

*February 2, 2025*

*2 de Febrero de 2025*

# **SAINT ANNE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

## **IGLESIA DE SANTA ANA**

*Berryville, AR*

### Mass Schedule/

### Horario de misas

Wednesday/Miercoles 6pm

Saturday/Sabado 8:30am

### Sunday/Domingo

Mass in English 11:00am

Misa en español 1:00pm

### Parish Contact Information

#### Info. de contacto de la parr

Parish Phone: (870) 423-3927

#### Parish Email:

secretary@stannesberryville.com

#### Pastor Emergency Number:

(870) 929-6374

#### Pastor Email:

frjoseph@stannesberryville.com

#### Mailing Address:

614 S. Main St.

Berryville, AR 72616

### Parish Staff & Ministry Personal y Ministerio Parr

#### Pastor

Rev. Joseph Archibong

#### Deacon

Dc. Elias Rangel

#### Secretary/Bookkeeper

Regina Morris

#### DRE/Faith Formation

Pam Richter

#### Liturgical Music

Ellen Eby

#### Música litúrgica

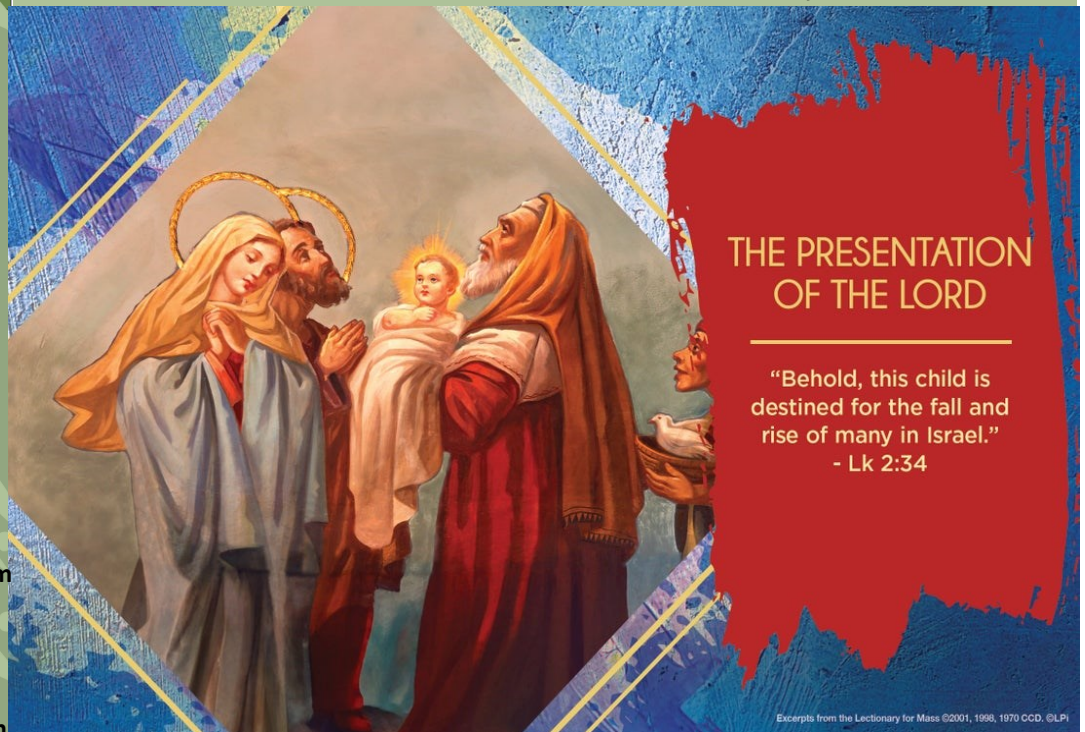
Jesse Fernandez de Lara

#### RCIA Coordinator

Robin Grear

#### Parish Council

Jeanne Duncan



### THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/

### EL SACRAMENTO DE LA RECONCILIACION

is offered at 9:00 am after the Saturday morning Mass and during the Holy Hour on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-5:45 pm /se ofrece a las 9:00 am después de la misa del sábado por la mañana y durante la Hora Santa los miércoles por la tarde de 5:00 a 5:45pm


### ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT/

### ADORACIÓN DEL SANTÍSIMO SACRAMENTO

is on every Wednesday at 5:00pm and every First Friday from 7pm to 8am the following morning. / es todos los miércoles a las 5:00 pm y el primer viernes de 7:00 pm a 8:00 am la mañana siguiente.

### SACRAMENTAL LIFE/VIDA SACRAMENTAL

If you are interested in receiving any of the Sacraments, please contact the parish office./ Si está interesado en recibir alguno de los sacramentos, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial.



**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE  
& INTENTIONS**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2**  
**FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**  
 11am: The Eby Family  
 1pm: +Alberto & Leticia Rangel

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5**  
 6pm: NO MASS

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8**  
 8:30am: NO MASS

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
 11am: The Hudspeth Family  
 1pm: Familia Nino & Trujillo



*Our Seminararians  
for the month of  
February, 2025*



**Samuel Stengel**  
 Contact address:  
**St. Meinrad Seminary,**  
 200 Hill Drive  
 St. Meinrad, IN 47577  
 For more information  
 on our seminararians, go to  
[www.dolr.org/seminarians](http://www.dolr.org/seminarians)

**Quinton  
Thomas**



*Liturgical Ministers*

**Sunday, February 2**  
 Lector: Patty Clark  
 Extraord. Ministers: Clarelyse Krajeski, Connie Doss,  
 Barry Doss, Terry Dean

**Sunday, February 9**  
 Lector: Tim Dennis  
 Extraord. Ministers: Sommer Paine, Linda Roe,  
 Kathy Clark, Connie Doss

**Knights of Columbus**  
**Fried Catfish Dinners**  
**March 7, March 21, April 4**  
**5:00pm-7:00pm**  
**Parish Hall**  
**\$15/\$18**




*Please Pray For*

**Our Parishioners:** Alexa & Alexia Arrizon, Ting Tuazon, Aurora Tuazon, Antonio Nino, Terry & Pat Dean, Del Waller, Andrew Tovar, Mary Lou Fuller, Toni Meyers, Myrtle Tharp, Tiffany, Jesse, Bill & Faye McKee, Mataya and Rayland Winburn, Maya Tamayo, Maria Sandoval, Maria Welch, Cindy Mitchell, David, Jane & Monica Reuter, Denise Reuter, Rodriguez Family, Baldwin Family, Elver Morales, Sebastian Camarillo, Chris Jablonski, June Sawyer, David Ingram, Barbara Strain, Larry Miller, Kathy Owen, and Norma Miller.

**Nursing home patients and homebound:** Betty Blach, Kevin Harris, Paul Chapel, Shirley Johnson, Flo Fitzsimmons and Bill Jenkins and Grace Doss.

**Our Military & Law Enforcement:** Marissa Richter—Army Nat'l Guard, Jonathon Waller—Army, Michael A. Wilhelm—Army in Korea, Dr. Kate Williams— Army Reserve, Daniel Clifford— Chief Navy Officer, Thomas Dean— Corrections Officer, Robert Dean— EMT, Michael Alcalá— Airforce. Robert Bartos, Eric Richter, Mary Clifford, Josue Rangel, and all others in the Armed Forces & Law Enforcement.





A **Cursillo weekend for men** will be held Feb. 20-23 at St. John Catholic Center in Little Rock. The cost is \$200 per person, but no one will be turned away if they are unable to pay. All applicants must be sponsored by someone who has previously attended a Cursillo weekend. Applications are available by email from area Ultreya leaders or Ed Moix, Pre-Cursillo chairperson, at [ed.moix59@gmail.com](mailto:ed.moix59@gmail.com).

**Retiro de Oración y Sanación:** El ministerio de Proyecto Raquel ofrecerá un retiro para mujeres o hombres que sufren a causa un aborto provocado el sábado 22 de febrero de 2025 de 9:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. en el noroeste de Arkansas. La ubicación exacta solo se revela a los participantes. Este retiro se llevará a cabo en español. Para inscribirte u obtener más información, llama o envía un texto a la línea confidencial 501-663-0996 o envía un correo electrónico a [projectrachel@dolr.org](mailto:projectrachel@dolr.org). Aunque sientas miedo o vergüenza, contacta a Proyecto Raquel. No estás sola y este retiro es sin juzgar. La esperanza, la sanación y el perdón son posibles. Todas las comunicaciones son confidenciales.



Encuentro matrimonial mundial

**MATRIMONIOS ATRE-  
VANSE A VIVIR UN FIN DE  
SEMANA DE ENCUENTRO**

**MATRIMONIAL** - Restaura tu matrimonio con esta grandiosa experiencia. No dudes no tienes nada que perder, pero si puedes ganar mucho. **ENCUENTRA EL VERDADERO SENTIDO DE TU RELACION. ¡CUPO LIMITADO! ¿DONDE? EN LA CASA DE RETIRO DE SAN JUAN EN LITTLE ROCK, EL 14, 15 y 16 de febrero de 2025** . PARA REGISTRARTE LLAMA AL 870-642-2256 o 773-213-9593.

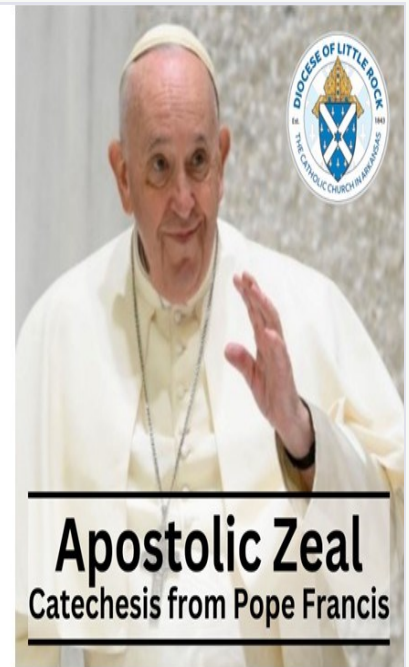
Encuentro Matrimonial is Marriage Encounter in Spanish and is a program of 44 hours in which couples can leave work, children, housework, and telephone in order to focus only on each other. If you are looking to grow in your relationship, to make it more profound and to enrich it, then you will like the difference that a weekend of Worldwide Marriage Encounter can make in your lives. The next weekend will be held February 14, 15, 16, 2025 at St. John Center. For more information or registration, call 870-642-2256 or 773-213-9593. Space is limited.

**New for 2025!**  
**Small group study  
on evangelization  
by Pope Francis.**



English

Go to [learn.dolr.org/courses/AZ](http://learn.dolr.org/courses/AZ)



La Diócesis Católica de Little Rock está comprometida con la protección de niños y jóvenes. Si tiene conocimiento de abuso o ha sido abusado por clérigos, voluntarios de la Iglesia o trabajadores de la Iglesia, comuníquese con la Línea Directa del Estado de Arkansas para Delitos contra Niños al 1-800-482-5964 y el Canciller de Asuntos Canónicos, Dcn. Matthew A. Glover, (501) 664-0340 ext. 361. Para obtener ayuda pastoral, comuníquese con el Coordinador de Asistencia a las Víctimas de la Diócesis de Little Rock: Laura Gottspomer (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diócesis de Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207.



The Catholic Diocese of Little Rock is committed to protecting children and young people. If you are aware of abuse or have been abused by clerics, Church volunteers, or Church workers, please contact the State of Arkansas Hotline for Crimes against Children at 1-800-482-5964 and the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs, Dcn. Matthew A. Glover, (501) 664-0340 ext. 361. For pastoral assistance please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Little Rock: Laura Gottspomer (501) 664-0340, ext. 425. Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207.

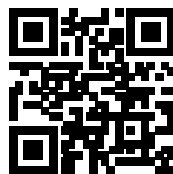


OUTREACH PRIEST  
**Fr. Hilary Nwainya PhD**



Fr. Nwainya, PhD ordained a priest in 2011 for the Diocese of Abakaliki, Nigeria where he served as a pastor for four years. He studied in Ireland, serving as a parish chaplain and as a supply priest in Scotland during the summer. Once in the U.S., Fr. Nwainya spent five years in as a resident priest, doctoral student, and teaching fellow in the Archdiocese of Boston. Fr. Nwainya is a theology professor and Director of Theology Programs at St. Thomas University in Miami, Florida. As he joins Cross Catholic Outreach, Fr. Nwainya is eager to continue his ministry by sharing the Gospel and advocating for those in need, with a firm conviction in the impact of faith on transforming lives and communities.

This weekend we are blessed to be hosting Fr. Nwainya with Cross Catholic Outreach. This official Catholic ministry was founded to link parishes in the U.S. with priests, religious brothers and sisters, and laypeople working in Church missions overseas. Its programs span the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. Donation envelopes will be provided. Please be generous and be sure to say hi after Mass. Brochures with a donation envelope will be provided if you wish to support this worthy Catholic ministry. For more information on Cross Catholic Outreach, please go to [CrossCatholic.org/outreach](http://CrossCatholic.org/outreach), or scan this QR code



***\*\*\*Due to Cross Catholic Outreach visiting our Parish on the weekend of February 2nd, We will hear our CASA message on Sunday, February 9th.***



# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

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. (Mal 3:1)

### Psalm:

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord! (Ps 24)

### Second Reading:

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. (Heb 2:17)

### Gospel:

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go  
in peace, according to your word,  
for my eyes have seen your salvation." (Lk 2:29-30)

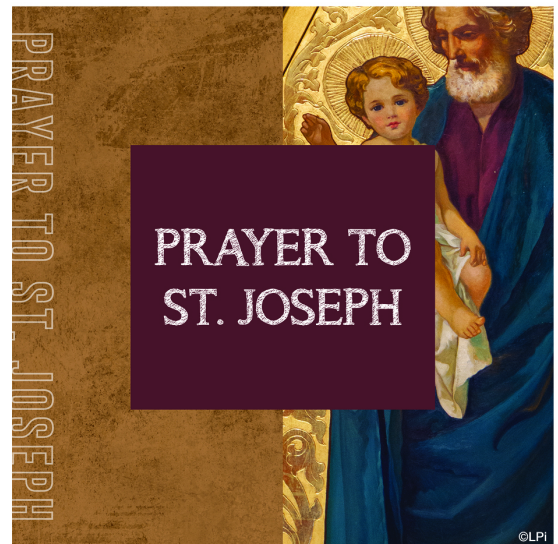
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Anna and Simeon saw greatness and  
glory in the face of a tiny babe. Jesus was  
insignificant in the eyes of others who looked  
for the Messiah in the gilded halls of kings.  
But Anna and Simeon recognized God when  
they saw him. Do we?

## Observances for the week of February 2, 2025

- Sunday:** The Presentation of the Lord, World Day for  
Consecrated Life
- Monday:** St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop
- Wednesday:** St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
- Thursday:** St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
- Saturday:** St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita,  
Virgin; BVM
- Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, World Marriage Day



## Devotions, Explained!

For centuries, Christians have  
relied on the intercessory  
prayers of Joseph, earthly  
spouse of the Blessed Virgin  
and foster father of Christ. One  
particular novena prayer to  
St. Joseph is often called "the  
unfailing prayer to St. Joseph."

## Prayer of Faith

Dear God,  
Open my eyes to Your  
movement in my life.  
And, even when I don't see it  
or don't understand, help me  
to rely on the promises of Your  
love and mercy.

Amen.

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of February 2, 2025

### Sunday:

Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

### Monday:

Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24/  
Mk 5:1-20

### Tuesday:

Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27, 28  
and 30, 31-32/Mk 5:21-43

### Wednesday:

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/  
Mk 6:1-6

### Thursday:

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9,  
10-11/Mk 6:7-13

### Friday:

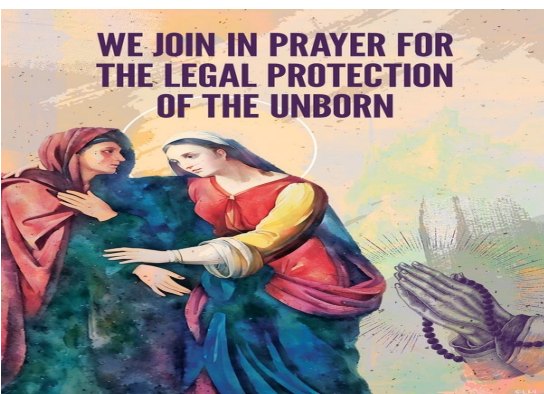
Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/  
Mk 6:14-29

### Saturday:

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/  
Mk 6:30-34

### Next Sunday:

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8  
(1c)/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

What is the secret to sharing in God's power to overcome our difficulties? Mary teaches us this in the prophecy of her pierced heart. This Sunday, the old man Simeon prophesies that when her son faces opposition, Mary's soul will be pierced by a sword. The seemingly pointless agony of a mother helplessly watching her son be mocked, tortured, killed and then cruelly desecrated in death by a spear — somehow this piercing of her heart releases a power by which **"the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed"** (Luke 2:35). What to make of this?

Whatever problems we currently face, the deepest threat is finally that evil thoughts are hidden in the human heart: hatred, envy, pride, lust, greed and so on. Behind every tyrant's injustice, for example, is a heart unpierced by love. Evil hides in our hearts. Mary's pierced heart, and its suffering love for her son, reveals and scatters these evil thoughts, and replaces them with love, forgiveness, generosity and peace.

This week, I invite us to ponder Mary's pierced heart. Her heart is quietly at work for us in the Church and world, exposing our evil thoughts and making a path for her son's divine love. This is how she gently cooperates in our salvation. Closed hearts are our biggest problem; love-pierced hearts are the ultimate power to overcome every difficulty.

— *Father John Muir*



“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.” - Lk 2:29-32a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

## Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading:

Malachi prophesied a coming messenger who will purify those making offerings to the Lord. How do you prepare for Sunday worship?

### Second Reading:

Hebrews teaches that Jesus was tested and suffered so that he could be merciful and understanding with our struggles and challenges. What are you facing this week that Jesus could help you with?

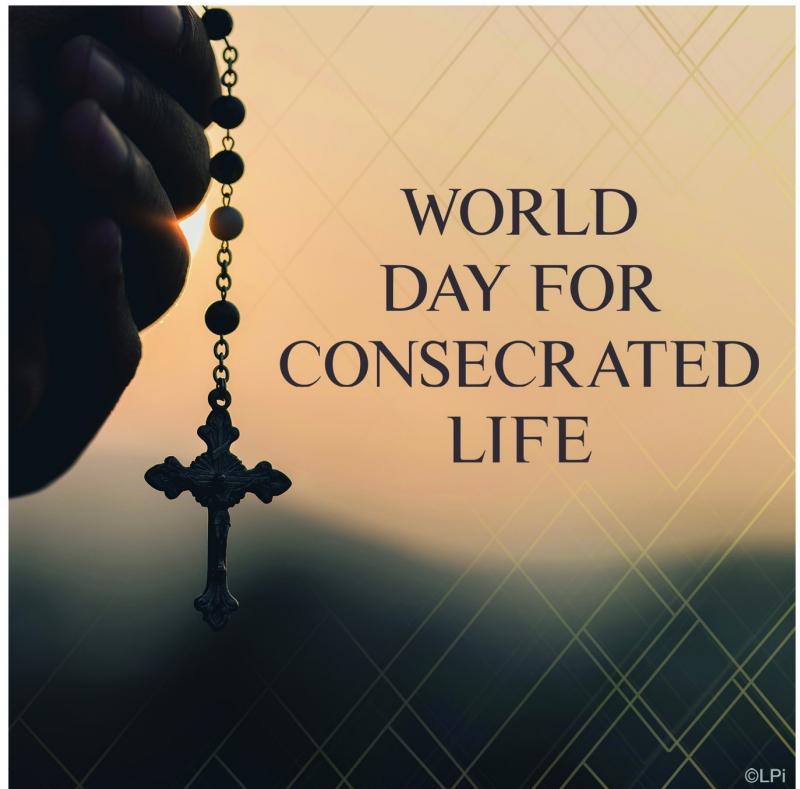
### Gospel:

Mary and Joseph received incredible news from Simeon and Anna about the infant Jesus at his presentation in the Temple. Who helps you process startling or unsettling information?



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## ( PRACTICING ) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** The oldest trick of the devil is to distract us from thinking about our hearts. It's not hard for him to do — there are so many other things we could be doing. So, do we have the courage to look to our own hearts, to come face to face with our own choices, our own true selves?

### The Thoughts of Many Hearts

When Simeon cradles the infant Messiah in his arms, he speaks of salvation and glory and revelation. He speaks of his own death. He speaks of the fulfillment of God's promise to all people.

But most memorable, in my opinion, are his words about the hearts of men. This Child, he says, will be the way "the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Perhaps you're like me. Perhaps you don't enjoy scrutinizing yourself, your actions, your intentions. You don't like reflecting on why you feel or react the way you do, and you really don't enjoy measuring those feelings and reactions against what you know they could be.

It's exhausting to sit with God, your heart in your hands, both of us looking at it, talking about it. So far too often, I opt out.

The oldest trick of the devil, you see, is to distract us from thinking about our hearts. It's not hard for him to do. There are so many other things I could be doing, after all. Answering emails. Catching up on laundry. Scrolling Facebook. Worrying about inflation and the election. Stressing about my kid's dance recital and next week's busy schedule.

But where is God truly at work? Where is the place God will point to, when my life on Earth has come to its close?

It is the very depths of my heart. The place where I am my most authentic self, for better or worse. The place where all my pretensions crumble away, and I am alone with the truth of who I am and what I choose to do.

Am I brave enough to look into the depths of my own heart?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

Luke's Gospel is the only one to mention the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. What is Luke trying to communicate here and what connection does it have with Mary?

### Answer:

February 2 is exactly forty days after December 25, the nativity of Jesus. Jewish law (Ex 13:2, 12) dictated that Jesus, as the firstborn, be consecrated to God. This was done by the parents as they presented their Son in the Temple.

Jewish law further specified (Lv 12:2-8) that a mother was ritually impure after giving birth, and that she had to wait a set period of time (forty days for a boy) before she was to offer a sacrifice to the Lord for purification.

The convergence of these two Jewish regulations occasions Luke's account of both the Presentation of the Lord and the Purification of Mary. These days the liturgical emphasis is more on the Presentation of Jesus. Luke highlights the role of Simeon and Anna, two righteous Jews who recognized Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah and praised God for being able to see and experience such a marvel in their lifetimes.

Simeon's prayer concerning the special role of Jesus states that Jesus is "a light for revelation to the Gentiles." This phrase eventually originated the custom of blessing candles on this day which were to be used in the ceremonies, rituals, and processions throughout the church year. Thus February 2 is also known as Candlemas Day. This day is indeed a rich feast to be savored.

# PRAYERS IN THE PEW™ MONTHLY

## FAITH IN ACTION CALENDAR / HIGHLIGHTS

THU FEB 6	St. Paul Miki and Companions, Japanese Martyrs
TUE FEB 11	Our Lady of Lourdes
SAT FEB 22	Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, Apostle

*Faith Formation Companion to Prayers in the Pew™*

### → MONTHLY SYNOPSIS ←

*February 2025 – February gives us a glance at Ordinary Time before we plunge into Lent in early March. We should use this time in an “ordinary” month to renew our prayer lives and strengthen our devotions. The angels and saints always assist us in our every attempt to draw closer to God.*

## THE GUARDIAN ANGEL PRAYER

The Church has always encouraged the faithful to pray the Guardian Angel Prayer to strengthen our spiritual relationship with our personal angel. The traditional Guardian Angel Prayer dates back to the 11th century – nearly a thousand years ago! An English Benedictine monk named Reginald composed the prayer *Angele Dei* and added it to the writings of St. Anselm.

### GUARDIAN ANGEL PRAYER

*Angel of God, my guardian dear,  
to whom God's love commits me here;  
Ever this day be at my side, to light  
and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.*

Note that the prayer outlines four duties of angels on our behalf. First, they enlighten us. Angels are great teachers! We often fail in the moral or spiritual life through lack of understanding. We should often ask our guardian angel for light from God to help us know His will, particularly when we are facing a big decision.

Second, our angels guard us, which is obvious from their name. While they do protect us from physical harm and accidents at times, that is not their main mission. Every guardian angel's primary duty is to protect us from the greater spiritual dangers of demons and sin.

When we ask our guardian angels to “rule” us, we are asking them to help us form good habits in the moral and spiritual life so that we can live according to

God's law. Angels are often depicted as soldiers or warriors because they help us maintain a healthy spiritual discipline.

Finally, our Guardian Angels “guide” us on our journey of life, which reminds us of the way in which the Archangel Raphael guided Tobias on his journey in the Book of Tobit. Angels know the way to Heaven, and we should ask their help very day to get there!



*“No, I am pretty sure it's do unto otters as you would have otters do unto you.”*

### BIBLE BASICS



**Exodus 23:23.25** “My angel will go before you and... you shall serve the LORD, your God; then he will bless your food and drink, and I will remove sickness from your midst.”

**Matthew 18:10** “See that you do not look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.”

## SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

This month's challenge is to nurture devotion to your guardian angel and ask your angel for an increase of grace to live your Catholic faith more robustly, especially as we approach the holy season of Lent. Let us learn to trust our holy angel's guidance in all things.

— FAITH FUNDAMENTALS —



### Catechesis on God's Holy Angels

We live in an age of fascination with angels, but we must always remember that not all angels are good angels (2 Corinthians 11:14). So, to protect ourselves from false ideas and distortions about angels, we turn to the solid teaching of the Church:

**They are Pure Spirits** – First of all, the Church recognizes that angels are purely spiritual beings, not composed of any material substance whatsoever, even though they can enter the material world and appear in human form. (It is said that St John Bosco's guardian angel appeared to him as a large, grey dog!)

**They are Messengers** – The name "angel" in both Hebrew and Greek means "messenger", which designates the primary function of angels. They communicate God's messages to humanity. We have only to think of the glorious Archangel Gabriel, who greeted the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Annunciation to see the most perfect example of an angel messenger.

**They are Missionaries** – All angels are "sent" by God to perform some function or mission to human beings. In addition to being messengers, they are ambassadors, emissaries, or actors in implementing God's will. In the Bible, angels free people from jail (Peter), direct the disciples to new missions (Paul), and even facilitate marriage (Tobias and Sarah), among other functions.

**They Assist us in Prayer** – Finally, we must never forget that angels' primary task is to worship God. The Lord said that our angels "*behold the face of God in heaven*" (Matthew 18:10). Most powerfully, the Book of Revelation (8:3-4) shows an angel offering up the prayers of the faithful like incense that rises to God's throne.

— THE SCHOOL OF SAINTS —



"Make friends with the angels, who though invisible are always with you. Often invoke them, constantly praise them, and make good use of their help and assistance in all your temporal and spiritual affairs." ~ *Saint Francis de Sales*

"That God whom we desire to see and hold before us, is always ready to come to our assistance. Always faithful to his promises and seeing us fighting valiantly, he will send us his angels to sustain us in the trial."

~ *St. Pio of Pietrelcina*

### Featured Prayer for February Evening Offering

O my God, at the end of this day I thank You most heartily for all the graces I have received from You. I am sorry that I have not made a better use of them. I am sorry for all the sins I have committed against You. Forgive me, O my God, and graciously protect me this night. Blessed Virgin Mary, my dear heavenly mother, take me under your protection. St. Joseph, my dear Guardian Angel, and all you saints of God, pray for me. Sweet Jesus, have pity on all poor sinners and save them from hell. Have mercy on the suffering souls in purgatory.

(This prayer is taken from the Prayers in the Pew Family Edition Prayer Card. Please refer to our website SitStandKneel.com for the online version of this newsletter and all our prayer cards.)

— CATECHISM CONNECTION —



**336** – From its beginning until death human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life" (St. Basil). Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and men united in God.

### CALENDAR OF FAITH | February

<b>FEB 2</b>	Presentation of Jesus in the Temple
<b>FEB 3</b>	St. Blase, Bishop and Martyr (Blessing of Throats)
<b>FEB 5</b>	St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr
<b>FEB 6</b>	St. Paul Miki and Companions, Japanese Martyrs
<b>FEB 8</b>	St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin
<b>FEB 10</b>	St. Scholastica, Virgin
<b>FEB 11</b>	Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>FEB 14</b>	Saints Cyril and Methodius, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
<b>FEB 17</b>	Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
<b>FEB 21</b>	St. Peter Damien, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
<b>FEB 22</b>	FEAST OF THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER, APOSTLE
<b>FEB 23</b>	St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

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Helping Catholics to Learn, Live, and Love their Faith.



## Immigration Message January 23, 2025



As you know, the contentious issue of immigration continues to dominate the public square, often without any serious consideration of what Jesus and our Christian faith has to say about this matter. It is my hope that our elected officials will have the courage and wisdom to do what is right, to do what Jesus would do—to do the loving thing. You may feel like there is nothing you can do to change politicians' minds. But the place to begin is with ourselves, our own hearts and our own parishes, and our own discomfort in dealing with another culture and immigrant group. And to not forget about the human dignity and the human rights of the other person.

As you also know, I've written a pastoral letter which you can download from the Diocese of Little Rock website. I have preached and taught on this issue throughout my time here as your bishop. And so, I don't want to rehash all the Catholic principles that must be taken into account. Rather, I want to appeal to your hearts—to the reality that we are all brothers and sisters—including the 1/3 of Arkansas Catholics who worship in Spanish in 43 of our parishes. And right now, this Spanish speaking part of our body of Christ is hurting and living in fear.

If you're living in fear today, I want you to know we stand in solidarity and in prayer with you.

And if you're not familiar with the parts of our one body of Christ who are living in fear, I implore you to pray for them and try to find ways to get to know them. Find ways to help your fellow believers feel welcomed.

In Matthew 25, Jesus tells us at the last judgment he will say to his chosen ones: *"I was a stranger and you welcomed me.... As often as you did it for one of my least brothers and sisters, you did it for me."* And to others he will say: *"As often as you neglected to do it to one of these least ones, you neglected to do it to me."*

I could go into all the theological reasons behind the Church's teachings on the rights of migrants, and all the arguments as to why our current immigration system is deeply broken. For example, many of us are under the mistaken impression that people who want to migrate to the United States can easily do so by getting in line. But for most people there really is no line, which is why circumstances forced them to come here without papers. And anyone who's tried to navigate the system can tell you how bureaucratic, complex, inconsistent, and expensive it really is—and that's for people who have financial means and family or highly skilled employment based connections! But all those arguments aside, what Jesus is challenging us to do here regarding immigration is to let him share his heart and mind with us. All that I've said in the past really boils down to Jesus' call for us to love as he loves, without fear, trusting in God's providence.

One of the most distinguishing features of our Catholic faith is that we are called to be "universal" in fact as well as in name. This means that there must be no dividing lines within our parishes, no second-class parishioners—all are welcome, no exceptions. But there's more to it than that. You and I are being offered a unique and privileged opportunity to share the mind and heart of Jesus Christ, the same Jesus whom we honor with so many images of the Sacred Heart, his heart visible, crowned with thorns and on fire with love. And that's who he now invites us to be, Christ for others. In this, God will use us to be not only a light to our nation (enlightening others about human rights, about truth, about life), but also more importantly a source of love, love that banishes fear, love that brings hope and healing, and in this way become a model for what all of American society is called to be.

## Mensaje sobre inmigración 23 de enero de 2025



Como saben, el polémico tema de la inmigración sigue dominando la esfera pública, a menudo sin ninguna consideración seria de lo que Jesús y nuestra fe cristiana dicen sobre este asunto. Espero que nuestros funcionarios electos tengan la valentía y la sabiduría de hacer lo correcto, de hacer lo que Jesús haría: amar a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. Puede que sientan que no hay nada que puedan hacer para cambiar la opinión de los políticos, pero para poder comenzar a cambiar sería primero con nosotros mismos, con nuestros corazones y parroquias, como también con nuestra propia incomodidad al tratar con otra cultura y grupo de inmigrantes sin olvidarnos de la dignidad y los derechos humanos de la otra persona.

Como también saben, he escrito una carta pastoral que pueden descargar del sitio web de la Diócesis de Little Rock. He predicado y enseñado sobre este tema durante todo mi tiempo aquí como su obispo. Y por eso, no quiero repetir todos los principios católicos que deben tenerse en cuenta. Más bien, quiero apelar a sus corazones, a la realidad de que todos somos hermanos y hermanas, incluido el 1/3 de los católicos de Arkansas que celebran la Misa en español en 43 de nuestras parroquias. Y ahora mismo, esta parte de nuestro cuerpo de Cristo sufre y vive con miedo. Para todos aquellos que están hoy con miedo, quiero que sepan que nos solidarizamos y oramos por ustedes.

Y si no estás familiarizado con todas las personas que tienen miedo; quienes también son parte de nuestro Señor Jesucristo; le imploro que ore por ellos y trate de encontrar maneras de conocerlos como también acogerlos con cariño.

En Mateo 25, Jesús nos dice que en el juicio final les dirá a sus elegidos: *“Fui forastero y me acogieron... Cada vez que lo hicieron con uno de estos hermanos y hermanas más pequeños, lo hicieron conmigo”*. Y a los demás les dirá: *“Cada vez que dejaron de hacerlo con uno de estos más pequeños, dejaron de hacerlo conmigo”*.

Podría explicar todas las razones teológicas que sustentan las enseñanzas de la Iglesia sobre los derechos de los inmigrantes, y todos los argumentos que justifican por qué el sistema actual de inmigración está profundamente roto. Por ejemplo, mucha gente tiene la impresión errónea de que las personas que quieren inmigrar a los Estados Unidos pueden hacerlo fácilmente. Pero para la mayoría de las personas en realidad no es fácil como se cree. Por estas y otras circunstancias se sienten obligados a venir a este país sin papeles. Y cualquiera que haya intentado navegar por el sistema puede decirles cuán burocrático, complejo, inconsistente y costoso es en realidad, ¡y eso para las personas que tienen medios financieros y conexiones familiares o laborales altamente calificadas! Pero dejando de lado todos esos argumentos, lo que Jesús desea que hagamos por los inmigrantes es que compartamos nuestros corazones y mentes con ellos. Todo lo que he dicho en el pasado realmente se reduce al llamado de Jesús a que amemos como Él ama, sin miedo, confiando en la providencia de Dios.

Una de las características más distintivas de nuestra fe católica es que estamos llamados a ser “universales” de hecho, así como de nombre. Esto significa que no debe haber líneas divisorias dentro de nuestras parroquias, ni feligreses de segunda clase: todos son bienvenidos, sin excepciones. Pero hay más que eso. Se nos ofrece una oportunidad única y privilegiada de compartir la mente y el corazón de Jesucristo, el mismo Jesús a quien honramos con tantas imágenes del Sagrado Corazón, su corazón visible, coronado de espinas y ardiendo de amor. Y eso es lo que ahora nos invita a ser, Cristo para los demás. En esto, Dios nos usará para ser no solo una luz para nuestra nación (iluminando a otros sobre los derechos humanos, sobre la verdad, sobre la vida), sino también, lo que es más importante, una fuente de amor, amor que destierra el miedo, amor que trae esperanza y sanación, y de esta manera convertirnos en un modelo de lo que toda la sociedad estadounidense está llamada a ser.



This is to inform you that St. Anne Religious Education Program will present a program called the Circle of Grace to our students on February 5, 2025. This program is a part of our ongoing effort to help children and youth understand their own dignity and self-worth, to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and youth, and to give children, youth, and parents the tools to protect our most vulnerable ones from sexual abuse. The lessons are all age appropriate, and they are intended to supplement the parents' rightful role as first teachers of the faith.

These lessons are required for all dioceses in the United States, and we strongly encourage all parents to allow your child to participate. However, as a parent, you do have the right to opt your child out of these lessons. Regardless of what you decide, we encourage you to read the attached materials so you'll be aware of the nature of the Circle of Grace program. If you have questions about the program or the lesson, please contact Pam Richter at 870-423-3927. If you determine that you DO NOT want your child to participate, please visit the parish office to sign the "opt-out" form no later than January 29, 2025.

For more information on the Circle of Grace program, visit Circle of Grace Online™ website at [www.dolr.org](http://www.dolr.org).

La presente es para informarles que Programa de educación religiosa de Santa Ana presentará un programa titulado Círculo de Gracia a nuestros estudiantes el 5 de febrero de 2025. Este programa es parte de nuestra continua labor para ayudar a los niños y jóvenes a comprender su propia dignidad y valor, ayudar a crear y mantener un ambiente seguro para los niños y jóvenes, y proporcionarles a los jóvenes, niños y padres de familia las herramientas para proteger a los más vulnerables del abuso sexual. Las lecciones son de acuerdo a su edad, y su objetivo es complementar la misión legítima que tienen los padres de familia como primeros maestros de la fe.

Se requieren estas lecciones en todas las diócesis en los Estados Unidos, y alentamos encarecidamente a los padres de familia a que permitan la participación de su hijo(a). Sin embargo, como padres de familia, ustedes tienen el derecho de excluir voluntariamente a su hijo(a) de estas lecciones. Independientemente de su decisión, los alentamos a que lean los materiales adjuntos para que estén al tanto de la naturaleza del programa Círculo de Gracia. Si tienen cualquier pregunta sobre el programa o la lección, por favor comuníquense con Pam Richter al 870-423-3927. Si deciden que NO desean que participe su hijo(a), visite la oficina parroquial para firmar el formulario de "exclusión voluntaria" a más tardar el 29 de enero de 2025.

Para más información sobre el programa Círculo de Gracia, visite el sitio Web Círculo de Gracia En Línea™ en [www.dolr.org](http://www.dolr.org)





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**Give generously to the 2025 Appeal February 1-2**

*\*CASA Sunday for St. Anne's will be on February 9th instead of February 2nd.*



## Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal

For more information, contact Kelly Wewers,  
Director of Stewardship and Development,  
(501) 664-0340 or [kwewers@dolr.org](mailto:kwewers@dolr.org).  
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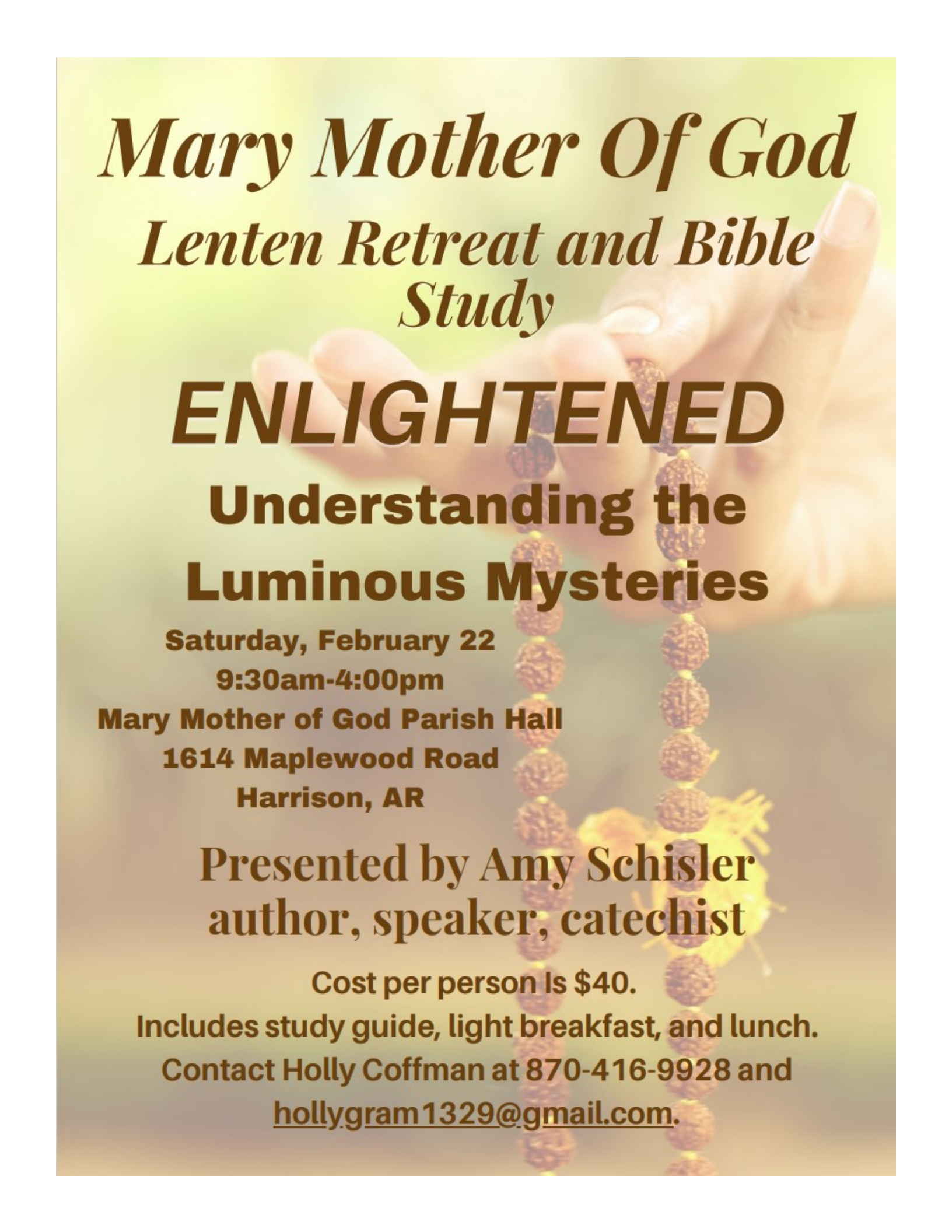
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- \$35 ..... Provides one person a year of formation at Franciscan University Catechetical Institute.
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- \$175 ..... Provides utility bill assistance through our family assistance program.
- \$250 ..... Pays for one person to attend a Project Rachel post-abortion healing retreat.
- \$500 ..... Helps the immigration office assist a victim of domestic violence become a lawful permanent resident.
- \$1,000 ..... Funds a respect life postcard campaign that could help defeat pro-abortion legislation.
- \$1,500 ..... Provides Mass, OCIA and prayer materials for people incarcerated in the criminal justice system.
- \$2,000 ..... Helps resettle families in Arkansas through the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program.
- \$5,000 ..... Provides a scholarship for one student to receive a Catholic education for a year in a parish school.
- \$41,000 ... Covers the expenses of educating one seminarian for one year.

*Please join your fellow Catholics in Arkansas in supporting  
the many ministries funded by CASA.*

**Next weekend the 2025 Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal will begin. We ask that you prayerfully welcome this opportunity to give in support of the overall needs of the Church in our Diocese. Our parish Goal is \$8,400.00.**





*Mary Mother Of God  
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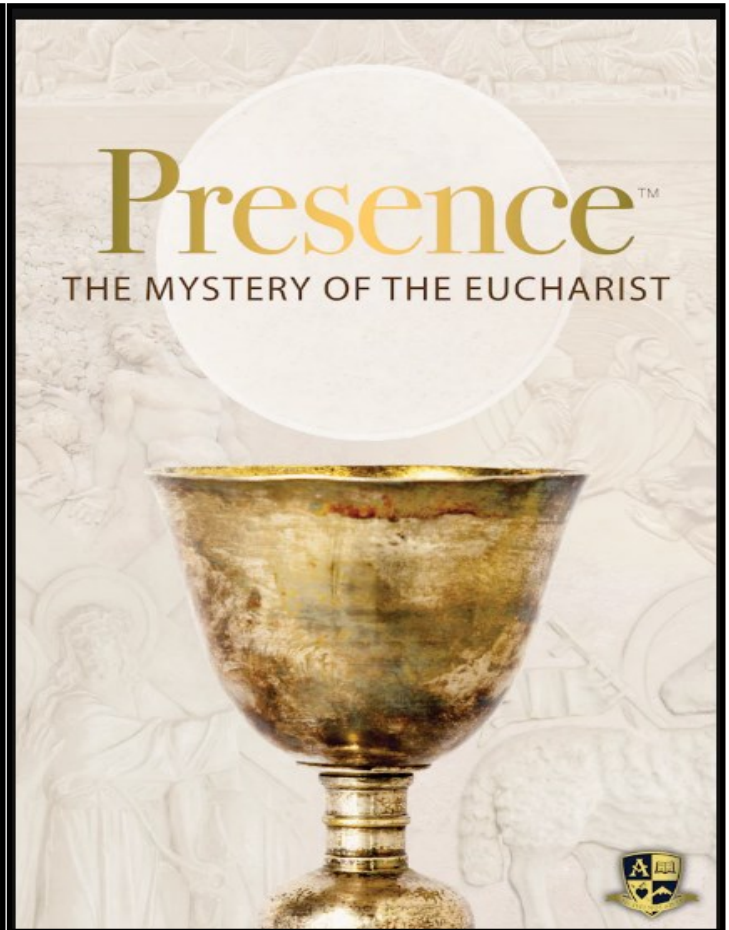
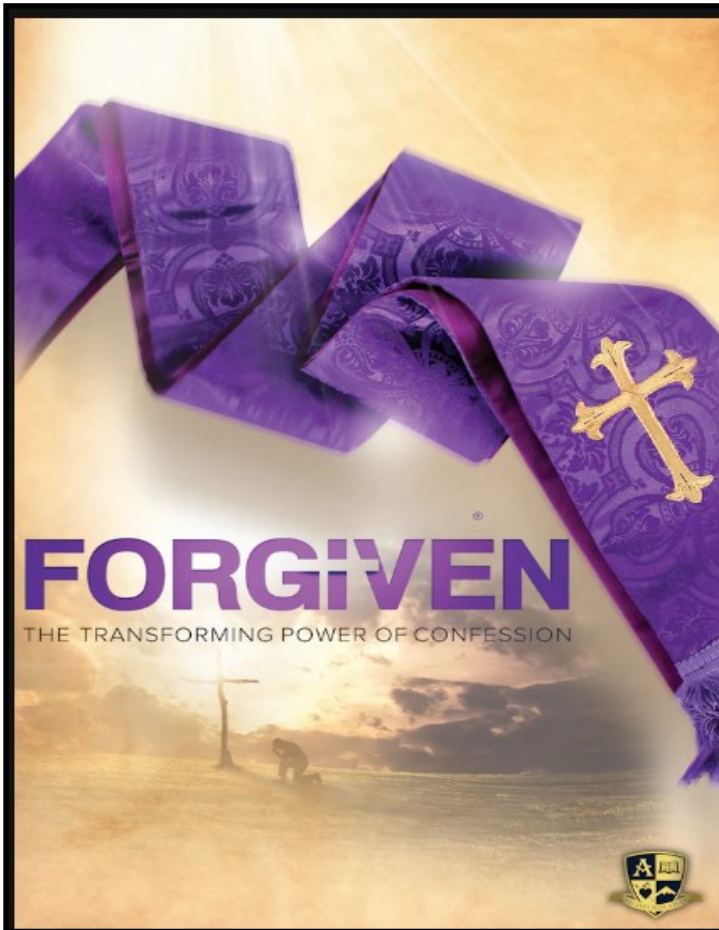


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# THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of February 02, 2025



## St. Josephine Bakhita: A Story of God's Rescue

Join Sister Imelda as she shares the amazing story of St. Josephine Bakhita, who, after being taken captive and made a slave, finds freedom by giving her life to God.



## The Presentation | Episode 5 | Mysteries of the Rosary: The Joyful Mysteries

The Presentation is already foreshadowing the Cross. The offering Mary makes at the Presentation in the Temple becomes manifested and reaches its fulfillment at Calvary.



## Bakhita: From Slave to Saint

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*-Mother Teresa*

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