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# Granville Catholic Church Record

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Vol. 8. No. 5

January 29, 2023

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

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The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish

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## THE PRESENTATION *of the* LORD

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The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2 celebrates the 40th day since the birth of Our Lord at Christmas. The presentation is described in the Gospel of St. Luke, and according to the gospel, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph took the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem forty days after his birth to perform the redemption of the firstborn son, in obedience to the Jewish Law or Torah.

The feast is also known as Candlemas because the Mass of the

feast includes the blessing of candles to be burned through the year. It is a reminder that at His birth Christ was the light that came into the world, to illumine our hearts and minds with the light of truth, and the light by which we are led to the eternal light. The blessing echoes the words of the prophet Simeon who, on meeting the child in the Temple proclaims: "Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace... because my eyes have seen the salvation... a light to enlighten the pagans" (Lk. 2:29-32).

And with this feast the crib built for Christmas is put away for another year as we move through the season of Ordinary Time and towards the season of Lent.

Today the Church also prays in a special way for those in consecrated life, men and women in religious life as Monks, Nuns, Brothers, and Sisters whom Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI called the "watchmen among the People of God who perceive and proclaim the new life already present in our history."

## THE PARISH OFFICE

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### Address

200 The Trongate,  
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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### Parish Priest

Rev. Fr. Andrew Bass PP

### Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

### Director of Music

John Portelli

### Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

### Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

### Online and Social Media Co-ordinators

Rosette Chidiac

John Portelli

### Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi

Annette Wirz

### Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

### Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

### Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

## HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

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### Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

### Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, 5:30 p.m.

### Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,

11:00 a.m.

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### Rosters

### Readers

8:30 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

## DONATIONS

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BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

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### Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

### Confessions

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

### Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

### Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

### Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,  
11:30 a.m.

### Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

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### Rosters

**Church Cleaning** Group 1: L. Hale,  
D. Portelli, L. Toman, W. Krasinski,  
J. Galea, A. Quinlan, L. Franco

### Readers

**Vigil** Rebecca Hanson, Gerry Pinto,  
Racquel La Rosa

**10:00 a.m.** Hind Dagher-Hadchiti,  
Rozsa Kazmer, Jasmine Miranda

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

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Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus,  
Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo  
Colosimo, Marcus El-Khoury, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea,  
Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter  
Higgins, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Ruth La Rosa, Jacob  
Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan, Scott  
Moulton, Tony Moussa, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor,  
Flory Pinto, Don Provest, Therese Smeal, Ricardo Tognini,  
Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan.



*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,  
by the grace of your Holy Spirit  
cure the weaknesses of your servants,  
and mercifully restore them to full health.  
St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.*

## IN MEMORIAM

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Sr. Mary Stella Tran, Ercilia Apap, Vincent Apap, Lorenza  
Attwill, Axiak family, Victor Azzopardi, Claudio Basamez,  
Basil Benjamin, Bonello family, Betty Borg, Kathleen  
Bradbery, Paul Bradbery, Charles Bugeja, Dick Cahill,  
Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, John Lawrence Denmeade,  
Christine Derwin, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John  
Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, Clair Karaki,  
Daoud Karaki, Nouhad Khoury, Jacob Malkoun, Ofimia  
Malkoun, Jack McIntyre, Crising Mendoza, Magdalena  
Mendoza, Susan Nammour, Haydee Nursoo, Edward  
Pidgeon, Boutros Rahme, Mitzi Rowe, Anna Saunig, Garry  
Smith, Andrea So, Sergio Sudiro, Darren Thornton, Peter  
Tuu Van Tran, Joseph Vella, Vicente, Dib Zaiter.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

## **Important Notice Holy Mass in Latin This Thursday**

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Holy Mass in Latin will not be said this Thursday evening as Mass for the ordination of three Priests will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Please pray for Deacon Adam Carlow, Deacon Matthew Dimian and Deacon Jack Elkazzi as they are ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyters that they may be granted the grace to serve Our Lord and His Church as holy and faithful Priests.

The ordination will be held on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, please reply to the Cathedral parish office at [secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au](mailto:secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au).

## **Palms to Be Burned For Ash Wednesday**

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On Shrove Tuesday we will hold the traditional Burning of the Palms and Burial of the Alleluia in preparation for Ash Wednesday.

The ashes imposed on Ash Wednesday are made from the burnt palms blessed the previous Palm Sunday.

If you have palms to be burned, please bring these to the church in the next two weeks and leave these by the doors. These will be collected and burned to prepare the ashes.

## **Important Notice Regarding Holy Mass and Confessions on Wednesday, 8 February**

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Holy Mass will not be said on Wednesday, 8 February at either Holy Trinity Church or Holy Family Church. This also means that the Sacrament of Penance (Confessions) will not be available that evening at Holy Family Church.

The usual schedule of Mass and confessions for Wednesdays will resume the following week.

## **Can You Drive a Parishioner to Mass Each Week?**

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We are asking again for parishioners to volunteer to drive senior parishioners to Mass each week. There are a number of parishioners who are unable to attend Mass as they are unable to drive or have no one to drive them.

All that is asked is if you can buddy with one of these parishioners and pick them up from their home for Mass and take them home each week.

It would only mean going a few minutes out of the way each week but would be an act of charity and kindness to those who otherwise may be unable to attend Mass.

At the moment, there are around ten parishioners who could do with your help in this way so we are looking for ten people to offer their help.

If you would like to be a part of this and help out fellow parishioners, please speak with Fr. Andrew after Mass.

Please consider helping out in this way. It would mean a great deal to those who otherwise cannot get to Mass.

## **How Can I Help?**

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**Speak with Fr. Andrew  
or call the parish office  
during office hours**



**Let us know your street  
and we will find someone  
who lives close by to you**



**We will put you in touch  
with one of our parishioners  
who needs a lift**

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## **First Collection and Second Collection Contributions**

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Your support of these collections is greatly appreciated. The money raised in the first collection supports some of the works of the diocese. The money raised in the second collection directly supports the works of the parish and helps us to meet our expenses and to continue to meet the costs and expenses of operating the parish.

At Holy Trinity Church we are fortunate to have volunteers to take up these collections. At Holy Family Church boxes have been placed at the doors of the church for the first and second collections.

Thank you, especially, to those who are a part of the planned giving programme and use their envelopes to contribute each week to the parish. Your regular contributions are a great support.

## **Online Donations in Support of the Parish**

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Online donations can be made through the Holy Cross Parish website ([holycrossgranville.org.au](http://holycrossgranville.org.au)) using our BPoint facility by visiting the website or scanning the QR code below.

Thank you to all those who regularly support the parish by your contributions. Your regular support of the parish is greatly appreciated and is of tremendous assistance.



# CANDLEMAS *and the* PRESENTATION *in* THE TEMPLE



The Catholic Feast of Candlemas has an ancient and interesting history. This feast commemorates the Blessed Mother's obedience to the Jewish law of presenting herself for purification 40 days after the birth of a male child. And we also see St. Joseph offering the redemption of the firstborn male according to the law of Moses. Mary and Joseph are in the Temple (Luke 2:22-38) at the same time as the old priest, Simeon, and the prophetess, Anna. Simeon had understood he would not die until he had seen the Messiah. Upon seeing Our Lord in Mary's arms, Simeon recites the canticle that has become known as the *Nunc dimittis*. "Now Thou dismiss Thy servant, O Lord... because my eyes have seen Thy salvation... a light of revelation to the Gentiles..."

A light of revelation to the Gentiles. The Mass for that day speaks of light. It is on this day that candles used in the home are blessed—hence, Candlemas. The blessing of candles represents Christ whose birth illumined a world shrouded in darkness. St. Anselm in the 11th century spoke of the blessed candle,

the wax, the wick and the flame this way: The wax is for Our Lord's flesh; the wick in the flesh is for his soul; and the flame is for his divinity.

The Church's blessing of the candles includes the bees, the wax and the faithful. This liquid comes from the labor of bees (symbol of purity) to the perfection of wax, and then goes on to bless the faithful. "That Thou would vouchsafe to bless and sanctify for the use of men, and health of body and soul, whether upon the earth or in the water." It is interesting to note that the following day, the Feast of St. Blaise, that these candles are used in the blessing of throats.

The first recorded history of this feast comes from a visitor to Spain in 380 to the Holy Land. She records a procession with candles on that day. She stated it had been an ongoing tradition for many years. Pope Sergius (701) prescribed a procession with candles. Interestingly, it was a penitential rite, with the priest in purple robes invoking God's mercy. The tradition of blessing candles for the home began at the end of that century and continues to this day.

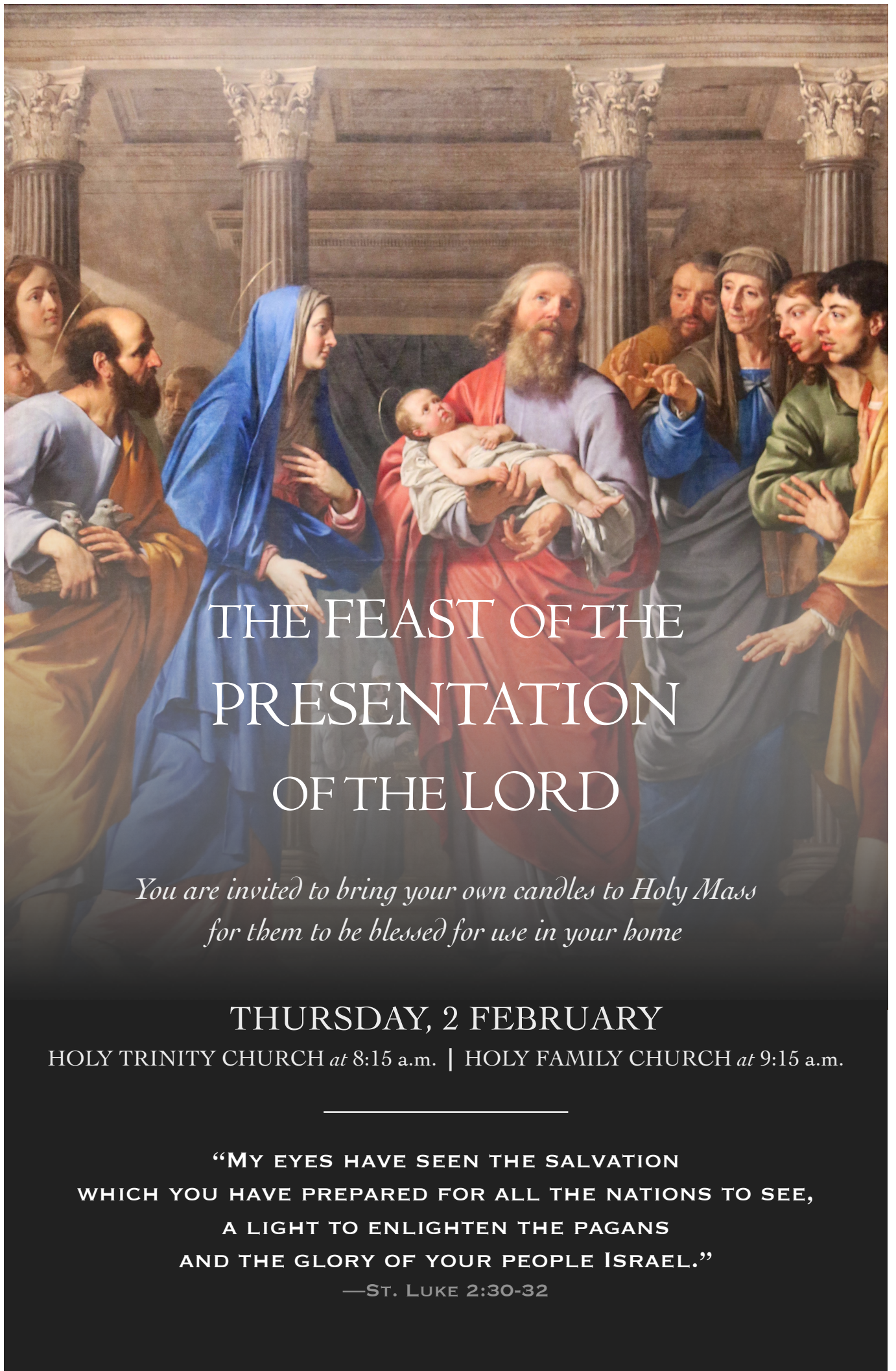
In ancient times tenant farmers paid their rents on Candlemas. Farmhands and maids moved in with their new masters the day after Candlemas.

The Poles have a beautiful legend which states that Mary, the Mother of God of the Blessed Thunder Candle, watches on wintry nights for prowling wolves roaming the villages. With her Thunder Candle, Mary wards off the hungry wolves.

In many areas winter greens left over from Christmas were burned on Candlemas and their ashes spread on field or garden for a healthy spring harvest.

In Scotland children brought candles to light the schoolroom on this day. They also brought money for the teacher to purchase treats for the students. The child bringing the most money was King or Queen for six weeks. The King or Queen decided which afternoon in the week would be free time... (No word on what happened when it didn't end before Lent.)

Source: "Candlemas and the Presentation in the Temple," Sandra McDevitt, National Catholic Register (ncregister.com)



# THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

*You are invited to bring your own candles to Holy Mass  
for them to be blessed for use in your home*

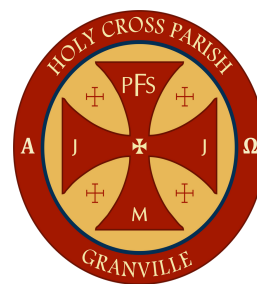
**THURSDAY, 2 FEBRUARY**

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH at 8:15 a.m. | HOLY FAMILY CHURCH at 9:15 a.m.**

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**“MY EYES HAVE SEEN THE SALVATION  
WHICH YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ALL THE NATIONS TO SEE,  
A LIGHT TO ENLIGHTEN THE PAGANS  
AND THE GLORY OF YOUR PEOPLE ISRAEL.”**

—ST. LUKE 2:30-32



## CAN YOU HELP YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONER?

Do you drive a car to Mass and have a spare seat?

Help our Senior Parishioners attend Mass each Sunday by offering a ride in your car.

Call the Parish Office on 0497 190 444 and kindly assist one of our parishioners in need.



# Saints & STUFF CANDLEMAS



The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, or Candlemas, on February 2 each year also marks in some parts of the world, like Eastern Europe, the close of the Christmas season. This is why Pope St. John Paul II, who was from Poland, would have the nativity scene remain in St. Peter's Square until this day.

Historically, Candlemas Day was important in the lives of farmers. An old English song went: "If Candlemas be fair and bright, Come, Winter, have another flight. If Candlemas brings clouds and rain, Go, Winter, and come not again." So if the bright sun "overshadows" the brightness of Candlemas Day, there will be more winter. However, if the light of Candlemas Day radiates through the gloom and darkness of the day, the end of winter is near. In the United States Protestants replaced Catholic Candlemas Day with Groundhog Day to continue this custom.

## CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Blessed Virgin Mary,  
Mother in the Order of Grace*

**967** By her complete adherence to the Father's will, to his Son's redemptive work, and to every prompting of the Holy Spirit, the Virgin Mary is the Church's model of faith and charity.

**968** Her role in relation to the Church and to all humanity goes still further. "In a wholly singular way she cooperated by her obedience, faith, hope, and burning charity in the Saviour's work of restoring supernatural life to souls. For this reason she is a mother to us in the order of grace."

**969** "This motherhood of Mary in the order of grace continues uninterrupted from the consent which she loyally gave at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the cross, until the eternal fulfillment of all the elect. Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this saving office but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation... Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix."

# CATHOLIC Trivia

## Candlemas Around the World

### France and Belgium

Crepes are cooked and eaten today as a symbol of the returning sun after the winter months

### Luxembourg

Children carrying lighted candles wander the streets singing, hoping to receive a reward in the form of sweets or loose change

### Puerto Rico

A statue of the Virgin of Candlemas is carried in procession through the streets to the church followed by people carrying lit candles

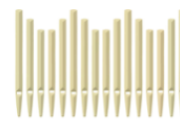
### Peru

A festival of culture, music and dancing is held each year and forms one of the three largest festivals in South America alongside the Carnival in Rio de Janeiro and the Carnaval de Oruro in Bolivia

# MT

V A C A L S

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## 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

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### The Readings

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#### **Introit** (Ps. 105:47)

Save us, O Lord our God!  
And gather us from the nations,  
to give thanks to your holy name,  
and make it our glory to praise you.

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#### **First Reading** **The Prophet Zephaniah** (2:3, 3:12-13)

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth,  
who obey his commands.  
Seek integrity, seek humility:  
you may perhaps find shelter  
on the day of the anger of the Lord.  
In your midst I will leave  
a humble and lowly people,  
and those who are left in Israel  
will seek refuge in the name of the Lord.  
They will do no wrong, will tell no lies;  
and the perjured tongue will no longer  
be found in their mouths.  
But they will be able to graze and rest  
with no one to disturb them.

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#### **Responsorial Psalm** (Ps. 145:7-10. R. Mt. 5:3)

R. Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. R.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan R.

It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. R.

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#### **Second Reading** **The First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians** (1:26-31)

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came

from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

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#### **Gospel Acclamation** (Mt. 5:12)

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in heaven.  
Alleluia!

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#### **Gospel** **The Gospel of Matthew** (5:1-12)

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:  
they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:  
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:  
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:  
they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:  
they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:  
they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

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#### **Communio** (Cf. Ps. 30:17-18)

Let your face shine on your servant.  
Save me in your merciful love.  
O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.