



**The Presentation of the Lord
February 2, 2020**

He had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way.

—Hebrews 2:17a

A CHRISTMAS REPRISE

The Church's celebration three weeks ago of the Baptism of the Lord signaled the "official" end of the Christmas season. Today's feast of the Presentation of the Lord seems to extend the Incarnation celebration a bit longer. In fact, some have called this feast a "second Epiphany."

The first reading recalls the anticipation of Advent, as Malachi writes, "Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me." The reading from Hebrews reminds us of the Incarnation, proclaiming that Jesus had a "share" in our own "blood and flesh." The Gospel finds the infant Jesus on his first visit to Jerusalem and his human parents once again surprised and in awe over the events surround his birth.

In the simplicity of the manger, in the grandeur of the temple, in the domesticity of Nazareth, Jesus comes. May we come to know him and so be filled with "wisdom" and the "favor of God."

—J. S. Paluch Co.

**SAINT AGATHA (died 251)
February 5**

"Of noble birth and great beauty," so the ancient accounts describe Saint Agatha, martyred during an early persecution for refusing a powerful Roman's offer of marriage, since she had consecrated her virginity to Christ. An early preacher, Saint Methodius, reflects instead on her name, noting that, in Greek, Agatha means "good," goodness being something we can all strive for, nobly born or common, blessed with beauty—or not! So brutal the tortures that violated her youthful innocence, Agatha, like Agnes and several other women martyrs, was honored from time immemorial by having her name inscribed in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I). Long invoked as protector against earthquakes—Mount Etna erupted as she was being tortured—recent attention has focused on the particularly cruel torture decreed for Agatha, the cutting off of her breasts. This has inspired cancer survivors to promote Saint Agatha as patron and intercessor for women courageously facing breast cancer, for their families and the multitude of supporters who participate in fundraising marches and races, and, of course, for the dedicated researchers who seek a cure.

—Peter Scagnelli, © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-7; Mk 5:1-20
- Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30 — 19:3; Ps 86:1-6; Mk 5:21-43
- Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6
- Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-12; Mk 6:7-13
- Friday: Sir 47:2-11; Ps 18:31, 47, 50, 51; Mk 6:14-29
- Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34
- Sunday: Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

saint snippets



"Heal me, Lord, that I may be healed; saved me, that I may be saved, for you are my praise."
—Jeremiah 17:14

St. Blaise
4th-century physician, Bishop, and martyr who healed a choking child through prayer. Patron saint against ailments of the throat.

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February 3

THE ROAD TO GOD

There is but one road to lead us to God — humility; all other ways would only lead astray, even were they fenced in with all virtues. —Nicolas Boileau-Despreaux

Finance Corner:



Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of **January/February** offerings:

- 1/26: 1st Collection: \$1365. Rural Food: \$1269.
- 2/2: Operating Expenses. 2/9: No 2nd collection.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

- Joint PC & FC meeting:** Tues., 2/11/20, at 2PM in Hall
- Parish Council [PC]:** Tues., 2/18/20, at 10AM in Hall
- Finance Council [FC]:** TBA

Liturgy Committee: Thurs., 3/5/20, at 9:45AM in Hall

- St. Teresa Ladies Guild:** Contact Diane, 823-6044
- St. Philip Ladies Guild:** Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: 9:30AM at St Philip
Coffee & Goodies: Following 8AM Sunday Mass and Wednesday/Friday after 9AM Mass, at St Philip Hall



Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:

All seniors welcome! (No lunch Monday before 2nd Tues. of month)

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

- Sat., Feb. 1, 5pm Mass ✠ Fr. Gary Logan
- Sun., Feb. 2, 8am Mass for the People
- Sun., Feb. 2, 9:30am Mass Joan Zeller
- Sun., Feb. 2, 11:15am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer
- Mon., Feb. 3, 9am Prayer Service
- Tues., Feb. 4, 9am Mass
- Wed., Feb. 5, 9am Mass ✠ Tina Bartolo
- Thurs., Feb. 6, 9am Mass
- Fri., Feb. 7, 9am Mass ✠ Jimmy Newlands
- Sat., Feb. 8, 5pm Mass ✠ Brendan Smith
- Sun., Feb. 9, 8am Mass for the People
- Sun., Feb. 9, 9:30am Mass ✠ Fr. Gary Logan
- Sun., Feb. 9, 11:15am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: The Presentation of the Lord; World Day for Consecrated Life;
- Monday: Fourth Week in Ordinary Time; St. Blaise; St. Ansgar
- Wednesday: St. Agatha
- Thursday: St. Paul Miki and Companions
- Friday: First Friday
- Saturday: St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita; International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking; Blessed Virgin Mary

Prayer Requests: Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Mary K., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen., Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H, Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Jacque W., Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo [Ed] Arnold, Castellini family, Anne Favre, Kathy R., Donna W., and God's peace to all who need our prayers in times of trouble

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for JANUARY 2020

On January 14 we welcomed 94 families representing 129 adults, 42 children and 39 seniors for a total of 210 people receiving nutritional support. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection on the last Sunday of each month as well as through private donations and the generous support of our volunteers.

In January and February, Rural Food clients are invited to participate in a survey regarding our service and the groceries and produce that we provide each month. This will enable us to continue to make improvements in this vital ministry as our parish enters a fourth decade of service in the Rural Food Program. This program is made possible through the generous donation of time by our tireless volunteers. We are so thankful to have their support each month to help transport over 4000 pounds of food products from the Redwood Empire Food Bank for distribution to our clients. Please continue to collect paper and reusable grocery bags especially with handles, and egg cartons. We are looking into biodegradable produce bags for our clients.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sat., February 8, from 9–10:00am repackaging -- Parish Hall

Mon., February 10, from 10:00am–12:00pm to set up the Parish Hall

Tues., February 11, from 8:30 – 11:00am to distribute the food and assist clients.

Exclusive Limited Print of Ansel Adam's original picture of St. Teresa Church from 1953: All proceeds support needed restoration of St. Teresa of Avila Mission. A limited number of prints have been printed from Ansel's original negative. Each reprint is individually numbered. Prints are available for a donation of \$175. Please contact Peg Duffy for a limited print: call 707-867-6073.



"Thanks for calling, but the rectory is closed right at the moment. However, God's ears are always open. Praying is the best hotline anyone could ever want."



The Best Caregiver I can Be

Recently, we asked Susy, daughter of one of our Shaw Center clients, how the center has helped her be the best caregiver possible to her mother.

"My mother, Jenny, is now ninety years old and this is her second year attending the amazing program at the Shaw Center. Having gone through WWII as a Jewish child sent by train from her home in Cologne, Germany to England to save her life, Jenny didn't have it easy. She didn't meet up with her mother again until she moved to Canada from England where my grandmother had settled after the war. She met my father, who was also an immigrant and a holocaust survivor, married him and they had 3 children.

I moved to California from Toronto in 1996, and I brought her to live with me three years ago from Canada, after she was diagnosed with dementia. I had signed her up after hearing about the program through friends who were concerned about the full-time job I had taken on by being my mother's full-time caregiver.

At first, my mother was very hesitant to attend, but over time she has come to miss it if she doesn't go. We are totally convinced that the stimulation she receives at the Shaw center has slowed the progression of her dementia.

The amazing caregivers and volunteers at The Shaw Center have given my mother the stimulation and opportunities for activities that our family couldn't afford to provide her with. They always honor birthdays and holidays of all faiths. I see how observant they are when noticing a change in perhaps a behavior or emotion and they keep me up to date with anything to report about my mother.

We're very grateful that they're there. This helps me to be a better caregiver at home and provides me with the break to do the errands I cannot do with her in tow. The caregivers there are so warm, friendly and caring, not only with the attendees but the extended families as well. I have never had to worry about her welfare while she is at the program because they are all so caring and pro-active with everyone's individual situations and needs. My son and I regularly entertain at the center and it feels just like my living room.

I honestly don't know where I'd be or what I'd do without them. This program is meaningful today and will be even more meaningful in the future as more and more adults age."

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Is your loved one experiencing a cognitive impairment and seeking respite care? Contact us [Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa] at 707.528.8712 and ask for Nicole.

A huge Thank You to all who attended our CELEBRATE 2020 event last Sunday. More than 120 attendees enjoyed conversation, great food and drink and lively bidding on live and silent auction items. To the Gonnella family and the Union Hotel staff and to all who volunteered their time to help make the event a success, donated wines, dinners, vacations, treasured items, and services, THANK YOU. More information regarding funds raised will be available in the coming weeks.

Pope Francis Quote

"This is important: to get to know people, listen, expand the circle of ideas. The world is crisscrossed by roads that come closer together and move apart, but the important thing is that they lead towards the Good."

Flowers for the Altar during the Year are a spiritual investment for a loved one, to celebrate any occasion, or just to express gratitude for your blessings. Flowers are also a gift to all of us as we enter and see the glorious display around the altar and experience the liturgy framed by such exquisite beauty. We appreciate your donations! To contribute for St. Philip Church flowers, please call 874-6072.