care, counseling, and family support services. Please visit **ccdenver.org/careers** and search for the Family Development Specialist – Marisol Health position.

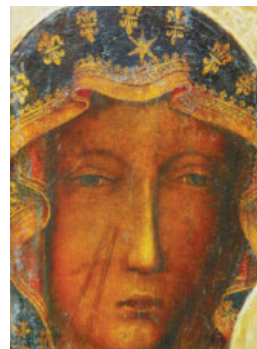
## WOMEN'S JOURNEY RETREAT MARCH 10–12, 2023 | ESTES PARK

The 20th annual Women's Journey retreat will be held at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park. For details or to register, visit: **www.coloradocatholicretreats.org**.

For questions, please contact:

**Patti Hayes** at **phayes@spiritofchrist.org** or **720-608-1607**.

Carpooling is available upon request by March 5th; contact **Karen Smoody** at **ksmoothie56@gmail.com** or **303-588-0461**.



## PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND

**SEP 17–OCT 1, 2023**

**WITH FR. PIOTR MOZDYNIEWICZ**

Shrine of Divine Mercy, St. John Paul II, Częstochowa, St. Maximilian Kolbe..., and much more!  
Seats are Limited!  
Email: **Mary@Borda.us** for details.

## WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JULIA GREELEY

**Saturday, March 18, 2023, 10 am–3 pm**

Please Join Us for a Lenten Pilgrimage: Walking in the Footsteps of Julia Greeley

This Pilgrimage honoring Denver's Secret Angel of the Poor will travel 22 miles by commercial tour bus to the candidate for canonization's tomb in Immaculate Conception Cathedral Basilica, by way of 17 sites known to have been frequented by her, with longer stops at her boarding house, Sacred Heart Church, and the Cathedral. At each site, and often in between, Fr. Blaine will give information on Julia's life and virtues. Seating is limited, tickets are **\$100/per pilgrim**. To reserve your seats please visit: **https://cpma.ejoinme.org/juliagreeley** or call **303-477-5436**.

To learn more about Julia Greeley, please visit the amazing

## EXHIBIT ON



**in the Nativity's Cabrini Hall**



## ANGELUS REFLECTION, POPE FRANCIS

Saint Peter's Square, Sunday, February 12, 2023



Dear brothers and sisters, *buongiorno!*

In the Gospel of today's liturgy, Jesus says: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfil" (Mt 5:17). To *fulfil*: this is a key word to understand Jesus and his message. But what does this fulfilment mean? To explain, the Lord begins by saying what is not fulfilment. The Scripture says "Do not kill", but for Jesus this is not enough if brothers are then hurt by words; the Scripture says "Do not commit adultery", but this is not enough if one then lives a love tainted by duplicity and falsehood; the Scripture says "Do not bear false witness", but it is not enough to take a solemn oath if one then acts with hypocrisy (cf. Mt 5:21-37). This is not fulfilment.

To give a concrete example, Jesus concentrates on the "rite of the offertory". Making an offering to God reciprocates the gratuity of his gifts. It was a very important rite - making an offering to reciprocate symbolically, let's say, the gratuitousness of his gifts - so important that to interrupt it was forbidden other than for serious reasons. But Jesus states that it must be interrupted if a brother has something against us, in order to go and be reconciled with him first (cf. vv.23-24): only in this way is the rite *fulfilled*. The message is clear: God loves us first, freely, taking the first step towards us, without us deserving it; and so we cannot celebrate his love without in our turn taking the first step towards reconciliation with those who have hurt us. In this way there is fulfilment in God's eyes, otherwise external, purely ritualistic observance is pointless, it becomes a pretence. In other words, Jesus makes us understand that religious rules are necessary, they are good, but they are only the beginning: to fulfil them, it is necessary to go beyond the letter and live their meaning. The commandments that God has given us must not be locked up in the airless vaults of formal observance; otherwise, we are limited to an exterior, detached religiosity, servants of "God the Master" rather than children of "God the Father". Jesus wants this: not to have the idea of serving a God the Master, but the Father; and this is why it is necessary to go beyond the letter.

Brothers and sisters, this problem was present not only in Jesus' time; it is there today too. At times, for example, we hear it said, "Father, I have not killed, I have not stolen, I have not harmed anyone...", as if to say, "I am fine". This is formal observance, which is satisfied with the bare *minimum*, whereas Jesus invites us to aspire to the *maximum possible*. That is: God does not reason with calculations and tables; he loves us as one who is enamoured: not to the minimum, but to the maximum! He does not say, "I love you up to a certain point". No, true love is never up to a certain point, and is never satisfied; love always goes beyond, one cannot do without. The Lord showed us this by giving his life on the cross and forgiving his murderers (cf. Lk 23:34). And he entrusted to us the commandment most dear to him: that we love each other like he loved us (cf. Jn 15:12). This is the love that gives fulfilment to the Law, to faith, to true life!

So, brothers and sisters, we might ask ourselves: how do I live faith? Is it a matter of calculations, formalism, or a love story with God? Am I content merely with not doing harm, of keeping the "façade" in good order, or do I try to grow in love for God and others? And every now and then, do I check myself on Jesus' great commandment, do I ask myself if I love my neighbour as

He loves me? Because perhaps we are inflexible in judging others and forget to be merciful, as God is with us.

May Mary, who observed the Word of God perfectly, help us to give fulfilment to our faith and our charity.

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### AFTER THE ANGELUS

Dear brothers and sisters!

Let us continue to stay close, with prayer and concrete support, to the earthquake victims in Syria and Turkey. I saw on the television programme "A Sua Immagine" the images of this catastrophe, the pain of these peoples who are suffering as a result of the earthquake. Let us pray for them, let us not forget them, let us pray and think about what we can do for them. And let us not forget tormented Ukraine: may the Lord open ways of peace and give those responsible the courage to follow them.

The news from Nicaragua has saddened me a great deal, and I cannot but remember with concern Bishop Rolando Álvarez of Matagalpa, whom I care about greatly, sentenced to 26 years imprisonment, and also those who have been deported to the United States. I pray for them and for all those who are suffering in that dear nation, and I ask for your prayers. Let us also ask the Lord, by the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, to open the hearts of political leaders and all citizens to the sincere search for peace, which is born of truth, justice, freedom and love, and which is achieved through the patient pursuit of dialogue. Let us pray together to Our Lady. [Hail Mary]

I greet all of you, Romans and pilgrims from Italy and other countries. I greet the groups from Poland, the Czech Republic and Peru. I greet the Congolese citizens who are present here. Your country is beautiful, it is beautiful! Pray for the country! I greet the students from Badajoz, Spain, and those of the Gregorian Institute of Lisbon. I greet the young people of Amendolara-Cozenza and the AVIS group from Villa Estense-Padua. And I wish you all a happy Sunday. Please, do not forget to pray for me.

Source: [www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2023/documents/20230212-angelus.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2023/documents/20230212-angelus.html)



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## MASS TIMES

### Monday–Friday

7:00 am  
9:30 am (livestreamed)

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8:15 am

### Saturday

9:30 am

### Sunday

7:30 am

9:30 am

### Vigil Mass

4:30 pm

11:30 am

5:00 pm

## CONFESSION

### Thursday

5:00–6:00 pm

### Saturday

8:00–9:30 am

3:00–4:30 pm

### Sunday

30 min before weekend Masses

## PARISH OFFICE

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### Office Hours:

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**School:** (303) 466-4177

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If you're going to the hospital and need a visit from a priest or deacon, please call the front desk at: **303-469-5171**

If you have any prayer requests, please contact Joanne Farver at **(303) 466-8859** or at **joannefarver@comcast.net**.

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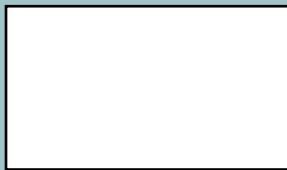


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