

From the Desk of Father David Jenuwine

Dear Parish Family,

Lent is just around the corner. Ash Wednesday is March 5, and is only ten days away. During Lent, we will have Wednesday afternoon talks beginning March 12. The talks will start at 3:00 pm in the basement, followed by Mass at 4:00 pm, and we'll end with a light supper around 4:45 pm.

Also, we are bringing back Stations of the Cross before the Friday noon Mass. Stations will begin at 11:30 am, followed by Mass at noon.

March brings with it a plethora of saints' days. March 1 commemorates St. David the patron of Wales (the country, not the mammal); March 3 is St. Katherine Drexel, who was canonized 14 years ago and was the second American-born saint. March 17 is St. Patrick, followed on March 19 by the Solemnity of St. Joseph. March 25 is the Annunciation, which is exactly 9 months before Christmas. Hopefully the cold weather is going to break. As I write this, the thermometer is finally reading a number over freezing. Let's

> hope that the first day of Spring, March 21, brings a warmer weather. Also, the First Sunday of Lent, March 9, also begins Daylight Savings Time. I always remember "spring ahead, fall behind." Stay warm, Easter is only 50 days away. Pray for each other! God bless you!



The Annunciation is the celebration of the announcement by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she would conceive and become the mother of the Son of God. Gabriel told Mary to name her son Jesus, meaning "Savior". The Annunciation on 25 March, nine full months before Christmas, the day we celebrate the birthday of Jesus.

Fr. David



Saint Joseph - Husband of Mary, March 19



St. Joseph, the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the fosterfather of Jesus, was probably born in Bethlehem and probably died in Nazareth. His important mission in God's plan of salvation was "to legally insert Jesus Christ into the line of David from whom, according to the prophets, the Messiah would be born, and to act

as his father and guardian." Most of our information about St. Joseph comes from the opening two chapters of St. Matthew's Gospel. No words of his are recorded in the Gospels; he was the "silent" man.

St. Joseph was an ordinary manual laborer although descended from the royal house of David. In the designs of Providence he was destined to become the spouse of the Mother of God. His high privilege is expressed in a single phrase, "Foster-father of Jesus."

Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a just man-an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his high trust of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary.

He was later venerated by the great saints of the Middle Ages. Blessed Pope Pius IX (1870) declared him patron and protector of the universal family of the Church.



Bible Basics - Thank You!

Thank you, Dr. John Bergsma, for the wonderful talks on the Bible here at Holy Family during the first week of February. Thank you, too to everyone who helped make those two evenings special. We had around 120 people the first night, and despite the snow storm the next day, we had over 60 people come the next night.

If you want more information, Dr. Bergsma's materials are available at his website: <u>http://www.johnbergsma.com</u>

Also, if you missed the first talk, want to view it again, or share it with someone; it is available online as the slides with a voice-over on Vimeo: <u>http://vimeo.com/42695370</u>



Saint David of Wales - March 1

Saint David was a Welsh bishop of Menevia during the 6th century; he was later regarded as a saint and as the patron saint of Wales. He was a native of Wales, and a relatively large amount of information is known about his life.

He became renowned as a teacher and preacher, founding monastic settlements and churches in Wales, Dumnonia, and Brittany. Saint David's Cathedral stands on the site of the monastery he founded in the Glyn Rhosyn valley of Pembrokeshire.

It is claimed that he lived for over 100 years, and that he died on Tuesday March 1 in 589. Saint David was officially recognized as a saint by the Vatican during the reign of Pope Callixtus II in 1120.