

The Presentation of the Lord

2025 February 2

February 2

Luke 2:22-40

02 February

Presentation



*Destined for the fall and
the rise of many...*

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple. The Presentation, which is celebrated 40 days after Christmas, is not mentioned in the other Gospels. Only Luke tells the story, most likely because he writes for Gentile Christians who are not familiar with the Jewish rite of presentation and purification. In addition, the intent of Luke's Gospel is to show that God's promise to Israel, fulfilled in Jesus, extends to Gentiles.

Luke recognizes Joseph and Mary as faithful Jews who bring Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem. Here they present their firstborn son to the Lord. Jesus is thus consecrated as required by the Law of Moses. Present in the temple at this time are Simeon and Anna. Both are awaiting the restoration of God's rule in Israel.

Simeon had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would see Christ the Lord, the Messiah, before he died. The holy man immediately recognized the infant Jesus as the promised Savior, a "light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." Anna also recognized Jesus as the fulfillment of the promise of redemption and spoke about him to all.



**Tax Receipts
Now Available!**

2024 income tax receipts are available,
located in the church foyer!



MAY GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR
FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP!
Sunday Collection

January 26 \$5,352
Repairs \$1,033

As we gather, let us remember and pray for . . .

Monday, February 3

St. Blase

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Maria Armenti

Tuesday, February 4

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † deceased of Theberge family

Wednesday, February 5

St. Agatha

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Antonio & Adelina Pizzi

Thursday, February 6

St. Paul Miki

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Betty Rocco

Friday, February 7

(8:25 a.m. rosary)

9:00 a.m. † Cecilia Acob

Saturday, February 8

St. Josephine Bakhita

5:00 p.m. ♦ Special Intention Flordeliza Legaspi

Sunday, February 9

**5th Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

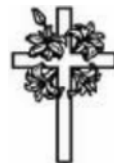
9:00 a.m. ♦ People of the parish

11:00 a.m. † Lorenzo Falzoi

5:00 p.m. † Addolorato & Elvira Pizzi

MASS in memoriam February 1

For those who have died in the past three months and whose funerals were celebrated here. The following will be remembered in the Prayer of the Faithful and Eucharistic Prayer...



Anna 'Josephine' Orsini

Mary Ferencich

Giambattista Romanelli

Amelia Angelica Campigotto

Behold, I will send you my angel who shall go before you and protect you on your journey and bring you to the place I have prepared. -- Exodus 23:20

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for the Month of February

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

MASS INTENTIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Parishioners,

Fr. Mathew has graciously opened multiple Mass 5 intentions for Saturday 5:00 pm Mass. However, please be mindful that there are also Mass intentions available for the Sunday 11:00 am and 5:00 pm Masses.

In order to accommodate as many families as possible, Fr. Mathew kindly requests that families limit their intentions to 2 or 3 per Sunday Mass. This will allow other families in the parish the opportunity to have their loved ones remembered during these Masses.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we strive to serve the entire parish community. God bless you!



OUR CHILDREN'S LITURGY TEAM

Is inviting the children and youth of our Parish to participate in our Children's Good Friday Performance which will take place during the morning Good Friday Service.

Children ages 4 and up are welcome to participate. Practices will begin in mid February.

There will be speaking and non speaking acting roles and older children are welcome to participate and receive volunteer hours. We are also looking for adult volunteers.

To register your child please contact Anna Racine at 905-358-3412 or rracine37@cogeco.ca

CWL VALENTINE'S DAY GIFT BASKET RAFFLE



St. Thomas More Catholic Women's League will be holding a raffle for a Valentine's Day Gift Basket. Tickets are 3 for \$5.00 or 10 for \$10.00 and will be sold in the foyer, after Mass, for the next 3 weekends - draw on Sunday February 9th. Proceeds will go toward providing bursaries for our graduating Loretto, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St. Michael High School graduates. Thank you to all parishioners for their generous support!

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH MUSIC MINISTRY

seeking additional voices and instruments at all Masses. This includes cantors and children's voices. Please contact our Director of Music, Maureen Chamberlain, atmusicsttomas@cogeco.net



DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Thank you for helping us reap our rights together! In Laudate Deum, Pope Francis reminds us that "everything is connected" and "no one is saved alone" (1D,19) This is why peasant farmers in the Global South need our solidarity to ensure that their rights are respected. Any questions contact Sandy Hall (@smhall1977@gmail.com)



THE PURPOSE OF MASS

Part Three: Liturgy of the Eucharist:

Following the Presentation of the Gifts, which symbolize our heart & soul and our entire life in the form of bread and wine, we move to the next stage, which is the central and most important part of the Holy Mass.

The Eucharistic Prayer:

The long prayer forms the heart of our faith. There are four Forms of the Eucharistic prayer. Considering the time factor, we, generally use the second Form, which is the shortest, for the daily Mass and sometimes for the Sunday Mass. The other three Forms are a little longer and they are used for solemn and festive days. I use the 2nd Form for the 7:30 a.m. Mass at St. Peter's and 9:00 a.m. Mass at Casimir's. Otherwise, on Sundays and on festive days, I use the 3rd Eucharistic prayer. Even though they differ in length, all have the same structure: We call upon God to remember all the wonderful saving

Even though they differ in length, all have the same structure: We call upon God to remember all the wonderful saving

We call upon God to remember all the wonderful saving deeds in salvation history;

We recall the central event fulfilled by Jesus Christ and in particular the memorial he left us on the night before he died. Thus, we recall his passion, death, and resurrection; and After gratefully calling to mind all the wonderful saving acts, God has done for us in the past, we petition God to continue those deeds of Christ in the present: we pray that we may become one body, one spirit in Christ.

The Eucharistic prayer begins with the Preface, with a kind of dialogue between the presiding priest and the assembly. First, the priest greets the people saying, "The Lord be with you". He, then, asks the people to approach the table of the Lord with the invitation, "Lift up your hearts" and the people respond, "We lift them up to the Lord". Again, the priest asks the people to give thanks to the Lord and the people respond, "it is right and just". The preface introduces us into the central part of the Eucharistic prayer, concluding with the joyful and enthusiastic words, "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God ..." With faith and fervor we join the Angels and Saints in praising God with these words, for the marvelous gift, He is going to give us at the Eucharistic table.

CELEBRATING SIGNIFICANT WEDDINGS ANNIVERSARIES THIS JUBILEE YEAR

All married couples, especially those celebrating significant anniversaries are invited to attend a Mass commemorating the 2025 World Day of Marriage. Bishop Bergie will preside at this special Mass on Sunday February 9, 2025, at 2:00 pm, at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria (3 Lyman Street, St. Catharines). A coffee social will follow Mass.

ST. THOMAS MORE VALENTINE'S DINNER/DANCE with Entertainment

On Saturday, February 22 at 6:30pm

ST. THOMAS MORE CHURCH HALL.

Tickets are:

2 person at \$75.00 or 1 person at \$40.00

Contact: Romeo and Minda Panday 289 668 3379

