

FEBRUARY 2, 2020 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.

FEAST OF THE
PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Invest just five minutes a day, and your Faith will deepen and grow, a day at a Time

Sunday, Feb 02, 2020

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Family histories

Life can change in a heartbeat. A newborn is presented for an inconspicuous customary blessing. Then destiny grips his family with a startling prophetic utterance. The holy purpose of families stirs to life in our commemoration of this story, as we ponder the mission of our own families. How do we share our gifts and hospitality? How do we exemplify the love that binds us? Today the U.S. Catholic community especially observes a National Day of Prayer for the African American Family, with its unique challenges and special witness within our national story. Listen: The prophets are still whispering.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40. "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many."*

Monday, Feb 03, 2020

MEMORIAL OF BLAISE, BISHOP, MARTYR

Be a healing presence

During this time of year, lots of us worry about coughs and colds. Well, we Catholics have a saint for that: Saint Blaise, the patron of throat ailments. Many churches offer special blessings of the throat on this day. Blaise was a healer of bodily and spiritual ailments. When he retreated to a cave to pray, people continued to seek him to be made well. He even healed sick animals who came to him. Are you the kind of person others turn to for caring? How can you help make others whole?

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20. "They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

Tuesday, Feb 04, 2020

Illness escapes easy answers

Today's gospel has dramatic stories of healing: Jairus' daughter is at death's door until Jesus works a miracle. And a woman with a hemorrhage finds respite through Christ. Despite the many times Jesus cured the sick, our faith doesn't simply teach "illness bad, Jesus good." It has a nuanced view of bad health. Illness is "among the gravest problems confronted in human life," states the Catechism; it can lead to "anguish and

self-absorption." But illness can also be a path toward maturity, compassion, and gratitude, the Catechism continues. Take a moment today to meditate on how illness—your own and others—impacts your faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3; Mark 5:21-43 (324). "He took the child by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha koum,' which means, 'Little girl, I say to you, arise!'"*

Wednesday, Feb 05, 2020

MEMORIAL OF AGATHA, VIRGIN, MARTYR

Noble is as noble does

What is it about Saint Agatha, born in Sicily in 235, that she is one of only seven women named in the Canon of the Mass? Could it be her work as a deaconess? Was it the brutal torture she endured at the hand of Roman prefect Quintian? Was it her miraculous intervention to save a city from destruction by a volcano? The answer is likely in this exchange from *The Acts of the Martyrdom of Saint Agatha*: "What is your condition?" asks Quintian. Agatha responds, "Not only was I born free, but of noble family." Quintian: "If you claim to be free and noble, why do you show yourself to live and dress like a slave?" "Because I am a servant of Christ," Agatha says. Remember the freedom that comes with a commitment to love. **TODAY'S READINGS:** *2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17; Mark 6:1-6 (325). "Many who heard him were astonished."*

Thursday, Feb 06, 2020

MEMORIAL OF PAUL MIKI, PRIEST, MARTYR, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

Learn forgiveness from a role model

We associate the city of Nagasaki, Japan with August 9, 1945 when the United States dropped the second (and last) atomic bomb used in World War II. But nearly 350 years earlier, in 1597, Paul Miki and 25 other Catholics, lay and clergy, children and adults, were martyred for their faith on a hill, now called Holy Mountain, overlooking Nagasaki. Miki used his last moments of life to forgive his executioners: "After Christ's example I forgive my persecutors," he is reported to have said. "I do not hate them. I ask God to have pity on all, and I hope my blood will fall on my fellow men as a fruitful rain." Seek a moment today, and every day, to practice forgiveness in your own life. **TODAY'S READINGS:** *1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; Mark 6:7-13. "He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick."*

Friday, Feb 07, 2020

Street-level charity

While Jeanne Marie Rendu is hardly a household name, most people know of the squalid conditions in 19th-century France described in Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables* that compelled Jeanne Marie to act. Taking the religious name Rosalie when she entered the Daughters of Charity, she served the poor in disease-infested, overcrowded Paris and also guided leaders, thinkers, and social activists in her home, including Frederic Ozanam, with whom she later co-founded the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. She paid attention to the suffering around her and continually asked for God's intervention. "Never have I prayed so well as in the streets," she said. Her advice to her sisters more than 150 years ago still applies today as we encounter the poor among us: "Remember, Our Lord hides behind those rags."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Sirach 47:2-11; Mark 6:14-29. "[Herod] was very much perplexed, yet he liked to listen to [John the Baptist]."*

Saturday, Feb 08, 2020

MEMORIAL OF JOSEPHINE BAKHITA Finding grace to overcome

A child of loving Sudanese parents who was kidnapped by Arab slave traders when she was 7, Josephine Bakhita (1869-1947) knew the trauma of loss of family, compounded by 12 years of slavery where she was bought and sold like a commodity. When a master took her to Italy and temporarily left her with the Canossian Daughters of Charity, Josephine found a home that—with the sisters' assistance—she never had to leave. She joined the community and for 42 years served as a cook and doorkeeper known for her gentle and charismatic presence. This amazing woman, whose body bore slavery's scars of 114 lashes, found it possible to proclaim, "The Lord has loved me so much: We must love everyone . . . we must be compassionate!" Practice compassion as best you can today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34 (328). "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while."*

Next Sunday

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A light set on a hill

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16. "Just so, your light must shine before others."*

Catholic Social Teaching Corner

Feb. 1-2, Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
Today we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which we observe 40 days after Christmas. Simeon and Anna welcomed Jesus into the temple, both knowing and proclaiming that he is the Messiah. May we continue to welcome Christ into our hearts and into our homes as we serve and

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pray for those who are less fortunate. Christ be our light!

MASS INTENTIONS
SATURDAY Feb 1. VIGIL MASS

Members of our families to return to our Catholic Faith, requested by Ed and Elina Mullen's

SUNDAY, February 2, 8:00AM

Birthday Blessings for Eric Adams, requested by Jennifer Brooks

SUNDAY, February 2, 10:00AM

Happy 47th Wedding Anniversary for Rev. Raymond and Bara Scott

TUESDAY, February 4, NOON MASS

Birthday Blessings for Mullen and Nalletamby families, requested by Ed. and Elina Mullen

WEDNESDAY, Feb 5, NOON MASS

In loving memory of **Don Christian Gabriel Rivera**, may God have mercy on his soul, requested by his family.

THURSDAY February 6, NOON MASS

For the repose of the soul of James W. Smith, requested by Barbara Scott

In thanksgiving for Adeline Bruno's recovery from Cancer, requested by Martine Boudreau

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

Thank you to those families who made a pledge to the Catholic Services Appeal last weekend. If you have not yet made your pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. It is not too late. Your gift can make a real difference in the lives of many who are supported by our diocesan programs in education, spirituality and outreach. Pledge envelopes are available on the Usher's table in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ella Adams	Evelyn Battle
Mary Anthony	Mildred Carter
DeKarlos Blackmon	Josephine Dukes
B.J. Dukes	Monica Godsey
Vanessa Downey-Little	Vonnye Rice-Gardner
Lester Johnson	Mathias Manning
Doris King	Bernadette Phifer
Marie Mason	Dr. Joseph Quander
Ella Pease	Mary Sobers
Betty Ridley	
Mary Waters	

EIM WORKSHOP

EIM workshop Sunday, February 9, 2020, 12pm, downstairs. All Ministry members who are in the presence of vulnerable youth and/or vulnerable adults are required to obtain EIM compliance. Pre-registration is required.

2020 PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND

DATE: November 4th, to 13th, 2020
Please see Patricia Robert or Donna Sistrunk-Irving in the office.
More details to follow soon
This shall be the last parish planned Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, sponsored by Holy Cross. Please join us.

PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

The Church celebrates your presence at Mass and is greatly enriched by families who give glory to God. **As we continue to cultivate an awareness of care and protection of children in the Church, please accompany them when they step out of Mass to use the restroom or get a drink of water.** Together, we help form our littlest ones in wisdom

OUTDOOR TENT SALE!

The St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store is having an Outdoor Tent Sale on February 8th, 12:00pm – 3:00PM. You will find great deals on great items for \$3.00 or less. The Thrift Store is located at 901 W. Braker Lane, Austin, TX 78758. For more information, call

Consider Holy Cross in your will.
Call 512-472-3741

NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

The National Black Catholic Men's Conference is being held October 22-25, 2020 at the Marriott Hotel Downtown in Louisville, Kentucky. The theme is, "*Still Rising*". This is an opportunity for men to pray, worship and fellowship together, as well as experience the tremendous events that have been planned for attendees for us to bring back to our parishes to share with others.

Bilingual formation for music ministers

The diocesan Worship Office and the NPM Austin Chapter will host a bilingual day of formation for music ministers on Feb. 8 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Austin. The day will be led by guest speaker Dolores Martinez from San Antonio, who will take us on a Journey from Ash Wednesday through the Triduum. The workshop will explore the essence of Holy Week and what the Triduum means in the life of the church. We will also discuss the opportunities and challenges of bringing diverse communities together for special liturgies, musical dos and don'ts when celebrating bilingual liturgies, and appropriate repertoire, all within the context of Lent and the Easter Triduum. All musicians (leaders, singers, instrumentalists, etc.) are invited to join us for this music workshop in preparation for the Lenten Season! Registration is \$25 per person (meals included) by Feb 3 at www.npmaustin.org. For more information, contact Andrea Ramos at (512) 949-2448.

THANK YOU

People come to our church daily, asking for food, water and personal items, we would like to thank the Sir Knights of KPC Assembly #40, for answering the call and pledging to always keep our non-perishable food bins full. *Thank you Sir Knights; When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Matthew 6:3-4*

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2020	
Mass	8:00AM
Rosary	9:30AM
Mass	10:00AM
Byzantine	5:00PM
Weekend JAN 25/26, 2020	
ATTENDANCE	
VIGIL MASS	25 5:30 pm
SUNDAY	50 8:00 am
	159 10:00 am
Weekend JAN 25/26, 2020	
OFFERTORY	\$3053.00
IGBO	291.00
Children	18.00
SVDP	130.00
E-GIVING	1559.96
SVDP(E-GIVING)	25.00
DR (E-GIVING)	90.00
MSP(E-GIVING)	25.00
DR	299.00
MSP	10.00
Needs of Parish	429.00
Albertson	22.61
DCYC	1450.00
ACTS	102.00
GIFT STORE	33.00

Family Life Center Now Available for Renting

For all your events like:

- Wedding Party
- Birthday Party
- Graduation Party
- Wakes
- Coporate Events
- Ministry Events
- Meetings
- ETC

Contact the Church Office for details
5124723741

