



SACRED HEART REVEALED

WELCOME TO

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sacred Heart Parish Newsletter

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO



In this newsletter:

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- Volunteer Appreciation
- First Profession of Vows/
Welcome New Novices!
- Sacraments: First Holy
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- Welcome Deacons!
- Servant of God
Br. Columba O'Neill icon

Want to submit an idea to be featured in the newsletter? Contact Grace Donnelly at communications@sacredheartcos.org

Introduction

Welcome back to Sacred Heart Revealed, our new semi-annual e-newsletter for Sacred Heart Parish! If you are new to our parish or missed our last edition, let's catch up! We created this newsletter to share the accomplishments and activities of our busy, dynamic parish community. Sometimes, a weekly bulletin doesn't have enough space to share everything that we are doing. That is where this newsletter comes in!

We aim to showcase the activities and accomplishments of our parish, highlighting what makes us great. Our parish does amazing work in the life of the church, the parish community, and in the community where we live. We want to share that with you and hope you enjoy reading this e-newsletter.

PARISH PICNIC

On August 30, 2026, we hosted our annual Parish Picnic at Bear Creek Park in Colorado Springs. There was food, fellowship, and our annual Corn Hole Tournament. We also got the chance to meet our 10 new Holy Cross Novices. Thank you to everyone who participated in our picnic. Special thanks to Picnic Coordinators Lydia Bowsky and Debbie McMonigle, all of our picnic volunteers, and our Knights of Columbus.

Visit our website
sacredheartcos.org
to view all of the
pictures from the
parish picnic!



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteer Catechists & Youth Ministry Volunteers

On May 31, 2026, we showed our appreciation for our parish's Volunteer Catechists and Youth Ministry Volunteers with a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Thank you, Catechists!



If you would like to volunteer as a Catechist or with our Youth Ministry, please contact Grace Donnelly, Volunteer Coordinator, at communications@sacredheartcos.org

Thank you, Shower to the People Ministry Volunteers

DID YOU KNOW?

Our Shower to the People Ministry offers our neighbors in need the opportunity to take a shower on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Since the beginning of the year, we have offered **1,907** showers as of August 2026.

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Volunteer
- Pray for this ministry
- Donate on our website sacredheartcos.org, or in the offertory basket at Mass.

On July 18, 2026, our Shower to the People Volunteers gathered together for a fellowship BBQ and to show our appreciation for all they do.

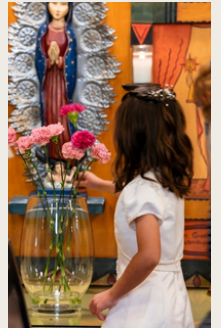


Want to Volunteer? The Shower to the People Ministry needs new volunteers, both male and female, for Tuesday & Thursday shifts. Training is provided. Contact Michael Boice, Ministry Co-Coordinator, at boice.michael@yahoo.com.

SACRAMENTS

First Communion

On May 3, 2026, ten children of our parish received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. They also participated in the crowning of Mary. Special thanks to the Volunteer Catechists who prepared the children for the Sacrament: Vianney Murlon, CSC, Anna Kilpela, and Hannah Kovach (pictured below, middle).



Confirmation

On June 4, 2026, ten youth of our parish received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Special thanks to the Volunteer Catechists who prepared the youth for the Sacrament: Katie Twitchell, Sean Lowe & Austin Winkler. After the Sacrament, the newly confirmed and their families were invited to a celebration dinner in the Parish Center. Special thanks to Mary Cichello, Dora Gonzales, Sharon Marron, Debbie McMonigle, and Sydney Nazario for preparing and serving the dinner!



GOD BLESS THE CHILDREN & YOUTH OF OUR PARISH

FIRST PROFESSION OF VOWS

On August 1, 2026, our Holy Cross Novices made their First Profession of Vows at Sacred Heart Church. Afterwards, the newly professed, their families, and parishioners were invited to a reception in the Parish Center.

Goodbye, Newly Professed!

We thank our former Novices, now newly professed, for their service at our parish! We will pray for you on your spiritual journey to ordination.



DID YOU KNOW?

10 new Holy Cross Novices have joined our community!

Front Row (L-R): Br. Austin Brezina, CSC, Mr. Cannon Van Handel, CSC, Mr. John Babbo, CSC, Mr. TJ Dulac, CSC, Mr. David Galewski, CSC

Back Row (L-R): Mr. Sam Sapita, CSC, Mr. Jamie McDonough, CSC, Mr. Sam Pisney, CSC, Mr. Paul Gates, CSC, Mr. Dylan Goitz, CSC



SACRED HEART PARISH DEACONS

Sacred Heart Parish is blessed to have three Deacons assigned to our parish: Deacon Bob Elliott, Deacon Wally Sandoval, and Deacon Mark Thuli.

Deacon Bob Elliott



I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all the kind words and warm welcomes I have received. I have seen many old friends and familiar faces, making me feel as though I have arrived home after a long absence. I am both humbled and blessed to have been assigned to Sacred Heart.

I have been asked to write a letter introducing myself to the community, and in doing so, I find myself tasked with the very thing I am least comfortable doing—talking about myself! So, I'll begin with what is most important to me: my family.

My wife, Teresa, and I will celebrate thirty-two years of marriage this year. We are blessed with three wonderful children: Jeff, Logan, and Michaela.

Jeff and our daughter-in-law, Tara, live here in Colorado Springs and are the proud parents of our five grandchildren, whose ages range from fifteen to three years old. I suspect you will have the opportunity to meet all of them soon enough.

Our son, Logan, is a data analyst living in Omaha, Nebraska, and our daughter, Michaela, resides in Orlando, Florida, where she works in the behavioral health field.

Teresa and I met in Omaha in 1992 while I was attending dental school at Creighton University. I graduated from Creighton with a major in Biology in 1990 and later earned my Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1994 from Creighton Dental School. Shortly after our marriage that same year, we moved to Colorado, where I established and operated a solo dental practice in Woodland Park. I had the privilege of serving that community until my retirement in 2023.

Throughout those years, Teresa worked faithfully alongside me. She served as my chairside assistant for twenty years and later as our office manager for the final nine years of the practice. We truly shared the ministry of caring for our patients together.

In 2020, I was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate for the Diocese of Colorado Springs by Bishop Sheridan. Since ordination, I have been blessed to serve several parish communities. My first assignment was at Our Lady of the Woods in Woodland Park, where I served for two years. I then spent three years at St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish, followed by one year at St. Dominic Parish. Now, I am blessed to begin this new chapter of ministry with all of you here at Sacred Heart.

As I continue serving this parish community, I look forward to getting to know each of you, praying with you, and walking together in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ. Please know that I am grateful for your welcome and ask for your prayers as I begin this new assignment. Be assured of my prayers for all of you and your families as well.

May God continue to bless our Sacred Heart family. Your Servant in Christ, Deacon Bob

Deacon Bob was assigned to our parish in June 2026. We thank him for his service to our parish!

Deacon Wally Sandoval



Deacon Waldemar (Wally) Sandoval was born in Brooklyn, New York, where he lived until he retired from the Building Service Industry in Colorado Springs in 2022. He was ordained in 2006 and served for 16 years at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, the motherhouse of the Paulist Fathers in New York. He and his wife, Yolanda, have been married for 51 years and have three children and five grandchildren. He enjoys flying small airplanes, hiking, and gardening. Deacon Wally and Yolanda volunteer with the Pastoral Care Ministry at our parish. Deacon Wally will serve with Deacon Bob Elliott and Deacon Mark Thuli at our parish.

Deacon Wally was assigned to our parish in October 2025. Thank you for your service to our parish!

Deacon Mark Thuli



Deacon Mark Thuli was born and raised in the Catholic Church. While approaching the end of his career as an air traffic controller, Deacon Mark knew that he wanted to serve the Catholic Church. About that time, he was asked by his current pastor to consider a ministry as an acolyte in the church. A few years later, he was asked by another priest to consider becoming a deacon. Soon after, he entered the diaconal training program in the Diocese of Colorado Springs. Ordained by Bishop Sheridan in 2020, he has served as a deacon in Woodland Park, Cripple Creek, and Colorado Springs. Deacon Mark has been married to Karen for over 41 years. They have 3 married children and 5 grandchildren.

Deacon Mark was assigned to our parish in September 2025. Thank you for your service to our parish!

Where did Deacon Dave Illingworth go?

Deacon Dave Illingworth faithfully served our parish from February 2025 to March 2026. He and his wife moved back home to Texas to be closer to their family. He requested that we not have a goodbye celebration. We thank him for his faithful service to our parish.

SERVANT OF GOD BR. COLUMBA O'NEILL ICON

On June 12, 2026, we celebrated the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at our parish. During this Mass, Fr. Jarrod blessed and permanently installed a Br. Columba O'Neill icon located in the narthex of Sacred Heart Church.

Br. Columba O'Neill was a cobbler at the University of Notre Dame for 38 years and was known for curing those with illness or ailment, taking no credit for the cures, but claiming they were the result of his "intercession to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

**Servant of God,
Br. Columba O'Neill,
Pray for us!**

