

ST. MARY OF THE ROCKIES CATHOLIC CHURCH

Visit Our Website! www.stmaryrockies.org - Email us! stmaryrockies@gmail.com

236 Bulldogger Road, Bailey, CO 80421

Office and mailing - 224 Buggy Whip Road, Bailey, CO 80421, Mon-Thurs 8:30AM - 2:30PM 303-838-2375

Fr. Bogdan Siewiera, e-mail frbogdan@q.com

Sacramental Emergencies: 970-718-2940

Mass Schedule

Weekdays Tuesday-Friday 8:30AM, Saturday Evening 4:00PM
Sunday Morning 9:00AM, Weekday Holy Days 9:00AM & 6:00PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday Evening 3:00PM - 3:45PM
Thursday Morning 9:00AM - 10:00AM

Adoration

Thursday Morning 9:00AM concluding with
Benediction at 10:00AM

For weddings, contact the office six months in advance
Other Sacraments, contact the office
Religious Education, contact the office

Fourth Sunday Of Advent

Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

December 24, 2023

Psalm 89



Saturday, December 23 Mass at 4:00PM

Advent Weekday

For: Living and deceased parishioners of
St. Mary of the Rockies

Sunday, December 24 Mass at 9:00AM

Fourth Sunday Of Advent

For: Living and deceased parishioners of
St. Mary of the Rockies

Sunday, December 24 Mass at 4:00PM

Christmas Vigil

For: Alex Young (L) By: Family

Monday, December 25 Mass at 9:00AM

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

For: Living and deceased parishioners of
St. Mary of the Rockies

Tuesday, December 26 Mass NO MASS

St. Stephen, The First Martyr

Wednesday, December 27 Mass at 8:30AM

St. John, Apostle, Evangelist

For: Glenn Pence (L) By: Friend

Thursday, December 28 Mass at 8:30AM

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

For: Don Touchband (D) By: Private

Friday, December 29 Mass at 8:30AM

Fifth Day Within The Octave Of The Nativity Of The Lord

For: Alex Young (L) By: Family

Saturday, December 30 Mass at 4:00PM

Sixth Day Within The Octave Of The Nativity Of The Lord

For: Living and deceased parishioners of
St. Mary of the Rockies

Sunday, December 31 Mass at 9:00AM

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

For: Jeff Wagner (D) By: Family



PRAYER LIST

Bret Melby, Alma Jerome,

Lauren Kott Jorgensen,

Chelsea Craver, Alex Young, Sharon Fous, Jessica Shaull,
Melanie Brown, Maddie Mann, Mary Beth Raichart

We encourage parishioners to pray for our friends and family members. Contact the office with requests to add or remove names, 303-838-2375.

Names will remain on this list for four (4) weeks unless otherwise requested.

May Jesus, the Divine Physician, restore them to the fullness of life and health and liberate them from all afflictions, let us pray to the Lord.

Readings for the week of December 24

Sunday: 2 M 7:1-, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:3-5, 27, 29;
Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59;

Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc-17; Mt 16:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12;
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8;
Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40



Fourth Sunday Of Advent: LOVE.

In our last week of Advent, we are invited to experience the love of Christ, as well share that gift with others. It is love that brings Jesus into our world and it is love that transforms our being.

We as a family of faith encourage the full and active participation of all members in Worship of our God, by learning about and sharing our Catholic faith and by developing a loving community of care and concern for one another.

Saturday December 30 4:00PM Mass

EMHC: Janice Kraft

Lector: Steve Bort

Sacristan: Roger Moroney

Collections: Jean Bort

Sunday December 31, 9:00AM Mass

EMHC: Karen Taylor & Douglas Gould

Lector: Tom Karnowka

Sacristan: Tom Karnowka

Collections: Bruce Bohne

January Church Linens - Kathy Pence

Counter(s), Tuesday January 2 - Laura Reid



Fiscal Year 2023/20224

Offertory Budget: \$132,800

Weekly Offertory Budget: \$2,554

December 16/17: \$1,283

Online Giving: \$901

Difference: \$370 Less



2023 Returning God's Gifts Goal: \$9,211

Pledged: \$9,149 Percent of Goal Pledged: 99%

Collected: \$9,546 Percent of Goal Collected: 104%

Patron Saints For Modern Challenges

Divorced and Single Mothers

Going back to the discussion of patron saints for modern causes, we'll begin with **Saint Helen** (249-329). Because she found the True Cross in Jerusalem, for many centuries devotion to Saint Helen has been linked to devotion to the Holy Cross. It would be hard to find a painting, statue or holy card of her that does not depict her embracing the cross.

But there is another, sadder facet of Helen's life. After 22 years of marriage, Helen's husband, Constantius, divorced her in order to make a politically advantageous marriage with a young woman who was a member of Rome's imperial family.

Clearly, Saint Helen would be a natural choice as patron of divorced and divorcing people, so why has this devotion to her arisen only recently? For most of the 1,700 years since Helen's death, divorce was rare, even among non-Catholics. Among Catholics it was almost unthinkable. Today, unfortunately, when divorce has become commonplace, Saint Helen is offered to unhappy spouses as a heavenly patron who can truly sympathize with their anguish.

Saint Margaret of Cortona (1247-1297) was only 13 or 14 when she became the mistress of a young nobleman named Arsenio. Although her lover made it clear that he would never marry her, Margaret lived with Arsenio for nine years, and even had a son with him. She hoped at some point her lover would change his mind and become her husband. He never did. When Arsenio was murdered, the shock caused Margaret to reevaluate the path she had chosen. In time, her conversion led her to take vows as a Franciscan sister.

When she was canonized in 1728, Margaret was held up to the faithful as "a second Magdalene," a woman who had turned away from her sinful life and spent the rest of her days in prayer and penance.

Children born out of wedlock were not unheard-of in the 18th century. Why then did Church authorities not make Saint Margaret the patron of single mothers in 1728? The most likely answer is that they feared it would suggest the Church was condoning illegitimacy.

Saint Margaret remains the patron of anyone—woman or man—who has turned away from a sinful life. But today she is also the patron of mothers who, for whatever reason, are raising their children alone. (continued in the next bulletin)

(franciscanmedia.org)

***I saw a microbiologist today.
He was much bigger than I
thought he would be.***



In order to meet the obligation of Mass attendance for the 4th Sunday of Advent you must choose one of the following Masses:

Saturday, December 23rd, 4:00PM OR

Sunday, December 24th, 9:00AM

-AND-

In order to meet the obligation of Mass attendance for Christmas you must choose one of the following Masses:

Sunday, December 24th, 4:00PM OR

Monday, December 25th, 9:00AM



At this time of year, Nativity scenes are not hard to find, whether they be a live Nativity—with sheep, donkeys, and goats—or a small set displayed at home. Around the world, these representations of Jesus' birth go by many names, including nacimientos in Mexico, presepios in Italy, and a multitude of variations that reflect their culture of origin. The word crèche comes from Old French and means "crib" or "manger." However, crèche and Nativity scene have essentially become interchangeable in everyday use.

The whole notion of Nativity scenes dates back to 1223, when a certain Poor Man of Assisi sought to place the focus of Christmas celebrations squarely on the birth of Jesus, not on material things. Nativities quickly became popular across Italy and beyond, and by the time a century had passed from the original Nativity scene at Greccio, nearly every Italian Catholic church featured one during Christmastime.

Over time, the popularity of crèches grew and spread throughout Europe and, eventually, the Americas, Africa, and Asia. Over time, people began displaying smaller Nativity scenes in their homes, typically placing them on mantels or at the base of the family Christmas tree. The materials used in a crèche often reveal much about the culture where it was created.

Wherever a crèche comes from and whatever the backstory, they all have a common denominator: celebrating the birth of Christ.