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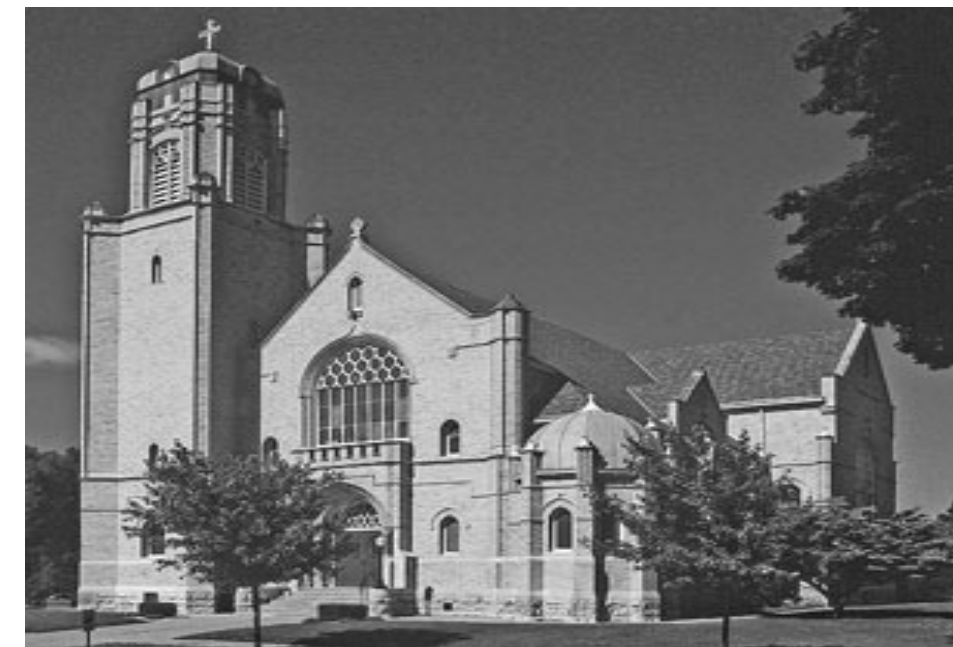
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Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday	8:00am Low Mass 11:00am High Mass
Saturday:	12:10pm Low Mass
Monday—Friday:	12:10pm Low Mass
First Fridays:	12:10pm & 6:00pm
Holy Days of Obligation:	12:10pm & 6:00pm

Confessions and Rosary 30 minutes prior to Mass

**If you are interested in advertising in the weekly bulletin,
please contact Anne Renner, the church secretary, with any
inquiries.**



FROM THE DESK OF FR. D.

Candlemas. The feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the 2nd of February received this popular name because the Mass is preceded by a blessing of candles and a procession. Because the liturgy is longer than usual it was not advisable to have the blessing of candles and the procession on the Feast day. The rubrics of the 1962 Missal foresees that the solemnity of Candlemas may be celebrated on the closest Sunday but only if the blessing and the procession are done. This allows more faithful to attend this beautiful and meaningful ceremony. Although Candlemas is not a Holy Day of obligation, it is a very ancient and important feast.

This feast is one of the oldest Marian feasts. It was celebrated in the fourth century in Jerusalem. It came to Constantinople and Rome in the seventh century. It celebrates the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple forty days after his birth; Candlemas (February 2) is indeed 40 days after Christmas. Any first born belonged to God and because of this had to be “ransomed” or bought back by the offering of a sacrifice. The mother after giving birth had to be purified (See Leviticus 12, 1-8: 40 days for a boy). The Holy Family is thus keeping the Law of Moses. The evangelist Luke sees in this event the fulfillment of the prophecy of Daniel 9, 24-26 “Seventy weeks are decreed for your people and for your holy city ... to anoint the Most Holy One (the Saint of the Saint).” There is indeed a period of 70 weeks between the Annunciation to Zachary in the Temple (6 months before the Annunciation to Mary) and the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple where the old man Simeon announces that he has seen the salvation that God has prepared before the face of all people, a light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of the people of Israel (Luke 2, 29-32).

“I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of Life.” (John 8, 12) Jesus has come to enlighten not only the chosen people but everyone on earth. The liturgy of today brings to closure the Christmas season. Christmas was the celebration of the irruption of the Light into the darkness of the world; Candlemas is the manifestation that salvation is for everyone and not only for the chosen people, that the Light has come to enlighten all men. Jesus did in fact exercise his ministry almost exclusively within his own people and salvation will be brought to the pagans only by the church he founded and mostly through the ministry of Paul, his chosen instrument, ‘the vessel of election’. The procession celebrates Jesus, the Light, who gave us a new life (grace) and dispelled the darkness of sin the day of our baptism. On that day a candle was lighted to symbolize this new life. Candles are also lighted during the reading of the Gospel and from the sanctus up to communion to acknowledge his presence among us either through his word or through the Eucharist.

Our Church News

- **Sunday the 1st of February** is the Fourth Sunday of Epiphany. The 8 am Mass is the Mass of the Sunday. However, at the 11 am Mass we will celebrate the External Solemnity of the Purification of Our Lady (Candlemas) with blessing of candles and procession followed by Mass. The proper is taken from the feast day on February 2.
- **Tuesday the 3rd of February:** feast of St. Blaise. After the 12:10 pm Mass, Father will bless throats using a special formula of the ritual for that day: “Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”
- **Fr. Eric Flood, FSSP**, the Superior of the North-American District of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, will be visiting us on the Week-end of February 14-15. You are all invited to a welcoming dinner in the church hall on Saturday 14 at 6 pm. It will be a bring-a-dish dinner. You will be able also to meet him on Sunday 15 after both Masses in the church hall. The meat-bar-be-cue chicken— will be supplied. Attendees are asked to bring a carry-in side dish to supplement the buffet table. Sign-up sheets will be available in the church and hall so that that we can have an approximate count of those attending.
- SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATION: Bishop George Lucas will confer the sacrament of Confirmation at St. Rose of Lima for the members of the Latin Mass Chaplaincy sometimes in the fall of 2009. We should have a precise date by the end of May. If you are an adult and you have not received the sacrament of confirmation, please let Fr. D. know. If you wish your child to receive the sacrament of confirmation without attending our confirmation class, please call the office to let us know. Father will test all candidates at least a month before the ceremony. If you are not a registered member of St. Rose of Lima, you will need a written permission from your pastor to be confirmed at St. Rose of Lima.
- As you may see, we have expanded somewhat the size of our **Church Bulletin**. We need a few more sponsors. If you have announcements you would like to share with our community, please let our Church Secretary know about it before the preceding Wednesday.
- Daily Latin-English Missals: Only 8 copies left at the reduced price of \$50 instead of \$60. The Missal is also available at Poppe’s at the regular price.
- The Muddy River Opera Company (whose Chairman is our own Choir Director, Mr. Jason Stone) will be rehearsing their upcoming show “Abe the Musical” in our church hall during the first two weeks of February. The Musical will be played on Friday 20 (8 pm) and Sunday 22 February (2 pm) at the Quincy Community Theater.
- Come and join us for **Coffee and Donuts** as usual after both Masses every Sunday.
- Thank you for your prayers for **Gerald Schutte**, who is now recovering at home after his double by-pass surgery.
- If you are interested in learning to serve, please contact Vince Wernowsky 217-653-3863 or Chuck Zanger 217-653-7554. If you are interested in singing in the Choir please call Jason Stone 217-316-1401.

News from the Church Community

- **First Friday Night Vigil** at St. Anthony of Padua Church, Quincy starting on February 6, from 8 pm to 2 am: 8:pm Confession and Rosary; 9 pm Mass of the Sacred Heart followed by silent adoration. Midnight : Rosary and benediction; 1 am Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- **February 11, 2009.** RIA Music Ministry will give a **recital at Curtis Creek Gracious Retirement Living** on 823 S. 36th at 7 pm. Tickets : \$10. For information call : 217-2219081. They will also be singing at O.L. of Lourdes Grotto, 4507 Ghost Hollow Rd at 1:30 pm during the ceremony in honor of Our Lady of Lourdes. RIA composes and records their own music.