

The Forty Days of Mary's Purification are now completed, and she must go to the Temple, there to offer to God her Child Jesus. Before following the Son and his Mother in this mysterious journey, let us return to Bethlehem, in lovingly pondering over the mysteries at which we are going to assist.

The Law commanded that a woman who had given birth to a son should not approach the Tabernacle for a term of forty days; after which time she was to offer a sacrifice for her purification. She was to offer up a lamb as a holocaust, and a pigeon or turtle-dove as a sin-offering. But if she were poor, and could not provide a lamb, she was to offer in its stead a second pigeon or dove.

By another ordinance of the Law, every first-born son was to be considered as belonging to God, and was to be redeemed by five sickles, each sickle weighing, according to the standard of the Temple, twenty obols.(1)

Mary was the Daughter of Israel – she had given birth to Jesus – he was her First-born Son. Could such a Mother and such a Son be included in the laws we have just quoted? Was it becoming that Mary should observe them?

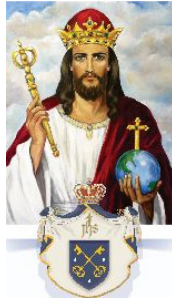
If she considered the spirit of these legal enactments, and why God required the ceremony of Purification, it was evident that she was not bound by them. They for whom these laws had been made were espoused to men; Mary was the chaste spouse of the Holy Ghost, a Virgin in conceiving and a Virgin in giving birth to her Son; her purity had ever been spotless as that of the Angels; but it received an incalculable increase by her carrying the God of all sanctity in her womb and bringing him into this world. Moreover, when she reflected upon her Child being the Creator and Sovereign Lord of all things, how could she suppose that he was to be submitted to the humiliation of being ransomed as a slave, whose life and person are not his own?

And yet the Holy Spirit revealed to Mary that she must comply with both these laws. She, the holy Mother of God, must go to the Temple like other Hebrew mothers, as though she had lost something which needed restoring by a legal sacrifice. He that is the son of God and son of Man must be treated in all things as though he were a servant and be ransomed in common with the poorest Jewish boy. Mary adores the will of God and embraces it with her whole heart.

(Thus & so, Dom Prosper continues with five more richly thought-filled pages.)

~ Dom Prosper Gueranger, OSB; *The Liturgical Year*, Vol. 3, Christmas Book II, p.462.

(1) One biblical sickle (also sicle or sheckle) weighed 0.40 oz. Therefore, five sickles would be two 2 ounces. As today's spot price for silver is \$30.42/oz, so Mary & Joseph would pay \$60.84 to redeem their Son, Who needed no redeeming! Hmm. If we consider the Child had no need of being redeemed, this is a rip-off! When we consider the Child is destined to redeem the world, it is a bargain price!



CHRIST THE KING Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls according to the liturgical books of 1962.

The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

February 2, 2025 A.D.

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Church Office Hours: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, Monday - Friday

Christ the King Catholic Church. Office: 941-924-2777
1900 Meadowood Street
Sarasota, FL 34231

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The Daily Mass Schedule is:

Monday at 12 noon.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:00 am and 9:00 am.

Friday at 9:00 am and 6:30 pm. (On Friday, a 5:30 pm Holy Hour & confession time, precedes the 6:30 pm Mass.)

Saturday at 9:00 am.

Sacramental Emergency: 941-400-5415

The Sunday Mass Schedule is:

7:00 am low; 8:30 am low; & 10:30 am sung & a seasonal 12:30 pm low Mass.

Items on the "Blessing Table" in the hall are blessed after the last Sunday Mass.

Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before Mass.

"Lost & Found" is in the vestibule; if not there, check with the office.

In Ocala:

Sunday Mass at 4:30 pm

Monday Mass at 7 am.

1st Saturday Mass at 10:30 am.

Scan to give



Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 02-02	The Purification of the BVM	2/W	
Mon 02-03	St Blaise, <i>Bishop & Martyr</i>	3/W	
Tues 02-04	St Andrew Corsini, <i>Bishop</i>	3/W	
Wed 02-05	St Agatha, <i>Virgin & Martyr</i>	3/R	
Thu 02-06	St Titus, <i>Bishop & Confessor</i>	3/W	St Dorothy
Fri 02-07	The Sacred Heart of Jesus	3/W	St Romuald
Sat 02-08	St John of Matha, <i>Confessor</i>	3/W	
Sun 02-09	5 th Sunday after Epiphany	2/G	



St Dorothy
St Romuald

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 02-02	(7 am) Abrams family living & deceasedrb B Abrams (8:30 am) Tilden family rb K Chagnon (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Amy Boerkoel rb J Simmons
Mon 02-03	(12 noon) Caroline & Carl Deitche++ rb M Pruitt
Tues 02-04	(7 am) a friend rb anonymous (9 am) Walt Branstetter+ rb M&B Kuziel
Wed 02-05	(7 am) Esther Sclesky+ rb K Kirsch & B Blake (9 am) Gene Weinmann+ rb J Weinmann
Thu 02-06	(7 pm) Tom Leonido+ rb C Byron (9 am) Thomas Fisher+ rb P Costo
Fri 02-07	(9 am) Cecilia Grube rb Grube family (6:30 pm) Charles Randall Priest+ rb M Priest
Sat 02-08	(9 am) Poor Souls in Purgatory rb L de Saizieu
Sun 02-09	(7 am) Thanksgiving to the BVM for answered prayers rb Fabyanic family (8:30 am) Robert+ & Barbara+ rb their sisters (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Conversion of sinners rb anonymous

Today's 10:30 am Mass: Candlemas prayers start on page 437 of the blue book; Procession hymns (handout); Mass IX, #731 & Credo III, #776; Exit: Ave Regina Caelorum, #951. **Candles will be blessed at this Mass;** you may place your candles to be blessed beneath the pulpit on or below the table.

This week, Monday, St Blaise throat blessing after Mass; St Theresa Devotions Guild (1-3 pm, hall/chapel), Vespers (4:30 pm), Adult Catechism (6-7 pm); **Tuesday,** Holy Face devotions (10:15 am); **Wednesday, Parish Finance Council (5 pm); Thursday,** staff meeting (3 pm), Vespers (4:30 pm), Adoration (5-8 pm), Confessions (5:30-6:30 pm); **1st Friday,** Vespers (4:30 pm), Holy Hour (5:30 pm), Mass (6:30 pm), Young Adults (7 pm); **Saturday,** Server practice (10 am), **Vespers (3 pm).**

Today, February 2nd, we begin Our Lady of Lourdes Novena for the needs of the FssP. We will end on February 11th with an Act of Consecration. Programs are available in the vestibule. Please take one per household.

Last Sunday's Collection: cash \$4,576.60; on-line \$1,484.00; CFA \$380.00.

Do This in Memory of Me: cash \$2,310.07.00; online \$890.00.

Total souls: 490; 7 am-58; 8:30 am-185 10:30 am-146; 12:30 pm-101; **Ocala-303.**

Please pray for: Markus Dixon, McNamara family, Rosemarie Carter (2/2); Lora Williamson (1/26); Cynthia Flamminio, Garrison Rainwater, Rick Miller (1/19); Aaron Pruitt, Steve Deitche, & Peggy LaBrecque (1/5).

Last Sunday was "Announcement Sunday" which began the 2025 Catholic Faith Appeal. Funds from this appeal support the diocese & its operations. Christ the King's assessment is \$113,000.00. Likely, you have received a mailing from our Bishop, the Most Rev. Frank Dewane, about the appeal.

This Sunday is "Preparation Sunday" which aims to raise awareness about the 2025 Catholic Faith Appeal & prepare us for "Commitment Sunday" (2/9) when we will be invited to pledge what we can towards satisfying Christ the King's assessment of \$113,000. Information and pledge envelopes are available on the end table near offertory box. Thank you for doing what you can.

Your 2024 contribution statements have been mailed.

Today, after each Mass, Corona Self-Help Center representatives will make themselves available to you in the social hall. This organization, also called *Drogadictos Anonimos*, offers residential addiction recovery programs, which include 12-step meetings, lectures, & workshops. They are approved by the diocese.

Also, today is the last day to obtain candles from the social hall.

Dear Faithful of Christ the King,

2/2/25

Thank you for your continued prayers, donations & pledges in support of our building project **Do This in Memory of Me.**

As you know, there have been changes to our building e.g., the church will be 35' at mid-roof; the bell tower will be 45' high; the baptistry is now in a niche along the right side of the lateral nave; the entry of the church has been modified to allow a very large narthex that will also work as a cry room; the elevator has been removed, leaving a metal stairway; the second floor outside terrace has been removed; & there is only a 2nd floor choir loft. Our architect thinks these changes will shave \$1.5 million off our total project cost.

Meanwhile, a virtual preapplication meeting with County staff is Feb. 6 at which our site plan will be presented. The actual meeting will be 3 to 6 months out.

Finally, once we have new hard numbers from our MEP (mechanical, electrical, plumbing) engineers, we will submit these to the bishop for his approval. God bless you & thank you, St Joseph, for hearing us! frh