

## From My Poor Heart

Feast of the Purification falls this Thursday. Now, the Feast Day is considered a Feast of the Lord, rather than one of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the emphasis these days being on the Presentation in the Temple. All the candles of the church will be blessed on this occasion. Small boxes of candles may be blessed for the faithful to use at home. For edification of the people the blessing of the candles may be repeated on the following Sunday without the Mass of the Feast Day. Purification of the BVM commemorates Mary's journey to the Temple at Jerusalem 40 days after the birth of her Divine Son in accordance with the Law of Moses. The purification was a special blessing given by the priest to new mothers. Two doves were sacrificed in connection with the blessing in those days. A similar beautiful and meaningful rite, the Churching of Women, is used in the Church. The feast is the last in the Christmas Cycle. Ideally, a procession would precede the blessing of candles and signifies that the Blessed Virgin traveled the long journey to Jerusalem in accordance with the Law. St. Anselm suggested that the candle wax signified the virginal flesh of Our Lord. The wick represented His Soul and the flame of the candle His Divinity. The faithful may traditionally bring their own candles, if they wish, to be blessed. Blessed candles are given to the faithful which are lighted and held during the Gospel and from the Sanctus to the Communion. When this feast is adequately explained and encouraged by the priests, the laity willingly participate in the procession, blessing of candles and Holy Mass. White vestments are worn during the blessing of candles and the procession. This coming Friday is Feast Day of St. Blaise and the customary blessing of throats will be made. It is important for Catholics to get the blessing from a priest, and place themselves under protection of St. Blaise and to ask for God's mercy to be spared diseases of the throat. St. Blaise was tortured and martyred for the Faith in 316. He was known for holiness and compassion and once saved the life of a child who was dying when a bone stuck in the child's throat. Through the saint's prayer, the bone was ejected from the child's throat as a sign of God's power and mercy.

It is interesting to note that St. Ignatius paraphrased Our Lord's Words, as recorded in Holy Scripture: "Amen, Amen I say to you, unless the grain of wheat falling into the ground, die, itself remaineth alone. But if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." **John 12, 24-26.** His name is inscribed in the Canon of the Mass and Feast is celebrated this coming Wednesday. Bishop of Antioch, St. Ignatius was taken to Rome for professing the Faith and sentenced to be thrown to the wild beasts in the Colosseum for the corrupt pleasure of the Romans. As he waited for his turn to be martyred, the saint said, "I am the wheat of Jesus Christ. May I be ground by the fangs of wild beasts and become a bread agreeable to my Lord Jesus Christ." His sentiments form the Communion prayer of the Mass.



**Weekly Mass Schedule**  
**8:00 a.m.; 9:30 (High Mass); 11:00 and 5:30 p.m.**  
**Tuesday Mass: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Wednesday Mass: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Thursday Mass: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Friday Mass: 6:30 p.m.**  
**First Saturday: 10:00 a.m.**

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**Blessed Virgin Mary,**  
**Our Mother, pray for**  
**our country, dedicated**  
**to thy Immaculate Con-**  
**ception.**

Dear Lord I wish only to receive Thee in Holy Communion. Thou art the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, the Word made flesh. When I receive Thee into my heart and soul, I offer my Holy Communion to the one God in three Divine Persons. I am grateful when I consider that divinity has surrounded me. In Thy teaching Thou didst remind us over and over again that God is our Father Who has given the very gift of life to us. He has shown His Love for me by forgiving my sins over and over again. I know that I am a child of God and an heir to Heaven. I am a lawful heir, the adopted son of God. The mansion in His Kingdom has already borne my name. My Lord Jesus, I know that Thou art the only begotten Son of God Who entered the world through the Pure Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In Communion Thou dost come to me, and Thou wilt enter the world through me. Lord Jesus, Thou didst send forth the Third Person of the Trinity, the Comforter and Spirit of light and consolation. He came to me in Confirmation and remains as the Source and Center of supernatural guidance. I will be a soldier of Christ with the living Grace and never deny Our Lord. Dear Jesus, I will begin all my prayers, each day and each important step in my life with a salutation to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. I will end with the prayer, "Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. Amen." I realize that God is my dear Father. His Son comes to me in the Holy Eucharist. The Holy Spirit blows across my soul as a breath of spring. I recall the personal intimacy with which God wraps me. Keep me always, Most Holy Trinity, within Thy Godhead. I offer Thee all my Communion. Please stay with me every minute of every day of my life.

**St. John**  
**Bosco**  
**Pray for Us**



Perpetual Help Weekly Bulletin  
Month of the Divine Infancy

IV Sun. After Epiphany—Feast of St. Francis de Sales, 29 JAN 2012, Vol. 5, No. 05

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Today is the Solemnity of the Feast of St. Francis de Sales, Principal Co-Patron of the Institute of Christ the King, Sovereign Priest, Doctor of the Church, with commemoration of the IV Sunday After Epiphany. There is a stained glass window in the chapel of the Saint. St. Francis was born in 1567 at the Castle of Sales near Annecy in Savoy. He preached the Roman Catholic Faith to the Calvinists of Chablais and over 60,000 souls were brought back to the Catholic Church. Later, he was Bishop of Geneva and founded the Order of the Visitation. The two most famous books written by the Saint were: *Introduction to the Devout Life* and *Treatise on the Love of God*. Pope Pius IX proclaimed him Doctor of the Church. **A plenary indulgence may be gained today, under the usual conditions, of confession and prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father.** Commemoration of IV Sunday After Epiphany. Proper Last Gospel of the Sunday.

**Last Sunday:** Souls in attendance totaled 263. Regular donations were \$2,104.00. Building Fund I donations were \$297.00. Funeral donations for David Webb totaled \$623.00. May the Holy Family confer many blessings upon each person for his generous donation.

**Mass Intentions:** On 26 JAN, Maria Shenkenberg (RIP), by Joan Jorgensen; on 29 JAN, Danny Cimino, by Pagduan Family, for David Webb (RIP), by Garton-Zavesky Family; Neven and Sarah Bacich, by Senka Bilan; 31 JAN, Connie Sardina, by Senka Bilan; 1 FEB Emil Hoppe (RIP), by Zeitz Family; 2 FEB, David Webb (RIP), by Chavira-Guerra Family; Stephanie and Katrina Zeitz, by Zeitz Family; 4 FEB, Stephanie and Katrina Zeitz, by Zeitz Family.

**Class Schedule:** 4 and 18 FEB, SAT, Catechism Classes, 3:30 p.m., First Communion; 4:00 p.m., Confirmation. On 13 FEB, MON, altar boy practice, followed by pizza, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. On 25 FEB, Theology Class for Adults, 4:00-5:00 p.m. At St. Clare's Rectory.

**Birthday Celebration:** Today for Canon Fragelli. Special cake will be served after the Masses today to honor the occasion. We are fortunate to have a wonderful and talented, spiritual and dedicated young priest serving us. Smiles and celebrations are one important aspect of showing our appreciation and respect for our priests. But, our prayers are necessary for every priest is a special target of the devil and has temptations not shared by the laity. So, please pray today and everyday for our priests, all of them, honor and respect and have charity and affection for them for they are taking the place of Our Lord Jesus Christ on earth, are loved by Him, were picked by Him, and are special sons of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Priests are the special target of atheists, the evil and satanic influenced members of society, who hate priests as they hate Jesus Himself and all that is holy. These individuals need to be prayed for as well.

**Today:** Mass in honor of St. Francis de Sales at Five Wounds Church, San Jose, CA, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**Church Debt:** Last week we started a drive to pay off the smaller of the two loans on the Oratory is about \$50,000.00. Pledges are being accepted now. Forms for the pledges are in back of the chapel. Lump sum payment may be made in amount of \$1,000.00, or pledge to make equal payments, until pledge is completed. Other amount may be pledged as well. So, please place your



trust in God that His House may be paid off entirely.

**Knights of Columbus:** Chris Garton-Zavosky is trying to form a Knights of Columbus Chapter, which needs 30 men to get going. Active Knights, and inactive Knights, and those wanting to be Knights, with our own Council at the Oratory, please e-mail to stisidore@prolifeamerica.com or telephone (408) 241-3299. This is a Catholic men's organization which can do much good for the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, and help those in need as well.

**Funeral Expenses:** Thank you for your generosity in helping to defray the cost of the funeral of David Webb. If you can donate something further, it would be most appreciated. Please use the Special envelopes in back of the church.

**Wisdom of St. Francis de Sales:** Always have a sincere hatred of the sins you confess, even if they are small, and a heartfelt resolution to amend. Some routinely and from mere habit confess their venial sins without thinking of correcting them, and continuing in them, lose much spiritual good. If therefore, you make an insincere confession through want of thought, hasty words, or self-indulgence, repent heartily and firmly to resolve to amend, for it is an abuse of the confessional to confess any sins, either mortal or venial, without resolving to discontinue them.

**Tuesday:** Silent adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar at 9:00 a.m., followed by Mass at 10:00 a.m., then Novena in honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help afterward. Feast day of the legendary St. John Bosco, Founder of the Salesian Order, who educated and took care of homeless boys.

**Wednesday:** Holy Mass begins at 10:00 a.m., followed by Novena to St. Anthony of Padua. Wonderful and inspiring Feast Day of St. Ignatius E. M. on WED, 1 FEB, an Apostolic Father of the Church, and contemporary of St. Polycarp, both Saints of whom were formed by the Apostles. The letters of St. Ignatius to the Churches of Asia Minor survive and are sources of precious inspiration. On 20 DEC 107 St. Ignatius suffered martyrdom in the Colosseum in Rome where he was thrown to the wild beasts. St. Ignatius was Bishop of Antioch, the See previously held by St. Peter. Tradition says St. Ignatius was one of the children held by Jesus and blessed by Him. After martyrdom, Christians collected the bones of St. Ignatius and returned them to Antioch. Later, they were sent to Rome. The name of St. Ignatius is inscribed in the Canon of the Holy Mass, and a slight bow is made by the priest at mention of his name. On hearing the roaring of the lions in the place of death, St. Ignatius commented, "I am the wheat of Jesus Christ. May I be ground by the fangs of wild beasts and become a bread agreeable to my Lord Jesus Christ." He truly loved the Cross and said, "Let fire, cross, beasts and all the torments of the devil come upon me so long as I enjoy Jesus Christ." His attitude must be our Catholic way also. It is a true fact that we must be ready to suffer insults and even death and imprisonment, if necessary, for our Catholic Faith. These days, as the world reverts to paganism, it seems inevitable that eventually Christians may again suffer martyrdom and may have to recede into the catacombs to worship.

**First Thursday:** Mass of the Purification of the BVM begins at 10:00 a.m., with blessing of candles.

**First Friday:** Votive Mass of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, 6:30 p.m., followed by Devotions in honor of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. **Blessing of Throats in honor of St. Blasé follows.**

**First Saturday:** Votive Mass of the Immaculate Heart of the BVM, 10:00 a.m., followed by Devotion to her Immaculate Heart, and commemoration of St. Andrew Corsini E. C.