

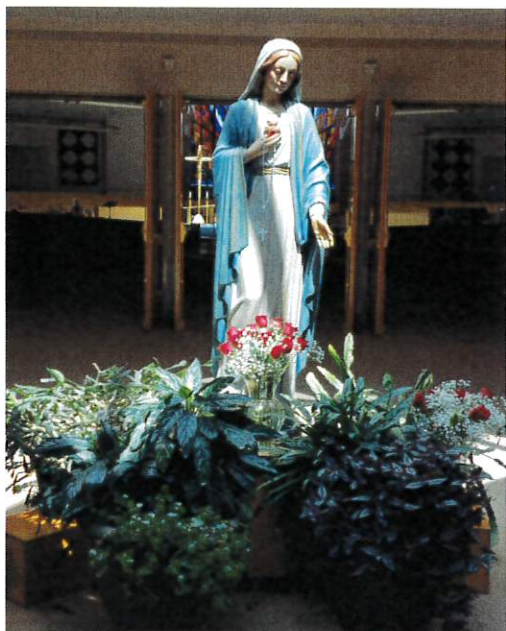
Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

790 26 1/2 Road Grand Junction, Colorado 81506

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

PASTOR Rev. Chrysogonus Nwele, Ph.D.
Deacon Luke Konantz

PAROCHIAL VICAR Fr. Selvanathan
Deacon Leo Truscott



Immaculate Heart of Mary

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday Masses: 7:30 and 10:00 am
& 5:00 pm

Monday-Saturday: 8:00 am

Holy Day Masses will be posted in
the bulletin & on the website

Reconciliation:

Saturday: 2:00 pm — 3:30 pm or
by appointment

Adoration: Every Friday
9am-5:00 pm

St. Ann, Palisade Sunday Mass:
9:30 am,

Holy Days: TBD

10:30 am Mass every Tuesday

Office hours: M-F 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Prayer Opportunities:

Morning Prayer: Monday-Friday 7:30am in the Chapel

Morning Mass: Monday-Saturday 8:00am

Silent Prayer: 1st & 3rd Thursdays 1:30-2:30 pm
in the Seton Room

Adoration: Fridays from 9:00 am-5:00 pm in the Chapel

Rosary: Every 1st Saturday After 8:00 am Mass
in the Chapel

Centering Prayer: Tuesday Evenings from 7:00 - 8:00
in the IHM Library

Healing Masses

IHM Healing Mass is on the second Wednesday of every month,
ongoing, at 12:00 noon, for all those suffering from Cancer,
serious illness, any type of disease, healing after surgery and all
who need healing of mind, body & Spirit.

Our next Healing Mass is January 10, 2024

We will not have a healing mass in December.



Third Sunday of Advent

RAISING DISCIPLES TO INSPIRE RELATIONSHIPS WITH JESUS

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

Parish Staff

Pastor

Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele, Ph.D.
(970) 242-6121 ext. 205

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Selvanathan
(970) 242-6121 ext.208

Pastoral Assistant

Judy A. Hettinger
Funerals, Baptisms,
Columbarium, Marriage, Liturgy
& Homebound Ministry
(970) 242-6121 ext.206

Parish Secretary

Judy Hirschfeld
(970) 242-6121 ext. 201

Maintenance

Maverick Burns
Derek Faber
(970) 242-6121 ext. 210

Confessions Saturday

2:00-3:30

Parish Office Hours

8:00-4:00 M-F

(for winter months)

Please call the office: To schedule
a home or hospital visit.

Emergency Anointing

(970) 242-6121 — press 9



Bookkeeper

Linda Weber
970-242-6121 ext.211

Parish Part Time Staff

Financial/ Business Manager

Rick Aluise
(970) 242-6121 ext.214

Music

Molly Lather
(970) 242-6121 ext. 212

**Religious Education
Faith Formation K-12th**

Bernadette Hendrickson
970-242-6121 ext. 204

Technology

Linda Peck
970-242-6121 ext. 207

Deacon Luke Konantz

970-216-9670

Deacon Leo Truscott

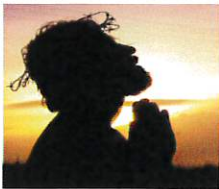
970-640-4717

Bible Study

*Please join Father Chrysogonus Wednesday evenings from 6-7:00 pm for Bible Study in the Library.
Join us for an evening of spiritual growth and wisdom in our Catholic Faith.*



Please Pray For:



Elvy Vigna, Mardi Evams, Maria Herrera, Marie Herrera, Les Melchor, Mike Campbell, Samuel Smith,
Dave McWilliams, Casandra & Sonny Richards, Yona & Matt Slostad, Wing-Garcia Baby, T.J. Morelli,
Jan & Wade Enger, Dallas Mortensen, Amber Price, Marie, Paul & Ramona Blee, Heidi Calhoon,
The Allons Family, Mallory O'Conner, Les Stefan, Leta Curry, Jan Sewell, Augustine DeFurio,
Dorothy Alzes, Natalia Souza, Jean Sullivan, Marena Fritzler, Justin Marchun, Dick Neville, Phyllis Veale, Jenna Veale,
Kelsay Shackelford, Shirley Armstrong, Beckett Diers, Cindy Lively, Anthony Mundscha, Sue Burns, Phyllis Shupak,
Penny Olesky, Dori Smeaton, Nancy Boggus, Tiffany Hughes, Bernard Kochevar, Emilie Stoddard, Joan Wasinger,
Veronica Cukro, Tia Hasley, Rich Jurewicz, Penney Barger, Karen Hernandez, Alice Bristol, Gerry Lemarr,
Theresa Brandorff, Lee Byram, Alex & Ashlynn Kirstatter, Bob Ferencsik, Marty Olesky, and for all those written in the Red
Book of Prayer.

If there is someone you wish to have put on our prayer list please contact Judy the parish Secretary in the office after receiving



**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: B:
REJOICE! THE LORD IS COMING.
(Is: 61: 1-2 & 10-11; 1:5: 16-24; Jn: 1: 6-8 and 19-28)**

Dear friends in Jesus Christ,

I am very happy to see you all through this homily. Today's first reading is from the book of the Prophet Isaiah. Isaiah announces that he is anointed by the Lord God and sent to bring good news to the poor. He conveys a message of great hope to all those who live in hopelessness and despair. It is the Spirit of God present in us that enables us to carry the message of salvation to the poor. Later Jesus also quotes this passage from Isaiah to announce the program of His ministry.

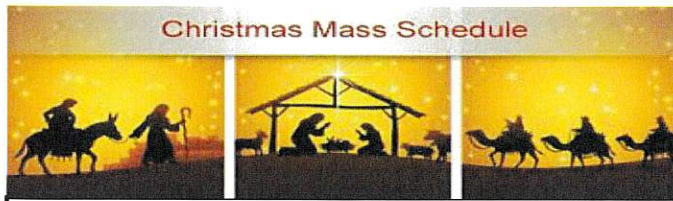
The second reading is from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians. Paul urges the Christian community of Thessalonika and all of us that we should rejoice always and pray constantly and show our gratitude to God for all the gifts and blessings we have received from Him. We should not despise the spiritual gifts but be earnest in doing good and avoiding evil. This is the way we ought to live as we wait for the second coming of the Lord.

John the Baptist a witness to the light

Today's Gospel reading is from St. John. We meet John the Baptist who makes it abundantly clear that he is not the Messiah. John bore witness to the Light. That Light was Jesus Christ. But what a wonderful witness John was! He witnessed not only with his words but especially through his deeds and his life of total renunciation. When the Light finally appeared, John was quite content to fade away from the scene and let Christ take over. This indeed was a wonderful way of witnessing.

Today for many people Christ has become a very dim and distant figure. He is being constantly overshadowed by the powerful electronic media, human greed, and a world constantly projecting itself and slowly making God some kind of an appendix. The words of John the Baptist are very much true today. "There stands one among you whom you don't know." The Prophet Isaiah told us long ago, "The Lord has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and to open the prison to those who are bound." This prophecy of Isaiah can become a reality only when we become effective witnesses to Christ, the Light. Hence the third week of Advent invites us to be witnesses of Christ the Lord.

I wish you all **Have A joyful Season and Have a Blessed Sunday to you all.** May God bless you all. Fr. Selva.



December 24, Sunday
Mass Obligation Schedule

Saturday December 23, 4:00 pm

Sunday December 24, 7:30 am, & 10:00 am
St. Ann's Palisade 9:30am

Christmas Mass Schedule

Sunday December 24,
4:00 pm, in Sanctuary
4:15 pm, in Friendship Hall
10:00 pm in Sanctuary

Monday December 25, 10:00 am IHM
St. Ann's Palisade 9:30 am



IHM Library Hours

Our Library is open, with entry from the front of the church. Sundays 4-5:00 pm (before mass); Mondays 2:30-3:30 pm (during pickup times from HFS); Thursdays 2:30-3:30 pm (during pickup times from HFS); Saturdays 3:4:00 pm (during confession times and before Mass). Come and browse.

2024 CAMP CEDAREGE YOUTH RETREAT!

It is time to register for the GJ Deanery Youth Retreat, being held at Camp Cedaredge Jan.13-15, 2024.

Sacraments, Games, Cross Country Skiing, Small & Large Group Activities. The fee is \$120.00. Deadline to

register is Jan.2, 2024 at

sacredheartfruita.com/confirmation

or contact Colleen Nycum
at 970-640-7761



IHM is in need of a

Part Time Youth Minister.

The position will not exceed 20 hours a week. If interested, please contact

Rick in the Parish Office at 970-242-6121.



Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

The Knights will host their Third Sunday Pancake Breakfast on Dec. 17. Children under 7 eat free!

Breakfast consists of pancakes, scrambled eggs, choice of bacon or sausage, biscuits, and gravy, Coffee, tea or lemonade.

Adults \$8 Children 8-11 \$5 Under 7 free. Please support our Knights!

Knights of Columbus
Pancake Breakfast



Attention all Mothers!

"Mary's Moms" is a group for moms at all stages of parenting. Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from 9:00-11:00 at the IHM Parish Hall. Come meet other moms of faith (and bring your kiddos!) Contact Molly Turro for details. Phone 802-343-8607. Email molly.turro@gmail.com



Parish Winter Office Hours

The parish office has new Winter hours. We will be open from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm and always open during the lunch hours.

Minister Schedule for Dec. 23/24, 2023

All who are on this schedule have chosen to serve.

8:00 am Dec. 23 Mass (†) Jack Rau by Jan Rau
Presider: Fr. Selvanathan

4:00pm Dec. 23 Mass (†) Michael Beaudoin by Bill & Judy
Beaudoin

4:00 pm Dec. 23 Mass (†) Rob Cannon & (I) Elaine Cannon
Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele by Family

Eucharistic: K. Jarrell, B. Luff, K. Sassano, L. Stefan & 4 Vol.
Hospitality: R. Bertrand & 3 Volunteers
Servers: 2 Volunteers
Lectors: D. Dinkel

7:30 am Dec. 24, Sunday Mass (†) IHM Parishioners
Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

Eucharistic: C. Craig, M. Kiser & 6 Volunteers
Hospitality: L. Duncan, G. Watts & 2 Volunteers
Servers: 2 Volunteers
Lectors: 2 Volunteers

9:30 am Dec. 24, Sunday Mass at Palisade St. Ann's
Presider: Fr. Selvanathan

10 am Dec. 24, Sunday Mass (†) IHM Parishioners
Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

Eucharistic: J. Peugh, K. Sassano & 6 Volunteers
Hospitality: 4 Volunteers
Servers: 2 Volunteers
Lectors: J. Simmons & M. Lipic

4:00 pm Dec. 24, Christmas Mass (†) Pro Popula
Presider: Fr. Selvanathan

4:15 pm Dec. 24, Christmas Mass (†) Pro Popula
Presider: Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele

10:00 pm Dec. 24, Christmas Mass (†) Pro Popula
Presider: Fr. Selvanathan

All Ministry positions are volunteer sign-ups
for the Christmas Masses

Readings for the Week of December 17, 2023

Sunday: Is 61:1-2A, 10-11 1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66

Calendar of Events Week of December 17, 2023

Sunday, Dec. 17 7:30 am Mass
 9:30 am St. Ann's Palisade
 10:00 am Mass
 NO CLASSES
 4-5 pm Library Open
 5:00 pm Mass

Monday, Dec. 18 8:00 am Mass
 2:30-3:30 pm Library Open

Tuesday, Dec. 19 8:00 am Mass
 11:00 am Bob Kline Funeral
 7:00 pm Centering Prayer

Wednesday, Dec. 20 8:00 am HFS Mass
 1:00 pm HFS Christmas Program
 6-7:00 pm Faith Formation Children's
 Christmas Carol Sing-a-long

Thursday, Dec. 21 8:00 am Mass
 1:30-2:30 pm Silent Prayer in Seton Room
 2:30-3:30 pm Library Open

Friday, Dec. 22 8:00 am Mass
 9 am-5:00 pm Adoration in Chapel

Saturday, Dec. 23 8:00 am Mass
 2:00-3:30 pm Confessions
 3-4 pm Library Open
 4:00 pm Mass

Mass Intentions

Sunday Dec. 17, 2023

7:30 am - (†) Virginia Hollingsworth by Family
 10:00 am - (†) Joseph Dreilling by Frank & Maryle Hoffman
 5:00 pm - (†) Barbara Katzer by Schmalz Family

Monday Dec. 18, 2023

8:00 am - (†) Cecilia Cutshaw by Joan Wasinger

Tuesday Dec. 19, 2023

8:00 am - (†) Roger Whittaker by Justine Tilger

Wednesday Dec. 20, 2023

8:00 am - (†) Sal Sassano by Kathy

Thursday Dec. 21, 2023

8:00 am - (†) Sal Sassano by Brotsky Family

Friday Dec. 22, 2023

8:00 am - (†) Floy Young by George & Marie Schmalz & Family

Saturday Dec. 23, 2023

8:00 am - (†) Jack Rau by Jan Rau
 4:00 pm - (†) Michael Beaudoin by Bill & Judy Beaudoin
 4:00 pm - (†) Rob Cannon & (I) Elaine Cannon by Family

Stewardship in the Eucharistic Covenant

Continued from last week...

It was important for Peter that the resurrected Jesus was proclaimed in season & out. With the other Apostles, Peter solidified the organizational structure of the new Church. They executed the mission of bringing awareness, clarity, and focus to God's unique call to the church, for both leaders and the people. The apostles sought to incorporate the gentiles into God's plan of human salvation. This they did without losing sight of the Good News, or negating the Jews, but they linked everything to the Lord in obedience to his commands. The whole church acted with one accord to the benefit of all, while the apostles dedicated themselves to the Word and prayers. This is how, through their stewardship and selflessness, the church of Christ has survived the turbulence of millennia down to our time.

Jesus spread out his arms on the cross showing his love and willingness to give his life as a sacrifice for us. Jesus' action demands some level of reciprocity. The apostles responded very emphatically. It is because of their actions and sacrifices that the church is still alive today. We have more resources, talents, and treasures than they did. The only thing we have less of is time. If stewardship means using all we have to advance God's kingdom, we can do it. We should understand the difference between giving all you have to serve God and using all you have to serve God. All we have belongs to God, anyway. We can at least use it to advance his kingdom.

As followers of Jesus; we are his present day disciples. Through the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, we are called by the Lord to be associates with him, to do what no one else can do. We must use our unique talents, treasures, and time, given to each of us to spread the gospel. Each of us serves our God-given strengths and abilities. When we advance his kingdom, he in turn lavishes his grace upon us to assure our salvation. He said to us: "Learn from the way the wildflowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow, will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith?" (Mt 6:28-30) Our faith may falter at times. We may sometimes fail to rely on divine providence, but in truth, God does provide for those of us who strive to work with him...

To be continued...

By Fr. Chrysogonus Nwele



Please join the
Faith Formation Children on
Wednesday December 20
6-7:00 pm for a

**Merry Christmas Carol
Sing-a-Long!**

Light refreshments will follow.



Financial Report - November Collections:

Monthly Envelopes : \$ 52,404.42

On Line Giving: \$13,731.85

Loose Donations: \$ 4,720.03

Total: \$70,856.30



Kids Corner-Third Sunday of Advent

The Messenger of Peace Word-find

V Y E A R P O O R B
I C S P I R I T R O
N A A N N O U N C E
D P K G F C E S L N
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C I L D V A E N B I
A V A N O I N T E D
T E D A U M R T R I
I S L O R D E D T N
O R E L E A S E Y G
N P R I S O N E R S

See if you can find the words in CAPITALS from today's first reading in the puzzle. Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks in the reading.

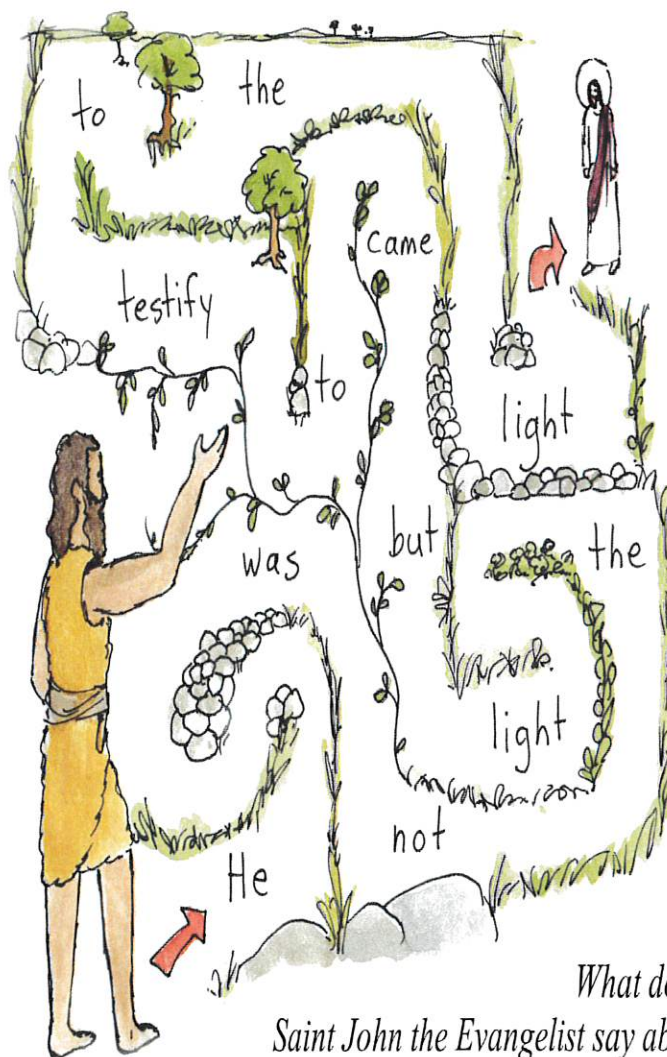
The SPIRIT of the Lord God is upon me,
because the LORD has ANOINTED me;
he has SENT me to bring GLAD TIDINGS to
the POOR, to heal
the _____,

to PROCLAIM LIBERTY to CAPTIVES

and RELEASE to the
PRISONERS,
to ANNOUNCE a YEAR
of FAVOUR from the Lord
and a day of
VINDICATION
by our GOD.

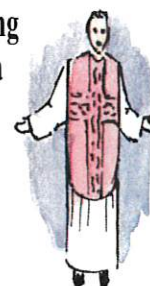


Third Sunday of Advent December 17th, 2023



What does
Saint John the Evangelist say about
Saint John the Baptist at the beginning of the Gospel?
Read the words you pass as you go through the maze.

Was the priest who offered Mass today wearing pink vestments? The colour pink, or rose, is a sign of joy. We use it for the third Sunday of Advent because we are happy that we're half-way to Christmas! If you have an Advent wreath, it's time to light the pink candle!

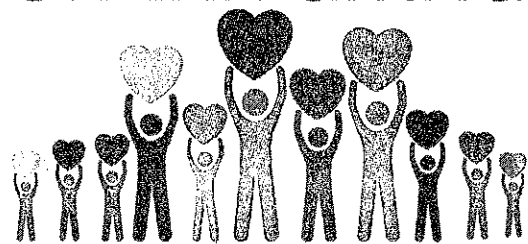


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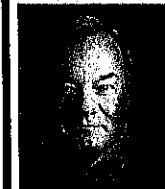
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640-3263



Fr. Nicolas Bertrand Assembly 1519

If you are a Fourth Degree Knight and would like to join our assembly please
contact Dave Peitz 640-8211



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