

**HOW CAN I
ALLOW THE
POWER OF
THE SPIRIT
TO BE MY
STRENGTH?**



OUR FOCUS



St. Isidore Church provides a safe, positive, and nurturing environment so that persons of every background feel included and engaged here.



Our doors are open. We reach out to those who are seeking God's grace and meet them where they are.



St. Isidore Church is a strong, passionate place of faith. Together we will build up our community and share it with those around us.

connect with us

Be sure to check in & like us on Facebook & when you come to Mass, so that anyone searching for a church home knows there's a friendly face at St. Isidore.

 saintisidore  stisidoremacomb

 www.stisidore.church

FR. MARK'S MUSINGS

Some of the most powerful prayers/reflections of the 20th Century have similar themes: serenity, patience, and humility. Some of these prayers will be familiar to you, but others may not be. All of them are worth praying and reflecting on over and over. I will give a brief background on most of these, and short passages from each. I strongly encourage you to read the entire texts of these, which you can easily find online or elsewhere.

The familiar "Prayer of St. Francis" was not actually written by St. Francis of Assisi, who lived in the 12-13th centuries, but rather by an unknown Frenchman, perhaps Franciscan Fr. Esther Bouquerel around the year 1912. The sentiments are consistent with those of St. Francis, but the prayer was written many centuries later. (Misattribution will be a frequent theme of my "Musings" today!) "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love...Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand...for it is in giving that we receive, ...and in dying that we are born to eternal life."



Pope Francis

@Pontifex



What will remain on the threshold of eternity is not how much we earned, but how much we gave away.

Posted on January 20

FR. MARK'S MUSINGS

Reinhold Niebuhr, an American Reformed theologian, wrote the Serenity Prayer around 1930. It has become a standard, especially in the Alcoholics Anonymous movement: "Lord, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." The prayer continues for several sentences beyond this, but this is the best-known part. I have come to see "serenity, courage, and wisdom" as a great synopsis of the Holy Spirit's gifts for myself.

Mother Teresa said, "We can do no great things, only small things with great love." However, God certainly did great things through her. She was truly an instrument of God's peace. This one sentence captures much of her humility and serenity, accepting our human limitations.

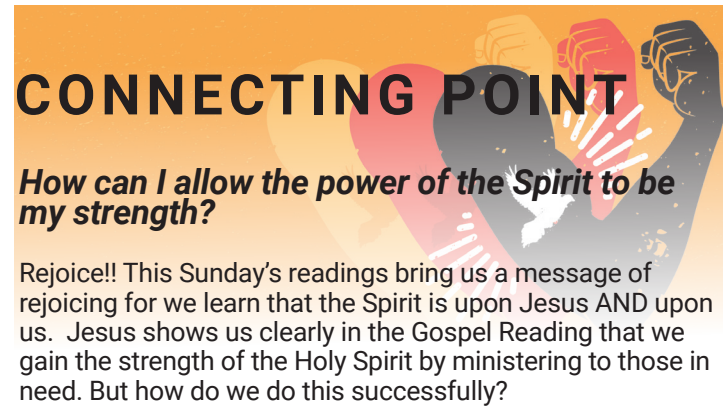
A man named Kent Keith at Harvard University wrote The Paradoxical Commandments in 1968, in a Handbook for Student Leaders. This reflection was a favorite of Mother Teresa, and has often been incorrectly attributed to her. Keith says, "People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered; love them anyway... The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds; think big anyway. People favor underdogs, but follow only top dogs; fight for a few underdogs anyway..." While there is a certain defiance in this reflection, it is really about serenity, the peace of mind that comes from doing the right thing without worrying about approval or disapproval, and leaving the success or failure to God.

There are two powerful reflections that speak especially of the virtue of patience. Both were written by Catholic priests, one probably in the first half of the 20th Century, the one well into the second half.

The first was written by the Jesuit philosopher, paleontologist, and mystic Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, who died in 1955. He wrote many philosophical works, and has many great quotes. His most famous prayer is sometimes called Patient Trust. It was given to me by a spiritual director, a religious sister, at a difficult but pivotal time in my life. "Above all, trust in the slow work of God. We are impatient to reach the end without delay, to skip the intermediate stages...It is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stage of instability—and that it may take a very long time...Your ideas mature gradually—let them grow, let them shape themselves...Accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete."

One of our own Archdiocese of Detroit priests, who later became bishop of Saginaw, the late Ken Untener, wrote a reflection in 1979 on the themes of patience and humility. It is called "Prophets of a Future Not Our Own." This prayer too has been incorrectly attributed, to another bishop, the recently canonized Oscar Romero. But Bishop Untener was certainly a holy man in his own right, renowned for his preaching and the care of his flock.

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CONNECTING POINT

How can I allow the power of the Spirit to be my strength?

Rejoice!! This Sunday's readings bring us a message of rejoicing for we learn that the Spirit is upon Jesus AND upon us. Jesus shows us clearly in the Gospel Reading that we gain the strength of the Holy Spirit by ministering to those in need. But how do we do this successfully?

We need to be open to God's word and immerse ourselves in his message of service for others. St. Theresa of Avila, in a prayer attributed to her, said, "Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours." In today's world we draw strength from the understanding that "We are the Body of Christ." It is important to understand that the Spirit is God's strength and light is in us. The Holy Spirit calls us to work together and share our strengths as we endeavor to build the Kingdom of God.

-Ann De Rey

YOUTH MINISTRY



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY:

INTERIM MSYM - MRS. JULIE RARICK

JANUARY 27
St. Theresa of Calcutta

FEBRUARY 10
Friendship

FEBRUARY 24
Bible 101 (Bring bible from home)



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY:

INTERIM HSYM's - MR. CHRIS KOZLOWSKI,
MRS. ANN DE REY

FEBRUARY 2-3
Pajama Project

FEBRUARY 16-17
CYO Rainbow Conference

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

The parish office will mail 2018 contribution statements upon request. If you'd like a statement mailed to you, complete the following and drop off in the collection basket, office or by mail. Please do not request statements by phone. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Envelope #: _____

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUN
JAN 27
MASS
7:30 AM // CH
MASS
9:30 AM // CH
MASS
11:30 AM // CH
MASS
5:30 PM // CH
EDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL YG
6:30 PM // YR

WED
JAN 30
MASS
8:00 AM // CH
BIBLE STUDY
9:00 AM // SH
SCRIPTURE GROUP
9:30 AM // RC
INTERCESSOR GROUP
11:00 AM // FCR
FAITH FORMATION
4:30 PM // SH
JOYFUL NOISE REHEARSAL
5:30 PM // MR
FAITH FORMATION
6:15 PM // SH
CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 PM // MR

SAT
FEB 2
MASS
8:00 AM // CH
STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL MTG
9:00 AM // ECR
CONFESSIONS
3:15 PM // CH
MASS w/ CANDLEMAS PROC.
4:30 PM // CH
PASTA DINNER FUNDRAISER
5:30 PM // SH

MON
JAN 28
MASS
8:00 AM // CH
ARMCHAIR AEROBICS
8:45 AM // RC
DIVINE MERCY - PRAYERS
1:30 PM // RC
FAITH FORMATION
4:30 PM // SH
FAITH FORMATION
6:15 PM // SH
BIBLE STUDY
7:00 PM // RC

THU
JAN 31
MASS
8:00 AM // CH
CROCHET GROUP
11:00 AM // SH

SUN
FEB 3
SITE PJ PROJECT
AFTER ALL MASSES
MASS
7:30 AM // CH
MASS
9:30 AM // CH
MASS
11:30 AM // CH
MASS
5:30 PM // CH

TUE
JAN 29
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
6:00 AM // ECR
MASS
8:00 AM // CH
ADORATION WITH BENEDICTION
AT 6:00PM
8:30 AM // RC
FAITH FORMATION
4:30 PM // SH
FAITH FORMATION
6:15 PM // SH

FRI
FEB 1
ADORATION
7:00 AM // CH
MASS
8:00 AM // CH
FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP
8:45 AM // SH

CALENDAR LOCATION KEY //

A-Atrium, CH-Church, CR-Classrooms, CY-Courtyard, ECR-Executive Conference Room, FCR-Front Conference Room, GS-Gathering Space, K-Social Hall Kitchen, MA-Maintenance Room, MR-Music Room, OS-Off Site, RC-Resource Center, REC-Rectory, SH-Social Hall, YR-Youth Room

PARISH OFFICE HOURS // 586-286-1700

MONDAY - THURSDAY	FRIDAY	LUNCH HOURS	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	TUESDAY LUNCH HOUR
8:30 AM - 8:00 PM	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	8:30 AM - 1:00 PM	12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

ST. VINCENT dePAUL



Fun fact: First sighted in 1886, Punxsutawney Phil turns 133 this Saturday, February 2nd. The first official Groundhog Day was in 1887 with a group making the trip to Gobbler's Knob in Pennsylvania. This year Phil is set to come out at 7:25am. Let's hope he doesn't see his shadow and Spring will be on it's way.

Our Pantry needs are:

- Toilet Paper
- Canned Fruit - Any
- Any "Helpers" - Chicken, Tuna, Hamburger
- Jelly
- Tomato and Chicken Noodle Soup
- Deodorant
- Dish Soap
- Pudding or Jello Cups
- Women's Depends - Large
- \$25 Kroger or Meijer Gift Cards

God Bless

PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY



Prayer blankets & shawls are available at no cost in the St. Isidore church office.

To all who have comforted someone with one of our blankets or shawls, we give thanks to you from the recipients. Our partnership of giving a crafted item is a special one created by faith, bonded by sacrifice, nurtured by love and blessed by God. We cannot fail if you remember to take a comfort blanket or shawl to someone who is suffering.

God's great desire is for us to have a relationship of love with one another, to spend time with others, to get to know the hearts and minds of others. What else matters, except to give others the gifts of our prayers, time, attention, and love?

Thank you from "The Comfort Crafters"

BABY PANTRY



Your kind and generous contributions make our job much easier and is appreciated by the families you help. You are a blessing to our parish!

"Our faith is about how we live in this life while we wait for the eternal life to come. It is about how well we listen to Jesus' simple and clear words and try to live them. It is about love." (Steve Givens)

You can help low-income families with children.

Please donate:

- Baby laundry soap
- Diapers size 4

Thank you for your support. Your generosity is awesome.

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY

In partnership with Ascension of Southeast Michigan

BE SAFE SHOVELING SNOW

We all know winter is far from over here in Michigan. As important as it is to clear your driveways and walkways to prevent slips and falls, it's equally important to follow some basic safety tips when shoveling, or even using your snow blower.

1. If you are inactive or have a history of cardiac disease, diabetes or high blood pressure, consult your physician before shoveling snow.
2. Begin shoveling slowly to avoid putting a sudden demand on your heart.
3. Wear a mask or scarf to help warm the air to your lungs.
4. Avoid nicotine and caffeine before shoveling, as these stimulants place extra stress on the heart.
5. Follow work/rest cycles that allow you to spend some time in a warm shelter. Rest periods have an additional benefit of helping you to avoid fatigue and overuse injuries
6. Remember to warm up and cool down to decrease the chance of muscle injury. Use good body mechanics, bend from the knees and hips, lift with your legs, and don't twist your torso. Whenever possible, push rather than lift the snow. When choosing a snow shovel, look for one that is lightweight and has a bent-handle to allow you to be more upright.

Blessings,
Heather

Sources: Ascension SE Michigan CareLink, Jan-Feb 2019



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27 7:30 AM

- † Annette Lalama
- † Gus & Mary Spriet
- † Msgr. Ferdinand DeCneudt
- † Raymond Sadowski BIRTHDAY
- † Joseph Hoang
- † Len Mironski BIRTHDAY

Mother Family Friend Family Kelly Doan Family Wife

9:30 AM

- † Kenneth Mlutkowski
- † Gerald Janusch 2ND ANNIVERSARY
- † Catherine Jaboro
- † Nazareno Sancricca
- † Catherine Ripari

Wife Wife Todd Grzelewski Family Husband

11:30 AM

- † John Seibert
- † Francesca Arduino
- † Christopher Bolek 6 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
- † Grace Salamie 2ND ANNIVERSARY
- † Angela Antico BIRTHDAY
- † Larry Spearman
- † Marie-Claire Laberge 1ST ANNIVERSARY

Wife Bommarito Family Family Bill & Cheryl Children Family

5:30 PM

- Cindy Reider BIRTHDAY

Friend

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

- † Leo Silvestri

Family

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

- † Stefano DeBellis

Elisa and Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

- † Friedrich Pfeffer
- † Anthony DePonio

Domsic Family Pagano Family

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

- † Violet Lodyga

Hicks Family

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2 4:30 PM

- † Robert Bronson
- † Edward O'Donnell
- Thomas & Peggy Heabeart 30TH WEDDING ANN.
- † Duane Mousty
- † Cass Gacki
- † Angelo Venditti
- † Deacon Bill Schmitz
- † Charles Habel
- † Robert Sniegocki
- † Frank & Josephine Russo
- † Eric Pauli 5TH ANNIVERSARY

Wife Wife Family Wife Virginia Family Family Ray & Connie Mother Karen & Dave Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 7:30 AM

- Evelyn Edwards
- † Maria Thuan Hoang
- † Petrina Boyd
- † Maria & Filippo Torre
- † Gloria Krzeminski

MaryLou and Ron Kelly Doan Family Family Dght. & Son-in-law Family

9:30 AM

- † Maria & Filippo Torre
- † Joe & Stella Frankowski

Daughter & Son Dianne & Jerry

11:30 AM

- † Esse & Grace Salamie
- † Thomas Jacob
- † Lorenza DeLuna
- † Sebastiano Pecoraro

Bill & Cheryl Cober Family Family Wife & Family

5:30 PM

- † Richard Durst
- † Joseph Karpel

Tangelder Family Georgiann Kaptur

POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION // JANUARY

That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.



MISSION OF DB PERU THANKS ST. ISIDORE

St. Isidore does a lot to reach out to those in need both locally and beyond. The following is a letter of gratitude from The Mission of DB Peru, a group that provides access to healthcare knowledge and delivery, and improving living conditions of the people of Peru.

I would like to share about our work resulting from a grant with St. Isidore Church for our midwife education.

We used initial monies for our Advanced Midwife Class September 29 and 30 in the local village of San Pedro on the lower Napo River in the Peruvian Amazon. We invited only previous participants from our other classes who had had at least 15 years of midwife experience.

A strong focus was placed on coaching and preparing the first-time mother for the birth process, which was named as the number one risk in labor and delivery that was identified by midwives in our previous classes. We also gave out a medication misoprostol to be used in bleeding emergencies. Written material was given for dosage and side effects.

The midwives came away from the class feeling as if they knew a great deal more about how to proceed when there are problems.

We feel our classes are extremely important as there is no government oversight or education for lay midwives available. And even though we all agree that having a baby in a clinic or health post is ideal, traveling to that clinic in an open canoe for several hours or more is not the ideal place to be going through the labor process or possibly delivering a baby. Having trained lay midwives available in the villages is the safest way for mothers to be checked prenatally and available to assist safely with births, especially those that have problems.

For 2019 we will be using the remaining monies from the grant for a class for new midwives, with the experienced ones on board to teach. Please convey our appreciation to St. Isidore Church for once again supporting our work in this remote area.

*Sincerely,
Diana Bowie
President DB Peru*

IRA ROLLOVER

Per the Archdiocese of Detroit: IRA Rollover

Over 70-and-a-half? What you need to know about the IRA charitable gift rollover. Congress has extended and the president has signed the favorable IRA charitable rollover tax provisions for 2015 and made them permanent for future years. What should a donor over age 70½ do in order to get the benefit that IRA distributions will not be included in taxable income? Donors should follow the same general procedures for IRA charitable distributions as in the past –

- Only direct distributions to charity up to \$100,000 qualify as tax-free. Distributions in exchange for a charitable gift annuity or to a charitable remainder trust do not qualify.
- It is especially important that the IRA distribution be made payable to the charity, not to you as the IRA owner and beneficiary. Otherwise, the distribution would not qualify for the favorable tax treatment. Advise your IRA administrator to make the distribution check payable to the Church or other charity, not to you.
- Only distributions from traditional or certain Roth IRAs are tax-free; the law does not apply to other qualified retirement plans, such as 401(k) plans. However, you should consider consulting with your financial or tax advisor about the possibility of transferring funds from one of these other qualified plans to establish an IRA, with the distribution to charity coming from the newly established IRA.
- Consult with your IRA administrator and tax advisor on the proper procedures for making a direct distribution to St. Isidore, the Archdiocese of Detroit Endowment Foundation, the Catholic Services Appeal, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, or another archdiocesan institution or qualified charity.

A special note from St. Isidore: We thank the many parishioners who use this type of distribution to generously support the parish. We are blessed by this act of generosity. St. Isidore will work to the best of our ability to track IRA distributions that come directly to the parish, but most often these distributions come in anonymously. Please contact our Business Manager, Chris Kozlowski (chris@stisidore.church or 586-745-9514) with any questions on how your distribution is being recorded.



ADORATION CHAPEL UPDATE

The Adoration Chapel team is looking for someone to cover the hours of 10 am to 11 am and 2 pm to 3 pm every Tuesday for the months of February and March. Some of our regular team members are in Florida for the winter and we would like you to help us keep continuous coverage. If you would like to cover one of these hours or volunteer for any time on Tuesdays (immediately following morning Mass through closing Benediction at 6 pm) in the Adoration Chapel, please contact Dave Bisdorf at 586-202-7000.

Spending some quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament is such a relaxing and spiritually uplifting occasion. Certainly you can pray anytime and certainly you can pray in the comfort of your own home; but there is something special that we as Catholics feel about being in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the monstrance on the Altar. What was once limited as an occasional experience during the year is now available to us every Tuesday. Please come and partake of this wonderful gift!

The Adoration Chapel is located in the Resource Center which is just inside the handicap entrance on the Romeo Plank side of the church.

THE GIFT OF TIME

Too many of our older and disabled neighbors are lonely and isolated. They long for just a brief visit now and then from someone who will take the time to sit and chat, and other families in our community are struggling to take care of a loved one at home. For these full-time caregivers, a break to run errands, go to their own doctor appointments, or just relax for an hour is often impossible because their parent or spouse cannot be left alone.

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated on the weekend of February 2-3, 2019. Please pray for all those who have made commitments to consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus and respond generously to God's gift of their call.



FR. MARK'S MUSINGS

continued from pg. 2

Untener wrote, "The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work... No prayer fully expresses our faith... No program accomplishes the Church's mission... We plant the seeds that one day will grow... We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker."

Summing up these great prayers, God wants to do great things through us—things that will make a difference in our families, our communities, our church, our nation, and our world. But it takes humility, serenity, and patience for God to bring the work he has begun in us to completion.

If you have a few hours, once or twice a month, to visit or just sit with an older or disabled adult, your gift of time will make a huge difference for our lonely and struggling neighbors. No hands-on care or nursing experience is needed.

For more information, call the Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers at (586) 757-5551. Learn more about their work at www.ivcinfo.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING?



Sunday, January 27 // 1:00 PM ST. LAWRENCE OPEN HOUSE

Tour the school and have an opportunity to talk to the teachers as well as administrators about St. Lawrence Catholic School.

Meet and ask questions of St. Lawrence Catholic School parents and students.



Saturday, February 2 // 3:45 PM FIRST SATURDAY ROSARY

Join us for a communal rosary the first Saturday of the month before the 4:30 Mass



Saturday, February 2 // 5:30 PM PASTA DINNER

Friends of Macomb Township present a pasta dinner at St. Isidore to help fund programs for Glen H. Peters School in Macomb Township which provides educational services for Macomb County students, ages 3 to 26, who have moderate to severe cognitive impairments or severe multiple impairments.

\$10 per person for an all you can eat.
\$5 for children 12 and under.
We hope to see you there!

For tickets or more information please call R.J. Koss at 586-291-2422 or visit: macombtownshipfoundation.com



Friday, February 8 // 6:30 PM EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

The Altar Society is once again hosting the Euchre Tournament. Sign-in is at 6:30 p.m. Tournament starts at 7:00 p.m. Tickets \$14.00/person (includes cash prizes, snacks and dessert bar)

For ticket information contact:
Janet Stark (586) 749-9423
Sue Schwark (586) 949-6907



February 9-10 at all Masses WORLD MARRIAGE DAY BLESSING

In celebration of World Marriage Day, there will be a blessing for all Married couples at all weekend Masses on February 9 and 10. Bring your spouse to church, celebrate mass together and be blessed in the beautiful Sacrament you share.



Sunday, February 10 // 3:00 PM WORLD MARRIAGE DAY EVENT

A day to honor the Sacrament of Marriage with keynote speakers, Randall & Therese Cirner, and Fr. Patrick Gonyeau available for prayer with couples.

Tickets start at \$60 per couple.

For more information contact Rich or Fran at 586.979.0192



Sunday, February 10 // 8:30 AM PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Includes pancakes, sausage links, applesauce, coffee, milk, and orange juice at the low cost of \$6. Stop by after any of the morning Masses.

Proceeds to benefit charitable efforts of the K of C Council 7200.



February 2-3 after all Masses PAJAMA PROJECT

For foster care children who are often left with nothing of their own when removed from their homes. Donations welcome after all Masses on Feb. 2/3

We will be collecting **new** pajamas for children, from infant to preteen, as well as monetary donations.

Now is a good time to donate as many of the local retailers have pajamas on sale. Any donation is appreciated since it will lighten up a life of a child!



February 2-3 after all Masses APPAREL STORE

Our apparel store is back for the new year with fresh styles to keep you warm and cozy during the cold season including hoodies, long-sleeve tees, jackets, and more!

Next weekend only after all Masses!

Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2019

January 27 - February 2 #CSW19

National Catholic Schools Week, or CSW, is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. We are fortunate to have two Catholic schools in our vicariate, St. Lawrence Catholic School and Austin Catholic High School. Both schools highly exemplify both the theme of Catholic Schools Week – learn, serve, lead, succeed - and high-quality education in general.

For more information about each school, or to learn what their CSW activities will be, please contact St. Lawrence Catholic School at 586-731-0135 or visit its website at stlawrence-school.com, and contact Austin Catholic High School at 589-200-0143 or visit their website at austincatholichighschool.org.



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.



Friday, March 1 // 6:00 PM

MEN'S NIGHT WITH DARREN MCCARTY

Join us as we welcome Darren McCarty, former Detroit Red Wings star, who wrote a book about his career both on and off the ice including his addictions, how he beat them, and his dad's fight with cancer.

This evening for men includes dinner, a cash bar, and a chance to hear Darren share his story, followed by a meet-and-greet.

Tickets are \$25 but you can save 20% if you purchase online before February 4. www.stisidore.church/mccarty

CANDLEMAS // SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Candlemas (also spelled Candlemass), also known as the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus and the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is a Christian Holy Day commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the Temple. It is based upon the account of the presentation of Jesus in Luke 2:22-40. In accordance with Leviticus 12: a woman was to be presented for purification by sacrifice 33 days after a boy's circumcision. It falls on February 2, which is traditionally the 40th day of the Christmas-Epiphany season. While it is customary for Christians in some countries to remove their Christmas decorations on Twelfth Night (Epiphany Eve), those in other Christian countries historically remove them on Candlemas, many Christians (especially Anglicans, Methodists, Lutherans, Orthodox and Roman Catholics) also bring their candles to their local church, where they are blessed and then used for the rest of the year; for Christians, these blessed candles serve as a symbol of Jesus Christ, who referred to himself as the Light of the World. All are invited to bring your special candles to the 4:30 Mass on Saturday, February 2 for our Candlemas procession and blessing.

Candlemas. (2019, January 09). Retrieved from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Candlemas>

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

JANUARY 18-25, 2019

Last week Pope Francis and the Church celebrated the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity beginning with the celebration of evening Vespers in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

The joint celebration that kicks off the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a powerful symbol of unity and of the recognition that Christian denominations are on the path to unity and getting closer in doctrine.

The Week of Prayer, traditionally observed from January 18 to 25 January, unfolds this year on the theme "Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue" inspired by Deuteronomy. Pope Francis looked ahead to the Week of Prayer during the Wednesday General Audience saying that "Again, this year we are called to pray so that all Christians may once again be a single family, according to God's will 'so that they may all be one.'"

He pointed out that "ecumenism is not something optional" and said it aims "to develop a common and consistent witness that promotes true justice and support for the weakest through responses that are concrete, appropriate and effective."

Daniel Reffner, a United Methodist candidate for the ordained

ministry from the United States, spoke to Linda Bordoni about his experience studying ecumenism at Bossey and about how it has changed his perspective.

Daniel said he believes this week is important because it is the symbol of the heart of ecumenism, of bringing people together despite their different backgrounds "saying that although we don't agree on everything, it really is important to the Christian witness to show signs of unity." Personally, he said it is important, within the course he is part of, "to seek that unity alongside the 28 other people that I have been walking through this program with, from different backgrounds and who believe in different things on some Christian doctrines; and yet, we believe that it is important that we are in relationship, both for one another and for our love for God."

He remarked on Pope Francis' own witness and promotion of Christian Unity and said the very presence of the Bossey students in Rome for a week was sponsored and supported by the Vatican Council for Promoting Christian Unity: "a sign that the Vatican supports our work and we feel that support."

Bordoni, Linda. "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at the Heart of Ecumenism." Vatican News, 18 Jan. 2019, www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2019-01/week-prayer-christian-unity-bossey-daniel-reffner.html.

READINGS

SUNDAY

NEH 8:2-4A, 5-6, 8-10;
PS 19:8, 9, 10, 15;
1 COR 12:12-30
LK 1:1-4; 4:14-21

MONDAY

HEB 9:15, 24-28;
PS 98:1, 2-3AB, 3CD-4, 5-6;
MK 3:22-30

TUESDAY

HEB 10:1-10;
PS 40:2 AND 4AB, 7-8A, 10, 11;
MK 3:31-35

WEDNESDAY

HEB 10:11-18;
PS 110:1, 2, 3, 4;
MK 4:1-20

THURSDAY

HEB 10:19-25;
PS 24:1-2, 3-4AB, 5-6;
MK 4:21-25

FRIDAY

HEB 10:32-39;
PS 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40;
MK 4:26-34

SATURDAY

MAL 3:1-4;
PS 24:7, 8, 9, 10;
HEB 2:14-18;
LK 2:22-40 OR LK 2:22-32

SUNDAY

JER 1:4-5, 17-19;
PS 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17;
1 COR 12:31-13:13
LK 4:21-30

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Margaret Abraham
Mary Agius
Tommy Angle
Val Barnes
Nina Beaurian
Jonathan Bisdorf
Marion Bruck
Thomas Buback
Nancy Campbell
Rosa Caprara
Marlene Caramagno
Jerry Lou Colozani
Kay D'Amico
Pam DeClercq
Agnes Dolfus
Isaiah Ford
Diane Fraser
Alice Goron
Fred Grzelak
Patty Guaresimo
Hanson Family
Shervyn Karthanal
Jenny Kasselmann
Lynne Klann
Joseph
Klingkammer
Dan Kosek
Marie Marcath
Kathy Marsack
Janet McDonald
Tim McGrath
Karen Melton
Michels family
Andy Nicosia
Anthony Nicosia
Baby Paige
Natalie Perini
Stanley Plieuinski

A. J. Reider
Cindy Reider
Baby Rilynn
Dennis Rivard
Alena Robinson
Patricia Styf
Blanche Szatkowski
Breanne Talmadge
Anthony Tangredi
John Terry
Albert Toccaceli
Irene Walczak
Curtis Wellhausen
Florence Winowski
Rosaline Wolschlager

MILITARY LIST

Sgt. Zachary Adams, Army
PFC Tanner Adkins, Army – Afghanistan
WO1 Jeremy Bentley, Army – Iraq
Pvt. Troy Ciaramella, Army – USA
Sgt. Sean Collins, Marines
Hannah Cook, Marines – USA
Sgt. Tyler Dean, Army – Kuwait
PFC Anthony Difatta, Army – Afghanistan
Christian Bobbish, Navy
LCpl Blake Doetsch, Marines
CPL Brian Domzalski, Marines
PFC E3 Jeffrey Frame, Army
Justin Francis, Army
WO4 Jason Gaboury, Army – Kuwait
Capt. Wade Gaboury, Air Force – USA
Pvt. Rafael Garcia, Army
Sgt. James Galowski Jr., Army – Middle East
PFC John Gellert III, Army
Michael Giacalone, Coast Guard – Afghanistan
Lt. David R. Grzywacz, Navy
Alexander Hendzell, Marines
LCpl David Horton, Marines – Afghanistan
Maj. Jeffrey Jablonski, Army – Michigan
Cpl Logan Jabouri, Marines
J. Jackson, Navy
Staff Sgt. Ethan Jensen, Air Force – Afghanistan
PFC Sean R. Kellogg, Marines California
CPL. Griffin Kozakf, Marines – California
Sgt. Edward Kujawa, Marines
Jason Kurpiewski, Navy – Afghanistan
Spec. Michael Manning, Army – Afghanistan
Tristan Newton, Navy
Courtney Osborne, Navy – Afghanistan
PFC Matt Piotke, Army – Iraq
MC2 Jeffrey Richardson, Navy – Afghanistan
Sgt. Douglas Rogers, Army
Sr. Airman Justin Santiago, Air Force – Guam
Joel Sebastian, Army
Chief John C. Sbraccia, Navy – Kuwait
Sr. Airman Jeremy Spanski, Air Force – Afghanistan
Cpl. Jeremiah Stewart, Army – Afghanistan
PFC Anne Vassas, Marines – California
Gjelosh Vata, Army
Pt. Andre Ventmiglia, Army – USA
PFC. Nicholas York, Marines – New York

REST IN PEACE

VICTORIA BOBICK

Entered eternal life on January 15

ARMANDO GENNARI

Entered eternal life on January 15

MARK SMOGOR

Entered eternal life on January 17

