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Presentation of the Lord • February 2, 2014

Good News!

February 2, 2014

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Mal 3:1-4 / Heb 2:14-18 / Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Parents who bring a new baby home bring also their hopes and dreams for the child. At the very least, we hope the child will be happy and healthy and will have better than we had. From there, we may harbor a secret hope that the child might create the cure for some disease, write a prize-winning novel, or bring peace to the world.

I did all of those things, and I also prayed I wouldn't mess things up too badly. That was a secret hope I didn't share with our children until they were much older and it already seemed I hadn't done too much damage.

I can only imagine what Mary and Joseph thought when they brought Jesus to the Temple. Even though the angel Gabriel had revealed their son's identity, did they look at him and see the refiner's fire of Malachi's prophecy?

It's possible, but I think they saw him more as their beloved child. Mary had been told her son would be great, but did she know everything that meant? That's hard to see when your child is an infant in your arms.

What we know is this: Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple, and two people who had been waiting all their lives for a sign from God took that child into their arms and into their hearts and saw in him the answer to their prayers and the fulfillment of their hopes.

In that moment, Mary and Joseph could simply hold their collective breath and pray for grace and strength to raise this child of God—and to hold their own hope out to him.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

By appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.

THIS WEEK**PRESENTATION OF THE LORD****FEB. 1—FEB. 2, 2014****SUNDAY — COFFEE SOCIAL AFTER MASSES**
USHERS GROUP II**SATURDAY, FEB. 1 —****4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for Joyce Bachl at the request of Ed Bachl**Coffee Social after 4 P.M. Mass in the Church Basement****SUNDAY, FEB. 2 —****7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for +Artha Marmaduke at the request of Jennifer and Phil Daly**CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY** after Mass**FAITH FORMATION CLASSES/breakfast available****10:00 A.M. —** Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church**CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY** after Mass**5:30 P.M.— LITURGY OF THE HOURS****MONDAY, FEB. 3 —****9:00 A.M.—** Mass offered for +James Bloznalis at the request of the Dean and Bloznalis families**5:00 P.M.—** Parish BINGO—Food available from 5 P.M. Games begin at 6:30 P.M. Jackpot \$250**TUESDAY, FEB. 4 —****9:00 A.M.—** Mass offered for +Samuel Guglielmino**7:15 P.M.— CHOIR REHEARSAL****WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5 —****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for +Margaret Fennelly request of Tony and Kathleen Conneely**THURSDAY, FEB. 6 — No Mass****FRIDAY, FEB. 7 — No Mass****7-9 P.M.—** Junior Youth Group The Disciples meets in Church basement**SATURDAY, FEB. 8 —****3:30 P.M. — ROSARY BEFORE 4 P.M. MASS****Last week's Offertory — January 26 — \$2,769****Last year's Offertory — January 27 — \$2,941***"...they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord."
Luke 2:22*

Do we give the Lord the first fruits of our time every week by attending Mass? Do we set an example for our children and grandchildren by attending Mass and joyously participating in the celebration of Mass each week? How do we know what God wants us to do unless we communicate with Him?

NEXT WEEK
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**FEB. 8—FEB. 9, 2014****MAINTENANCE COLLECTION****8:00—10:00 TRIPLE CAFÉ BREAKFAST—BLOOD PRESSURE**
SCREENING AVAILABLE
USHERS GROUP III**SATURDAY, FEB. 8 —****4:00 P.M.** Mass offered for +Gary Martin 5th Anniversary at the request of his sister, Linda LaChapelle*Altar Servers: Josh Meyers**Lector: Patti Cinea**Eucharistic Minister: Georgette Pelletier***Coffee Social after 4 P.M. Mass in the Church Basement****SUNDAY, FEB. 9 —****7:30 A.M.** Mass offered for +James P. Bloznalis at the request of Dean and Bloznalis families*Altar Servers: Lynn Mancino**Lector: Lynn Mancino**Eucharistic Minister:***CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY** after Mass**FAITH FORMATION CLASSES/breakfast available****10:00 A.M. —** Mass offered for All Parishioners of St. Maurice Church*Altar Servers: Alex Czercowy**Lector: Paul Brown**Eucharistic Minister: Sharon Scorso***CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY** after Mass**5:30 P.M.— LITURGY OF THE HOURS****MONDAY, FEB. 10 —****9:00 A.M.—** Mass offered for +Samuel Guglielmino**5:00 P.M.—** Parish BINGO—Food available from 5 P.M. Games begin at 6:30 P.M.**TUESDAY, FEB. 11 —****9:00 A.M.—** Mass offered for +Donald Holbrook at the request of Gloria Holbrook**7:15 P.M.— CHOIR REHEARSAL****WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12 —****9:00 A.M.** Mass offered for +John Garvan at the request of St. Maurice Fair Group**THURSDAY, FEB. 13 —****7:00 P.M.** Knights of Columbus business meeting**FRIDAY, FEB. 14 — No Mass****SATURDAY, FEB. 15 —** Mass offered for +John Garvan at the request of Marion Gelinias**3:30 P.M. — ROSARY BEFORE 4 P.M. MASS**

Readings for the Week of February 2, 2014

Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30--19:3/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16

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"New Day" Bereavement Support Group

Living through grief is not easy and it does not have to be done alone. St. Bridget's Church, Manchester offers "New Day" which is a nine week program for those who wish to do grief work with others having the same experience. This program provides a sense of community where support is given and received, and one feels at ease knowing that those attending have also had the pain of loss.

"New Day" is led by trained facilitators and includes prayer, discussion and journaling. Although, "New Day" is a faith-based program, all are welcome.

We are looking forward to holding our next session on Tuesday evenings beginning **February 11, 2014** from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the St. Bridget Parish Office, 80 Main St., Manchester. An afternoon session may also be offered.

Ski Visitor Weekend at the College of St. Mary Magdalen

The College of Saint Mary Magdalen is hosting its annual Ski Visitor Weekend for prospective students from February 20-23, 2014. There is no cost to attend. Students will have the ability to attend classes, stay in the dorms, eat in the dining hall, meet other prospective students, attend Mass, and go skiing at Pat's Peak in Henniker, NH. 511 Kearsarge Mountain Road, Warner, NH. Call 603.456.2656 for more information.

Healing Prayer Service at St. Andrew Church (Colchester)

Does someone you know need healing or prayer? The St. Andrew Healing Prayer Ministry offers a prayer service on the first Thursday of every month. All members of the community are invited to join us. If you need prayer, or know someone who needs prayer, come to St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT for this powerful evening on Thursday, February 6th at 6:30 p.m. The service will give participants an opportunity to join others in prayer, listen to scripture readings, confidentially offer personal prayer requests, praise God with uplifting music and, if desired, meet with a prayer team for personal prayer.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, has sent a letter to President Obama asking that, in light of concessions made to others in the implementation of the health care law, the administration also temporarily exempt religious institutions from crippling fines if their insurance plans exclude sterilization, abortion-inducing drugs and contraceptives.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the HHS mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in

FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving

On Sunday, February 9, 2014, the 17th Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Gift of Consecrated Life will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m., in the Cathedral of Saint Patrick, Norwich. All are invited to join Bishop Cote in thanking God for the gift of consecrated life and for the sisters, brothers, and religious priests who enrich the Church and build up God's Kingdom with the witness of their religious commitment. The homilist will be Father Robert Abbatiello, O. F.M. Cap., the former pastor of Saint Pius X Parish in Middletown and currently Pastor of Church of the Good Shepherd, New York City.

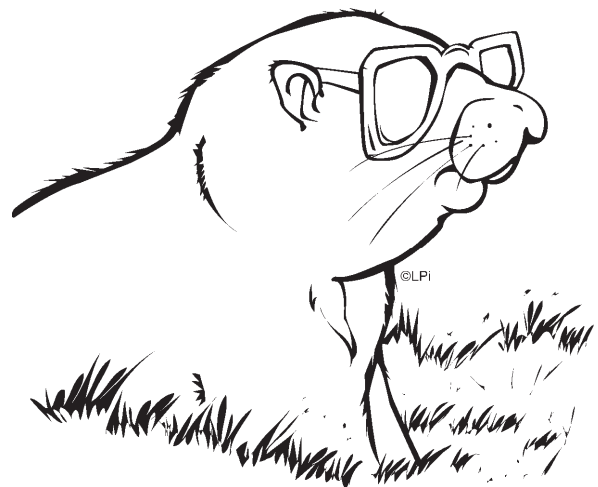
All are invited to participate in the Mass.

Marriage Preparation Upcoming Classes for Engaged Couples

"God's Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage". To register for a 3 session class call the Family Life Office at: 860-889-8346 ext. 283. Upcoming classes: Sat., Feb. 8, 15, 22, 9:30am-12:00pm, at St. Joseph Church, Occum. Fri. Mar. 7, 14, 21, 6:00pm-8:30pm, at St. Francis Church, Middletown. Sat. Mar. 15, 22, 29, 9:30am-12:00pm, at St. Matthew Church, Tolland.

World Marriage Day

Marriage is the centerpiece of God's creation. From there the future is created and families and faith are formed. National Marriage Week, February 7-14, began five years ago by the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops. World Marriage Day, Sunday, February 9th coincides with Valentine's Day and is designated as a day to honor the husband and wife as the foundation of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily, married life. Worldwide Marriage Encounter began the celebration of **World Marriage Day** in 1983. We celebrate the gift and blessings of your Marriage!



Happy Groundhog Day



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