

Our Lady of the Woods and St. Peter Chapel

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Parish Office Hours

Monday: Closed
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 9am-2pm
Wednesday: 12pm-5pm



Cripple Creek



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Al ver de nuevo la estrella, se llenaron de inmensa alegría. Entraron en la casa y vieron al niño con María, su madre, y postrándose, lo adoraron. Después, abriendo sus cofres, le ofrecieron regalos: oro, incienso y mirra. - Mt 2, 10-11

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January 2, 2022

FIRST READING

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. (Is 60:1)



PSALM

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. (Ps 72)



SECOND READING

It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. (Eph 3:5-6)



GOSPEL

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." (Mt 2:2)

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JANUARY

Monday, January 3

Office Closed.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help.....11:00am

Tuesday, January 4

Daily Mass-OLW.....9:00am

Wednesday, January 5

Daily Mass-OLW.....6:00pm

KofC.....6:30pm

Thursday, January 6

Daily Mass-OLW.....9:00am

Holy Hour (Both OLW & SPC).....6:00pm

Friday, January 7

Daily Mass-OLW.....9:00am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &
Divine Mercy Chaplet.....After Mass

Lectio Prayer Weekly Study.....11:00am

Saturday, January 8

Vigil Mass.....4:30pm

RCIA.....5:30pm

Alter Server Training.....5:30pm

Sunday, January 9

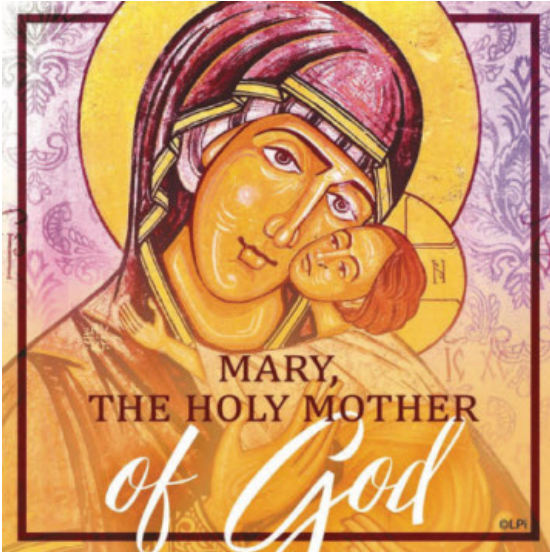
Mass-OLW.....9:00am

KofC Waffle Breakfast.....10:00am

Family of Faith.....10:00am

Timeline Bible Study.....10:15am

Mass-SPC (Confession after).....12:00pm



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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

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In his Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, “Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God’s love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being.”

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you’ve caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film “It’s a Wonderful Life.”

If you’re not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing “Buffalo Gals — Won’t you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?”

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn’t have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn’t it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. “Upon you the LORD shines,” writes Isaiah, “and over you appears his glory.” Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn’t chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK January 2, 2022

LISTEN PREPARE THE WAY OF THE KING BY DR. SCOTT HAHN
As we celebrate the Epiphany, Dr. Scott Hahn explains how we should understand the three Magi and their gifts to the Lord!





New Year's BLESSINGS

JANUARY PARISH FAITH FORMATION

FAMILY OF FAITH (PreK-5): Sun., Jan. 9 & 23 at 10:00 AM
YOUTH GROUP (Grades 6-12): Thurs., Jan. 13 & 27 at 6:30 PM
SIGNS OF GRACE-SACRAMENTS: Sun., Jan. 16 & 30 at 10:00 AM
CONFIRMATION: Thurs., Jan. 20 at 6:30 PM
FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH: Tuesdays at 10:00 am at OLW
LECTIO PRAYER WEEKLY STUDY: Fridays at 10:00 am
RCIA: Saturdays at 5:30 pm (includes supper)
BIBLE TIMELINE STUDY: Sundays at 10:15 am
ADULT EDUCATION: Sundays at 1:00 pm at SPC

KofC WAFFLE BREAKFAST

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a waffle breakfast at OLW on **Sun., January 9th** after the 9:00 am Mass in the Parish Hall. Donations are appreciated. All are welcome!

JANUARY BLOOD DRIVE

The Community Blood Drive will be **Monday, January 10th from 1:30-6:00pm** at the OLW Parish Hall. Contact Barry Mellen with any questions: bmellen2001@gmail.com. Donations of packaged treats are appreciated and can be dropped off at the office anytime. Sign up to give blood by visiting: Vitalant.org.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Walsingham invites you to an informational meeting on **Friday, January 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM** at St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church (8755 Scarborough Dr., Colorado Springs) in the St. Joseph Room. Visit their website at www.olwclassical.org.

COMMUNITY FIREWOOD MINISTRY

The OMG Community Firewood Ministry has partnered up with Community Partnership in Teller County. A grant was received from the government called Energy Outreach Colorado. To sign up for wood, please call Community Partnership at 719-686-0705. If you'd like to contact an OMG member directly to receive wood or to help with the Firewood Ministry (cutting, splitting & delivery to needy families), contact Barry Mellen at 620-482-3206, Danny Keuhlen at 719-687-2645, or Pete Tysdal at 719-685-6816.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS

Our Lady of the Woods will be hosting an Adult Faith Formation class *Drawing Family and Friends BACK to the Catholic Church*. This program will be held on **Tuesday evenings from 6:30pm-8:00pm** in the Parish Hall starting on **January 18th**. 6.5 people leave the Catholic Church for every one who joins, and 50% of young people who were raised Catholic no longer practice the faith. The passive wait-and-see approach is no longer an option. We need a different strategy; a game plan to bring them home. Margit McCarthy will lead this 5 week study. The cost for this class is \$25. Register online at www.dc4ec.com.

CHARITABLE TAX DONATIONS

Please contact Nicole in the office after January 1st if you are looking for a list of your taxable charitable donations for 2021. Those who request documents will have them available beginning mid-January. nhartjeolw@gmail.com

MASS Intentions

Saturday, January 1, 2022

Solemnity of Mary Holy Mother of God
 OLW 9:00 AM: For the People of the Parish

Req. by: Fr. Marek Krol

SPC 12:00 Noon: Kenneth P. Ruzella

Req. by: Carl Poch

Sat. Vigil Mass-OLW 4:30 PM: Louis Baska †

Req. by: Kelly & Margit McCarthy

Sunday, January 2

OLW 9:00 am: For the People of the Parish

Req. by: Fr. Marek Król

SPC 12:00 PM: Alejandro Mora

Tuesday, January 4

OLW 9:00 AM: Bob Mury †

Req. by: Kelly & Margit McCarthy

Wednesday, January 5

OLW 6:00 PM: For the Souls in Purgatory

Req. by: Kelly & Margit McCarthy

Thursday, January 6

OLW 9:00 AM: Adrienne Paledin †

Req. by: Kelly & Margit McCarthy

Friday, January 7

OLW 9:00 AM: Mona S. Ruder †

Req. by: Steve & Jamie Ruder

Saturday, January 8

OLW 4:30 PM: Roger & Margaret Gagnon †

Req. by: Gary & Carolyn Dimig †

Sunday, January 9

OLW 9:00 am: Naomi Mellen

Req. by: David & Billie Kilman

SPC 12:00 PM: For the People of the Parish

Req. by: Fr. Marek Król

OUR CHARITABLE GIVING

Each month, 10% of our general offertory goes to charity; 6% goes to charities chosen by the Diocese and 4% is allocated by us to local charities. Continuing our parish's help in Teller County, we will be sending our October charitable tithe to **Habitat for Humanity of Teller County**. Habitat is working to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter. **Thank YOU** for helping our parish be a part of their mission. Learn more about them at <https://www.tellerhabitat.org>.

Love. Grow. Serve.

Financial Update-Fiscal Yr. 7/1/2021-6/30/2022

Offertory

Our Lady of the Woods St. Peter Chapel

Annual Budget \$373,000 \$44,000

Year to Date \$187,939 \$22,908



OLW Capital

Received \$33,547



St. Peter Hall

Owed for Loan & Shrine \$111,575

November 2021 Hall Income \$1,270

2021 RGG Campaign

Annual Goal \$45,074

Paid to Date \$34,340





Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Mary, our Blessed Mother, was only a young girl when she learned that she was going to be an important part of God's plan for the whole world.

Tradition tells us that Mary was three years old when her parents, Anne and Joachim, took her to the temple in Jerusalem so that she could be blessed. The blessing was a sign that she would love and serve God. Anne and Joachim raised Mary according to Jewish customs and they taught her always to believe and trust in God.

When Mary was a young woman, the angel Gabriel appeared to her and told her that God had chosen her to be the mother of his only Son. The angel said that God wanted Mary to name her son Jesus, and that he is holy because he is the Son of God. Mary said "yes" to God, even though she did not understand how all of this would happen. She said, "May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

We know that Mary's son became the Savior of the world, and his work continues through the Church today. Long ago, the Holy Spirit guided our Church leaders to understand that Jesus is true God and true man. He is both divine and human.

He is the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. Jesus was also a child who grew up, and who eventually suffered death on the cross and rose from the dead. After much prayer and debate, our Church leaders said that Mary was not only the mother of Jesus. She was also the Mother of God, since Jesus is truly God. Our Church leaders gave Mary a special title: *Theotokos*. This is a Greek word that means “God-bearer” or “Mother of God.”

Long before our Church leaders officially declared Mary the Mother of God, her cousin Elizabeth knew what a special privilege Mary had been given. When Mary went to visit Elizabeth, Elizabeth called her “the mother of my Lord” (Luke 1:43).

Mary is our greatest saint, and so we begin every year with a celebration in her honor. We also show our love and reverence for Mary on many other special days throughout the liturgical year. We call these special days Marian Feasts. There are also many popular devotions to Mary across the world, such as: Our Lady of Guadalupe; Mary, Undoer of Knots; Our Lady of Mercy; Immaculate Heart of Mary; and Our Lady of Good Health. We can pray to Mary, the Mother of God, every day. We can ask her to help us say “yes” to God’s plan for us. We can ask Mary to pray that we will follow Jesus in everything we say and do.



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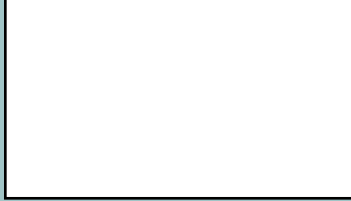
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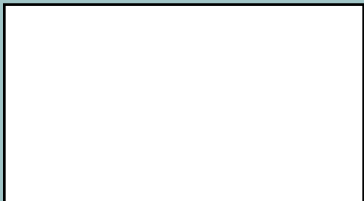
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