

## GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT February 2, 2014 The Presentation of the Lord

I am ritualistic. I like patterns. I like to do the same things over and over. For example, I get up the same time every day. I exercise four times per week. I have exactly one banana and three Triscuits with one slice of cheese every day for breakfast. Routine brings me a certain amount of peace. I pray every day. For me, when I set up good patterns in my life, great things happen to me.

In our Gospel this week, we are introduced to another ritualistic person, Anna. She has a daily routine of visiting the church and praying. After many years of doing this over and over again, a great thing happened to her. She recognized Jesus. She saw Jesus. She continued to grow in supernatural hope through prayer, age, and routine.

She was found daily in the temple, attending to the Lord in prayer and speaking to others about God's promise to send a redeemer. Immense supernatural hope grows with prayer and age! Anna was a woman of great hope and expectation that God would fulfill all his promises.

She is a model of godliness to all believers as we advance in age. Advancing age and the disappointments of life can easily make us cynical and hopeless. Anna never became hopeless. Through her prayerful routine, Anna's hope in God and his promises grew with age.

Anna never ceased to worship God in faith and to pray with hope. Her hope and faith in God's promises fueled her invincible zeal and fervor in prayer and service of God's people.

For you and me, God places in our hearts a certain hope. The hope is that the kingdom of heaven and eternal life will be our happiness. We hope for eternal life and happiness.

Like Anna, we can grow in hope too. We grow in hope by placing our trust in the promises of Jesus Christ and relying not on our own strength, but on the grace and help of the Holy Spirit. We grow in hope through a prayerful routine.

A philosophy professor at Mount Angel Seminary, Mark Woolman, told me that if I attended Mass for 30 days in a row without missing, it would change my life in a radically great way. It changed Anna's life. It changed my life. It can change your life.

"Lord Jesus, may I never cease to hope in you and to trust in your promises. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may always recognize your saving presence in my life. Help me to point others to Christ and to be an example of faith and devotion as Simeon and Anna were to their generation."

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### STEWARDSHIP

Jan. 26, 2014	\$4,907.90	Online \$610.00
Last Year	\$5,643.45	Online \$365.00
OLV Collection	\$2,387.10	

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### Daily Mass Readings

#### **Monday Feb. 3**

2 Sm 15:13-14 Ps 3:2-7 Mk 5:1-20

#### **Tuesday Feb. 4**

2 Sm 18:9-10,14b Ps 86:1-6 Mk 5:21-43

#### **Wednesday Feb.5**

2 Sm 24:2,9-10 Ps 32:1-2,5-7 Mk 6:1-6

#### **Thursday Feb. 6**

1 Kgs 2:1-4,10-12 (Ps) 1 Chr 29:10-12 Mk 6:7-13

#### **Friday Feb. 7**

Sie 47:2-11 Ps 18:31,47,50-51 Mk 6:14-29

### MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Feb. 1</b>
5:00pm	+ Steve Stewart
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feb. 2</b>
9:00am	For the People of the Parish
11:30am	+ David Adkins
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Feb. 3</b>
9:00am	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Feb. 4</b>
9:00am	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Feb. 5</b>
9:00am	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Feb. 6</b>
9:00am	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Feb. 7</b>
9:00am	



## FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation and Confirmation meet on Sundays. Registration is on line or at the office. 1st grade students who plan to celebrate 1st Eucharist in 2nd grade must be enrolled in 1st grade faith formation now. 8th grade students who plan to celebrate Confirmation in high school must be enrolled in Middle School faith formation now.

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The second year class meets in the All Saints Center at 1pm. The New Confirmation class Candidates continue meetings with their sponsors. *Why Catholic?* groups resume in March.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

Who is the patron saint (Feb. 5) of breast cancer patients?

## COMING EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

- 1 OLV Steak Dinner—Am. Legion 5:30pm
- 2 Middle School Sandwiches for Br. Francis  
Scout Sunday 11:30am  
Souper Bowl of Giving
- 3 St. Blaise—Blessing of Throats 8:30am
- 4 Centering Prayer 6:30pm
- 6 Rosary 7pm  
Women's ACTS begins
- 16 Knights Breakfast

### SCOUT SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 2

Today scouts are called to worship and receive a blessing. Troop 368 thanks Sacred Heart for supporting scouting and invites anyone interested in scouting to contact Linda Skalsky/Committee Chair Troop 368 at 357-9387 or Tim Smith 355-4882 for Pack 300 Cub Scouts.

### FOOD BANK NEEDS

Peanut Butter, Jelly,  
Top Ramen,  
Soups, Stews, Chili,  
Canned Fruit, and  
Vegetables

357-3769

## 1ST EUCHARIST

### PARENT MEETING FEB. 23

Information for 1st Eucharist will be discussed in the Church at 1pm. Children currently attending Sunday classes are eligible.

### SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

All collected food and funds goes to the Wasilla Food Bank. Checks may be made out to Wasilla Food Bank.

### 2nd COLLECTIONS

Remember you may contribute to 2nd collections such as the school collection with on-line giving. Check Sacred Heart website.

### WHY CATHOLIC?

Prayer can take many forms: praise, adoration, petition, thanksgiving. Prayer can be silent, vocal, shared or private. Sometimes prayer comes with great ease and other times it may be quite difficult. Join us as we explore Prayer this Lent.

## OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Our Lady of the Valley  
Catholic School

**SAVE THE DATE:** "Breakfast at Tiffany's" OLV's 7th Annual Gala Dinner Auction on March 29, 2014, at the Menard Sports Complex. Doors open at 5:00pm. Early ticket sales will be *January 20-February 9th*. Early ticket price is \$40 per person. After February 9th, tickets are \$50 per person. Reserved Table Levels are Platinum, Gold and Silver. Call Karen at 376-0883

Thank you for supporting the Catholic Schools Week collection: parishioners donated over \$2300 to support Our Lady of the Valley.



### RETROUVAILLE—MARCH 14-16

The weekend retreat has helped thousands of married couples suffering a break in their relationship. Call 1-800-470-2230 or [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

### BABY BOUTIQUE

Please remember Catholic Social Services' Baby Boutique. Babies and toddlers need new and gently used hooded sweatshirts, hats, mittens, sweatpants, coats, snowsuits, and jackets. One piece t-shirts and diapers in all sizes are always in demand. A collection basket is in the social hall.



### DILLINGHAM YOUTH RETREAT

High school students are invited to sign up for the Dillingham Retreat June 23-27. Sign up sheets are posted in the Social Hall.

### SAFETY AND SECURITY

Children must be accompanied to the rest rooms by an adult and supervised on the playground. Due to meetings, children cannot run and scream in the halls—Thank you for helping make our parish safe.