

Presentation of the Lord

“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.” Very often, having more light is not something we desire as it forces us to confront something we really do not want to see. There can be comfort found in darkness. It has an eerie sense of security to it. We do not have to challenge ourselves or be challenged and can simply exist in some fabricated state of self-fabricated blissfulness. Jesus came to bring light, and it is a light that is resisted by many and hated by some. It is a light that causes us to see things as they really are and not as we would want or need them to be.

It is no wonder then that Simeon boldly and honestly proclaims to Mary, “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.” We have to take the Gospel message as it is and not just use those parts that are useful to us or more palatable. Taking Jesus at face value can and will lead to turmoil and dissention. Hearts will be pierced. Whether we like it, Jesus’ proclamation of what the world God created really ought to look like has real and absolute social implications.

It has a lot to say about how we treat our brothers and sisters: spiritually, personally, economically, and globally. It has everything to do with the poor, the immigrant, the scared, the unborn, the vulnerable, the sick, and the broken. The light opens us to a challenging, table-turning experience that may not be something we want to see but shows us where we need to be.

Sunday Collection: 1/25-26/2020, \$3,192.00.

ISC Bach Concert / Sat. Feb. 15, 2020

Please join us for the next concert in the DMP Concert Series. Renowned group ISC will play a program featuring two Bach cantatas and other Baroque favorites. This wonderful program is refreshing for the soul and mind. This concert is a great way to invite others into the life of our parish community. The concert will take place on Saturday, February 15th at St. Francis of Paola directly after the 5 PM Mass.

La Presentación de Jesús en el Templo

Cuarenta días después de la Navidad celebramos la Fiesta de la Presentación del Señor que narra la siguiente descripción según el Evangelio de San Lucas: “Asimismo, cuando llegó el día en que, de acuerdo a la Ley de Moisés, debían cumplir el rito de la purificación, llevaron al niño a Jerusalén para presentarlo al Señor, tal como está escrito en la Ley del Señor: Todo varón primogénito será consagrado al Señor. También ofrecieron el sacrificio que ordena la Ley del Señor: una pareja de tórtolas o dos pichones.” (Lucas 2:22-24). Presentarse al templo para cumplir con la ley era un requisito muy importante para la familia de Nazaret. Allí, ellos encontraron al anciano Simeón, un hombre justo y temeroso de Dios, y Ana, sabia profetisa. Ambos reconocieron en Jesús la esperanza y la luz para el pueblo de Israel.

En este día se bendicen las velas que significan que Jesús es la luz del mundo. “La liturgia de hoy nos muestra a Jesús que va al encuentro de su pueblo. Es la fiesta del encuentro: la novedad del Niño se encuentra con la tradición del templo; la promesa halla su cumplimiento; María y José, jóvenes, encuentran a Simeón y Ana, ancianos. Todo se encuentra, en definitiva, cuando llega Jesús. ¿Qué nos enseña esto? En primer lugar, que también nosotros estamos llamados a recibir a Jesús que viene a nuestro encuentro. Encontrarlo: al Dios de la vida hay que encontrarlo cada día de nuestra existencia; no de vez en cuando, sino todos los días. Seguir a Jesús no es una decisión que se toma de una vez por todas, es una elección cotidiana.” (Papa Francisco) ¿Dónde se encuentra Jesús ahora?

Readings for the week of February 2, 2020

Sunday:	Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [10b]/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Monday:	2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday:	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1a]/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday:	2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [cf. 5c]/Mk 6:1-6
Thursday:	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd [12b]/Mk 6:7-13
Friday:	Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51 [cf. 47b]/Mk 6:14-29
Saturday:	1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 [12b]/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday:	Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Message from Fr. Tom

It should be a great joy for us to celebrate the Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord. Our celebration of Christ's birth and infancy did not start with Black Friday—the day after Thanksgiving—and end on December 26th. As you can see, our manger scenes and some of the hardier poinsettias and wreaths are still in all three of our churches in Divine Mercy Parish. What a beautiful reminder that the joy of Christ's birth is not limited to just a day or a few days in December. Bear this in mind when you prepare your home for the celebration of the next Advent and Christmas. Keep your manger scene up until February 2nd. Remember—to be a Christian in this day and age is to be part of a counterculture. Don't be shy. Let's publically celebrate our faith. Catholic culture has a rich tradition wherein the truths we profess are celebrated openly and publically. A wonderful simple way to evangelize. And remember my suggestion to exchange some gifts on the Feast of the Epiphany—January 6th. Form your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc. Teach them that being Catholic means they belong to something special and that does not slavishly follow the dominant culture of our time. The Solemnity of the Presentation of the Lord occurs 40 days after Christmas Day. Sound familiar? Just as Easter follows 40 days after Ash Wednesday—this celebration links us to a special time of preparation and expectation. Jesus enters the Temple—is literally presented to the Lord and is initiated into the cult of Israel. And what of us? What of our own children? Do we take the time and trouble to encourage them to practice the faith. Do we all too easily accept Confirmation as graduation? How sad!! The nation of Israel—of its own accord—could not free itself from the shadow of oppression by foreign empires. Foreign powers constantly sought to impose their will and neutralize the worship of the One God and replace it with the cult of the state or an Emperor. Sounds a lot like our own time. Something new and radical was needed. And so God acted. Malachi says, "I am sending my messenger to prepare the way." This messenger will be a light that will be both: (1) a light of hope and (2) a fire that purifies. "For—this messenger—will be like a refiner's fire." Jesus comes to the Temple for the first time, when the "days of purification were completed." May the grace of our celebration this Sunday help us to receive the truth. The truth is that we belong to God, and we respond by joyfully leading others—especially our youth—to the Father's House.

Fr. Tom

Saint Blaise – Monday, February 3rd

Blessing of Throats

St. Francis of Paola—after the 7:45 am Mass

St. Cecilia—after the 8:30 am Mass

St. Francis of Paola—7:00 pm Service only no Mass

SAVE THE DATE

Mon. Feb 3	St. Blaise
Fri. Feb. 14	St. Valentine's Day
Mon. Feb. 17	Presidents' Day
Wed. Feb. 26	Ash Wednesday
Sun. March 8	Daylight savings time begins
Tues. March 17	St. Patrick's Day
Thurs. March 19	St. Joseph's Day
Sun. April 5	Palm Sunday
Sun. April 12	Easter Sunday

Welcome to Brooklyn 94th Precinct

Commanding Officer Kathleen Fahey!!

Recently the 94th Precinct inaugurated our new Commanding Officer, Captain Kathleen Fahey. Perhaps the first time in history this precinct has been led by a female officer. Please welcome her and keep her and *all* our police officers in your prayers. Also remember to stay active and alert to what is happening in our community. FYI, on Sunday 01/12—there was an incident of someone harassing a priest during the Mass at St. Anthony / St. Alphonsus.

Can Anybody Say Amen? When you receive the Body of Christ from the priest at each Mass—the correct response—the **ONLY** response—is "Amen." Many people in DMP are neglecting this important obligation of our worship. Often, the priests of DMP are met with either silence or "thank you." The Eucharist is a gift of God and not from the priest who merely cooperates with God's desire to share himself with you in this Sacrament. When you come forward to receive Jesus—please respond with a firm "Amen." Thank you for bearing this in mind.

Error in Last Week's Bulletin

Last week we make a special printing of the minutes of our last Pastoral Council meeting. Mary Jane DelVicario, Christine Holowacz, John Ricco & Kari Riess—did not volunteer to assist James Glynn in the decoration of St. Francis of Paola.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Gifts of Love—Emergency Food Pantry At Divine Mercy Parish

“For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome...” (Matt 25:35-36)

You have been and continue to be the foundations of this shared ministry, and we humbly ask for your continued support. Please be confident in the knowledge that God will bless you for your generosity. Thank you on behalf of all the families that benefit from your assistance.

Special Items needed: **Hearty soups and stews**

Food Pantry Coordinator

St. Francis of Paola Church Memorial Gifts – February 2, 2020

SANCTUARY LAMP

Sagrado Corazon de Jesus, For: my health, my two children, my grandson and to give thanks by Gertrudis Vidot Linares

Sign of the Times—Children’s Coloring Book of the Demonic

Yes folks you heard right—a coloring book has come out recently intended for small children that encourages demonic worship and calling upon demons to intercede in various situations. How low our society has sunk! Would anyone reading this have thought a mainstream coloring book advocating the demonic even possible a few years ago—and targeting children!! Parents stay awake to the very real threats to the souls of your children and grandchildren. St. Michael the Archangel defend us in battle!!!

Clases De Ciudadania !GRATIS!

Clases son los

LUNES Y MIERCOLES

Demezando: El 6 de Enero, 2020

Horario: 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Direccion: 295 Woodbind St., Bklyn., N.Y. 11237

Registracion en el 265 Wyckoff Ave., Brooklyn, New York 11237. CEO: Monsignor James J. Kelly

Mass Intentions for the Week St. Francis of Paola Church

Saturday, February 1, 2020

5:00pm Andrew Fitzgerald by Laurie & Monique Parilla

Sunday, February 2, 2020

8:00am Felice Baglivo by Family

11:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Monday, February 3, 2020

7:45am Antonio & Maria Trocchia by daughter Christina

7:00pm Blessing of Throats: Service only

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

7:45am Rose Marie Beneventin by Marie & Dom Perrotto

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

7:45am Joseph & Pauline Beneventin by Marie & Dom Perrotto

Thursday, February 6, 2020

7:45am Maria Goconda by Ada

Friday, February 7, 2020

7:45am Aniello De Sarno by Family

Saturday, February 8, 2020

7:45am Pacifico Family by Children

5:00pm Frances Tizzio & Bobbe Angioletti by Family

Sunday, February 9, 2020

8:00am Giuseppe Lanzieri by Rosa Martello

11:30am Pasquale Franzese by James Glynn

St. Theresa Guild

The next meeting of the St. Theresa Guild will take place on Thursday, February 13, 2020, at 7:30 pm in the St. Francis of Paola rectory basement. Please bring a Valentine themed raffle gift. New members are always welcome.

Members: please join in prayer following the 5 pm mass on Saturday, February 8, 2020, at St. Francis of Paola Church. We will assemble in the front left pews.

Carnevale: Carnevale has been cancelled by the St. Anthony Society.

FEBRUARY 2, 2020

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Nicholas Church

Sunday, February 2, 2020

10:30am Our Lady of Guadalupe From the
Family of Barbeacho Maza
Jose & Maria Alcantara
Maria Velasquez

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

7:00pm Open Intention

Sunday, February 9, 2020

10:30am Open Intention

Pray For the Sick

Contact the Parish Office to add (or remove) a name to this list...

Patricia Clarke, Trish Randall, Anthony Delio, Laura Vayda, Marie Salvato, Caroline Bark, Henrietta Craine

Pray For the Recently Deceased

Nicholas Val Farina, Salvatore Bifulco, Giuseppe Lanzieri, John Ciorciari, Rose De Angelis

Heart to Heart Ministry

Special Women's Mini Brunch Retreat

LOVE'S GIFT OF LIGHT

Saturday, February 15, 2020

9:30 AM - 12 Noon

At American Martyrs Sullivan Hall, 79-73 Bell Blvd., Bayside. (Corner of Bell Blvd. and Union Turnpike) Bring your mom, grandmother, sister, friend or neighbor. Come and share in a morning of prayer, song and joy!

Call Sister Ave to register 718-428-2471.

Rosary Society

The next meeting of the Rosary Society will take place on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 at 7 pm in St. Cecilia's auditorium. All we welcome to attend.

10 Seats Left

Diocesan Pilgrimage Oberammergau, The Passion Play. Visit to: Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Passau, Salzburg & Munich. May 12-21, 2020, Bishop Octavio Cisneros, Spiritual Director, Rev. Frank Schwarz Chaplin. For more information 516-605-1551 x 17.

Mass Intentions for the Week

St. Cecilia Church

Sunday, February 2, 2020

9:30am Tessie & Julia Caliendo
Fred Lovero
Rosary Society
7:00pm Open Intention

Monday, February 3, 2020

8:30am Gaetano Sepe by Maria Sepe

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

8:30am Delveccio Family

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

8:30am Tom Sabatino

Thursday, February 6, 2020

8:30am John Brienza

Friday, February 7, 2020

8:30am Purgatorial Society

Saturday, February 8, 2020

8:30am Deborah Gelski

Sunday, February 9, 2020

9:30am Josephine Beneventin
7:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Portraits of Immigrants: Unknown Faces, Untold Stories

The Diocese of Brooklyn's very own Green Door Gallery at St. Francis of Paola invites you to New York Artist/Writer Betsy Ashton's powerful exhibition of portraits and stories of immigrants and refugees designed to counter fear and hate with kindness, truth and understanding.

Open Weekends Feb. 14th – March 8th

Fridays: 6 PM – 8 PM

Saturdays & Sundays: 12 PM – 5 PM

www.portraitsofimmigrants.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

2/2/2020 Family Catechesis for Communion
1-3 pm St. Francis Auditorium (topic: Family)
2/16/2020 No class midwinter recess/Presidents' week.
2/23/2020 Regular Classes & Family Day at
12:30 pm in St. Francis of Paola Auditorium

END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN

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Comments:

RECENT PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Divine Mercy Parish is deeply grateful to Captain Williams Glynn and representatives of the 94th Precinct who took the time to speak at a few concerning public safety issues. The old adage applies—If you see something, say something. Following is some information about reporting criminal or suspicious activity.

Call 911—Emergencies

Call 311—Quality of Life Issues

P.O. Andrea Haro

Office: (718) 383-3879

Cell: (929) 371-4355

Andrea.Haro@nypd.org

Also note that a local community meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month with local police to receive your input at 155 Milton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222 at 7pm

Receive Our Parish Bulletin **Electronically**

Would you like to receive our parish bulletin electronically days before everyone else? Then log on to “Parishesonline.com” to register. In a few simple steps you can receive our parish bulletin and more easily stay on top of parish events and other important parish information.