

The Significance of the Presentation of the Lord

Traditionally, the Church has set aside Feb. 2 in observance of the Presentation of the Lord – or the day in which Joseph and Mary presented Jesus to the priests and elders in the Temple. For years, this feast – which in the United States is only formally celebrated when it falls on a Sunday – marked the end of the Christmas season. In old days, the Presentation was often referred to as “Candlemas” and was celebrated by a candle-lit procession into the church, signifying Christ as the “light of nations.” Known originally as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a relatively ancient celebration. We know that the Church at Jerusalem was observing the feast as early as the first half of the fourth century, and likely earlier. According to Jewish law, the firstborn male child belonged to God, and the parents had to “buy him back” on the 40th day after his birth, by offering a sacrifice of “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons” (Luke 2:24) in the temple — thus the “presentation” of the child. On that same day, the mother would be ritually purified — thus the “purification.” St. Mary and St. Joseph kept this law, even though, since St. Mary remained a virgin after the birth of Christ, she would not have had to go through ritual purification. In his Gospel, Luke (2:22-39) recounts the story. Originally, the feast was celebrated on Feb. 14, the 40th day after Epiphany (Jan. 6), because Christmas wasn’t yet celebrated as its own feast, and so the Nativity, Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord (Theophany), and the feast celebrating Christ’s first miracle at the wedding in Cana were all celebrated on the same day. By the last quarter of the fourth century, however, the Church at Rome had begun to celebrate the Nativity on Dec. 25, so the Feast of the Presentation was moved to Feb. 2, 40 days later. When Christ was presented in the temple, “there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel.” When St. Mary and St. Joseph brought Christ to the temple, Simeon embraced the Child and prayed the Cantic of Simeon: “Now thou dost dismiss thy servant, O Lord, according to thy word in peace; because my eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples: a light to the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel” (Luke 2:29-32). Because of the words of the cantic — “a light to the revelation of the Gentiles” — by the 11th century, the custom had developed in the West of blessing candles on the Feast of the Presentation. The candles were then lit, and a procession took place through the darkened church while the Cantic of Simeon was sung. Because of this, the feast also became known as Candlemas. Candlemas is still an important feast in many European countries.

Prayer for the Week

Dear Lord, as I approach this new week, I seek Your guidance. Help me navigate each day with wisdom and discernment. Grant me clarity in decision-making and the strength to align my choices with Your will. May Your light shine on my path, leading me away from distractions and toward the purposes You have set for me. Teach me to trust in Your plan and lean not on my understanding. Thank You for Your faithfulness in every season of my life. Amen.

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

X E P A T I E N T X U G D Y I F C
Z T P F F I M W G L V R E V N W I
N E V E R T I R I N G A C X F I N
J R F A I T H F U L X C A O I S C
X N N Z N P Y T I F N I R M N E O
M A S O V E R E I G N O D N I U M
E L L C A R B H W W J U Q I T R P
R W U G R I N F F K N S O P E U R
C I M B Y G H O L Y L W M R A O E
I X R P F H V N L P U P N E C Q H
F S S J N T M D X G I J I S X H E
U G Y H G E B V E Q B C P E T A N
L V I C T O R I O U S Y O N Q N S
K G O K N U G U V R W Y T T M M I
Q S E L F S U F F I C I E N T U B
I J O M N I S C I E N T N B J Z L
P J W W M W E K I M M U T A B L E

INCOMPREHENSIBLE	SELF-SUFFICIENT	OMNIPRESENT
NEVERTIRING	OMNISCIENT	OMNIPOTENT
VICTORIOUS	SOVEREIGN	RIGHTEOUS
IMMUTABLE	INFINITE	GRACIOUS
MERCIFUL	FAITHFUL	ETERNAL
PATIENT	HOLY	WISE

ST. ANSELM'S PARISH

BERNARD ROAD, FOX HILL / P.O. Box FH 14389, Nassau, Bahamas. / TEL (242) 324-1325 E-mail address: stanselm@batelnet.bs; Website address:stanselmbahamas.org; Youtube chanel:StanselmsBahamas; Facebook address: Facebook.com/stanselmsparish.



St. Anselm is a Catholic faith community centered in the Eucharist, seeking to live the love of God through worship, word and service.

“Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!”

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice. (Cf. Psalm 48[47]:10-11)

2nd February 2025

The Presentation of the Lord

1st Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 24:7,8,9,10

2nd Reading Hebrews 2:14-18

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

9th February 2025

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 6: 1-2a, 3-8

Resp Ps:138: 1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8

2nd Reading: 1 Cor. 15: 1-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11



Most Rev. Patrick C. Pinder, S.T.D., C.M.G. KC*HS
Archbishop of Nassau.
Fr. Noël Clarke, Pastor
Rev. Mr. Ricardo Demeritte, Deacon
~~~~~

**MASS SCHEDULE:**  
**SUNDAYS:** 7.00am & 9.00am  
**WEEKDAYS:** 6.15 am  
**Wednesdays - Adoration at 5.30pm & Mass**  
**HOLIDAYS:** 8.00 a.m.  
**Bible Study Monday 6.15pm—**  
**Virtual (CONFESSIONS:**  
**SUNDAY: by appointment**  
~~~~~  
BAPTISMS: Call Parish Office to arrange

A WARM AND LOVING WELCOME TO ALL OUR VISITORS !

Please come again and if you would like to become a member, our contacts are listed above.

To our members, We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers!



Let us Pray

Father, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness or disease, realize that they are chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. Amen.

Cheryl Albury, Leonard Bain, Shimonte Bain, Guy-Philip Bain, Paul Barnett Sr., Agnist Burrows, Carol & Sylvia Edgecombe, Michael Farrington, Insa Frith, Larry Higgs, Patricia Higgs, Monique Johnson, Creola Kelly, Daphne Kerr, Annette Knowles, Patricia Knowles, Terrance Knowles, Ida Major, Dellareese McPhee, Drucilla Moss, Saintalus Paul, Tanya Pinder-Carey, Agatha Pratt, Martha Roberts, Kyandre Sands, Jayde Smith, Mable Smith, Juanita Symonette, Jacinta White, Anastina Wilson and Monique Young, the imprisoned, the homebound, the hospitalized and persons in the Geriatrics Hospital. (If you, or a member of your family is ill, or if you know of a parishioner that is ill, please notify the parish office).

Daily Scripture Reading

3 February 2025 – Monday

St. Blase, Bishop, Bishop & Martyr, St. Ansgar, Bishop

1st Reading: Hebrews 11: 32-40

Resp Ps:31: 20, 21, 22, 23, 24

Gospel: Mark 5: 1-20

4 February 2025 – Tuesday

1st Reading: Hebrews 12: 1-4

Resp Ps: 22: 26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32

Gospel: Mark 5: 21-43

5 February 2025 – Wednesday

St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

1st Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 or Hebrews 12: 4-7, 11-15

Resp Ps:31 or Ps: 103: 1-2, 13-14, 17-18a

Gospel: Luke 9: 23-26 or Mark 6: 1-6

6 February 2025 – Thursday

St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs

1st Reading: Galatians 2: 19-20 or Hebrews 12: 18-19, 21-24

Resp Ps: 126 or Ps: 48: 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20 or Mark 6: 7-13

7 February 2025 – Friday

1st Reading: Hebrews 13: 1-8

Resp Ps: 27: 1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc

Gospel: Mark 6: 14-29

8 February 2025 – Saturday

St. Jerome Emiliani, Priest & St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

1st Reading: Hebrews 13: 15-17, 20-21

Resp Ps:23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

Gospel: Mark 6: 30-34



Happy Birthday Greetings to...

Knowles Jr., Rashad Cash, (Today)

Clarence Ferguson, (Mon) Khe'Anna McCartney, (Tues) Tristan Tucker (Wed) Pedro Demeritte, Raymond Johnson, Jacklyn Sealey, Annette Bain (Fri) Barbara Marshall, James King II, Lothario Rose, Valicia Demeritte (Sat). and to all celebrating this week!

Commentators & Lectors

The Presentation of the Lord- February 2nd

7:00am— Barbara Turnquest—1st Reader

— Alexia Edgecombe—2nd Reader/Commentator

9:00am — Chaunece Saunders—1st Reader

— Kevin Fernander—2nd Reader/Commentator

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 9th

7:00am— Rose Burton —1st Reader/Commentator

— Vann Gaitor —2nd Reader

9:00am— Julie Bingham—1st Reader/Commentator

— Brianne Gibson —2nd Reader

Happy Wedding Anniversary

The parish community extends Happy Wedding Anniversary to:

Cale & Keturah Demeritte celebrating their 8th on Tuesday the 4th.

Frederick & Dominique White celebrating their 28th on Saturday the 8th.

David & Doris Wood celebrating their 50th on Saturday the 8th.

Prayerful Sympathy

Prayerful sympathy to Alexandria Taylor and family on the death of her mother Julie Kemp who died on Sunday 26th January 2025. Funeral services to be announced. May her soul rest in peace.

Reflecting on the Word

Presenting Jesus

They bring Jesus to the temple to be “presented to the Lord,” for he is “the Anointed of the Lord.” One way of responding to this event is to reflect on our own ‘presentation of the Lord.’ How do we present Jesus Christ to others? Is the Jesus we present to others a convenient cover for a life of personal misbehavior and social indifference, or is he “the king of glory” whose person and teachings should govern us individually and collectively? Do we present Jesus to others on such a pedestal that people can dismiss his example as unreasonable expectation, or is he “like his brothers in every way,” one of us, a brother human whose love of justice and peace can and should be imitated? Is the Jesus we present to others an indictment of them, or is he God’s “saving deed displayed for all the peoples to see,” the Messiah who rescues us from our personal and social sinfulness? Is the Jesus we present to others a support for our dealings with death, our wars, abortions, and death penalties, or is he “a lamb without blemish (offered) for the life of the world”? Is the Jesus we present others a special ‘god’ for the privileged, or is he “the light of all peoples,” including people who are weak and outcast? God’s Word, through whom all things were made, was himself made flesh and dwelt on man’s earth. Thus he entered the world’s history as a perfect man, taking that history up into himself and summarizing it. He himself revealed to us that ‘God is love’ (I John 4:8) and at the same time taught us that the new command of love was the basic law of human perfection and hence of the world’s transformation. To those, therefore, who believe in divine love, he gives assurance that the way of love lies open to men and that the effort to establish a universal brotherhood is not a hopeless one.

~Vatican II, Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, 1965: 38 Gerald Darring.~

ARCHDIOCESE OF NASSAU

Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Get on the Bus will be held this coming Friday, February 7th at Our Lady of Holy Souls Parish, Young & Deveaux Street from 7:30pm to 10:00pm. Please contact your Parish Office or Parish Youth Ministry/CCD Team for further information and/or waiver forms.

Marriage Renewal Weekend

“A weekend to Remember.. An experience you will never forget.... Will be held on the weekend of February 14th - 16th, at Emmaus Center. Registration fee: Early Bird \$200, per couple, Regular \$250. interested persons can contact 328-4312 or 322-2564 or Joseph & Terez Curry for more information.

Memory Verse

Prov 3:5: Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.