



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

**St. Mary's & St. John's
Brush CO & Stoneham CO**

Pastor: Rev. Herman Nsubuga
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Maurice Okeke

Masses:

Brush: Sat. - 5:00 PM, Sun. - 10:00 AM
Thurs. - 5:30 PM, Fri. - 8:00 AM
Stoneham: Sun. - 12:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Brush: Sat. - 3:00 PM
1/2 hr. before weekday Masses
or by appointment
Stoneham: Sun. - after Mass

Adoration & Benediction: 1st Friday of the
month immediately after Mass (till 9:00 a.m.)

Anointing of the Sick: - call the Office

Office: Thursday & Friday
Leave a message **970-842-2216**

Website: www.stmarybrush.org

Sign up for Flocknote

www.flocknote.com/stmarybrush

or text **Brush** to **84576**

Facebook: www.facebook.com/STMBrush

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Click "Donate" and select your church.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

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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!

Mass Intentions

Sat Feb 1	Vigil
5:00 p.m.	†Toby Padilla - CT
Sun Feb 2	Mass/Presentation of the Lord
	World Day for Consecrated
	Life
10:00 a.m.	†Ron Uhrig - KK
12:00 p.m.	...
Thur Feb 6	Mass/St. Paul Miki &
	Companions
5:30 p.m.	†Jesus Maria Perez
Fri Feb. 7	Mass
	First Friday
8:00 a.m.	Graces for Elder Family
Sat Feb. 8	Vigil
5:00 p.m.	†Bill Chapman
Sun Feb 9	Mass/5th Sunday Ord. Time
10:00 a.m.	†Jeremy Garvik - GAB
12:00 p.m.	...

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Our Sick: Joseph Wilson, Gia Marquez, Rosa Maria Santos, Jan Yokum, Deja Adam, Kane Schrock, Bernice Padilla, Rosemary Garcia, Sean Gleason, Ben Mettlen, Arabella Macias, Brianna Hill, Gina Mortenson, Paula & Delbert Meier, Sheryl Garvik, Caiden Lee, Izaac Morales, Kayla Albrant, Stan Prather, Christy Chapman, Anthony Steven Villarreal, Shelby Daughenbaugh, Norma Wolfe, Stella, Fritz & Irene Ramirez, Amanda Weisensee, Eloy Padilla, Nadine Odell, Jennifer Romero, Pennie Haller, Armando Saucedo, Carmona Family, Leo Millburg, Gary Bloemker, Josie Contreras, Emmalyn Potts, Elizabeth Trujillo, Anne Mertens, Carter Wiedrich, Apolonio Ramirez, Felix Acosta, Aurelia Lopez

For the Soul:

Feb. 3 / 3-Hour Perpetual Adoration
Monday
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Come, spend time with the Lord!

February 4 / Bible Study
6:30 p.m. in the RE building
All are welcomed!

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)

February 2nd
World Day of Consecrated Life

We pray for those who have responded to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to be a consecrated person that they may experience the support of the Church as they continue their growth in holiness.

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."

at St. Helena's Catholic Church
917 W. 7th Ave. Fort Morgan, CO
from 8am and close with the 5 pm Mass.

The cost is \$20 per person. REGISTER ONLINE NOW @<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.



Food Drive - Help feed families
Consider canned goods & items for the Brush Food pantry. Monetary donations welcomed.
Drop off at St. Mary's
Thank you for your support!

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.

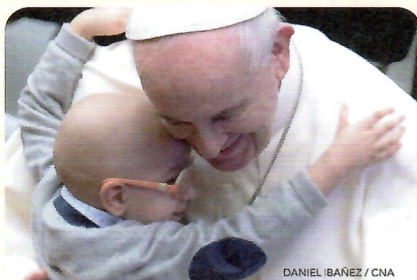
The day after the feast of the Presentation is the memorial celebration of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr. According to tradition, St. Blaise was instrumental in healing a person who was choking. The Church remembers this encounter and celebrates the intervention of the Spirit of God through the blessing 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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