

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Presentation of Our Lady

12/10/2023

Church



### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of Presentation of Our Lady Catholic church, are inspired by the holy spirit to live out Christ's commandments by showing love to ALL people, though the gifts God has given each of us. We commit ourselves to the virtues of faith, hope and love by worshipping God, in word and sacrament. Strengthened by God the Father, we shall strive to live out the Gospel in serving the needs of our parish faith family and the global community.



### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

#### PARISH OFFICE

(303) 534-4882  
FAX: (303) 893-5056

#### OFFICE HOURS

Mon.- Fri. 8:30 am to 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m to 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Israel  
Perez Lopez  
Ext 119

Deacon  
Pablo Salas  
Ext 117

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Please register as a member of the parish. Forms are always available at the church entrance or at the parish office. Return forms to an usher or the parish office. Moving? Please notify the parish office.

Deacon  
Edgar Valle  
Ext ---  
Max Lopez  
Office  
Manager  
Ext 119  
Diana Soto  
Receptionist

#### Sunday Masses

8:30 am (English)  
10:30 am (Bilingual)  
12:00 pm (Spanish)  
5:00 p.m. (Spanish)

#### Saturday Mass

4:30 pm (English)

#### Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday  
8:00am (Bilingual)

**For Religious Education, Adult Inquirer's classes, Baptism classes, or Marriage preparation call the Parish office for more information.**

### SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES

Anointing of the sick  
Last Rites  
Please call  
720-473-9053 anytime

David Vallejo  
Bldg. Maint.  
303-552-7947

St. Vincent de  
Paul  
Ext 122

## The Essence of Hope: New Heavens and New Earth

December 10th, 2023

The 2nd Sunday of Advent

We continue today with our series of Advent homilies on the theological virtue of Hope. In today's Scripture reading, Saint Peter directs our attention to this same virtue, when he explains that "according to his [God's] promise, we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." Let us reveal the meaning of this statement by looking more closely at the essence of hope.

We already know from our previous reflections that hope differs from faith. The latter is an intellectual virtue. Hope, instead, perfects our will. It has to do with the way we love God. But before we clarify the exact meaning of theological hope, it would be important to understand what human hope is all about.

In our human experience, we hope in something that we love, but that we do not yet possess. For this reason, the love inherent in hope is turned into desire. The latter is a peculiar way of loving a good insofar as it is good for me. Then, we could say that hope is this particular way of desiring something good, which we love for ourselves and don't have. Yet, for hope to be there, we also need that the good in question be difficult to obtain. We do not hope for things that are immediately and readily accessible to us. Nevertheless, obtaining the good thing that I love has to be possible in some way or another. If it is not, instead of hope, one would feel despair. The curious thing is that we can hope to obtain things, not only based on our own powers, but also in those of our friends. This last point will be key in order to understand theological hope. Hence, allow me to elaborate on it by using an example.

Imagine that I am paralyzed from the neck down. Let us suppose that I am left alone in an abandoned building where no one is supposed to pass by. After three days, I am dying of dehydration. I can see a water fountain not too far from me. Yet, although I love and desire that water, my feelings are not of hope. Rather, I experience only despair because it is impossible for me to reach that water. However, all of the sudden I hear a noise. It is my brother entering the building. Then, I feel hope. Note that nothing has changed for me with respect to my capacity to get the water. I still remain unable to do so on my own. What has changed this whole picture, from despair into hope, is the irruption of a friend who loves me and wants my good; someone who is indeed capable of doing for me what I am unable to do on my own. This example is very appropriate to better understand theological hope.

The theological virtue of hope is all about union with God as the Good, which I desire. Of course, salvation is not possible for man alone. Jesus clarified this matter, when the disciples heard Him speak about how hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. They said: Then, who will be saved? Jesus answered: For man it is impossible, but nothing is impossible for God. Before the reality of salvation, I am like the paralyzed person in the previous example. But just as the whole situation changed when my brother came into the building, the whole picture changes once God has entered history in order to save us. The Lord is inviting us to rely on God as our loving friend. He can do all things. He is merciful. He wants to save us. For this reason, even though it is not possible for man alone to attain salvation, we are to be hopeful that we will do so with God's help. In this sense, we can confidently "await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells."

These new Heavens and new Earth refer us to the end times, after the Universal Judgment. Then, the Church will receive her ultimate perfection. The human race and the cosmos itself will be renewed. As men, we will partake of the beatific vision and form the Holy City of God. The physical world will be renewed and freed from its subjection to decay; it will serve the just. Christ will be head of all. (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, no. 48). This righteousness will translate as eternal happiness, surpassing all the desires of peace which come from the human heart (cf. *Gaudium et Spes*, no. 39).

Brothers and sisters, I would like to invite all of you to hope in the Lord. If He is with us, no one can be against us. He wants to enter into our hearts in order to lead us to the new Heavens and the new Earth, where there will be no more tears and no more pain, where we will be totally happy. Let us ask the Lord to grant us the grace of theological hope. Amen.

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## 12/10/2023

## Church

### Offertory

Weekend of Dec. 2 & 3, 2023

4:30 Mass Regular Collection \$ 1,309.00

4:30 Mass Second Collection \$181.89

8:30 Mass Regular Collection \$529.00

8:30 Mass Second Collection \$118.00

10:30 Mass Regular Collection \$516.00

10:30 Mass Second Collection \$158.00

12:00 Mass Regular Collection \$599.79

12:00 Mass Second Collection \$156.00

5:00 Mass Regular Collection \$423.77

5:00 Mass Second Collection \$61.07

Second Collection

Total: \$674.96

Regular Collection

Total: \$3,377.51

Candles \$208.00

Noche Bohemia \$780.00

Drinks on Bohemian Night \$541.00



### MASS INTENTIONS

Day	Date	Time	intention	Offered by
Sat.	Dec. 9	4:30 p.m		
Sun.	Dec. 10	8:30 a.m	Altar & Rosary Society	Altar & Rosary Society
		10:30 a.m.	† Catalina Reyes & Preciliano ortiz	The Family
		12:00 a.m.	† Freddy Emanuel	The Family
		Spanish	Baptista	
		5:00 p.m.	† Manuel Sosa	Rios Sosa Family
		Spanish		
			For all our Parishioners living and deceased	
Mon.	Dec. 11	8:00 a.m.		
Tues.	Dec. 12	8:00 a.m		
Wed.	Dec. 13	8:30 a.m		
Thur.	Dec. 14	8:00 a.m		
Fri.	Dec. 15	8:00 a.m	Stuart Jung	Becky Ortega



The second collection this weekend will go towards the needs of the church. Please continue giving generously!

*Thank You*



### INFLOW OF MONEY AT BOHEMIAN NIGHT

TICKETS SALES: \$6,400.00

DONATION IN DRINKS: \$541.00

**TOTAL PROFIT: \$6,941.00**

### BOHEMIAN NIGHT EXPENSES

FOOD \$822.95

DISPOSABLE PLATES \$200.00

DRINKS \$340.00

DISPOSABLE CUPS \$59.19

TOTAL EXPENSES \$1,422.00

**TOTAL PROFIT \$5,519.00**



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*Christmas*  
Mass Times

Christmas Eve  
5:00 pm. (Spanish)

Christmas Day  
8:30 am. (English)  
10:30 am. (Bilingual)  
12:00 p.m (Spanish)

Tuesday, December 12, 2023



Bilingual Mass at 6:00 pm  
Celebration to follow



Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God

1-1-2023 Masses

8:30 am. English 10:30 am. Bilingual

12:00 pm. Spanish

# MEETING

Altar & Rosary is

having their monthly meeting this month and it



will be a potluck on December 13, 2023 at 1:00 pm. at St. Joe's.

If you would like to join us, please do. Everyone is welcome. We would like to have new members join us too.

*A Very Special  
"Thank You!"  
To everyone who donated clothes  
to the migrant families!!*