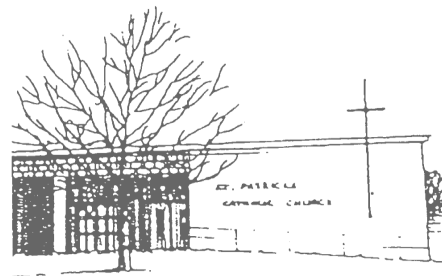


# Immaculate Conception

703 12th Avenue, Fulton, IL 61252

## Saint Patrick

Route 84, Albany, IL 61230



### PARISH NEWSLETTER



February 2020

#### Happy Birthday

- Feb. 2 Melissa Facio
- Feb. 3 James Field
- Feb. 4 Alison Hughes
- Feb. 7 Macy Litherland
- Feb. 8 Margaret Thunstedt
- Feb. 9 Pierre Mure-Ravaud  
Dave Harrison
- Feb. 10 Becky Hovey
- Feb. 14 Andy Simmons  
Joe Flies  
Lee Salazar
- Feb. 16 Mary B. Paul
- Feb. 18 Harold Ward
- Feb. 19 Sebastien Mure-Ravaud  
Camilla Naftzger  
Emily Reeser
- Feb. 24 Brooke Posateri
- Feb. 26 Traci Smith  
Shelly Price
- Feb. 27 Roxanne Holland  
Margaret Renkes  
Lori Lisius  
Oliver Frick

#### Happy Anniversary

- Feb. 07 Charles & JoAnn McGowan
- Feb. 11 Gene & Rebecca Field
- Feb. 14 RJ & Lynne Coffey
- Feb. 27 Nick & Lisa Leonard

*If we have missed your Birthday or Anniversary, please call the Parish Office @ 815-589-3542.*

#### Please Note Dates Father Gone:

Fr. Camaioni will be gone during the first two weeks of February. He will be off during the weekdays of Feb. 3 to 7, and Feb. 10 to 14, 2020. However, he will be here during the weekends. Check the February Calendar to verify these dates.

#### Happy Valentine's Day — February 14, 2020

**Early history of Church martyrs mentions three different St. Valentines, all sharing February 14th as a feast day.** This historical record is relatively sparse. However, all of these men, each named St. Valentine, showed heroic love for the Lord and His Church.

**The first St. Valentine was a priest and physician in Rome.** He, along with St. Marius and his family, comforted martyrs during the persecutions of Emperor Claudius II, the Goth. He was arrested, condemned to death, beaten with clubs, and finally beheaded on February 14th, AD 270—all for his faith!

**The second St. Valentine was the Bishop of Interamna**—now called Terni, located about 60 miles from Rome. He, too, was arrested, scourged, and decapitated, also suffering persecution during the time of Emperor Claudius II.

**The third St. Valentine suffered martyrdom in Africa** with several companions. However, nothing further is known about this saint.

**The current-day practice of exchanging “Valentines” on February 14th,** which has been paganized with cupids, etc., seems the result of a secular custom, rather than a celebration of love, done in memory of “St. Valentine.”

**However, there is a Christian message that should be remembered.** The love of our Lord, depicted beautifully in the image of His Most Sacred Heart, is a sacrificial, self-less, and unconditional love. Never forget that Jesus said, “This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (John 15:12-13). **St. Valentine, whoever he was, fulfilled this commandment, and may we do the same.** *(This information was taken from an article entitled “History of St. Valentine” by Fr. William Saunders” on www.catholiceducation.org)*

#### DATES TO REMEMBER & CHECK FEBRUARY CALENDAR:

- **2019 Tax Forms are available for pick-up in the Parish Office, or will be mailed on Thursday, January 30, 2020.**
- **Inter-Parish Super Bowl Party, Sunday, February 2nd, 4 pm, at The Gatherings Building, 408 10th Avenue, Fulton, IL.** So much fun!
- **St. Vincent DePaul Fundraiser is Monday, February 3rd, 5 to 8 pm, at Pizza Ranch in Clinton, IA.** Great food and lots of fun! Don't miss it.
- **SCRIP Cards for Pizza Ranch**—Don't forget to purchase Pizza Ranch SCRIP cards to use at the SVDP Fundraiser listed above.
- **Parish Office CLOSED on Monday, Feb. 17, 2020, for Presidents' Day.**
- **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26th, last Wednesday in February.** Check February Calendar for Mass times and Lenten Rules.
- **RE Students and Parents are asked to attend 7 pm Mass at IC on Ash Wednesday,** as Mass is taking the place of RE Classes that night.
- **Stations of The Cross start Friday, February 28, 2020.** They continue every Friday during Lent, alternating from IC to SP. Check the calendar.