

# NOVEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 All Saints' Day	2 All Souls' Day
3 Resumed 4th Sunday after Epiphany	4 Bible Study p.m.	5 Parish Consecration to Our Lady begins	6	7	8 Abortion Vigil Noon	9 Ladies Tea hosted by Roses of Mary
10 Resumed 5th Sunday after Epiphany	11 Adult Catechism Class 7 p.m.	12	13	14	15	16 Altar Guild  Men's Schola
17 Resumed 6th Sunday after Epiphany	18 Bible Study 7 p.m.	19	20	21	22	23
24 24th and Last Sunday after Pentecost	25 Adult Catechism Class 7 p.m.	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day Mass at 8 a.m.	29 All-Night Adoration begins 7 p.m.	30 All-Night Adoration ends 7:45 a.m.

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

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

**Sacramental Emergency:**  
**(719) 464-6129**

**Parish Registration, Records, Inquiries:**  
cosfssp@gmail.com

**www.COSFSSP.org**

**VOLUNTEERS**

**St. Benedict Altar Guild**  
Fr. Dennis Gordon: (719) 382-0121  
Nathan Wike: cosfssp.altarguild@gmail.com

**Choir**  
Kelsey Villalobos: (719) 651-9800

**Ushers**  
Kris McCowen: (719) 352-1519

**Pro-Life Events**  
Michael Smiley (719) 502-9149  
Michelle Smiley (719) 447-7236

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

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

**Take-Them-a-Meal/Sunday Brunch**  
Marcella Guilez dmjmfamilyleve@aol.com

**Housekeeping**  
Jennifer Villalobos: (719) 651-8135

**Bulletin**  
Jill Demian: JMDemian@tutanota.com

**Please pray for:**

**Parishioners who serve our nation:**

2nd. Lt. Andrew Rodgers, U.S. Army  
Lt. Col. Lynn W. Sullivan, U.S. Army  
Staff Sgt. Marc Snyder, U.S. Marine Corps  
Pvt. Michael Thomo, U.S. Army  
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

Master Sgt. Chris Biery, U.S. Air Force  
1st Lt. Jack Deeney, U.S. Army  
Spec. 2 Victor Follis, U.S. Space Force  
Petty Officer 1st Class Paula Gennitti,  
U.S. Navy  
1st Lt. Adam Giammattei, U.S. Army  
Sgt. Major Chad Keirns, U.S. Army  
1st Lt. Jeffrey LaCoste, U.S. Space Force  
1st Lt. Mary McCowen, U.S. Army

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter ~ Tridentine Mass



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

NOVEMBER 10, 2024

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY (RESUMED)



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

**Confessions:**  
One-half hour before Mass  
Saturdays 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.**

# IN SILENCE *with* G O D: First Thoughts and Emotions

*In Silence with God*, by Abbot Benedict Baur, O.S.B.

There is one special form of temptation that raises its head in the first thoughts and emotions we are constantly experiencing. First impressions — the moment we become aware of anything — produce a natural, involuntary reaction that determines our later attitude. Sometimes it calls forth judgements that are unloving or rebellious — thoughts based on self-sufficiency or vanity, on envy, jealousy, superiority, bitterness, anger, impatience or curiosity, sensuality, attraction, and repulsion; a whole wilderness of involuntary thoughts and emotions that take priority over free will and cause us, generally speaking, a great deal of trouble.

First thoughts and emotions are not sins. They are natural and necessary processes, leading to the determination of free will. It is inevitable that a nature not yet perfect should have, for example, impulses of envy and jealousy the moment it sees more honor paid to a fellow man. It depends largely on the nature of an individual — whether he is drawn to certain people, repelled by others. Some people are by nature quickly excited when anything goes wrong — when their will is crossed or their plans or wishes miscarry. A man may do his utmost to rise above physical desires to a more spiritual plane and yet continue to have the most disturbingly sensual thoughts and desires.

First thoughts and emotions, carrying within them the germs of temptation, are a true cross to be borne by the aspirant to virtue; they are trials sent by God in His divine love God allows us to be subject to

these reactions in order that they may reduce us to shame and show us our own inner corruption; how much in us is still ugly, lawless, unworthy, perverted, and ignoble; how mean and unspiritual we are in our thoughts, judgments, wishes, impulses, feelings, attractions, and repulsions.

The cross is a healing medium. That is God's purpose in the many painful and humiliating thoughts and emotions He allows us to experience. If we approach these perversions in the right way, we can draw healing benefits from our pride and self-conceit, from our self-satisfaction and self-love. This healing comes about when we recognize how wicked and selfish, how small-minded, mean, and ill-intentioned we are by nature, and how greatly we stand in need of God's help and grace. They can actually become a means of healing. Daily and hourly these thoughts and emotions give us renewed proof of our inner corruption. As we recognize what our faults are, we become willing to learn, and this fortifies us in the virtue that is the foundation and necessary starting point of all virtue — humility. "It is good for me that Thou has humbled me; that I may learn justification" (*Psalms 118:71*).

These thoughts and feelings can become indispensable aids to virtue and holiness. An emotion contrary to love may arise. No sooner are we aware of this than our will steps in to counteract the thought — and a blow has been struck for the virtue of love. We may become aware of a prompting to impatience. At once

## Upcoming Parish Events

### November 11 ~ *Adult Catechism*

Fr. James Gordon will continue his series of lectures on Spiritual Theology 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

### November 16 ~ *St. Gregory Men's Schola*

The men-only schola will rehearse Saturday from 9:30 a.m.–11 a.m. For more information or to join, contact Kelsey Villalobos, (719) 651-9800.

### November 16 ~ *Altar Guild*

Altar-serving practice after 8 a.m. Mass. For more information or to join, contact Fr. Dennis Gordon, (719) 382-0121.

### November 18 ~ *Bible Study*

Fr. Dennis Gordon continues his lectures on the Gospel of Matthew, 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Next week: chapter 27.

we turn to our Lord, declaring ourselves ready to submit to the unpleasantness with which we are faced — and thereby practice the virtue of patience. A feeling of self-satisfaction may arise in us. It reminds us that we are still in bondage to personal pride. Instantly we convert the thought into an act of humility.

We meet the first stirrings of sensuality with the assertion "I belong to Thee, O Lord," and a prayer for the virtue of chastity stands to our account. In this manner, first thoughts and emotions become daily and hourly opportunities to strengthen ourselves in virtue, in grace. In fact, we should be deprived of endless opportunities if God sent us no first thoughts and emotions. All that is necessary is to recognize these impromptu inner processes and to handle them in the right way.

Not only our peace of mind but also the development of our inner life in its striving toward virtue hinges largely on the manner in

which we relate ourselves for practical purposes to first thoughts and emotions. Here we come to the parting of ways. Should we take the left-hand road, which leads to self-indulgence and self-love, or the right-hand road of self-humiliation and loving submission to the cross that is laid upon us?

Many allow themselves to be confused by first thoughts and emotions. They regard them as sins that cannot be overcome and, discouraged, give up the struggle before it has really begun. Others believe they can eventually rid themselves of these thoughts and emotions and imagine that perfection will have been reached if only they can accomplish this task.

They are unhappy and angry that such feelings keep recurring; so beset with self-love and secret pride they are. Many, if not most of us, are not quite clear in their minds about these thoughts and emotions and adopt a defensive attitude toward them. Consequently, such people become excited and nerv-

## MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THIS WEEK

### Monday, November 11 ~ *St. Martin of Tours*

8 a.m. — Melissa A. Steenson

### Tuesday, November 12 ~ *St. Martin I*

8 a.m. — Jordan Flanegin, by Greg Strobel

### Wednesday, November 13 ~ *St. Frances Xavier Cabrini*

8 a.m. — Joseph Ivancik, by Ivancik Family

### Thursday, November 14 ~ *St. Josaphat*

6 p.m. — + Mildred Breitenstein, by G. Breitenstein

### Friday, November 15 ~ *St. Albert the Great*

8 a.m. — + Arnold Robles

### Saturday, November 16 ~ *St. Gertrude the Great*

8 a.m. — Walsh Family, by John Walsh

### Sunday, November 17 ~ *Sixth Resumed Sunday after Epiphany*

7 a.m. — Private Intention

9 a.m. — + Della TeGrotenhuis, by John TeGrotenhuis

11 a.m. — *Pro Populo*

Fr. James and Fr. Dennis Gordon are accepting Mass intentions.

Limit one Mass intention per family per month.

ous. They live in daily apprehension lest a feeling of self-satisfaction, an impure idea, an unloving thought, or a momentary impulse of impatience should assail them. Without knowing it, they increase their tendency to these reactions by their very effort to repress them. Sinking deeper and deeper into remorse and confusion, they subject themselves to mental torture and become victims to the very self-preoccupations with which they are trying to fight their rebellious feelings.

Certainly we are obliged to fight our rebellious feelings, but in the right way. The most important

point is to see them in true perspective — that is, as things that God sends to spur us on to perfection in virtue. We do not desire them — and we must never lose sight of this. But we must submit humbly and patiently to the recognition of our failings and acknowledge our unworthiness.

Instead of this, we so often go to work at them the wrong way by asserting ourselves and seeking forcefully to repress them. We take pains to knock on the head of everything that awakens in us. It is almost as if our piety demanded to be shielded against all annoyances.

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