



COMMUNITY OF THE BEATITUDES



The Community of Denver the day of All Saints 2025 at Rocky Mountain Lake Park.

“The call of the Beatitudes is none other than life in Christ, in whom the Father has chosen us, to be his adopted sons since the beginning of all eternity, ‘for the praise of the glory of his grace.’”

Book of Life § 2

DEAR FRIENDS,

We are happy to share the good news that we have just welcomed our new Coordinator, Father John. He is from Switzerland, served on the General Council of the Community of the Beatitudes for about nine years, and comes to us after a year of missionary work in Germany. He is delighted to be here with us in Denver.

I would also like to share some news about Father Nilson, our previous Coordinator. Father Nilson had to leave Denver to care for his mother, who has Alzheimer's disease and lives in Brazil. Please keep him in your prayers!

Finally, we have other good news: Father Anthony, who is from Colorado, has returned after nine years abroad. In addition to his youth work, he serves as vicar at St. Frances Cabrini parish. We are grateful for each brother and sister and are happy to serve the Lord here in Colorado. Thank you for your prayers!

SISTER HELENE



The sisters attending the Undone Retreat organized by the *JP11 Healing Center* in Denver.



The Community celebrating the feast days of Sr. Magdalit and Sr. Helene in the garden at the convent in Denver.



SURPRISED BY GOD!

I'm from Lucerne, a lovely city in the center of Switzerland. I grew up in the German-speaking region of Switzerland, but my mother is from the French-speaking region. My baptismal name is *Uriel*, which is the name of the fourth Archangel according to Jewish tradition. For my perpetual vows in 2001, I received in addition the French name *Jean*, for St. John the Evangelist. Since "Jean-Uriel" is difficult for English speakers to pronounce, you can just call me Fr. John.

I entered the Community in 1993. After my diaconal ordination in 2003, I was sent back to my home country, where the Community was entrusted with a former Capuchin monastery in the heart of the old town in the city of Zug. There, I spent thirteen blessed and fulfilling years working primarily with young people and families.

Father John on a pilgrimage on foot from Assisi to Rome with 40 young adults from Switzerland.

After a night under the stars, surrounded by cows, pigs, and a few other animals, the group celebrated the Eucharist at sunrise.

The small red bell tower of the Monastery of the *Beatitudes* is part of Zug's cityscape. In the background is the famous *Mount Pilatus*.

After that, I was called to Toulouse to become part of the Community's leadership team, specifically for the Brothers' Branch. The nine years I spent in the service of the brothers and priests were enriching, but also very challenging.

So, I am grateful that I now have the opportunity to live and work in this beautiful place in Denver. I never thought that the Lord would send me to Colorado, but as is often the case, God far exceeds all our expectations!

I entrust myself to your prayers, so that I may not only faithfully proclaim the Gospel here, but also live it joyfully every day!



FATHER JOHN





After a morning of hiking in the beautiful hills of Italy on pilgrimage to Assisi, Fr. Anthony and the pilgrims stopped to celebrate mass near Valfabbrica, Italy.

MISSION IN MY OLD BACKYARD

After a summer of Jubilee hiking, camping, and praise in Europe, I arrived for my new assignment in Denver. The contagious joy of our young disciples and of an American Pope helped me open my heart to this new frontier; the mission: St. Frances Cabrini Parish.

As a seminarian, I got to know Cabrini's vibrant youth group and was asked to spend a week with the kids and their dedicated community after the tragic shooting in 1999.

Today I found the parish and youth group still fervent. Parishioners I've anointed have recounted how they helped found the parish in the seventies. Small communities have shared how they have persevered for decades. Playing games with the youth group, I have gotten to know the large core of young adults who lead the youth in "households", small groups, and 1-on-1 mentoring.

Over the years, the Beatitudes have also maintained a relationship with Cabrini, with Rose Petals evenings, Judaism classes, and a collaboration at the service of Jesus Our Hope hermitages.

The parish is far from St. Catherine's, and the commute has let me bring the religious habit and an evangelical smile out into the heart of the city, as I find various routes to combine biking, light rail, and skating.

At the end of August, we launched a weekly young adult gathering. Behold, a consistent group of around 30 young young adults is born, 18 to 24 years old, already entering into 1-on-1 discipleship, clinging to their weekly men's and women's small groups, and zealous for their newfound friendships!

FATHER ANTHONY



Fr. Anthony and the team of summer interns with St. Carlo Acutis at the Community in Nouan-le-Fuzelier, France.

CALLED TO HOLINESS



A visit to the “Eremo delle Carceri,” the hermitage of St. Francis and his brothers, about 2.5 miles from Assisi, hidden in the mountains of *Monte Subiaso*.

Encouraged by two Disciples of the Lamb, I set off again for the Eternal City this Holy Year. Our group of 22 young Americans was full of enthusiasm. First, in Assisi (July 24-27), 13 young men spent time on retreat away from work, phone, and routine. Supported by Brother Steven, we spent three days of retreat meditating on the “masculinity” of Jesus as presented in the Sermon on the Mount. “This trip has been an eye-opening and incredible experience,” said one pilgrim.

It was also fun, all in all, to grow in brotherhood with everyone. We felt the presence of St. Francis, St. Clare, and St. Carlo Acutis calling us to live a faithful life and to live our life like a saint. From Assisi we went to Rome (July 28-August 3), where other young men and women, along with Sister Magdalit, joined us for the Jubilee – Open Heaven. There we met about 200 young adults coming with the *Community of the Beatitudes* from France, Germany, Suisse, Lebanon, and Kazakhstan. It was such a blessing to experience this Jubilee of young people with one million other Catholics from across the world, praying and celebrating together with the Holy Father. The church is truly alive and it was amazing to see so many young people hungry for God.

FATHER NILSON



A part of the American group who chose the pilgrimage option with the Beatitudes, for their last evening in Rome, together with Sr. Magdalit, Br. Steven and Fr. Nilson.



The team of summer interns celebrating Shabbat in Nouan-le-Fuzelier, France.

A SUMMER WITH THE BEATITUDES



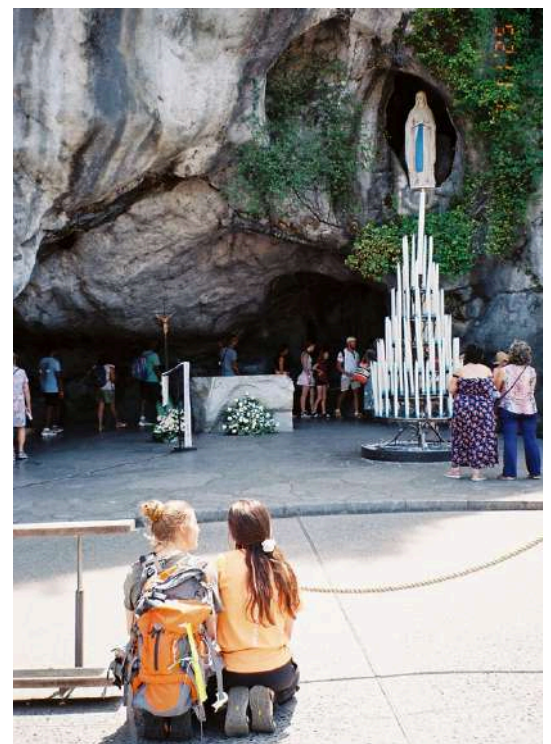
Hannah at the Basilica of Saint Therese in Lisieux.

This summer I had the privilege of serving as an intern for Beatitudes Missions for 10 weeks in France and Italy. God blessed my time abroad in Europe in so many amazing ways that I will cherish for the rest of my life. This time changed my life and I grew so much in my faith and as a person. Some specific ways I grew this summer was becoming more open to the daily working of the Holy Spirit and recognizing the Spirit's promptings, a greater appreciation and openness for authentic community and vulnerability, and greater love and courage for evangelization and spreading the Gospel.

Although there were many incredible moments, some of my highlights include street evangelization during the Paris Festival of Music,

praying in front of St. Therese's relics in Lisieux, mass at the grotto in Lourdes, a 6 day backpacking trip to Assisi, and keeping vigil with the Pope and a million young people from all over the world in Rome for the Jubilee. Furthermore, I loved spending time in various community houses throughout France and discovering the charisms and liturgy of the Community of the Beatitudes. I am so grateful to Beatitudes Missions, Father Anthony of the Transfiguration, and the Community of the Beatitudes for this time of great formation, evangelization, growing in my faith, and sharing in an amazing community that is so full of love and joy!

**HANNAH LOOMAN,
DURANGO, CO**



Joy and Hannah praying at the Grotto in Lourdes after hiking 2 days on pilgrimage.

INSPIRATIONAL “HEBREW EXPERIENCE”

When the skeptical King Frederick the Great asked for proof of God’s existence, his chaplain famously answered with two words: “The Jews.”

Indeed, their miraculous and continued survival throughout centuries of persecution and attempted annihilation is a sign of divine providence and God’s presence in history. They are vital in God’s plan of salvation for humanity.

Ever since learning about God’s Chosen People through the Scriptures as a girl, I’ve been fascinated by Judaism. Jesus was a Jew. The Jewish faith is “intrinsic” to our own, noted St. John Paul II. He called the Jews “our elder brothers in the faith of Abraham.”

Over the years, my experiences exploring the Jewish roots of Christianity has deeply enriched my understanding of Catholicism. So, when the opportunity finally arose this fall to attend Sr. Magdalit’s seven-week “Hebrew Experience: Part I” class, I happily registered.

It has been inspirational. Covering the Jewish feasts and the Jewish background of the New Testament has served as a welcome refresher. Learning the Hebrew alphabet and the Hail Mary in Hebrew has been a delight. I’m excited to revisit Church teaching on Judaism through Sr. Magdalit’s award-winning multimedia presentation, *A Man Had Two Sons*, for this session’s last class. I will certainly be attending “Hebrew Experience: Parts 2 and 3.” Shalom!

ROXANNE KING
ST. CATHERINE’S
PARISHIONER



Sr. Magdalit teaching Hebrew class at the Convent in Denver.



NEW COMMITMENTS



Oct 18 - *Friends of the Lamb* make commitments for the upcoming year



Nov 1 - *Disciples of the Lamb* make commitments for the upcoming year



Nov 9 - Hannah Looman receiving her cross as a candidate of the Community

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS

Holy New Year's Party

All

- Dec 31 at 7:30pm Vespers, potluck, worship and mass at 10:30... party!

After SEEK

Ages 19-30

- Jan 5-8 Pray and hike with the Community in Denver and in the Rockies.

Open Heaven Festival

Ages 19-30

- June 11-14 Retreat at *Jesus Our Hope*: Exploring and deepening our faith!

Israel Pilgrimage

Ages 19-30

- June 17-30: Hebron, Nazareth, Capernaum, Jericho, Jerusalem, Emmaus...

Backpacking

All

- July 9-14 Discovering the beauty of God in the Rockies.

Family Camp

All

- July 16-19 Time of prayer, rest and fun in the simplicity of Creation.

Israel Pilgrimage

Adults

- Oct 3-17 In the footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land.

Community walk at Thanksgiving, November 2025

We look forward to seeing you soon.



Dear friends,

during this time of Advent, we can once again rejoice in the inscrutable mystery of the Incarnation. God becomes human, a tiny baby lying naked in a manger, so that we humans may be transfigured with divine life. What a mystery! Ultimately, we can only remain silent, joyfully marveling at such a love.

As a Community, we wish that the mystery of the Incarnation will fill all of your hearts with peace and deep gratitude!



FATHER JOHN

For those who wish to support the Community in Denver and its mission in the parishes and with families and young people:



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