

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Septuagesima Sunday 1st Communion Class	2 Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary	3	4	5	6 First Friday Homeschoolers' Day	7 First Saturday
8 Sexagesima Sunday Confirmation Class	9	10	11	12	13 Pro-Life Vigil	14 Roses of Mary Men's Schola
15 Quinquagesima Sunday 1st Communion Class	16	17	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20	21 Altar Guild Men's Schola
22 First Sunday of Lent Confirmation Class	23	24	25 Ember Day	26	27 Ember Day All-Night Adoration	28 Ember Day

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION + CATHOLIC CHURCH +

First Sunday of Lent + February 22, 2026



"O Mary, through thine Immaculate Conception make my body pure and my soul holy."

Sunday Schedule:
Low Mass: 7 a.m.
9 a.m.
Sung Mass: 11 a.m.

Daily Mass Schedule:
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday: 8 a.m.
Thursday: 6 p.m.
Friday, Saturday: 8 a.m.

Confessions:
One-half hour before Mass,
Saturdays at 4 p.m.

Holy Hour, Benediction:
Thursday: 7 p.m.

Pastor: FR. JAMES J. GORDON, F.S.S.P.

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) 646-1400

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
dmjmfamilyleve@aol.com

Ushers:
Kris McCowen (719) 352-1519

Website:
www.cofssp.org
Alex Baburnic
cosfssp.website@gmail.com

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

Please pray for:

Rest of the Souls of:

Pope Francis
Lamar Cole
Nicholas Esser

Parishioners in the Military:

1st Lt. David Bentley, U.S. Air Force
Spec. 2 Victor Follis, U.S. Space Force
Petty Officer 1st Class Paula Gennitti,
U.S. Navy
1st Lt. Adam Giammattei, U.S. Army
Command Sgt. Major Chad Keirns,
U.S. Army

Staff Sgt. Marc Snyder,
U.S. Marine Corps
Spec. 3 Patryk Stepien, U.S. Space Force
Lt. Col. Lynn W. Sullivan, U.S. Army
Spec. 3 Noah Velasco, U.S. Space Force
2nd Lt. Jacob Vore, U.S. Space Force
Sgt. Daniel Walsh, U.S. Army
Sr. Airman Thomas Walsh,
U.S. Air Force
Lt. Col. Nathan Wike, U.S. Army
Master Sgt. A. Youngblood, U.S. Army
Sgt. 1st Class Cinthya Zuniga, U.S. Army

MORTIFICATION

The 12 Steps to Holiness and Salvation,
by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

The virtue of mortification is twofold, exterior and interior. Exterior mortification consists in doing and suffering what is opposed to the exterior senses, and in depriving oneself of what is agreeable to them. In as far as it is necessary to avoid sin, every Christian is bound to practice mortification. With regard to those things which we may lawfully enjoy, mortification is not obligatory, but it is very useful and meritorious. For those, however who are striving after perfection, mortification, even in things that are lawful, is absolutely necessary. As poor children of Adam, we must fight till our dying day; "For the flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh, for these are contrary, one to another: so that you do not the things that you would" (*Galatians 5:17*).

It is proper to animals to gratify their senses; it is characteristic of angels to do the will of God. From this a learned author concludes that we become angels when we strive to do God's will, but we become like animals when we seek to gratify our senses. Either the soul must subject the body or the body will make the soul its slave. Accordingly, we must treat our body as a rider treats a wild horse; he draws the reins tight, lest he should be thrown off. A physician at times prescribes medicines that are very distasteful to the patient, and he strictly forbids injurious foods and drinks, though the patient may desire them. He would be a

cruel physician indeed who could be dissuaded from administering medicines because his patient objected on account of their being bitter, and who would allow the sick man to eat and drink what he pleased.

How much greater is the cruelty of the sensual man who strives to avoid everything that is disagreeable or painful to his body in this life, and thereby puts both body and soul in the greatest danger of suffering incomparably greater pains for all eternity. "This false love," says St. Bernard, "destroys the true love we should have for our body."

Such misplaced sympathy is in reality only cruelty; for while we spare the body we kill the soul. The same saint, addressing those worldly-minded people who ridicule the servants of God for mortifying themselves makes use of the following words: "Yes, we are cruel, if you will, towards our bodies when we afflict them with penance; but you are far more cruel towards yourselves when you gratify your sensual cravings, for by so doing you condemn both body and soul to an eternity of frightful torments." Our Lord once said to St. Francis of Assisi: "If you desire Me, take the bitter things of life as sweet and the sweet as bitter." It is useless to assert, as some do, that perfection does not consist in chastising the body, but in mortifying the will. To this [Fr. Giovanni Pietro] Pinamonti replies: "If the vineyard

Upcoming Parish Events

TODAY ~ Confirmation Class

Confirmation class begins half an hour after the 11 a.m. Mass in the upstairs classroom. Only those who have registered for the class may attend.

FEBRUARY 27 ~ Stations of the Cross

Traditional Stations of the Cross devotions 7 p.m. every Friday of Lent. There will be an additional Mass 6 p.m. every Friday of Lent.

FEBRUARY 27-28 ~ All-night Adoration

Sign up in the vestibule to spend an hour in meditation, prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament; times available from 7 p.m. on Friday to 7 a.m. Saturday.

MARCH 1 ~ First Holy Communion Class

Class begins one half hour after the 11 a.m. Mass in the upstairs classroom. Only children registered for the class may attend.

MARCH 2 ~ Catechumen Class

Adults preparing to join the Catholic Church will meet for a group class with Fr. James Gordon 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. This class will replace individual catechesis sessions.

MARCH 16-19 ~ Misión Parroquial de Cuaresma

Nuestra Misión Parroquial anual de Cuaresma en Español será de los Miércoles 16 a 19 de Marzo. Misa será a las 18:00 con una conferencia a las 19:00.

MARCH 23-26 ~ Lenten Parish Mission

Our annual Lenten Parish Mission in English will be March 23-26. Mass will be at 6 p.m. with a conference at 7 p.m.

does not bear fruit because it is surrounded by a hedge of thorns, at least the hedge helps to preserve the fruit, for Holy Scripture says: "Where there is no hedge, the possession shall be spoiled" (*Ecclesiasticus 36:27*).

...Although it is necessary to mortify the will, we must also mortify the body to keep it in check and subject to reason. On

this account the Apostle said: "I chastise my body and bring it into subjection" (*1 Corinthians 9:27*). If the body is not mortified, it is very difficult to make it obedient to the law of God. It is certainly true that the world and the devil are great enemies to our salvation; but the greatest enemy of all is our own body because it is always with us. + + +

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, February 23 ~ Chair of St. Peter

8 a.m. — Pope Leo XIV

Tuesday, February 24 ~ St. Matthias

8 a.m. — Special Intention of Mayra Bonilla

Wednesday, February 25 ~ Ember Wednesday

8 a.m. — James Jenkin, by Sean Vostatek

Thursday, February 26 ~ Feria of Lent

6 p.m. — + James P. Gordon, Jr.

Friday, February 27 ~ Ember Friday

8 a.m. — Private Intention

6 p.m. — Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, Lee Kartes

Saturday, February 28 ~ Ember Saturday

8 a.m. — + Beatrice L. Gordon

Sunday, March 1 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

7 a.m. — Private Intention

9 a.m. — + Fr. Terrence Gordon, F.S.S.P.

11 a.m. — *Pro Populo*

Fr. Gordon may accept Mass intentions

LAW OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

DAYS OF ABSTINENCE

Current Practice:

- ◆ Begins on one's 14th birthday.
- ◆ Ash Wednesday and Fridays of Lent.
- ◆ Obliges abstinence from flesh meat.

Discipline of 1962:

Begins on one's 7th birthday.

Complete abstinence: All Fridays throughout the year, Ash Wednesday, Vigil of Christmas, Holy Saturday.

Partial abstinence: (meat,

soup, meat gravy permitted once a day at the principle meal) all days of Lent, Ember Days, Vigil of Pentecost and the Assumption.

FAST DAYS

Current Practice:

◆ Ash Wednesday and Good Friday:

◆ Applies to all aged 18-59, inclusive.

◆ One full meal permitted and two collations which, if combined, are less than a full meal.

Discipline of 1962

◆ Applies to all aged 21-59, inclusive.

◆ All days of Lent from Ash Wednesday, inclusive, Ember Days, Vigils of Christmas, Pentecost and the Assumption.

◆ One full meal permitted and two collations which, if combined, are less than a full meal.

DAYS OF PENANCE

Applies to all the Faithful. Lent and all Fridays.