

**“We give thanks for the past, celebrate the present,
and pray for the future of our parish.”**



Our Lady Of The Mountains Catholic Church

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DECEMBER 6, 2009

OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Our Lady of the Mountains,

*This Tues., Dec. 8th, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother.
It IS a Holy Day of Obligation, Please note Bulletin Mass Schedule for times.*

Connecting - Advent & the Immaculate Conception

Last weekend at mass, I shared a story about a priest who was reciting a Rosary at the Funeral Vigil of a loving Irish mother. Afterwards, one of her sons told the priest, that as children, they recited the Rosary every night after supper. If she caught anyone misbehaving, she would simply say, "We'll start over." Needless to say, they were very 'devout' the second time!

"We'll start over." While the 'Rosary' is not meant to be a form of 'punishment,' Advent is a time for each of us to 'start over.' I suspect that over the Church's past year, each of us (myself included) have missed many graced opportunities to grow closer to the Lord. In a word, Advent is a time to '**start over**,' to start afresh and re-focus our attention and hearts on the '*long-term*' relationship with the Lord. And, 'starting over' is what Mary's 'Immaculate Conception' is all about [note: this is not the conception [i.e., Incarnation] of Jesus, but Mary, His mother].

On the face of it, the Immaculate Conception may seem somewhat remote to us. However, in Mary's 'Immaculate Conception' God inaugurated the salvation of the world; in God's plan, Mary became the 'new Eve, the new Genesis, the new beginning for the world.

The term, "Immaculate Conception," will not be found in the scriptures (which presents several fundamental problems for most of our Protestant brothers and sisters); still, that does not change its factualness.

In the Spring of **1858**, in the small village of **Lourdes**, France, the Blessed Virgin appeared to a 14 year old girl, **Bernadette Soubirous**. During the apparition, young Bernadette saw "a lady wearing a lovely white dress, with a bright belt," and on each foot was "a pale yellow rose - the same color as her rosary beads."

Doubting her story, the parish pastor instructed Bernadette to ask "the Lady" her name. In the **March 25th** apparition, "the Lady" told her, "*I am the Immaculate Conception.*" Bernadette had never heard those words before. It was earlier, on **December 8, 1854**, that the Church officially defined ** the long-professed fact and belief that Mary was conceived in her mother's (Anne) womb, but without the stain of Original Sin.

(Continued on page 3.)

PARISH STAFF

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MASS SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule
 Saturday.....4:30 pm
 Sunday.....8:00 am & 10:00 am
Summer Schedule (Memorial Day - Labor Day)
 Additional Saturday Mass.....6:15 pm
Mass In Spanish
 Every Sunday of the month.....7:00 pm
Weekday Schedule
 Monday Communion Service.....8:30 am
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday.....8:30 am
Holy Days of Obligation8:30 am & 5:15 pm
Confessions-Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Every Saturday 3:00 to 4:15 pm or by appointment.
 First Friday..... 4:30 to 5:00 pm
 Tuesday thru Friday.....8:00 am
Office Hours
 Monday through Friday.....9:00 am to 4:00 pm

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Scott Dorman
 Pat Dzuris
 Sarah Fink
 Johanna Gengler
 Mike Hipsher
 Linda Hipsher
 Dorothy Lehmkuhl
 Joe Phillips

FINANCE COUNCIL

Rene Daigre, Jr
 Dot Dorman
 Stan Gengler
 Fran Grooters
 Bob Lawrence
 Camilla Saint

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

Fran Grooters
 Dr. Anthony Fink
 Bob Hartwig
 Rene Daigre
 Dot Dorman
 Tom Atkins
 Jane Cornell
 Joe Phillips
 Pat Dzuris
 Sharon Brubaker
 Francis Fiedler
 Herb Mignery
 Sherry Mignery
 Bob Umscheid
 Karen Umscheid

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	DEC	5	OLM	4:30 PM	DENISE KIMBELL
			ERITREA		JACKIE CUSHING
SUN	DEC	6	OLM	8:00 AM	OLM PARISHONERS
SUN	DEC	6	OLM	10:00 AM	+RUDY MARQUEZ SR.
SUN	DEC	6	OLM	7:00 PM	MASS IN SPANISH
			ERITREA		+JIM GADDIE
MON	DEC	7	OLM	8:30 AM	COMMUNION SERVICE
				5:15 PM	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (ANTICIPATORY)
TUE	DEC	8	OLM	8:30 AM	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FR. GRZEGORZ CIOCH
				5:15 PM	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
WED	DEC	9	OLM	8:30 AM	+ROBERT & GERALDINE MEYER
			ERITREA	Birthdays	Shirley Reece Dooie & Madeleine Gillett
THU	DEC	10	OLM	8:30 AM	CHRIS SYLVESTER
			ERITREA		
FRI	DEC	11	OLM	8:30 AM	+RUSS CAMPION

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Schedule Requests or Changes?
 Contact Karen Phillips at 577-1282
 or jkphil@yahoo.com

STEWARDSHIP NOV. 22nd

Offertory	NO	\$
	COUNT	
	THIS WEEK	
	TOTAL	\$

Bldg Fund	Pledges
	New Money

Other	Fire Victims
	Seminary

Volunteer Hours

Oct 2009 713

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(continued from page 1)

“We declare, pronounce and define, that the doctrine which holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the first instant of her conception, by a **singular privilege and grace** of the Omnipotent God, **in virtue of the merits** of Jesus Christ, the Savior of mankind, **was preserved immaculate** from all stain of original sin, has been revealed by God and, therefore, should firmly and constantly be believed by all the faithful.” (Pope Pius IX, *Ineffabilis Deus*, Dec 8, 1854).

After their sin, Adam & Eve were afraid, ashamed and confused (Gn 3:10). Never before had they ever experienced pain, sorrow or death. Their sin and its pervading effects, changed their once sinless relationship with God and each other. Only God could undo what had been done. Now, humanity clung to God's graced promise, that a 'woman's offspring' would strike at the serpent's head and, ultimately, be victorious (Gn 3:15). Mary is that 'woman.' Mary is that sign of hope.

In Mary, God the Father singularly (Mary only) suspended the universal scourge of Original Sin; and now through the 'new Eve' (Mary), God would redeem and renew humanity through the fruit of her womb – Jesus the Christ. In Jesus, you and I can live a new life; through the gift of the Holy Spirit, you and I can be like Mary — unafraid, filled by God's power, open to the Holy Spirit, victorious, undefeated, and 'immaculate' (sinless); but, we have to choose, God.

Advent is a time to **'start over,'** to start fresh. May this Advent be a good beginning for *all* of us. Like Dickens' *Tiny Tim* - "God Bless Us, Every One!!"

Rev. Joe Hartmann

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Tue	Dec	8	8:30am	Holy Day of Obligation
			5:15pm	Holy Day of Obligation
Wed	Dec	16	3:30pm	Children's Penance Svc.
			7:00pm	Adult Penance Svc.
Sun	Dec	13	4:30pm	Christmas Pageant
Thu	Dec	24	8:30am	No Morning Mass
			4:30pm	Mass With Children
			10:00pm	'Shepherd' Mass
Fri	Dec	25		8:00 & 10:00am Mass
Fri	Jan	1	8:30am	Holy Day of Obligation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YEAR FOR PRIESTS - HOLY HOUR

Monday December 14th from 7:00 to 8:00pm
 St. Elizabeth Seton Church
 5450 S. Lemay Ave., Ft. Collins, CO 80525
 Archbishop Chaput and Bishop Conley are encouraging the faithful in the Boulder and Fort Collins Deaneries to come and pray with and for them and our area priests as they celebrate this **Year For Priests.**

Prayer is one of the primary ways we lay people are able to support our priests and assist them in their ministry. If you have any questions please call the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Office at 970-226-1303. Reservations are not necessary.

EVERYONE IS INVITED

To the Christmas Pageant Sun. Dec. 13th 4:30pm. Potluck Dinner immediately following. Assignments: A-K Dessert / L-R Main Dish / S-Z Side Dish
 Coffee, punch, plates and utensils will be provided.

2010 LECTOR WORKBOOKS

Are available in the church office.

HOME/HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME/ GOOD SAMARITAN RESIDENCY MINISTRY

If someone you know wants to receive Holy Communion at home, please call the Parish Office with your request. We want to help. Privacy laws preclude us from obtaining the names of patients in institutions, so we won't know of their need unless it is requested. Thank You.

THE SICK

Catherine Campion, Nicolas LaMontia, Steve McDuff, Hazel Turnbull, Jane Swaney, Mary Dorwart, Roman Cioch, Ken Kopp, Helen Pratkelis, Kurt Niedringhaus, Irene King, Judy Schreiber, Vernon Reece, Ruthie Watson, Socorro Vargas, Bill Speiser, Liam Smith and Audrey Tinerbin, Connie Drumheller

SINGERS AND MUSICIANS

Anyone interested in providing a Christmas music performance, either solo or as an ensemble, for the 10:00pm Shepherds Mass (Midnight Mass) on Dec. 24th please contact Michelle Gergen-Wisner at 586-8517.

PARISH EVENTS

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Tuesday December 8th
Masses at 8:30am and 5:15pm

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Dec 6 8:30am - Noon Pancake Breakfast
Dec 10 6:00pm Officer's Mtg. Lower Center
6:30pm Rosary
7:00pm Business Mtg. Lower Center
Members Only

GIVING TREE

The
Knights
of Columbus
are sponsoring a
"Giving Tree" for less
fortunate children in town.

Please help us make this a little
nicer Christmas for a needy child.

**Gifts need to be placed under the tree
by Dec. 13th and should be gift wrapped
with the ID tag firmly attached.
Thank you for sharing your Christmas.**

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

The Christmas Bake Sale will be held on Dec. 12th and 13th. following all of the Masses. Ladies and Gentlemen, please bring your baked goods to the library prior to the Mass you will be attending. Thank You!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Furniture Connection needs help! Our hours are 1-4pm Mon-Sat. The store is a very worthwhile service to the community. We recycle good usable furniture to people, who in some cases have nothing.

Proceeds go to Muti-Cultural Connections and are used to help families in need, teach English classes and fund scholarships for local students.

We need men and women volunteers. For more information call Susan Lowe at 577-1889 or May Anderson at 586-9571.

PARISH EVENTS

YOUTH CORNER

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- CCD K-5th, every Wed. 3:30-5:00 pm
- Dec 13th 4:30pm Christmas Pageant

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Bible Study 6:30 pm

HIGH SCHOOL

- High School Youth Group Meets 7:30 PM
- Thanks to all who are supporting our Cinnamon Rolls and Coffee to go efforts after the 10:00am Mass. More to come!

COFFEE & ROLLS

There will be No Coffee And Rolls To Go for 2 weeks (Dec 6th and Dec 13th). Youth will resume Coffee & Rolls after 10am Mass on Dec. 20th

PRAYER CHAIN

If you wish to include someone , please contact Ruth McGraw 586-5412 or Helen Meyers 586-4014

PANCAKE BREAKFAST THIS SUNDAY

The Knights of Columbus are providing a Pancake Breakfast this Sunday. Pancakes, Eggs & Sausage, Biscuits & Gravy Will be served up after the 8:00am and 10:00am Masses.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE GROUP

"Come and see" -- words of Jesus. All parishioners and visitors are welcome to learn more about the Sunday Readings and how they are relevant to each other and to our daily lives. Join us on Wednesdays in the Parish Library in the Upper Center, 10:00 am until Noon. For more info. contact Reenie Matthews 586-5093.

ATTENTION ALL

Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Greeters, Ushers and Servers - the Holiday sign up sheets for serving at the Masses are in the office area lobby starting this weekend. Please sign up for **all** the Masses you can help us with as soon as you know your schedule to save us from having to make phone calls. God Bless and have a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday. /Karen