

28 January 2024
IV Sunday of the Year (New Calendar)
Septuagesima Sunday (Traditional Calendar)

Sunday Mass: Anticipated Sat. 4PM/Sun. 8 AM 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. 29 Jan. St. Gildas the Wise, Abbot
8 AM Ancient Rite Latin Mass
For: Fr. James Buckley, FSSP+

Tue. 30 Jan. St. Bathildis, Queen
8 AM For: Jason Hogan
Req: Renee Kelly
Holy Rosary for the Preborn and Newborn

Wed. 31 Jan. St. John Bosco, Patron of editors, apprentices, young men
7 PM For: Daniel, Liberty Tony Hank (L.)
Req: Mr. & Mrs. Allan Kraeger

Thu. 1 Feb. St. Brigid of Ireland, Virgin, Abbess
8 AM For: Thomas & Shannon Dixon (L.)
Req: Mr. & Mrs. John Vanderhoof

Fri. 2 Feb. FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD
7 PM For: Wyatt & Jessica Anderson (L.)
Req: Mr. & Mrs. Steven Anderson

Sat. 3 Feb. St. Blaise, Bishop, Martyr Patron of the Throat
8 AM For: Special Intention

4 PM For: Jaime George+
Req: The Kaminski Family

Sun. 4 Feb. V Sunday in Ordinary Time (New Calendar)
Sexagesima Sunday (Traditional Calendar)
8 AM For: Frances Rotolo+
Req: Her daughter
9:30 AM For: The Parishioners of OLGCC
11 AM For: Dorothy van Duesen+
Req: Carole Sexton Family

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES: TUE. 30 JAN. RECTORY

Jr. High School Class 7 PM Sr. High School & Adult Class 8 PM
The Confirmation candidates (10th grade) were informed at class this past Tuesday that their Confirmation will be on Wed. 1 May at 7 PM at St. John the Baptist Church in Rome. More details will be given as the date comes closer.

ST. JOSEPH SOCIETY MEETING: THU. 1 FEB. 7 PM RECTORY

We will be making plans for our Pancake Breakfast which will be held on Sunday, 11 February. There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board for volunteers to help set up, serve and clean up after the Breakfast.

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD/PURIFICATION OF OUR LADY: FRI. 2 FEBRUARY BLESSING OF CANDLES AND HOLY MASS AT 8 PM.

Also known as “Candlemas”, for on this Feast Holy Mother Church blesses the candles used for the sacred liturgy, and for devotional use in the home. Candles will be blessed at the beginning of this Mass, and then made available for you to take to your homes. An offering of \$5 is requested for each candle.

ST. BLAISE FEAST DAY: SAT. 3 FEB. BLESSING OF THROATS

We will invoke the protection of St. Blaise on throats after the 8 AM and 4 PM Masses on his feast day.

GAME NIGHT FOR ADULTS: SAT. 3 FEB. 6 PM RECTORY

Why not enjoy an evening of board games and fun before the serious season of Holy Lent begins (Wed. 14 Feb.)? We hope you will join us. Please put the names of those who will attend on the list that is posted on the bulletin board, so we will know how many to plan for.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST: SUN. 11 FEB. AT 8 & 9:30 AM MASSES

Just wait until you taste these golden beauties and the sausage with them! We need to know how many to plan for though, so please put the size of your family on the list on the bulletin board. Breakfast will be \$5/person and \$20/family. The Breakfast is served at the Rectory.

COUPLE TO COUPLE LEAGUE PROGRAM FOR NATURAL FAMILY

PLANNING Called Natural Plan, the program introduces couples to all of the methods of Natural Family Planning. It is about opening the minds and hearts of couples to understand why NFP is worth considering and how they can foster a deeper relationship with God and each other by respecting God's design for married love. To learn more visit www.naturalplan.org.

“Nones” Are Now the Largest Religious Category

Religiously unaffiliated people, often referred to as “nones”, now make up the largest religious category in the US, according to a new report by the *Pew Research Center*.

The report, released on 24 January, shows that nones now account for 28% of the total US population, outstripping the next largest group, Catholics, who make up 20%.

The recent data is consistent with a long-term trend of Americans rejecting religious affiliation in growing numbers, with the percentage nearly doubling from 16% in 2007.

The rise of the nones has resulted in not only lessened religious participation, but also a decrease in civic engagement with nones being less likely to vote, do volunteer work, or have strong friend groups or community, according to Pew.

Although nones do not ascribe to a particular church or religious group and are much less likely to attend church services, not all are atheists. Only 17% of nones identify as atheist, while 20% describe themselves as agnostic. The majority of nones, 63%, simply identify themselves as “nothing in particular”.

Most nones, 69%, do still believe in God, though only 13% of them believe in God as described in the Bible. Additionally, 49% of nones say that they are spiritual or that spirituality is very important to them.

On average, nones are younger than religious people with 69% of them being under the age of 50 versus only 45% of religiously affiliated people being under the age of 50.

While atheists and agnostics tend to have attained higher levels of education than religious people, persons in the “nothing in particular” category tend to have less education, with 27% having graduated college-compared to the 34% of religiously-affiliated people having complete college.

Most nones, 67% cite disbelief and skepticism as their reason for not ascribing to a religion. Just over half, 55%, say they are not religious because they don't like religious organizations or have had bad experiences with religious people, while 44% say they don't need religion or don't have time for it.

Nearly half of the nones, 43%, believe that organized religion does more harm than good, while over half, 56%, believe that science does more good than harm.

Even so, nones still show great openness toward belief in the spiritual realm. Fifty-six percent of nones believe that there are limits to science and that there are some things science cannot explain. This coupled with the fact that half of them say that spirituality is very important to them and that many believe that animals and parts of nature, such as mountains and trees have “spirits” or “spiritual energies”.

Most nones, 83%, say that the “desire to avoid hurting people” guides their morality, while 82% say that logic and reason guide their moral compass.

Michael Pakaluk, a social research and business professor at the Catholic University of America has pointed out the negative impact such a large segment of the population will have on our society. He points out that this means Catholics must emphasize religious education all the more.

(Adapted from an article in *The Catholic World Report*, 25 January 2024).