

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

FEBRUARY 2, 2020

LIVING GOD'S WORD

The circle of blessing pivots on trust in God. The Christian community that embraces lowliness will be a place of blessing both here and in eternity. All we really need do is to follow our illogical leader, Jesus, the One whose trust in God brought blessing to the whole world.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Monday, Feb. 3, St. Blaise
8:15AM Intention of Catholic Extension Donor
Tuesday, Feb. 4
8:15AM Barb Derickson by St. Francis Radiology
Wednesday, Feb. 5, St. Agatha
10:30AM Communion Service at Three Springs
Thursday, Feb. 6, St. Paul Miki & Companions
NO MASS
Friday, Feb. 7
8:15AM Mary Friess by John
Saturday, Feb. 8
5PM Lawrence Jany by Roger & Ruth Petrowske
Sunday, Feb. 9
9AM For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK FEB. 2 THRU FEB. 9

Sunday	9AM Mass PSR Class after 9AM Mass till 11:15AM
Monday	8:15AM Mass in Rectory Dining Room 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Pork Loin/Fried Chicken
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 5-8)
Wednesday	10:30AM Com. Service at Three Springs
Thursday	NO MASS
Friday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 7 & 8 Liturgy) 2:50PM Dismissal 4:30-7PM K of C Fish Fry
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: Have you ever met someone who is really old and really wise? Simeon and Anna are the first-century equivalent of those saints whom you and I have met. These two pray. They pray a lot. When Simeon sees the child, he believes. An eight-day-old baby is being presented to the Lord. And Simeon sees in that child the Savior of the world. How does that work? Something must have moved within him. Faith is an inner assurance that rises within us to convince us that God is at work. That belief, at that moment, is a gift. Anna has prayed night and day in the temple for years. Many of us have tasted the seasoning of the Spirit. But there are saints who have tasted of the pure Spirit, as though it were something they drank straight. Anna seems to be one of those who live on the borderline between God and the world. Keep working to drink deeply of God's Spirit, day after day. God is real, at work at all times. Faith is a gift, an inner assurance that this is so.

TITHE WEEK OF JAN. 26, 2020

Mary Help of Christians: \$5,392.00
\$644.00 Improvement; \$13.00 Votives; \$48.00 Child Env.
\$100.00 Donations

WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,362.24

Fiscal Year Week: 30

YTD Actual Giving: \$190,867.00

YTD Budget Need: \$210,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (\$19,133.00)

YTD Weekly: (\$637.77)

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: We sometimes think that holiness is for other people, and we all know people who we'd consider holier than ourselves. Our life of faith tells us otherwise, and must lead us to holiness.

SERVERS SCHEDULE for Feb. 8 & 9: 5PM, Gage Hopkins, Garret Hopkins; 9AM, Elseah Congiardo, Nolin Crain, Nathan Jany

AUCTION DONATIONS: Donations slips need to be turned in by Sunday, Feb. 2. Slips are available at the back of church.

RAFFLE TICKETS: Please continue to sell your raffle tickets and return them in the collection basket. We have sold \$485.00 in tickets.

RON KORANDO needs to hear from you. There is only 34 days until our Gala Dinner and Auction. To reserve your seat, please call Ron at 618-615-2509.

K OF C FISH FRY Friday, Feb. 7, from 4:30-7PM. This week's fish fry will benefit Relay for Life. There will be NO FISH FRY on Feb. 14.

THE NEWMAN AUXILIARY is having a Quilt & Cash Social Bingo on Sunday, Feb. 23, at St. John the Baptist, Red Bud. Lunch begins at 11AM and Bingo starts at 1PM. Win quilts, cash, gift baskets, and door prizes. All proceeds help support the Newman Catholic Student Center at SIU-Carbondale.

GLAZED GALLOP: A 5K run, 1.5 Mile Fun Walk, and .07 Mile Kids' Donut Dash will be held at St. John the Baptist, Red Bud, on Saturday, Feb. 29. Start time is 9AM. Online registration is runsignup.com/glazedgallop-signup. More race info on facebook.com/SJBGlazedGallop5Krace.

CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY is in need of canned meats, canned fruit, and tuna. Donated items may be placed in the box in the back right vestibule.

PROMPTED BY THE SPIRIT: Forty days have passed since we celebrated the joyful feast of the Nativity of the Lord. Today is the blessed day when Jesus was presented in the Temple by Mary and Joseph. Outwardly he was fulfilling the Law, but in reality He was coming to meet his believers. Simeon and Anna, prompted by the Holy Spirit, came to the Temple and recognized the Lord and praised Him with exultation. Each time we gather for Mass, we come together through the Holy Spirit to encounter Christ. In the Eucharist, we recognize Him in the breaking of the bread, until He comes again, revealed to us in glory. Mary and Joseph present their newborn son in the Temple, even though Jesus, the Son of God, is already "consecrated to the Lord," and Mary has no need for purification. Yet their humble and obedient ways fulfill the Law enabling us to see our salvation in Jesus. Just as Mary carries her baby son to the Temple, she presents us to the Lord through her intercessions. In prayer, review times you were prompted by the Holy Spirit in your life? What was your response? Let's work for joyful openness to what Christ calls us to say and do in the sorrows and joys of our lives; always remembering that Mary, the mother of the Christ child, is also our mother as we place our trust in her Son.

CHRIST IS PRESENT: Hebrews announces what we know: Jesus Christ had to become like us in every way (be human) in order to be high priest (like us in all things but sin). We light and bless candles today to remember that Christ our Light illumines everything and everyone. We listen to Simeon and Anna sing his praise. How will I carry the Light who is Christ with me from Mass today? To whom will I let it shine? How will I sing his praise?