



"When you heard the...word of truth, and believed in it, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit who had been promised."  
(E phesians 1:13)

# The Loreto Letter

December 4, 2011

The Second Sunday of Advent

Volume XV, Number 2

**"Take firm hold on the everlasting life to which you were called."**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the Friday after Thanksgiving a news broadcast reported on "Black Friday," so called because the shopping that takes place that day and until Christmas often puts merchants "in the black." The newscaster concluded his story by saying, "And so begins the Christmas season." Does it really?

Last Sunday we Catholic Christians began not our Christmas but our Advent season. Advent is a season about emptiness. The Scriptures teach that Christ, in becoming incarnate of the Blessed Virgin Mary, "emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance" (Phil. 2:7). Something about Jesus' emptying himself reveals to us the nature of our humanity. Advent is meant to help us get in touch with Christ's emptiness by getting in touch with our own. When we empty ourselves, when we accept our emptiness, when we come to the knowledge that without Christ we are—all of us—truly empty, only then can we know the meaning of Christmas. Advent should be about voluntary emptiness; instead our culture has turned it into merchandising, buying, acquiring, amassing, getting, having. What a great irony that in all of our wanting and getting we truly become more and more empty inside but when we truly know how empty we are, only then can Christ fill us with the very fullness of God.

Beginning this week there are many ministries, events, and activities here at the parish that can help you be filled with Christ, and so prepare for Christmas. I encourage you to take advantage of them all.

Tonight (Sunday) at 6:30 we will have a parish variety show to inaugurate the use of our new St. Joseph Ministry Center, the temporary certificate of occupancy which we received last week. It will be great fun. Even the seminarians are performing!

Monday and Tuesday evenings of this week, at 7:00, we are hosting an open house to showcase the ministry center, our ministries, etc. Each evening is different from the other, so come to both.

Wednesday evening at 7:00 we will celebrate the Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. At the end of the Mass we will have a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to reopen the Adoration Chapel.

Thursday evening, December 15, at 6:00 p.m. we will host our chili cook-off followed by our Advent penance service, which begins at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday evening, December 20, at 7:00, I will celebrate a Healing Mass/Night of Darkness. That night is the longest night of the year. We will pray especially for those who suffer from the darkness of mental illness, depression, addiction, or emotional brokenness.

At all of the Masses on Saturday and Sunday, December 17-28, we will bless our spouses who are pregnant or trying to get pregnant.

Mark your calendars. Come to Church. Come to know Christ, who emptied himself so that we could be filled with the very fullness of God. *Father Ed*

## Parish Staff

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**GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, OUR LADY OF LORETO CATHOLIC PARISH IS A EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY THAT SEEKS TO LIVE THE WORD OF GOD, INSTILL THE LEGACY OF FAITH, AND PROCLAIM THE LOVE OF CHRIST THROUGH SERVICE TO ALL.**

## This Week's Liturgies

### Celebrations of the Eucharist

|                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Sunday Anticipated | Saturday 5:00 pm        |
| Sunday             | 7, 9, 11 am and 5:00 pm |
| Monday—Saturday    | 7:30 am                 |
| Wednesday—Friday   | 5:30 pm                 |

### Mass Intentions for the week of December 4<sup>th</sup>

|      |          |                           |
|------|----------|---------------------------|
| Sat. | 5:00 pm  | Peg Mascherini†           |
| Sun. | 7:00 am  | Loretta Lombardi†         |
| Sun. | 9:00 am  | OLOL Parishioners         |
| Sun. | 11:00 am | Laura Moran†              |
| Sun. | 5:00 pm  | Sean Taylor†              |
| Mon. | 7:30 am  | Kathleen Sheahan†         |
| Tue. | 7:30 am  | Laura Eusterman           |
| Wed. | 7:30 am  | Cornelius & Elin Sheahan† |
| Wed. | 5:30 pm  | Our Blessed Mother        |
| Thu. | 7:30 am  | James Sheahan†            |
| Thu. | 12:00 pm | Charles & Kathryn Curtis† |
| Thu. | 5:30 pm  | Heber & Denise Curtis†    |
| Thu. | 7:00 pm  | Ellen Nargi               |
| Fri. | 7:30 am  | Suzanne Parks†            |
| Fri. | 5:30 pm  | Joe & Nance Nassar        |
| Sat. | 7:30 am  | Tommy Parks               |
| Sat. | 5:00 pm  | John Rossi                |
| Sun. | 7:00 am  | Loretta Lombardi†         |
| Sun. | 9:00 am  | OLOL Parishioners         |
| Sun. | 11:00 am | Cornelius & Elin Sheahan† |
| Sun. | 5:00 pm  | Catherine Gatschet        |

### This Week's Readings

|      |        |                                |
|------|--------|--------------------------------|
| Sun  | 1st.   | Is 40:1-5, 9-11                |
|      | 2nd.   | 2 Pt 3:8-14                    |
|      | Gospel | Mk 1:1-8                       |
|      |        | <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> |
| Mon  | 1st.   | Is 35:1-10                     |
|      | 2nd.   | Lk 5:17-26                     |
| Tue. | 1st.   | Is 40:1-11                     |
|      | 2nd.   | Mt 18:12-14                    |
| Wed. | 1st.   | Is 40:25-31                    |
|      | 2nd.   | Mt 11:28-30                    |
| Thu. | 1st.   | Gen 3:9-15, 20                 |
|      | 2nd.   | Lk 1:26-38                     |
|      |        | <i>Immaculate Conception</i>   |
| Fri. | 1st.   | Is 48:17-19                    |
|      | 2nd.   | Mt 11:16-19                    |
| Sat. | 1st.   | Sir 48:1-4, 9-11               |
|      | 2nd.   | Mt 17:9a, 10-13                |
| Sun. | 1st    | Is 61:1-2a, 10-11              |
|      | 2nd    | 1 The 5:16-24                  |
|      | Gospel | Jn 1:6-8, 19-28                |
|      |        | <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>  |

## Pastoral Services

**Baptism of Infants**—Please pick up a Baptism Prep Packet in the R.E. area in the Narthex at least three weeks prior to the birth of your baby or the date you would like to have your child baptized.

**Christian Initiation of Adults**—Non-Catholic adults who are called to full communion in the Catholic Church are asked to contact Shirley at 303.414.2255 for further information.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**—Saturdays, 8:30-10:00 am at the Church or by appointment.

**Marriage**—Spiritual preparation is vital for the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage. A minimum of nine months is needed. Couples are invited to Fr. Gregg at 303.766.3800 to arrange an individual meeting to discuss the process.

**Care of the Sick/Dying**—Please call at the beginning of any serious illness or hospitalization. If ill and would like to receive the Eucharist, please call the office. In the case of death, please call Fr. Ed Buelt before meeting with the funeral director.

**Adoration**—The Adoration Chapel is temporarily closed due to construction. Until it re-opens you are welcome to come into the Church to pray. The Church is open at 6:30 am until 9:00 pm, Monday—Friday. On Saturday & Sunday the Church is closed following the 5:00 pm Liturgy.

**Cor Jesu (Heart of Jesus)** - An e-mail prayer ministry at OLOL Parish. E-mail CorJesu\_olol@zofeb.com to join the e-mail prayer group, or to offer your specific prayer requests.

**The Gabriel Project**—Pregnant? Need help? Be not afraid. For help, hope and healing, call 1.800.713.3021

**Come Home**—If you are struggling with a past abortion, please contact Fr. Ed or Jane at 303.617.7472.

## Flowers

The flowers decorating the altar this weekend have been donated by: Barb & Jeff Toussaint in celebration of their daughter, Michelle's 39<sup>th</sup> birthday.



### Responsorial Psalm

“Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.”

### Communion Antiphon

**B-6 Arise, Jerusalem, Stand on the Height**  
2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B  
Song for the Table



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### This Week's Meetings

|       |          |  |         |
|-------|----------|--|---------|
| Sun.  | 10:30 am | RCIA & Inquiry Sessions                            | RG      |
| Sun.  | 12:30 am | New Parishioner Open House                         | RG      |
| Sun.  | 12:30 pm | Baptisms   | SNO     |
| Sun.  | 2:15 pm  | Natural Family Planning Class                      | CW      |
| Sun.  | 4:00 pm  | Choir Practice                                     | SNO     |
| Sun.  | 6:30 pm  | Variety Show                                       | Hall    |
| Mon.  | 7:00 pm  | Advent Mission                                     | Hall    |
| Tues. | 7:00 pm  | Advent Mission                                     | Hall    |
| Wed.  | 7:00 pm  | Vigil Mass: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception | SNO     |
| Fri.  | 6:00 am  | That Man Is You!                                   | CW      |
| Fri.  | 9:00 am  | Prayer Vigil for Life                              | Offsite |
| Fri.  | 10:30 am | Bulletin Folding                                   | CW      |
| Sat.  | 10:00 am | Rehearsal: Children's Christmas Pageant            | SNO     |
| Sat.  | 6:00 pm  | Knights of Columbus Christmas Dinner               | PH      |

Thursday, December 8th is The Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are at 7:30 am, noon and 5:30 pm.

## Youth & Young Adult Ministry

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group

All 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth are invited to a Mini-Retreat on Sunday, 12/18, 1:00—4:00 pm. Forms are in the Narthex.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group Kick-Off**, 1/10/12, 7-8:15 pm.

### Middle School ~ Advent Mission

**All 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students welcome!**

- ◆ **December 5<sup>th</sup>/ 7:00 - 8:30 pm:** “What do Bethlehem, Bread, Battle and an Inn have to do with you?” Welcoming Christ and becoming your brother’s keeper.
- ◆ **December 6<sup>th</sup>/ 7:00—8:30 pm:** “All Aboard the Friendship!” Holy friendship, what does it mean, how does it look and how does our Holy Mother set an example for us?

### 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Advent Formal ~ 12/15

Join us at the Church of the Risen Christ, on 12/15, from 6:30—8:30 pm; the cost is \$10 per person. Dress is semi-formal (Girls, dress/skirt; Guys, slacks, khakis, oxford and tie). Permission forms are in the Narthex

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group

12/8: No Meeting. Go to Mass it is a Holy Day of Obligation. 12/15: Advent Formal at Church of the Risen Christ.

### High School ~ Advent Mission

- 12/4: Parish Talent Show (7:00—8:30 pm)
- 12/5: “Mary was what age?” (7:00—8:30 pm)
- 12/6: “Walk of Faith,” a look at Mary’s walk to Elizabeth; how it resembles your faith journey. (7–8:30 pm)

### High School Advent Formal ~ 12/18

Please make your own arrangements for drop off/pick up for the Advent Formal. The evening includes Mass, dinner and dance. We will meet before the 5:30 pm Mass in the Narthex at St. Thomas More on Sunday, December 18th. The cost is \$10; the dress is semi-formal. Girls, please wear a dress; appropriate dress for the guys is: slacks, khakis, oxford & tie. Permission forms are in the Narthex.

### “4-Teen” High School Group

12/5: Advent Mission, meet in B1, JP II Room. 12/12: Topic Night: “Who was immaculately conceived and why do we believe this?” 12/19: Bible Study, “Catching & spreading joy...it’s contagious!”

### Poinsettia Donations

If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia, please fill out a “Christmas Flowers” form and **enclose it with your \$35 donation** in the provided envelope. All envelopes should be placed in the collection basket at Mass or dropped off at the Main Office during business hours.

Please submit donations no later than **Friday, 12/16.**



## R.C.I.A.

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The preparations for Christmas include buying or making gifts for those whom we love. You can give no better gift than the gift that God has given to us: His Son, Jesus. Invite someone who is not Catholic to attend Mass with you at Christmas.

For more information, please contact Shirley McDermott at 303.414.2255 or [smcdermott@ourladyofloreto.org](mailto:smcdermott@ourladyofloreto.org).

### Calendar

- 12/4: 9:00 am Mass with dismissal. Inquiry & Catechumenate sessions for 10:30 am—noon.

## Children’s Ministry

**Please Note Schedule changes for Track II and 3rd—6th Grade RE Classes due to schedule changes of the Parish Advent Mission.**

### Advent Mission Activity for Children

- 12/4: 6:30-8:00 pm ~ Variety Show
- 12/5 & 6: 7-8:30 pm ~ Stories & Crafts in the St. Joseph Ministry Center for 4 & 5 year olds; grades 1-3 and grades 4-6.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist (ages 7 & 8)

*Attention Track I & Track II Parents:*

The December Magnifikid’s are available to be picked up.

Track II: No class on **12/5** due to the Advent Mission. Class resumes on 12/12. We will have a **make-up class** on **12/19** for the class cancelled on 11/21.

### RCIC & RCIT—No Class on 12/4.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> — 6<sup>th</sup> Grade RE (Religious Education)

No class on **12/6**. Plan to join us for the Advent Potluck Party on 12/13, 5:30 pm, in the new “Holy Family Hall.” Bring a dish to share.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Religious Education

Please join us for the RE Advent Potluck Party on 12/13, 5:30 pm, in the new “Holy Family Hall.” Please bring a dish to share.



### Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule

Christmas Pageant rehearsal will be in classroom 105 in the St. Joseph Ministry Center on the following dates:

- Saturday 12/3, 10:00 am—12:00 pm
- Saturday 12/10, 10:00 am—12:00 pm
- Saturday 12/17, 10:00 am—12:00 pm





## Opening Hearts and Minds to the Sanctity of Life.

*The beginning of the Liturgical Year helps us live anew the expectation of God who took flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary. It speaks to us of the coming of a God who chose to experience human life from the very beginning in order to save it totally, in its fullness. And so the mystery of Lord's Incarnation and the beginning of human life are closely and harmoniously connected and in tune with each other in the one saving plan of God, the Lord of the life of each and everyone.*  
~ Pope Benedict XVI, Homily at Celebration of First Vespers of the First Sunday of Advent, Nov. 27, 2010

### Prayer Vigil For Life~ 12/9

We will carpool to Planned Parenthood and pray for life after the 7:30 am Mass on Friday 12/9.

### Giving Wreath Continues

There are still a few names left (purple) and many ideas to help OLOL Ministries (pink). **All gifts must be returned no later than Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> @ noon.** We are also looking for drivers to help deliver the gifts on Wednesday, 12/14, from 9:00 am—12:00 pm. If you can help, contact Monica at 303.693.9573 or [monica.mogen@corumrealestate.com](mailto:monica.mogen@corumrealestate.com).

### Life Closet

We are collecting winter coats, hats, gloves, and boots for all ages. We are in need of the following: girl's and boy's fall and winter clothing size 2T up to size 16, children's shoes, men's shoes, infant clothing size 12 month to 24 month, and large shopping bags. Thank you.

### Charismatic Worship and Praise

We will not have a prayer meeting this Sunday, 12/4, due to the Parish Advent Mission. Join us on Tuesday, 12/6, 7:00 pm, for a short introduction to Charismatic prayer, as part of the Mission.



### An Afternoon Retreat ~ 12/10

“Listening to God in Prayer,” an afternoon Retreat will be given by Fr. Fred Gaglia at Presentation of Our Lady Parish, 695 Julian St., Denver, this Saturday, 12/10, at 1:00 pm. There is no charge for the day. For more information call 303.432.2694.

### Cookies, Sandwiches and More Update!

We will NOT be collecting food on the weekend of 12/25, because the Holy Ghost Sandwich Line will not be open the following week. Instead we will collect **COOK-IES ONLY**, another parish provides sandwiches, over the weekend of 12/11. Drop off will be in the southwest corner of the Narthex by 5:30 pm on Sunday, 12/11.

## Other Happenings

### Parish Advent Mission ~ 12/4—12/7

The Mission will be held in the evening 12/4—12/7. Please join our parish community in celebrating the grand opening of our new St. Joseph Ministry Center.

### Best Chili in Colorado!!! Join us 12/15

Please join the Knights of Columbus in The Chapel of the Word for our annual *Chili Cook Off* dinner at 6:00 pm before the parish Reconciliation Service on Thursday, 12/15. If you want to bring your own chili for the contest, please deliver it to the Chapel of the Word no later than 5:45 pm on 12/15. There is no charge for the dinner. If you have questions, please contact Mark at 303.908.2473.

### King Soopers Gift Cards

The Ladies Auxilliary sells King Soopers gift cards every weekend after all Masses. The Auxilliary receives 5% of sales and the money is used to support their charitable activities.

### Stock Contributions to OLOL

Are you planning to contribute stock to OLOL before the end of 2011? If so, please see the OLOL website for proper instructions for your broker to complete the transfer. Please contact Sandy at 303.414.2251 in the office of your contribution and let her know where you wish your contribution applied (Fulfilling Hope or Offertory). As indicated in the instructions, you will also need to inform the Archdiocese of Denver of your contribution. If you wish the transfer to be completed before year end for your tax planning purposes, the transfer must be made no later than December 15, 2011.

### Gifts of Treasure

|                      |          |              |
|----------------------|----------|--------------|
| November 27, 2011    | Adults   | \$42,152.50  |
|                      | Children | \$562.09     |
| November 20, 2011    | Adults   | \$44,728.64  |
|                      | Children | \$456.00     |
| YTD Actual Offertory |          | \$924,716.05 |
| YTD Budgeted         |          | \$968,000.00 |

### Financial Status as of 11/1/11

St. Joseph Ministry Center Construction

#### *Estimated Costs*

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Now Under Construction, East Wing: | \$7,500,000        |
| East Wing Garden Meeting Space:    | \$300,000          |
| Future Cost of West Wing:          | <u>\$6,750,000</u> |
| Total Estimated Cost:              | \$14,550,000       |

#### *Funds Available*

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Current Funds Available:             | \$5,299,000 |
| Current Pledges to be collected:     | \$4,550,000 |
| Total Funds Expected to be available | \$9,849,000 |

**New Pledges needed to complete construction \$4,701,000**

\*Please note that funds available & pledge information will be updated on a monthly basis.\*

Our Lady of Loreto Debt  
Church—\$8,633,729