PARISH INFORMATION INFORMACIÓN PARROQUIAL

Phone: (970) 243-0209 Fax: (970) 243-7493

Office Hours/Horas de Oficina

Monday- Friday/Lunes - Viernes 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Masses/Misas

Monday- Friday/Lunes - Viernes 7:00 a.m. daily Mass/Misa diaria

Misa en Español Miércoles 6:00 p.m. en la iglesia

Anticipated Sunday Mass Misa Dominical anticipada Saturday/Sábado 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Mass/Misa Sunday/Domingo 7:30 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. (English) 11:30 a.m. (Español)

Adoration/Adoración

Tues., Weds., & Thurs. Martes, Miércoles y Jueves 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Closing with Rosary followed by Benediction, 5:15 p.m.
Terminando con Rosario seguido por la Bendición, 5:15 p.m.

Confession/Confesión

Tuesday & Thursday Martes y Jueves 7:45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. Tues., Weds. & Thurs. Martes, Miércoles y Jueves 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday/Sábado 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Grupo do Oración en Español Sábados, 6:00 p.m. en el salón parroquial.

Medjugorje Prayer Group Tues. 7:00 p.m. St. Francis Chapel

English Prayer Group Weds. 7:00 p.m. Parish Hall

Seven Sisters MinistriesJulie Halberg—970-270-8065

St. Joseph Catholic Church Iglesia Católica de San José 230 N. 3rd Street Grand Junction, CO 81501



"Building the foundation of the faith together"

"Construyendo juntos los cimientos de la fe"

December 25, 2019

Nativity of the Lord



Nativity of the Lord

IT WAS CHRISTMAS EVE, 1816, and the young priest felt a little lonely. In his hands was the Bible. He had been reading the Christmas story from its pages. Now he was thinking of the beautiful city of Salzburg that had been his home. It seemed far away from this tiny village high in the Austrian Alps.

Already the people were on their way to his little church. They were coming from miles around. To help them find their way they carried flaming torches. From his window the priest could see the lights moving across the valley.

There would be no organ music for the Midnight Mass. The organ was old and would not play. (Probably the nearby Salzach River, which flooded the area then, even as it does today, and the accompanying dampness from periodic flooding could have caused rust and mildew in various workings of the organ, rendering it inoperable.) How different it all seemed from the music and gaiety of Salzburg!

The priest went back to his reading from St. Luke: "And suddenly there was with the Angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying 'Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to men of good will.' "

A knock on the door interrupted him. He opened the door and an old peasant woman came in. She stood shaking the snow from her shawl. "Father Mohr, I've come from high up on the mountain," she said. "This morning a child was born to one of our poor neighbors. The father and mother asked me to bring the priest to them to bless the child. Will you come, please, Father?"

Father Mohr had not much time before Midnight Mass. But he smiled at the old woman and said that he would come. He followed her out into the night. Through the snowy forest they walked. Then they climbed up a high rocky slope. Father was thinking of the Three Wise Men. They had come to Bethlehem in much the same way. At last they came to a (continued on page 2)

little mountain hut. The shingles were loose and the steps creaked. But there was warmth and happiness within. The mother lay on a crude bed, smiling at the baby in her arms. Standing close by was the proud father.

Father Mohr gave them his blessing and talked with them for a while. Then he set off down the mountain alone. The old shack on the mountain was not like the manger and yet, in a way, it was. Father had a strange feeling. It was just as if he had seen the Christmas miracle.

He looked at the white snow and the bright stars. There was not a sound. Even the rabbits and squirrels were standing still. Then Father Mohr felt the real meaning of Christmas. It was a silent night, a holy night, just as it had been 1800 years ago.

As he walked into the village the church bells began to ring. He hurried to the church and celebrated Midnight Mass. After Mass he went home to rest. But he could not sleep. He got up and began to write a poem. He wanted to tell what he had felt that night. The words came easily. The poem was soon finished.

Later that same morning Father Mohr went to see his dear friend Franz Gruber. Franz was a schoolteacher. He was also a musician. He helped direct the little choir at Father Mohr's church. Often just the two of them would sing hymns together. Franz had played the organ before it had broken down.

Father Mohr gave the poem as a kind of gift to Franz. Franz liked it very much. He thought he would like to set it to music. And that very day the song was finished.

In the evening it was sung for the first time in the church. The voices of the priest and the teacher blended in perfect harmony.

Since that time the song has been taken all over the world. You will hear it in French, German, Italian, English, Spanish-----in almost every language. It is one of the best-loved Christmas carols in the world.

'Silent Night' is the song that was written that Christmas Day almost 150 years ago.

Thanks to Catholic Tradition.

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child!
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, how the light
Radiates love from Thy heavenly face,
At the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

Coats for Kids

Now through January 26th, the **Knights of Columbus** are collecting coats through their **Coats for Kids** program to help struggling families and their children. Collection boxes are located at the west church entrance and the narthex. We appreciate your donations of new or slightly-used CLEAN coats in all sizes. Infant and adult coats are also needed.

Desde ahora hasta el 26 de enero, los Caballeros de Colón están recolectando abrigos a través de su programa Abrigos para Niños para ayudar a las familias con dificultades y a sus hijos. Las cajas de recolección se encuentran en la entrada oeste de la iglesia y en el nártex. Agradecemos sus donaciones de abrigos CLEAN nuevos o poco usados en todos los tamaños. También se necesitan abrigos para bebés y adultos

Parish Staff/Equipo Parroquial

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Fr. Carlos Alvarez, Pastor frcarlos@stjosephgj.org

Deacon Doug van Houten (970) 210-1099

Deacon Fred Bartels deaconbartels@gmail.com

Heidi Compagni, Parish Services Coordinator/
Charismatic Prayer Group Coordinator heidi@stjosephgj.org

Belle Lovelace, Accounting Clerk belle@stjosephgj.org

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Olga Matias, Receptionist olga@stjosephgj.org Blanche Luce
Geneva Dura

Ginny Revel, Administrative Assistant ginny@stjosephgj.org **Jesus Celis**, Maintenance/Custodian

Angelina Herrera, Maintenance

Parish Emailparish@stjosephgj.orgAfter hours emergency (sick) calls(970) 243-0209, ext. I



Finance Council/Consejo

Financiero

Mike Moran – Chairman Mario Bruno Harry Hampton David Hjelstrom Blanche Lucero Geneva Duran

Pastoral Council/Consejo

Pastoral

Kristy Schmidt Toni Moran Sharel Fedler Sherry Brandon Dale Thome



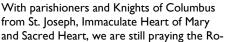
BINGO

The Knights of Columbus Council #1062 will be hosting BINGO in the parish hall on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at

6:30 PM. Come and try your luck!

El Consejo de Caballeros de Colón # 1062 será el anfitrión <u>BINGO</u> en el salón parroquial el segundo y cuarto viernes de cada mes a las 6:30 PM. Ven y prueba tu suerte!

ROSARY FOR LIFE – STILL GOING STRONG!





sary every Wednesday and the 1st Saturday of the month, 10:00 a.m., at the Women's Clinic in the cul-de-sac off Wellington and 8th St. until abortions are ended there. Abortions are done up to 12 weeks gestation. We cannot stop praying but must be the voices of the unborn and support for the women who seek an abortion as their only option. Please come to join your fellow parishioners! Questions? Call Patti Brown at 241-6266.

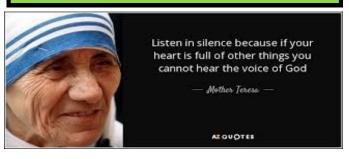
Medjugorje Prayer Group/Grupo de oración de Medjugorje

The Medjugorje Prayer Group invites you to join us each Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm in the St. Francis Chapel. Our Lady tells us: "Pray little children, pray without ceasing until your heart opens to God's love. I am with you and I intercede for all of you and I pray for your conversión..."

Please join us as we pray the Rosary and the Chaplet of Mercy and intercede for family and friends.

El Grupo de Oración de Medjugorje te invita a unirte a nosotros cada martes a las 7:00 pm en la Capilla de San Francisco. Nuestra Señora nos dice: "Oren hijitos, oren sin cesar hasta que su corazón se abra al amor de Dios. Estoy con ustedes e intercedo por todos ustedes y rezo por su conversión ... "

Únase a nosotros mientras rezamos el Rosario y la Corona de la Misericordia e intercedemos por familiares y amigos.



5th Sunday Rosary

The 5th Sunday Rosary will be prayed on Sunday, Dec. 29th at 8:45 am in the parish hall. Please join the Knights in prayer for vocations, for our priests and for the unborn.

El 5to domingo del rosario se rezará el domingo 29 de diciembre a las 8:45 am en la salón parroquial. Únase a los Caballeros en oración por las vocaciones, por nuestros sacerdotes y para los no nacidos.



It took a special miracle to bring God's love to earth... that's why we celebrate with joy,

And sing of Jesus' birth.

When angels shouted, "GLORY!" all the shepherds ran to see the Savior in a manger, Who's God's gift for you and me!

Christmas Blessings to all From The St. Joseph Staff



Office Closed

The parish office is now closed for the Christmas holi-

days and will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd, 2020.

La oficina de la parroquia está cerrada por las vacaciones de Navidad y volverá a abrir el jueves 2 de enero de 2020.