

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 25, 2011

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.



Jack Kelley, a reporter for *USA Today* once told the story of the ravaging famine in Somalia, East Africa. In a village decimated by starvation, a photographer noticed a little boy suffering from malnutrition. When the photographer handed a grapefruit to the little boy, he was so weak that he couldn't even handle the grapefruit. A member of the crew cut it in half and gave it to him. He picked it up, looked as if to say thanks, and walked back toward his village. There on the ground was another little boy, the first boy's younger brother, who appeared to be dead, his eyes completely glazed over. His older brother knelt down, bit off a piece of the grapefruit and chewed it for a moment. He then opened up his younger brother's mouth, put the chewed piece in, and worked his brother's jaws up and down. Later, the news crew learned that the older brother had done that same routine for about two weeks until he, himself, finally died of malnutrition. The younger brother survived.

(Dynamic Preaching. Tom Mullins, *The Confidence Factor The Key to Developing the Winning Edge in Life* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2006), pp. 126-127.

The second reading in today's Mass tells of Jesus' humility, how he came to this world to save it. In order to do that he had to let go of his own life with the Father and become one with us. That's why Paul is so adamant about Jesus' willingness to empty himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness...he became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

That little boy in Somalia emptied himself so that his brother could live. We probably will never be called to do something quite so drastic. But would we do it, if we were called to do so?

Fr. Jim



The following are requests for prayers for St. Columba parishioners, friends and family that appear every week. Please be aware that all of these people plus others are also being prayed for through our newly established prayer group - Faith in Action. While both prayer "circles" are fully functioning and based on parishioner requests, it should be noted that the Faith in Action prayer circle is a group of faithful parishioners dedicated to praying daily and focused on the requested intention. If you would like to submit a prayer intention, we encourage you to make your request to Faith in Action by filling out our form on the church website (www.stcolumbacatholic.org) or by calling the parish office with a Faith in Action or bulletin request. We are truly a community connected to one another and for one another, in prayer.

For the sick & injured of our parish: Earl & Rose Archuleta, Doris Brennan, Barbara Ealick, Rob Freeman, Joe Herrera, Julie Maldonado, Irma McNamara, Bill & Jerri Morris, John Teiber

For our families and friends: Charlene Garcia, Laurence Merry, Mary Stevenson

For our troops: PJ Abeyta, Brian Beach, Daniel Beam, Bert Close, DJ Cummins, Ben Fiala, Kraig Jones, Brian Lane, Sarah Maramba, AJ Meiers, Brendan Pederson, Matthew Petersen, Anthony Salvo, Chuck Sauvage, Hunter Schlemeyer, EJ Sparks, Jared & Jo Thompson

MASS INTENTIONS

26 Monday 7:30 am St. Cosmas & St. Damian

Ron McGinnes rq Parish Staff
+ Johnny Merrill rq Chaplain Downey for Delmy Merrill

27 Tuesday 7:30 am St. Vincent de Paul

+ Mary Garcia rq Sister Mary Augusta

28 Wednesday 7:30 am St. Wenceslaus & St. Lawrence Ruiz

+ Albina Huffman rq Sister Mary Augusta
12:00 pm Mercy Medical Center
+ Fury & Alvene Dalla rq Theresa Marcum

29 Thursday 7:30 am St. Michael, St. Gabriel & St. Raphael

+ Sarah Albright Carmichael rq Tim Albright

30 Friday 8:15 am St. Jerome

+ Ray Cavanaugh rq Rowan Family

1 Saturday 5:00 pm St. Therese

+ John Thomas Looman rq Mert McBride
+ John Harman rq John Harman Family
+ John G. Clancy rq His Family

2 Sunday 9:00 am 27th Sunday OT

+ Jeff Rahe rq Connie & Jack Raven

11:30 am

Parishioners

6:00 pm FLC McPherson Chapel

+ Fury & Alvene Dalla rq Theresa Marcum



*Join us for Morning Prayer
weekdays at 7:15 am*

Readings for the Week

26 Monday: Zechariah 8: 1-8 Luke 9: 46-50

27 Tuesday: Zechariah 8: 20-23 Luke 9: 51-56

28 Wednesday: Nehemiah 2: 1-8 Luke 9: 57-62

29 Thursday: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14 John 1: 47-51

30 Friday: Baruch 1: 15-22 Luke 10: 13-16

1/2 Saturday/Sunday: Isaiah 5: 1-7

(139A), Philippians 4: 6-9 Matthew 21: 33-43

Welcome Newcomers

Each First Sunday of the month various parish committees will host bagels, donuts and coffee in honor of newly registered parish members. Please take a few minutes to welcome them and their families by introducing yourself while enjoying a bagel or donut.

LITURGY

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held Friday mornings from 9: 15–Noon.

Parish Pastoral Council Events:

The Parish **census/survey cards** will be distributed at the Masses on September 24 & 25 to be filled out during Mass. The information on these cards will be kept confidential. The data collected will be critical to Parish planning and our ongoing efforts to meet the spiritual needs of all our parishioners. To take the survey online beginning Monday, September 19th, log onto our website www.stcolumbacatholic.org and click on the Survey icon. The survey will take about 10 minutes of your time.

Congratulations to **Mike Carey** and **Eileen Paez** for being chosen to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council.

Thank you to all those who discerned this call and attended the information evenings.

Liturgical Ministry Workshop for lectors, ushers, Eucharistic ministers, musicians and choirs will be Sunday, October 9, from 12:30 to 3:00 pm in the St. Columba School Gym. The guest presenter will be Judy Sturdevent who will be talking about the new Mass changes. Please bring a sack lunch, beverages will be provided. RSVP to the Parish office at 247-0044.

STEWARDSHIP

Gifts of & Treasure

Last week: \$6,568.00

September total: \$26,578.00

Thank you for your generosity
as a community doing God's work on earth.

Dear Fr. Jim,

Please thank the parish for their kindness and generosity. They welcomed me so well.

Thank you for inviting me to share *Food for the Poor* ministry with your parish. Know you, the staff and the parish will be in my prayers.

Love & Prayer,
Fr. Tony

The next **highway clean up** is on Saturday, October 1st, at 10 am. Lunch to follow at Fr. Jim's house. The sign up sheet is in the back of the church.

A very special thank you to Sean McLaughlin for donating and installing the bench outside the front of the church as his Eagle Scout project.

CHILDREN FORMATION

Tying It Together: *Communicating the Children's Catholic Formation with Parents and the Greater St. Columba Parish*

Mission: to guide our children into the traditions and morals of Catholic life while building a community of children who have a relationship with Jesus and do God's work on earth.

We begin each Sunday in the St. Columba School Gym with prayer, worship and song from (10:00-10:15 am) The children gather for grade level learning about our Catholic faith from 10:15-11:10 am. We all return to the School gym for closing prayer.

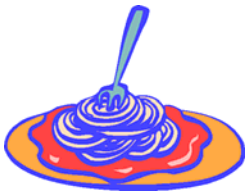
Parents must sign their child(ren) in/out and are especially encouraged to participate in our opening and closing prayer. Parents are always welcome.

September 25 10:00-11:15, Children's Formation



YOUTH MINISTRY - FLAME

Exploring, growing, transforming in our Catholic faith



DHS students-Our next **lunch bunch** is **Thursday, October 6th**. All high school students are encouraged to join us at the fairgrounds for a Spaghetti Dinner!

ADULT FORMATION

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the spiritual journey through which adults become full, active, participating members of the Catholic Church.

- Do you have a friend asking you about the Church?
- Do you know an adult who wants to celebrate Confirmation?
- Would you like to invite a friend to return to the Church?

RCIA is the place to start asking questions! Our gathering for September 29 is "*Intro to the Bible, Misselatte and Catholicism for Dummies*".

For more information, please contact Beth Parrott x16 bparrott@catholicweb.com

Vocations Walk with the Bishop!

High school youth are invited to go on the annual vocations pilgrimage with Bishop Isern San Francisco-San Luis October 14-15, 2011 Cost \$20 Register at the Parish office or contact Emily



Confirmation— Our next Confirmation preparation class will be October 2 from 12:30-2:30 pm. A light lunch will be provided.

MS Formation— Meets this Sunday in the Music Room. If you're a middle school student interested in learning and growing in your Catholic faith, join us!

HS Youth Group-Sunday, September 25 from 10-11:15 am in the Parish Center. We will focus on the process of discernment, an essential process in our personal spiritual journey. Want to know how to figure it all out? Join us!

MS Youth Group—Our next meeting is Thursday, September 29 from 6-7:15 pm in the school gym. Our night will focus on justice and service where we'll discover the meaning behind "Serving like a Saint." Join us as we play a rousing round of "Who Wants to be a Saint"!

Day of Service—MS and HS youth are encouraged to participate in a Day of Service, Saturday, October 1. Students have the opportunity to serve with Fr. Jim in the quarterly highway cleanup or serve with the Newman Club at the Durango Community Shelter. Sign up to serve our community!

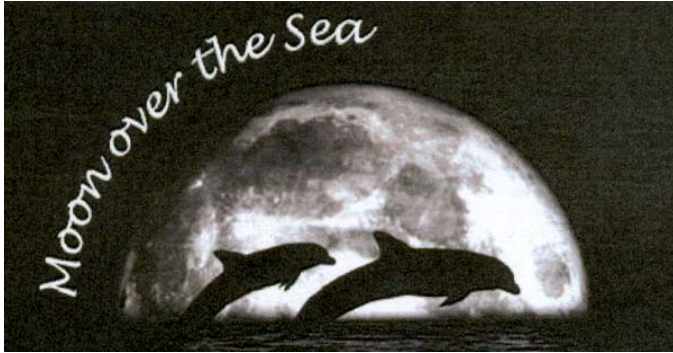
Save the Date! — Sunday, October 30th, World Youth Day Youth Mass in Cortez, CO.

See our full calendar of events online at
www.stcolumbathcatholic.org/Youth/upcomingevents.html
Emily Brabham x12 stcolumbaflame@gmail.com



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Gala & Auction



The top bidder at the October 22 Auction and Gala, "Moon Over the Sea" will take home this outstanding hand-crafted 16 foot flat water canoe!



Tickets are \$30.00 per person, 10 people per table. For tickets or more information, contact Kathrene Frautschy, Director of Development at 385-4674/saintckath@earthlink.net.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

We welcome into the Church through Baptism:

Juliet Renae Huckabay
granddaughter of Gene and
Jenny Treanor



Journey with Francis of Assisi "Grow Where you Are Planted"

Everyone is welcome to join us for three evenings exploring Franciscan Spirituality, Francis' life & True Joy. George Sabol will lead the journey on Mondays, October 3, 10 & 17, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Parish Center.

Parish Service Weekend October 1-2, 2011

Three ways to get involved:

- **Highway clean-up with Fr. Jim.** Please sign up in the back of church. Meet Saturday, October 1 at 10am at the parish office. Lunch will be at Fr. Jim's afterwards!
- **Middle/High school day of service** at the VOA-Durango Community Shelter with the Newman Club. Sign up in advance with Emily. Lunch will be at the Newman Center afterwards!
- **Replenish the shelves** of our parish food pantry in preparation for the holidays. Pick up a bag with a list of needed items in the back of church and bring back next weekend.

We're all called to be the hands of Christ to others. Be a part of *a community doing God's work on earth* through faith and **action** next weekend!



PARISH MEETINGS

Tuesday 27

- 8:15 am Bible Leaders
- 2:00 pm Four Corners Ministry
- 6:00 pm PPC
- 6:30 pm Grief Support Group
- 6:30 pm KC Officers
-

Wednesday 28

- 1:00 pm Jail Ministry
- 6:30 pm Bible Study
-

Thursday 29

- 6:00 pm MS Youth Group
- 6:30 pm RCIA
-

Friday 30

- 10:00 am Bible Study

NEWMAN CLUB

Catholic Campus Ministry at Fort Lewis College aka the **Newman Club** will be having **Mass on Sept. 25 at 6:00 pm** in the McPherson Chapel.

Please visit our website:

flcnewmanclub.weebly.com for more information on scheduled events **or contact Wivina Vigil, Campus Minister at (970) 903-6896.**

Faith, Food and Fellowship will be held on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at the Newman Center (1100 Goeglein Gulch Rd. #206) On September 27th we will continue our discussion of the new missal.

Scripture Sharing with Deacon Van will resume Sunday, September 25th at 10:15 am in the Parish Library. Everyone is welcome!

62

days until
November 27,
2011



MOUNTAIN MONDAYS



No scheduled hike this Monday. We'll get in some fall hikes before the weather changes to snow. *Fr. Jim*

IN THE COMMUNITY

+ **Silent Meadows, A Place of Prayer** offers spiritual day retreats for adults:

- **St. Paul, Spiritual Guide**, Reflect on key passages of St. Paul's Epistles. Saturday, October 1, 2011;
- **Sermon on the Mount**, Discover the relevance of the beatitudes for today's spiritual journey. Friday, October 7, 2011.

To register call Mary Ann Maslak, 759-2833.

www.silentmeadowsretreat.com

+ **Durango Senior Center** is looking for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels. Please call Carol at 382-6435 if you can help.

+ **Colorado Life Work Foundation** presents a six-week informal gathering for a discussion on *The Gift of Years* by Joan Chittister. Its short and succinct chapters deal with adjustments to aging. Please join us to share your thoughts and feelings beginning Monday, October 3rd from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. The \$50.00 fee includes a copy of the book. For more information and location please call Alice at 375-2313.

+ **Advocacy for La Plata and Fatherhood Program** will screen *Absent* by award-winning documentary filmmaker Justin Hunt on Thursday, September 29. Show times are 6 & 8:15 pm at the Abbey Theater. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased on the Abbey website www.abbeytheater.com. The film event complements a free workshop called "The 7 Habits of a 24/7 Dad" on Saturday, September 24 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Durango Recreation Center. Hunt will be on hand to present the documentary and to participate in a question and answer session with the audience. For more information contact Advocacy for La Plata director Eve Pressler at 375-1433.

Look for the **Living Faith** devotions booklet for October, November and December in the back of church this weekend.



"The vibrancy of our parish community depends on our young families. Their active presence adds richness to the experience of the entire parish family, while preparing the next generation of our Catholic Church."

Rev. James F. Koenigsfeld, Pastor

St. Columba parish announces: **Early Catholic Family Life** fall sessions, beginning **Saturday, October 8** (3:00-4:45 pm) in the St. Columba preschool. This program is designed specifically for families with young children. Christian parents have as their first responsibility the education of their children. Regarding each child as a child of God makes it a privilege and responsibility of parents to evangelize their child at an early age in preparation for a living faith. It precedes, accompanies and enriches other forms of instruction.

It is in the communion of persons where children learn moral values, where they begin to honor God, learn care and responsibility for others.

The seven-week Early Catholic Family Life program provides a unique opportunity for parents to affirm and strengthen one another in their role as Catholic parents and as the educators of their children in our Catholic faith.

The program for parents of children from birth to 5 years of age emphasizes the importance of putting faith at the center of family life. The program is designed to assist parents in teaching their children in their very earliest years about Jesus, prayer, and Catholicism.

The sessions consist of a parent-child activity, parent study and discussion, and children's time. For busy families, the parent-child activity provides an especially valuable opportunity for parents to focus their every attention to sharing and exploring a specific faith theme. The program is hosted by a team of trained volunteer facilitators, with incredible assistance from St. Columba Preschool faculty.



Program topics include:

Growing in faith as a family

The role and responsibility of Catholic parents

The spirituality of children

Parents' prayers, children's prayers, family prayers

Jesus as a Catholic parent's model for teaching

Keeping the Lord's day holy through worship, celebration and rest

Moral foundations of our faith

To learn more about Early Catholic Family Life, including how you and your child/ren can participate in this free parish program, contact Beth Parrott, Children's Formation Coordinator 970/247-0044 or bparrott@catholicweb.com.



Sharing "father – son" time exploring God's creation.