



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

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Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) (Year A) 2nd February 2020

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Sunday Reflection - "The beautiful feast is celebrated 40 days after Christmas. At the end of the fourth century, a woman named Etheria went to Jerusalem and witnessed a celebration 40 days after the Birth of Christ. The custom spread in the Western Church in the fifth and sixth centuries. In the eighth century, Pope Sergius inaugurated a Candlelight procession, and by the end of that century the blessing and distribution of candles which continues to the present day became part of the celebration, giving the feast its popular name: Candlemas. The Gospel for the feast presents us with the meeting of the old man Simeon, and the old widow, Anna in the temple. Both are connected with Israel's past, but look to the future for the fulfilment of God's promise from the great prophet Isaiah: "I shall give you as a light to the Gentiles that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth. Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all flesh will see the salvation of our God". They welcome Jesus into the Temple. They embody the patient expectation of Israel. They acknowledge the infant Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah. This child is indeed "the light of the World". They glow with the light of hope for a great future. They encounter a young couple with a new baby; Age and youth meet. Overjoyed Simeon pronounces the great "Nunc Dimittis". "Now, master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised..." The hopes of Simeon are fulfilled as he sees in Jesus the promised salvation of God. He exclaimed "I've seen it all, I am ready to die". His prayer is now the Night Prayer of the whole Church. Sadly he foresaw that some would reject Jesus and cause a sword of sorrow 'to pierce his mother's heart' When we take Jesus into our lives can we say a wholehearted 'yes' to who he is, and the person he wants us to become? If we can, we too can go our way in peace.

Confirmation Classes - Begins on this Sunday 2nd Feb at 5.30pm in the Founders Room.

First Holy Communion Parents Meeting - Will be on Tue 4th Feb at 7pm.

Baptismal Preparation Course - Will take place on Tuesdays 4th & 11th of February at 7.30pm in the Founders Room. Please get a registration form from the colonnade.

Pastoral Council Meeting - The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held on Thursday 13th February at 7.15pm in the Founders Room. Sadly, the last meeting on Tuesday 28th January was unable to complete its business as it did not have a 'Quorum' of members. So now we ask all Elected members to not the date, Thursday 13th February 2020 and please attend. If you are unable to attend, please inform the Parish Office.

Thanks to Sr. Clementina: - Sr. Clementina gave many years of generous ministry in our Parish and because of issues beyond her control had to submit "her notice". The Parish wants to acknowledge her great work and say, "Thank you, Sr. Clementina". We will make our Presentation to her on this Sunday, 2nd February at the end of the 12.15pm Mass; the 2nd collection taken up last Sunday is our generous gift to her for the service she has given. We hope she can keep in contact and we ask God's Blessing on her and her Hospital Ministry.

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30pm
Sunday 8.30am
10am
(Spanish) 11.15am
12.15pm
7pm
Mon - Sat 10am + 6.30pm

Sacrament of Confession

Mon - Fri 6.15 - 6.30pm
Saturday 10.45 - 11.15am
6.00 - 6.30pm

Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon - Fri 9am to 5pm
(Lunch 1.30pm - 2.30pm)

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

After 10am Weekday Masses

Rosary: Wednesdays 10.30am,
followed by Tea/Coffee in the
Founders Room.

Legion of Mary - Every
Tuesday at 7pm in the Library.
New members are welcome!

Charismatic Prayer Group:

Every Thursday at 11am in the
Founders Room

Saints Days

Mon 3rd - Bl Joachim of Siena,
Ss Laurence, Dunstan &
Theodore.

Wed 5th - St Agatha

Thu 6th - St Paul Miki

Sat 8th - St Jerome Emiliani,
St Josephine Bakhita
