

GLAD



TIDINGS

HOLY FAMILY NEWSLETTER
STAFFED BY FRIARS OF THE WESTERN
DOMINICAN PROVINCE

DEUS PROVIDEBIT - GOD WILL PROVIDE

The Most Reverend Andrew E. Bellisario, CM,
Archbishop

Volume XIV, No. 2

Fr. James Junípero Moore, OP, Pastor
February 2026



The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

February 2
Right: Holy Family
stained glass window



Wednesday, February 18
Masses: 8A, 12P, 6P,
730P Spanish
Sung Vespers: 530P



Letter from Fr. Matthew Heynen

On February 2nd we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple, also known as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin in the Temple. It is the same liturgical event. So, why are there very different titles? To help clarify let's turn to St. Luke:



“When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” Luke 2:22-24

For the Jewish people the reality of the excess of after-birth from a woman was symbolic of fallen human nature of her and her child. So, the woman would go to the Temple to be made physically clean, and this was symbolic of being her cleansed from sin. Then she would offer her child to the Lord. Like her, the child is born into the world as a fallen creature, so the woman offers the child to God in the temple by bringing animal offerings to the priest who would in turn sacrifice those offerings to the Lord. However, the Blessed Virgin Mary and Christ were and are sinless! Why would they need to do some purification rite for sin?

Mary's purification and her offering of Christ are symbolic of her sinless purity, the perfect offering of Christ on the cross, and her participation in Christ's perfect sacrifice for our redemption. The purity of Mary's cooperation with God and our Lord's Sacrifice cannot really be separated. The title "The Presentation" presupposes that something is being offered by someone. It is through Mary's faith that Christ can come into the world as the perfect offering for our sins. But it is only through God's foreknowledge of the merits of Christ that Mary can have the grace to make that perfect "yes" to God. Like Mary, we can make sacrifices in our lives with faith to know Our Lord more deeply and become his true instruments for the salvation of the world.

Carta Del Parocco

El 2 de febrero celebramos la Fiesta de la Presentación de Nuestro Señor en el Templo, también conocida como la Fiesta de la Purificación de la Santísima Virgen en el Templo. Se trata del mismo acontecimiento litúrgico. Entonces, ¿por qué existen títulos tan diferentes? Para aclararlo, recurramos a San Lucas:

“Cuando se cumplieron los días de la purificación de ellos, según la ley de Moisés, llevaron a Jesús a Jerusalén para presentarlo al Señor” Lucas 2:22-24

Para el pueblo judío, la impureza ritual después del parto simbolizaba la naturaleza humana caída de la madre y del niño. Por lo tanto, la mujer acudía al Templo para ser purificada físicamente, lo cual simbolizaba su purificación del pecado. Luego ofrecía a su hijo al Señor. Al igual que ella, el niño nace en el mundo como una criatura caída, por lo que la mujer ofrece al niño a Dios en el templo, presentando ofrendas de animales al sacerdote, quien a su vez las sacrificaba al Señor. Sin embargo, la Santísima Virgen María y Cristo fueron y son inmaculados. ¿Por qué necesitarían un rito de purificación por el pecado?

La purificación de María y su ofrenda de Cristo simbolizan su pureza inmaculada, la ofrenda perfecta de Cristo en la cruz y su participación en el sacrificio perfecto de Cristo para nuestra redención. La pureza de la cooperación de María con Dios y el sacrificio de Nuestro Señor son inseparables. El título "La Presentación" presupone que alguien ofrece algo. Es a través de la fe de María que Cristo puede venir al mundo como la ofrenda perfecta por nuestros pecados. Pero es solo a través de la presciencia de Dios sobre los méritos de Cristo que María puede tener la gracia de dar ese "sí" perfecto a Dios. Al igual que María, podemos hacer sacrificios en nuestras vidas con fe para conocer a Nuestro Señor más profundamente y convertirnos en sus verdaderos instrumentos para la salvación del mundo.

GLAD TIDINGS

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Mission Alaska sites

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TO REGISTER IN THE PARISH

Go to the Holy Family website at hfocak.org, or
Complete a form in the pews, or Call the office

ST. PAUL'S CORNER will be closed until March
1 for system upgrades.

SAINT CATHERINE LABOURE

Fran Lopinsky

Feast Day: Dec 31, (Nov 28
Vincentian Calendar)
Patronage: Miraculous
Medal, Elderly and Infirm
People

Zoe Labouré was born in
France on May 2, 1806. When
she was nine years old her
mother died. **She picked up
a statue of Our Lady, kissed
it and said: "Now you will be
my mother!"**

At the age of twenty-four,
and against the wishes of
her father, Zoe entered the
convent of the Daughters of Charity, founded by
Saint Vincent DePaul (Vincentians), hoping to
fulfill her desire to become a nurse. She took the
name Catherine and, after taking final vows,
Catherine spent the next forty years caring for the
aged and infirm.

**At this convent on the Rue de Bac in Paris
Catherine had visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary
that led to the creation of the Medal of Our Lady
of Graces or the Medal of the Immaculate
Conception.**

These Miraculous Medals, as they were called,
quickly became popular by millions of Catholics
because of the many answered prayers, conversions
and healings. They played an important role in the
decision of Pope Pius IX to proclaim the doctrine of
the Immaculate Conception on December 8, 1854.

Catherine died on December 31, 1876 in Paris. Pope
Pius XII canonized her on July 27, 1947.

Catherine's incorrupt body is buried in the Chapel
of Our Lady of Graces of the Miraculous Medal at
140 Rue de Bac, Paris.

**"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who
have recourse to thee."**



ON FASTING

Br. Anthony Martin, OP

One of the Lenten penances
that we are exhorted to
practice is fasting. When
fasting is viewed simply as
self-induced hunger or
equated with not eating
food, it can seem unpleasant
and burdensome. However, a deeper understanding of
the nature of fasting and its varying purposes can give
us greater courage to undertake it as a penance this
Lent.



At its core, fasting is not a physical state of starvation
but a virtuous act. Even though it involves reducing
food intake, it is essentially something positive, a
benefit to be sought after. St. Thomas Aquinas offers
three basic reasons for fasting: chastity, contemplation,
and satisfaction for sins.

**In the first place, fasting acts as a guardian for
chastity.** Food is more than simply the consumption of
calories. What we eat and how much we eat affect how
we think and function as humans. Fasting helps us
preserve bodily integrity and mitigates temptations of
lust that might be experienced through the quantity or
quality of food. Additionally, by fasting we rebuild our
relationship with sense pleasures and our ability to
moderate our desire for them. Both fasting and chastity
fall under the common virtue of temperance.

**Secondly, fasting enhances our capacity to meditate
on divine things.** Fasting has a liberating effect that
allows one to contemplate God. When fasting is done
properly, the mind is not distracted by the digestion and
assimilation of food. Rather, it is at rest, ready to ponder
spiritual things. St. Thomas also provides scriptural
evidence in the case of the prophet Daniel. Daniel
fasted for three weeks and proceeded to receive a
revelation from God.

Lastly, fasting acts as satisfaction for sins. Sin causes
damage and disruption in our lives. Fasting atones and
makes reparation for our sins. It keeps our minds turned
away from sin as we seek healing in our lives.

In sum, fasting is not pain for the sake of pain, but a
valuable penitential practice for our flourishing. It
simultaneously helps us root out sin and aids us in our
contemplation of God.

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

BLOOD DRIVE

You make the difference; they count on it.



Give the gift of Life this New Year!

Schedule an appt today 907-222-5630 QR scan the QR code

Holy Family Lenten Blood Drive

EAT WELL STAY HYDRATED BRING PHOTO ID



www.bloodbankofalaska.org

SOUP SUPPERS

Fridays in Lent. 6P



Sponsoring ministry:

**2.20 – Faith Formation, OCIA,
Altar Servers**

2.27 – El Shaddai

Contact your ministry head to help

STATIONS OF

THE CROSS

Fridays in Lent. 7P



MISSION READY!

Here am I, Lord. Send me!

**Holy Family ministries run on volunteer power!
Volunteer leaders and volunteer members.
Where do your talents fit? Here are a few ideas.**



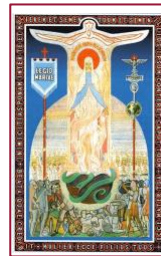
Society of St. Michael the Archangel. Holy Family's new security ministry. Read about them on the following page.



Concerned about our environment? Help take Holy Family recycle to the recycle center. Time? About 3 hours/week. Truck or SUV helpful. Maybe a good family ministry? Call the office at 907-276-3455.



Is your calling to serve the less fortunate? St. Vincent de Paul is dedicated to providing person-to-person, hands-on service to those in poverty and need. Founded on principles of charity, humility, and compassion. Contact Richard Whitney, 907-330-9637.



Would you like to help Our Blessed Mother bring Her Son to the world, person to person? The Legion of Mary has adult and youth programs. Call Robert Bowe, 907-229-3199 (adult) or Therese Syren, 907-887-1121, (youth).



If you love the prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, adoration is offered at Holy Family Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.



Our liturgy depends on volunteers as lectors, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, ushers and musicians. If you love being part of the Mass, consider this as your service. Contact names are in the bulletin.

There are volunteer flyers and signup sheets in the vestibule. Pick one up; pray about your call; and sign up!

FEATURED MINISTRIES

Society of St. Michael the Archangel

Troops of St. George

David Syzdek, Ministry leader



Holy Family's Society of St. Michael the Archangel was founded by Fr. James with the purpose of improving the safety and security of clergy, parishioners, and visitors during events at Holy Family without

compromising the pastoral mission of the Church. Although one of the responsibilities of the ministry is to watch over the parish during events for threats to individuals, this is only one facet of our ministry. Our ministry also renders assistance to individuals in distress, picks up garbage around the parish, cleans up messes in the pews, ensures that the parish's first aid kits are properly supplied, and verifies that the parish's safety equipment is functioning. Since mid December, our ministry has rendered medical aid to an individual; called for an ambulance transport for an individual in distress; removed individuals from the parish grounds due to drug use; trespassed an individual for attempting to hide in the parish hall through the night; obtained opioid test and treatment kits for the parish; stocked emesis bags (for those times when children aren't exaggerating about stomach ailments); and returned a child to his parents who in his zeal for the our Lord bolted down the center aisle towards the altar.

Our ministry consists of members from a variety of backgrounds ranging from firefighters and police officers to retired school teachers and software developers. Due to the varied background of our members, we are pursuing training so that our ministry is capable of acting with professionalism, competency, and, most importantly, compassion. We are actively reaching out to local organizations to schedule our ministry for training in first aid/CPR, de-escalation, church security, and a variety of other topics.

If you have questions or suggestions regarding the safety and security of Holy Family; or if you are willing to join this new ministry, please reach out to David Syzdek <securityministry@hdocak.org>.

The Troops of St. George is a scouting like group for young men ages 5-18. The Troops of St. George forms Holy Catholic men and young men through fraternity, skills building, and outdoor adventures. We meet from 6:00pm - 8:00pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month in the parish hall at Holy Family. In the past year, the young men in our troop have butchered a pig; built a watch tower; learned to cook from scratch at camp; made waxed cloth for storing rations; learned to "lash" buttons; had a knot tying competition (the young men beat the dads); learned basic first aid (dads redeemed themselves); learned knife sharpening; and hosted a five day summer camp. We strive to make our activities interesting and informative for both the young men and their fathers. **If you have a son who is interested in learning more hands on skills, please join us at one of our meetings. If you have a manly skill you are willing to teach to our troop, please contact David Syzdek at 907-980-1151.**





50 YEARS Jubilee 1974 2024 DOMINICANS SERVING HOLY FAMILY

FEBRUARY 2026 AT HOLY FAMILY



Fri., 6 **FIRST FRIDAY.** Adoration, 830A – 8P. Hour of Reparation, 7P

Sat., 7 **7th and 8th GRADES RETREAT.** 9A – 4P

Mon., 9 **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL MEETING.** 8P

Fri., 13 **BOOK CLUB.** Fletchers, 3P

Sun., 15 **CHURCH IN EASTERN EUROPE – 2nd collection**

Sun., 15 **PANCAKE BREAKFAST** after 930A Mass

Wed., 18 **SUNG VESPERS.** 530P

Wed., 18 **ASH WEDNESDAY.** Masses: 8A, 12P, 6P, 730P Spanish

Wed., 18 **Offertory supports St. Vincent de Paul**

Thurs., 19 **MERCY NIGHT.** Adoration and Confession. 5th grade

and up; Ministry Center. 7P-8P

Fri – Sun, 20 – 22 **HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT.** St. Therese's Camp

Sun., 22 **BLACK AND INDIAN MISSIONS – 2nd collection**

Fri., 20, 27 **SOUP SUPPERS,** 6P, and

STATIONS OF THE CROSS, 7P

FEBRUARY FEASTS AND LITURGIES:

2 FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

18 ASH WEDNESDAY

22 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MISSION ALASKA:

Sun., 1 Holy Family, Glennallen

Sun., 8 St. Francis Xavier, Kotzebue

Sun., 15 St. Philip, Trapper Creek and St. Bernard, Talkeetna

Sun., 22 St. Christopher by the Sea, Dutch Harbor



RECURRING:
Sun. **FAITH FORMATION.** 1045A – 1145A

COFFEE AND DONUTS every Sunday, except third Sunday after 930A Mass

Mon. **TROOPS OF ST. GEORGE.** 2nd and 4th Mondays. 6P

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS. 2nd and 4th Mondays. 6P

YOUNG ADULTS. Ministry Center. 7P

Tues. **LEGION OF MARY.** Ministry Center. 1245P

JUNIOR LEGION OF MARY. Ministry Center. 345P

ADORATION. 7P – 8P

OCLA. Ministry Center. 7P

Thu. **ADORATION.** 4P – 655P

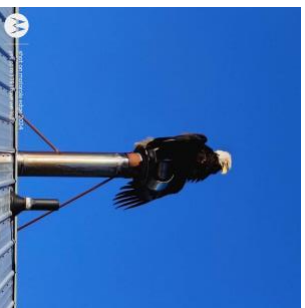
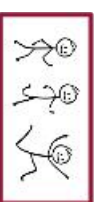
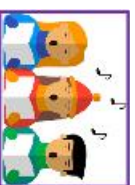
JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH. 5P

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH. 7P

CHOIR PRACTICE. 7P

Fri. **ADORATION.** 830A -noon

Sat. **OVER 65 DANCE CLASS.** 11A – 12P



L: St. Christopher's by the Sea, Dutch Harbor; rooftop detail!
R: Vespers





The DOMINICAN Page

Dominicans Serving Alaska Since 1974



DOMINICAN FORUM

“DIVINE COMBAT: GOD’S WAR WITH CHAOS AND DARKNESS IN SACRED SCRIPTURE”



**Fr. Columban
Hall, OP**



RESCHEDULED TO
Wednesday
February 11
7P
Dominican Hall
Holy Family
Anchorage



Holy Family
811 West 6th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

**WE'RE
CALLED
TO BE
SAINTS**



**SIEMPRE
ADELANTE**

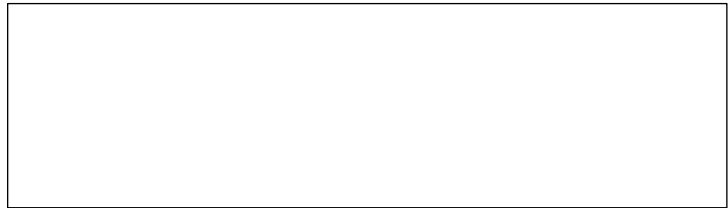


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**DUST THOU ART
AND TO DUST
THOU SHALL
RETURN**



**DOMINICANS
SERVING HOLY
FAMILY
1974 - 2024**



**HOLY
FAMILY
YOUTH
GROUP
February
Schedule**

Meetings occur
in the ministry
center

Junior High
5pm - 6:30pm

High School
7pm - 9pm

Mercy Nights
3rd Thursday of
every month.
7pm - 8pm



JUNIOR HIGH

February 5th Game Night
February 12th Jesus our Savior
February 19th Jesus Our Friend
February 26th The Holy Spirit:
Our Reponse to Jesus

HIGH SCHOOL

February 5th Trivia Night
February 12th Lent: What It Is
and What To Do
February 19th Mercy Night and
Fellowship
February 26th Perseverance and
Faith

Contact Angel Pizzuto for more
information
youthministry@hfocak.org
(907) 206-2419

**RETREAT
OPPORTUNITIES**

FEBRUARY 7TH
7th & 8th Grade
9am - 4pm
In the ministry
center



FEBRUARY 20TH - 22ND
High School
At St. Therese's Camp

Contact our youth
minister to register!

Angel Pizzuto
Text or Call 907-206-2419
Email youthministry@hfocak.org

St. Paul's Corner

Ready, Set...

The Corner store's targeted reopening date is **Sunday, March 1st**. We will be welcoming you with a new look, a more efficient check out, plus a few more surprises!

PS. February issues of "Magnificat" & the 2026 guides for "Liturgy of Hours" for sale in the parish office - CASH or Check only

