

# FORTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

04/21/2024

# Presentation of Our Lady

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.



### 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](http://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

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

---

**FORTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Presentation of Our Lady**

**04/21/2024**

**Church**

---

**The Fearless Shepherd:  
The Gift of the Fear of the Lord**

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

This Sunday is traditionally called Good Shepherd Sunday. I invite you to pay attention to Jesus when He says in today's Gospel that nobody takes His life from Him. This affirmation is an astonishing manifestation of power. Jesus' death was not primarily a matter of weakness. Christ assumed human weaknesses because He wanted to. He came into this world for His hour, and He knew that for that hour, He needed to be able to suffer and die voluntarily. However, His Death is a voluntary sacrifice made out of love for His Father and His flock. Jesus Himself states that He has the power to give His life.

The first reading shows us how those whom Jesus chose to share His ministry with as the Good Shepherd participate in this power to sacrificially love. Particularly, in today's reading, we can see Peter completely transformed into a fearless shepherd. We know that all the apostles were transformed in a similar manner. Our contemplation of these men before and after Pentecost holds some surprises.

We know that they were cowards. Interestingly, they have transmitted this testimony about their own cowardice without hiding it. Remember how Peter denied Jesus and the rest of the apostles abandoned Him except for John, who was with Our Blessed Mother. Moreover, the apostles were scared even after the Resurrection. They were in seclusion out of fear.

They have already seen the risen Christ and touched Him. Jesus said to them that as the Father had sent Him, He was sending them. Nevertheless, they were afraid of the Jews. That was normal. They were known as followers of Jesus, and they had killed Him. Even more, Jesus had announced to them that the world would hate them. Who has no fear of dying? Because they were afraid, they didn't have the power yet that Jesus would bestow upon their lives. However, on the day of Pentecost, something happened. The Holy Spirit gave them, among other gifts, the holy fear of the Lord. From then on, "love for life did not deter them from death." (Rev 12:11)

The holy fear of the Lord makes the saints fearless. I know how it sounds. Let us explain how this paradox makes total sense. There is an affirmation in the Scriptures that captures what we want to explain about the fear of the Lord: "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love." (1 John 4:18)

Understanding how holy fear destroys every other fear requires considering the connection between fear and love. As we know, all passions and emotions are interconnected and depend upon the most fundamental one, that is, love. What is the specificity of fear? Fear is something we feel when something we judge as evil is coming but is still in the future. Future foreseeable evil provokes fear. What is evil without more qualifications is not the object of fear but of heat. What is evil and is already affecting us is not either the object of fear but pain or sorrow. For instance, if someone threatens you, you feel fear. Imagine that the threat is that he is going to punch you. If that person finally punches you, when he punches, what you feel is not fear but pain.

Fear is rooted in love. Hatred, desire, hope, aversion, etc., are rooted in love. We could say that, according to what we love, we hate or fear. For example, if you love eating above all things, then you will absolutely hate fasting. If you love to sleep above all things, you will flee as much as you can from working early in the morning. Following this reasoning, Saint Augustine explains how three different types of love engender three different types of fear. The key is what is loved above all things. Let us examine these three possibilities.

Mundane or worldly love consists of the love of the world above all things. The world does not mean, in this context, the creation as it is made by God. The world has a negative connotation, which we can find in the Gospels. After original sin, the devil has influence in this world to the point that Jesus calls him the prince of this world. It is the world, in this sense, that is meant as loved above all things in mundane love. According to this type of love, mundane fear is engendered in the soul. Love implies a recognition of the goodness, value, or importance of what we love. The things we love become the object of our respect in proportion to how much we esteem them. Thus, we develop reverence for the things we value the most as greatly good. Correspondingly, what would happen if the world, as the place where Satan runs his empty show, is the greatest love of

**FORTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Presentation of Our Lady**

**04/21/2024**

**Church**

our lives? We will develop a ridiculous respect for the things of this world. We will love the world so much that we will be ready to do whatever it takes not to lose it. The mere thought of losing money, social position, prestige, public acknowledgment, etc., makes us panic.

We would admittedly do evil things to keep our place in the world. We would even be able to sacrifice sacred things to be relevant in this world. Our greatest fear would be losing mundane things. Interestingly, the person who has mundane fear develops the fear of God. This fear has nothing to do with the gift of the holy fear of the Lord. What is feared is the closeness of God. Deep down, the person of mundane fear knows that if God comes closer to him, he will have to change his life and lose those worldly things he loves above all things. This sinful fear makes the person try to hide from God as much as possible.

Servile love for God gives birth to servile fear. It is possible to love God because of oneself. Of course, it implies loving oneself more than God. Strictly speaking, this love is a direct love of oneself above all things. The emphasis on the direct character of this self-love is due to the fact that the person, who loves the world above all things, also loves himself above all things because he loves the world for himself. Nonetheless, that person ends up losing himself to the world. For instance, a man who loves money above all things obviously loves money for himself. However, that person becomes incapable of using his money. He becomes a slave of his own possession and property.

A man can leave behind that stupid love for the world. He realizes that it is impossible to satisfy his deepest desires in the world. On the other side, it must be said that it is a matter of common sense. The things of this world will pass away with this world, and we have the certainty that we will die. Thus, we can leave behind the world and look for happiness in God while loving ourselves more than God. This love for God engenders respect for God and fear. However, it is not the holy fear of the Lord. This man will fear God because God can punish his sins. The sorrow this man can have in his heart receives the name of attrition. His relationship with God is not properly that of a son but of a servant. God is not seen as a Father but as a Master. Servile love results in servile fear. It must be said that this fear is not a holy one, but it can be the beginning of real conversion. In fact, we know that to receive the grace of the sacrament of confession, contrition would be the ideal, but attrition is enough.

Finally, true and mature charity loves God above all things as a Father and Friend. It is this filial love that results in filial fear. The man who loves God in this manner has only one fear. The rest of the fears are destroyed in his soul. The fear is to be separated from God. This is the holy fear of the Lord. It is a fear that destroys and breaks any attachment and wrong affection to creatures, even to life in this world. The saints are ready and willing to die for God. It is better to die rather than being separated from God.

The fear of the Lord makes the Christian poor in spirit. The holy man does not trust himself but has perfect hope. He feels his own poverty and the merciful majesty of his Heavenly Father. The Saints cherish the fact that they cannot do anything by themselves separated from Christ. At the same time, they feel absolute confidence in receiving the strength they need from God the Almighty. They say to God, "Give what you command, and command what you want."

The virtues of hope and humility attain the highest perfection in the Christian who possesses this gift. As we said in former homilies about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, through the perfection of those fundamental virtues, the rest of the organism is perfected in different manners. In conclusion, the man who has the holy fear of the Lord experiences the glorious freedom of the children of God. The deepest interest of his heart is what he manifests in prayer by saying, "Hallowed be thy name." What really matters to him is not rewards or punishments but the public manifestation of God's Glory.

May God help us this Easter to become poor in Spirit according to the model of the Good Shepherd!



Let us pray  
for world peace

**Sorrowful  
Mysteries**

Fridays at 5pm,  
at the Church.



**Rocha Homes**  
FIND YOUR DREAM HOME WITH US  
[RochaHomes@EscalanteProperties](mailto:RochaHomes@EscalanteProperties)  
Looking to buy, sell, or invest in property?  
Let my knowledgeable experience, guide you through every step of the process.  
Contact me today for a consultation and let me help you achieve your real estate goals!  
(720/519-6042)

# FORTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

# Presentation of Our Lady

## 04/21/2024

## Church

				
Day	Date	Time	Intention	Offered by
Sat.	Apr. 20	4:30 p.m.	Sebastian Luna's Birthday	Family
Sun.	Apr. 21	8:30 a.m.	† Jose Martinez	Family
		10:30 a.m.	† Mary Ann Medina	Family
		12:00 a.m. Spanish	Emiliano Soto's birthday	Family
		5:00 p.m. Spanish	† Freddy Emmanuel Bautista	Family
Mon.	Apr. 22	8:00 a.m.	† Joe Cordova	Family
Tues.	Apr. 23	8:30 a.m.	For all our Parishioners living and † deceased	
Wed.	Apr. 24	8:00a.m		
Thur.	Apr. 25	8:00 a.m		
Fri.	Apr. 26	8:00 a.m		

Presentation of Our Lady Weekend of Apr. 13 & 14, 2024. Offertory	
4:30 Regular Collection Mass	\$ 614.00
4:30 Second Collection Mass	\$ 67.00
8:30 Regular Collection Mass	\$ 601.00
8:30 Second Collection Mass	\$ 178.00
10:30 Regular Collection Mass	\$ 616.30
10:30 Second Collection Mass	\$ 89.00
12:00 Regular Collection Mass	\$ 1,130.00
12:00 Second Collection Mass	\$ 205.75
5:00 Regular Collection Mass	\$ 303.02
5:00 Second Collection Mass	\$ 57.00
<b>Regular Collection</b>	<b>Total: \$ 3,264.32</b>
<b>Second Collection</b>	<b>Total: \$ 596.75</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>Total: \$ 198.00</b>
<b>Special needs</b>	<b>Total: \$ 90.00</b>



## DANZA EMMANUEL!!

DANZA EMMANUEL IS INVITING ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED TO BE PART OF THE PRESENTATION DANCE!!

WE WILL HAVE REHEARSALS ONCE A MONTH ON SATURDAY

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BE PART OF IT, CALL NANCY CUEVAS (720)840-4930

### JUGOS Y LICUADOS Cafetería



PARA DESINFLAMAR Y ADELGAZAR EL ABDOMEN

**-JUGOS-**

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



**-LICUADOS-**

- CHOCOLATE ..... \$10
- VAINILLA ..... \$10
- FRESA ..... \$10
- CARMELO ..... \$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 FITNESSSS

5220 W MISSISSIPPI AVE LAKEWOOD 80226 UNIT B

Celebremos ATM



SCAN ME

LET'S CELEBRATE EVERY MOMENT!

WWW.CELEBREMOSATM.COM

---

**FORTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Presentation of Our Lady**

**04/21/2024**

**Church**

---