

Dear Padre,

I am left-handed. Why doesn't the church allow the sign of the cross to be made left-handed?

A Catholic who is unable to make the sign of the cross with the right hand is certainly permitted to do so with the left. There is no rule against it. When Pope Saint John Paul II injured his right arm, he used his left hand to impart his blessing.

The sign of the cross is a sacramental, one of the symbols that identifies you as a Roman Catholic. Just like all such symbolic gestures, there is an expected uniformity. To use a secular example, at a University of Texas football game, fans of the Longhorns give the "hook-'em horns" sign. You wouldn't give the "thumbs-up" sign instead. It would be confusing.

It's true that at one time, the left hand was associated with evil. Jesus sends the goats to sit at his left and the sheep to his right. (See Matthew 25:33.) And, throughout the Scriptures, we read that Jesus sits at the right hand of God. (See Mark 16:19) The word "sinister" is from the Latin *sinister*, meaning "left."

Left-handedness is no longer associated with evil. If you wish to make the sign of the cross with your left hand, you may. But do consider why you are doing it. Most left-handed people have no trouble using their right hand for many simple tasks. If your purpose is a bit rebellious, maybe realize that signifying unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ is more important. ●



ALFONSO / CATHOPIC

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday
MARCH 16

Lenten Weekday
Is 65:17-21
Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday
MARCH 17

Lenten Weekday
Ez 47:1-9, 12
Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday
MARCH 18

Lenten Weekday
Is 49:8-15
Jn 5:17-30

Thursday
MARCH 19

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
2 Sm 7:4-5a,
12-14a, 16

Sunday
MARCH 22

Fifth Sunday of Lent
Ez 37:12-14
Rom 8:8-11

Friday
MARCH 20

Lenten Weekday
Wis 2:1a, 12-22
Jn 7:1-2, 10,
25-30

Saturday
MARCH 21

Lenten Weekday
Jer 11:18-20
Jn 7:40-53

Sunday
MARCH 22

Fifth Sunday of Lent
Ez 37:12-14
Rom 8:8-11

Sunday
MARCH 22

Fifth Sunday of Lent
Ez 37:12-14
Rom 8:8-11
Jn 11:1-45 or
11:3-7, 17, 20-27,
33b-45



MARCO IACOBILLO EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Dear brothers and sisters, let us trustfully bring our ailments before Jesus, and also those of our loved ones; let us bring the pain of those who feel lost and without a way out. Let us cry out for them too, and we will be certain that the Lord will hear us.

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 11, 2025

Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a / Ephesians 5:8-14 /

John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38



Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth.

EPHESIANS 5:8B-9

Born Free

MIGUEL DULICK

Today's gospel, the healing of the man born blind, is a terrific story that includes many details. Notice that Jesus, who has his own agenda, "so that the works of God might be made visible through him," does not even wait for the man to ask to be healed. But the man is a willing subject, allowing mud and saliva to be smeared on his eyes, agreeing to go to Siloam and wash. And, he's a quick learner. At first, all he knows is "the man called Jesus" healed him. Soon, however, he's calling Jesus "a prophet." Then, as a "division" ("schism" in the original) opens among the authorities and even in his own family, he defends Jesus' divine calling when the Pharisees mock Jesus as a "sinner." Finally, expelled from the synagogue, the man finds Jesus waiting for him with the ultimate revelation: he sees before him the Son of Man, "and he worshiped him."

Now, maybe we weren't born blind, but I venture to say a lot of us are short-sighted. Do I "see the works of God"? Starting from "the man called Jesus," do I keep going forward in faith, defending Jesus when he is mocked by people, to a deeper, fuller reality than even my own family may not understand? All the way to adoration, worship, a total handing over of my whole self to the Son of Man? Or, as Thomas would later say, when his own eyes were opened, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). ●



LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Reflect

This week, I will pray for my eyes to be opened to something important for me to see.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church Telluride, CO

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Facebook: facebook.com/StPatricksTelluride

Please visit our website & Facebook page for the most up-to-date information on Holy Mass times and other important announcements.

Pastoral Information:

Pastor: Rev. Mariusz Wirkowski
Bookkeeper: Cindy Wyszynski
DRE: Katrina Aumiller

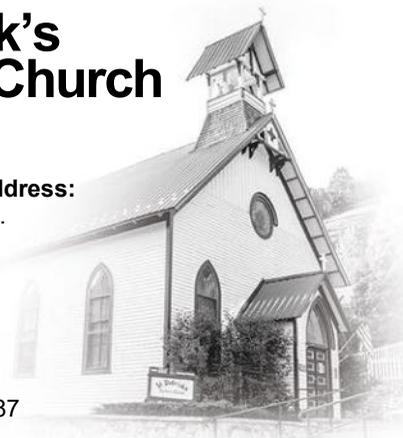
Holy Mass & Confession Schedule:

Saturday: 5:30 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Tuesday - 7:00 PM; Wednesday – Friday: 8:00 AM
Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil - 5:30 PM and 8:00 AM

Confessions: 30min. prior to each Holy Mass (or by appointment)

Holy Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows Mission, Nucla.

Sunday: 12:00 Noon
Holy Days of Obligation - 6:00 PM



March 15th, 2026 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Holy Mass Intentions:

Saturday, March 14th
5:30 PM - Missa Pro Populo

Sunday, March 15th
9:00 AM - Deceased Members of Schnider family.

Tuesday, March 17th - St. Patrick's Day
7:00 PM - For All Parishioners

Wednesday, March 18th
8:00 AM - +Mary Frances Nault

Thursday, March 19th
8:00 AM - +Benjamin Stanfield

Friday, March 20th
8:00 AM - Gary & Katrina Aumiller

Saturday, March 21st
5:30 PM - Rafaela Gutierrez Valtierra

Sunday, March 22nd
9:00 AM - Missa Pro Populo

*If you would like to have a Holy Mass intention for your loved ones, living or deceased, please contact the Parish Office by calling: 970-728-3387 or place your request in the collection basket near the entrance of the church.
- Suggested donation for each mass is \$10.*

Healing Prayers - Rezos Por Tus Curaciones

Let us pray for those who have asked for our prayers...

Kevin Kiernan, Bob Kammer, Cody Couture, Dakota Couture, Eric Block, Judy Donnelly, Mike Napolitano, Mary E. Lynch, Liz Bradley, Care Bear, Carl Carson, Joshua Nault, Phil Couture, Jose Cuaron, Kim Lynch, Allison Myer, Marianne Edward, CarolAnn O'Dea, Juan Esparza, Martha Gagliano, Stanislaw Kowalczyk

Upcoming Events: *All Are Welcome!*

First Fridays of the month - Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus - Holy Mass and Adoration - 8:00 AM.

Tuesdays: 6:00 PM- Holy Adoration. **7:00 PM –** Holy Mass

Second Tuesdays of month: 7:30 PM – Men's Group

Wednesdays: 7:30 AM
Women's Group Faith Fun Fellowship – Church

Thursdays: 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Eucharistic Adoration & Holy Mass - Church

First Sunday of the month - Holy Adoration 30 minutes before each Holy Mass.

Each Sunday during Summer- Coffee and donuts after 9:00 AM Holy Mass.

Last Saturday of the month - Bilingual Holy Mass

*"So also we, being many, are one body in Christ, and each one is a part, the one of the other."
Romans 12:5*

Parish Announcements:

We would like to welcome all Visitors who are with us celebrating the Holy Mass this weekend.

Please check our **Parish Website /Calendar** for updated schedule of events.

Please join us for praying the Holy Rosary on Sundays before 9:00 AM Holy Mass. It starts at 8:30 AM.

Stations of the Cross – Fridays during Lent at 5:30 PM.

During Lent we will offer Bible Study: **"No Greater Love: Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion"**. Every Thursday night at 6:00 PM.

St. Patrick Day celebration sign-up sheets at the back of the Church.

Last Week's Collection: \$ 1,505.00

Please visit: stpatrickstelluride.com/donate to offer your financial support.

*"For where your treasure is, there also is your heart."
Mathew 6:21*

Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Today we celebrate Forth Sunday of Lent. A time of slowing down in our busy daily lives; a time of taking personal spiritual inventory; a time of practicing more of prayer, almsgiving and fasting. But, during this time we will also celebrate some feasts. One of them is St. Patrick Day, our Parish Saint Patron. On this day we will celebrate St. Patrick's Day Holy Mass at 5:00 PM followed by Traditional Corned-beef and Cabbage Dinner, Shamrock Bingo and Irish Jig Contest.

Who: Parishioners and visitors of all ages (not open to the general public).

When: Tuesday, March 17th, 2026. Holy Mass at 5:00 PM; dinner at 6:00 PM.

Where: St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 301 North Spruce Street (church basement).

Cost: \$15/per adult; \$5/per child (children under 3 Free).

Includes: Traditional corned-beef and cabbage buffet dinner with sides, dessert and beverages PLUS each paid guest will receive ONE (1) reusable Shamrock Bingo card good for the evening of multiple bingo games. Additional bingo cards may be purchased for \$5/card. We will have prizes for each winner. A blessed gathering to enjoy good food, great fun, fantastic prizes – **Grand Prize** is a gift certificate for overnight stay at the Inn at the Lost Creek Hotel in Mountain Village!

Starting on February 21st, we will have a sign up sheet available at the church entrance after each Holy Mass and will collect payment by cash or check. If you have any questions, please email the Parish Office spctelluride@gmail.com or 970-728-3387. We are thrilled to host this event to celebrate Saint Patrick and we look forward to seeing you there!

Viva Cristo Rey!

