

THE ORATORY OF SAINTS  
GREGORY & AUGUSTINE



TRADITIO | REVERENTIA | COMMUNITAS

## Welcome to the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine

The Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine is pleased to welcome you. We are an apostolate of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis faithful to the teachings of the Church and striving to grow as a family of faith through the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass and other Sacraments.

In the First Book of *The Confessions*, the other great St. Augustine (of Hippo) wrote the following: "Thou hast made us for Thyself and our hearts are restless until they find rest in Thee." Whether you are curious about the traditional Latin Mass and interested in exploring its beauty, searching for a parish community where you and your family will feel at home, or seeking rest for your heart, we hope that the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine can provide that respite for you.

Our bulletin serves to provide information about the weekly activities occurring here at the Oratory. Along with our website ([www.stlouislatinmass.com](http://www.stlouislatinmass.com)), the bulletin is your point of contact with the ever-increasing activities at the Oratory. I hope this will give you some sense of the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and work of the Holy Spirit in our midst. I am delighted that God has brought you here! **Oremus pro invicem!**

—The Very Reverend Monsignor C. Eugene Morris, Rector

### MASS AND SACRAMENTS

#### Sunday Masses

- 6:30 am (Low Mass)
- 8:00 am (Low Mass)
- 10:00 am (High Mass)

#### Weekday Masses

- Monday thru Friday: 6:30 am & 12:15 pm
- First Friday: 6:30 pm
- Saturday: 8:15 am

#### Confession

- Sunday: 7:00 -7:45 am; 9:00 am – 10:30 am
- Monday thru Friday: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Wednesday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- First Friday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Saturday: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

#### Divine Office

- Sunday: Prime @ 7:20 am; Terce @ 9:40 am; Vespers @ 2:30 pm; Compline @ 7 pm
- Monday: Vespers @ 6 pm & Compline @ 7pm
- Tuesday & Thursday: Compline @ 7 pm
- Wednesday: Compline @ 6:30 pm

**Infant Baptism** – Baptisms are normally scheduled on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month beginning at 10:00 am. Families expecting newborns and anticipating that they will be baptized here at the Oratory should schedule their baptism at the earliest convenience by contacting the Oratory office.

**Adult Baptism** – If you are interested in becoming Catholic or if you are an adult Catholic not yet confirmed, please contact the Oratory office for more information about adult catechesis.

**Matrimony** – Please contact the Oratory office at least six months prior to the desired date for the rite of marriage. The date is reserved after consultation and confirmation from the Rector of the Oratory.

**Extreme Unction/Visitation of the Sick** – Contact the Oratory to arrange the sacrament either at home or in the hospital.

### STAFF/ORGANIZATIONS

- **Rector:** Msgr. C. Eugene Morris  
[rector@oratorysga.org](mailto:rector@oratorysga.org)
- **Vice-Rector:** Fr. Michael Rennie  
[vicerector@oratorysga.org](mailto:vicerector@oratorysga.org)
- **Deacon:** Deacon Steve Pieper, MD  
[deacon@oratorysga.org](mailto:deacon@oratorysga.org)
- **Administrative Assistant:** Donna Mueller  
[office@oratorysga.org](mailto:office@oratorysga.org)
- **Facilities Manager:** Ben Schubert  
[facilities@oratorysga.org](mailto:facilities@oratorysga.org)
- **Auxiliary:** Anna Kalinowski  
[auxiliary@oratorysga.org](mailto:auxiliary@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Co-Op:**  
[co-op@oratorysga.org](mailto:co-op@oratorysga.org)
- **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD):**  
[ccd@oratorysga.org](mailto:ccd@oratorysga.org)
- **Altar servers:**  
[servers@oratorysga.org](mailto:servers@oratorysga.org)
- **Altar and Rosary Society:**  
[altarandrosary@oratorysga.org](mailto:altarandrosary@oratorysga.org)
- **Knights of Columbus:**  
[kofc17355@oratorysga.org](mailto:kofc17355@oratorysga.org)
- **Troops of Saint George:**  
[tsg@oratorysga.org](mailto:tsg@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Schola:**  
[schola@oratorysga.org](mailto:schola@oratorysga.org)
- **Choir:**  
[choir@oratorysga.org](mailto:choir@oratorysga.org)
- **Young Adults:**  
[youngadults@oratorysga.org](mailto:youngadults@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Events:**  
[events@oratorysga.org](mailto:events@oratorysga.org)
- **Almonry of Ss. Gregory & Augustine:**  
[almonry@oratorysga.org](mailto:almonry@oratorysga.org)
- **Online Giving:**  
<https://www.osvhub.com/st-louis-latin-mass>

### CONTACT US

314-644-2144 / [stlouislatinmass.com](http://stlouislatinmass.com)  
7230 Dale Avenue, Richmond Heights, MO 63117

FROM THE RECTOR

Today's celebration of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary brings us back to Christmas joy as we conclude our lengthy contemplation of the Incarnation. The ancient feast celebrates our Lord's entrance into His temple and His encounter with Simeon; both of which remind us that Christ is the Light of the world, the lamp of salvation and the one who dispels the darkness of sin and death. Like the Magi who see truth of the infant in the arms of His mother, so too Simeon, caught up in great and abundant joy, sweeps the baby from the arms of His mother and proclaims to all who are able to hear that this is the Christ, the revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of the people of Israel. It is too easy to be burdened by the world and allow it to overshadow or even blot out our joy in the mysteries of Christ. Like Simeon, we must vigilant, watching and waiting on the Lord so that when we receive His grace, we can rejoice in the blessings bestowed upon us. The blessing and procession of candles, which is also associated with the feast, allows us to liturgically confirm our faith in Christ as the true Light who has come into the world to bring peace!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 2 February:

- Prime @ 7:20 am
• Coffee Hour @ 9:00 am
• Terce @ 9:40 am
• Vespers @ 2:30 pm
• Compline @ 7:00 pm

Monday, 3 February:

- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
• Compline @ 7:00 pm

Tuesday, 4 February:

- Compline @ 7:00 pm
• Choir practice @ 7:00 pm

Wednesday, 5 February:

- Holy Hour @ 5:00 pm
• Compline @ 6:30 pm

Thursday, 6 February:

- Compline @ 7:00 pm

Friday, 7 February:

- Church cleaning @ 1:30 pm
• Confessions @ 5:00 pm
• Holy Mass @ 6:30 pm
• Young Adults @ 7:30 pm

Saturday, 8 February:

- Catholic Latin Class @ 7:00 am
• Parish Cantor School @ 9:00 am
• Bilot Baptism @ 10:00 am
• Carter Baptism @ 11:00 am

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PILGRIM VIRGIN MARY STATUE 2025

Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Rows include Stolarski, Santschi, Agnew, Leljedal, Turntine, Henry, Kiser, Buyle, Grizzle, Haulard.

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Table with 2 columns: Date and Name. Rows include Kelly, Holman, Cook, Fowler, Wisniewski, Kenney, Hayes, Filla, Jones, Carapella, Hayward, Blum, Catalano, Raymond, Schuette, Petrick.

Drop off and pick up the statue in the vestibule (back of church). Place the statue bag on the floor to left of the Oratory table. To join or to quit the schedule contact Sharon Alexander saalex@sbcbglobal.net

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, 3 February - St. Blaise

- 6:30 am: Poor Souls in Purgatory
12:15 pm: Bradley Davis (d)

Tuesday, 4 February - St. Andrew Corsini

- 6:30 am: Anna M. Vanik Bultas (d)
12:15 pm: Brenda Panagrossi

Wednesday, 5 February - St. Agatha

- 6:30 am: John J. Bultas (d)
12:15 pm: James H. McMahan (d)

Thursday, 6 February - St. Titus

- 6:30 am: James Dale McMahan (d)
12:15 pm: Nathan Cheffers (d)

Friday, 7 February - St. Romuald

- 6:30 am: Anna Margaret Otto (d)
12:15 pm: Edward McKenna (d)
6:30 pm: Drake Brooks (d)

Saturday, 8 February - St. John of Matha

- 8:15 am: Taylor Bookout (d)

Sunday, 9 February - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

- 6:30 am: Pro Populo
8:00 am: Allison Katherine Rocha (d)
10:00 am: Edward McKenna (d)

~ 01/26/2025 ~

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows include Weekly Collection Total, Online Giving, Total, Needed, Year to Date Total.



# The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 February 2025

## CANDLEMAS CELEBRATION: 2 FEBRUARY @ 10:00 am

### Holy Mass

Sunday, 2 February 2025, we will celebrate the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary traditionally known as Candlemas.

The traditional blessing of candles will take place at the 10:00 am Holy Mass. Candles will be blessed immediately upon the entrance of the sacred ministers. After the blessing of Candles, they will be distributed at the communion rail and then they will be lit by the servers. Weather permitting, we will have an outdoor procession around the Church celebrating the Light of Christ (please dress accordingly). If the weather does not cooperate, our procession will proceed inside of the Church.

The candles can be taken home for your personal spiritual use and there will be more candles available on the Oratory table in the back of Church. Please take only those candles that are needed.

The faithful are allowed to bring their own candles for blessing. Candles should be brought only on that day and placed on the tables provided that will be near the altar of the Blessed Mother PRIOR to Holy Mass. Candles should be accessible to be blessed with holy water and be marked clearly with the name of the person/family that is having them blessed. Finally, all candles must be retrieved at the conclusion of Holy Mass. Any candles that are not retrieved at the conclusion of Holy Mass will be distributed by the Oratory. Please call the Oratory with any questions.

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## FEAST OF ST. BLAISE: 3 FEBRUARY 2025

The traditional blessing of throats on the Feast of St. Blaise will take place at the conclusion of both Holy Masses on Monday, 3 February 2025.

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## BLESSING & IMPOSITION OF THE BROWN SCAPULAR

Twice a year at Advent and Lent, the Oratory invests its faithful in the Brown Scapular. To assist those who desire to have a scapular blessed and imposed on them, **on the First Sunday of Lent, 9 March 2025 after the 8 am Holy Mass**, there will be the blessing and imposition of scapulars on those who present themselves at the communion rail. Please bring your own scapular, have it unwrapped and off your neck if you are already wearing it. As there might a great number of people presenting themselves for this blessing, the only thing that will be blessed this day is the scapular. Any questions, please contact Msgr. Morris directly (rector@oratorysga.org).

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## CANTOR SCHOOL

For the Saturdays of February and March, the parish men's schola will host a cantor school for boys and men ages 6 and up, featuring work on cantor skills, including but not limited to

- o The 8 Gregorian Modes
- o Simple chants from the Divine Office
- o More complicated chants from Holy Mass
- o Chants [group and potentially solo] for Holy Week and Easter

Classes will be after 8:15am Mass (approximately 9:00am-10:00am) in the St. Joseph Room (rectory basement), unless otherwise noted.

Please RSVP to Nicholas at [schola@oratorysga.org](mailto:schola@oratorysga.org) if you plan to attend any or all of the classes.

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## LATIN COURSE

The Cantores Sancti Ludovici and other Latin instructors are offering another 8-week course in Ecclesiastical (Catholic) Latin designed especially for the laity. The remaining dates are as follows: February 8, 15, 22 AND March 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 7:00am-8:00am in the St. Joseph Room. As with the previous course, the meetings will be largely stand-alone, so it is not necessary to attend them all. While integrating basic Latin grammar and syntax, this course is primarily intended to increase the devotion and piety of the faithful by offering glimpses of the rich theology and history contained in the prayers of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Divine Office, and other Catholic prayers in their original language. There will be a special focus on Holy Week texts [let's make Holy Week even better!].

This course is free, but RSVP registration is requested to [schola@oratorysga.org](mailto:schola@oratorysga.org). Students must be 12 years of age or older. There is no required textbook, but a list of helpful books will be provided to registrants. We encourage you to join us to learn more about our deep Roman Catholic heritage!

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## SEPTUAGESIMA & THE LENTEN SEASON

The season of Septuagesima begins Sunday, 16 February 2025 providing the opportunity to better prepare ourselves for the Lenten Season which begins on Ash Wednesday, 5 March 2025.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on the Fridays of Lent after the conclusion of the 12:15 pm Holy Mass.

The schedule for **Holy Week: HOLY THURSDAY @ 5:00 PM; GOOD FRIDAY @ 3:00 PM; HOLY SATURDAY @ 2:00 PM.** This information is shared early so that you might plan your schedules accordingly.

All of this information will continue to be available both in our bulletin and online. In a few weeks there will be a sheet on the Oratory table in the vestibule that will have all this information for our Lenten season.

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## LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION

In order to assist the faithful during the Lenten season, there will be a Day of Recollection for both the women and men of the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine. The day begins with Holy Mass at 8:15 am and concludes by 2 pm. The retreat is open to non-parishioners and everyone is encouraged to attend. The cost for the day is \$25 and includes lunch. **Further information can be found on the Oratory table in the vestibule of Church.**

- The Women's Day of Recollection – 29 March 2025
- The Men's Day of Recollection – 5 April 2025

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# The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 February 2025

## LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION – HELP NEEDED

In the past for the two Lenten Days of Recollection, the men have assisted with food and cleaning for the women's day (29 March 2025) and the women have provided that same service for the men's day (5 April 2025). If you are willing and able to assist with food set-up for breakfast and lunch and also clean-up after lunch your generosity would be greatly appreciated. Both breakfast and lunch are catered. Please contact Anna Kalinowski ([auxiliatrix@oratorysga.org](mailto:auxiliatrix@oratorysga.org)). In advance, may God reward your generosity.

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## TROOPS OF ST. GEORGE

*Virtus. Honor. Fraternitas.* Calling all boys ages 6-18 and their fathers! How would you like to pray The Rosary around the campfire, The Angelus atop Taum Sauk Mountain, or St. Michael's Prayer in military formation? Troops of St. George uses the outdoors as our canvas and the sacraments as our path to light the way for the formation of Holy Catholic men and boys. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 6:30pm in the St. Joseph Room in addition to campouts, hikes and service projects. Cost is \$50/person, with a max of \$150/family and scholarships are available. Please visit [troopsfstgeorge.org](http://troopsfstgeorge.org), contact [tsg@oratorysga.org](mailto:tsg@oratorysga.org), or join us at our next meeting for more information.

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## EPIPHANY WATER, SALT, AND CHALK 2025

Epiphany water, salt and chalk have been blessed and are available to the faithful for as long as it remains. Please take what you need. As a reminder, you can use the salt for cooking. Also, you are free to use your own containers for Epiphany water. All of the blessed water and salt will be available until we run out.

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## 2025 CALENDARS

The calendars for 2025 for the Oratory Community have arrived. This year's calendar comes from the Transalpine Redemptorists, a community of traditional monks rooted in the Redemptorists charism who practice both the contemplative and active life. Their motherhouse is in Scotland and they have recently founded a house in Montana.

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## TRIVIA KNIGHT: 22 FEBRUARY 2025

Registration is now open for the Oratory Trivia Knight on 22 February at Boland Hall on the campus of the Cathedral Basilica (4431 Lindell Blvd). Doors open at 6pm; trivia starts at 7pm. Join the Knights of Columbus council as we raise funds to further support the Oratory. Tables of 8 are \$200 per table. Raffles and other games will be offered during the event. Some refreshments will be provided; outside food and beverages are welcome.

Round sponsorships are \$100. Please send your business or organization's name, logo, and a 2-3 sentence summary/description. Tangible items, gift certificates, or other donations to be used as raffle items are also welcome. No item/donation is too large or too small!

To pay for table registration and/or round sponsorship, please send funds via Venmo (@KC17355) or mail a check, payable to "Knights of Columbus Council 17355" to the Oratory at 7230 Dale Avenue 63117. Please make checks

payable to "Knights of Columbus Council 17355." Please also note whether you are paying for a table registration and/or round sponsorship. This event is for adults (nursing babies welcome). Registrations are limited, so act quickly! We will add tables to a wait-list if necessary.

Email [kofc17355@oratorysga.org](mailto:kofc17355@oratorysga.org) for registration or any other information.

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## WEDDING BANNS

There is a promise of marriage between:

**I ~ Adam Maassen & Sara Marie Mousa**

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## MEN'S CONFERENCE (FEBRUARY 2025)

Catholic Men for Christ: Archdiocese of St. Louis is holding its annual conference on **Saturday, 15 February 2025**. The conference begins at 8:45 am and concludes at 4:00 pm and is being held at the Si Commons on the campus of St. Louis University High School. For more information please visit: [catholicmenforchrist.org](http://catholicmenforchrist.org).

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## WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (MARCH 2025)

Catholic Women for Christ: Archdiocese of St. Louis is holding its annual conference on **Saturday, 8 March 2025**. The conference begins at 8:45 am and concludes at 4:00 pm and is being held at the Si Commons on the campus of St. Louis University High School. For more information please visit: [catholicwomenforchrist.org](http://catholicwomenforchrist.org).

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## ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS

The annual giving statements that were not picked up from the main vestibule have been mailed. Please notify the office (via email please) immediately if any changes to your contact information need to be made regarding your name or address. This is also an opportunity to notify the office with any changes to phone number, cell number, or email address. Our email address [office@oratorysga.org](mailto:office@oratorysga.org). In advance thank you for your generosity and attentiveness to these details.

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## BLESSED ITEMS

If you wish to have items blessed, please drop them off at the rectory (Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm) and include your name and telephone number. Please make sure all items are clearly marked. Once Msgr. Morris or Fr. Rennie have blessed the items Donna Mueller, Administrative Assistant to the Rector, will call you to let you know the items are ready for pick up (from the rectory office, Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm). **Please drop off/pick up items at the front door on Dale Avenue, across from the field parking lot.**

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## LOST and FOUND

As promised, the lost and found has been emptied and removed from the main vestibule. If you have lost/left your missal in church – please contact the office to see if we have it. For the other miscellaneous items, such as children's books, rosaries, prayer cards, eye glasses, etc. please visit the lost and found which will be located in the St. Joseph Room on Sundays only, during coffee hour.

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# The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 February 2025

## DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS - BOOKS

Please accept a copy of "The Secret of the Holy Face" by Fr. Lawrence Carney as a donation to all parishioners available in the vestibule of the Church today. Given the course of events occurring in our country and within the Church, especially with regard to the current growth of Communism, it is recommended that Catholics understand and pray the Holy Face Devotion. This powerful devotion was given to mankind by our Lord and evolved as a weapon to combat the evils of Communism when it first appeared. Though the devotion became less popular, primarily after Vatican II, many Catholics now believe there is an urgent and renewed need for this prayerful exercise given its promises.

Numerous miracles are associated with this devotion which has the full approval of the Catholic Church. In 1843 the Lord spoke these words Sr. Marie de Saint Pierre, a Carmelite nun, in Tours:

*"The earth is covered with crimes. The violation of the first three Commandments of God has irritated My Father. The Holy Name of God blasphemed, and the Holy Day of the Lord profaned, filling up the measure of iniquities. These sins have risen into the throne of God and provoked his wrath which will soon burst forth if justice be not appeased. At no time have these crimes reached such a pitch."*

In 1845, the Reparative Mystery of the Holy Face was revealed to Sister Saint-Pierre as the Lord stated: "I seek Veronicas to wipe and venerate My Holy Face which has few adorers... and by My Holy Face, you will work many miracles."

The Lord gave Sister Saint-Pierre the Golden Arrow prayer as special reparation for blasphemy. She then prayed the rosary asking Our Lady's intercession in helping her to get the Lord's message to others. Shortly thereafter Mary's apparition at La Salette followed which affirmed the Lord's words to Sister Saint-Pierre, "The Church will be in eclipse."

The revelations to Sister Saint Pierre are also at the foundation of Our Lady's warning at Fatima, regarding the spread of atheistic errors of secular humanism, Socialism, and religious suppression contained in Communism and of revolutionary men.

Please consider studying and praying the Holy Face Devotion for our country and for Holy Mother Church in these challenging times.

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## NEW FAMILIES for JANUARY (alphabetical order)

A warm welcome to our new parishioners!

- Theresa Colombini
- Benjamin Corbalis
- Elizabeth Di Valerio
- Gianna Fiumara
- Samantha Klump
- The Lamons Family ~ Ethan & Jennifer
- Marie Leljedal
- Grace Leonard
- Timothy Schultz

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## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your charity, please pray for the following members of the Oratory who are ill: Emily Brex; Damien Bruening, son of Aurora Miller; Jeanmarie DeCoster; Mary Gleckler, mother of Cathy Saccente and Mary Nelson; Hannah Green, daughter of Nicholas & Julie Green; Lena Henry, daughter of Toni & Mickey Henry; Shane Kiser, husband of Maggie Kiser; Dotty Kuhlmann, mother of Donna Mueller; Nicholas Lober, son of Bob & Theresa Lober; Mary McMahan; James Frances Mooney, father of Dr. Joseph Mooney; Michael Norfleet, son of Marsha Norfleet; Elizabeth Ryan; Patrick Schneider; Leah & Sylvester Soldinie; Lara Trudell, daughter of Sharon and Jim Alexander; and Renee Weidner.

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## PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

- Leona May Auer, mother of Keith Auer
- Elizabeth Berwin, cousin of David O'Gorman
- Rev. John Deken, brother of Janet Deken, Joan Pisoni, and Beth Stolarski
- Anthony DeStefano, uncle of Emily Lund
- Robert Milton Folle, father of Dottie Schwartz
- Kathleen Graham, mother of David Graham
- Sharon Koenig, sister of Dottie Schwartz
- Jeannette Mailloux, grandmother of Danielle Daub
- Robert Michael Marcos, step-father of Mary Auer
- Thomas McClay, father of Danielle Daub
- Andrew Pumphrey, brother of Katie Keys
- Gerald Saykes, husband of Karen Saykes
- Louis Schubert, father of Ben Schubert
- Thomas Schuette, brother of Robert Schuette
- Claudia Lee vonSydow
- John Williams, brother of Mary McMahan

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## USHERS' SCHEDULE

### **Sunday, 2 February**

- 6:30 am** Bill Saccente\*, Ben Schubert
- 8:00 am** Greg Rheinheimer\*, Michael Nelson, Kenny Buyle, Kip Babington
- 10:00 am** Joe Gassiraro\*, Tom Gates, John Simmons, Mark Scheer

### **Sunday, 9 February**

- 6:30 am** Chris Bauman\*, Evan Adair
- 8:00 am** Michael Nelson\*, Kenny Buyle, Kip Babington, Terry Conway
- 10:00 am** Tom Gates\*, John Simmons, Mark Scheer, Robert Morgan

### **Sunday, 16 February**

- 6:30 am** Ben Schubert\*, Bill Saccente
- 8:00 am** Kenny Buyle\*, Kip Babington, Terry Conway, Jeff Martin
- 10:00 am** John Simmons\*, Mark Scheer, Robert Morgan, Patrick Kelly

### **Sunday, 23 February**

- 6:30 am** Jim Alexander\*, Chris Bauman
- 8:00 am** Kip Babington\*, Terry Conway, Jeff Martin, Ken Catalano
- 10:00 am** Mark Scheer\*, Robert Morgan, Patrick Kelly, Charlie Raymond

**+ Altar Server Schedule: February 2025 +**

| Date             | Time     | MC at High Mass /<br>Acolyte at Low Mass | Thurifer            | Acolyte 1             | Acolyte 2      |
|------------------|----------|--|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 2 February 2025  | 6:30 am  | Jack Ryan                                |                     |                       |                |
|                  | 8:00 am  | Benedict Armesto                         |                     |                       |                |
|                  | 10:00 am | Michael Rheinheimer                      | Avery Blaxton       | Kolbe Grizzle         | Leo Grizzle    |
| 9 February 2025  | 6:30 am  | Michael Norfleet                         |                     |                       |                |
|                  | 8:00 am  | Leo Grizzle                              |                     |                       |                |
|                  | 10:00 am | Joseph Blum                              | Isaac Robeson       | Elijah Robeson        | Elijah Garvey  |
| 16 February 2025 | 6:30 am  | Jack Ryan                                |                     |                       |                |
|                  | 8:00 am  | Kolbe Grizzle                            |                     |                       |                |
|                  | 10:00 am | Salvatore Saccente                       | Matthew Rheinheimer | Matthew Emmet Roberts | Charles Fowler |
| 23 February 2025 | 6:30 am  | Michael Norfleet                         |                     |                       |                |
|                  | 8:00 am  | Michael Rheinheimer                      |                     |                       |                |
|                  | 10:00 am | Michael Turntine                         | Joseph Noble        | Joseph Fowler         | Silas Buyle    |

**First Friday/First Saturday**

|                 |         |                   |                     |                       |                  |
|-----------------|---------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1 February 2025 | 8:15 am | Sebastian Petrick | Matthew Rheinheimer | Kolbe Grizzle         | Leo Grizzle      |
| 7 February 2025 | 6:30 pm | Philip Petrick    | Castor Armesto      | Matthew Emmet Roberts | Benedict Armesto |

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Dear Faithful,

Again, we thank our generous Giving Tuesday donors who made possible the acquisition of our beautiful crèche now housed in the Marian transept and available as a place of prayer until February 3<sup>rd</sup>. As you make your visits to the crèche in these final days of the Christmas season, perhaps consider the points of reflection below:

Our Crèche - Five Points to Ponder

**One - Between the Ox and the Ass**

Note the location of the Christ Child, Our Lady, and St. Joseph between the Ox’s shed and the Ass’s shed. The architect who designed the stable chose this arrangement in order to make quite clear the fulfillment of the famous prophecy in the Book of Habakkuk: “Between two animals you are made manifest.” The ox and the ass not only represent the poverty into which Christ plunged Himself, but also the peoples He came to save: Jews symbolized by the Ox, a clean animal, and gentiles symbolized by the Ass, an unclean animal. While today, we see the Holy Family as the three fundamental figures of any Nativity scene, in some early iconography, the ox and the ass were considered even more important depictions than St. Joseph, due to their great symbolic significance.

**Two - The Hymn of the Angels**

A mighty archangel stands above the manger and a choir of angels flies in the distance behind him after having summoned the shepherds. At each Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we join our voices to the angels of Christmas morning when we sing the Gloria.

**Three - Symbols of Epiphany**

Although in the recent history of the Church, Christmas has enjoyed more prominence as a feast than Epiphany, in truth, Christmas is but a quiet precursor to the splendor of Christ’s manifestation to the world which we celebrate in the Feast of Epiphany. In our crèche here at the Oratory, we have included imagery to remind pious souls of all three of the great scenes included in Christ’s manifestation as King. First, we see the Three Magi adoring at the crib and presenting their gifts, a testament to the worship of all lands and nations. Next, we see two clay jars which may call to mind the water jars at cana used by Christ in His first great miracle. And finally, we see a stream, calling to mind Christ’s upcoming Baptism in the River Jordan.

**Four – Symbols of the Passion**

The prominence of wood in the stable building, both in its paneled walls and hayloft of dark angled beams, may call to mind the wood of the Cross. The use of holly from the tree which grows just next to our church reminds us of Christ’s crown of thorns and drops of Precious Blood.

**Five - A playful Detail**

And finally, during installation of the nativity on 23 December, a schola member added rolled oats to the troughs for the ox and the ass lest they grow hungry during the many weeks of Christmas.

Special thanks to Mrs. Erin Turntine, president of the Oratory Altar and Rosary Society for her research which led us to the beautiful Ulrich Nativity figures. And heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Scott Varian, an architect who graciously designed and built our stable *pro bono*. For months prior to the build, he developed his vision for a Northern European structure of graceful asymmetry featuring rich but rustic wood work and authentic thatching. The stable is a most fitting addition to our English Gothic church and will inspire the hearts of young and old for years to come. Deo Gratias!

***Our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us who have recourse to thee!  
Ss. Gregory and Augustine, pray for us!***



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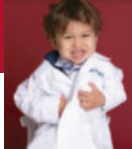
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