

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD **Presentation of Our Lady** (SOLEMNITY) 03/31/2024 **Church**



Do you need
confession,
spiritual guidance,
or just talk?
Call the office to
schedule your
appointment.

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.



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.**

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH PARISH OFFICE

695 Julian St.

OFFICE HOURS

665 Irving St.

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

DIRECT: (303) 534-4882

FAX: (303) 893-5056

Web Page: www.presentationdenver.org

Official Facebook Page:

Presentation of Our Lady Off.

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.

SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES

Anointing of the sick

Last Rites

Please call

720-473-9053 anytime

Rev. Israel
Perez Lopez
Ext 119

Deacon
Pablo Salas
Ext 117

Deacon Edgar
Valle
Ext ---

Max Lopez
Office Manager
Ext 119

Diana Soto
Receptionist

David Vallejo
Bldg. Maint.
303-552-7947

St. Vincent de
Paul
Ext 122

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You Were Raised with Christ, Seek What Is Above

March 31st, 2024

Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of the Lord

The Lord has risen! The Resurrection of Jesus does not mean that He came back to life as it was before His Passion and Death. Christ has entered into Glory. The Word of God proclaims that we have risen with Him, and therefore, we are called to seek what is above. The Christian life is a participation in Christ's life. We are called to be by grace what Jesus is by nature. God's grace conforms us to Christ. This conformation or transformation begins at Baptism. The sacrament of Baptism unites us ontologically with the Paschal Mystery of Jesus. We die with Jesus so that we can live with Him. That fundamental union must develop within our souls so that it becomes more and more a reality. The seed of God's grace must grow inside us so that our old man dies and the new man born at Baptism grows. We have a plan for the homilies of the whole season of Easter. We will preach a series of catechetical homilies from today till Pentecost Sunday. The topic of these homilies will be the New Life in Christ animated by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The activity of those gifts in the soul reproduces the image of Christ more and more in the life of every Christian. The image of Christ we are called to imitate is summarized in the Beatitudes. Saint Augustine and Saint Thomas Aquinas teach that the Sermon on the Mount is like the heart of the moral teaching of Jesus. Within that Sermon, the Beatitudes are like the distilled formula that contains what is essential in that teaching. The Beatitudes are like a moral portrait of Jesus. The Christian moral life consists in following Christ. Hence, we are called to live according to the spirit of the Beatitudes, as poor in spirit, clean of heart, meek, merciful, hungry and thirsty for justice, etc. Living the Beatitudes is at the core of what we can call the mystical life. Being a mystic does not mean having extraordinary paranormal experiences. The exceptional phenomena that could happen to a Christian are not essential for holiness. Many strange phenomena can occur by the influence of the devil. And even if there are extraordinary gifts that can be from God, those gifts do not sanctify the soul of the one receiving them immediately. If someone gets the gift of healing people, that gift is for the common good of the Church. The person receiving that gift can use it in a holy manner or not. What mystical life truly means is an adult Christian life entirely dominated by the perfection of charity. We can use the image of the different ages of natural human life to understand the mystery of the evolution and growth of the new life in Christ. The "new man" born in Baptism is like a baby who has to grow. His degree of charity determines the spiritual age of that new man. He grows in grace by loving God more and more, above all things. The very minimum of that new life is to be in the state of grace. Sanctifying grace can be lost after Baptism by committing a mortal sin. Mortal sin receives that name precisely because it implies the spiritual death of the new life instilled in us by grace. If that happens, the new man inside us can return to life by the sacrament of confession. Presupposing the state of grace, charity must dominate the whole of Christian life by commanding the acts of the other Christian virtues. Thus, the Christian fasts, gives alms, is generous, brave, just, etc., out of charity. Temperance, fortitude, justice, prudence, faith, and hope must be completely animated and oriented by charity. It is essential to say a few words about human virtues: temperance, fortitude, justice, and prudence. In the Christian life, those virtues are not only habits we can acquire by repeating good actions. We know we cannot develop those virtues as they must be by ourselves, left alone to our debilitated strength after original sin. Moreover, when we think that those virtues must be ready to produce acts we can offer to God out of love as His children, it becomes even more apparent that the goal is beyond human power. God, in His infinite mercy, bestows on our soul human virtues as a gift of grace that are coextensive with the matters the human acquired virtues deal with from a superior and more excellent point of view. For example, acquired chastity deals with what is

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related to human sexuality so that it can be lived rationally. God infuses in our soul chastity that orients human sexuality to a higher level by illustrating it with the light of faith and boosting it with the supernatural impulse of hope and charity. That is how Christian celibacy can be understood. Despite the fantastic gift of those infused virtues and the even more astonishing gift of the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity, they are not enough to reproduce Christ's image as depicted in the Beatitudes. The whole organism of acquired and infused virtues falls short of the measure when it comes to imitating the moral life of the Incarnated Son of God. How is that possible? The profound theological explanation of this affirmation would take a long time that we do not have. Thus, I will try to illustrate the most crucial point we need to understand with an example. Imagine that all the acquired and infused human and theological virtues are like a beautiful piano inside our souls. The piano is more than human. The infused virtues participate in the divine character of sanctifying grace. However, precisely because the piano is so excellent, the clumsiness of the player is made more evident. Like a good guitar, a good piano sounds louder and more sensitive than a mediocre instrument. Hence, what the bad player does wrong resounds with more clarity. The quality of the music expected from such a delicate instrument is far from what it should be when we are the leading players of the piano. There is only one solution to the problem. A divine instrument calls for a divine player. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are crucial for this reason. Those gifts are supernatural-infused habits that make the Christian docile to the movement of the Divine Person. Thus, the person with those gifts plays the piano with the Divine Artist. There is a direct proportion between the love a Christian has for God and the protagonist role of the Spirit playing the mystical piano of the virtues. If we are like babies in charity, we want too much control over our lives. Then, we are the leading players, and the Holy Spirit plays some musical ornaments and counterpoints. When we increasingly love God and surrender our lives to His control, the Holy Spirit plays divinely without taking us off the piano. Our poor music is integrated into the tremendous and magisterial divine symphony of the Divine Artist. He makes all the effort. Another classic example to explain the role of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Christian life is the example of the boat. Imagine that human life is like a boat adrift after we have separated from God. The first encounter and conversion illuminate the horizon with the light of faith, give hope that one day the ship will reach its destination in Heaven, and install the mechanism that allows it to get closer to the end, that is, the oars of charity so that the sailor can row. It takes a lot of effort to row at the beginning. Acting in faith, hope, and charity takes a lot of effort. However, when the Christian loves God more than himself and surrenders his life to Him, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are like sails God raises in the boat so that the Holy Spirit can blow upon them, and He can propel the boat forward without the human effort of having to row. The Blessed Trinity already indwells in the Christian soul by the mystery of grace and takes control over the Christian life. Therefore, what makes the difference is the degree of charity. The maturity of charity leads to the preeminence of the activity of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which is the core of mystical life. The activity of the Divine Artist is what can make the Christian be recreated after the image of Christ depicted in the Beatitudes. That is why each gift of the Holy Spirit is mainly connected to one beatitude. Moreover, it is also connected to one petition of the Our Father. Whenever we pray the Lord's prayer, we ask the Holy Spirit to take control of our lives so that we can become like Jesus and live the Beatitudes. Finally, each beatitude, gift, and petition of the Our Father perfect one of the virtues in a particular manner. And by perfecting that virtue, its influx extends to the others because virtues are like an organism. All of them are connected.

Every Sunday of Easter, we will meditate on one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It will be impossible to present now all that is to be explained. We will try to understand what is essential to each gift, the virtues it perfects, and the beatitude it allows us to live. The goal is to get an idea of the beautiful work God wants to do in our souls and to grow in the desire to surrender entirely to the Divine Project. As

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we can see, what is most important is to love God above all things, and the rest will come with His help. May God help us grow in charity.

Mass Intentions

Day	Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Sat.	Mar. 30	4:30 p.m.		
Sun.	Mar. 31	8:30 a.m.		
		10:30 a.m.	† Elena Alarcon † Tony Mata	Family
		12:00 a.m. Spanish	† Gabriela Escalera Novoa	Family
		5:00 p.m. Spanish	For The Evangelization Group	Brenda Martinez
Mon.	Apr. 01	8:00 a.m.		
Tues.	Apr. 02	8:30 a.m.		
Wed.	Apr. 03	8:00a.m.	For all our Parishioners living and † deceased	
Thur.	Apr. 04	8:00 a.m.		
Fri.	Apr. 05	8:00 a.m.		

Presentation of Our Lady Weekend of Mar. 23 & 24, 2024.

Offertory

4:30 Regular Collection Mass \$717.98
4:30 Second Collection Mass \$83.00

8:30 Regular Collection Mass \$832.00
8:30 Second Collection Mass \$167.00

10:30 Regular Collection Mass \$757.30
10:30 Second Collection Mass \$138.00

12:00 Regular Collection Mass \$1,336.25
12:00 Second Collection Mass \$238.30

5:00 Regular Collection Mass \$651.00
5:00 Second Collection Mass \$64.00

Regular Collection Total: \$4,294.53
Second Collection Total: \$690.13

Candles Total: \$135.00
Special needs Total: \$15.00



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JUGOS Y LICUADOS Cafeteria

PARA DESINFLAMAR Y ADELGAZAR EL ABDOMEN

-JUGOS-

- JUGO VERDE \$11
- JUGOS ENERGETICOS \$11
- JUGOS HIDRATANTES \$6
- PERDIDA DE PESO \$12
- JUGO EXTREMAMIENTO 3 LITROS \$20

-LICUADOS-

- CHOCOLATE \$10
- VAINILLA \$10
- FRESA \$10
- CARAMELO \$10
- BANANA \$10


PREPARACIONES

- SANDWICHES \$13
- WAFFLES \$10
- CREPAS \$10
- DONAS \$9
- AVENA PREPARADA \$10

5220 w Mississippi ave Lakewood co 80226 UNIT B
Marisela 303 859 8068

LUNES - SABADO

9:30am—7:00 pm
Marisela 3038598068
Mary 7207318176



MUJERES FITNESS
5220 W MISSISSIPPI AVE LAKEWOOD 80226 UNIT B

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