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MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
Welcomes



Eric Wiesner, MD
General Surgery
Board Eligible

Medical School
University of Wisconsin
School of Medicine, Madison, WI

Internship/Residency
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

Office
Montrose Surgical Associates
611 East Star Ct., Suite A
Montrose, CO 81401
970.249.4321



Ryan Wisler, MD
Internal Medicine
Board Certified

Medical School
Louisiana State University School of Medicine,
New Orleans, LA

Internship/Residency
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Office
Cedar Point Health Internal Medicine
300 South Nevada
Montrose, CO 81401
970.249.7751



Sheena Wisler, MD
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Board Eligible

Medical School
Louisiana State University School of Medicine,
New Orleans, LA

Internship/Residency
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

Office
Alpine Women's Centre @ MMH
715 South 3rd Street
Montrose, CO 81401
970.249.6737

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Montrose Memorial Hospital

Serving Our Community

August 2019

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MMH: Serving Those Who Serve Others

Father Mark Bettinger

Father Mark Bettinger is from New Jersey but his time as a priest has been spent for the most part in Western Colorado. After serving in Pueblo, Grand Junction, Delta and Fruita, he came to St. Mary's in Montrose in 2008. He also conducts a Spanish mass in Olathe at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. His is a very familiar face in the area.

Father Mark had some health challenges recently. Fortunately, not only is he watched over by his God but he also has a posse of wonderful local physicians who worship at his church in his corner. Dr. Michael Brezinsky is his primary care doctor and scheduled him for some tests. When his problems escalated ahead of the appointment, local Pediatrician Dr. Mary Vader, another parishioner, told him he needed to go to the Montrose Memorial Emergency Department and took him there herself. Not surprisingly, there were other staffers at the hospital who knew him as well.

The decision was made to keep him overnight for observation and the next day he was sent to the Cardiac Catheterization Lab where an angioplasty with a stent placement was performed by Cardiologist Dr. David Lee. Both Dr. Lee and the anesthesiologist prayed with him prior to his procedure, which was very personal and meaningful to him. "Honestly a trip to any hospital, especially to the Emergency Department can be a frightening experience," he said. "But at MMH I felt surrounded by people who were more like friends and family than hospital employees. It makes a difference."

He stayed in the Intensive Care Unit for another night. "I have been to the ICU many times to pray with and anoint my parishioners," Father Mark said. "It was very disconcerting to be the one in the bed instead of comforting someone in it." He rates his recent experience at Montrose Memorial as A+ in every way. "The overall experience was great," he continued. "For a small town, we have physicians of extremely high caliber and they work together and communicate well with each other. And how many hospitals are there that people go to just for the food?" It was also great not to have to travel out of town for care.

Father Mark is feeling much better since his procedure but also has a torn meniscus that needs repair. Dr. Thomas Dwyer, yet another member of his flock, will be doing the surgery and Father Mark knows he will be in good hands. "I would have no fear of going to our hospital for anything," he added. "It is very comforting and reassuring to be someplace where it seems like everybody knows your name."



Father Nat Foshage

Father Nat Foshage of St. Daniels Catholic Church in Ouray will soon be 79, but he works like the energizer bunny, serving parishioners in Ouray, Log Hill, Ridgway, Nucla, Silverton and Telluride, in what has to be one of the most punishing geographic territories anywhere. In good weather he never misses a service and performs five masses a week-end in five different locales. In the winter he rarely misses one and then only if blizzards or avalanches close the roads. Even then, he sometimes drives the long way around to avoid road closures. He used to carry cross country skis in the car "just in case."

Father Nat grew up one of nine children. As a child he was impressed by the work of an older cousin who was a missionary in China and Africa. He knew from an early age that serving others was the best thing he could do with his life. He attended school at Utah State and earned his master's degree in math at Seton Hall. He taught school for 16 years at Mt. Michael's in Omaha and was also the business manager of the school and monastery, all while serving as a priest and doing parish work. He loved to run, sometimes five or ten miles a day, and also coached track, cross country and football. It was sometimes difficult to wear so many hats and 36 years ago Father Nat took a sabbatical to Colorado and never left. He spent 10 years at St. Michaels in Delta and 22 years ago moved to St. Daniels in Ouray.

While his spirit is always willing, sometimes the flesh is weak. All those years of running caught up to him and his knees were in terrible shape. He resisted doing anything about them for years, caring for others while neglecting to care for himself. Sometimes the pain was so severe that he had to crawl to get where he was going, but he didn't want to take time off. Finally in 2018 he knew he had no choice. Dr. Vin Singh performed his knee replacement surgery, assisted by Dr. Thomas Dwyer. "Everything at Montrose Memorial was terrific," Father Nat said. "Everyone was warm, friendly and solicitous." He then did 6 weeks of rehab at the MMH Clinic in Ridgway. "The therapists at the hospital and at the Ridgway clinic were fantastic," he continued. He wanted to be ready for Easter and scheduled surgery for his other knee and for a priest from Durango to cover for him. "God has a sense of humor, though," he said. The day of his second surgery a massive slide closed Red Mountain Pass for 3 weeks and his substitute couldn't get there. He spent only one night in the hospital and upon returning home, called Dr. Singh and said he thought he could conduct mass using a walker and sitting on a stool. With a little help from above, he did just that.

Father Nat's best advice to anyone considering knee surgery: "Don't hesitate," he said. "We have tremendous orthopedic doctors here and they have the procedure down to perfection. Don't put it off like I did."

