

# Interfaith Airport Chapels of Chicago

## Chicago Midway and O'Hare International Airports



P.O. Box 66353 • Chicago, Illinois 60666-0353 • (773) 686-AMEN (2636) • [www.airportchapels.org](http://www.airportchapels.org)

### Week of February 2 — February 8, 2025

#### WELCOME TO THE INTERFAITH AIRPORT CHAPELS OF CHICAGO!



The O'Hare Airport Chapel and Midway Airport Chapel are each a peaceful oasis in a busy venue. A place to bow your head in prayer while lifting up your heart and spirit! Prayer books and rugs, rosaries, and worship materials are available, as are chaplains for spiritual counsel. You are welcome to attend Mass or Worship services and to come to the chapels (open 24/7) to pray or meditate. Know that you & your families are always in my prayers. May God bless your travels.

— **Fr. Michael Zaniolo**

Administrator, Interfaith Airport Chapels of Chicago  
Roman Catholic Chaplain, Chicago Airports Catholic Chaplaincy

### Chapel Staff Birthdays & Anniversaries

Best wishes to **John & Susan Schneider** on their wedding anniversary this Thursday, **Feb. 6**.

### Feast of St. Blaise & Blessing of Throats

During the 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass at O'Hare this **Monday, Feb. 3**, there will be a special blessing of the throats for the Feast of St. Blaise. St. Blaise was a fourth-century bishop of Sebaste (modern Armenia). "We know more about the devotion to St. Blaise by Christians around the world than we know about the saint himself," according to Leonard Foley, OFM, in *Saint of the Day*. "His feast is observed as a holy day in some Eastern Churches. The Council of Oxford, in 1222, prohibited servile labor in England on Blaise's feast day. The Germans and Slavs hold him in special honor and for decades many United States Catholics have sought the annual St. Blaise blessing for their throats. We know that Bishop Blaise was martyred in his episcopal city of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary Acts of St. Blaise were written 400 years later. According to them Blaise was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blaise was apparently forced to flee to the back country. There he lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer, but he made friends with the wild animals. One day a group of hunters seeking wild animals for the amphitheater stumbled upon Blaise's cave. They were first surprised and then frightened. The bishop was kneeling in prayer surrounded by patiently waiting wolves, lions and bears. As the hunters hauled Blaise off to prison, the legend has it, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command the child was able to cough up the bone. Agricolaus, governor of Cappadocia, tried to persuade Blaise to sacrifice to pagan idols. The first time Blaise refused, he was beaten. The next time he was suspended from a tree and his flesh torn with iron combs or rakes. Finally, he was beheaded."



#### ORD Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

- 02/01/25** 4:00 p.m. † **Francis "Frank" H. Hamill** req. Judith Hamill & Thomas Jaconetty  
6:00 p.m. † **Lauren Gustafson** req. by Friends  
† **Francis & Jean Heger** req. by Marcine & John Forrette, Jr.
- 02/02/25** 9:00 a.m. † **Marilyn Criss** req. by Judith Hamill & Thomas Jaconetty  
11:00 a.m. ●/† **Lundstrom Family Living & Deceased** by Karin Lovejoy  
† **Beth Meyers** req. by Laura Cruz
- 02/03/25** 11:30 a.m. † **Roman Chmiele**  
**02/04/25** 11:30 a.m. † **Adam Joab Alwyn** req. by Alwyn Joshy  
**02/05/25** 11:30 a.m. ● **Catherine Coslick** req. by Carl Coslick  
**02/06/25** 11:30 a.m. ● **John & Susan Schneider Wedding Anniv.** by Carl Coslick  
**02/07/25** 11:30 a.m. † **Chanch Sabu** req. by Alwyn Joshy

#### MDW Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

- 02/02/25** 9:00 a.m. ● **Warren Bloom** req. by Beecher Family  
11:00 a.m. † **Robert Lee Ingalls, Sr.** req. by Robert Ingalls, Jr.  
● **Margaret Garner Family** req. by Margaret Garner

● Denotes Living/Special Intention † Denotes Deceased/Memorial

### The Presentation of the Lord — February 2, 2025

He had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way. — *Hebrews 2:17a*

#### A CHRISTMAS REPRISÉ

The Church's celebration three weeks ago of the Baptism of the Lord signaled the "official" end of the Christmas season. Today's feast of the Presentation of the Lord seems to extend the Incarnation celebration a bit longer. In fact, some have called this feast a "second Epiphany."



The first reading recalls the anticipation of Advent, as Malachi writes, "Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me." The reading from Hebrews reminds us of the Incarnation, proclaiming that Jesus had a "share" in our own "blood and flesh." The Gospel finds the infant Jesus on his first visit to Jerusalem and his human parents once again surprised and in awe over the events surround his birth.

In the simplicity of the manger, in the grandeur of the temple, in the domesticity of Nazareth, Jesus comes. May we come to know him and so be filled with "wisdom" and the "favor of God." Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

#### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — There will come to the temple the LORD whom you seek (Malachi 3:1-4).

**Psalm** — Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord! (Psalm 24).

**Second Reading** — Jesus had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way to help the descendants of Abraham (Hebrews 2:14-18).

**Gospel** — The just and pious Simeon proclaims the infant Jesus to be a revealing light to the Gentiles, the glory of the people Israel (Luke 2:22-40 [22-32]).

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday:** Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

**Tuesday:** Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32; Mk 5:21-43

**Wednesday:** Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday:** Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13

**Friday:** Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday:** Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34

**Sunday:** Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138:1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11 [3-8, 11]; Lk 5:1-11

### Treasures from Our Tradition

By Candlemas, forty days after Christmas, February 2, the season of Christ's coming has depleted our candle supply. Soon, the parish will order a new paschal candle from a catalogue or candlemaker, or in some communities, wax will be collected to be melted and molded. Last year's paschal candle shows the wear and tear of summer heat, or many funerals or baptisms.

Paschal candles have been around since at least the fourth century, when Constantine's biographer Eusebius reported that the night of the sacred vigil was "transformed into the brilliancy of day, by lighting throughout the city pillars of wax, while burning lamps in every place so that the splendor of this night was brighter than the brightest daylight."

Light was a precious commodity in the ancient world, and this lavish use of precious beeswax was a sign of the Christian's call to bear Christ's light into the world's darkness. In a pre-electric age, a whole city aglow from the paschal flame must have been a glorious sight, and a reminder to every baptized Christian of our vocation to "be the light of the world." —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



"There is but one road to lead us to God—humility; all other ways would only lead astray, even were they fenced in with all virtues."

—Nicolas Boileau-Despreaux

Rev. Fr. Michael G. Zaniolo, STL, CAC — Administrator/Catholic Chaplain  
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago

Mr. Qazi M. Biabani — Imam Khateeb/Muslim Chaplain

Muslim Community Center of Chicago

Rev. Dr. Hutz H. Hertzberg — Protestant Chaplain

The Moody Church of Chicago

Mrs. Susan E. Schneider, CAP — Office/Business Manager/Fund Raiser

Mr. Michael Brennan — Bulletin Editor



# This Week in the Life of the Church — Feast Days and Notable Events in Church History

## Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025 - Presentation of the Lord

**+ We Remember:** The **PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**, formerly called the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, also **Candlemas**, commemorates the presentation of Jesus in the Temple - according to prescriptions of Mosaic Law (**Lv. 12:2-8; Ex. 13:2; Lk. 2:22-32**) - and the purification of Mary 40 days after His birth. "In the East, where the feast antedated **4th Century** testimony regarding its existence, it was observed primarily as a feast of Our Lord; in the West, where it was adopted later, it was regarded more as a feast of Mary, until the calendar in effect since **1970**. Its date was set for **Feb. 2** after the celebration of Christmas was fixed for **Dec. 25**, late in the 4th century. The blessing of candles, probably in commemoration of Christ who was the Light to enlighten the Gentiles, became common about the **11th century** and gave the feast the secondary name of **Candlemas**." (Catholic Almanac) "In the Old Testament, purification rites cleansed people who had contracted a legal uncleanness through an impurity such as a skin disease, or though contact with the divine, as in childbirth," says *Encyclopedia of Catholicism*. "Jesus Christ emphasized the importance of faith and loving service of brothers and sisters rather than ritual purifications." The second chapter of the Gospel of Luke is proclaimed, in which Simeon calls Jesus "a light to the nations." "The use of candles was introduced in Jerusalem in the mid-fifth century by a Roman matron. Although the Christmas season officially ends after the Epiphany (January 6) with the feast of Our Lord's Baptism, Candlemas is sometimes identified as the formal ending of the Christmas cycle." **+ALFRED DELP (1907-1945), Jesuit priest and martyr**, was arrested by the Gestapo in 1944. "My offense is that I believed in Germany and her eventual emergence from this dark hour of error and distress, that I refused to accept that accumulation of arrogance, pride, and force that is the Nazi way of life, and that I did this as a Christian and a Jesuit," he wrote. Imprisoned in chains in a dark cell, he wrote a final message to friends: "If through one man's life there is a little more love and kindness, a little more light and truth in the world, then he will not have lived in vain." Father Delp was hanged in the Plötzensee prison on this day in 1945. (AS)

## Monday, Feb. 3, 2025

**+ We Remember:** The feast of **St. Blaise** (died c. 316), bishop and martyr, has for centuries included the **Blessing of Throats**, the practice of placing two crossed candles, accompanied by the recitation of a prayer, on the throats of the faithful. St. Blaise was a fourth-century bishop of Sebaste (modern Armenia), according to the HarperCollins Encyclopedia of Catholicism. "When Diocletian ordered the persecution of Christians, Blaise hid in a forest. Legend describes wild animals gathering in his cave where, unharmed, he fed them all. When hunters came upon his hiding place and saw him surrounded by lions and bears, they decided he was a magician and took him captive. While in prison, he saved the life of a boy who was choking on a fishbone. The boy's mother rewarded Blaise with food and candles. Blaise was later beheaded. After his martyrdom he was invoked, as one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers, on behalf of people suffering from throat infections." The blessing of throats began in the **16th century** when veneration for St. Blaise was at its peak. Today we also commemorate **+ ST. ANSGAR (801-865)**, the first Christian missionary to Scandinavia, called "**The Apostle of the North**," he was a French monk named bishop and papal legate to all Scandinavian lands. His success was due to his great preaching ability, the austerity and holiness of his life, and the miracles he is reputed to have performed. (E,V) • In **590**, **Pope Gregory the Great** sent **St. Augustine** to convert the Anglo-Saxons. **+ In 993, St. Ulrich of Augsburg** became the first saint canonized by a pope of which there is record. **+ Pope John XV** - at the Lateran Basilica in Rome during a synod of bishops. **+ St. Aelred of Rievaulx (1110-1167)** is observed today in Cistercian monasteries. During the term of this great abbot, the Abbey of Rievaulx grew to include more than 600 monks, making it the largest religious community in England. The monastery was one of the casualties of Henry VIII's reign. Aelred died January 12, 1167. (AS) • In **1518, Pope Leo X** imposed silence on the Augustinian monks, **Martin Luther's** religious order.

## Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025

**+ We Remember:** **St. Andrew Corsini (1302-1373)** was born in Florence. Before he was born, his mother dreamed she gave birth to a wolf that turned into a lamb when it entered a Carmelite church, and thus was the path of Andrew Corsini. His youth was violent and dissolute, but in 1318 he joined the Carmelites, studied in Paris and Avignon, and embarked on a life of austere penance. Known as a father of the poor and a mediator between quarrelsome Italian states of that time, Andrew became a bishop in 1360. A patron of peacemakers, he is also invoked against sudden death and quarrels. **+ St. Jane of Valois (1461-1504)**, though daughter of a king, suffered humiliation and banishment from the palace because her father had wanted a son, and because she was deformed. On top of that, she was married against her desire to Louis, Duke of Orleans, who became king of France and promptly separated from Jane, obtaining an annulment. But at an early age, Jane had offered her heart to God, and longed to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in some special way. Grateful that she went away quietly, the king gave his wife a lot of property. She retired to a life of deep prayer at Bourges, giving her great revenues to charity. In **1500**, with her spiritual director, the Franciscan Bl. Gabriel Mary, she founded the order of nuns of the Annunciation. Jane built and endowed the first convent of the new Order and died in 1504. There was one last indignity visited upon her in death - the **Huguenots** burned her remains in **1562**. She was canonized by **Pope Clement XII** in 1738. (B) **+ St. Gilbert of Sempringham (1083-1189)** died on this day in **1189**, more than 100 years

old. Son of a Norman knight and English mother, we remember him as the founder of the only religious order to originate in England - the **Gilbertine Order**. Gilbert was canonized by **Pope Innocent III** in 1202. (OCY, B) **+ St. John of Britto (1647-1693)**, patron of Portugal, was a great Jesuit missionary to the people of India. His methods were unconventional and enlightened - for example, he adopted the dress, diet, and lifestyle of the locals, inasmuch as possible. He was canonized in **1947**. (B)

## Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025 - St. Agatha

**+ We Remember:** **ST. AGATHA**, Virgin and Martyr, died about the year **251**. She is patroness of nurses and invoked against breast diseases, fires, and volcanic eruptions. Her name in Greek means "good." The story of Agatha's martyrdom during the persecution of Decius at Catania in Sicily is quite graphic. Though many renounced their faith, especially officials, Agatha was among those whose steadfast devotion to Christ cost them their lives. The devotion of numerous popes to St. Agatha is possibly based on the legend that **St. Peter** appeared to her to console and heal her. She had been tortured on the rack and her breasts had been cut off. A few days later she was rolled naked over burning coals. Her last prayer to Christ was "Receive my soul," after which she breathed her last. Devotion to St. Agatha is very ancient. A church was constructed in her honor at Rome in the fifth century, and at the beginning of the sixth century, **Pope Symmachus** introduced her feast into the liturgy at Rome and dedicated a basilica in her honor. The inclusion of her name in the Roman Canon of the Mass is attributed to **St. Gregory the Great**, and to this day she is listed in the first Eucharistic Prayer. (S) • On this day, **"AMERICAN BAPTISTS** celebrate the arrival in the New World of Roger Williams, who with four companions was subsequently expelled from Massachusetts and settled in Rhode Island; the five families formed the first Baptist community there." (OCY)

## Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025

**+ We Remember:** **+St. Paul Miki and Companions** were 26 martyrs, the first canonized saints of the Far East, who died some 400 years ago. Paul, born in **1556**, came from a noble family in Kyoto which converted to Christianity; he was baptized when he was five years old. Son of a Japanese military chief, Paul was educated at a Jesuit college and joined the Jesuits in **1580**, becoming known for his eloquent preaching. In **1597** he was crucified along with 25 other Catholics during the persecution of Christians near Nagasaki. The group was made up of six Franciscans (from Spain, Mexico and India), three Japanese Jesuit catechists (including Paul Miki), and 17 Japanese lay Catholics. They were all crucified by being attached to crosses with ropes and chains and then put to death by the thrust of a lance. From his cross Paul proclaimed, "As I come to this supreme moment of my life, I am sure none of you would suppose that I want to deceive you. And so I tell you plainly: there is no way to be saved except the Christian way." At his death, St. Paul Miki said, "I hope my blood will fall on my fellow men as fruitful rain." So fruitful was the rain of his blood on the hills of Nagasaki that missionaries 265 years later discovered thousands of secret Christians there. In **1862** they were all canonized as the **Martyrs of Japan**. (S,D,P)

**+ In 1944**, on this feast of the Martyrs of Japan, 65 American Divine Word missionaries died aboard a Japanese prison ship. The priests, brothers, and sisters, who had been forced from their mission posts throughout the Far East, were among the victims of a mistaken attack by a U.S. aircraft whose pilot thought he was attacking a warship. (W)

## Friday, Feb. 7, 2025

**+ We Remember:** a Greek farmer, **St. Luke the Younger (Died 946)**, who was admitted as a novice to a monastery at Athens, and became a solitary on Mt. Joannitza, near Corinth. He worked so many miracles in this place that it was known as Soterion (place of healing) and he himself as the Thaumaturgus (*Wonderworker*). As a boy, Luke would often give his clothes to beggars or go without a meal to feed the hungry. When he sowed the fields, he would scatter half the seed over the land of the poor - yet he would notice that the Lord blessed his father's crops with abundant increase. Luke wanted to become a monk but his family was unwilling to let him go. But when the family offered hospitality to two monks who were on pilgrimage from Rome to the Holy Land, the monks persuaded Luke's family to allow him to travel with them to Athens. He was 18 when he built himself a hermitage at Mt. Joannitza. (B,L)

## Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025

**+ We Remember:** **St. Jerome Emiliani (1486-1537)** is a model of conversion from a dissolute life to a life of total dedication to the care of the sick, abandoned children and women converts. He was born in Venice of a noble family, became a soldier, was captured in battle and imprisoned. During that time, he learned to pray, and resolved to reform his life; he was miraculously set free after praying to our Lady, and as a result he promised to dedicate himself to her service. Returning to Venice, he was ordained a priest at age 37. In times of pestilence he was heroic in caring for the orphans, sick and poor; Jerome started a religious order to do this work and to educate young abandoned youth. He died of the plague in **1537**, and was canonized a saint in **1767**. **Pope Pius XI** named him patron of orphans and abandoned infants in **1928**. (S,V,B) **+ St. Cynthia(+249)**, an Egyptian girl martyred under Decius because she would not worship idols. • In **1949**, **CARDINAL MINDSZENTY**, Primate of Hungary, was convicted of treason and espionage and sentenced to life imprisonment by the communists.



Sources include: (A) Catholic Almanac, Felician Foy Our Sunday Visitor, 1995. (AP) A Pilgrim's Almanac, Edward Hayes, 1992. (AS) All Saints, Robert Ellsberg, Crossroad, 1997. (B) Book of Saints, Benedictine Monks, Morehouse, 1993. (CB) Cambridge Biographical Encyclopedia, 1999. (C) Catholic Book of Days, John Deedy, Thomas More, 1989. (BB) Big Book of Women Saints, Sarah Gallic, HarperSanFrancisco, 2007; (CCS) Catholicism, Chicago Style, Skerret et al, 1993. (D) Day by Day with the Saints, Patrick Moran, OSV, 1985. (E) Encyclopedia of Catholicism, Rev. R. McBrien, HC, 1995. (ES) Encyclopedia of Saints, C. Jockle, Alpine, 1995. (F) Famous Christians, Tony Cusler, Servant, 1988. (G) Guide to the Saints, Kristin E. White, Ivy Books, 1991. (H) Heavenly Friends, Rosalie Marie Levy, DSP, 1984. (I) In His Likeness, Rev. Charles Yost, SCJ, STL, 1988. (JP 2) John Paul II's Book of Saints, Burson, OSV, 1999. (L) Butler's Lives of the Saints I-IV, Christian Classics, 1995. (L2) Lives of the Saints, O. Englebert, Barnes & Noble, 1994. (LS) Lives of the Saints, R. McBrien, HC, 2001. (LP) Lives of the Popes, R. McBrien, 1997. (M) The Middle Ages, Concise Encyclopedia, H. Loun, 1989. (OCY) Oxford Companion to the Year, Blackburn, 1999. (ODP) Oxford Dictionary of Popes, J.D. Kelly, Oxford, 1987. (R) Saints to Remember, Servants of Mary Immaculate, 1985. (P) Pocket Dictionary of Saints, John Delaney, Image, 1983. (S) Saints of the Roman Calendar, Enzo Lodi, Alba, 1992. (P) The Popes, Eric John, Roman Catholic Books, 1994. (V) Vatican II Weekday Missal, Daughters of St. Paul, 1975. (W) We Celebrate, We Commemorate, Patrick Walsh.