

OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost	29 Dedication of St. Michael the Archangel	30	1	2	3 First Friday	4 First Saturday
5 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	6 Bible Study	7	8	9	10 Pro-Life Vigil	11 Roses of Mary Men's Schola
12 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	13 Adult Catechism	14	15	16	17	18 Altar Guild Men's Schola
19 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	20 Bible Study	21	22	23	24	25 All-Night Adoration
26 Christ the King	27 Adult Catechism	28	29	30	31	1 All Saints
All Saints Party						

Contact Us:

Sacramental Emergency:
(719) 464-6129

Church Location: 626 Aspen Dr. Security, Colo. 80911
(719) 382-0121

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5211 Colorado Springs, Colo. 80931-5211

Parish Registration, Records, Inquiries:
Anita McCowen cosfssp@gmail.com

Bulletin:
Jill Demian (719) 579-9439

Choir:
Kelsey Villalobos (719) 651-9800

Home-Schoolers' First Friday:
Gracey Wike cosfssp.homeschoolgroup@gmail.com

Housekeeping:
Jennifer Villalobos (719) 651-8135

Pro-Life Events:
Michael Smiley (719) 502-9149
Michele Smiley (719) 447-7236

St. Benedict Altar Guild:
Nathan Wike cosfssp.altarguild@gmail.com

Take-Them-a-Meal/Sunday Brunch:
Marcella Guilez dmjmfamilylove@aol.com

Ushers:
Kris McCowen (719) 352-1519

Website:
www.cosfssp.org
Alex Baburnic alexanderbaburnic@yahoo.com

Young Roses of Mary Girls' Group:
Amy Seltzer caseltzer@gmail.com

Please pray for:

Repose of the Souls of:

Pope Francis
Jeff Nelson

Parishioners in the Military:

1st Lt. David Bentley, U.S. Air Force
Master Sgt. Chris Biery, U.S. Air Force
Spec. 2 Victor Follis, U.S. Space Force
Petty Officer 1st Class Paula Gennetti, U.S. Navy
1st Lt. Adam Giannattesi, U.S. Army
Command Sgt. Major Chad Keirns, U.S. Army
Lt. Col. Nathan Wike, U.S. Army
Master Sgt. A. Youngblood, U.S. Army
Sgt. 1st Class Cinthya Zuniga, U.S. Army

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

October 12, 2025

Sunday Schedule:

Low Mass: 7 a.m.

9 a.m.

Sung Mass: 11 a.m.

Confessions:

One-half hour before Mass and Saturdays at 4 p.m.

Daily Mass Schedule:

Monday, Tuesday,

Wednesday: 8 a.m.

Thursday: 6 p.m.

Friday, Saturday: 8 a.m.

Holy Hour:

Thursday: 7 p.m.

Pastor:

FR. JAMES GORDON, F.S.S.P.

Assistant Pastor:

FR. DENNIS GORDON, F.S.S.P.



Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter parish in Colorado Springs

DISTRACTIONS and Dryness in PRAYER

I Want to See God, by P. Marie-Eugène, O.C.D.

In speaking of the prayer of recollection, St. Teresa makes the following remark: "This method of praying in which the mind makes no reflections means that the soul must either gain a great deal or lose itself — I mean by its intention going astray."

Neither the most vital methods, nor the best ordered prayers, nor even assiduous spiritual reading can make one wholly secure against distractions and dryness in prayer. This is a heavy trial, ignorance of which contributes towards increasing the suffering and the dangers involved in it, notes the saint. In this connection she writes:

"The worst of it is that, as we do not realize we need to know more when we think about Thee, we cannot ask those who know; indeed we have not even any idea what there is for us to ask them. So we suffer terrible trials because we do not understand ourselves; and we worry over what is not bad at all, but good, and think it very wrong. Hence proceed the afflictions of many people who practice prayer, and their complaints of interior trials — especially if they are unlearned people — so that they become melancholy, and their health declines, and they even abandon prayer altogether."

To get more light on so important a subject, we must

study the nature and the causes of distractions and dryness, so as to discover the remedies.

"Recollected and distracted are two adjectives that are in opposition," has been correctly said. Recollection is a condition for prayer. Distractions in prayer, then are in general in inverse ratio to recollection. While recollection is a concentration of the activity of our faculties on a supernatural reality, distraction is an evasion of one or of all the faculties towards another object, which interrupts recollection.

Not every evasion of one or of several powers is, however, necessarily a distraction. On this point, St. Teresa invites us to a psychological analysis that will help us in finding the precise nature of distractions. Frightened by the wandering of her faculties in various directions, the saint consulted some learned men who confirmed what her experience had taught her about distraction and the independent activity of the faculties of the soul:

"I have sometimes been terribly oppressed by this turmoil of thoughts and it is only just four years ago that I came to understand by experience that thought (or, to put it more clearly, imagination) is not the same thing as understanding. I asked a learned man about this and he said I was right, which

Upcoming Parish Events

October 18 ~ Men's Schola Rehearsal

Schola rehearsal will begin after Mass. Men interested in singing with an all-men schola may contact Kelsey Villalobos, (719) 651-9800, for more information.

October 18 ~ Altar Guild

Altar-serving practice after 8 a.m. Mass. For more information or to enroll your son, contact Nathan Wike, cosfssp.altarguild@gmail.com.

gave me no small satisfaction."

That the powers of the soul may have an independent activity and that certain ones may separately evade recollection yet without destroying it: those are the truths that consoled Teresa.

Which are the powers whose wanderings may be merely annoying, without endangering distraction?

In the first place, the external and internal senses that can perceive or experience impressions without putting a stop to recollection. I might, for instance, while taking a walk in the country, see a familiar landscape, hear the song of birds, experience some physical sufferings or pain of soul, and yet continue my mental prayer on some subject from the Gospels, apart from all these perceptions and sensations. Abstraction from the senses is frequent in recollection. While writing *The Interior Castle*, St. Teresa notes:

"As I write this, the noises in my head are so loud that I am beginning to wonder what is going on in it. As I said at the outset, they have been making

it almost impossible for me to obey those who commanded me to write. My head sounds just as if it were full of brimming rivers, and then as if all the water in those rivers came suddenly rushing downward; and a host of little birds seems to be whistling not in the ears, but in the upper part of my head.... All this physical turmoil is no hindrance either to my prayer or to what I am saying now, but the tranquility and love in my soul are quite unaffected.

The imagination, whose activity is so closely bound up with that of the senses, can also stray away, leaving the soul to the supernatural realities that hold it captive.

Let us turn again to St. Teresa whose experiences throw such good light on these delicate problems:

"It exasperated me to see the faculties of the soul, as I thought, occupied with God and recollected in Him, and the imagination, on the other hand, confused and excited."

What will be the state of the understanding, that is, the dis-

† MASS INTENTIONS †

FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, October 13 ~ St. Edward the Confessor

8 a.m. — + Margaret Gutierrez, by Diane Van der Putten

Tuesday, October 14 ~ St. Callistus I

8 a.m. — Fr. Federico Masutti

Wednesday, October 15 ~ St. Teresa of Avila

8 a.m. — Gracie Hawk, by Sarah Kwitek

Thursday, October 16 ~ St. Hedwig

6 p.m. — Dylan Chavira, by Dana Chavira

Friday, October 17 ~ St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

8 a.m. — Private Toni Gomez, by the Guilez Family

Saturday, October 18 ~ St. Luke the Evangelist

8 a.m. — Dolorosa Scarmici, by Sebastian Ertelt

Sunday, October 19 ~ Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

7 a.m. — Private Intention

9 a.m. — In Reparation for Sacrilegious Communions

11 a.m. — Pro Populo

Fr. Dennis Gordon is accepting Mass intentions at this time.

cursive intelligence considered as distinct from the intellect which penetrates its object with a simple and direct intuitive gaze?

...Our inquiry will not bear on the voluntary causes of distractions and of dryness, such, for instance, as negligence in putting them out of mind during prayer or even complacency in entertaining them; notable neglect of spiritual reading and of the preparation necessary to

secure for prayer its sustenance; dissipation of life and habitual lack of mortification of the senses. For these, it is easy indeed to state the remedy. Not to apply it, would be to condemn oneself to culpable failure.

We are concerned, rather, with indicating the causes that make the struggle against distractions more difficult and at times ineffectual and which, consequently, do not derive directly from the human will.

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