



The Cathedral of **SAINT JOSEPH**

521 North Duluth Avenue • Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104

www.stjosephcathedral.net



St. Thomas Aquinas - Madison, SD

The Presentation of the Lord

*“Now, Master, you may
let your servant go in
peace, according to your
word,
for my eyes have seen
your salvation, which you
prepared in the sight of
all the peoples:
a light for revelation to
the Gentiles, and glory
for your people Israel.”*

Luke 2:29-32

Feast of St. Blaise -

Blessing of throats after all Masses this
weekend and Monday, Feb. 3rd.

See page 7 for an explanation
of this devotion.

LITURGY GUIDE – February 2, 2025
The Presentation of the Lord

Welcome to the Cathedral of St. Joseph and thank you for joining us for the celebration of Holy Mass today! **Please, silence your cell phones and refrain from eating, drinking or chewing gum** in the Cathedral. Help keep our Cathedral tidy by utilizing the waste baskets found near the main entrances. **Please, do not take pictures during the Mass celebration.** You are welcome to take pictures **after** Mass.

INTROIT - (At 9:15 AND 11:00AM the Introit is sung by the choir, followed by the opening hymn)

<i>Ecce advenit dominator</i>	Behold, the Lord, the Mighty
<i>Dominus: et regnum in manu eius, et potestas, et imperium. (Verse) Deus, iudicium tuum regi da: et iustitiam tuam filio regis.</i>	One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion. (Verse) Endow the King with your judgment, O God, and the King's son with your righteousness.

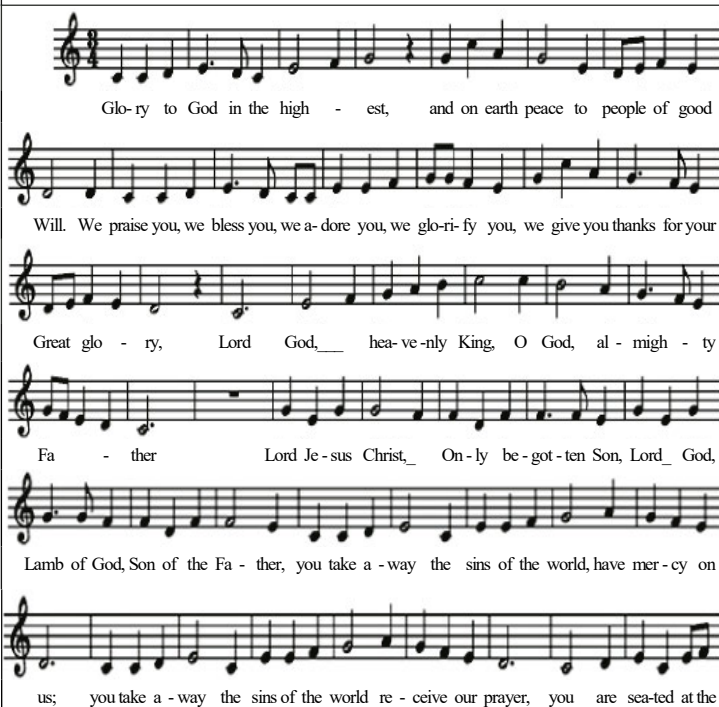
OPENING HYMN
615

TRURO
Lift Up Your Heads

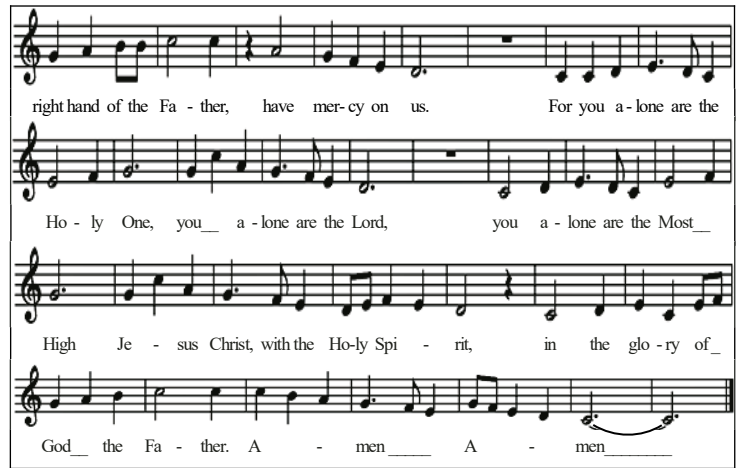
PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, **(striking breast three times) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;** therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

GLORIA



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to people of good Will. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we glo-ri-fy you, we give you thanks for your Great glo - ry, Lord God, hea-ve-nly King, O God, al - migh - ty Fa - ther Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly be - got - ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you take a - way the sins of the world re - ceive our prayer, you are sea-ted at the



right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men A - men

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

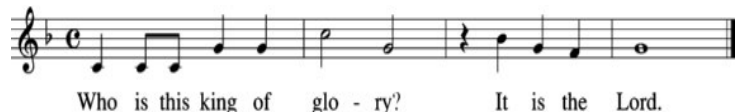
Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord GOD:
Lo, I am sending my messenger
to prepare the way before me;
And suddenly there will come to the temple
the LORD whom you seek,
And the messenger of the covenant whom you desire.
Yes, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.
But who will endure the day of his coming?
And who can stand when he appears?
For he is like the refiner's fire,
or like the fuller's lye.
He will sit refining and purifying silver,
and he will purify the sons of Levi,
Refining them like gold or like silver
that they may offer due sacrifice to the LORD.
Then the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem
will please the LORD,
as in the days of old, as in years gone by.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10

(Refrain sung first by cantor, then congregation repeat)



Who is this king of glo - ry? It is the Lord.

Text: Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10; © 1963, 1993, The Grail, GIA Publications, Inc., agent; refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL
Music: Michel Guimont, © 1995, GIA Publications, Inc.

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **R**

Who is this king of glory? The Lord, the mighty, the
valiant; the Lord, the valiant in war. **R**

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **R**

Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the
king of glory. **R**

SECOND READING

HEBREWS 2:14-18

Since the children share in blood and flesh, Jesus likewise shared in them, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the Devil, and free those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their life.

Surely he did not help angels but rather the descendants of Abraham; therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God to expiate the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please Stand

(Sung first by cantor, then congregation repeat)



A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel. **R**

GOSPEL

LUKE 2:22-40

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord,

Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:

“Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.”

The child’s father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother,

“Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted

-and you yourself a sword will pierce- so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Please Stand

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
(bow here) and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN (4 PM & 7:30 AM)
580

ST. THOMAS
In His Temple Now Behold Him

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (9:15 AM)

*Diffusa est gratia in labiis
tuis: propterea benedixit te
Deus in aeternum, et in
saeculum saeculi.*

Grace has been poured out
on your lips; therefore, God
has blessed you for ever,
world without end.

OFFERTORY MOTET (11:00 AM)

Nunc Dimittis

Charles Wood
(1866 - 1926)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation; which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

Celebrant: Pray brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Text: ICEL, © 2010
Music: A Community Mass, Richard Pross, © 1971, 1977, 2006, GIA Publications, Inc.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Re-sur-rec - tion un-til you come a-gain.

AGNUS DEI

Cantor or Choir: All: *Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,
To repeat Last time have mer-cy on us. grant us peace.

ECCE AGNUS DEI

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

HOLY COMMUNION

All Catholics who have prepared themselves to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward.

Our brothers and sisters of other faiths are invited to approach with their arms crossed over their chest to signal their desire to receive a blessing.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (4PM)

My eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you pre -
pared in the sight of all the peo - ples.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (9:15 & 11:00 AM)

*Responsum accepit Simeon a
Spiritu Sancto, non visurum
se mortem, nisi videret
Christum Domini.*

Simeon had received a
revelation from the Holy
Spirit, that he would not see
death before he had seen the
Lord's Messiah.

COMMUNION MEDITATION (11:00 AM) Michael John Trotta O Nata Lux (b. 1978)

*O nata lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum
Laudes precesque sumere.*

O Light born of Light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
with loving-kindness
deign to receive suppliant
praise and prayer.

*Qui carne quondam contegi
Dignatus es pro perditis,
Nos membra confer effici
Tui beati corporis.*

Thou who once deigned
to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost,
grant us to be members
of thy blessed body.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

519

ST. ELIZABETH

Fairest Lord Jesus

CLOSING HYMN

472

CULBACH

Christ, the Glory of the Sky

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February 22, 2025 at The District

COMMUNITY NEWS

Save the date ~ St. Lambert's Sister Camp - will be earlier than usual this year, **June 2-6**. It is for those going into 2nd Grade thru 12th Grade. This year's theme is the Sacraments. More details and registration coming this Spring.

D-Camp 2025 – Registration is Open - D-Camp (Discipleship Camp) is our Diocesan summer youth camp. Junior High and High School youth come together for four days of faith and fun. Call the Discipleship Office at **605-988-3748** or online at sfcatholic.org/dcampa.

Seek the Harbor for Love, A Couples Retreat - Sat. Feb. 22, (8:30 am - 4:00 pm). Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Lower Level, 3601 E. Dudley Lane, SFSD 57103. Married and Engaged couples will explore ways to put into practice the teaching of Marriage as a Sacrament and have a deeper relationship with God, spouse and family. Call **605-371-2320** or **Scan the Code**.



Last Collar Standing 2025 - Frozen North Edition. Join us for the 6th Annual "Last Collar Standing" live on [youtube.com/@sfdiocese](https://www.youtube.com/@sfdiocese) Sun. Feb. 23 at 3 p.m. Last Collar Standing is an opportunity to raise both awareness of and funds for our diocesan Lumen Christi Missionary program. This fun and hilarious competition is a great chance to see our priests in a new light and witness their fraternal brotherhood. To donate, please visit: <https://sfcatholic.regfox.com/last-collar-standing>.



Bishop Hoch Deanery Scholarship Program - The Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls Bishop Hoch Deanery Scholarships are made available by the Catholic Churches in each respective Deanery of the Diocese of Sioux Falls. The scholarships are available to new students, students already in college and non-traditional students interested in attending or already attending Mount Marty University, Yankton. To obtain an application, contact your pastor or the Financial Aid Office at Mount Marty University. For an application and further information please contact bmitzel@sfcatholic.org. Applications must be returned to the Office of Catholic Schools, 523 North Duluth Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57104-2714 **by March 15**.



"Under Mary's Mantle" EXPECTANT MOMS AND YOUNG MOTHERS:

You are invited to attend the "Under Mary's Mantle" meetings on topics of mothering during the early years beginning **Tuesday, February 11 – 9:30 am in the Fireside Room at Holy Spirit Church in Sioux Falls**. Topics are pregnancy, nutrition and the first three years. First Meeting Topic: **Pregnancy and the Role of Good Nutrition**. Refreshments & snacks are served. Come for encouragement and inspiration. Young children are welcome! For information call **Sandy at 605-421-1104** or **Lisa at 605-480-3031**.

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



Liturgical Roles



Daily Mass - As Scheduled

February 8/9

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

- 4:00 pm Nancy Ann Kadinger, Susan Albers
- 7:30 am Gerald Frisbie, Robert Renner
- 9:15 am Craig Meyer, Susan Sommervold, Connie Luke
- 11:00 am Mary Enderson, Michelle Sletten, Bob Lux
- 4:00 pm Ministers as Scheduled

Lectors

- 4:00 pm Julie Cleary, Shawn Cleary
- 7:30 am Barbara Lockwood
- 9:15 am John Moneke, Ruth Bordewyk
- 11:00 am Matthew Enderson, Tess Simon
- 4:00 pm Readers as Scheduled

Altar Servers

- 4:00 pm Pontifical Servers
- 7:30 am Thomas Mogle, James Mogle
- 9:15 am Dominic & Nathan Hardie, John Paul Beaner
- 11:00 am Andrew & Nicholas Simon, Jonathan Billion
- 4:00 pm Servers as Scheduled

Mini-Bus Driver

- 4:00 pm Tom Meyer

Dow Rummel Barbara & John Lockwood

Good Sam Chris Lent

Readings for the week of February 2, 2025

Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 (1c)/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

CONGRATULATIONS

Ron Frankman is Cathedral 500 Club's first winner for February 2025. He has received a check for **\$87** and a check for **\$375.00** was given to the Church. In the last 25 years we have given the Church over **\$101,000**. Anyone interested in joining will find applications at the front entrance (Duluth Ave) of the Cathedral. Cost is \$5/month. Applications must be received by **February 24** to be in the March 2025 drawings. Call the Parish Office at **605-336-7390** for details.

Mass Intentions

Mon. Feb. 03•	<i>St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr;</i> <i>St. Ansgar, Bishop</i>
12:00 pm	✠ Tom Staebell
Tue. Feb. 04•	<i>Weekday</i>
12:00 pm	Ginny Guido
Wed. Feb. 05•	<i>St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr</i>
12:00 pm	✠ Jake Boldt
Thu. Feb. 06•	<i>St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs</i>
12:00 am	✠ Ray Lux
Fri. Feb. 07•	<i>Weekday - First Friday</i>
12:00 pm	✠ Tip Miles
Sat. Feb. 08•	<i>St. Jerome Emiliani;</i> <i>St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin</i>
4:00 pm	✠ Janet Truex
Sun. Feb. 09•	<i>5th Sunday in Ordinary Time -</i> World Marriage Day
7:30 am	✠ Graham McGraw
9:15 am	✠ Rita Siemonsma
11:00 am	Jane Rensch
4:00 pm	Pro Populo

Sanctuary Candles

The five hanging Sanctuary Candles in the Sacred Heart Chapel are available for prayer intentions.

- 1.) ✠ Leonard Berg
- 2.) ✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 3.) Matthew Harnden
- 4.) Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 5.) Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Cathedral Events Calendar

Monday, February 3 - Feast of St. Blaise
After 7:30 am (Monastery) & **12:00 pm** (Cathedral)
Masses, Throats will be blessed
Cathedral office will be closed after 12:00pm, today.
6:30 pm - Young Adults

Tuesday, February 4 -
9:00 am - Quilter's Group, School
10:00 am - Women's Group/Bible Study, School(200)
6:30 pm - Knights of Columbus, Parish Hall

Wednesday, February 5 -
6:45 pm - OCIA, Parish Hall

Thursday, February 6 -
7:00 pm - Adoration & Reconciliation, SH Chapel

Friday, February 7 - First Friday
11:00 am - Adoration followed by Noon Mass,
(No Rosary)

Saturday, February 8 -
12:00 pm & 3:00 pm - Reconciliation, Cathedral Nave

Sunday, February 9 -
2:30 pm - St. Josephine Bakhita 1st Communion Class
School Gym

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Year End Statements - Watch for your year end contribution statement in the mail. If you have also contributed to the Inspires Campaign you will receive a separate statement from the Catholic Community Foundation. Thank you so much for your generous support of the Cathedral Parish!

Record Keeping - If you have recently changed your address or phone number, have had an addition to your family or any other major life changes, please contact the parish office, **605-336-7390**, to help us keep your information up-to-date. Also, if you contribute online and do not wish to receive envelopes by mail, please let us know.

Women's Bible Study - Cathedral of St. Joseph's Women's Group/Bible Study meetings are Tuesday mornings at 10:00am in the Cathedral school (Rm 200). All women are invited to join us as we grow closer to Jesus. Please bring your Bible. Call Deb at **605-359-6346** for info.

Cathedral Office - will be closed on **Monday, February 3rd after 12:00 pm**. We will be open the rest of the week at our usual times.

Anointed by the Holy Spirit through the waters of Baptism



John Curtis Winklepleck -

Son of Hunter & Martha Winklepleck

Congratulations and welcome into our Family of Faith!

If you are expecting or have a child to be baptized, please call
Deacon Bill Radio **605-336-7390** for baptism planning.



Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Agnes DeWitt - Past Parishioner

Luji Keni - Father-in-law of Yordanos Dehena & Yodit Ahmed

*May they and all of the faithful departed, through the
Mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Welcome New Members!

*Thank you for choosing Cathedral of St. Joseph
for your Faith Family.*

Devon Couillard

Marjie Eckholt

Nathan and Christie Pease &

Charlotte, Audrey & Jonah

Sam and Gianna Rozzi IV & Emilia

John and Emilie Yu & Ethan & Lauren

*If you are interested in becoming a Cathedral Parishioner
please, contact the Parish Office at **605-336-7390**.*

WEEKLY OFFERING JANUARY 25/26



Envelopes	\$	12,594.00
Online/EFT	\$	4,820.00
Visitors/Loose Cash	\$	4,123.03

Total \$ 21,537.03

*Scan QR code to be directed to our Giving Page
Thank you for your Support and Prayers!*

CATHEDRAL INFORMATION

Parish Office: [605-336-7390](tel:605-336-7390)

Parish Office Email: cathedral@sfcatholic.org

Office Hours: 9:00am-4:00pm M-Th, 9:00am-3:00pm Friday
Closed - Saturday and Sunday

Cathedral Church Hours:

Monday-Saturday - 8:00am-4:00pm

Sunday - 7:00am-Noon & 3:30pm-5:00pm

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00pm (First Saturday of the Month Mass 9:00am)

Sunday 7:30am, 9:15am, 11:00am,
4:00pm (St. Josephine Bakhita Community)

Weekday Masses

Cathedral - Monday - Friday, 12:00pm (Noon)

Monastery - Monday - Saturday, 7:00am

Confessions

Thursday 7:00pm w/Adoration in the Sacred Heart Chapel

Saturday 12:00pm & 3:00-3:30pm in Cathedral
(In the Sacred Heart Chapel if a Wedding is scheduled)

Adoration

Sacred Heart Chapel - Thurs. 7:00pm-8:00pm (Confessions)

Cathedral - 11:00am, First Friday of the month

Monastery - Mon-Sat 7:45am-6:00pm, Sun 10:30am-6:00pm

Tours

Self-guided - 1:00pm Monday-Friday (except Holy Days)

Guided Tours-By appointment [605-336-7390](tel:605-336-7390)

Parish Staff

Rector, Very Rev. James P. Morgan

Parochial Vicar, Rev. Pasquale Armando Francesco

Weekend Sacramental Assistance, Rev. Anthony Klein

Deacon, William Radio

Deacon, Jonathan Eckrich

Director-Operations & Finance, Heidi Solem

Administrative Assistant, Mary Anne Lux

Music Director, Dr. Jared Ostermann

Assistant Music Director, Nicole Gerdes

Tour Docent/Guide, Susan Albers

Wedding Coordinator, Mary Enderson

Counseling Services, The Lourdes Center - [605-988-3775](tel:605-988-3775)

Sacramental Preparation:

Baptism - The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated for our parishioners on Sundays after the 11:AM Mass. Parents must attend a Baptism preparation meeting. To schedule a meeting for preparation contact the parish office at [605-336-7390](tel:605-336-7390).

Matrimony - Six months preparation required. Registered parishioners, please contact the parish office. All others please contact the pastor of your home church. For wedding information, go to www.stjosephcathedral.net under Sacraments.

Anointing of the Sick - Please call the parish office to request this Sacrament if you have been diagnosed with an illness, in preparation for surgery or in the case of serious illness.

Catholic Cemetery - St. Michael's Cemetery [605-338-3376](tel:605-338-3376)

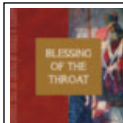
CLERGY REFLECTION

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also called Candlemas for the custom of blessing candles on this feast day. In the early Church, it was often celebrated on February 14, 40 days after the Epiphany. Some Catholics recall this day as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary because, such was the feast day titled until the 1969 changes in the Church's liturgical calendar. In fact, according to Luke's Gospel, the Presentation of Jesus and the Purification of the Blessed Mother took place in the Temple on the same day, and both are mentioned simultaneously in the Gospel during Mass.

Why the purification of a mother after she gave birth to a child? Under Mosaic Law, a woman was "ritually unclean" (see the Book of Leviticus) for 40 days after childbirth, when she was to present herself to the priests and offer sacrifice, that is, her "purification." Contact with anyone who had brushed against the greatest of human mysteries—birth or death—excluded a person from Jewish worship. This was a "ceremonial seclusion" and not the result of sin or some kind of wrongdoing on the part of the mother. On the contrary, though it was a legal prescription, Jews felt that human blood was the most sacred element within the makeup of the body. Yet, this feast emphasizes Jesus' first appearance in the Temple more than Mary's purification, indicated by the prophecies of Simeon and Anna.

I usually start baptisms of babies in the narthex of the Cathedral near the front doors, as if the parents and godparents were entering the church for the first time with the child, and thus "presenting" the child for baptism. After the baptism, I lead the family, with child, down the middle aisle of the Cathedral to the sanctuary where they enter through the gate and stand at the top of the steps. You could call it the "second presentation." Now that the child has been baptized, the family presents their child to God through the sacramental mediation of the Church. The analogy of this ceremony in light of today's feast day is quite obvious: Like Jesus, all of us have been consecrated to God by virtue of our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ. We, then, have been presented to the Lord, and continue to present ourselves to the Lord as we make our pilgrimage together to heaven – through lives of virtue and charity, and through the celebration of the Eucharistic sacrifice.

Fr. James P. Morgan



Feast of St. Blaise - Catholics traditionally receive a blessing of the throat on the feast day of St. Blaise (Feb. 3), who was a bishop and martyr of fourth-century Armenia. He is the Patron Saint for those with throat ailments. During the blessing, the Priest or Deacon takes two candles that were blessed on the feast of the "Presentation" and makes a cross in front of the throat, saying "*Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness.*" **Throats will be blessed after all Masses this weekend and on Monday.**

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