

Sancta Familia Academy Newsletter

Winter, 2010
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1204 N. Harbor City Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32935
www.sanctafamilia.org



Registration for the 2010-2011 School Year

Registration for August 2010 is now open. Early registration discounts - \$100 before April 1st, \$125 before June 1st. After June 1st, the regular family registration fee is \$150. Register online at www.sanctafamilia.net or come to our Open House on

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Candlemas, February 2nd

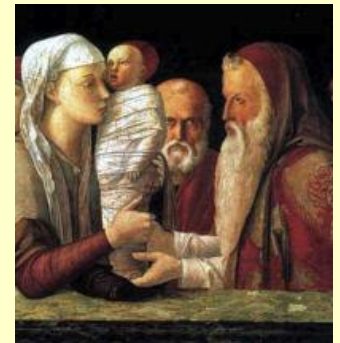
Until 1969, the ancient feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, which is of Oriental origin, was known in the West as the feast of the Purification of Our Lady, and closed the Christmas season, forty days after the Lord's birth. This feast has for long been associated with many popular devotional exercises.

In some local Churches, certain elements taken from the Gospel account of the Presentation of the Lord (Lk 2, 22-40), such as the obedience of Joseph and Mary to the Law of the Lord, the poverty of the holy spouses, the virginity of Our Lady, mark out 2 February as a special feast for those at the service of the brethren in the various forms of consecrated life.

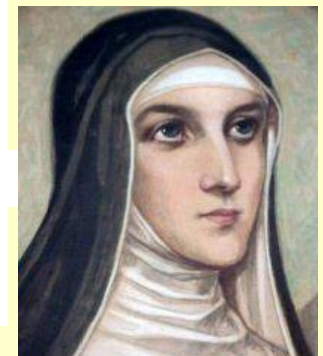
Excerpted from *Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*

Saint Scholastica, February 10th

St. Scholastica was the twin sister of St. Benedict, the Patriarch of Western monasticism. She was born in Umbria, Italy, about 480. Under Benedict's direction, Scholastica founded a community of nuns near the great Benedictine monastery Monte Cassino. Inspired by Benedict's teaching, his sister devoted her whole life to seeking and serving God. She died in 547 and tradition holds that at her death her soul ascended to heaven in the form of a dove.



St. Blaise, Feb. 3rd



Important Dates

- ◆ Open House
- ◆ Jog-a-thon
- ◆ Academic Fair
- ◆ Spring Program
- ◆ Graduation



*St. Valentine
Bishop and Martyr
Feb. 14, A.D. 270*



*Our Lady of Lourdes
February 11th*



The Story of Saint Valentine

In 270 A.D., marriage had been outlawed by the emperor of Rome, Claudius II. Claudius issued this decree because he thought that married men made bad soldiers since they were reluctant to be torn away from their families in the case of war. Claudius had also outlawed Christianity in this time period because he wished to be praised as the one supreme god, the Emperor of Rome. Valentine was the bishop of Interamna during this period of oppression. Valentine thought that the decrees of Rome were wrong. He believed that people should be free to love God and to marry. Valentine invited the young couples of the area to come to him. When they came, Valentine secretly performed services of matrimony and united the couples. Valentine was eventually caught and was brought before the emperor. The emperor saw that Valentine had conviction and drive that was

unsurpassed among his men. Claudius tried and tried to persuade Valentine to leave Christianity, serve the Roman Empire and the Roman gods. In exchange, Claudius would pardon him and make him one of his allies. St. Valentine held to his faith and did not renounce Christ. Because of this, the emperor sentenced him to a three-part execution. First, Valentine would be beaten, then stoned, and then finally, decapitated. Valentine died on February 14th, 270 A.D.

While in prison, waiting for his sentence to be carried out, Valentine fell in love with the jailer's daughter, the blind Asterius. During the course of Valentine's prison stay, a miracle occurred and Asterius regained her sight. Valentine sent her a final farewell note. He signed his last note, "From Your Valentine." Even today, this message remains as the motto for our Valentine's Day celebrations.

St. Josephine Bakhita, Feb. 8th

For many years, Josephine Bakhita was a slave, but her spirit was always free and eventually that spirit prevailed. Born in Olgossa in the Darfur region of southern Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped at the age of seven, sold into slavery and given the name Bakhita, which means fortunate. She was resold several times, finally in 1883 to Callisto Legnani, Italian consul in Khartoum, Sudan. Two years later he took Josephine to Italy and gave her to his friend Augusto Michieli. Soon Bakhita became babysitter to Mimmina Michieli, whom she accompanied to Venice's Institute of the Catechumens, run by the Canossian Sisters. While Mimmina was being instructed, Josephine felt drawn to the Catholic Church. She was baptized and confirmed in 1890, taking the name Josephine.

The first steps toward her beatification began in 1959. She was beatified in 1992 and canonized eight years later. Excerpted from *Saint of the Day*, Leonard Foley, O.F.M.

Pied Piper Poems

There was a pied piper who lived in town
 And that town's name was Hamelin.
 The people from the town came to see
 him with a frown.
 They asked him if he could kill the rats
 and he agreed happily.
 So he came to the street
 And pulled out his flute
 And started his tunes.
 The mayor promised to pay him in runes.
 Rats came from up and down.
 They weren't looking
 And they one at a time would drown.
 The piper came back and found out the
 mayor was lying.
 The piper was crying.
 And he pulled out his flute
 And played a tune for the children.
 They came out and danced about.
 They followed him to a mountain
 Into a fountain,
 And never returned again.

-Stephen, Gr. 4



A long time ago, in Hamelin, Germany, there were too many rats!
 They hid in the kitchen, under the pans, and in all the fathers' hats.
 All through the house the rats would play and make everything not nice,
 Though Mrs. Abendroth did proclaim, "They do make a very good spice!"
 Some were black, some were white, some were gray, and some were brown,
 But no matter what happened, or what anyone did, they wouldn't leave town!
 One day came a stranger. He called himself the Pied Piper, His white skin so dull, with the teeth of a viper.
 "I see you have rats- a great load of them. I can take them away, if you're willing to pay."
 "I am, yes I am, whatever it takes. Just make sure it goes quick, when this takes place."
 The piper smiled slyly, and the mayor agreed,
 To a payment of a thousand guilders, as long as he'd succeed.
 The piper played his flute and the rats followed close.
 He led them through mountains, and up and down the coast.
 Upon his return, the mayor's face fell,
 His face, white as a sheet, he did not appear well.
 "You agreed to my deal- now where is my pay?"
 "I'm sorry dear friend, I must send you on your way."
 The Pied Piper didn't like this- he had earned his money,
 But every time he argued, the mayor thought it more and more funny.
 This time more angry, as he shook his fist,
 He announced, "I shall get my payment, just as I wish!"
 And out in the town, the children just coming out to play,
 Heard the mysterious music, and danced away.
 The piper led them this time to a mountain, where once lived a mole,
 And it opened around them, and swallowed them whole.

-Dena, Gr. 7

Please continue to keep all the Families, Staff, Benefactors, Volunteers and students of Sancta Familia Academy in your prayers.



February 17th - At the beginning of Lent, on Ash Wednesday, ashes are blessed during Mass, after the homily. The blessed ashes are then "imposed" on the faithful as a sign of conversion, penance, fasting and human mortality. The ashes are made from the palms used at the previous Passion Sunday ceremonies. — *Ceremonies of the Liturgical Year*, Msgr. Peter J. Elliott

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1204 N. Harbor City Blvd.
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Phone:
(321) 259-6464

Fax:
(321) 259-6464

E-mail:
admin@sanctafamilia.org



"Amen I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me."

Donations may be made by mail or through our website. www.sanctafamilia.org

For more information about the school please visit our website at www.sanctafamilia.org. If you would prefer to have the newsletter emailed to you and be added to our email update list, please call Janie Alf at 321-432-5430. Or sign up at www.sanctafamilia.net

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