



The Spirit of St. Catherine's

We, the community of St. Catherine Labouré, empowered by the Holy Spirit, will strive to serve the Gospel message in reaching out as the Body of Christ to serve our brothers and sisters.

Volume 16, Issue 02

February 2023

Pastor Rev. Ralph Berg CMF 928-227-4598

Deacons Michael Holmes, Mike Johnsen, Lance Vivet & Dan Gullotta

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5 PM Sunday 7:30 & 9:00 AM 10:30 AM (Spanish)

Week Day Mass

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:30 AM First Saturday Only 9:00 AM

Confessions

Following the daily Mass on Wednesday, Thursday & Friday and Saturday at 9:30 AM

Or by appointment

Español Solo con cita

Note: There could be last minute changes to the above Schedule.

The Month of February....

The month of February is jam packed with celebration after celebration. There's Black History Month, which is recognized all month long, where we get to honor the contributions and accomplishments of African Americans. And of course we're all ready to pull on our red and pink on February 14 to celebrate romantic love, self-love and everything in between with Valentine's Day. But fortunately for us, the celebration doesn't stop there. There are so many other **February holidays and observances** that are worth acknowledging as well. For people born in the month, they may treat their birthdays as sort of their own personal holiday. But for those of us who didn't get so lucky, we can count on actual federal and national holidays to bring us a well-earned day off. That includes the three-day weekend that usually accompanies President's Day – and don't forget to get in on all of the deals. We also get to enjoy the spectacle and fun behind Punxsutawney Phil's hypothesis on how long winter will last on Groundhog Day, which falls on February 2. Even Mardi Gras falls on February 21 this year, though the celebrations begin as early as January. Needless to say, February presents several opportunities to brush up on your history, increase awareness and indulge in traditions. So, why not add to your festivities for the month and check out some lesser-known occasions to commemorate. February what a weird month. Just 28 days long (but sometimes 29 every four years, which is so random when you think about it), February is the most intriguing month on the calendar. February often gets us in a bit of a tizz too. Famous for Valentine's Day, partners often scramble around trying to find an 'I Love You' teddy bear or box of chocolates. And if you forget to buy a present for your partner because you don't believe in the manufactured commercial nature of Valentine's Day? **Well, then you're a very brave soul indeed!**

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Office Hours

Monday thru Friday

9 am to 3:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday

Closed

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 152

Chino Valley, AZ 86323

Physical Address

2062 N. Hwy 89

Chino Valley, AZ

Phone 928-636-4071

E-mail office@stcatherinecv.org

Website www.stcatherinecv.org

Be Perfect

I would like to ask you to step back just a few weeks and think about Christmas day. Beginning with Christmas day we journey ahead 40 days until we reach "The Presentation of the Lord". We will celebrate that feast day this year on Thursday, February 2nd. Jesus is the light of the world, and we are all encouraged to bring candles to a Mass of the day as a symbol of Christ's light. The candles will be blessed, and we return them to our homes to help us remember and reflect on Him, Jesus, as our light so that we can be a light for others.

The following weekend we will hear Jesus instructing His disciples saying, "...your light must shine before others". (Mt.5:16). So, do you let your light shine before others? For me this is always "easier said than done". There are so many distractions in the world to prevent us from being a good example or witness or a light for others to follow. The idea of being a follower of Christ is simple, that is, to be a Christian, but its not always easy. For example, later in the month Jesus will say to His disciples (and to us) "...I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father. So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Mt.5:44-45, 48) I don't know about you, but my sinful pride gets in the way all too often and therefore I am a weak Christian. Thankfully Jesus gave us a means by which we can reconcile ourselves to God through the sacrament of Confession. Through Confession I am able to get back up and try again to live as He has called me to do.

A little later in February Jesus will teach "Let your 'yes' mean 'yes' and your 'no' mean 'no'. Anything more is from the evil one" (Mt.5:37) It sounds as though He could have been talking to some of our current politicians, but we all can fall into the trap of sinful pride and not be willing to take responsibility for our actions and words. It is very common for us all to try and justify ourselves. It is the way of the world. But, we should not kid ourselves. Our Father in heaven knows well what is really going on inside our minds and hearts. The month will end with us entering into Lent on Ash Wednesday and Jesus will teach "And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you". (Mt.6:18) I pray that I will be repaid for living Christianity virtuously.

What do you think?

Peace, Blessings and Mercy, Deacon Mike Johnsen

Ser perfecto

Me gustaría pedirles que retrocedan unas pocas semanas y piensen en el día de Navidad. A partir del día de Navidad avanzamos 40 días hasta llegar a "La Presentación del Señor". Celebraremos esa fiesta este año el lunes 2 de febrero. Jesús es la luz del mundo y se nos anima a todos a llevar velas a la misa del día como símbolo de la luz de Cristo. Las velas serán bendecidas y las devolveremos a nuestros hogares para ayudarnos a recordar y reflexionar en Él, Jesús, como nuestra luz para que podamos ser una luz para los demás.

El siguiente fin de semana escucharemos a Jesús instruyendo a sus discípulos diciendo: "...su luz debe brillar ante los demás". (Mt.5:16). Entonces, ¿dejas que tu luz brille ante los demás? Para mí, esto siempre es "más fácil decirlo que hacerlo". Hay tantas distracciones en el mundo que nos impiden ser un buen ejemplo o testigo o una luz para que otros sigan. La idea de ser seguidor de Cristo es simple, es decir ser cristiano, pero no siempre es fácil. Por ejemplo, más adelante en el mes, Jesús les dirá a sus discípulos (ya nosotros) "...Yo les digo, amen a sus enemigos y oren por los que los persiguen, para que sean hijos de su Padre celestial. Sed, pues, perfectos, como vuestro Padre celestial es perfecto. (Mt.5: 44-45, 48) No sé ustedes, pero mi orgullo pecaminoso se interpone en el camino con demasiada frecuencia y, por lo tanto, soy un cristiano débil. Afortunadamente, Jesús nos dio un medio por el cual podemos reconciliarnos con Dios a través del sacramento de la Confesión. A través de la Confesión puedo volver a levantarme y tratar de vivir de nuevo como Él me ha llamado a hacer.

Un poco más tarde, en febrero, Jesús enseñará: "Que tu 'sí' signifique 'sí' y tu 'no' signifique 'no'. Cualquier otra cosa es del maligno" (Mt. 5:37) Suena como si Él pudiera haber estado hablando con algunos de nuestros políticos actuales, pero todos podemos caer en la trampa del orgullo pecaminoso y no estar dispuestos a asumir la responsabilidad. por nuestras acciones y palabras. Es muy común que todos intentemos justificarnos. Es el camino del mundo. Pero, no debemos engañarnos a nosotros mismos. Nuestro Padre que está en los cielos sabe bien lo que realmente está pasando dentro de nuestras mentes y corazones. El mes terminará con nosotros entrando en Cuaresma el Miércoles de Ceniza y Jesús enseñará "Y tu Padre que ve lo oculto te recompensará". (Mt.6:18) Oro para que se me pague por vivir el cristianismo virtuosamente.

¿Qué piensas?

Paz, Bendiciones y Misericordia, Diácono Mike Johnsen

Holy Hour for Priests at St Catherine Laboure

Please join us in the Church for a Eucharistic Holy Hour to pray for priests and priestly vocations. We will meet every 4th Saturday of the month to join our hearts and prayers in a sacrificial offering for our priests. *Why did Our Lord, when He spoke of vocations, single out precisely the word pray? Because prayer is the expression of the Christian community and the yearning of the Church. "Ask, and the gift will come" (Lk 11:9). Can we hope to receive if we do not ask? There are probably hundreds of thousands of vocations hanging from heaven on silken cords; prayer is the sword that cuts them.* Archbishop Fulton Sheen, Venerable Servant of God For more information or to help with these holy hours, please contact Trisha Engel at 903.647.2274 Next Holy Hour will be February 25th, 2023



Divine Mercy

Although it may seem far away, Lent does start in a few weeks.....February 22nd.

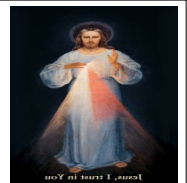
St. Faustina would probably tell us to think of small 'sacrifices' only known to each of us personally, and the Lord, e.g., "... sleeping without a pillow or going a bit hungry after meals".

That may not appeal to any of us, but perhaps we could think of other 'small sacrifices' that would not take very long for us to do daily.....say an extra prayer for the Souls in Purgatory; set aside any 'extra' change', and use it to light a candle for someone; adopt a Saint special to you, and say a daily prayer to that Saint. And please consider joining us during Lent for Friday "Stations and Soup Dinners". One of those Fridays will be hosted by the Divine Mercy Group.

We will also have the Divine Mercy Novena, which will begin right after the Good Friday service, until the Feast of Divine Mercy, the first Sunday after Easter.

If you would like to know more about our Divine Mercy Chaplet, or answers to any questions.

you might have about Divine Mercy, please contact Mary Anderson 928-800-9652.



"What are Sacramentals"

According to our Catechism, Sacramentals are sacred signs which bear a resemblance to the sacraments.

They draw their power from the Paschal Mystery of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Our Lord.

Or you may prefer the definition from the "old" Baltimore Catechism..." sacramental is anything set apart.

or blessed by the Church to bring out good thoughts and increase devotion. They offer spiritual blessings and effects that can help people get closer to God and His saints in heaven. These

Sacramentals are:

- ~ The Sign of the Cross ~ Holy Water ~ Rosaries ~ Crucifixes
- ~ Medals of Our Lord, Our Lady, and the many Saints. ~ Scapulars
- ~ Religious Art: Religious pictures, statues, icons.

When used in faith with prayer, a sacramental like Holy Water can drive away evil spirits.

Since we have many, if not, all of these Sacramentals, we should try to use one or more of them every day, especially during Lent.

Mary Anderson, Spiritual Director

Continued from page 1 Month of February.....

February comes from “februa,” a Latin word meaning “to cleanse,” and was named after a month-long purification festival held this time of the year. Amusingly, in 2000, the Institute of Business Technology named the second Monday in February as National Clean Out Day. But it’s not for cleansing the soul... but for cleaning computers!

Why is February shortened to 28 days? Believe it or not, a past Roman superstition made this happen. The Roman King Numa Pompilius added January and February to the original 10 month calendar to fully sync a new calendar with the lunar year. However, Numa wanted to avoid having even numbers in his calendar, as Roman superstition at the time held that even numbers were unlucky. To try and avoid this, he chose February, a month that would be host to Roman rituals honoring the dead, as the unlucky month to consist of 28 days. February is the only month in the year that could miss having a full moon completely. Some months get a blue moon (two full moons in a month), and February often ends up with none! However, sometimes, like in 2022, the full moon of February is called the Snow Moon.

Can you spell February? Don’t worry, this isn’t a spelling bee, but just another of those random February facts. Statistically, February is among the most frequently misspelled words in the English language, with the first ‘r’ often overlooked. In 2015, even White House officials misspelled the word. And that wasn’t even under the Trump administration! A month for the lovers **Just like December is for Christmas**, February is for Valentine’s Day. This is on the 14th of February every year. Here’s a little Valentine’s Day trivia. About 144 million worth of greeting cards are purchased for Valentine’s Day yearly. And that’s in the U.S. alone!

Also, on February 29th of a leap year, women often take the lead and are the ones to propose. This is a long tradition. Would you wait for a leap year to ask the person of your dreams to get married? So there you have it, do you have a new-found respect for this surprising month?

LADIES OF ST. CATHERINE LABOURÉ

Lent begins Wednesday February 22. May we use this season reflecting on the sacrifice Our Lord, Jesus Christ made for us.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & LENTEN SOUP DINNER – the first Friday of Lent is February 24th. The ladies will provide a delicious meal of meatless soups following the Stations of the Cross at 5pm.

DONUT SUNDAY – Donuts will be served February 5th after all Sunday masses. Please remember that your donation for a donut is helping a charity in our community.

Any lady interested in wanting to know who we are & what we do for the community, please come and observe our meeting on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in the church hall.

Our next meeting is February 7th at 9:30am. March meeting is also on the 7th.

Blessings & Prayers, Kathy McCormick, President



Just a reminder that if your child needs to use the restroom or get a drink of water during Mass they must be accompanied by an adult. No child should be alone.

Solo un recordatorio de que si su hijo necesita usar el baño o beber agua durante la misa, debe estar acompañado por un adulto. Ningún niño debe estar solo.

HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARY

We wish all our Parishioners celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in February a very Blessed & Happy Day.



HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY

We would like to wish all of our Parishioners with February Birthdays a Happy and Healthy one!



February Birthstone and Birth Flowers

The birthstone of February is the amethyst. Thought to symbolize royalty with its purple hue, this quartz stone does have many other colors and can be sourced in many areas of the world.

Surprisingly, the flower of February isn’t the rose. Because of Valentine’s Day, you’d probably think the flower of February is the rose. Well, you’d be wrong. It’s actually the violet and the primrose. Violets signify watchfulness, loyalty, and faithfulness. Give a violet to someone to let them know you’ll always be there for them! The other February birth flower is the primrose, which lets someone know you can’t live without them.

HOLY FAMILY MINISTRY

Greetings from Holy Family Ministry,

We are enjoying this wet weather. Even though it can be annoying, we desperately need the moisture. Thank you, God! We just had our Bake Sale which was very successful. We brought in \$405! Thanks to you.

We have some events planned for this year such as Vacation Bible School in July. We have reached out to the Dominican Sisters of Nashville who have come many times before. We pray they can come again this summer. The criteria for us is that they wear the habit and are joyful!

We are also planning on having Theology on the Grille sometime in the Spring. More info to follow.

If you have any questions or ideas or would like to help out, please contact me and let's brainstorm. Holy Family Ministry can always use the help.

Have a blessed month!

Barbara Cox 928-925-2043 or bacox390@gmail.com

Did you know that we have an Award winning artist right here in our parish? Stan Sisson's art has a spiritual tone. Come see his work at the Mountain Artists Guild (the MAG) in Prescott, AZ. Stan paints in oil and acrylics showcasing his interest in mysterious and intriguing subjects. His joy is to share his gift with others. "Gifts are more meaningful when shared." says Sisson. The 'MYSTICAL AND SPIRITUAL' exhibit will run Tues. Feb. 21- Sat. March 18 The Mountain Artists Guild (MAG) 228 N Alarcon St Prescott, AZ 86301

Remember that our Parish Library is open every Sunday after the 9:00 AM Mass.

Stop in and look over all the wonderful reading materials, videos and other religious information. Visit with Dennis and Marge Bethke who have volunteered their time to answer any questions you might have about borrowing items to take home and enjoy. Reminder that Lent will be upon us shortly. Why not take home a few videos to share as a family.



ASH WEDNESDAY February 22 nd

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Alternatively, the priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel." Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God. Writings from the Second-Century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Even non-Christians and the excommunicated are welcome to receive the ashes. The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass. It is not required that a person wear the ashes for the rest of the day, and they may be washed off after Mass. However, many people keep the ashes as a reminder until the evening. In some cases, ashes may be delivered by a priest or a family member to those who are sick or shut-in. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption. "Remember, Man is dust, and unto dust you shall return." Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.



HELLO THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.....

FEBRUARY 2023 Mass Intentions

Wednesday, February 1, 2023	8:30 AM	NO MASS	
Thursday, February 2, 2023	8:30 AM	NO MASS	
Friday, February 3, 2023	8:30 AM	NO MASS	
Saturday, February 4, 2023	9:00 AM	Francis & Olive Kavanaugh	RIP
Saturday, February 4, 2023	5:00 PM	Milo Wayne Strausbaugh	RIP
Sunday, February 5, 2023	7:30 AM	Carolyn Freeman	INT
Sunday, February 5, 2023	9:00 AM	People of St. Catherine	INT
Sunday, February 5, 2023	10:30 AM	Jose Luis Trujillo Beltran	RIP
Monday, February 6, 2023	8:30 AM	Mary Cuda	RIP
Tuesday, February 7, 2023	8:30 AM	Julie Raines	INT
Wednesday, February 8, 2023	8:30 AM	Family of Michael Wolf	INT
Thursday, February 9, 2023	8:30 AM	Mary Brow	INT
Friday, February 10, 2023	8:30 AM	Duane Hartness	RIP
Saturday, February 11, 2023	5:00 PM	Jim Devlin	RIP
Sunday, February 12, 2023	7:30 AM	Michael Rivas	RIP
Sunday, February 12, 2023	9:00 AM	Franklin King	RIP
Sunday, February 12, 2023	10:30 AM	People of St. Catherine	INT
Monday, February 13, 2023	8:30 AM	Michelle Olvera	RIP
Tuesday, February 14, 2023	8:30 AM	Gene Ramotowski	INT
Wednesday, February 15, 2023	8:30 AM	Poor Souls in Purgatory	RIP
Thursday, February 16, 2023	8:30 AM	Scott Napp	RIP
Friday, February 17, 2023	8:30 AM	Jenna & Cory Schaeffer	INT
Saturday, February 18, 2023	5:00 PM	People of St. Catherine	INT
Sunday, February 19, 2023	7:30 AM	Scott Napp	RIP
Sunday, February 19, 2023	9:00 AM	Jim Demme	RIP
Sunday, February 19, 2023	10:30 AM	Esther Napp	RIP
Monday, February 20, 2023	8:30 AM	Margaret Molina	RIP
Tuesday, February 21, 2023	8:30 AM	Poor Souls in Purgatory	RIP
Wednesday, February 22, 2023	8:30 AM	Hoben & Kailo Delgado	RIP
Wednesday, February 22, 2023	5:00 PM	Jesus Sotelo	RIP
Thursday, February 23, 2023	8:30 AM	Duane Hartness	RIP
Friday, February 24, 2023	8:30 AM	Philip Cyr	RIP
Saturday, February 25, 2023	5:00 PM	David Greaney	RIP
Sunday, February 26, 2023	7:30 AM	Marge Rusko	INT
Sunday, February 26, 2023	9:00 AM	Johanna Anderson	INT
Sunday, February 26, 2023	10:30 AM	People of St. Catherine	INT
Monday, February 27, 2023	8:30 AM	Scott Napp	RIP
Tuesday, February 28, 2023	8:30 AM	Rhisa Wright	INT

*Eternal Rest Grant Unto him, O Lord,
and
May Perpetual Light Shine Upon him:*

SCOTT NAPP



Dear Prayer Warriors,

Our special intentions for the month of February are: Your special intentions, and all our Parishioners who are battling colds, flu, and/or COVID.

During the month, we were asked to pray for:

- ~ Repose of the soul of Pope Benedict XVI
- ~ Sister-in-law in Hospital with severe pancreatitis, who has since died; Tony Saverino, and Scott Napp
- ~ Young man who overdosed on Percocet laced with fentanyl: peace for his family. May the soul of Pope Benedict, Shirley's Sister-in-law, Tony Saverino, Scott Napp, and the young man who died from an overdose, as well as the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.
- ~ Warrior, who has cancer, with multiple tumors, going for additional tests shortly.
- ~ Young teenager for whom we prayed is showing new bone growth; her Doctor says...it is a miracle (the power of prayer). But she still has chemo treatments, which she hopes to finish soon.
- ~ Brother, who has cancer for healing.
- ~ Nephew, who was just diagnosed with stage 4 lymphoma.
- ~ All suffering from COVID, the flu, respiratory illnesses, and other medical situations.
- ~ All travelers.
- ~ The homeless, hopeless, lonely, hungry and all in need of physical and spiritual comfort.
- ~ All caregivers.
- ~ All affected by the horrific weather across the country.
- ~ Fr. Ralph to continue a speedy recovery.
- ~ Deacon. Mike Johnson's Mother, who recently had a heart attack.
- ~ Warrior, and her family who just caught COVID; husband is in the hospital.
- ~ Mother, 93 years old, who has shingles for a quick & complete recovery.
- ~ Parishioner, who has colitis, for complete healing.
- ~ Baby Francis, who was in the PICU with respiratory distress.
- ~ Son, who has a painful foot problem, which is now affecting the other foot.
- ~ For all your special intentions.
- ~ All in need of prayer, especially those who do not ask for prayer.
- ~ Also, for a Warrior's husband, whose Parkinson's is getting worse!

Thank you; God bless each one of you, Mary Anderson. Please keep the prayer requests coming, **Mary Anderson, Prayer Warrior**

Once Lent starts we no longer have flowers on the altar until Easter Sunday
If you would like to donate for Easter Flowers in Memory of a loved one please stop by the parish office.
All names will be printed in our Easter Bulletin

Flowers for February 2023
04/5 In Loving Memory of Verne Nadeau
11/12 In Loving Memory of Pat Winter
18/19 Marge & Frank Jurec
25/26 NO FLOWERS (Lent)



ST. CATHERINE LABOURE CHURCH

2062 N. Hwy 89
PO Box 152
Chino Valley, AZ 86323
Phone (928) 636-4071

Prayer In Honor of the Holy Family

O God, Heavenly Father, it was part of Thine eternal decree that Thine only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, should form a holy family with Mary, His blessed mother, and His foster father, Saint Joseph. In Nazareth, home life was sanctified, and a perfect example was given to every Christian family. Grant, we beseech Thee, that we may fully comprehend and faithfully imitate the virtues of the Holy Family so that we may be united with them one day in their heavenly glory. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

An Explanation of the Prayer in Honor of the Holy Family

Christ could have come to earth in any number of ways, yet God chose to send His Son as a Child born into a family. In so doing, He set the Holy Family as an example for us all and made the Christian family more than a natural institution. In this prayer, we ask God to keep the example of the Holy Family always before us, so that we will imitate them in our family life.

