

9 February 2025
V Sunday of Ordinary Time (New Calendar)
V Sunday after Epiphany (Traditional Calendar)

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

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

Confessions: Wed. 6:30-6:55 PM/Sat. 7:30-7:55 AM; 2:30-3:30PM & 6:30-7:30PM

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Mon. 10 Feb. St. Scholastica, Virgin, Religious, Twin sister of St. Benedict
8 AM Ancient Rite Latin Mass
For: Bonnie Bianchi (L.)

Tue. 11 Feb. **OUR LADY OF LOURDES**
8 AM For: Dennis Ryan+
Req: Dawn McClellan
Holy Rosary for the Preborn & Newborn

Wed. 12 Feb. The Holy Martyrs of Abitinensis, under Diocletian
7 PM For: Joane Ciarvino+
Req: Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Maciag

Thu. 13 Feb. St. Paul Liu Hanzuo/St. Paul Le-Van-Loc/ Priests & Martyrs
8 AM For: Marion Bracken+
Req: Frances McCauley

Fri. 14 Feb. Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Apostles to the Slavs
8 AM St. Valentine, Priest, Martyr
For: Megan Sandoval (L.)
Req: The Anderson Family

Sat. 15 Feb. Sts. Faustinus & Jovita/St. Walfrid, Abbot
8 AM For: Special Intention

4 PM For: Fred Scerbo+
Req: Drs. J. & I. Vanderhoof

Sun. 16 Feb. VI Sunday in Ordinary Time (New Calendar)
Septuagesima Sunday (Traditional Calendar)
8 AM For: Charles Bianchi+ (4th Ann.)
Req: Dr. & Mrs. Francis Bianchi
9:30 AM For: David Rose, Sr. (Birthday)
Req: Wife, Regina
11 AM For: The Parishioners of OLGCC

CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION PLEASE NOTE

Those who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in May of this year, are asked to please gather the following and to bring these to class on Tue. 4 March when we resume our Religious Education class. Those adults who will be getting Confirmed, are also asked to get this information to the Pastor by then as well.

Your Confirmation Saint's Name: You may choose a Patron Saint of either gender. If you would like some help in selecting a Saint, please ask Father.

Your Sponsor for Confirmation: You may choose someone of your own gender, or of the opposite gender. They must be at least 16 years of age, a Catholic who has been Confirmed themselves, and who is practicing the Faith. Any Sponsor you select who is not from OLGCC must get a Certificate of Sponsorship from his/her pastor stating that they are eligible for this role. Please get these sponsorship certificates to me by 4 March as well.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please give me a call or email me.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on Wed. 21 May at 7 PM at St. John the Baptist Church in Rome, NY. Details about a rehearsal will be announced as the date gets closer.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL & ADULTS

We are taking the month of February off to allow mother nature free reign.

Hopefully, she will be much more easy to work with when our classes resume on **TUE. 4 MARCH.**

THE ROSARY SOCIETY WILL MEET THU. 13 FEB. 6:30 PM

Christine Rurak will give her presentation on banking fraud. She has worked in the banking industry for many years, and recently retired. All women of the parish are encouraged to come and hear her.

“IGNITE” MEN'S CONFERENCE: SAT. 29 MARCH BP. LUDDEN HIGH SCHOOL SYRACUSE

The theme this year is “Know the Lord” and will feature speakers Ben Steele, Bear Woznick and Fr Chase Hilgenbrinck.

Any man in the parish who would like to attend must pre-register at www.ignitecatholicmen.org. The parish will defray your registration fee by \$25.

THE FACT OF THE MATTER: Although Roe v. Wade has been overturned, saving 80,000 lives nationally, the abortion numbers in Pennsylvania (where this report originated) have increased by 5% with a total number of at least 34,848: the highest number reported in 10 years. We can imagine that in NYS, the results would be similar. There is no way of tracking the babies killed through the abortion pill, which is now the method of choice for killing the unborn.

The CNY Sportsman Show for outdoor enthusiasts will be held March 1st from 9-4 at the Verona Fire Department Hall Volunteer Ave, Verona. The family show features outdoor businesses and clubs, seminars, authors, live animals and mount displays. Adults \$7. 10 and under free. For more information call Holy Cross Academy at 315 363 1669 or visit holycrossacademy.com.

SYRIAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF HOMES

“The New Era is Full of Mysteries”

“A new era has begun for Syria, and it is a difficult time again,” said Archbishop Jacques Mourad. The monk of Deir Mar Musa community, spiritual son of Father Paolo Dall'Oglio, was held hostage for months by jihadists of the Islamic State in 2015. Perhaps this experience made his Christian vision even clearer. And today, as Syrian Catholic Archbishop of Homes, what he sees and hears about the new suffering in Syria does not correspond with the dominant narrative in the media, especially in the West, which reports on a “regime change”, a successful and peaceful regime change with new Islamist leaders seeking international recognition after 50 years of the Assad clan ruling the country.

The dominant media coverage, for example, fails to mention the widespread violence and fear that again overshadows the days of a large part of the Syrian population. A violence that-as Jacques Mourad admits- “seems to be a trap that all who come to power here fall into.”

In recent weeks, the Archbishop of Homes told Fides, people have disappeared, prisons are filling up and “we do not know who is alive and who is dead”. Those accused of having colluded with the collapsed regime are being tortured in public. And he also reports “several cases of young Christian being threatened and tortured in the streets in front of everyone, in order to instill fear and force them to renounce their faith and become Muslims.” Crimes that are taking place far from Damascus.

“The previous regime,” explains Archbishop Mourad, “presented itself as the defender of Christians. They always said, ‘If we leave, the fanatics will return. Now many priests are pessimistic about the future. My answer is always the same: the situation is definitely incomparable to that of the past, when there were unimaginable crimes. But since the new violence, there are also those who say, ‘You saw that what Bashar al Assad said is true’. The result is that many Christians now, more than ever, see no other way than to emigrate. To leave Syria. And it is difficult to say that we must not lose hope. We try, but people do not believe what we say. What they experience and what they see are too different.”

In the churches, since the fall of the Assad regime, in many ways things seem to continue as before: services, processions, prayers and works of charity. The new rulers have not issued any compulsory regulations that in any way affect the everyday life of the church. The recognized leader Ahmad Sharaa, also known as Abu Muhammad Dscholani, leader of the armed jihadist group “Hayat Tahrir al Sham”, who declared himself “interim president” of Syria on 29 January, met with Father Ibrahim Faltas and the Franciscans at the end of 2024 and found words of praise for Pope Francis.

“But,” says the Archbishop, “when the confiscation of weapons began, the Christian and Alaite soldiers were disarmed. Nobody took the weapons away from the Sunnis. The reality is that there is no government. There are different armed groups. Some are fanatics, others are not. And each has its own power and imposes its own rule on the areas in control. And they have many weapons, having also acquired those of the old regime.”

(The above report was taken from Agenzia Fides, the news agency of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Eastern Churches).