



February 2022 ~ St Stephen Parish



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Holy Mass 6:30 Marian Cenacle 5:00 	2 Holy Mass 9:00 SFO Meeting 7:30 Presentation of the Lord	3 CWL Meeting (Sundre) 7:00 Liturgy Meeting 7:00 Saint Blaise/Saint Ansgar	4 Holy Mass 9:00 24 Hour Adoration (Olds) Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary (Sundre) 10:00 Adoration (Sundre) 1-6:00 Holy Mass (Sundre) 7:00 	5 Holy Mass 5:00 Reconciliation 11:00  Saint Agatha
6 Holy Mass 11:15 Holy Mass 7:00 Catechism 10:00 Saint Paul Miki	7 PPC Meeting (Didsbury) 7:00	8 Holy Mass 6:30 Marian Cenacle 5:00 Saint Josephine Bakhita Saint Jerome Emiliani	9 Holy Mass 9:00 KC Meeting (Didsbury) 7:30	10 CWL Meeting (Didsbury) 6:30  Saint Scholastica	11 Holy Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary (Sundre) 10:00 CWL Meeting (Olds) 10:00  Our Lady of Lourdes	12 Holy Mass 5:00 Holy Mass 7:00 (Didsbury) Blessing of Marriages & Renewal of Vows during Mass 1st Reconciliation Class 9:00-Noon Reconciliation 11:00
13 Holy Mass 9:00 Holy Mass 7:00 Blessing of Marriages & Renewal of Vows during Mass Catechism 10:00 	14 Happy Valentine's Day Saint Cyril & Saint Methodius	15 Holy Mass 6:30 PPC Meeting (Olds) 7:00	16 Holy Mass 9:00	17 PPC Meeting (Sundre) 7:00 Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order	18 Holy Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary (Sundre) 10:00	19 Holy Mass 5:00 Reconciliation 11:00
20 Holy Mass 11:15 Holy Mass 7:00 NO Catechism 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time	21 Family Day Adoration (Didsbury) 9-2:00   Saint Peter Damian	22 Holy Mass 6:30  Chair of Saint Peter	23 Holy Mass 9:00  Saint Polycarp	24	25 Holy Mass 9:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary (Sundre) 10:00	26 Holy Mass 5:00 Reconciliation 11:00
27 Holy Mass 9:00 Holy Mass 7:00 Catechism 10:00 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time	28	1	2 Ash Wednesday			

The month of February is dedicated to the **Holy Family**. This year the entire month of February falls within the liturgical season of **Ordinary Time** which is represented by the liturgical color green. Green, the symbol of hope, is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of February 2022

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

Highlights of the Month

As mentioned, the month of February is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Family. Between the events which marked Christmas and the beginning of Christ's public life the Church has seen fit to recall the example of the Holy Family for the emulation of the Christian family. The Feast of the **Presentation** (February 2) or **Candlemas** forms a fitting transition from Christmas to Easter. The small Christ-Child is still in His Mother's arms, but already she is offering Him in sacrifice.

The saints that we will focus on this month and try to imitate are **St. Blaise** (February 3), **St. Paul Miki & Companions** (February 6), **St. Jerome Emiliani** and **St. Josephine Bakhita** (February 8), **St. Scholastica** (February 10), **Our Lady of Lourdes** (February 11), **Sts. Cyril and Methodius** (February 14), **Seven Founders of the Orders of Servites** (February 17), **St. Peter Damian** (February 21), **Chair of St. Peter** (February 22) and **St. Polycarp** (February 23).

From Feast to Fast

Though the shortest month of the year, February is rich in Liturgical activity. It contains a feast (Presentation of our Lord) that bridges two other seasons (Christmas and Easter)! In addition, the faithful may receive in February two of the four major public sacramentals that the Church confers during the liturgical year: blessed candles and the blessing of throats.

The Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd harkens back to the Christmas mystery of Light except that now, Christ, that helpless babe, is "the Light of Revelation to the Gentiles who will save his people from their sins." Candles, symbolizing Christ our Light, will be carried in procession this day, as will be the Paschal candle during the Easter Vigil Liturgy. "The Light of Revelation" shines more brightly with each successive Sunday of Ordinary Time, until its magnificence – exposing our sinfulness and need for conversation – propels us into the penitential Season of Lent. We prepare to accept the cross of blessed ashes on Ash

Wednesday (March 2) and plunge ourselves into anticipating the major exercises of Lent – fasting, prayer, almsgiving – laying our thoughts and prayers on the heart of our Mother Mary. She, who offered her Son in the temple and on the Cross, will teach us how to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow after her Son.

February 2

Presentation of the Lord

The feast of the Purification of Christmas season. The day is Temple, or the feast of the aged Simeon and Anna, been promised to Simeon that the living "Ark of the Covenant," man and puts the Salvation of dismiss Thy servant in peace, O which Thou hast prepared to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel."



our Blessed Mother closes the forty days of the also called the Presentation of the Child in the Candlemas. As the Holy Family enter the Temple, called by the Holy Spirit, wait to see the Child. It had he would not die until he had seen the Savior. Mary, guided by the same Spirit, welcomes the saintly old the world into his arms. "Now," he says, "Thou dost Lord, because mine eyes have seen Thy salvation which Thou hast prepared to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel."

Symbols



St. Polycarp

The bishop of Smyrna was condemned to death by burning. The flames refused to do their task, billowing about like sails, exposing the bishop's Figure in a radiant light. A soldier used his spear to end the spectacle.



St. Scholastica

The sister of St. Benedict, and founder of a Benedictine convent not far from Monte Cassino. It is related that St. Benedict had a vision of a dove rising just before he received word of her death.



St. Agatha

During the Decian persecution, St. Agatha, a Sicilian of noble birth, died under torture rather than break her vow of lifelong consecration to Christ.



St. Dorothy

The patroness of gardens is particularly well known in the little villages of southern Europe. Her feast is locally celebrated on Feb. 6. The symbol is descriptive of her zeal for the Faith.

*Kissing the Face of God
by Morgan Weistling*

