

ST. FRANCIS POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace." —St. Francis



Niech Bedze pochwalony Jezus

Chrystus.

R/. Na wieki, wiekow Amen.

Praised be the Lord, Jesus Christ.

R/. Now and forever. Amen.

9:00 AM - "Hymn of Faith"

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

CONTEMPORARY RITE - Mass Book page 63

READING I - 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. Yes, he 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 25, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R/Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord.

Lift up, O gates, your lintels; reach up, you ancient portals, that the king of glory may come in!

R/Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord.

Who is this king of glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

R/Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord.

Lift up, O gates, your lintels; reach up, you ancient portals, that the king of glory may come in!

R/Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord.

Who is this king of glory?

The Lord of hosts; he is the king of glory.

R/Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord.

READING II - Hebrews 2, 14-18

Since the children share in blood and flesh, Jesus likewise shared in them, that through death he might destroy the

February 2, 2020

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

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.

Priest/Lector: ALLELUIA.

R/: ALLELUIA.

Priest/Lector: A light of revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.

R/: ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL - Luke 1, 22-32 (short version)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke
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." This is the gospel of the Lord.

R/: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN - "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

OUR FATHER - Mass book page 95

COMMUNION HYMN - "We Will Rise Again"

RECESSIONAL HYMN - "Prayer of St. Francis"

St. Francis Weekly "Faith Renewed"

PRESENTATION OF JESUS, February 2nd

Forty days after his birth, Jesus was presented in the temple by Mary and Joseph to fulfill Jewish law. There he was recognized by Simeon and Anna, who were waiting for the coming Messiah. St. Lulce reports the event; When the day came to purify them according to the law of Moses, the couple brought Jesus up to Jerusalem so that he

could be presented to the Lord, for it is written in the law of the Lord, "every first born male shall be consecrated to the Lord." They came to offer in sacrifice "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons," in accord with the dictate in the law of the Lord. There lived in Jerusalem at the time a certain man named Simeon. He was just and pious, and awaited the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not experience death until he had seen the Anointed of the

Lord. He came to the temple now, inspired by the Spirit; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform for him the customary ritual of the law, he took him in his arms and blessed God in these words: "Now, Master, you can dismiss your servant in peace; you have fulfilled your word. For my eyes have witnessed your saving deed displayed for all the peoples to see: A revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of your people Israel." This feast celebrated by the Christian Churches of East and West at an early date, has also been called "Candlemas Day" because candles are blessed and lighted this day on which Simeon called Jesus "a light to the Gentiles."



FEAST OF CANDLEMAS - February 2nd

It is perhaps the most ancient festival of Our Lady. It honors the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple, and the meeting of the Infant Jesus with the old man Simeon with joy and recognition. Traditionally the blessing and distribution of candles is held, being a symbolic presentation of the truth proclaimed in the Cantic of Simeon; "Our Lord is the "Light for the Revelation of the Gentiles." This feast concludes the Christmas Season, after the Epiphany.

CANDLES OF THIS DAY

Candles blessed in church, this day, are taken home as a symbol of the Blessed Mother. They are called thunder candles. The candle is lit during thunderstorms, to protect the home from lightning. It is also lit during times of troubles or when someone is approaching death. The legend surrounding these candles is that the evening the Blessed Mother wards off wolves by using these candles as a torch. Historically, there are many art works which portray the Blessed Mother in this theme. May God bless and keep us, always!

ST. BLAISE (d.316) February 3rd

There is no accurate historical evidence about St. Blaise's life. He was born into a wealthy family and received a Christian education. He was appointed Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia and was martyred during the persecution of Licinius by Agricolaus, Governor of Cappadocia and Lower Armenia, in 316. According to tradition, Blaise retreated to a cave and became a hermit during the persecution of Licinius. While there, he befriended wild animals and cared for them when they were wounded or sick. One day, hunters found Blaise in the woods surrounded by wild animals. They captured him with the intention of putting him in prison. On the way to Sabaste, Blaise encountered a woman whose little boy was choking to death on a fishbone. Blaise healed him and the blessing of throats on this day derives from this story. Blaise was then delivered to Governor Agricolaus and beheaded. His prayer: Through the intercession of St. Blaise may God deliver us from all evils of the throat and from every other evil. Amen.

