## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 03/23/25

## Presentation of Our Lady Church







### Saturday Mass 4:30 pm (English)

<u>Sunday Masses</u>

8:30 am (English) 10:30 am (Bilingual)

12:00 pm (Spanish)

5:00 p.m. (Spanish)

<u>Weekday Masses</u>

8:00am

Tuesdays

8:30 am

For Religious
Education, Adult
Inquirer's classes,
Baptism classes, or
Marriage preparation
call the Parish office
for more information.
Do you need confession,
spiritual guidance or just
talk?

#### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of Presentation of Our Lady Catholic church, are inspired by the holy spirit to live out Christ's commandments by showing love to ALL people, though the gifts God has given each of us. We commit ourselves to the virtues of faith, hope and love by worshipping God, in word and sacrament. Strengthened by God the Father, we shall strive to live out the Gospel in serving the needs of our parish faith family and the global community.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC

CHURCH 695 Julian St.
PARISH OFFICE

665 Irving St.

**OFFICE HOURS** 

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

8:30am to 12:30 p.m.

Fridays 8:30am to 5:00 p.m.

Saturdays 9:00am to 5:00 pm.

Closed-Sundays & Mondays

**DIRECT: (303) 534-4882** 

FAX: (303) 893-5056

Web Page:www.presentationdenver.org

Official Facebook Page:

Presentation of Our Lady/Presentación de

Nuestra Señora

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Please register as a member of the parish. Forms are always available at the church entrance or at the parish office. Return forms to an usher or the parish office.

#### Moving?

Please notify the parish office.

# SACRAMENTAL EMERGENCIES

Rev. Israel

Perez Lopez

Ext II9

Deacon

Pablo Salas

Ext II7

Deacon

Edgar Valle

Ext ---

Max Lopez,

Office Mgr.

Ext II9

Anointing of the sick

Lost Rites

Please call

720-473-9053 anytime

#### Reflection for the Third Sunday of Lent

When I was growing up, I remember that my father really enjoyed gardening. He absolutely loved picking the harvest and preparing it into something delicious. Around spring, he would go to the store and get seeds to begin growing his squash, jalapeno, watermelon and tomato plants. At the end of the season, the produce was abundant. I remember that he would often times produce the best and biggest vegetables that I had ever seen. But to cultivate the ground and care for the plants required a lot of work, work that paid off at the end. He would always be attentive to any drastic weather changes that could kill off his plants or any pests that would harm the produce. But he would see the fruit of his labor in abundance. In today's Gospel, our Lord offers us an image of this.

Christ gives us a parable of a fig tree. A man goes to get fruit from his fig tree and it has not produced any fruit. Due to this, he asks the gardener to cut down the fig tree. However, the gardener requests that he be allowed to cultivate the ground and to fertilize it so that it can bear fruit in the future. If not, he will cut it down. This is very similar to another account in the gospels when our Lord goes in search of fruit on a fig tree and he finds none; our Lord curses the fig tree for not producing fruit and the fig tree withers and dies. The sterility of the fig trees in both accounts are important to note. My dear brothers and sisters, we see the importance of fertilizing and cultivating the ground so as to produce much fruit.

The fig tree that we see in both stories that I have mentioned represents the spiritual sterility of Israel. This, however, not only applies to fruitless Israel, but also to us. In the gospel of John, our Lord reminds us that he is the vine and that we are the branches. All that remains in our Lord bear much fruit and those who do not, they will be cut off and thrown into the fire. For us, we should always strive to produce much fruit by remaining with our Lord. However, we must know how to properly cultivate and fertilize the ground of our soul in order to produce much fruit. The seed that the Gospel of Christ plants into our hearts must first germinate. This is done by us practicing the faith. We cultivate and fertilize our hearts by the practice of hearing the word of God, praying and especially participating of the holy sacrifice of the Mass. However, we not only allow the word of God to penetrate into our hearts, but we should also allow it to act in our lives. It is completely useless to constantly hear the word of God, to study sacred scripture and even to come to Mass, if we do not allow these experiences to change our lives. Pope Francis puts this beautifully when he states, regarding the Eucharist, that "[the Eucharist] transforms our life into a gift to God and to our brothers" and that the Eucharist puts us "in tune with the heart of Christ". These, my dear brothers and sisters, are the fruits that the true Catholic must produce. During lent, we are presented with the importance of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Considering the importance of the disciple to produce fruit, we should consider in what ways we can produce fruit during this Lenten season. Prayer should be the foundation of our lives. Without it, we have no fertile soil that we can depend on to produce fruit. Fasting allows us to cultivate and fertilize the ground. Almsgiving, i.e. giving to the needy, becomes the fruit that we are asked to produce. I invite you, my dear brothers and sisters, to consider in what ways you are cultivating and producing fruit in your life of faith during this Lenten season. Let us not come before the Risen Lord empty handed on Easter, but let us come with much fruit.

Mass Intentions for the Week								
Day	Date	Time	Intentions	Offered by				
Sat.	Mar. 22	4:30 p.m.	For our Parishioners living and deceased	The Parish				
Sun.	Mar. 23	8:30 a.m.						
		10:30 a.m.	†Elena Alarcon Mata	Family				
		12:00 a.m. Spanish	†Antonio Alcala Pinedo	Rafael y Marcela				
		5:00 p.m. Spanish	†Rosalena Pineda de Parra	Family				
Mon.	Mar. 24	8:00 a.m.						
Tues.	Mar.25	8:30 a.m.						
Wed.	Mar. 26	8:30a.m						
Thur.	Mar. 27	8:00 a.m						
Fri.	Mar. 28	8:00 a.m.	†For Esther Luna's Birthday	Esther Luna				
Sat.	Mar. 29	4:30 p.m.						

#### Presentation of Our Lady Church Weekend of March 15 and 16, 2025 Offertory 4:30 Mass Regular Collection \$450.25 4:30 Mass Second Collection \$84.00 8:30 Mass Regular Collection \$592.00 8:30 Mass Second Collection \$119.00 10:30 Mass Regular Collection \$691.75 10:30 Mass Second Collection \$205.00 12:00 Mass Regular Collection \$ 1,030.00 12:00 Mass Second Collection \$171.93 5:00pm Mass Regular Collection \$342.05 5:00pm Mass Second Collection \$97.00 Regular Collection Total: \$ 3,106.05 Second Collection Total: \$676.93 Candles Total: \$126.00 Special Needs Total: \$195.00



Father Israel and Father Ángel
will be teaching a class on this
topic, Workshop #3: Human
Dignity Initiative. For more
information, or if you're
interested, please log in using
the link provided. Those
interested can use the QR
code posted on the bulletin
board at the entrance.



#### LENT 2025 Cuaresma

#### Preparation for Lent in Presentation:

April 12, 2025, Retreat at the Parish, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. April 13, 2025, Palm Sunday

> Stations of the Cross Every Friday at 6:00 p.m. Confessions available.





