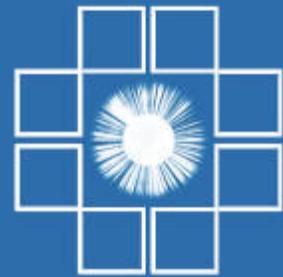


LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Roman Catholic Church



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 9, 2021



MASS

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am
12:00 pm

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday-Friday: 8:30 am
Wednesday: 5:30 pm
Thursday: 12:00 pm*

*seniors & those with health conditions ONLY

CONNECT

LOCATION

10316 W. Bowles Avenue, Littleton
CO 80127 | 303-973-3969

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: closed
Tuesday-Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
closed 12 pm - 1 pm each day

ONLINE

www.lotw.org

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

Wednesday: 4:15 - 5:15 pm
Thursday: 7:00 - 8:00 am
Saturday: 3:00 - 4:00 pm

BAPTISM

Contact Bridget Rincon at
bridget@lotw.org

EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS

For those in danger of dying, or if
there has been a death, please call
303-435-1169.

Welcome to Light of the World

OUR MISSION

“Christ, the Light of the World, is the center and foundation of our lives. We seek to reflect His light at all times and to all people. Enlivened by God’s grace, Gospel truth and the teachings proclaimed by the Church, we strive for holiness in all we are and in all we do to the glory of God, now and for ages unending. Amen.”

Clergy



Rev. Matthew Book
Pastor - “Father Matt”
FrMatt@lotw.org



Rev. Isidore Orjikwe
Parochial Vicar - “Father Isidore”
FrIsidore@lotw.org



Deacon Joe Donohoe
Deacon.Donohoe@archden.org



Deacon Rick Montagne
DeaconRick@lotw.org



Deacon Mark Wolbach
DeaconMark@lotw.org

From the Pastor’s Desk

Last week I wrote about the return of the Sunday Mass Obligation on May 23rd. Given the substantially improved circumstances, the bishops of Colorado agreed to reinstate the obligation together. All the faithful will be obligated to participate in Sunday Mass on May 23rd, unless there is a serious reason for their absence. Serious reasons that excuse a person from Sunday Mass attendance include: anyone who is sick, symptomatic, or been recently exposed to the coronavirus; anyone with significant health risk factors that requires them to avoid public spaces, or if you care for someone with that condition; and if you cannot attend through no fault of your own, e.g. significant storm that blocks travel, or lack of capacity at the church.

While precepts and law are often necessary for organizing a large group of people, like the Church spread around the world, it is important that we are personally moved to participate in Sunday Mass by an inner desire and awareness of its importance. I wrote and preached about this last week, and mentioned that Sunday Mass is a preeminent way that we follow Jesus’

call from John 15 to remain in Him: *“I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither...”* **The first reason** to participate in Sunday Mass is because Jesus has asked me to, especially since at the Last Supper He told the Apostles, *“Do this in memory of me.”* There is this personal and everlasting commitment Christ has made to me, and He bids me to respond and abide in Him through Sunday worship. That is how Christians have understood to fulfill this request from the very beginning.

In the Gospel this week, Jesus speaks about fulfilling the commandment of God. Therefore, **a second reason** why it is good and important to participate in Sunday Mass is that this fulfills the original commandment of God, in the Old Testament, to keep holy the sabbath day (see Exodus 20:8). The Sabbath, for Israel, is the seventh and final day of the week. It is meant to be a day of special communion and thanksgiving with God who is Creator of all things and the source of all

blessings. This cosmic vision is established through the creation account in Genesis 2:2-3 that depicts the seventh and final day as the crowning of creation: *"On the seventh day God completed the work he had been doing; he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had undertaken. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work he had done in creation."* In the biblical account, God is not exhausted from toil, rather it is the time to enjoy the goodness of what has been created. By describing creation over the course of a week, seven days, the Jews were taught how their normal lives proceed from and participate in God's creation. Since they are in a covenant relationship with the Lord, they should follow His ways. Thus the Jews imitate God by resting on the seventh day. They give thanks to the Creator, and their rest is a sign of trust in His blessing. As it says in Exodus 20:9, *"Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God."*

Now here's the really interesting point, Christians look not to the seventh day but to the first day of the week, which we know as Sunday. One of the earliest testimonies is from the Acts of the Apostles that associates the Eucharist with that first day: *"On the first day of the week when we gathered to break bread, Paul spoke to them..."* Christians have known this day also as the Lords' Day. For example, Revelation 1:10 states, *"I was caught up in spirit on the Lord's day..."*

Were they breaking God's commandment? No! This day, Sunday, is the day that Jesus Christ rose from the dead, so that has become the new most important day of the week. St. Ignatius of Antioch, who lived at the end of the first century and into the second century, and was reported to have been a disciple of the Apostle John, explains in a letter: *"They no longer observe the Jewish Sabbaths, but keep holy the Lord's day, on which, through Him and through His death, our life arose; and by this mystery we have received our faith, and therefore we persevere in the hope of being found to be the disciples of Jesus Christ, our only Master."* (Ignatius of Antioch to the Magnesians 9,1)

Last Sunday I read some of St. Justin Martyr's writings in my homily, and here is another passage in which he explains the importance of Sunday: *"But Sunday is the day on which we all hold our common assembly, because it is the first day on which God, having wrought a change in the darkness and matter, made the world; and Jesus Christ our Savior on the same day rose from the dead."* So for Christians, we still keep the commandment of God, but

now by worshiping on Sunday we acknowledge not only the start of creation but also the great work of salvation accomplished in Jesus Christ. This is all the more beautiful since we know that all things were made through Christ as well as redeemed by Him.

In fact, Sunday came to be known also as the "Eighth Day", the start of a new order of creation in grace ushered in through the Death and Resurrection of Christ, which brings about the start of the New Heavens and New Earth hoped for by the Prophet Isaiah (65:17) and envisioned in the Book of Revelation (21:1). It is the first day of the new week of salvation! We enter into that new supernatural order through the gift of Baptism, becoming members of the New and Eternal Covenant, just as on the eighth day Jews are to be circumcised in order to be part of the covenant of Moses. In our first reading today, St. Peter exclaims about this covenant being made available to all people: *"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have?"* In St. Paul's letter to Titus he describes this beautiful gift of new creation in Baptism: *"He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior."* (Titus 3:5) You will notice that baptismal fonts have eight sides to them, including our own main font, as a sign of these two spiritual realities: new covenant and new creation.

Sunday Mass is all about being true to who we have become in Christ. That is the second reason why we must be there. It is taking that day to live not according to the regular rhythm of life in this world, which can be such a burden and challenge, but living according to what is now possible through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is really an act of rebellion against the grind of this life and the spiritual powers that seek to dominate and enslave: fear, sin, and death. As we sing in today's responsorial psalm: *"The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power."* (Psalm 98) It turns out that what God has commanded of us is also exactly what we need. We need this weekly Sunday immersion into the hope of the Resurrection and to remember what is said in our second reading: *"God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him."* (1 John 4:9)

- Fr. Matt

Parish Life



Liturgical Updates



Beginning May 15, 2021

- Fr. Matt & Fr. Isidore return to their regular confessionals
- Open seating in the church
- No 8:00 am Mass in Lux Mundi Hall
- The 10:00 am outdoor Mass will continue for now (will move to LMH if inclement weather)
- Thursday noon Mass for high risk continues for now

Mass Livestream Update

- Last daily Mass livestream is Friday, May 21
- 8:00 am Sunday Mass livestream continues for now

PARISH MOVIE NIGHT

Tuesday, May 11

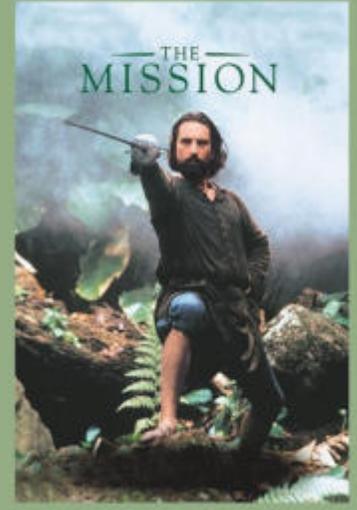
7:00 pm

Lux Mundi Hall

Rated PG

~ 2 hours

Feel free to bring your own lawn chairs or chair pads for comfort!



Foundation to Serve

OPEN HOUSE

walk through

next weekend
after all the Masses

cookies in the evening
coffee & donuts in the morning



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Discover Your Individual Gifts from the Holy Spirit

Saturday, May 22

8:30 am - 3:00 pm | Lux Mundi Hall

\$30/individual or \$50/couple

This conference will be led by Sherry Waddell, author of *Forming Intentional Disciples*. More information can be found in the Friday Flocknote. Sign up by Tues., May 18. Contact Dawn@lotw.org with questions. Sign up online:

<https://lotw.flocknote.com/signup/51892>

Weekly Stewardship Report

May 1 - 2

Weekly Offertory

Envelopes	\$ 19,599
Online Giving	\$ 14,514
Weekend Total	\$ 34,113

Year to Date

July 1 - May 2

Current Year	\$ 1,746,922
Budgeted	\$ 1,813,064
Current Year to Budget	- \$ 66,142

Foundation to Serve Initiative

Total Goal: \$1,500,000

Weekly Envelopes	\$ 3,607
Weekly Online	\$ 1,978
Weekend Total	\$ 5,585
Total Donations & Pledges	\$1,290,438

Get Involved

SAMARITAN SUNDAY

Personal Care Items

Please bring items before/after Mass on May 15-16 to the Narthex or the Julia Greeley Outreach Center (former Holy Family Center).

Soap
Shampoo
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Deodorant
Combs
Hairbrushes



Body Lotion
Shaving Cream
Razors
Aftershave
Cologne
Foot Powder
Nail Clippers



Pentecost Novena

Beginning Friday, May 14
to
Pentecost Sunday, May 23

1. Download the flyer in the weekly Flocknote or pick one up in the Narthex.
2. Join the "LOTW Prayer" group on Flocknote to receive daily reminders.

Join us in *prayer*.



It's time for a new Pictorial Directory!

Plans are again underway for our new Pictorial Church Directory which was started in August of 2020. Our new pictorial will be a valuable tool for our entire community to better know each other. By being photographed you will receive a complimentary copy of the pictorial directory and a 5x7 portrait. Your participation is especially important so please sign up right away.

Go online to PictorialServices.net/appointment or call Bettinger Photography at 303-400-6023

Julia Greeley Outreach Center at Light of the World



The space for the Food Pantry, formerly known as the Holy Family Center will be renamed the Julia Greeley Outreach Center in honor of Denver woman, Julia Greeley. Julia's love for the poor in the early 1900's has led to her receiving the title, "Servant of God," which is the first step on the pathway to Sainthood! Other ministries of the Outreach Center include the BakPak Program, Samaritan Sunday, and more. The new addition upstairs will now be called the Holy Family Center.

Needs for the Food Pantry this week: cookies, crackers, beef/chicken broth, applesauce, canned ham, tomato sauce, canned pineapple, shaving cream

Perpetual

Adoration

Open Hour

Tuesdays 6 am
Thursdays 8 am
Saturdays 4 am

Prayer Partner Hours

Sundays 5 am
Mondays 5 am
Tuesdays 3 am
Thursdays 4 pm
Saturdays 5 pm & 6 pm

No hour is considered closed.
Call/text Kim Raber at 303-726-7425 or call Anita Haynes at 720-981-1675.

Please Pray...

For the Sick

- Dianne Christian
- Shannon Holbrooks
- Ted Konduris
- Tom Monheim
- Tom Riley
- Teresa Scott
- All those sickened with coronavirus
- All those who are injured or dying and in need of our prayers

For the Deceased

- All the innocent children who were aborted and all victims of deadly violence

ROSARY GARDEN UPDATE

Buy a tree!

15 trees of various types and sizes will be added to the Rosary Garden. Trees have been selected and will be planted in the coming weeks. The cost of the trees is approximately \$7,000. The contributions from the Mother's Day cards and the upcoming Father's Day cards are also going towards this project.

Donations can be made by check to LOTW with "trees" in the memo line or go online to lotw.org/donate and select the "landscaping" fund. Any money collected above the cost of the trees will go towards additional vegetation in the garden. There will be more opportunities coming up to purchase bushes, flowers and more!



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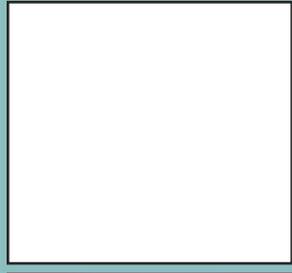
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