Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

790 26 1/2 Road Grand Junction, Colorado 81506

Phone: (970) 242-6121 Fax: (970) 256-0276 www.ihmait.ora



PASTOR Rev. Chrysogonus Nwele, Ph.D.

IN RESIDENCE PAROCHIAL VICAR Fr. Kenneth Obasi, Ph.D.

Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. Sunday Masses: 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday: 8:00 a.m. Holy Days: Anticipated Mass, 6:00 p.m. | Holy Day Masses, 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Reconciliation: Saturday: 2:30 p.m.— 3:30 p.m. or by appointment

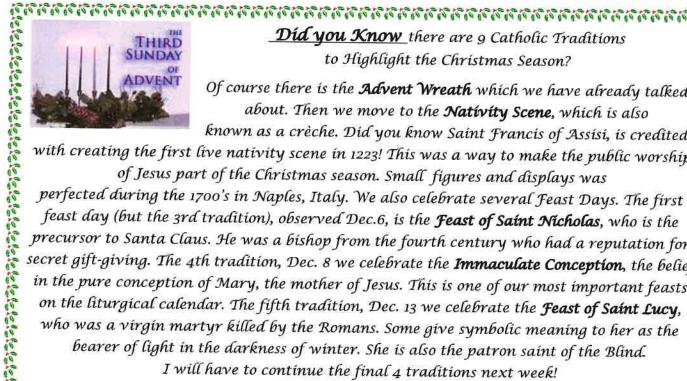
Adoration: To be announced Office Hours: M-F, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

St. Ann, Palisade

Sunday Mass: 9:15 a.m.

Holy Days: 5:30 p.m.

10:30 a.m. Mass each Tuesday of each month



Díd you Know there are 9 Catholic Traditions to Highlight the Christmas Season?

Of course there is the Advent Wreath which we have already talked about. Then we move to the Natívíty Scene, which is also known as a crèche. Did you know Saint Francis of Assisi, is credited

with creating the first live nativity scene in 1223! This was a way to make the public worship of Jesus part of the Christmas season. Small figures and displays was perfected during the 1700's in Naples, Italy. We also celebrate several Feast Days. The first feast day (but the 3rd tradition), observed Dec.6, is the Feast of Saint Nicholas, who is the precursor to Santa Claus. He was a bishop from the fourth century who had a reputation for secret gift-giving. The 4th tradition, Dec. 8 we celebrate the Immaculate Conception, the belief in the pure conception of Mary, the mother of Jesus. This is one of our most important feasts on the liturgical calendar. The fifth tradition, Dec. 13 we celebrate the Feast of Saint Lucy, who was a virgin martyr killed by the Romans. Some give symbolic meaning to her as the bearer of light in the darkness of winter. She is also the patron saint of the Blind. I will have to continue the final 4 traditions next week!

RAISING DISCIPLES TO INSPIRE RELATTIONSHIPS WITH JESUS

Pastor

Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele, Ph.D. (970) 242-6121 ext. 205 cnwele@ihmgjt.org

In Residence Parochial Vicar

Fr. Kenneth Obasi, Ph.D. (970) 242-6121

Office/ Business Manager

Deacon Leo Truscott (970) 242-6121 ext. 214 LTruscott@ihmgjt.org

Pastoral Assistant

Bev Goodrich
Homebound Ministry
Marriage, Funerals & Annulments
(970) 242-6121 ext. 206
bgoodrich@ihmgjt.org

Liturgy & Music

Sydnee Martinez (970) 242-6121 ext. 212 smartinez@ihmgjt.org

Holy Family School Principle-Jake Aubert 970-242-6168

Office hours 9:00 - 5:00 M-F

Parish Staff

Bookkeeper/Financial Officer

Lorena Trujillo (970) 242-6121 ext. 211 ltrujillo@ihmgjt.org

Infant Baptism

Jane Smith (970) 242-6121 ext. 204 JSmith@ihmgjt.org

Parish Secretary

Judy Hirschfeld (970) 242-6121 ext. 201 jkey@ihmgjt.org

Please call the office to schedule a home or hospital visit

Emergency Anointing (970) 242-6121 — press 9

Confessions Saturday 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm



Office Assistant

Margaret McWilliams
Columbarium
(970) 242-6121 ext. 209
mmcwilliams@ihmgjt.org

Volunteer Coordinator

Cheryl Morelli (970) 242-6121 ext. 221 cmorelli@ihmgjt.org

Maintenance

Maverick Burns (970) 242-6121 ext. 210 mburns@ihmgjt.org

Religious Education

Jane Smith 970-242-6121 ext. 204 JSmith@ihmgjt.org

Faith Formation K-5th

Melynda Brown 970-242-6121 ext. 204 MBrown@ihmgjt.org

Deacon Leo Truscott 970-640-3406

Deacon Luke Konantz 970-216-9670

To register as a parishioner at IHM, please stop by the Parish Office.



Weekend Mass Schedule, 4:00 pm on Saturday, 7:30, & 10:00 am and 6:00 pm Sunday

Masses are now limited to 50, anyone coming later will be filtered into the hall for a separate Mass.

With rules of **Social Distancing** & 50 person capacity, we <u>are</u> also following **GOVERNOR MANDATED regulations for Face Coverings.**

So Please wear your face Masks over the nose and mouth.

If you do not have one we have some available. If you take a cloth face mask to use please take it with you! We are also asking everyone to please take a Sanitation Wipe from the baptismal font when entering the Sanctuary and take the personal responsibility to wipe your space off before leaving.

The 4:00 pm & 10:00 am Masses are being Live Streamed for your convenience.

Go to ihmgit.org under Masses for the link.



 3^{rd} Sunday of Advent, Yr. B - 12/13/2020. Ref. 1^{st} =Is.61:1-2a,10-11. 2^{nd} =1Thess.5:16-24. 3^{rd} =Jn.1:6-8,19-28. Theme: The Joy that Christ's advent brings

As the celebration of the coming of our Messiah draws nearer, there is joy in the air. Hence, the Church calls today (3rd Sun. of advent) **Gaudete Sunday** (Sunday of rejoicing). How do we key into this joyful atmosphere or find reasons to rejoice considering our present time & circumstance?

Finding reasons to rejoice: It is said that if you truly love someone, although there could be many reasons for which you could walk away from the relationship, you will find, at least, one reason to remain. This is how we can describe our lives in our world today. Many things are making people annoyed, frustrated, sick & tired. But we must find, at least, one reason to be thankful and joyful to find reason to live on. Thus, the Prophet Isaiah steps out to give the people of his time reasons to rejoice. These were the people of Israel, who had been exiles in Babylon for about 50 years (they had been liberated by the King of Persia, who had conquered Babylon). Going home to a land reduced to ruins 50 years earlier and after many of them had settled to a new way of life in Babylon, was not to be an easy task. But Isaiah wants them to have reasons to rejoice in their loving God because of what he was out to do for them (Is.61:10). This message is for each of us today. We must not allow anything we are passing through personally, the challenging economic situation in our world today or the adverse effects of the raging pandemic to destroy our faith in God and our trust in his ability to save those who trust in him. Hence, the 1st reading of today encourages us to keep trusting God and his ability to save. This is captured in the responsorial psalm of today (taken from Lk.1:46-54) which echoes the song of joy of the Blessed Virgin Mary – the Magnificat, teaching us to follow the example of Mary. We do this because of our Messiah, whose coming is a clear demonstration of God's eternal love & promise to save us. This is our reason for rejoicing.

And John the Baptist came: In the gospel of today, we are presented with a man – John the Baptist, who came to announce the imminence of the one who will make real the joyful promises of God to us. 'He was not the light but the one who came to testify to the light' (Jn.1:8). This light is Jesus, whom God has anointed to bring happiness and salvation to all; glad tidings to the poor, healing to the sick & broken hearted, freedom to those imprisoned by sin & addictions, announce God's year/time of favor & vindication, etc. That is why we should, 'greatly rejoice & exult in our God who is the joy of our souls (as Isaiah tells us in the 1st reading – Is.61:10) because he has clothed us with the robe of salvation in Christ'. But looking into our lives now, can each of us boldly affirm that God is the primary joy in our souls? Or have we given that position to our wealth, jobs, phones, tablets or any human being? As important as these may be, God (& our worship of Him) should be cause & source of our joy because He owns our lives. These messages were so compelling that the people in the time of John wanted to know more about him & his mission. He told them that he was only the voice calling us to renewal & showing us the Messiah – the one to make real God's promise of joy & salvation. How ready are we to receive this salvation & sustain this joy?

Sustaining what God is offering us: Sometimes in life, we lose hold of nice people, precious things & joyful moments because of lack of interest or commitment, carelessness or ignorance. The joyful moments & salvation that the birth of Christ (Christmas) brings may elude us if we do not correct past mistakes or hold fast to the good we are doing. Hence, St. Paul (2nd reading) advises us. He wants us 'to pray without ceasing, be thankful to God in all circumstances, not to quench the spirit of God in us, not to despise prophetic message (word of God), hold fast to what is good & to refrain from every form of evil' (1Thess.5:17-22). This is because, God wants us to be 'holy & blameless in spirit, soul & body for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ' (1Thess.5:23-24).

My dear friends, as we rejoice on this 'Gaudete Sunday' because of the surety & imminence of the Lord's coming, let us remain focused on the dominant message, 'to make straight the way for the Lord in our lives & families'. May this message not be in vain to you & to me this advent.

Remain blessed! Fr. Timothy.

RAISING DISCIPLES TO INSPIRE RELATIONSHIPS WITH JESUS

ADVENT PROJECT: CHILDREN'S ITEMS FOR OUTREACH

This year we are collecting children's socks, underwear and pajamas for boys and girls sizes newborn to 10 years. All items must be new and if they are packaged please leave them in their packages. No gift wrapping please! These are much needed items that Catholic Outreach doesn't get much of. We can help the kiddos this year by bringing these



things to the church. Please put your socks, pj's and underwear in the baskets in the narthex.

And a big thank you to those who have already brought donations for this project!

2021 Missals

We have received the new 2021 Missals! They are \$4.00 each and can be



purchased in the Parish office or after all Masses in the Narthex. If you are watching Masses from home this is a good opportunity to be able to follow along with mass.

Updated Information of Coronavirus at IHM

As of November 17, 2020 IHM will be following the latest COVID-19 restrictions. We are allowed 50 person capacity at mass while maintaining 6 feet Social Distancing. We will be filtering people into the Hall or School Gym for separate masses if over 50 show up. We are re-

quiring the Governor Mandated wearing of Face Coverings over the nose and mouth upon entering and moving throughout the building. They can only be removed while sitting and 6 feet of social distancing is maintained between individuals or family groups. Masks must be worn while singing. Any groups at IHM are still limited to 10 or fewer people and must be at least 6 feet apart from each other. Please practice personal hygiene and be respectful of your fellow parishioners.

Tour Guide of the Mass

Your Guide for Remembering What in the World Happens During Mass After Being Unable to Attend Because of a Global Pandemic!



All right, y'all, now we're up to the Creed! And no, I don't mean the rock band! ...anyone get the reference? Just me? Am I really that old?...or am I that young...(who is my audience!)... OK MOVING ON! The Creed is also known as the Profession of Faith, because (dictionary time!):

creed

/krēd/ *noun*

a system of Christian or other religious belief; a faith.

So our Creed is jam-packed with absolutely everything we believe. We state it out loud (profess it to all). And because of that, we are going to take a couple weeks on the Creed—pulling out every last ounce of meaning behind every word...all right, I *might* need to skip words like "and" and "the" (don't want to become too much like a dictionary after all).

Before we get into that, however, did you realize that Roman Catholics actually use two different Creeds? The Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed. During Mass, we mostly use the Nicene Creed, nice (pun fully intended) and long and in depth. But we will occasionally use the Apostles' Creed as well, so make sure you know both!

The Nicene Creed came about way back in 325 Λ.D. at the First Council of Nicaea. The Church convenes councils when it needs to make important declarations about our faith. The Council of Nicaea was mostly to correct the Arian heresy. Arius said that Jesus was a creature (created/made), and the Church said, Um. No.

The Trinity is ONE eternally. The Apostles' Creed already existed, but the Nicene Creed went deeper into Who Jesus is, so that we wouldn't be misled by heresies. The Church likes to protect the truth like that—which is pretty awesome!

For more on the Creed, go check out the great article Ascension Press has on it here: https://media.ascensionpress.com/2020/02/07/differences-between-the-nicene-and-apostles-creeds/. Next week we will start our path down the rabbit hole that is the entire Nicene Creed. See you then! SM

Calendar of Events December 13, 2020

Minister Schedule for Dec. 19/20 2020

Due to COVID-19 we are not asking anyone to volunteer that is not comfortable coming in to Mass. All who are on this schedule have chosen to be serving.

8:00 am Dec. 19 (I) Donald Trump by Elizabeth & Joshua

Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

4:00pm, Dec. 19 (†) Lisa Pond by Pond Family

Presider: Fr. Kenneth Obasi

Servers:

Lectors: E. Hoy

Eucharistic: K. Sassano

Hospitality: R. Bertrand, A. Davis & S. Mills

7:30am, Dec. 20, (†) Sally Ann Kirschbaum By Ed & Jennifer Janoski

Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

Servers:

Lectors: R. Maddox & D. Seatvet

Eucharistic:

Hospitality: B. Bianchi & G. Watts

9:15 am Dec. 20, St. Ann's Palisade

Presider: Fr. Kenneth Obasi

10:00am, Dec. 20, (†) Fr. James Plough by A Friend

Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

Servers:

Lectors: B. Murphy

Eucharistic: Hospitality:

6:00pm, Dec. 20, (I) Giner Family by Lourdes Giner

Presider: Fr. Kenneth Obasi

Servers:

Lector: M. Herrera

Eucharistic:

Hospitality: M. Simpson

Readings for the Week of December 13, 2020

Sunday: IS 61:1-2A,10-11 1THES 5:16-24 JN 1:6-8,19-28

Monday: NM 24:2-7,15-17A MT 21:23-27

Tuesday: ZEP 3:1-2,9-13 MT 21:28-32

Wednesday: IS 45:6C-8,18,21C-25 LK 7:18B-23

Thursday: GN 49:2,8-10 MT 1:1-17

Friday: JER 23:5-8 MT 1:18-25

Saturday: JGS 13:2-7,24-25A LK 1:5-25

Car	endar of Events December 13, 2020
Sunday, Dec. 13	7:30am Mass 9:15am St. Ann's 10:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass
Monday, Dec. 14	8am Mass
Tuesday, Dec. 15	8am Mass
Wednesday, Dec. 16	8am Mass
Thursday, Dec. 17	8am Mass
Friday, Dec. 18	8am Mass
Saturday, Dec. 19	8:00 am Mass 2:30-3:30 pm Confessions

Mass Intentions

4 pm Mass

Sunday Dec. 13, 2020

7:30 am - (†) Penny Scott by Huber Family

10:00 am - (†) Greg Stephen by Carl & Juliann Stephen

6:00 pm - (†) Poor Souls in Purgatory by Ellie & Marv Walworth

Monday Dec. 14, 2020

8:00 am - (†) Rita & Lawrie Fernandes by the Menon Family

Tuesday Dec. 15, 2020

8:00 am - (I) Genevieve Han by Family

Wednesday Dec. 16, 2020

8:00 am - (†) Jim Kerski by Kerski Family

Thursday Dec. 17, 2020

8:00 am - (†) Juliette Heniford by Gene Kinsey

Friday Dec. 18, 2020

8:00 am (†) Virginia Hollingsworth by Kathleen Hollingsworth

Saturday Dec. 19, 2020

8:00 am - (I) Donald Trump by Elizabeth & Joshua

4:00 pm - (†) Lisa Pond by Pond Family

Prayer Opportunities:

Morning Prayer: Monday-Friday 7:30am in the Chapel Morning Mass: Monday-Saturday 8:00am in the Chapel Until further notice.

RAISING DISCIPLES TO INSPIRE RELATIONSHIPS WITH JESUS



Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24 4:00 pm 4:15 pm

7:00 pm

7:15 pm

10:00 pm

10:15 pm

December 25 10:00 am

10:15 am

We will have the church set up for Social Distancing, and ask you all to please respect the restrictions we are trying to follow.

Please Join us!

IHM Charitable Giving

Catholic Outreach Donations

July: \$946 August: \$733 September: \$1,202 October: \$1,102 November: \$1,117

> Emergency Aid - Assistance to the Poor Donations

July: \$300 August: \$300 September: \$300 October: \$300 November: \$300

Holy Family School Subsidy

July: \$4,833 August: \$4,833 September: \$4,833 October: \$4,833 November: \$4.833

DMF

Paid: \$106,869.25 (66.8%) Pledged: \$107,641.25 (67%)

Thank you!

The Thanksgiving Baskets went very well even with the



Covid-19 restrictions. We were able to give out 112 baskets to the poor and fed over 600 people. We also gave thirty turkeys to Catholic Outreach to give out to people in need. We refer people to Catholic Outreach who come in after the Baskets have all been given out.

We used twenty five volunteers working in groups of ten over a four day period to complete the work. The baskets were then given out using a drive through hand out method. This allowed us to be outside for the most part.

A big thank you!! To everyone who donated and helped with the baskets! It is greatly appreciated.



Spaghetti Dinners for Purchase

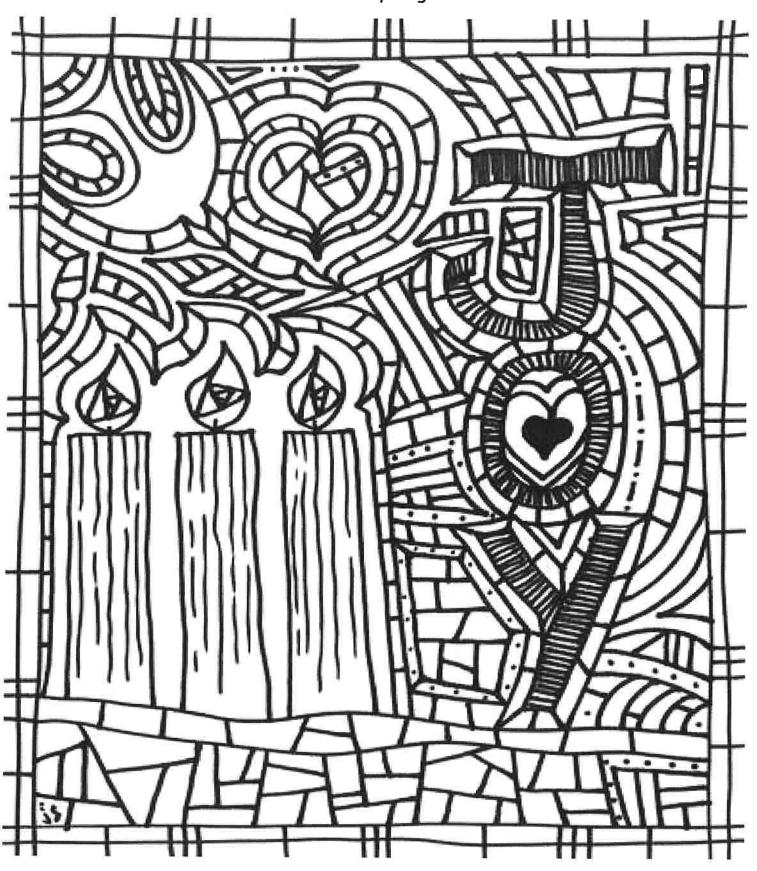
The Catholic Daughters of the Americas are excited to announce that we will be selling packaged "to go" spaghetti

dinners on **December 19th, 2020**. Meals will include: Ferrante's Homemade Meat Sauce, pasta, salad with Italian dressing and dessert. A meal for two can be purchased for \$40 and will be packaged and ready to go for your convenience. Wine will be available at pick up for an additional donation. Pick up times will be from 4-7pm on Saturday, December 19th at both IHM and at Sacred Heart with a maximum of 50 meals to be sold. Please visit the information table after mass for more information and for sign ups, or email Jennie Aubert at: jennie.aubert@hfcs-gj.org, or call 970-242-6168 x150.

Deadline to order is Sunday, December 13th, 2020.

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To get in the spirit of Advent we have decided to add a fun page for the children or even Adults young at heart!



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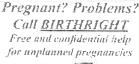
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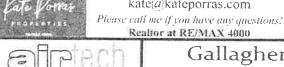
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