

The Presentation of the Lord – February 2, 2025



...Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see

death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."

The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted -and you yourself a sword will pierce- so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him - Luke 2:22-40

St. Agatha Pray For Us - Feast Feb. 5th

St. Agatha, also known as Agatha of Sicily, is one of the most highly venerated virgin martyrs of the Catholic Church. It is believed that she was born around 231 in either Catania or Palermo, Sicily to a rich and noble family.

From her very early years, the notably beautiful Agatha dedicated her life to God. She became a consecrated virgin, a state in life where young women choose to remain celibate and give themselves wholly to Jesus and the Church in a life of prayer and service. That did not stop men from desiring her and making unwanted advances toward her.

However, one of the men who desired Agatha, whose name was Quintianus, because he was of a high diplomatic ranking, thought he could force her to turn away from her vow and force her to marry. His persistent proposals were consistently spurned by Agatha, so Quintianus, knowing she was a Christian during the persecution of Decius, had her arrested and brought before the judge. He was the Judge.

He expected her to give in to his demands when she was faced with torture and possible death, but she simply reaffirmed her belief in God by praying: "Jesus Christ, Lord of all, you see my heart, you know my desires. Possess all that I am. I am your sheep: make me worthy to overcome the devil." With tears falling from her eyes, she prayed for courage.

To force her to change her mind, Quintianus had her imprisoned - in a brothel. Agatha never lost her confidence in God, even though she suffered a month of assaults and efforts to get her to abandon her vow to God and go against her virtue. Quintianus heard of her calm strength and ordered that she be brought before-

Cont...him once again. During her interrogation, she told him that to be a servant of Jesus Christ was her true freedom.

Enraged, Quintianus sent her off to prison instead of back to the brothel -- a move intended to make her even more afraid, but it was probably a great relief to her.

Agatha continued to proclaim Jesus as her Savior, Lord, Life and Hope. Quintianus ordered her to be tortured. He had her stretched on a rack to be torn with iron hooks, burned with torches, and whipped. Noticing Agatha was enduring all the torture with a sense of cheer, he commanded she be subjected to a worse form of torture ? this evil man ordered that her breasts be cut off.

He then sent her back to prison with an order of no food or medical attention. But the Lord gave her all the care she needed. He was her Sacred Physician and protector. Agatha had a vision of the apostle, St. Peter, who comforted her and healed her wounds through his prayers.

After four days, Quintianus ignored the miraculous cure of her wounds. He had her stripped naked and rolled over naked over hot coals which were mixed with sharp shards. When she was returned to prison, Agatha prayed, "Lord, my Creator, you have ever protected me from the cradle; you have taken me from the love of the world, and given me patience to suffer: receive now my soul." Agatha is believed to have passed into Heaven around the year 251.

St. Agatha is the patron saint of Sicily, bellfounders, breast cancer patients, Palermo, rape victims, and wet nurses. She is also considered to be a powerful intercessor when people suffer from fires. Her feast day is celebrated on February 5th.

Readings For This Sunday

Reading I: Malachi 3: 1-4

Reading II: Hebrews 2:14-18

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Readings For Next Sunday

Reading I: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

FINANCE

1st Collection = \$2,297

Next 2nd Collection is for Building and Maintenance.

St. Bernard Rosary Program Report: 8,175!!

Rosaries prayed this week =73 Cumulative = 8,175
Please pray the Rosary on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays before the 12:15pm Mass. Thank you.

Eucharistic Adoration-This Friday, Feb 7th

Our most precious Lord calls for you, his children, to spend some time with Him in the Blessed Sacrament. First Friday Adoration begins at 1pm and continues hourly until 5pm. Please sign up. We need 2 people per hour. *The sign up sheet is by the side entrance table.*

A Thank You From Fr. Bernard For The Birthday

Celebration It was a wonderful event with sumptuous desserts and good singing along with the band. Thanks!!

Eureka Holy Mass Schedule:

Saturday, February 1

8:30 am First Saturday Marian Devotion

+Rosita Tollefson Sacred Heart Church
3:15 pm Confessions St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm +Leon Freitas St. Joseph Church

Sunday, February 2 The Presentation of the Lord

7:30 am Harvey & Marianne Bennett St. Joseph Church
9:00 am +Rene Isaacson Sacred Heart Church
10:30 am Mass for the People St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm(Sp) No Intention Sacred Heart Church

Monday, February 3

12:15pm +Haley Walund St. Bernard Church

Tuesday, February 4

7:30am Harvey & Marianne Bennett St. Joseph Church

Wed. February 5

12:15 pm +Avira Gomes St. Bernard Church
followed by Adoration & Confession St. Bernard Church
6:00pm Adoration & Confession Sacred Heart Church
7:00 pm (Sp) No Intention Sacred Heart. Church

Thursday, February 6

7:30 am +Tom Keating St Joseph Church
11:30am No Intention St. Joseph Hospital

First Friday, February 7

12:15 pm Int. Massimo Matteoli St. Bernard Church
1:00 pm Adoration St. Bernard Church
4-4:45pm Confessions St. Bernard Church
4:45 pm Benediction St. Bernard Church

Saturday, February 8

3:15 pm Confessions St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm +Leon Freitas St. Joseph Church

Sunday, February 9

7:30 am +Michael Cunningham St. Joseph Church
9:00 am +James McElroy Sacred Heart Church
10:30 am +Clarence Enos St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm(Sp) Misa Para el Pueblo Sacred Heart Church

Please Pray For: Harvey & Marianne Bennett, Mildred Perrone, Marian Griffin, Massimo Matteoli, Jeanne Michael, Camille Regli, Gary Cormier, Cheyenne, Butch, Nancy Anderson, Thanh Strelow, Family of Sharon and Husband, Len Guglielmina, Clare Corridori, Antonio Vieira, Eain Graham, Dusty Lange, Therese Grella, Tate Naylor, Sharon Rose Cranford, Jeff Slack, Cleenewerck Family, Mary Antolini, Jeremy, Leia and Cindy, Mary Murphy, Obdulia Walters, and Paul Windham.

Please Pray For Our Beloved Departed:

Fred Avelar, Delores McBroom, Gus Cricchio, Barbara Madaras, Barbara Clement, Julie James, Jeff Osborne, Sharon, David Martinez, Mary Walsh, Donna Domingo, Jan Guglielmina, John Francis Lehane, Janelle Roberts, John Dixon, Don Cloney, Clare, Gary Krietsch, Donald Burghart, Robert McCauley, Saturnina Tetrault, Patricia Lee Silva, Marilyn Ziblich, and Lee Berning.

Italian Catholic Federation Super Bowl of PB&J

Competition Donation boxes to collect the jars of peanut butter and jelly for Betty Chinn are at the church entrances from now until **February 9th Super Bowl Sunday!** The winning parish will be revealed at the ICF Eureka Branch meeting on Feb 11th at 1:30PM in the Pinochi Room at St. Bernard Church Parish Hall.

Pancake Breakfast TODAY Sunday Feb. 2nd

The St. Bernard Pancake Breakfast prepared by the Knights of Columbus will be held Sunday, Feb 2nd in St. Bernard Parish Hall. Breakfast is served 8:30 am till 12. The menu includes pancakes, ham, sausage, scrambled eggs and all the usual wonderful trimmings! Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 and \$25 for a family of 5 or more. The proceeds will go to the St. Bernard Parish Building Fund

A Message From Betty Chinn

Three years before Father Eric died, he and I had many conversations about my work here in Eureka. He said he would support me. For the last many years, you, the people of St. Bernard Parish, have fed the poor of our community, and I am most grateful. This year, with the help of St. Bernard Academy students, we prepared 700 food baskets, including 315 hams, providing about 2000 meals for families struggling financially I feel we are continuing Father Eric's legacy. On the Anniversary of his death, I prayed the Rosary in front of the Rectory to acknowledge his and your generosity of spirit.

Catholic Schools Week-Aquinas Fund Information

Next week is Catholic Schools Week, a special time to celebrate the gift of Catholic education and its role in forming our young people in the faith. Did you know that over 3,300 students are enrolled in our Catholic schools, and our religious education programs serve more than 5,000 students across the diocese? We'd also like to highlight the Aquinas Fund, established in 2007 with a \$500,000 donation from the Leavey Foundation. Managed through the Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, this endowment has grown to \$2.5 million through contributions from the Diocesan Capital Campaign and private donations. Each year, a portion of the fund's interest is awarded to our elementary schools to support tuition assistance. This year, \$97,000 was distributed to support our schools and their mission of faith-based education.. Thank you for joining us in celebrating Catholic Schools Week and supporting the mission of Catholic education. Gratefully, Dr. Adrian Peterson- Superintendent of Schools

Baby Bottle Boomerang Invitation Baby bottles for donations to the Pregnancy Care Center and J Rolpe may be returned to boxes/bags in the churches or to the St Bernard office. Thank you for your family monetary support of our catholic pro-life beliefs. God bless.

TODAY St. Bernard High School Alumni Dinner

S.B.H.S. Alumni Association is hosting a *Hall of Fame Dinner* on **Sunday, Feb 2nd** at the School Auditorium, 222 Dollison St., Eureka. Pre-sale tickets are on sale at St. Bernard Academy: \$30- Adults, \$15- Children 12 and under, or \$35 at the door. Happy Hour is at 5:00pm with dinner at 6:00pm. For more information call Cathy Cahill Maher 707-443-3353.

Knight's Korner: Join the Knights of Columbus Eureka Council #1067. Annual dues are only \$35 per year. K of C membership provides access the K of C's affordable AAA rated life insurance policies and its AAA rated investment funds that 100% adhere to Catholic

teachings. To obtain a membership application please
email Frank Ferreira at Ferreirakoc1067@gmail.com