



Blessings of Many Shapes

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

It is always a blessed and holy occasion when parents bring their child to the parish church for baptism. They gather family and friends and proudly present their child to both God and the faith community. Somewhere in the midst of it all, they will wonder who their child will become, what their child's gifts and talents will be, and what hopes and dreams their child will have. Yet like Simeon, who blessed the Holy Family in the Temple, they will also realize that life is not always favorable to us. As Simeon foretold, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many...and you yourself a sword will pierce" (Luke 2:34–35).

Although we recognize that suffering is a part of everyone's life, and we would never wish it upon a child, we might hope that the child does not run from every suffering, for it becomes the path to wisdom and compassion—perhaps the only path. We might also wish on the child a bit of loneliness, for it teaches us to treasure friends. And amid hoping for the blessing of success, losing can also be a gift and a blessing, for it is how we learn to deal with failure and understand the important lesson that we cannot always have our own way. Failure can be the seed of humility. Fortunately, while doing our best as parents, we must allow God to decide how our children will be blessed and what will nurture their growth into the image of Jesus. We simply present them to God from whom they came. ●

Reflect

Call to mind someone you love deeply and remind yourself that God loves him or her even more.



When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] took [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

LUKE 2:22

**SAINT JOSEPH
AKRON, CO
phone: 970-345-6996**

Pastor: Rev. Herman Nsubuga
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Maurice Okeke
Deacon: Joe Benjamin ph: 970-554-1154

Masses: Sat. - 7:00 PM Sun - 8:00 AM
 Tues. - 5:30 PM Wed. - 7:30 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
1/2 h before daily Masses or by appointment
Sat. 1/2 h before 7:00 PM Mass and after
Sun. - 7:00 AM

Anointing of the Sick - call the Office

Office: open Tuesday and Wednesday.
(970) 345-6996 leave message

Visit our Website www.stmarybrush.org

Sign up at Flocknote.com/stjosephakron
Or from your cell phone text: akron to 84576

We are on Facebook:
Saint Joseph Catholic Church - Akron.
St. Mary's: www.facebook.com/STMBrush

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Sign Up & Select "I belong to a Parish"
Enter 80723 / select St. Mary's
Enter your e-mail - and you are in!

If you are interested in being a cantor or
providing music for the Mass, please contact
Marcia Pieper (970)554-1535
or **Julie Green** (970)554-0740

Bulletin: **Kathy McFadden** 970-301-2306
or kathryndianehall@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

Sat. Feb. 1 **Vigil**
7:00 p.m. Graces/Madelyn Willeke-JW
Sun. Feb. 2 **Mass/Presentation of the Lord**
World Day for Consecrated
Life
8:00 a.m. Graces/Colleen McFadden
 - WKM
Tues Feb. 4 **Mass**
5:30 p.m. †Ramona Harris - JW
Wed Feb. 5 **Mass/St. Agatha**
7:30 a.m. †Caden Zimmerman
 - Altar & Rosary
Sat. Feb. 8 **Vigil**
7:00 p.m. †Jay & Leota Hickert - RH
Sun. Feb. 9 **Mass/5th Sunday Ord. Time**
8:00 a.m. †Connie Cluff - GMH

In need of prayer support, call

Linda Littleton: 970-630-3267
Kim Krause: 970-554-1459
Peggy Dreher: 970-554-0546

Please Pray For Our Sick:

Kane Schrock, Mary Ann Kreutzer, Barbara
Wolf, Bobby Dreher, Terry Hart, Pauline
Frenzl, Dan Killip, Ray Hottinger, Deacon
Taylor Elder, Bridget Glosson, Ken Kuntz,
Randy Kraich, Carol Benjamin, Don
Mollendor, Maria Foy, Beverly Gebauer,
Tricia Dreher, Bibiana Camacho, Robert
McMillion, MaryAnne Middlebrook, John
Stair, Ken Richards

For the Soul: Patrick O'Neil

Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph
Tuesdays / 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
Spend time with our Lord...

Welcome to **Lucille Patsy Lois** daughter of Ryan & Mollie Dreitz. Congratulations on your **baptism** January 25th.

WHAT IS A JUBILEE (*Continued*)

The Church can celebrate a jubilee after every 25 years. This year Pope Francis called this Catholic Jubilee 2025 to celebrate **hope** and invite Catholics worldwide to deepen their faith.

Because it marks the **1,700th** anniversary of the **First Council of Nicaea**, jubilee 2025 also celebrates the fundamental Christian truth of the **incarnation**, that Jesus is **both true God and true man**, a teaching always believed in the early Church but dogmatically defined at the Council to combat the Arian heresy (*wrong teaching of the church*).

Occasionally, a pope may declare an **Extraordinary jubilee**, as Pope Francis did with the jubilee of Mercy in 2015-2016. These are called to address specific themes or needs within the Church. Both types of jubilees offer opportunities for pilgrimages, indulgences and spiritual growth.

Again, *activities that can be engaged in*, like this year, are making pilgrimages to Rome or other designated pilgrimage sites, like Cathedrals and shrines around the world, and walking through Holy Doors. Christians can also engage in Acts of Mercy, receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, participate in special liturgies, deepen one's faith and spread Hope and Unity. (*To be continued*)

St. Joseph's corner:

"Dearest Saint Joseph, inspire me to acts of tenderness especially in my own family. Amen"

Lay Minister Schedule February 9, 2025 Natalie Gross 602-952-9208

Greeters/Gifts: Brian & Mary Etl Family
Pianist: Marcia Pieper
Cantor: Earleen & Garrack Friedly
Lector: Tracy Samber
Altar Servers: C & G McFadden, A Sauer
Head Usher: Chris Packer
Euch Ministers: Terry & Rita Hart

Catholic Adult Enrichment Classes

Thursdays at 7:00 pm in Coyne Hall

Saturday, April 5 / Lenten Retreat Provided by Northeast Colorado Parishes

Guest speaker will be **Jessica Navin**,
*"There is no love without forgiveness, and
there is no forgiveness without love."*

St. Helena's Catholic Church, Ft. Morgan, CO
from 8am and close with the 5 pm Mass.

\$20 per person. REGISTER ONLINE
@<https://www.stmarybrush.org/lenten-retreat.html>. Register by March 28th.

For more information or to volunteer
please contact **Jeanett Baker 303-902-9994**
or email **Bridget Link** at

nocoretreat@gmail.com

Pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes, and Paris September 8 - 19, 2025

Fr. Joseph Oiye of St. Helena, Ft. Morgan
will be the spiritual leader. See the flyer on
the bulletin board if you are interested.

Email: office@stjosephsakron.org

* Office Hours: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM (Tuesday, Wednesday)

Dear Padre,

What happened to Candlemas? When I was a child, there was one day when everyone brought candles to church to have them blessed. At the end of Mass, the priest would bless everyone's throats with the candles.



EVANRILOV / SHUTTERSTOCK

Candlemas is another name for our celebration of the Presentation of the Lord: the day Mary and Joseph presented their child to God in the Temple at Jerusalem in accordance with the law of Moses (Luke 2:22-38). We remember how the elderly believers Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as their longed-for Messiah and how, addressing God in a canticle, Simeon proclaimed Christ to be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel" (Luke 2:32).

Mass on this day often begins with the blessing and lighting of candles, which the priest and people carry into the church. The name Candlemas springs from this ritual blessing.

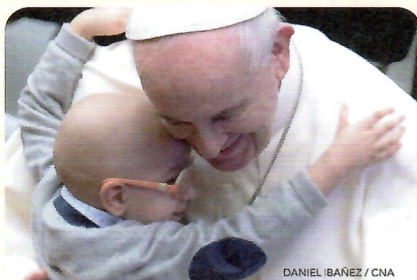
The day after the feast of the Presentation is the memorial celebration of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr. According to tradition, St. Blaise was instrumental in healing a person who was choking. The Church remembers this encounter and celebrates the intervention of the Spirit of God through the blessing of throats, using the blessed candles from the feast of the Presentation. It is a wonderful and very practical spiritual practice that is much appreciated and anticipated each year. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 3 <i>Weekday</i> Heb 11:32-40 Mk 5:1-20	February 4 <i>Weekday</i> Heb 12:1-4 Mk 5:21-43	February 5 <i>St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr</i> Heb 12:4-7, 11-15 Mk 6:1-6	February 6 <i>St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs</i> Heb 12:18-19, 21-24 Mk 6:7-13	February 7 <i>Weekday</i> Heb 13:1-8 Mk 6:14-29	February 8 <i>Weekday</i> Heb 13:15-17, 20-21 Mk 6:30-34	February 9 <i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Is 6:1-2a, 3-8 1 Cor 15:1-11 Lk 5:1-11



DANIEL IBAÑEZ / CNA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Like Simeon, let us also pick up this child, the God of newness and surprises.... Let us be restless, let us be moved by the Spirit, like Simeon and Anna.... If, like them, we live in expectation, we will embrace Jesus, who is the light and hope of life.

HOMILY, ROME, FEBRUARY 2, 2024

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