Presentation of Our Lady Church

665 Irving St.







Rev. Israel Perez Lopez

Ext II9

Deacon Pabla Salas

Ext II7

Deacon Edgar Valle

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Max Lopez, Office Mgr.

Ext III9

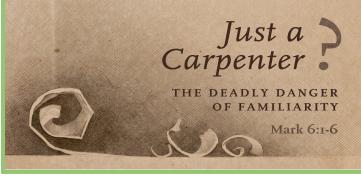
David Vallejo Bldg. Maint.

303-552-

7947

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.



Sunday Masses

8:30 am (English) 10:30 am (Bilingual) 12:00 pm (Spanish) 5:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Saturday Mass

4:30 pm (English)

<u>Weekday Masses</u>

Monday-Friday 8:00am (Bilingual) 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?

Call the office to schedule an appointment.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

CHURCH 695 Julian St. PARISH OFFICE

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday.

8:30 am to 12:30 p.m

DIRECT: (303) 534-4882

FAX: (303) 893-5056

Web Page:www.presentationdenver.org

Official Facebook Page:

Presentation of Our Lady Off.

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

Anointing of the sick

Last Rites

Please call

720-473-9053 anytime

Presentation of Our Lady Church



Familiarity with God and Faith

The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time B July 7th, 2024

We have listened in today's Gospel about what happened when Jesus went to His hometown and the people didn't believe in Him. At the beginning, the people were astonished or amazed because of His wisdom and miracles. Probably, they knew that Jesus had been teaching and doing miracles, and they went to listen to Him out of curiosity. At the end of the episode, we see that Jesus is the one who was amazed. What happened in the middle? How do we make sense of the attitude of the people of Nazareth? How was that wonder changed into disrespect? Is it possible that something similar could happen to us? We are supposed to be close to Jesus. Do we still feel the amazement before the mystery of God and the mystery of our salvation? I would like to explain some notes about the nature of the feeling that we call wonder and how can it lead us to deepen our Faith. How does this emotion work in our hearts? Wonder arises in our soul when we perceive something that we cannot explain completely at that moment. Usually, we are talking about something new or extraordinary. In the origin of this feeling, there is some knowledge and some ignorance.

For example, we can contemplate the sky in a summer night with all its stars. That is amazing or wonderful. We look to something that we don't understand perfectly. It is something huge, very beautiful, and extraordinary. We understand some things about what we are contemplating. However, since we realize that there is much more to know, a desire appears in our soul to know more about that. Then, that desire moves us to penetrate the mystery of that beautiful thing. If we begin asking about that beautiful starry sky, we will discover that those stars are not as small as we see from our planet. They are not lamps in the roof of the earth. We can use science to learn about them. We can come to know that they are planets and stars. Even more, we can ask who their Creator is. Following that way, we will conclude that only God could have done such a beautiful thing. Finally, wonder leads us to contemplate God's Goodness and Beauty reflected in those stars. And, that contemplation brings joy to our soul.

Of course, we can also consider the role of the feeling of amazement in our Christian life. There are many amazing things that open our hearts and lead us to faith. To be sure, faith is not something that we can attain by ourselves. Faith is not the conclusion of our human thinking. We could say that the feeling of wonder causes questions to arise in us, but the answer to those questions is a gift of God. That gift is faith. The disciples of Jesus were also amazed with His words and miracles. We remember the disciples asking after the miracles of the storm that we heard some weeks ago: Who is this man? Even the winds and the sea obey Him. They were amazed but they didn't have the answer. When Peter confessed his faith, Jesus said clearly that Peter's profession of faith was something that came from the Father. And, of course, Peter's faith needed to grow more and more. For that reason, we see this dynamic between wonder and faith in the heart of the disciples. They never lost that feeling of wonder in this life. Neither did the Virgin Mary.

Nonetheless, there are different ways in which that process can be frustrated. For example, before a wonderful thing, we can feel fear. Imagine a great storm. We can be so scared of it that we don't want to know anything about it. The only thing we want to have happen is that we are no longer in the presence of such a terrifying event. Another way in which the process from wonder to the desire of knowing more can be frustrated is if we find a simple explanation and we think that we know all what we should know about that. The second option is what probably happened in Nazareth; or maybe, a combination of both of them.

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We could think that the problem in Nazareth was the familiarity that the people had with Jesus. I have thought in that way for some time. But, in that interpretation, there is something that I don't like. If familiarity with Jesus is an obstacle to recognize who He is, it would seem better to spend little time with Him. I am going to give an example. Imagine that you think if you spend a lot of time with the Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, you will become too familiar with Him, and then you will lose the sense of the greatness of the mystery of His Eucharistic Presence. In that case, we could think that it is better to celebrate but a few masses or to spend less time in Adoration in order to do those same things in a better way. I think that familiarity is not the problem. No one had more familiarity with Jesus than His Holy Mother, and without a doubt, she had a great faith.

What is the problem, then? I think that the problem is some sort of intellectual pride. If we are proud people, perhaps we will not accept that there is some mystery in the things we are familiar with. Without that openness to the mystery, we will lose our faith. Then, what we think we know will be an obstacle to being open to God's enlightenment. God has decided to come close to us and to save us by touching us through the mystical body of Jesus, that is to say, through the Church and the sacraments. It is something amazing that we can hear God talking to us in His Word and that we can receive Christ Himself in the Eucharist. Jesus is here, actually present, in the tabernacle. We can adore Him and we can spend time very close to Him. Those are amazing mysteries, but if we think we know everything and that there is nothing more to discover about God and the mystery of our salvation, if the feeling of wonder and amazement dies within our hearts, then we will acquire that bad familiarity and lack of faith that makes impossible God's action in our hearts. Perhaps, we love the world so much that we fear God's closeness to us. We think that if we open our hearts to Jesus, we are going to lose too many things of this world.

If that is the case, I want to repeat to you some words from John Paul II: "Do not be afraid to be saints! Open wide the door of your hearts to Christ!" He wants to save us and to sanctify us. With Him, we will not lose anything. On the contrary, we will win everything.

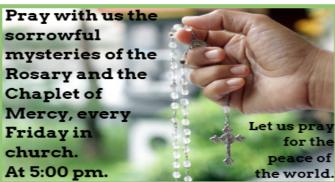
on the contrary, we will will	• , •) •			
Presentation of Our Weekend of June 29 Offertory God love				
4:30 Mass Regular Collection \$502.00 4:30 Mass Second Collection \$70.00				
8:30 Mass Regular Collection \$ 550.00 8:30 Mass Second Collection \$ 83.20				
10:30 Mass Regular Collection \$ 360.85 10:30 Mass Second Collection \$ 51.00				
12:00 Mass Regular Collection \$ 891.06 12:00 Mass Second Collection \$ 299.00				
5:00pm Mass Regular Collection \$ 280.00 5:00pm Mass Second Collection \$ 53.00				
Regular Collection I Second Collection	Total: \$ 2,583.91 Total: \$ 556.20			
Candles Special Needs	Total:\$ 134.00 Total:\$ 50.00			

Mass for the Intentions					
Day	Date	Time	Intention		

Day	Date	Time	Intention	Offered by		
Sat.	Jul. 06	4:30 p.m.	† Donna Suazo Ernestin Lopez	Dolly Lopez		
Sun.	Jul. 07	8:30 a.m.	†Rudy & Maeve Cordova	Cordova Family		
		10:30 a.m.	For the peace of the world	Magdalena Palomares		
		12:00 a.m. Spanish				
		5:00 p.m. Spanish	For all our parishioners living and + deceased	The Parish		
Mon.	Jul. 08	8:00 a.m				
Tues.	Jul. 09	8:00 a.m.				
Wed.	Jul. 10	8:00a.m				
Thur.	Jul. 11	8:00 a.m				
Fri.	Jul. 12	8:00 a.m.				

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Looking to buy, sell, or invest in property?

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FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BE PART OF IT, CALL
NANCY CUEVAS (720)840-4930

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