



HOLY NAME OF JESUS PARISH
National Catholic Church
15 THAYER STREET
SOUTH DEERFIELD, MA 01373

Rev. Robert M. Koerber, Pastor
 Parish email: koerber702@comcast.net
 Parish Phone: (413) 665-2129
 Emergency contact: (413) 530-8575
 Website: holynamedeerfield.org
 FB: Holy Name of Jesus, South Deerfield, MA

TODAY – FEBRUARY 2, 2025
SOLEMNITY – PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
SCOUT SUNDAY

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist to be celebrated in the traditional Rite of the PNCC.

On this day, there is a blessings of candles, and special prayers for the various scouting programs.

OPENING HYMN

TO THEE WE COME, O LORD, OUR GOD

To Thee we come, O Lord, our God,
 Before Thine altar, Father
 Thou knowest best our yearning hearts.
 This supplication answer.
 Lift up from want Thy people, Lord,
 Bless us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.
 Under Thy cross we stand prepared, To
 serve Thee with devotion.
 Be it with sweat of blood or tears, Or
 humble resignation.
 For we Thy people are, O Lord,
 Save us, O God; O Father, bless our toil.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Luke 1:46-48; Psalm 29:11

- V. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my Spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
- R. For He has looked upon His handmaid's lowliness: From now on all ages call me blessed. May the Lord give might to His people, may the Lord bless His people with peace.

- V. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the Highest,
 And peace to His people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 Almighty God, and Father
 We worship You; we give You thanks
 We praise you for Your glory
 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
 Lord God, Lamb of God
 You take away the sins of the world
 Have mercy on us
 You are seated at the
 right hand of the Father
 Receive our prayer
 For you alone are the Holy One
 You alone are the Lord,
 You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ
 With the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

- V. The Lord be with you.
- R. And also with you.
- V. Let us pray. Almighty, Eternal God, Your Son, Jesus, was conceived in the womb of Your handmaid, Mary. At the appointed time He was born a man and was presented before You in the temple. May we who live according to Your will, place our whole being before You, and at the moment of death be united with You eternally. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF MALACHI
 (Malachi 3:1-4)**

Thus says the Lord GOD: Lo, I am sending My messenger to prepare the way before Me; And suddenly there will come to the temple the LORD

whom you seek, and the messenger of the covenant whom you desire is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who will endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like the refiner's fire, or like the fuller's lye. He will sit refining and purifying silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi, refining them like gold or like silver that they may offer due sacrifice to the LORD. Then the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem will please the LORD, as in the days of old, as in years gone by.

V. The Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL (Psalm 48:10-11)

V. O God, within Your temple we ponder Your steadfast love.
R. Like Your name, O God, Your praise reaches the ends of the earth. Your right hand is fully victorious.



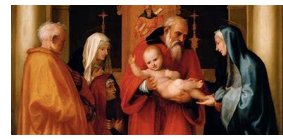
**A READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF SAINT
PAUL TO THE HEBREWS
(Hebrews 2:14-18)**

Since the children share in blood and flesh, Jesus likewise shared in them, that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the Devil, and free those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their life. Surely, He did not help angels but rather the descendants of Abraham; therefore, He had to become like His brothers and sisters in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God to expiate the sins of the people. Because He Himself was tested through what He suffered, He is able to help those who are being tested.

C. This is the Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE
(Isaiah 49:6b)

V.. Alleluia, alleluia.
R. Alleluia, alleluia.
V. I will make you a light to the nations, that My salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.
R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE
(Luke 2:22-40)**

V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with you.
V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.
R. Glory be to You, O Lord.

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord."

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.

V. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is seen and unseen.
I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
The only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father.
God from God, Light from Light,
True God from true God,
begotten not made.
Of one being with the Father
Through Him, all things were made
For us and for our salvation.
He came down from heaven:
By the power of the Holy Spirit
He was born of the Virgin Mary
And became man.
For our sake, He was crucified
under Pontius Pilate
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
In fulfillment of the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and
Is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
To judge the living and the dead
And His kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The Lord and Giver of Life
Who proceeds from the Father
With the Father and the Son
He is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in One, Holy, Catholic
and Apostolic Church.
I acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
I look for the resurrection of the dead
And the **+** life of the world to come.
Amen.



OFFERTORY VERSE

(Luke 2:34b)

V.. Let us pray: Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Heavenly Father in humility of spirit we offer You the sacrifice of our hearts. Receive our gifts of bread and wine and hallow us that we may be worthy instruments in Your hand for the work of Your kingdom. We ask through our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Let us Pray: Most loving Jesus, I adore You in the Most Blessed Sacrament, in which You are truly present. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, I ask You to come spiritually into my heart and heal my soul. I embrace You and unite myself with You; may I never be separated from You. In flame my heart with the fire of Your love, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

COMMUNION VERSE

(Luke 2:35)

V. And you yourself a sword will pierce, so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

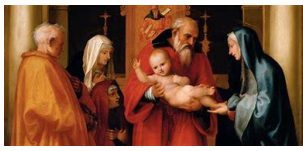
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us pray. Lord our God, these Holy Mysteries which we have received are a saving remedy. May they strength our souls now and for ever. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.



THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS

There was a day and a time when our parents brought us to church to be baptized. I am sure that on this day, which I, as an infant, cannot remember, but I am sure, it was a day of great happiness; shared collectively among my mom and dad, who shared this special day, with family and friends.

It should also be noted, by all of us, that on our day, we were all presented to the Lord and baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity and became associated with Him.

In my understanding, of the Sacrament of Baptism in the PNCC, is completed sacramentally, through the receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, which is based on the Gospel of John 3, in reference to a conversation that took place between Jesus and Joseph of Arimathea about being reborn by water and spirit. Catechetical instruction begins around the age of 6-8 in preparation to receiving the Holy Eucharist and continues as one prepares to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation around the age of 12, which is considered to be an “age of reason,” where there is a clearer and more mature understanding of one’s conscience and the teachings of Jesus.

The Presentation of Jesus, in the Temple in Jerusalem, and our Baptism in the Christian Church, are connected between the two covenants, but is associated with the “One Faith, One Lord, and One Baptism.

John the Baptizer, came at a time, where he, as a forerunner of Jesus, came at a time, baptized Jesus. We recall His testimony as found Luke 3:15-16:

“As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

We find in the Torah, the Law of Moses, that the presentation of Jesus was a time, when He, as the firstborn son, was consecrated unto God. This

presentation symbolized that , Jesus, was to become an integral part of God’s chosen people.

It is not hard to understand, that the seed of a man, fertilized the fruit of a womb, Do we not pray the Hail Mary, to the blessed Mother of Jesus: “Blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.”

We find, according to our faith, that Mary was somewhat “blind sighted” by the message given unto her, by the Archangel Gabriel, as we read in Matthew 1:18-25:

“Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, “which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son and he named him Jesus.

In Jewish law, one’s first-born son needed to be at least 31 days old, before his presentation, Most Christian denominations celebrate that Jesus was about six weeks old when He was presented by Mary and Joseph in the temple.

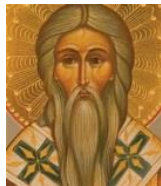
This Jewish law finds this origin in the time of Moses, when the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt. In the Book of Exodus 4:22-23a, Moses, directed by God, delivers this message to the Pharaoh:

“Thus says the Lord, ‘Israel is My son, even My firstborn: and I say unto You, Let My son go, that he may serve Me.’”

In Christian baptisms, families bring their infant sons and daughters, who are usually dressed in white, the color of innocence, and presented unto the Lord. In this presentation, it is through the cleansing waters

of baptism and the anointing with Holy oils, that a child, is baptized as Saint Paul teaches in 1 Corinthians 12:13: “For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body, whether we are Jews or Gentiles, slave or free— for we were all given the one Spirit to drink.”

Luke's depiction of what happened when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the Temple is likewise full of symbols and Jewish significance. Luke puts all this together in this one scene: Mary & Joseph fulfilling the Law, by presenting Jesus; the fulfillment of the prophets who had prophesied His coming; the visions of Simeon, a righteous man of God, and Anna, a prophetess, who celebrated the coming of the Messiah as found in Luke 22. Remember every time we enter in the “house of the Lord,” we present ourselves again to Him, who gives us through His dying has brought salvation and redemption to all.



FEBRUARY 3RD

Saint Blaise – Bishop & Martyr

(?– 316 AD)

Saint Blaise was the bishop in Armenia, during the 4th century AD. Very little is known about his life. According to various accounts, he was a physician before he become a bishop.

According to tradition, **Saint Blaise**, was reputed to have miraculously cured a little boy who nearly died, from a fishbone, that was stuck in his throat. From the 8th century, St. Blaise, is invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illnesses of the throat.

Also according to tradition, **Saint Blaise** was martyred, by being first beaten and attacked with iron combs, which were used on sheep shearing, and finally beheaded. In the Churches of the Western Rite of Christianity his feast falls on 3rd of February, and in the Eastern Rite, his feast day is celebrated on 11th of February. It should also be noted that Saint Blaise is also remember and revered in the Anglican, Lutheran and many other Protestant denominations of the Christian Church.



BLESSING OF THROATS

In the Liturgy of the PNC Church, prior to the celebration of the Holy Mass of the Eucharist, the blessing of candles will take place. Following Holy Mass, in the octave of Saint Blaise, the blessings of throats will take place.



SACRAMENTALS - CANDLES

Candles have always been associated with worship. In Christianity, whenever candles are lit, they represent light overcoming darkness, and most importantly they represent Christ as the “Light of the World.” In Christian churches, candles are placed on all altars and centers of worship.

During our Liturgical Year, various candles are used. Among them are the Baptismal candle, the four candles of the Advent wreath, along with the Christ candle, which is lit on Christmas Eve, and the candles that are blessed on St. Blaise Day. On Holy Saturday, the “Paschal candle of Christ” is blessed, along with five grains of incense, representing the “five wounds” of Christ, and is lit until the Lord’s Ascension, fifty days following His Resurrection.

Finally, the “Eternal Light” which shines above our sanctuary, represents His “real and mystical presence” in the form of consecrated bread which reposes in our tabernacle.



FEBRUARY 5TH

Saint Agatha-Virgin & Martyr

(Died 251 AD)

Saint Agatha, also known as Saint Agatha of Sicily, was an early Christian martyr of the 3rd century. She is mentioned by Saint Jerome c.530 AD as well as in other early Christian writings. Believed to have been born in Palermo, Italy, Saint Agatha consecrated her

virginity unto the Lord from a young age, and turned down the advances of a Roman prefect, sent by the emperor Decius to govern Sicily. Through her continued profession of faith, Agatha rejected the prefect, which resulted in her brutal torture, which included the cutting off of her breasts. This image has been depicted in many of her icons and pictures. It is believed that during her imprisonment, she had a vision of St. Peter the Apostle who comforted her and healed her wounds with his prayers. She was sent to the stake, but, according to some accounts, as soon as the fire was lighted, an earthquake occurred, causing the people to insist upon her release; she then allegedly died in prison. St. Agatha is the patron saint of breast cancer patients and of various localities in Italy and other parts around the world. Her feast day is observed on February 5.



A SCOUTING PRAYER

On this, Scouting Sunday, may we offer this humble prayer for all children and youth that are involved in the various scouting programs in the PNCC:

O God, Your will is that all your children should grow into fullness of life. We lift to You the ministry of scouting. We offer You thanks for camping, to teach us that the world is our great home; for study and work, to build character; for service, to see our responsibility to those in need; for encouragement in genuine patriotism and vital faith. Bless the work of scouting, in this place and around the world, that, through its efforts, the young may, like our Lord, increase in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with you and all people. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



OUR PARISH CALENDAR

February 3rd – February 9th

8:45 am Liturgy of the Hours

9:00 am Holy Mass of the Eucharist

- Mon. 2/3** **Mass of Thanksgiving**
Blaise of Sebastea, Bishop & Martyr
Laurence of Canterbury, Bishop
Anskar of Hamburg, Bishop
- Tue. 2/4** **Private Prayer & Meditation**
Nicholas of Studies, Abbot
Phileas of Alexandria, B & M
Rembert, Bishop
- Wed. 2/5** **Mass of Health & Healing**
Agatha, Virgin & Martyr
Avitus of Vienne, Bishop
Bertulf of Renty, Abbot & C
- Thurs. 2/6** **Mass to the Holy Saints of God**
Titus, Bishop, NT
Dorothy, Martyr
Amand, Bishop
- Fri. 2/7** **Mass to the Holy Angels of God**
Richard the King, Confessor & King
Theodore of Heraclea, Martyr
Moses, Bishop
- Sat. 2/8** **Mass to the Most Holy Name of Jesus**
Meingold of Huy, Martyr
Cuthman of Steyning, Confessor
Elfleda, Abbess

NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

5th SUNDAY IN THE ORDINARY

9:00 am – Holy Mass of the Eucharist in the Traditional Rite of the PNCC.



PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

In our prayers, let us please remember all our brothers and sisters, who are in need of the blessings of God for health and healing. Let us remember all our dear brothers and sisters who are in need of prayer.

Let us pray. O Lord, God of mercies, in Your kindness stretch out Your hand and heal all our brothers and sisters who are in any way ailing. Make them worthy of health, deliver them from their present sicknesses and illness and grant them recovery in Jesus' holy name. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.



OUR PARISH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

“Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.” - Philippians 2:4



Our Food Ministry: “To Feed the Hungry”

**“I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat.”
- Matthew 25: 35.**

The next date for helping those in need will be held on **Saturday, February 15th**, from **10 am** while supplies last.

As we are in the winter months, again, we ask for the assistance of our parishioners and friends, if possible, in donating the following non-perishable food items that are used in our monthly food ministry.

- Cereals and packets of instant oatmeal.
- Fruit juices, - V8, Apple and cranberry
- powder milk / condensed milk.
- Hot chocolate and tea bags.
- Pasta and spaghetti sauce
- Boxes of Mac-n-cheese
- Tuna in water
- Canned meats- chicken salmon, etc.
- Ramen noodles
- Soups- all varieties
- Canned veggies and fruits.



Collecting plastic tops

One of our dear parishioners, Maryanna Foster, who works closely with veterans, has asked for our help in collecting **white or clear plastic bottle tops** that will be donated to aid in the making of prosthetics for veterans in need. A collection container has been set up in the vestibule of our church. Please help donate your plastic tops to this new ministry. May God bless all of our endeavors.



Can Soda Tabs

We are also collecting tabs from soda cans that are then donated to aid the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled children. Please save your can soda tabs. There are containers that are located in our Parish vestibule for this purpose. Thank you for your help and may God bless.



BLESSING OF HOMES

I will continue this week to visit the homes of our parishioners for the traditional blessing with chalk. I will be placing calls this week for this blessing.



ED MISSION & EVANGELISM COMMISSION WEDNESDAYS AT NOON – CALL TO PRAYER

On Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon, during the month of February, a “call to prayer” the following two prayers are said.

Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ, that the light of the Holy Spirit may show them the ways to salvation.

Let us Pray: Almighty and Eternal God, You desire that all should be saved. Enable those who do not believe in Jesus Christ to accept Him as their Lord and Savior. Help them grasp the mystery of the Incarnation, so that they may come to know, love and serve Him and thus become faithful witnesses of His Gospel. We ask this in His Holy Name. Amen. +

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed by Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us of our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and led us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.