



# Welcome to our Amazing Parish!

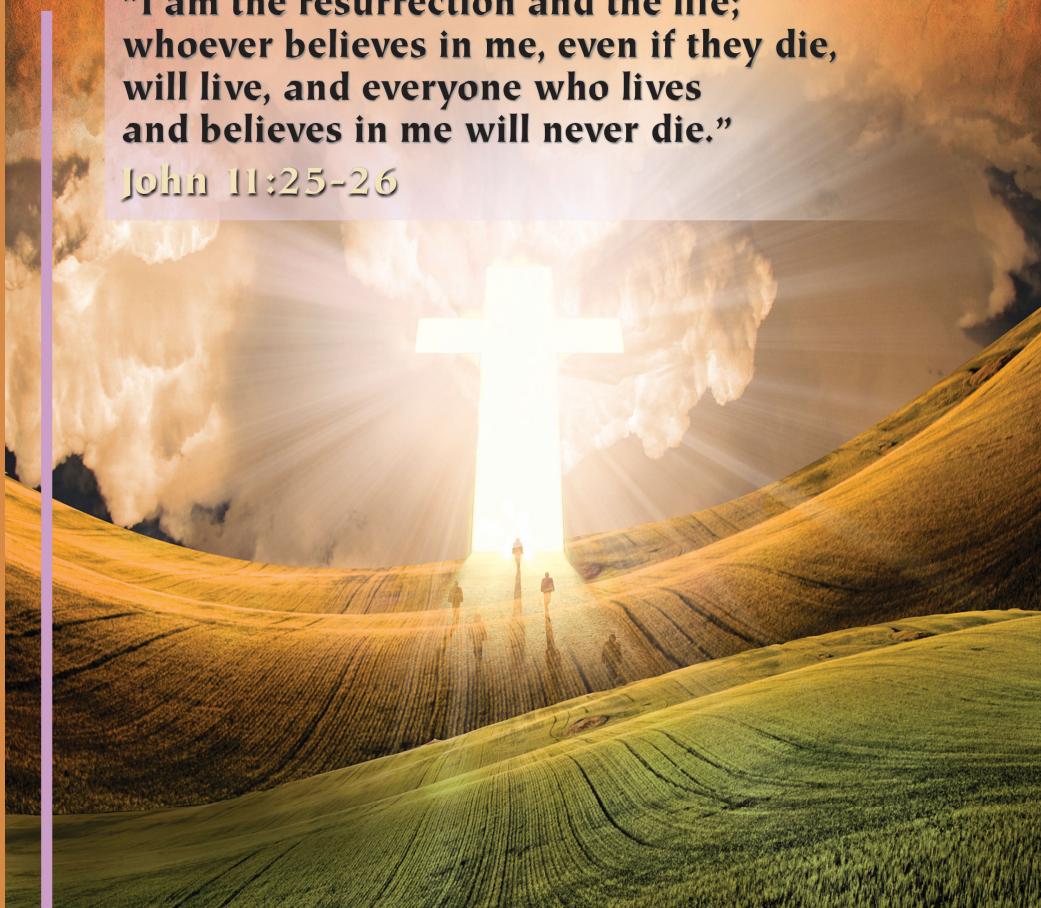
We are an amazing parish because we create and nurture joyful disciples of Christ. A Catholic becomes an *Intentional Disciple* after recognizing they have been *personally chosen* by the Lord to enter an intimate relationship with Him. This relationship relies on the Holy Spirit and embraces a lifelong sacramental journey of prayer, service, evangelization and communally receiving Jesus Christ through Scripture and Eucharist. Thus, *Intentional Disciples* imitate Christ in everything they do on a daily basis.

MARCH 29, 2020

## Fifth Sunday OF LENT

**Jesus said,  
“I am the resurrection and the life;  
whoever believes in me, even if they die,  
will live, and everyone who lives  
and believes in me will never die.”**

**John 11:25-26**



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1708 Horseshoe Drive

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Office: (719) 542-9248

[www.ctkpueblo.org](http://www.ctkpueblo.org)

### A Message from Fr. John Ozella –

Monday, March 23, 2020

All of us on staff miss seeing you, because we strengthen our faith through our contacts with each other and really do cheer each other on in our struggles. We pray, as I'm sure you do, that this pandemic will end as soon as possible.

We appreciate your prayers. We also really need your financial support to continue to keep our parish family together – it has drastically fallen off. Only your sacrificial offerings make this parish family viable and preserve your “other” home to nurture your faith. Please continue to mail in your offerings (our address is 1708 Horseshoe Dr., Pueblo CO 81001) or better yet start making your gift online through our parish website at [www.ctkpueblo.org](http://www.ctkpueblo.org) (on the “Online Giving” tab). We have eliminated our drop-off box for donations due to lack of security – Mary is no longer at the office every day.

When I arrived here three years ago there was no financial cushion left. The bank account was like \$50,000. I have been doing my best to build up our savings, but with our 60-year old buildings, capital equipment keeps failing and has to be replaced, so we aren't getting ahead.

I have reserved the money needed to pay off our Chiller that will be installed in about three weeks, but with the current decrease in Collection funds, there's not enough remaining in our operating account to meet our payroll.

As a result, it is with deep regret that I have been forced to make a 50% pay reduction for our staff and myself, starting Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. I will reassess this decision in April. Church employees cannot collect unemployment benefits so I don't want to go there, and neither should you.

We have kept the office “virtually” open to receive phone calls and emails (no walk-ins). This week we'll be “open” on Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Governor Polis is asking businesses and organizations to transition to 100% telecommuting, and we'll be gravitating towards that.

I am offering a private Mass daily at home, including Mondays. Any Mass intentions that were scheduled will be rescheduled once the coronavirus pandemic has subsided and we can gather again.

Our team is still Amazing, and you'll see this as we continue to provide as many resources as possible to keep nurturing your faith in Jesus Christ. What we are going through now unites us even more to the spirit of Lent. The powerful image of Christ crucified can move us to join our own sufferings during our coronavirus experience to His, and help further the salvation of the world. They are another way we participate in the mystery of His cross and become more like Him. This makes the prospect of our resurrections all the more delicious!

The Amazing Parish family of Christ the King is resilient and will get through this. Even in the current darkness, celebrate this *Laetare* week, Rejoice week, knowing our present sufferings are just part of the road to resurrection. Don't look back – look ahead! The best is yet to come!

Extending Christ's blessings, I am your temporarily “virtual” Pastor,

Fr. John O.

**(Please see an updated note from Fr. John on Page 7.)**

## Gospel Reflection by Fr. John —

Today's gospel reading reminds me of all the funerals I've been to where it was the gospel selection. There are 19 options you can pick from for the gospel reading at a funeral. But this one is the most popular choice, I think, because it's so consoling. It reminds us, like Martha says to Jesus, that we'll be raised to life on the last day.

But hearing this gospel so often in the context of a funeral makes it easy to miss the other main point Jesus makes in this gospel. And it's this: the resurrection isn't in the distant future. It's already here! Jesus is giving us eternal life starting right now! The high point of this gospel is Jesus saying:

I am the resurrection and the life . . . and everyone who **lives** and believes in me will **never die**."

That's the kickoff – that's what raising Lazarus from the dead was all about: not just to show that our faith in Jesus will restore us to life at the end of time, but that Jesus gives everyone life right now. That's what our baptism is about: baptism gives us eternal life starting right now.

So do you think Jesus is calling us out of our tombs, out of the dead times in our lives? Sure he is! Jesus isn't just talking about spiritual life in this gospel; he's talking about real life. He wants to give us the fullness of life right now! He doesn't want us to live our lives in a tomb: in depression, in addictions, in loneliness, in a failing marriage or a broken family, or moping around in the house. He wants to bring us life! He doesn't want us to stay in our tombs.

Do you find joy in your family? That's part of a full life and Jesus wants this for us. Some of you have heard me before when I quoted a psychologist who told me that the key to a successful marriage is a simple test: can you keep the conversation going? It's when husbands and wives stop talking to each other, or when children or parents stop talking with each other, that marriages and families begin to unravel. It's dangerous when children don't have time to sit down with their parents for a daily meal, when most of their satisfaction comes from activities or relationships outside of their family. A family that doesn't draw its greatest strength from each other's members is a family in trouble. Jesus wants to help you keep the conversation going! Go for it!

Do you find happiness with your friends? That's part of a full life, too, and Jesus wants you to be happy with your friends. If you're not, if they're dragging you down, if they've become toxic, identify people who you think would make great friends. Approach them and try to connect with them. Don't be afraid of rejection! There are always more beautiful souls to meet. Jesus wants to give you the courage to ask someone for friendship – even love.

Have you suffered an injury that's affected your quality of life? Had an accident, or a worker's comp. injury? Are you going to let the fact that you can't do some things anymore poison your outlook on life? Jesus wants you out of that tomb. I speak from experience on this one. Over the years I've had a leg amputation, I've had a broken hip, I've blown out my knee, I've fractured my shoulder, my back has gone out. And in the course of my treatment, I've met some very embittered people. God doesn't want us stuck there. Jesus offers us life and courage to pick ourselves up and move on, focusing on what we can do, not what we can't do anymore.

It's the same thing with depression or loneliness or any other problem in our lives that keeps us in the tomb. The raising of Lazarus is a story about the fullness of life that is possible right now to all who believe in Jesus. With Jesus, through baptism, we have eternal life, starting right now. He gives us the courage to live the fullness of life right now.

Jesus wants us fully alive, right now, and he gives us the courage and the confidence we need, if we only let him, starting right now.

## Staff Directory

If you forget the extension, you will be able to go to the staff directory by hitting 5. If further assistance is needed hit 7 for Mary Meissner.

Bob Mysliwiec, Accountant, Ext. 115

Corey Compton, Deacon Ext. 251  
ccompton@ctkpueblo.org

Courtney Lewis, Youth Minister Coordinator Ext. 252  
clewis@ctkpueblo.org

John Ozella, Fr. - Pastor Ext. 116  
jozella@ctkpueblo.org

Katharine Redmond Ext. 114  
Pastoral Associate for Worship  
gkredmond@comcast.net

Laura Fisher Escalera Ext. 113  
Pastoral Associate for Religious Formation  
lescalera@ctkpueblo.org

Lori Judkins Ext. 118  
Pastoral Associate for Liturgical Music  
judkins.lori@yahoo.com

Mary Meissner Ext. 111  
Administrative Assistant - General Mailbox: Option 7  
mmeissner@ctkpueblo.org

Randy Pfeffer/Pat Duran, Ext. 120; Facilities/  
Grounds

Sarah Nelson Ext. 121  
Pastoral Associate for Youth and Adult Pastoral Care  
snelson@ctkpueblo.org

# TEMPORARILY CLOSED

All Masses in the Pueblo Diocese are cancelled effective immediately. This includes all activities at Christ the King Parish in Pueblo until further notice. Please watch our Facebook page and our Webpage for updates. Mass Intentions will be rescheduled once we know when we will be back to our regular schedule.

### Prayer Line:

If you have a prayer request for yourself or for someone you know, please call Sarah at 542-9248, Ext. 121 or email her at snelson@ctkpueblo.org.



## Mass Intentions for the Month:

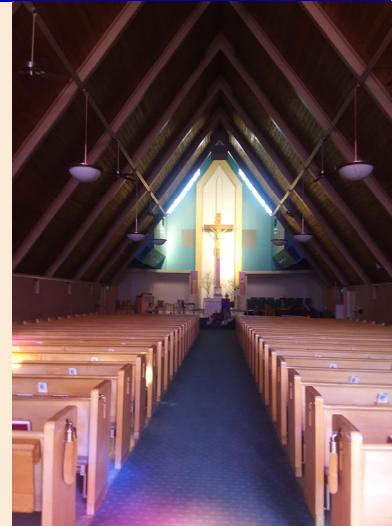
Fr. John is having a private Mass daily in the Church. The intention each day is for All Souls in Purgatory.

## Mass Resources Online

From Fr. John O.:

Now that we are all “Roamin’ Catholics” during this downtime for our parish, I want you to be aware of resources for watching Masses online in addition to the EWTN-TV channel.

Recognizing these changes likely leave us even more in need of God’s grace, The USCCB and other Catholic partners have generously made their resources available to support prayer during these difficult days.



Resources can be found at  
[www.CatholicCurrent.org/covid19](http://www.CatholicCurrent.org/covid19)

Please use freely and share with others. A sense of community is of the upmost importance. We must encourage each other, take care of each other, pray for each other and stay connected to our faith during this time of social distancing.

The Benedictine monks of St. John’s Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota are live-streaming Mass on a daily basis now.

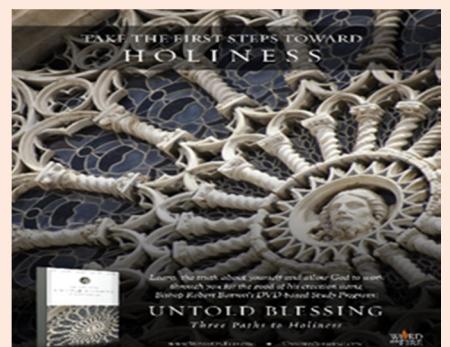
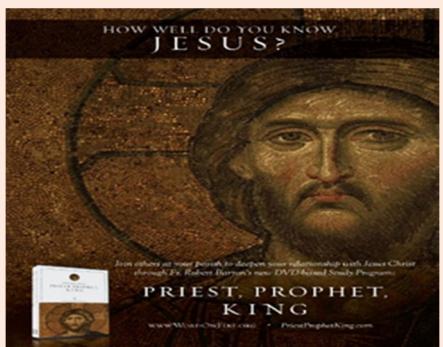
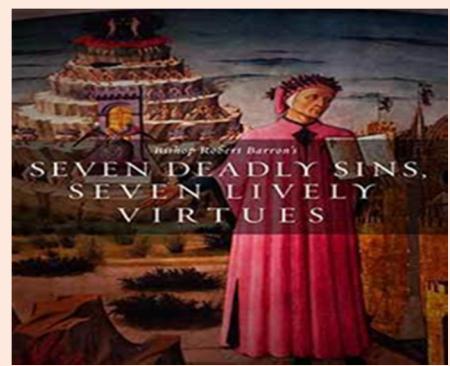
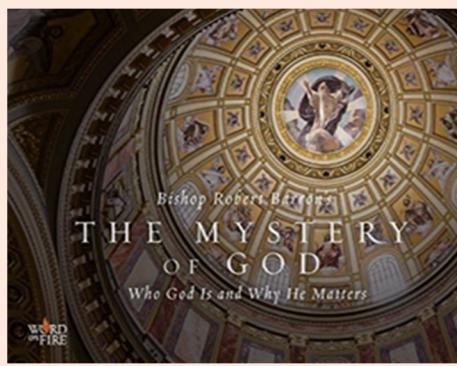
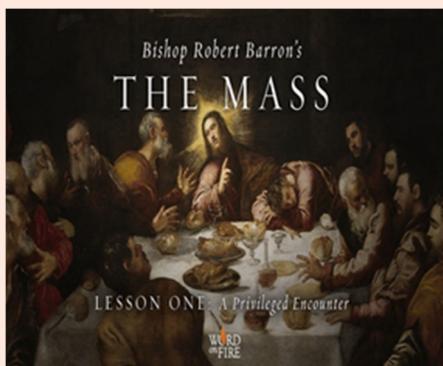
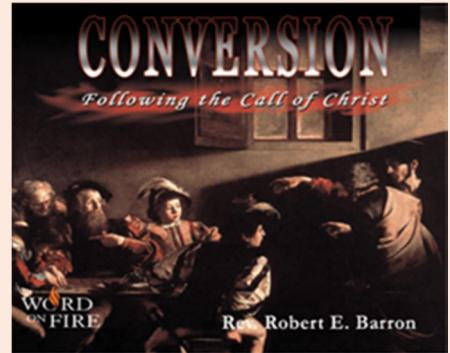
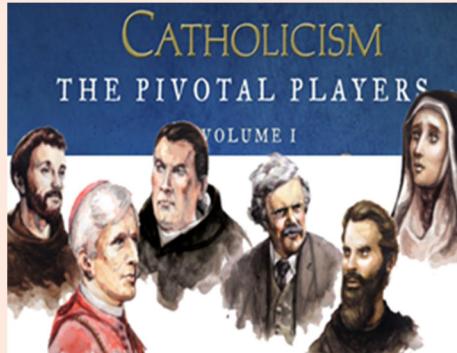
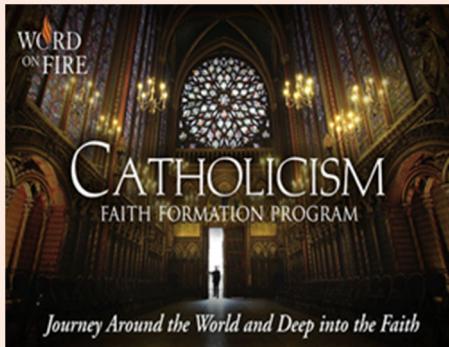
The link is <https://saintjohnsabbey.org/live>  
Sunday Masses are at 9:30 a.m. our time; weekday Masses are at 4 p.m.; and Saturdays at 10:30 a.m.

There are many more options than these. For English live-streaming Masses from throughout the world, go to <https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online/>

Enjoy the variety!



## Word on Fire Engage Digital Resources: Continue to grow in your Catholic Faith on Flock note All of these programs and *more* are FREE!



Haven't signed up for Flock note yet?  
Instructions online at [www.ctkpueblo.org](http://www.ctkpueblo.org) under  
“Flock note” heading

## LIFE

A well-spent life is the only passport to heaven.

—Pope Leo XIII

## PRAYER

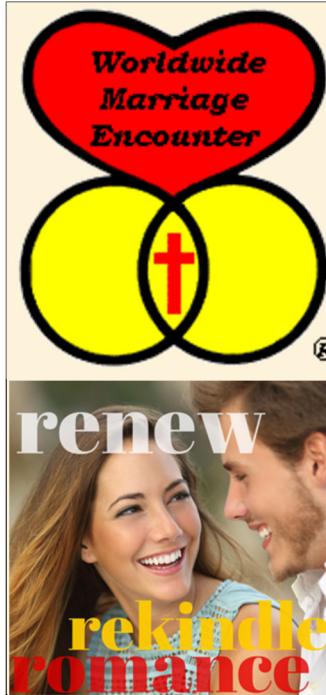
The more you devote yourself in prayer the more you will do well in your work.

—St. John Baptist de la Salle

## WITH GOD

With God, go over the sea. Without God, don't even go over the threshold.

—Russian proverb



## MARRIED COUPLES:

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

Do you believe that Jesus is the Lord of your marriage? Bring God into your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on May 8-10 in Colorado Springs. Contact Glen and Toni Gallegos [719-591-9045](tel:719-591-9045) or [socowwmereg@gmail.com](mailto:socowwmereg@gmail.com) for more information. Or to sign up online, visit our website at [wwme.org](http://wwme.org).



# Letters from Heaven



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even ...

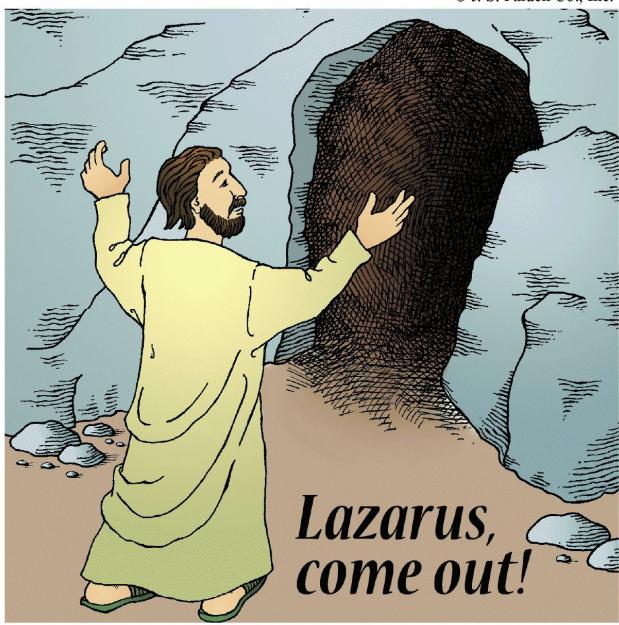
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I — — — — , — — — — . "

Answer: *If we die, we will live*

Excerpt from the NAB © 2010, 1991, 1970, CCD



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## GIVE GLORY TO GOD

On the Fifth Sunday of Lent, just before we begin to enter Holy Week, we are summoned to Bethany. If we had been friends of Mary, Lazarus, and Martha, and found out that Lazarus was gravely ill, we probably would have dropped everything to be with them. This was what was so surprising about the behavior of Jesus. Although he was their close friend, he chose to stay away, that God's glory would be manifested. This is a persistent theme in John's Gospel. Right to the very end, Jesus' works were meant to give glory to the Father. As our Lenten journey reaches a crescendo, let us be mindful that, as people who have "put on Christ" in baptism, we are also called, by our attitudes and actions, to give glory to God.

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Contact us



Update on 3-26-20:

I barely get my second parish letter out and Governor Polis' statewide order to stay at home is issued. Our office is complying with this. All of us have removed from the office what we need to work from our homes.

We will still respond to you by voicemail or email. Voicemail messages are relayed to us via our emails; there's a slight delay to this, but we do receive them and will respond.

Mary will keep our Website ([ctkpueblo.org](http://ctkpueblo.org)) and Facebook pages current; the rest of us will be providing pastoral resources, reflections and staying connected.

Lent calls us to greater prayer time, and this quarantine we now experience facilitates that. Stay in touch with our Lord, while we do our best to stay in touch with you.

-- Fr. John O., Pastor

## Readings for the Week

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62  
[41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11



Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;  
Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42

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

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (procession);  
Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24;  
Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Wednesday: April Fool's Day

Thursday: St. Francis of Paola

Friday: First Friday; Abstinence

Saturday: St. Isidore; First Saturday



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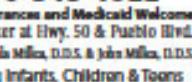
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