

2 February 2025

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (New Cal.)
THE FEAST OF THE PURIFICATION OF OUR LADY (Traditional Cal.)
“Candlemas”

Sunday Mass: Anticipated Sat. 4PM/Sun. 8AM Ancient Rite Latin Mass

Sunday 9:30 AM (Live-streamed) & 11 AM

Confessions: Wed. & Fri. 6:30-6:55 PM/Sat. 7:30-7:55 AM

Sat. 2:30-3:30 PM & 6:30-7:30 PM

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Mon. 3 Feb. The Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr, Patron of the Throat

8 AM Ancient Rite Latin Mass

For: Special Intention

Blessing of Throats following Holy Mass

5 PM The Blessing of Throats

Tue. 4 Feb. St. Gilbert, Founder/St. Joseph de Leonessa, Pr.

8 AM For: Concetta Bianchi+ (Birthday)

Req: Dr. & Mrs. Francis Bianchi

Holy Rosary for the Preborn & the Newborn

Wed. 5 Feb. St. Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

7 PM For: Joanne Ciarvino+

Req: Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Maciag

Thu. 6 Feb. St. Paul Miki, Pr., & Companions/St. Dorothy (Florists)

8 AM For: Charles & Lila Rose+

Req: Mr. & Mrs. David Rose, Sr.

Fri. 7 Feb. Bl. Pius IX, Pope

7 PM For: Beth Anderson (L.)

Req: The Anderson Family

Sat. 8 Feb. St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin, Religious

8 AM For: Special Intention

4 PM For: William Breckenridge+

Req: Mr. & Mrs. Edward Jasiewicz

Sun. 9 Feb. V Sunday in Ordinary Time (New Calendar)

V Sunday after Epiphany (Traditional Calendar)

8 AM For: Katherine Mazor+ (Birthday)

Req: Her Parents

9:30 AM For: Nancy, Willard John Skinner+

Req: Bill Skinner

11 AM For: The Parishioners of OLGCC

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD/PURIFICATION OF OUR LADY IS OBSERVED THIS SUNDAY. During the 9:30 AM Mass we will bless the candles to be used on the altar and for other uses throughout the year. Blessed candles will be available after the 9:30 Mass, and thereafter, for \$5 each. You are encouraged to use blessed candles in your homes during your prayers; when the Blessed Sacrament is brought to a sick person in the home; during storms or times of calamity or disaster. An opinion of some of the mystics and visionaries of the Church is that God will chastise the world for its sins with 3 days of darkness, as He did in the Book of Genesis. During that time, the only light that will be available will be from blessed candles.

MON. 3 FEB. THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE, PATRON OF THE THROAT
On this Feast of the Bishop and Martyr St. Blaise, we bless throats, invoking his protection and intercession to keep them healthy. Tradition says that St. Blaise delivered a young boy from choking on a fish bone by making the Sign of the Cross on him. In gratitude, the boy's mother offered the Saint two candles, hence the two blessed candles used to bless the throats. Throats will be blessed after the 8AM Mass, and again at 5 PM without Mass.

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES FOR THE JR. HIGH SCHOOL OR THE ADULTS DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

'WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL" PASTORAL LETTER

Bishop Lucia has written a pastoral letter on the Immigration question for our consideration. The letter is 7 pages long, so you will have to go to the Diocesan website (www.RomanCatholicDioceseofSyracuse.org) to read it, or wait until it is published in The Catholic Sun.

ST. JOSEPH SOCIETY MEETING: THU. 6 FEBRUARY 7 PM

FRI. 7 FEBRUARY: FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH HOLY MASS 7 PM

CONFIRMATION DATE AND PLACE

Those students and adults who are to be confirmed should note that the Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on **WED. 21 MAY AT 7 PM at ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN ROME.** Further details will be made available as the date approaches.

"IGNITE" MEN'S CONFERENCE: SATURDAY 29 MARCH 2025

This year's theme is "Know the Lord" and will be held at the Bishop Ludden High School in Syracuse, NY. Any man in the parish who would like to attend is asked to pre-register by going to www.ignitecatholicmen.org. The parish will defray your registration fee by \$25.

Speakers this year are: Ben Steele, Bear Woznick and Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck.

MONTANA BILL THREATENS SEAL OF CONFESSION

A “cradle Catholic” Montana lawmaker who left the Faith five years ago amended her bill that would have jailed priests for up to five years for not breaking the Seal of Confession. However, the bill still puts a target on priests' backs and intrudes on private spiritual communications by requiring clergy to report abuse if they hear about it while counseling someone.

The bill, both an amended version and the original version, won praise from several female “ministers” who said they were raised in the Catholic faith, as well as a priest who is no longer allowed to hear Confessions anywhere in the world because he advocates for breaking the Seal of Confession. Senate Bill 139 from Senator Mary Ann Dunwell originally removed the “clergy-penitent privilege” which respects the duty of priests to not reveal what they hear in Confession. Priests are obligated to keep what they hear in Confession secret and are automatically excommunicated if they break the seal.

During a hearing on Tuesday, Senator Dunwell presented an amended version of her bill that she said had been crafted in consultation with the Montana Catholic Conference and the Diocese of Helena. However, the current version replaces the clergy exemption with a vaguer exception for communication required to be confidential by canon law, church doctrine, or established church practice. Several groups opposed this amended version. Current law already protects this exception, so any bill adding further vague language would only weaken this. Last week, Dunwell said, “I have spoken with various faith communities and members of the Catholic clergy across the country.” She said that clergy told her they could grant absolution for sins and still report abuse.

LifeSiteNews asked her about the excommunicable offense of violating the Seal of Confession and how the clergy would be able to report abuse without being excommunicated. “You know that's really off the subject of the bill, you're going to have to ask them that”, Dunwell said. She did not provide the names and contact info of those she claims to have spoken with.

In support of the bill was a female Methodist “minister” and a United Church of Christ “minister”. A male Protestant pastor also supported the bill, at least the original one, on the basis that it would allow priests to reveal what was heard during Confession. Civil law however, cannot trump canon law.

Further, Fr. Jim Connell spoke in favor of the bill. He regularly advocates that priests break the sanctity of the confessional. Due to this advocacy, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, where he is incardinated, removed his faculties to hear Confessions anywhere. “This restriction will remain in place as long as Father continues to falsely claim that there can ever be some exception to maintaining the confessional seal,” said Fr. Nathan Reesman, Vicar for Clergy of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

(LifeSiteNews, 29 January 2025 article by Matt Lamb)