

The Presentation of the Lord

February 2, 2020

Weekend Mass Intentions

5:00 pm: Clarence Wroblewski+

7:30 am: Matthew Godwin

9:00 am: Ben Paepcke

11:30 am: Felixberto Pascual+



In obedience to the Old Law, the Lord Jesus, the first-born, was presented in the Temple by his Blessed Mother and his foster father. This is another 'epiphany' celebration insofar as the Christ Child is revealed as the Messiah.



We Pray for the Sick

Laura Dugan, Joan Perrault, Pam Wyatt, Sandra Wilox, Okie Son Breese, Msgr. George Moeller,

Lawrence Klapka, Paul Woods, Richard Tobash, Angela Smith, Pompei Real, Matthew Godwin, Ben Paepcke, Wendy Berns, Claire Murphy, Betty Bodwine, Rick Montoni, Jerome DeLucia, Ellen Adajian, Dave Earhart, AJ McKoy, Felicidad Deiparine, Linda Lee Panlilio, Sr. Mary Margaret Pignone, Lisa Ellis, Randy George, Angela Morton, Marisu DeLeon, Deanna Ross, Noah Herrick, Carroll Celentano, Russ and Rita Hildebrand, Jean Dugan, Shelly Godwin

Readings for the Week:

Monday - 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Mk 5:1-20 (323)

Tuesday - 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/Mk 5:21-43 (324)

Wednesday - 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Mk 6:1-6 (325)

Thursday - 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12, Mk 6:7-13 (326)

Friday - Sir 47:2-11/Mk 6:14-29 (327)

DAILY MASS OPPORTUNITY: Please join us for Daily Mass or Communion Service Monday through Friday at 12 Noon.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The office will be open

Monday - Friday from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Celebrants February 8 and 9

5pm - Fr. Godwin

7:30 am - Fr. Godwin

9:00 am - Fr. Au

11:30 - Fr. Au

Collections February

2/2 - Church Restoration Fund

2/16 - Shrine Endowment Fund

Poor Box Recipients

January- March

Little Sisters of the Poor

Women's Prayer Group

The group meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7 pm in the chapel. All women are welcome! Come join a group of women who want to grow unique friendships that develop when praying together.

Contact Steve Cox for details.

Luncheon and Presentation

St. Francis: Losing his Life and finding it in Assisi

Sunday, February 9, 2020 @12:30 pm (next Sunday)

Join us for a special luncheon and talk by Tom May of the Walters Art Museum in the undercroft. This talk will be in conjunction with a special exhibit at the Walters Art Museum, where the Missal from the altar of the church of San Nicolo in Assisi will be on display this spring.

First Friday Mass

Friday, February 1st @ 6:30 pm

Friday, February 1st is First Friday. We will celebrate with a 6:30 liturgy followed by a friendship meal. All are welcome!!!!

Hospital Communion Visitations

We are looking for additional volunteers to help with taking Communion to Catholic patients at Sinai. The commitment is as little as 2 hours, one Wednesday afternoon per month. Please contact Steve Cox in the parish office if you are interested in joining this ministry.

Financial Corner

The Shrine continues to receive payments from the generous pledges made by our parishioners to the Archdiocese Embracing Our Mission (EOM) capital campaign. The Shrine receives a portion of the dollars contributed to this campaign. These funds help make facility improvements possible. A special thank you is extended to our parishioners who have contributed to this important campaign. If you made a pledge and have outstanding payments please remember that your payments are very important to your parish and the Archdiocese.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you know someone who is? Are you an adult Catholic who has not yet been confirmed? Perhaps you just want to learn more about the Catholic faith or have questions about it. RCIA is the process for preparing adults for full communion with the Catholic Church. Sessions are also open to any adult desiring to learn more about Catholicism. Contact Steve Cox in the parish office for more information.

Volunteers Needed

Grief Ministry

If you are troubled by the tragic loss of life in Baltimore City, and wondering how you can help, please consider volunteering for a new ministry. The Archdiocese has created a ministry to offer support and healing to families in Baltimore City who have lost a loved one to violence. In conjunction with other agencies and nonprofits, the Archdiocese is launching a Grief Ministry through which parish communities can provide assistance, such as prayers, sympathy notes, food, baby items and other support as needed to families. An additional aspect of the ministry will be to create online memorials of loved ones. Volunteer training will be provided. To learn more or to sign up, go to www.archbalt.org/grief-ministry, or contact Mary Ellen Russell at mrussell@archbalt.org.

Donate Button!!

Your Shrine offertory contribution is as easy as clicking a button! Did you know you can go to the Shrine website, theshrine.org, to make your offertory donation electronically? Once you are on our website select the "Donate" tab at the top of the homepage. From there follow the prompts to easily set-up your offertory donation. Your secure contribution will be as easy as 1-2-3, without the worry of fiddling with envelopes, cash, and checks. – Give it a try!

Altar Servers Needed!!

We are in need of Altar Servers for the 5 pm and 9 am Masses. This is a special opportunity to serve your church. Please see a Sacristan after Mass or contact the Parish Office for more information!!

The Presentation of Lord

Until 1969, the ancient feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, which is of Oriental origin, was known in the West as the feast of the Purification of Our Lady, and closed the Christmas Cycle, forty days after the Lord's birth. This feast has for long been associated with many popular devotional exercises. The faithful:

- gladly participate in the processions commemorating the Lord's entry into the Temple in Jerusalem and His encounter with God, whose house He had come to for the first time, and then with Simeon and Anna. Such processions, which in the West had taken the place of licentious pagan events, always had a penitential character, and were later identified with the blessing of candles which were carried in procession in honor of Christ, 'the light to enlighten the Gentiles' (Lk 2, 32);
- are sensitive to the actions of the Blessed Virgin in presenting her Son in the Temple, and to her submission to the Law of Moses (Lk 12, 1-8) in the rite of purification; popular piety sees in the rite of

purification the humility of Our Lady and hence, 2 February has long been regarded as a feast for those in humble service.

Popular piety is sensitive to the providential and mysterious event that is the conception and birth of new life. Christian mothers can easily identify with the maternity of Our Lady, the most pure Mother of the Head of the mystical Body – notwithstanding the notable differences in the Virgin's unique conception and birth.

These too are mothers in God's plan and are about to give birth to future members of the Church. From this intuition and a certain *mimesis* of the purification of Our Lady, the rite of purification after birth was developed, some of whose elements reflect negatively on birth.

The revised *Rituale Romanum* provides for the blessing of women both before and after birth, this latter only in cases where the mother could not participate at the baptism of her child.

It is a highly desirable thing for mothers and married couples to ask for these blessings which should be given in accord with the Church's prayer: in a communion of faith and charity in prayer so that pregnancy can be brought to term without difficulty (blessing before birth), and to give thanks to God for the gift of a child (blessing after birth).



In some local Churches, certain elements taken from the Gospel account of the Presentation of the Lord (Lk 2, 22-40), such as the obedience of Joseph and Mary to

the Law of the Lord, the poverty of the holy spouses, the virginity of Our Lady, mark out 2 February as a special feast for those at the service of the brethren in the various forms of consecrated life.

The feast of 2 February still retains a popular character. It is necessary, however, that such should reflect the true Christian significance of the feast. It would not be proper for popular piety in its celebration of this feast to overlook its Christological significance and concentrate exclusively on its Marian aspects. The fact that this feast should be 'considered [...] a joint memorial of Son and Mother' would not support such an inversion. The candles kept by the faithful in their homes should be seen as a sign of Christ 'the light of the world' and an expression of faith.

– Excerpted from *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*