

CTK & PJXXIII YOUTH GOOD NEWS

February 2021



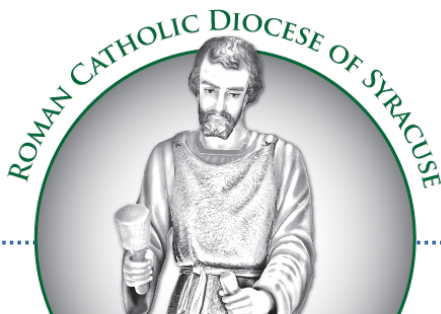
***Please join us for the next
CTK & PJ 5-8 Youth Group***

February 20th at 6:00 pm

Watch your email for an invite

or contact Dc. Michael

mruf@syrdio.org



**YEAR OF
VOCATIONS**

St. Joseph pray for us

SAINTS OF FEBRUARY

February Saints and Feast Days Word Search



*Directions: Search only for the parts of the saints names or feast days that are in bold print.

St. Blaise	St. Jerome Emiliani	St. Methodius
St. Ansgar	St. Josephine Bakhita	St. Peter Damian
St. Agatha	St. Scholastica	St. Polycarp
St. Paul Miki and Companions	Our Lady of Lourdes	Presentation of the Lord
	St. Cyril	

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Vocation Prayer for Children

Dear Heavenly Father,
You know me more
than I know myself.
You love me more
than I love myself.
Therefore, I can trust you.

Help me to say yes to my vocation
like Mary and Joseph did,
so Jesus will be welcomed
into every heart in the world.
Amen.



COMPOSED BY FATHER JASON HAGE
OFFICE OF VOCATION PROMOTION

Snow Angels for God

Well winter is finally here. We have a return of the cold and the snow. It is also the time of year to make snow people, build snow caves, and have snowball fights. But one other fun and common thing to do is to make a snow angel. To make this you must carefully fall backwards into the snow with your arms spread out wide and then you move you legs and arms together and apart to form the angel's body and wings. Then the tricky part is to get out as carefully as you can without pressing your boots too hard into the snow of the angel's body. Sometimes it helps to have a friend to help you get out with minimal footprints to mess up your angel. But when I make them (on rare occasions for me) or watch other people make them I am reminded of a couple points with our faith. The first is it is a reminder that we always have God's angels watching over us. When snow angels are made it is the absence of snow that forms the angel. This reminds us that despite the fact we can't see the angels it doesn't mean they are not there. We must have faith that God and His angels are there protecting us. My second point with snow angels, especially ones where we have friends helping us get out of our perfect snow angel, is that we are all called to be "angels" to each other. We obviously are not true angels since God created us as humans but that doesn't mean we can't be "angels" to each other. Sometimes even the smallest thing we do can be a great help to another person. Shoveling a neighbor's steps, walk a small sign in the snow to say hello to others, even simple things as smiling and saying hello when you walk pass someone. All these things are small ways that can have a major impact on others and help them want to spread the good felling. There are many stories where I here of a



friend just randomly call to talk or a stranger walking past them on the street or in a store and just smiling and saying hello. This has told me how this has helped them get through the bad and remember that God and others are there with and for them. So, take advantage of the snow and go make some snow angels to help remember that angels are there for us and that we can be angels to others.

by Mr. Finn



Saint Valentine, officially known as Saint Valentine of Rome, is a third-century Roman saint widely celebrated on February 14 and commonly associated with "courtly love." Although not much of St. Valentine's life is reliably known, and whether or not the stories involve two different saints by the same name is also not officially decided, it is highly agreed that St. Valentine was martyred and then buried on the Via Flaminia to the north of Rome. St. Valentine refused to renounce his faith and Christianity and was executed outside the Flaminian Gate on February 14, 269. However, other tales of St. Valentine's life claim he was executed either in the year 269, 270, 273 or 280. Other depictions of St. Valentine's arrests tell that he secretly married couples so

husbands wouldn't have to go to war. Another variation of the legend of St. Valentine says he refused to sacrifice to pagan gods, was imprisoned and while imprisoned he healed the jailer's blind daughter. On the day of his execution, he left the girl a note signed, "Your Valentine."



Make a Joyful Noise

Psalms 96:1

*Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.*

Praying, singing, two different things - right? Nope. You've heard the saying "when you sing you pray twice" (*credit to St. Augustine for this quote*). Gotta say, it certainly is true for me. I feel so much more connected to God when I sing. Praying with music is powerful. I feel like my thoughts, my feelings, have a clearer more joyous voice.

Think of the hymns we've sung at church. Many of them come from the Book of Psalms, which were "originally composed as sacred songs, or...sacred poems meant to be sung". (www.britannica.com). Did you ever notice the references in the hymnal to the scripture passages songs are taken from? Pretty interesting.

And singing lifts the spirits - gets those good endorphins going - and do we every need to promote brighter spirits in our stressful world right now. Did you also know that singing is considered an aerobic activity? It gets more oxygen into the blood for better circulation, which also promotes a "good mood". Wow, who knew singing could do so much!

So the next time you're having a conversation with God, how about putting your thoughts to music. And when you're singing along to a particularly inspirational song on the radio, offer it up as a prayer of thanks. Let your light shine through music!

In prayer and song Mrs. G.

"Earth To God" (John Rich)

Earth to God... come in, God...

I know you're there hearing our prayers
wherever you are

We need you now, to send your love down

Take away the pain in your holy name

We ask this now

We need your light, we need your love

To heal the world you made

And save us now in our darkest hour

With your amazing grace

Earth to God

We're holding on, but not for long

Can you pull us all close to the Holy Ghost

And keep us strong

We need your light, we need your love

To heal the world you made

And save us now in our darkest hour

With your amazing grace

Earth to God...

We need your light, we need your love

To heal the world you made

And save us now in our darkest hour

With your amazing Grace

Earth to God... come in, God...

Earth to God... come in, God...

It's So Cold That

It's so cold that ... suspect to freeze, he did! ... when the police told the

It's so cold that ... coffee on my co-worker, he said, "thank you!" ... when a woman spilled hot

It's so cold that ... Kentucky Fried Chicken to get in the fryer. ... chickens are going to

It's so cold that ... arctic hares, and penguins now. ... Pets Mart is selling only seals,

It's so cold that ... read, "Ouch!" ... our outdoor thermometer

It's so cold that ... speak for an hour just for the hot air. ... I listened to the Governor

It's so cold that ... cows, they get ice cream! ... when local farmers milk their

It's so cold that ... walruses are asking for electric blankets. ... polar bears, penguins, and

It's so cold that ... putting their hands in their own pockets, not just ours! ... Washington politicians are

It's so cold that ... was selling frozen food. ... every department at Wegmans

It's so cold that ... issued for Onondaga Lake. ... there were iceberg warnings

It's so cold that ... my car windows, then my cell phone, and my eyeglasses. ... I had to use the ice scraper on

It's so cold that ... last night, I ice-skated from my bedroom to the kitchen to get a drink of (ice) water. ... last night, I ice-skated from my

It's so cold that ... not just the stock traders (trying to buy and sell Game Stop). ... everyone's accounts are frozen,

It's so cold that ... flamenco dancers do not need their castanets, since their teeth are chattering even louder! ... flamenco

It's so cold that ... Apple is selling the I - Parka instead of I - Phone ... Apple



Are you a snow-lover or wishing for Spring ?



Excuse me, is Spring coming soon?



Photos by
Mary G