

# St. Michael the Archangel

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Dear Parish Family,

These are the last days of the month of January. Time really flies fast! We say hello to the month of February and there two days are worth remembering in the first week of this soon to be here month.

First is the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the temple. It was the Jewish custom to present the child in the temple and to offer the necessary sacrifices according to the dictates of the law of Moses. In the old days, before you and I were born, the Presentation of the Lord was the official end of the Christmas season. Personally, I think I like that. Christmas is my favorite time of the year and though the Christmas songs after December 25th sounded worn out, my heart still lingers with the specialness of the season, and because of that it doesn't matter if the special days will end February 2nd.

Also this day is traditionally called Candlemas because of the blessing of candles inspired by the Song of Simeon that proclaims Jesus as the light of the world. If you have candles to be blessed, just bring them to the church and they will be blessed.

Then February 3rd is the feast day of St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr. On this day we have the traditional imposition of the Blessing of the Throats. With the pandemic still going on the blessing of the throats will not be done individually, but as a general blessing for all and will be done at all the masses this weekend.

I will be on retreat from February 1-5 at the Holy Name Retreat Center together with other priests in the Archdiocese. Please pray for all of us in this retreat!

God bless!

*Fr. Dwight*