

## Sts. Peter and Paul Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA 808 N. Mason Road Creve Coeur, Missouri 63141-6306 (314) 968.7800

## February 2020 Parish Bulletin

Parish Web Site: www.sspp-eccusa.org or

www.peterandpaulchapel.org

Parish Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA

National Church Web Site: www.ecc-usa.org

National Church Facebook Page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/eccusa2001">https://www.facebook.com/eccusa2001</a>

#### **CLERGY MASS SCHEDULE**

#### All Mass Times 2:00 PM unless otherwise noted

February 2, 2020, Presentation of the Lord: +Fr. Carl

Blessing of Candles and Throats

February 9, 2020, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Fr. Bill

February 16, 2020, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: +Fr. Bob

February 23, 2020, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time: Fr. Bill

#### Pastoral Staff:

Pastor: +Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div., 314.800.3456, pastor@sspp-eccusa.org

Associate Pastor: Fr. Bill LaGrand, M.A., 314.650.9214, associate @sspp-eccusa.org

Founding Bishop: +Fr. Carl Swaringim, Ed.D., 636.240.7839, domcarl@ecc-usa.org

#### **Prayer Intentions**

If you would like us to remember a special intention for you at Mass, please contact one of our priests.

If you or someone you know is in need of spiritual assistance (prayers, Sacrament of the Sick, etc.), please contact one of our priests.

Inquiries regarding the administration of Sacraments or services (Baptisms, First Communion, Marriages, and Funerals) are welcomed.

### Sunday Scripture Reflections

Fr. Bill LaGrand, M.A.

**February 2, 2020 – Presentation of the Lord:** Luke likes to show how God's revelation often comes through ordinary people like Mary and Joseph as they are not depicted as understanding anything said by Simeon or Anna. They return home to raise Jesus as observant Jews would do; however, that is only the beginning. (Luke 2: 22-40)

**February 9, 2020 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:** How do we relate being salt and light to the needs of advocacy and justice in society today? We are challenged to put aside our differences to help those in need. (Matthew 5: 13-16)

**February 16, 2020 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:** With every relationship, we have to choose whether we will grow and live in it- or will we let that relationship atrophy and die. That includes our relationship to God. What decision will we make? (Matthew 5: 17-37)

**February 23, 2020 – 7**<sup>th</sup> **Sunday in Ordinary Time:** The Church, as a living organism infused with the Holy Spirit, is called to be holy as God is Holy. We, too, are called to holiness and to a different standard of living and loving. (Matthew 5: 38-48)



# + A Prayer to Start the Day + adapted from the Breastplate of St. Patrick

I arise today, through God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's shield to protect me, I arise today

Christ be with me,
Christ before me,
Christ behind me,
Christ in me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ on my right,
Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down,
Christ when I sit down,
Christ when I arise,

St. Patrick's Breastplate is a popular prayer attributed to one of Ireland's most beloved patron saints. According to tradition, St. Patrick wrote it in 433 A.D. for divine protection before successfully converting the Irish King and his subjects from paganism to Christianity. (The term breastplate refers to a piece of armor worn in battle.)

When St. Paul referred to putting on the "Armor of God" in his letter to the Ephesians (6:11) to fight sin and evil inclinations, he could have been thinking of prayers just like this one! We may not wear combat gear in our daily lives, but St. Patrick's Breastplate can function as divine armor for protection against spiritual adversity.

Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

I arise today, through God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's shield to protect me,

Protect me through this mighty strength: through the invocation of the Trinity -through belief in the Threeness -through my confession of the Oneness of the Creator of creation.

Amen.

#### From the Pastor's Desk

+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div., Pastor

Blessing of Candles and Throats: On Sunday, February 2, 2020, +Fr. Carl will bless candles in honor of Candlemas Day. Candlemas, also known as the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus Christ and the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is a Christian Holy Day commemorating the presentation of Jesus at the Temple. Our Annual St. Blase Blessing of Throats will also be held on Sunday, February 2, 2020. Everyone is welcome to receive this blessing. "Saint Blase was the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia during the fourth century. Very little is known about his life. According to various accounts, he was a physician before becoming a bishop. His cult spread throughout the entire Church in the Middle Ages because he was reputed to have miraculously cured a little boy who nearly died because of a fishbone in his throat. From the eighth century, he has been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illnesses of the throat." (From The Book of Blessings.)

**Remember in your prayers:** Please remember our parishioners and friends who are unable to join us due to recent illness or being homebound:

Chad Green
John Howard
Rita Kreutz
John & Jan Williamson

**Requiescat in Pace:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Dr. Marie Kremer who passed away on Sunday, January 19, 2020, after suffering a massive heart attack earlier that week. Dr. Kremer was responsible for the training of many church organists in the St. Louis area and was a frequent presenter on Liturgy and Music for the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. +Fr. Bob and our Pastoral Musician, Jim Randazzo, were honored to have known her for many, many years and benefitted from her knowledge of music and liturgy.

**Like us on Facebook!** Bishop Carl has been working on our parish Facebook page. If you are on Facebook, look for "Peter and Paul Chapel Creve Coeur" and "Like" our page. Also, invite your friends, Facebook and otherwise, to "Like" us as well!

Parishioner Birthdays: None this month!

Parishioner Anniversaries: None this month!