2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 12/10/2023

Presentation of Our Lady Church





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.

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 II9

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

SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES

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

David Valleja Bldg. Maint. 303-552-7947

St. Vincent de Paul Ext 122

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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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 hamilies 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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Offertory				MASS IN	MASS INTENTIONS	
Weekend of Dec. 2 6 3, 2023	Day	Date	Time	intention	Offered by	
4:30 Mass Regular Collection \$ 1,309.00	Sat.	Dec. 9	4:30 p.m			
4:30 Mass Second Collection \$181.89	Sun.	Dec. 10	8:30 a.m	Altar & Rosary	Altar & Rosary	
			10.00	Society	Society	
8:30 Mass Regular Collection \$529.00			10:30 a.m.	† Catalina Reyes &	The Family	
8:30 Mass Second Collection \$118.00			12:00 a.m.	Preciliano ortiz †Freddy Emanuel	The Family	
10:30 Mass Regular Collection \$516.00			Spanish	Baptista	Rios Sosa	
10:30 Mass Second Collection \$158.00			5:00 p.m. Spanish	† Manuel Sosa	Family	
12:00 Mass Regular Collection \$599.79	For all our Parishioners					
12:00 Mass Second Collection \$156.00	Mon.	Dec. II	8:00 a.m.	living and deceased		
E-00 Mana Barrier Callertine Bush as	Tues.	Dec. 12	8:00 a.m			
5:00 Mass Regular Collection \$423,77 5:00 Mass Second Collection \$61,07	Wed.	Dec. 13	8:30 a.m			
Second Collection	Thur.	Dec. 14	8:00 a.m			
Total: \$674.96 Regular Collection	Fri.	Dec. 15	8:00 a.m	Stuart Jung	Becky Ortega	
Total: \$3,377.51 Candles \$208.00 Nache Bohemia \$780.00 Drinks on Bohemian (light \$541.00	4	weeker	econd collection of will go towar of the church. P ue giving genera	rds the Please	353711	

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





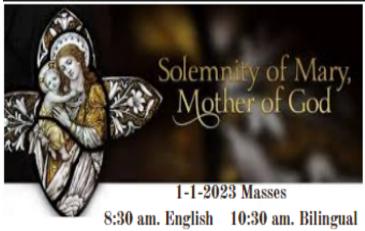
Follow the Presentation Of Our Lady official page: Church

TOTAL PROFIT \$5,519.00

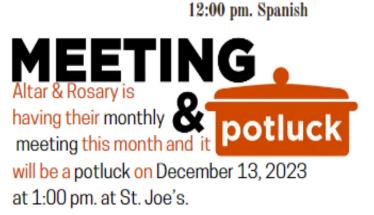
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If you would like to join us, please do. Everyone is welcome. We would like to have new members join us too.

