

THE CARILLON

Newsletter of Church of The Holy Communion
Pro Cathedral – REC Diocese of Mid America
ACNA



January-February 2019

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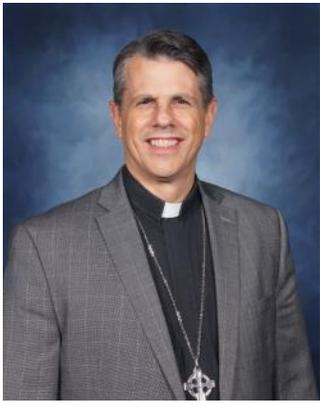
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HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

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RECTOR'S PAGE

February 2nd in the Church Calendar

If I were to ask the average American about the significance of February 2nd, I am willing to bet that the overwhelming majority of folks would recognize that it is Groundhog Day—a time when ordinary, otherwise sane people, watch a furry critter to determine how much longer winter is going to last! We have probably reached a new low with this—especially since this day has been revered by Christians for more than a millennium for a different reason.

St. Luke writes in his account of the gospel: “Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present *Him* to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the LORD’), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, ‘A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.’” (St. Luke 2:22-24)

This is the account of the Virgin Mary and Joseph taking baby Jesus to the Temple shortly after His birth—40 days after, to be precise. This was the moment when they encountered the venerable old man named Simeon, as well as Anna, the prophetess. We are able to calculate that this event took place on February 2nd by counting 40 days from December 25th (more on this in a moment). The Book of Common Prayer has this title for the feast day: “THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE, COMMONLY CALLED THE PURIFICATION OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN.” (BCP, 231.) The Prayer Book could just as easily have added a second “commonly called” title: Candlemas.

Why all of these names? The first two titles are derived directly from the Biblical text above. The Law in Leviticus taught that a woman who had given birth to a son was ceremonially unclean for a period of forty days. (Lev 12:2-8) At the end of those days, she was to bring an offering to the Tabernacle or Temple. This is where the forty-day calculation comes from—counting 40 days from Christmas you arrive at February 2nd. This is an important note because even though we know that the Blessed Virgin conceived and gave birth to Jesus in a miraculous way, she and her husband Joseph were devoted Israelites and sought to walk in obedience to the Mosaic Law.

The second name for February 2nd, The Presentation of Christ in the Temple, has to do with the redemption of the firstborn son, which was also required under the Law. In association with the first Passover, when the children of Israel were delivered out of bondage in Egypt following the final plague of the firstborn son, Israel was required to redeem their firstborn son with an offering. (Ex 13:1-16) Later on, when the tribe of Levi was chosen for the priesthood, then parents could pay the priest a tribute of five shekels to redeem their firstborn son. (Num 8:14-19; 18:15-16) This was the second reason for Mary and Joseph to visit the Temple that day—and once again, a demonstration that they were faithful Israelites seeking to walk in the Law.

The third title, Candlemas, is indirectly derived from St. Luke 2. Before Mary and Joseph arrived with baby Jesus, the LORD had already revealed to the venerable old man Simeon that he would not die until he saw the LORD's Messiah. In a remarkable statement of faith, he took the baby into his arms and proclaimed the canticle that we call the *Nunc Dimittis* (Latin for the first line, “Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart”). In the course of this prophetic song, Simeon says that Jesus was sent to be “a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.”

The Scriptures present fallen mankind as a “people who sit in darkness.” And the Savior is presented as the One who would bring us into the light. That is, this theme of *light* becomes a metaphor for salvation. The LORD made this explicit when he promised through Isaiah to send His servant who would be a “*light* to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my *salvation* unto the end of the earth.” (Isa 49:6) Simeon is echoing this very theme. With this theme in mind, the Church began to use this occasion to bless the candles used in the Church and even in the homes of parishioners. This is picking up on this theme of Christ being the light of the world. This is the rationale for the name “Candle-mass.”

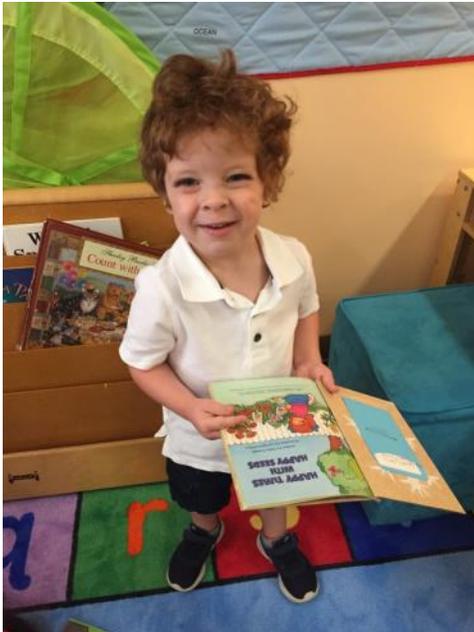
If you are able, I strongly encourage you to come and join us at noon on February 2nd for our Candlemas service, where we will be celebrating this important feast day. And if you would like, feel free to bring a candle that you intend to use this year in your home. There will be a table setup for you to place it on. We will bless it during the service and then you will be able to pick it up and take it home with you. This year let us take a pass on the frivolities of Groundhog Day and reclaim this important feast in the Church Calendar!

Holy Communion Christian Academy

January 17-February 28 is the HCCA 2019-2020 Priority enrollment for current students and members of the Church of Holy Communion. Contact Monica Dalton for paperwork and deposit information to secure a spot!



A snapshot of the days at HCCA!





Text Giving

We are happy to announce more options for giving to Church of the Holy Communion that may be more convenient for you. You now have the option to give by text! The information will be included in the weekly bulletin for you.

For non-pledged giving, text **Give** to 972-200-3981

For pledged giving, text **Pledge** to 972-200-3981



QR (Quick Response) Code Giving

Another new method of giving is by scanning the QR code below with your smart phone! This option will be accessible in the weekly bulletins also.



AROUND OUR PARISH

The Prime Timer's Christmas Event on Dec. 1 was a beautiful depiction of the Blessed Event featuring Linda Frost Clark and Paula McNeill.



The December 2018 Youth Choir Retreat was fun and productive. The musical visitor was William Bawcombe-Schast! William has grown up singing in the Anglican Church and School Choirs since age 4, as a Treble, under Candace's direction. He studied Suzuki Violin for 7 years. He now studies percussion with the FWSO timpanist, and enjoys marching in the Nolan Catholic High School Band in FW. Thank you for attending the choir retreat William!



AROUND OUR PARISH

Blessing of the Pledges for 2019



Deacon Marcus Bell sets the stage for a special visit from St. Nicholas.



The tree is adorned with Chrismons.





AROUND OUR PARISH

Lessons and Carols



AROUND OUR PARISH



Christmas Eve
Family Eucharist





UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 14	6:00pm	Miller Hall	Ladies Bunco
Jan. 18	6:30pm	Miller Hall	Friday Fun Night
Jan. 10	10:00am	Church-Lunt	March for Life Service and Brunch at CHC before the March
Jan. 19	12:30pm		North Texas March for Life
Jan. 20			Sanctity of Life Sunday
Jan. 21	6:30pm	Lunt Hall	Women, Wine, and Wisdom
Jan. 25	12:00pm		Conversion of St. Paul Eucharist
Jan. 26	10:00am	Lunt Hall	HCW Valentine Craft Making for Collinwood
Jan. 26	10:00am	Edman Bldg	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Jan. 27	9:00am		One Service/ Annual Parish Meeting
Feb. 2	11:00am	Collinwood NH	Delivery of crafts to Collinwood Nursing Home
Feb. 2	12:00pm		Presentation of Christ in the Temple Eucharist
Feb. 3	10:15am	Edman Bldg	Youth Confirmation Classes Begin
Feb. 3	12:30pm	Ivy Kitchen	Sunday Lunch Bunch
Feb. 4	6:00pm	Miller Hall	Ladies Bunco
Feb. 4	6:30pm	Lunt Hall	Theology on Tap
Feb. 8-10		Library	Cranmer Theological House Course
Feb. 15	6:30pm	Miller Hall	Friday Fun Night
Feb. 18	6:30pm	Lunt Hall	Women, Wine, and Wisdom
Feb. 22	8:00pm	Lunt Hall	Acoustic Coffee House featuring FAVOR
Feb. 23	10:00am	Edman Bldg	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Feb. 25	12:00pm		St. Matthias Eucharist
Feb. 28-Mar 1		CHC Campus	REC Diocesan Synod
Mar. 1	12:00pm	Lunt Hall	REC Women's Day Project Luncheon
Mar. 2	5:00pm	Lunt Hall	Prime Timer's Mardi Gras Dinner



Flowers on the Altar:

If you would like to remember a loved one on their birthday, anniversary, or a memorial- there is a sign up sheet in Lunt Hall. Your message will be placed in the Sunday bulletin. The suggested donation is \$50.00.

Happy Anniversary

Kathryn & Mark Piersall	Jan 02
Jennifer & Tristan Boyd	Jan 06
Melissa & Edward Fruin	Jan 09
Sharon & Brenton Drakeford	Jan 10
Jane & Robert Keith	Jan 26
Linda & Ted Cox	Feb 02
Madeleine & Doug Smith	Feb 11
Charlene & Jay Wolthausen	Feb 11
Noble Field & Donna Mallory	Feb 14
Christine & Timothy Javed	Feb 14
Nancy & Gordon Asher	Feb 15
Cheryl & Don Coney	Feb 26
Chris & Steve Vajgrt	Feb 27

