



Der Löwe und der Pfeil



The Lion and the Arrow — Issue 9

Announcements

First Communion classes will begin February 14 in the Saint Benedict Room following the 9 a.m. Holy Mass. This will be the only week that classes take place in the Saint Benedict Room. Starting on February 21, classes will take place at Reznicek Hall.

On February 14 the CDA will be holding their annual Mother Daughter Breakfast. All Catholic Daughter members, daughters and granddaughters are invited to attend. If you would like to RSVP to the event please contact Mrs. Charlene Reynolds. The dinner will take place after the 9 a.m. Holy Mass at Reznicek Hall.

The Catholic Daughters are holding an Easter Raffle. **All proceeds will be going to the Religious Education Program and Catholic School Subsidy of Saint Leo IV Church and Saint Edmund Chapel.** There will be more than 30 items raffled including paintings, figurines, books and much more. You can purchase tickets from any Catholic Daughter member for \$1 a ticket or \$5 for a book. The drawing for items will take place on Sunday, March 21, 2021. You do not need to be present to win.

On February 9 the CDA will be having their monthly Holy Mass and meeting. Holy Mass will 6:30 a.m. and this meeting will be an eating meeting at 6 p.m. at Casa Margarita in Rayne. It is a Dutch treat meal.

During the season of Lent the Way of the Cross will follow the 8 a.m. Holy Mass at Saint Edmund Chapel. The only Thursday excluded will be Holy Thursday. The Way of the Cross will also be said on Fridays during Lent at Saint Leo IV following the 6 p.m. Holy Mass. The only Friday excluded from this will be Good Friday.



Monthly Saint

Every month the newsletter will feature a Saint or Religious Figure. Many times, a prayer or novena will be featured. For February we feature Saint Valentine.

The Saint Valentine celebrated today may have been two different men. One account holds that Saint Valentine was a Priest at Rome and the other states that he was the Bishop of Interamna (modern-day Terni). Both of these men were persecuted and killed for their faith and then buried somewhere along the Flaminian Way. It is also possible that they were the same person. He was a Roman Priest and physician, who was martyred or he was the Bishop of Terni, Italy, who was also martyred in Rome around 270 A.D. by Claudius the Goth who was the Roman Emperor at the time. Saint Valentine - whether Priest or Bishop - was martyred on February 14th, now celebrated as Saint Valentine's Day. According to most accounts, he was beaten and then beheaded, after a time of imprisonment. Local devotion to him spread and Pope Julius I had a Basilica dedicated to him built approximately two miles from Rome, over his burial place. His skull is now kept in the Basilica of Santa Maria at Rome and is decorated with flower crowns on his feast day. Saint Valentine was one of the first Christian martyrs when the general persecution of Christians started in the Roman Empire.

Some Saint Valentine's Day traditions can be correlated with his life, such as the exchanging of cards, or the celebration of romantic love. One account was that he had befriended the jailer's daughter, where he was being imprisoned, and when he died, he left her a note inscribed with *'From your Valentine.'* Other accounts state that exchanging cards on Saint Valentine's Day recalls how he would send notes to fellow Christians from prison.

Another story is that Claudius the Goth actually had prohibited marriage amongst his soldiers. He felt that if his soldiers were married, they would be less devoted to the army, especially at that time and they needed as many troops as possible. So there was a legend that Saint Valentine actually had married soldiers in secret. Saint Valentine's Day, as it is known today was also instituted as a substitute for a cruder Roman holiday at the time, called Lupercalia. Lupercalia was a popular feast celebrated at Rome, during which a group of pagan priests would sacrifice different types of animals and then wildly run through the streets of Rome, slapping young women with the animal hides, a ritual that was thought to guarantee their health and fertility for the year.

To correct the pagan ways His Holiness, Pope Gelasius, in the 5th century, replaced the Lupercalia with Saint Valentine's Feast Day.

Parts of modern Saint Valentine's Day are entirely unrelated to the real Saint Valentine. He did not, for instance, go around shooting people with bows and arrows. That imagery was taken from the Roman god Cupid, who was a god of love. He also did not distribute chocolates to his loved ones; the real Saint Valentine predates chocolates as we know them by more than 1500 years.

The truth is that faithful Christians may still learn from the example of Saint Valentine, even if they are not at risk of martyrdom. In some ways, although few are called to martyrdom as Christians, in almost every act of love, there is an element of self-sacrifice and self-renunciation. May we sacrifice for love of Jesus Christ so that we may imitate the holiness of Saint Valentine.

Events and Holy Days

Any events going on in Roberts Cove and in Branch during the month of the newsletter will be featured in this space. If you wish to have an event for the month listed, then please send all the information to ampdupuis@yahoo.com by the third Sunday of the month before the event is scheduled to take place.

February 9 – CDA Mass & Eating Meeting

Holy Mass will be at 6:30 a.m. and the meeting will be at 6 p.m. at Casa Margarita in Rayne.

February 10 – Feast Day of Saint Scholastica

February 12 – Lincoln's Birthday

February 14 – Saint Valentine's Day

February 14 – CDA Mother Daughter Breakfast

The breakfast will follow the 9 a.m. Holy Mass.

February 14 – First Holy Communion Classes Begin

Classes will be held in the Saint Benedict Room following the 9 a.m. Holy Mass for this week only and will resume in Reznicek Hall the following week.

February 15 – Washington's Birthday

February 17 – Ash Wednesday

6:30 a.m. Holy Mass at Saint Edmund

6 p.m. Holy Mass at Saint Leo IV

February 22 – The Chair of Saint Peter



February's flowers are the violet and the primrose.



The birthstone of February is Amethyst. The name comes from the Ancient Greek, derived from the word methustos, which means "intoxicated." Ancient wearers believed the gemstone could protect them from drunkenness.

Archive Dive

As Saint Valentine's Day approaches the Catholic Daughter's of the Americas, CDA, Court Saint Leo #2168 prepares for their annual Mother Daughter Breakfast. While this breakfast is hosted by the CDA, all the mothers, daughters and granddaughters in the parish are invited to join the CDA and others at Reznicek Hall on the weekend closest to Saint Valentine's Day.

The tradition of the Mother Daughter Breakfast has been going on for many years, and, when looking for the date of the first one, I was not able to find one. A tradition that has been a part of the breakfast since the beginning though, is the picking of adopted grandmothers.

At every Mother Daughter Breakfast, all the little girls that are present get their name pulled and are given an adopted grandmother. The grandmothers are the older ladies in the parish. During the next year, the adopted grandmother and granddaughter pray for each other and check up on each other. While it isn't required most exchange gifts or cards at their birthdays and Christmas.

The main part of the breakfast, the actual meal, is prepared by all of the women in one of the families that attend the breakfast. Many years there is three or four generations of ladies fixing breakfast. Every year it is always a treat to get to try a new dish that the family thinks of, or even to have an old favorite or traditional breakfast that everyone knows.

This year's breakfast is very special since it falls on Saint Valentine's Day. We hope to see all the ladies in the parish join us for a morning of great food, great conversation and great love. The breakfast will take place after the 9 a.m. Holy Mass on February 14 at Reznicek Hall.

You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams.

–Dr. Seuss

