

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

790 26 1/2 Road Grand Junction, Colorado 81506

Phone: (970) 242-6121 Fax: (970) 256-0276 www.ihmqjt.org



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: TBD

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

*Please welcome Fr. Asika Okafor,
he will be filling in for Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele
while he is on vacation.*

*Fr. Asika was here last year at this time so you
may remember him! Let us make his visit here
with us a warm and inviting one.*

RAISING DISCIPLES TO INSPIRE RELATIONSHIPS WITH JESUS

Pastor

Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele, Ph.D.
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Bev Goodrich
Homebound Ministry
Marriage, Funerals & Annulments
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Liturgy & Music

Sydnee Martinez
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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
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ltrujillo@ihmgjt.org

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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

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(970) 242-6121 ext. 209
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Faith Formation K-5th

Melynda Brown
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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.



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Weekend Mass Schedule,

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

Masses are now limited to 150, anyone coming later will be filtered into the hall for a separate Mass.

With rules of **Social Distancing** & 150 person capacity, we are also following **GOVERNOR MANDATED regulations for Face Coverings.**

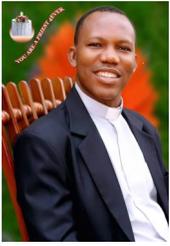
So Please wear your face Masks over the nose and mouth.

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 ihmgjt.org under Masses for the link.



**The Baptism of the Lord, Yr. B—01/10/2021. Ref. 1st=Is..55:1-11. 2nd=1Jn.5:1-9. 3rd=Mk.1:7- 11.
Theme: Growing in the Spirit of God we received at Baptism**

In the life of every human person, the day of birth is important. We celebrate it to thank God that we made it alive from our mother's wombs and to appreciate him for helping us to sustain the growth of the life he gave us. In our life of grace as Christians and Catholics, our days of birth are our days of baptism in Christ. And because of our call to eternal life, our days of baptism could be seen as more important than our natural birthdays. That was why Jesus told Nicodemus, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born again of water and the Spirit' (Jn.3:5). Baptism can be received by water, by desire or blood (CCC.1258-1261).

Why is Baptism important? Before the public ministry of Christ, John the Baptist had alluded to the importance and superiority of the baptism of Christ (over the one the Jews were receiving from him). He said, 'I am baptizing you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit' (Mk.1:8). Also, apart from the importance Jesus attached to baptism in his discussion with Nicodemus (Jn.3:5), he made it a major part of the mission of his disciples. Hence, he told them while commissioning them, 'Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit' (Mtt.28:19). In the gospel of Mark he adds, '...whoever believes and is baptized will be saved...' (Mk.16:16). These are why the Church sees the sacrament of baptism as fundamental to our faith & necessary for our salvation. It washes away from us the effects of original sin & all actual sins, it engrafts us into Christ, makes us adopted children of God, makes us members of the Church (the body of Christ) and those to inherit the kingdom of heaven. Jesus accepted it to underscore this importance. The descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus after his baptism & the voice from heaven (Mk.1:10-11) are eloquent testimonies of the new status baptism gives us. It is with this understanding that the Church permits the baptism of infants. It is unfortunate that some Christians argue against infant baptism. They believe that children should grow to the age of proper use of reason or adulthood before baptism to make it their own choice or the expression of their own faith. But ironically, these same people make other choices for their children without allowing them to grow to maturity; they become citizens of this country at birth, they give them the food they consider good for them and prevent them from eating toxic foods, they register them at the school they consider good for them, etc. If these choices could be made for the kids very early in life, why not baptism? Therefore, baptism is an important choice we make for ourselves or for our children (and guide them to live by it as they grow older) because of its salvific benefits.

Growth after Baptism: As the growth and maturity of the human person continues after natural birth, so do our Christian lives after baptism. The rate and direction of this growth are determined by the quality of care it receives. We have to see baptism as the beginning of our lives in God which continues its growth through the sacraments and through a sustained relationship with God. As we grow older, we deepen this relationship. We cannot do this if the love of God is not rooted in us. We express this love, as the 2nd reading of today tells us, by the keeping of God's commandments & seeing them as guides to life (not as burdens). Our God is ever ready to assist us and clean us of any dirt to maintain our baptismal purity. Hence, he calls us to himself in the 1st reading to refill our emptiness with his grace & divine nourishment. He wants us to see this invitation as an opportunity that could be lost. That is why he tells those of us falling short of our baptismal promises to, 'seek the Lord while he may be found, call on him while he is near. He wants the scoundrel to forsake his ways & the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the Lord for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving' (Is.55:6-7). May we respond to this merciful call so that his grace in us will not be in vain.

Dear friends, as we celebrate the feast of the baptism of Christ, we also remember our baptisms & the promises we made – to reject Satan & all his deceptive ways and to accept Christ as our Savior. This is our task all through life. All other sacraments are to help us do this. Let us go home today proud of our baptisms in Christ & more determined to keep to the holiness it demands.

Remain blessed! Fr. Timothy.



RAISING DISCIPLES TO INSPIRE RELATIONSHIPS WITH JESUS

Tour Guide of the Mass

Creed

Your Guide for Remembering What in the World You Say During the Creed After Not Being At Mass Because of a Global Pandemic!

Still and more, this incredibly written Creed gives us everything to think about. Something really exciting that we profess every Sunday (and hopefully every day) is what Jesus Christ did *for* us, because he *loves* us. Here, read on!

“For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven...”

Until now, I'd been talking about an entire sentence at one time...but both parts of this particular sentence have WAY too much to talk about at the same time.

So, as always (with the extra important Creed), read it again, my friend! “He came down from heaven.” Now that is a pretty big deal, because I don't really think *I* would leave heaven if I were there (...but that's the difference between selfish human me, and loving divine God). The more impressive thing, the more exciting thing, is that He didn't just come down from heaven to take a stroll on earth and sightsee. It wasn't a vacation. He had a *very* specific reason for it—and it all revolves around you and me. (Did you realize how important we actually are to God? He came just for each one of us, individually!). For you and me. For our *salvation*.

OK time for a dictionary lesson, because this one is interesting. “Salvation.” Everyone kind of thinks of that word in context of Christianity, and there *is* a specifically Christian definition for it. BUT, I think it can be more meaningful to look at this word's *secular* definition within the *context* of Christianity. So read on, brethren!

sal·va·tion

/sal'vay(shun)/

[please don't shun me for my terrible puns...]

Noun

preservation or deliverance from harm, ruin, or loss.

Ok yeah, It doesn't mention God or Christianity at all...but who is better at deliverance than God? Who else sees us falling into harm, into our own ruin, and can pull us up by our bootstraps and knock some sense into us! Jesus Christ came to earth, God the Father sent His Son, to *preserve humans*. Why? Why would He do that? It's not as if God needs us. So the only other explanation is...he *wants* us, because he *loves* us!

I was right (I always am... *oops!* That's pride...and just like that, I need salvation! See why it's so important?). Next week we'll look at the other half. Can't wait to chat next week! SM

Second Collection on January 17, 2021

There will be a second collection for the following causes: Building Fund, Diocesan Ministry Fund, and Focus/Mesa Catholic. Please continue to support our Diocese with everything they do for us. We have been blessed in having FOCUS Ministers for our Catholic college students. Thank you for your continue support. If you are unable to financially support these ministries at this time please pray for everyone involved in these ministries.

2021 Missals

We have received the new 2021 Sunday Missals! They are \$4.00 each and can be purchased in the Parish office or after all Masses in the Narthex. These



are nice to follow during the mass or if you are watching Masses from home this is a good opportunity to be able to participate with mass.

Minister Schedule for Jan. 16/17 2021

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 Jan. 16 (I) **Leona Lane** by Elizabeth & Joshua

Presider: **Fr. Asika Okafor**

4:00pm, Jan. 16 (†) **James Shults** by Deb Shults

Presider: **Fr. Kenneth Obasi**

Servers:

Lectors: K. Church

Eucharistic: B. Kline

Hospitality: R. Bertrand

7:30am, Jan 17, (†) **Juanita Miller** by Denise Buchner

Presider: **Fr. Asika Okafor**

Servers:

Lectors: J. Shettler

Eucharistic:

Hospitality: A. Ambrosier, L. Duncan & G. Watts

9:15 am Jan. 17, St. Ann's Palisade

Presider: **Fr. Kenneth Obasi**

10:00am, Jan. 17, (I) **Fr. Thomas Aquinas Kim** by Grace

Presider: **Fr. Asika Okafor**

Servers:

Lectors: E. Deschamp & J. Simmons

Eucharistic: J. Peugh

Hospitality:

6:00pm, Jan. 17, (†) **Bill Anderson** by Bev Goodrich

Presider: **Fr. Kenneth Obasi**

Servers:

Lector: M. Herrera & J. Young

Eucharistic:

Hospitality: M. Simpson

Readings for the Week of January 10 , 2020

Sunday: IS 55:1-11, 1JN 5:1-9, MK 1:7-11 OR IS 42:1-4,6-7, MK 1:7-11

Monday: HEB 1:1-6 MK 1:14-20

Tuesday: HEB 2:5-12 MK 1:21-28

Wednesday: HEB 2:14-18 MK 1:29-39

Thursday: HEB 3:7-14 MK 1:40-45

Friday: HEB 4:1-5, 11 MK 2:1-12

Saturday: HEB 4:12-16 MK 2:13-17

Calendar of Events Week of Jan. 10, 2021

Sunday Jan. 10	7:30am Mass 9:15am St. Ann's 10:00am Mass 6:00pm Mass
Monday, Jan. 11	8am Mass
Tuesday, Jan. 12	8am Mass
Wednesday, Jan. 13	8am Mass
Thursday, Jan. 14	8am Mass
Friday, Jan. 15	8am Mass
Saturday, Jan. 16	8am Mass 2:30-3:30pm Confessions 4:00 pm Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday Jan. 10, 2020

7:30 am (†) **Florence & Ted Balbier** by Carol Bernholdt & Family

10:00 am - (†) **Greg Stephen** by Elizabeth & Joshua

6:00 pm - (†) **Will Pitman** by Bev Goodrich

Monday Jan. 11, 2020

8:00 am - (†) **Rita Hahn** by Family

Tuesday Jan. 12, 2020

8:00 am - (I) **Grandkids** by Grace

Wednesday Jan. 13, 2020

8:00 am - (†) **Fr. James Plough** by Irene & Gerald Fritzler

Thursday Jan. 14, 2020

8:00 am - (I) **Charles Olesky** by Charles Olesky

Friday Jan. 15, 2020

8:00 am -(†) **Naomi Thompson** by Kathleen Hollingsworth

Saturday Jan. 16, 2020

8:00 am - (I) **Leona Lane** by Elizabeth & Joshua

4:00 pm- (†) **James Shults** by Deb Shults

Prayer Opportunities:

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

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Since the beginning of the world, water, has been the source for life and fruitfulness. Holy Baptism is the basis of the all Christian life, the gateway to

life in the Spirit and the door that gives access to the other sacraments. This week we learn about the baptism of our Lord. Did you know Jesus voluntarily submitted himself to the baptism of St. John, in the Jordan River, intended for sinners, in order to “fulfill all righteousness”. The Spirit who hovered over the waters of the first creation descended then upon Jesus as a prelude of the new creation, and the Father revealed Jesus as his “beloved Son.” Jesus’ baptism opened to all men the fountain of Baptism.

Jesus began his public life after having himself baptized.

After his resurrection Christ gave this mission to his apostles: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you”.

From the day of Pentecost the Church has celebrated holy Baptism. St. Peter declared to the crowd “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins: and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Baptism is what connects all of us together. We are one family in Christ through our own baptisms, young and old alike!
How wonderful is that!

IHM Charitable Giving

Catholic Outreach Donations

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

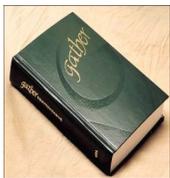
Emergency Aid - Assistance to the Poor Donations

July: \$300
August: \$300
September: \$300
October: \$300
November: \$300
December: \$400

Holy Family School Subsidy

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

DMF
Paid: \$116,933.25 (73%)
Pledged: \$107,641.25 (67%)



Music is an integral part of Catholic liturgy, but following COVID safety recommendations, we removed all hymnals from the pews. This made it difficult for you to participate in the music of the liturgy. In an effort to amend this, beginning next weekend, Jan. 16 & 17th we will be doing a trial run for checking out Hymnals. (Remember that masks and social distancing should be maintained whenever singing.) If you would like a hymnal, you can check one out, use it at Mass, take it home with you and then return with it the following weekend. Please bring a \$20 deposit (cash preferred). Deposits will be refunded on the return of the good condition hymnal. Thank you for your patience with us as we work through this trying time together!

Updated Information of Coronavirus at IHM

As of December 31, 2020 IHM will be following the latest COVID-19 restrictions. We are allowed 150 person capacity at mass while maintaining **6 feet Social Distancing**. We will be filtering people into the Hall for separate masses if over 150 show up. We are requiring 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.



Thank You, IHM Staff.

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Fun page for the children or even Adults young at heart!



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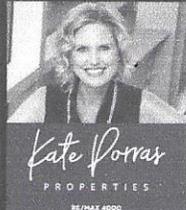
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