

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 \$22.38/oz, so Mary & Joseph would pay \$44.76 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.

Septuagesima Sunday

January 28, 2024, A.D.

Pastor: Fr. Chris Hathaway, FssP
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Assistant: Fr. Vince Huber, FssP
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Secretary: Susan Hemeryck
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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.

Sarasota "Lost & Found" now located in the vestibule; or check with the office if not found.

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 01-28	Septuagesima Sunday	2/V
Mon 01-29	St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor	3/W
Tues 01-30	St Martina, Virgin & Martyr	3/R
Wed 01-31	St John Bosco, Confessor	3/W
Thu 02-01	St Ignatius, Bishop & Martyr	3/R
Fri 02-02	Purification of BVM	2/W
Sat 02-03	Immaculate Heart of Mary	3/W
Sun 02-04	Sexagesima Sunday	2/V



St Blaise

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 01-28	(7 am) Victor Milana+ (8:30 am) Phyllis M Meyer+ (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) FssP & Preservation of TLM	rb M Milana rb Steindorf family
Mon 01-29	(12 pm) Joseph G Quigg+	rb C&M Lawton
Tues 01-30	(7 am) Emilia & Maisie Ruane (9 am) Ryan Bain	rb T&M Ruane rb A Young
Wed 01-31	(7 am) Marques D Rodriguez+ (9 am) Fr Peter Chu	rb R Hoops rb N Truong
Thu 02-01	(7 am) A Poor Soul who has no one to pray for them (9 am) Conversion of a soul	rb M&K Weber rb anonymous
Fri 02-02	(9 am) In thanksgiving to O.L. Undoer of Knots (6:30 pm) My sisters	rb a devoted servant rb K.D.
Sat 02-03	(9 am) In honor of BVM	rb a friend
Sun 02-04	(7 am) Abigail, Lillian, Luke Ruane (8:30 am) CtK parishioners (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Carol Strong	rb T&M Ruane rb M/M JP Marchand

Today's 10:30 am Mass Entr: Jesus My Lord, My God, My All, #899; Asperges, #567; Mass VIII, #727 & Credo III, #776; Exit: *Alma Redemptoris*, #947.

Candlemas (Feb. 2): Entr: *O Sanctissima*, #915; Blessing of Candles, Procession & Mass, #437; Mass IX, #731 & Credo III, #776; Exit: *Ave Regina Caelorum*, #951.

Today, "Announcement Sunday," begins the 2024 Catholic Faith Appeal. Funds obtained from this appeal support the diocese and its operations. This year, Christ the King's assessment is \$113,000.00. This week, please look forward to a mailing from our Bishop, the Most Rev. Frank Dewane, about the appeal. In the coming weeks, we will hear more on this appeal & be invited to pledge what we can towards our goal.

Last Sunday's Collection: cash \$4,539.10; on-line \$1,118.00; CFA \$260.00.
Total souls: 488: 7 am-48; 8:30 am-162; 10:30 am-185; 12:30 pm-93. (*Ocala*, 351)

This week, Monday, Vespers (4:30 pm); Tuesday, Holy Face devotions (10:15 am), **Women's Book Club** (6:30-8 pm); Thursday, Vespers (4:30 pm), adoration (5-8 pm); 1st Friday, Mass followed by devotions (9 am), staff meeting (3:30 pm), Vespers (4:30 pm), Holy Hour (5:30 pm), **Blessing of Candles (identify & put your candles beneath the pulpit)** followed by Mass (6:30 pm); 1st Saturday, Mass followed by throat blessings then 1st Sat. devotions (9 am), Vespers (4:30 pm).

Please pray for: Mary Meza (1/21); Steve Perkins (1/14); Eileen McClain, Leo Labrecque, Danielle Hurley; Steindorf family (1/7); & Wis family.

2023 Tax Statements have been mailed. If you donated \$250 or more to CtK (not including CFA, which statements are sent by the diocese) and do not receive one, please contact the office.

2023 Blessed Palms may be placed in the vestibule (in the marked tub). These will be used for Ash Wednesday.

Holy Face novena begins Sunday, Feb. 4 & ends Monday, Feb. 12. See prayers at <http://theholysface.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Holy-Face-9Day-Novena.pdf>

In time for Candlemas, 100% beeswax candles will be blessed on Friday, Feb. 2 at the 6:30 pm Mass. As their fund raiser, the Young Adults will make available the blessed candles, for a free-will offering, after each Mass on Sunday Feb. 4. Suggested offerings are: 7-inch pillar, \$20/each; votive candle \$4/each; & glass holders \$10/each. Limited supply.

The Season of Septuagesima (this year, Jan. 28-Feb. 13) prepares us for Lent; it is a time to stretch-out & warm-up the muscles of our soul... to run the race. The Gospel of Septuagesima Sunday (70 days before Easter) recalls the Vineyard & laborers called to work it. Consider the *vineyard* the soul and the time of my calling to work it for the service of God. Have I improved? Have I fruits? Have I been leaning on the shovel? Next Sunday, Sexagesima (60) Sunday, the Gospel features the good Seed sown upon various kinds of ground. How does my heart receive the Word of God? Am I vigilant against *the birds of the air*, and the cares & riches & pleasures of this world, from hindering its fruit? What do I need to improve on? Finally, in the Gospel for Quinquagesima (50) Sunday, JESUS foretells His Passion but the apostles do not understand Him; afterwards, to a blind man who cries out to Him, He asks: *What will thou that I do to thee?* Thus, at the threshold of Lent, we are given to ask the Good JESUS to cure us of all spiritual blindness so as to see the course we must take to run with profit... not as one *fighting the air*. [**Also**, from now until Easter, "Alleluia" is suppressed wherever it occurs in the liturgy.]

Up-date on CtK extension plan: No response from the diocese to CtK's 1/2/24 letter.