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*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

*March 17, 2024*

**Mission Statement**  
**Love God, Love others, Make disciples**  
**Who We Are**

We, the people of Sacred Heart, a community of diverse cultures, are called through our Baptism into the life of the Trinity to be one in following the way of Christ. We strive to serve through our love, witnessing to Christ's presence, in our worship, by providing religious education, by bringing people together with a sense of belonging, by reaching out to the hurts and needs of the larger community.

**Pastor**  
**Rev. Paul Ekeh**  
**Deacons**  
**Alonso Kennedy**  
**and**  
**George Fortunato**

**Mass Schedule:**  
Saturday - 5:00 pm; Sunday - 8:00 am and 11:00 am  
Tuesday - 8:00 am; Wednesday - 6:30 pm; Thursday - 8:00 am; Friday - 8:00 am  
**Adoration:** Wednesday-7:00 pm; Friday-9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
**Reconciliation:** Wednesday -7:00pm - 8:00 pm; Saturday-4:00 pm (or by appointment)  
**Rosary Recited:** Tuesday-Thursday-Friday -7:30 am  
**Office Hours :** Mon.-Thur. 9:30 am - 3:30 pm



**5TH SUNDAY  
OF LENT**

**"And when I am lifted up  
from the earth, I will draw  
everyone to myself."  
- Jn 12:32**

**Parish Council**

Regina Stout-Chair  
Angeline Roles  
Greg Dahl  
Eric Rink  
Ken Schreiner  
John Rodwick

**Finance Council**

Ken Schreiner (Chair 256-0045)  
Sue Robertson  
Regina Stout

**Adult Faith Formation**

Dave & Ginny Norton 970-712-8085  
[dave32717@gmail.com](mailto:dave32717@gmail.com)

**Children's Faith Formation**

Yvonne Sanchez 970-201-9127  
[ysanchez@sacredheartfruita.com](mailto:ysanchez@sacredheartfruita.com)

**Youth Ministry & Confirmation**

Colleen Nycum 970-640-7761  
[cnycum@sacredheartfruita.com](mailto:cnycum@sacredheartfruita.com)

**Outreach Ministry**

Treva Teskey 970-639-2209

**Deacons**

Alonso Kennedy 970-858-9605  
[akennedy@sacredheartfruita.com](mailto:akennedy@sacredheartfruita.com)  
George Fortunato 970-629-2723  
[george32849@gmail.com](mailto:george32849@gmail.com)

**Business Manager**

Lance Stewart 970-858-9605  
[lstewart@sacredheartfruita.com](mailto:lstewart@sacredheartfruita.com)

**Pastoral Associate, Funerals**

Gloria Chavez 970-858-9605  
[gloriasacredheart@gmail.com](mailto:gloriasacredheart@gmail.com)

**Bulletin—Office Assistance**

Josephine Roybal 970-858-9605  
[office@sacredheartfruita.com](mailto:office@sacredheartfruita.com)

**Bulletin Deadline**—Please submit in

writing or via email by **12:00 pm Monday**. Items may be edited for content & space constraints.

**Liturgical Ministry**

Scheduling -  
Peggy Ferrante 386-517-7152  
[pferrante@sacredheartfruita.com](mailto:pferrante@sacredheartfruita.com)  
Ginny Norton 970-270-4587

**Music Coordinator**

Teri Bohl 970-639-2225  
[Teri.bohl@gmail.com](mailto:Teri.bohl@gmail.com)

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Fridays 9am-6pm**

Please contact Kathy Hurt @ 970-858-7996.

*"Why Spend a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament?"*  
*For peace in our country! "When my people humbles themselves and seek my presence...I will revive their land." (2Chr7:14) He asks 3 Practices; Holy Hour, Devotion of the 5 Pater's (Our Fathers) in honor of the My five wounds; through them the world was saved. Daily offerings of our merits will give infinite value to our actions.*

**Please remember if you cannot fulfill your appointed time to make arrangements for a substitute to fill in for you.**

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults**

(Formerly called RCIA)

For information contact Dave Norton

(970)712-8085

Class is the last 3 Sundays of the Month  
at 9:15 a.m.

If you have any questions about upcoming OCIA classes or questions about the Catholic Church and its beliefs contact Dave Norton.

**Penance Service Schedule**

**Monday-March 25 6 pm at St. Joseph, Grand Junction**

**Tuesday-March 26 9 am to 6 pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary Grand Junction**

PRAYER CIRCLE: If you, or someone you know, are in need of special prayers, please call Kathy Hurt at 970-858-7996 or 970-640-4893 or submit requests on our web site: [sacredheartfruita.com](http://sacredheartfruita.com). Please pray for all those on the Prayer Circle.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Christopher Dominguez, Grandson of Michael & Mary Toler

**50th Wedding Anniversary**

**Jerry & Diane Pierzina are requesting the Honor of your presence at the celebration of their 50th at a Mass on April 20th, 2024 at 11 am. A light lunch reception will follow. Please respond acceptance by 4/5/24 by calling or texting at 303-396-7859. Give Name and number attending.**

**Please be sure to read the insert on *The Liturgy of the Eucharist, Part C* included in the bulletin.**

***Come! Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on April 7th, the Sunday after Easter. Plan on joining us for a holy hour of prayer and adoration during the "Hour of Mercy" beginning at 3pm at St. Joseph's Church. This will be followed by a video in the St. Therese room with discussion and refreshments. Come celebrate God's greatest gift, His infinite and unfathomable mercy! Also, remember to begin the Divine Mercy Novena on Good Friday, March 29th. Join with millions around the world who will be praying for God's Mercy to be poured out upon the whole world during the nine days leading up to Divine Mercy Sunday.***

**Holy Family Subsidy Forms are now available in the parish office. This year's Subsidy form is due no later than April 30, 2024. Late applications will not be considered, so please stop by and pick one up as soon as possible.**

To register for Formed, see the Sacred Heart Church website for details:

**[sacredheartfruita.com](http://sacredheartfruita.com).**



## Read the Gospel Meditation

March 17, 2024

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

A middle-aged woman sat on the couch in my parish office and recounted to me a shocking list of terrible calamities in her life: addictions, terminal illnesses, financial loss, broken relationships, and so on. She smiled as she did so. "Please forgive me," I asked, "but you seem to be smiling as you share this." She said, "Father John, I am totally overwhelmed. But I'm smiling because I just can't wait to see what good things God does with this mess." She expected God would manifest His glory when she most needed it.

This week in the Gospel, God speaks from heaven for the third and final time in Jesus' earthly ministry. It's at a tough moment. Gentiles seek Jesus, who announces his terrible suffering, and then boldly prays, "**Father, glorify your name!**" John then writes: **Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again."** Was the task of drawing the whole non-Jewish world to himself overwhelming? Or was it the terrible specter of crucifixion? Whatever it was, the crushing weight triggers his turning to the Father with an unshakeable *expectation* of divine glory to burst through. And indeed, it did on Easter Sunday. In our burdens, our greatest strength is to turn to God and boldly ask Him for His glory.

**Lenten challenge:** This week, I invite you to list out everything which is a burden to you. Write it down. Then add these words: "Father, glorify Your name in all these things!" Put that paper in your pocket or purse when you come to Holy Week liturgies next week. You might smile at the most unlikely times.

— Father John Muir  
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## Readings for the week of March 17, 2024

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/  
Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33  
*Scrutiny:* Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/  
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/  
Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

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## Everyday Stewardship

During the Lenten season we observe certain practices of sacrifice and self-denial as an offering to God and as good spiritual training for this race we are engaged in called life. These things are good for us but they should not remain only in Lent. In fact, we should always be about working towards a complete surrender of ourselves to the will of God.

Jesus taught that unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it cannot bear fruit. It will remain the same always and will not lead to any type of growth. We are the grains of wheat that need to die to ourselves in order to be born again. However, many of us are the same today as last Lent and the many Lents before that. We have not moved forward to a more mature faith that makes it possible for us to be transformed.

Surrender is not easy. But we need to see our observance of Lent as a way to move forward. No athlete lifts the same weight forever. No dieter finds satisfaction in losing the same 5 pounds year after year. We must work to always be moving toward holiness. This is the commitment of an everyday steward. We are called to pray today than yesterday. We are called to give more today than yesterday. We are called to love more today than yesterday. Standing still is not an option. Our God is calling us to grow in our discipleship and stewardship for the benefit of our souls and the health of the Body of Christ. May this Lent be a time of moving forward and may we all draw ever closer to our God who calls us to leave it all behind and follow Him.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

NAMI Western Slope, the local organization of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, will offer its NAMI Family Support Group Program the 4th Tuesday of every month at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Meetings are from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Birthright of Grand Junction is a pregnancy center looking for volunteers to expand our office hours. If you are interested, please call and leave a message @970-644-5788. We are located at 253 White Ave.

## Lenten Fish Fry &amp; KOC Breakfast

**For those who cannot afford the price of the meal, there are funds available to help those who would like to participate and take advantage of this financial assistance. Contact anyone at the Service Table and they will provide information.**

## LENTEN REGULATIONS

Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to **abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.** Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, in addition to abstaining from meat, should **fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.** Fasting includes taking only one full meal and smaller quantities of food at the other two meals. **The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's 59th birthday.**

These practices are designed for spiritual growth. Catholics should not excuse themselves lightly from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

## *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

### **Weekly Calendar of Events**

**Saturday—03/016—**

**4:00 pm—Reconciliation**

**5:00 pm—Mass**

**Sunday—03/17**

**8:00 am—Mass**

**9:15 am—OCIA**

**11:00 am—Mass**

**2:30-4:30 pm Catholic Daughters Meeting**

**5:00 pm— Vespers & Holy Hour**

**Monday—03/18**

**Tuesday—03/19**

**6:00 am—That Man Is You**

**No Mass— Word & Communion only due to Chrism  
Mass in Pueblo**

**3:00 pm—Seven Sorrows Rosary at the Church**

**Wednesday—03/20**

**6:30 pm—Mass**

**7:00 pm— Adoration**

**Thursday—03/21**

**8:00 am—Mass**

**Friday—03/22**

**8:00 am—Mass**

**9am to 6pm—Adoration**

**6:00 pm— Stations of the Cross**

**KOC Lenten Fish Fry after Stations of the Cross**

**Saturday—03/23**

**4:00 pm— Reconciliation**

**5:00 pm— Mass**

### **BIBLE STUDY**

**Bible Study with Father Paul will be on  
the fourth Sunday of the  
Month, March 24th at 5:00 pm.**

### **Please pray this daily**

#### **Prayer to Saint Michael**

St. Michael, the archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

March 17, 2024

**Weekend Mass Attendance Totals:**

Sat. 5 PM

Sun. 8 AM

Sun. 11 A M

March 2=98

March 3=95

March 3=200

March 9=100

March 10=93

March 10=173

Stations of the Cross March 8=50

***Mass Intentions***

**Saturday—03/16**

**5:00 PM**

† Barbara Wilds by Barstow Family

**Sunday— 03/17**

**8:00 AM**

†James Riley, Birthday by Rose Riley

**11:00 AM**

Logan Yerian-Higgins  
By Julie Christianson

**Monday—03/18**

**Tuesday—03/19**

**Wednesday—03/20**

**6:30 PM**

†Thomas Lynch, Jr.  
by Veronica Montoya

**Thursday—03/21**

**8:00 AM**

Marie, Diego,& Gus, Grow in Faith  
by Kathy Hurt

**Friday—03/22**

**8:00 AM**

†Christopher Roybal by Family

**Saturday—03/23**

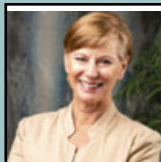
**5:00 PM**

† Elizabeth Higgins  
by Julie Christianson

***A Prayer for Peace in the World***

*Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Gives us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.*

*Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!", "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.*



### Regina Stout

Parishioner & Realtor  
2474 Patterson Rd • Grand Junction, CO  
970.250.7742  
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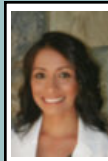
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