

Commemoration of St. Valentine, Martyr**Wednesday, 14 February**

A physician and priest living in Rome during the rule of the Emperor Claudius, Valentine became one of the noted martyrs of the third century. The commemoration of his death, which occurred in the year 270, became part of the calendar of remembrance in the early church of the West. Tradition suggests that on the day of his execution for his Christian faith, he left a note of encouragement for a child of his jailer written on an irregularly-shaped piece of paper. This greeting became a pattern for millions of written expressions of love and caring that now are the highlight of Valentine's Day in many nations.

Commemoration of Sts. Philemon and Onesimus**Thursday, 15 February**

Philemon was a prominent first-century Christian who owned a slave named Onesimus. Although the name "Onesimus" means "useful," Onesimus proved himself "useless" when he ran away from his master and perhaps even stole from him (Philemon 18). Somehow Onesimus came into contact with the Apostle Paul while the latter was in prison (possibly in Rome), and through Paul's proclamation of the Gospel he became a Christian. After confessing to the Apostle that he was a runaway slave, he was directed by Paul to return to his master and become "useful" again. In order to help pave the way for Onesimus' peaceful return home, Paul sent him on his way with a letter addressed to Philemon, a letter in which he urged Philemon to forgive his slave for having run away and "to receive him as you would receive me" (v. 17), "no longer as a slave, but as a beloved brother" (v. 16). The letter was eventually included by the Church as one of the Pauline Epistles of the New Testament.

Commemoration of Philip Melanchthon, Lutheran Confessor**Friday, 16 February**

Philip Melanchthon (1497-1560) was a brilliant student of the classics and a humanist scholar. In 1518 he was appointed to teach along with Martin Luther at the University of Wittenberg. At Luther's urging, Melanchthon began teaching theology and Scripture in addition to his courses in classical studies. In April of 1530, Emperor Charles V called an official meeting between the representative of evangelical "Lutheranism" and the Roman Papacy, hoping to effect a meeting of minds between the opposing groups. Since Luther was at that time under papal excommunication and an imperial ban, Melanchthon was assigned the duty of being the chief representative of the evangelical "Lutherans" at this meeting. He is especially remembered and honored as the author of the Augsburg Confession, which was officially presented by the German princes to the emperor on 25 June 1530, as the defining document of Lutheranism within Christendom. Melanchthon died on 19 April 1560. (He was born on 16 February 1497.)

Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well shall fare.

Looking forward to the First Sunday in Lent

18 February 2018**Hymns:**

- LSB #418 O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days
- LSB #505 God the Father, Be Our Stay
- LSB #561 The Tree of Life with Every Good
- LSB #656 A Mighty Fortress is Our God
- LSB #716 I Walk in Danger All the Way
- LSB #919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus

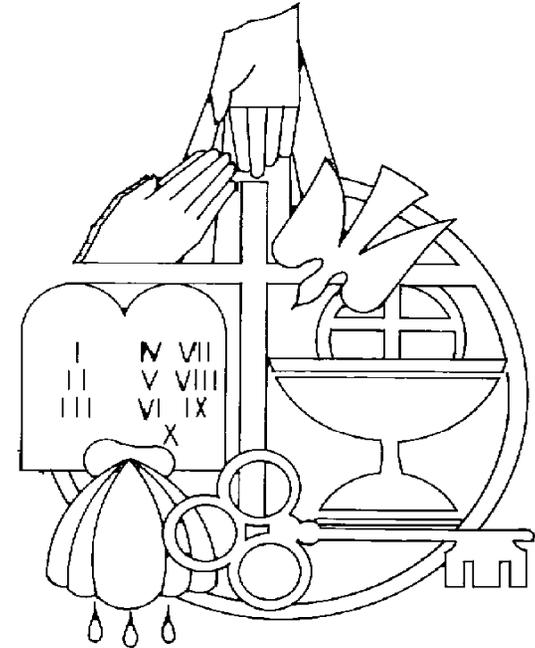
Readings: Exodus 34:29–35; 2 Corinthians 3:7—4:6: and St. Mark 9:2–9

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✚ DAILY CATECHESIS ON THE WAY ✚

TO AND FROM EMMAUS WITH JESUS

✚ THE WEEK OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD ✚

"They were continually devoting themselves to the Apostolic Doctrine and to the Communion, to the Breaking of the Bread, and to the Prayers."

(Acts of the Apostles 2:42)

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In our Prayers this Week at Emmaus:

Dcs. Rhein, as she is presently working on the hymnal project in Ethiopia;

Dorothy Rummel, Elfrieda Kuespert, and Betty Saenz, as they have all been suffering various afflictions and weaknesses in their health and mortal flesh.

[The Daily Morning or Evening Prayer, the Benedicamus, and the Benediction]:

(Morning): We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this night from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would keep us this day also from sin and every evil, that all our doings and life may please You; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

(Evening): We thank You, Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this day from all harm and danger; and we pray that You would forgive us all our sins, wherever we have done wrong, and graciously keep us this night; for into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls and all things; let Your holy Angel be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit ☩ be with us all. **Amen.***

Then, if it is in the morning, go joyfully to your work, according to your vocations in life, in faith toward God and in love toward your neighbor; or, if it is at the close of the day, go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

Commemoration of Sts. Aquila, Priscilla, and Apollos **Tuesday, 13 February**

Aquila and his wife Priscilla (Prisca), Jewish contemporaries of St. Paul, traveled widely. Because of persecution in Rome, they went to Corinth where they met the Apostle Paul, who joined them in their trade of tentmaking (Acts 18:1-3). They, in turn, joined him in his mission of proclaiming the Christian Gospel. The couple later traveled with Paul from Corinth to Ephesus (Acts 18:18), where the two of them established a home that served as hospitality headquarters for new converts to Christianity. Apollos was one of their numerous Jewish pupils in the faith. An eloquent man, Apollos “spoke with burning enthusiasm and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus” (Acts 18:25). He later traveled from Corinth to the province of Achaia, where he “showed by the Scriptures that the Messiah is Jesus” (Acts 18:28). Aquila, Priscilla, and Apollos are all remembered and honored for their great zeal in confessing the Gospel of Christ Jesus.

Collect for the Transfiguration of Our Lord (for Sunday through Shrove Tuesday):

O God, in the glorious Transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King of His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Collect for Ash Wednesday (and for the remainder of the week):

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. (Amen)

Daily Themes for Intercessory Prayer:

- Sunday:** For the joy of the Resurrection; for the faithful preaching and hearing of God’s Word; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and Sacraments.
- Monday:** For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for vocations and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for Resurrection Lutheran Academy and other schools, our home schools, our colleges and seminaries; for good government and peace.
- Tuesday:** For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing; for the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.
- Wednesday:** For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must rear their children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.
- Thursday:** For the Church and her pastors; for missionaries, teachers, deaconesses, and other servants of Christ and His Church; for the fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of the Lord’s Body and Blood.
- Friday:** For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ; for its spread throughout the whole world; for the persecuted; for the sick and dying.
- Saturday:** For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for pastors as they prepare to administer Christ’s holy gifts; for receptive hearts and minds on the Lord’s Day.

This Week in the Church Year

In both the pattern of the Holy Gospels and in the progression of the Church Year, the Transfiguration of our Lord is a major turning point toward His Cross and Passion. Moses and Elijah are there present as witnesses to the fulfillment of all the Law and the Prophets in the Person of Jesus Christ, as the Voice of the Father from heaven testifies. That fulfillment will come with His innocent suffering and death, in which, ironically, the Glory of God is most fully manifested. The Transfiguration of Jesus (and His saints!) is a picture of the Resurrection of the body and the life everlasting, achieved by His Cross.

Emphasis: The Divine Glory of the Cross is Manifested in Christ

The Order of Daily Catechesis in Word and Prayer

Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of daily catechesis as you and your family are able. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.

[The Opening Versicles and Psalmody]:

O Lord, open my lips. **And my mouth will declare Your praise.**

Make haste, O God, to deliver me. **Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Psalm 50:1–6 (*and/or one or more of the appointed Psalms listed below*)

Psalms	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<i>Morning</i>	19, 150	136, 145	123, 146	5, 147:1–11	38, 147:12–20	22, 148	43, 149
<i>Evening</i>	81, 113	97, 112	30, 86	27, 51	126, 102	107, 130	31, 143

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The Verse: Psalm 45:2

You are the fairest of men;
grace flows from Your lips, because God has blessed You forever.

Readings for the Week of the Transfiguration of Our Lord:

Sunday, 11 February 2018

Job 7:1–21; St. John 4:7–26

Monday, 12 February 2018

Job 8:1–22; St. John 4:27–45

Shrove Tuesday, 13 February 2018 (Sts. Aquila, Priscilla, and Apollos)

Job 9:1–35; St. John 4:46–54

Ash Wednesday, 14 February 2018 (St. Valentine, Martyr)

Genesis 1:1–19; St. Mark 1:1–13

Thursday, 15 February 2018 (Sts. Philemon & Onesimus)

Genesis 1:20—2:3; St. Mark 1:14–28

Friday, 16 February 2018 (Philip Melancthon, Confessor)

Genesis 2:4–25; St. Mark 1:29–45

Saturday, 17 February 2007

Genesis 3:1–24; St. Mark 2:1–17

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Catechism: The Seventh Petition of the Our Father

What is the Seventh Petition? **But deliver us from evil.**

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

The Hymn of the Week

“FROM DEPTHS OF WOE I CRY TO THEE”

LSB #607

[Daily Prayer: Invocation, Apostles’ Creed, Kyrie Eleison, and the Our Father]:

In the Name ☩ of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and ☩ the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father Who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever & ever. Amen.