

Week of February 9 — February 15, 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 fami-

lies 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

Interfaith Calendar & Events

Lantern Festival, a Taoist observance; the New Year celebration ends with the Lantern Festival on February 12, when the first full moon enters the New Year.



• Tu B' Shvat - February 13: Jewish celebration of the coming of spring by preparation of foods native to Israel. It is

also known as "New Year for Trees" - a method for determining the age of trees for tithing purposes. Begins at sundown February 12

• Damma Day (Magha Puja Day), February 13:

Commemorates the Buddha's visit to Veruvana Monastery in the city of Rajagaha, when 1,250 arhats are said to have spontaneously returned from their wanderings to pay their respects to the Buddha. **Sangha Day** is celebrated on the full moon day of the third lunar month (March).



• Lailatul-Bara'at: Night of Salvation, February 14: according to Muslim tradition, on this night God approaches the earth to call humanity and to grant forgiveness of sins. Begins at sundown February 13. • Nirvana Day, February 15, is observed by Buddhists of the northern tradition as the anniversary of Buddha's passing away. In the southern tradition, the Buddha's death is commemorated during Vesakha.

• Source: The 2025 InterFaith Calendar, Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago

Chapel Staff Birthdays & Anniversaries • Birthday blessing go out to Fr. Leon Rezula, Saturday, Feb. 15.

ORD Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

02/08/25 4:00 p.m. † Marilyn Criss req. by Judith Hamill & Thomas Jaconetty 6:00 p.m. † Ronald Jones req. by Family **† Arturo Macaltao** req. by Laura Cruz

- 9:00 a.m. † Cella Mary Fitzgerald req. by William G. Fitzgerald 02/09/25 11:00 a.m. • Unborn Bables req. by Alwyn Joshy **† Benedicta Pagan** req. by Laura Cruz
- 02/10/25 11:30 a.m. Domsic Family req. by Scott DeBoer
- 02/11/25 11:30 a.m. •/ † Blair & Przybylo Families req. by Rev. Leon Rezula
- 02/12/25 11:30 a.m. O'Drobinak Family req. by Scott DeBoer
- 02/13/25 11:30 a.m. Alwyn Joshy

02/14/25 11:30 a.m. † Emma Dryer req. by N. Robert

MDW Airport Chapel Catholic Mass Intentions

02/09/25 9:00 a.m. • Charlene Kazmierski reg. by Jackie Frabotta 11:00 a.m. • Margarite Garner Family req. by Margaret Garner All Souls

Denotes Living/Special Intention
Denotes Deceased/Memorial



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time — February 9, 2025

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here I am, "I said, "send me!" — *Isaiah 6:8*

GOD'S SUMMONS

Confronted with God's power and majesty, the first response of the prophet Isaiah was to acknowledge his sinfulness. "Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips," he said aloud. Likewise, with

his empty fishing nets dramatically filled at Jesus' instruction, Peter fell to his knees and cried out, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.'

Next, Peter got up. He docked his boats then left to follow Jesus. Isaiah also had a dramatic change of heart. When he heard the Lord say, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" Isaiah answered, "Here I am, send me."



We are summoned daily by the Risen Lord. We are reminded of the saving power of the gospel and know in our heart of hearts that, as St. Paul wrote, believing in anything else won't lead to anything.

What will it take for you to move past your sinfulness? What will it take for you to get off your knees? What will it take for you to bring to dock what is unimportant and to accept your call to be God's messenger?

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Isaiah is called to be a messenger for the Lord and responds, "Send me!" (Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8) **Psalm** — In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord (Psalm 138).

Second Reading - Paul reminds us of the gospel he preached through which we are saved, if we believe it (1 Corinthians 15:1-11 [3-8, 11]). Gospel – Jesus directs Simon to take his boat into deep water for a miraculous catch of fish. (Luke 5:1-11).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56 **Tuesday**: Gn 1:20 - 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13 **Wednesday**: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23 **Thursday**: Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30 Friday: Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37 **Saturday**: Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-4abc, 5-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10 **Sunday**: Jer 17:5-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

Closing Their Eyes

The experience of twentieth-century dictatorships has shown that it is possible for some Christians to live and work in a shockingly unjust society, closing their eyes to all kinds of evil and, indeed, perhaps participating in that evil, at least by default, concerned only with their own compartmentalized life of piety, closed off from everything else on the face of the earth. - Thomas Merton, "Life and Holiness"

Treasures from our Tradition

What would you say is the oldest, most frequently sung, most translated, most memorized, most beloved song text in the Christian world today? An astute and surprising answer might be the *Gloria*, "Glory to God in the Highest." In three weeks' time, the Lenten fast will begin, and the Gloria, sung at the beginning of Sunday Mass, will be silenced. It is an heirloom from a treasury of hymns spun from the songs of praise on the lips of Mary, Elizabeth, and Zachary. We move in the prayer from the song of the angels at the first Christmas, to the praise of God, and to a final plea to Christ to continue and complete his work in us.

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

Sunday, Feb. 9, 2025

+ We Remember: ST. MICHAEL FEBRES CORDERO (1854-1910) was a saintly schoolmaster, a De La Salle Brother of the Christian Schools, a native of Ecuador, and the first native vocation. A gifted teacher who specialized in languages, Michael was full of charity and good humor and led an intense life of personal prayer. His first love was preparing children for their first communion and writing textbooks. In 1907 he went to Belgium where his congregation's headquarters were then located in order to have more time to write. For reasons of health, he went to Barcelona, where after teaching only a few months, he died on this day in 1910. In 1936, in the midst of the Spanish Civil War, his remains were taken back to Quito, where his tomb became a center of pilgrimage, and where, in 1954, the government of Ecuador erected a great monument to him; canonized by St. Pope John Paul II in 1984. (D,B,L)

Monday, Feb. 10, 2025

+ <u>We Remember</u>: <u>ST. SCHOLASTICA</u> (c.480-543), Virgin, sister (and twin) of **St. Benedict** and religious foundress, Scholastica is regarded as the first nun of the Benedictine order. The twins visited each other once a year in a farmhouse, because Scholastica was not permitted inside the monastery. St. Gregory the Great, in his Dialogues, says that at her last meeting with her brother, Scholastica obtained by prayer a sudden heavy rainstorm, which prevented Benedict from returning to his monastery and thus prolonged their interview through the night: three days later, Benedict saw her soul ascend to heaven in the semblance of a dove. The tradition that Scholastica was a nun dates from the 11th Century. Before then, she was considered a devout and holy woman living in the vicinity of the abbey of Montecassino. Her relics, with those of her brother, are beneath the altar of the abbey at Montecassino. Her feast has been celebrated on this day since the end of the 8th Century. (V,L,B,S) +In 1543, the death of FR. JOHANNES ECK in Ingolstadt, Germany. A noted theologian, he became a professor of theology and a canon at the Cathedral of Eichstadt. When MARTIN LUTHER posted his 95 theses on the doors of Wittenberg Cathedral, Fr. Eck responded with the Catholic position on all 95 points; he would spend the rest of his life debating Luther and his followers and writing tracts defending the Catholic faith. Pope Leo X appointed him as one of the authors of Exsurge Domine, Martin Luther's formal excommunication paper. Fr. Eck found time to translate the entire Bible into the German language and had it published. (W) + In 1939, the death of POPE PIUS XI, in Rome. "He encouraged lay participation in the mission of the Church, condemned contraception, and concluded the Lateran treaty with Mussolini establishing the Vatican City State as a separate political entity. He opposed both Communism and Nazism and supported Franco in Spain. The number of missionaries doubled during his pontificate. He was the first pope to use the radio for communication." (E,W)

Tuesday, Feb.11, 2025 - Our Lady of Lourdes

+ We Remember: World Day of the Sick; The feast of OUR LADY OF LOURDES is observed on the anniversary of the first apparition at Lourdes in 1858. "BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS, 14, set off with her sister and a friend to gather firewood from the common land by the banks of the river Gave. Bernadette fell behind the others, and as she was removing her shoes and stockings before crossing the mill stream near the grotto of Massabiellee, she was visited by a woman no bigger than herself, dressed in a white robe, with a blue sash knotted at her waist. The apparition revealed herself to be the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of The "Immaculate Conception." Eighteen times the Virgin appeared to Bernadette. They prayed the rosary together, and Bernadette conveyed the Virgin's wish that a chapel be built on the site of the vision. The Virgin also told Bernadette to drink from a fountain in the grotto. There was no fountain, but when Bernadette scratched at the spot designated in the apparition, a spring began to flow, whose waters proved subsequently to have a wondrous healing power. Millions flock annually to Lourdes from all over the world, and since 1933 Bernadette herself has been officially hailed by the church as a saint. But she had a hard time in her lifetime. She was besieged by skeptics - bullied, cajoled and endlessly crossexamined. She entered the convent of the Sisters of Nevers in 1866, which became another trial, for she had a superiors who found it impossible to believe that Mary would appear to a peasant girl rather than someone more exalted like themselves. In Bernadette's words she was 'ground like a grain of corn.' Lourdes and its continuing miracles have obscured the life of this remarkable saint. Parents seldom name daughters after her anymore, as they did in the 1930s and 1940s. But Bernadette's story lives, as does her shrine, which is yet a singular place of pilgrimage; in fact, one of the most popular." (C,B,L,V) + <u>ST. CAEDMON</u> (d. 680) was a herdsman of Northumbria before he became a monk. He became attached as a farm servant and then a lay brother to the community of Whitby under St. Hilda, and is known as "the Father of English sacred poetry." He received the gift of language directly from God. In a dream, a stranger asked him to sing about the creation of the world, and although he knew no hymns, immediately words of praise to God the Creator sprang to his lips. (B,L) Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025

+ We Remember: ST. MELETIUS (d. 381) was an Armenian who became bishop of Sebaste and, later, patriarch of Antioch. During this time, the Arian controversy was raging, and St. Meletius was exiled by the Arian emperor. Eventually fully reinstated in 378, he presided over the Second General Council of Constantinople, but died before its conclusion. (B)

Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025

+ We Remember: ST. CATHERINE DEI RICCI (1522-1590) was famous for her ecstasies in which she beheld and enacted the scenes of our Lord's passion. Born in Florence, she became a Dominican sister, serving as novice-mistress and prioress. A mystic, Catherine's reputation for holiness and wisdom brought her visits from many lay people and clergy, including three cardinals, each of whom afterwards became pope (Marcellus II, Clement VIII and Leo XI). St. Philip Neri and St. Catherine dei Ricci exchanged a number of letters, and although they never met in person, she appeared to him and talked to him in Rome without ever having left her convent at Prato. This was expressly stated by St. Philip Neri, who was always most cautious in giving credence to or publishing visions, and it was confirmed by the oaths of five witnesses. Catherine died after a long illness, age 68 on Feb. 2, 1590. (D,B)

Friday, Feb. 14, 2025

+ We Remember: Ss. Cyril (827-869) AND METHODIUS (815-885) venerated as the "Apostles of the Slavs," were declared co-patrons of Europe, together with <u>ST. BENEDICT</u>, by **St. Pope John Paul II** in **1980**. Brothers born at Thessalonica, Greece, they became apostles to the Slav nations of Moravia, Bohemia, Slovakia and Bulgaria. The Prince of Moravia, in **868**, asked for missionaries who could speak the language of his country. At the time, Cyril was the librarian at S. Sophia in Constantinople (which we know as the *Hagia Sophia* today) and an influential figure at court. Emperor Michael III selected the brothers for the mission. Cyril and Methodius differed greatly from the Latin-Rite missionaries from Germany because they were able to adapt to the people they were evangelizing. They created a Slav alphabet and they translated the Bible into the Slav language: hence the characters were called cyrillic based on his adaptation of the Greek alphabet to Slavonic sound systems, and became the normal instrument for liturgy and liturgical work. They encountered problems with the German missionaries who had preceded them and were forced to leave. German influence and the Latin liturgy persisted and came to dominate after an accord in 872, but elsewhere among the Slavonic peoples, to the east in modern Russia and to the south in modern Yugoslavia, Cyril's contributions proved permanent. He died at Rome on this day in 869, and is buried in the basilica of St. Clement. Methodius died April 6, c. 884; his funeral liturgy was conducted in Greek, Latin and Slavonic Rites. (S, and The Middle Ages, H.R. Loyn) + ST. VALENTINE: Though little is certain, we believe Valentine was a priest and physician in Rome, beheaded there on **Feb. 14, 269**, by Claudius the Goth, and buried on the Flaminian Way. Pope Julius I is said to have built a church over his tomb in **350**, which for a long time gave name to the gate now called Porta del Popolo, formerly Porta Valentini. The same day in the Roman Martyrology, another Valentine is celebrated, described as the bishop of Interamna (Terni) about 60 miles from Rome, who was scourged, imprisoned, and then beheaded by Furius Placidus, the prefect (who was indeed consul in 273). Many scholars believe that the two are the same, suggesting that the priest became a bishop and was sentenced in Terni before being brought to Rome for execution. Partly because of this confusion and the unreliable Acts of both saints, the observance of this feast on the calendar of the Catholic Church was suppressed in 1969 by Pope Paul VI through his apostolic letter Mysterii paschalis celebrationem, which revised the calendar of saints. Instead, Saints Cyril and Methodius, Apostles to the Slavs, are commemorated in the Liturgy on Feb. 14. (Sources: Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things, D,B,L,)

Saturday, Feb. 15, 2025

+ We Remember: SAINTS FAUSTINUS and JOVITA (c. 121), two brothers whose great zeal for proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ in the early second century brought about the conversion of thousands. Local tradition of their native city Brescia (Italy) tells that the noble brothers, one a priest and one a deacon, preached Christianity fearlessly while their bishop went into hiding. Emperor Hadrian had them arrested, tortured, and finally beheaded. Veneration of these early martyrs was ancient and widespread. The city of Brescia honors them as its chief patrons and claims their relics. (B,L,L2) + ST. SIGFRID, BISHOP OF <u>VÄXJÖ</u> (c. 1045) was a Benedictine monk, probably from Glastonbury in England, honored by the Swedes as their apostle. Sigfrid's chief assistants, his nephews Unaman, Sunaman, and Vinaman, were murdered, and his church at Växjö was plundered, while he was spreading the gospel in distant provinces. When the culprits were apprehended, King Olaf resolved to execute them, but Sigfrid induced him to spare their lives, having forgiven them. And though the king extracted a heavy fine from the evildoers, Sigfrid refused to accept it, in spite of his extreme poverty and difficulties rebuilding his church. Like the apostles, he had an heroic degree of the spirit, and his memory is still esteemed in Scandinavia. (L)

+ BL. CLAUDE DE LA COLUMBIERE (1641-1682), Jesuit spiritual director to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, was instrumental in spreading devotion to the Sacred Heart. Sent to England in **1676** as chaplain to the Duchess of York, he was arrested and banished for alleged complicity in the imaginary "Popish Plot." St. Margaret said that Jesus described Claude to her as His "perfect friend" and she recognized him instantly when he arrived for the first time. Beatified in 1929. (B,W)

+ In 1932, the death of **BEN SALMON** (1889-1932), a Catholic pacifist who believed that any cooperation with the military system would represent a violation of his con-science, a compromise with Satan, and so he was arrested in **1918** for resisting the draft because Catholics were not recognized as conscientious objectors. He was one of hun-dreds of resisters imprisoned during the war, but one of only four Catholics, and he alone attributed his resistance to his Catholic faith.

Sources include: (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 Gallick, HarperSanFrancisco, 2007; (CCS) Catholicism, Chicago Style, Skerret et al, 1993. (D) Duy by Day with the Saints, Patrick Moran, OSV, 1985. (E) Encyclopedia of Catholicism, Rev. R. McBrien, HC, 1995. (ES) Encyclopedia of Saints, C. Jöckle, Alpine, 1995. (F) Famous Christians, Tong Castle, Servent, 1988. (G) Guide to the Saints, Kristin E. White, Ivy Books, 1991. (H) Heavenly Friends, Roale Marie Levy, DSP, 1984. (I) In His Likeness, Rev. Charles Yost, SCJ, STL, 1988. (JP 2) John Paul I'T Sook of Saints, Bunson, OSV, 1999. (L) Butler's Lives of the Saints I. Y. (Christian Classics, 1995. (L2) Lives of the Saints, Dange, 1987. (L3) Lives of the Saints, Dange, 1983. (GS) Oxford Dictionary of Saints, David Farmer, 1997. (M) The Middle Ages, Concise Encyclopedia, H. Loyn, 1989. (OCY) Oxford Companion to the Year, Blackburn, 1999. (ODP) Oxford Dictionary of Popes, J.D. Kelly, Oxford, 1987. (ODS) Oxford Dictionary of Saints, David Farmer, 1997. (PDS) Penguin Dictionary of Saints (Srd ed.), D. Attuater/C. John, 1995. (K) Saints to Remember, Servants of Mary Immaculate, 1985. (P) Pocket Dictionary of Saints, John Delaney, Image, 1983. (S) Saints of the Roman Catholic Books, 1994. (V) Vatican II Weeklay Missal, Daughters of St. Paul, 1975. (W) We Colebrate, We Commemorate, Patrick Walsh. This Week in the Life of the Church is compiled by Mike Brennan. Tax-deductible contributions to the Chicago Airports Catholic Chaplaincy are appreciated. E-mail: ordchapel@gmail.com.