



# *Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Community*

*February 2026*

Dear Friends,

I once had a teacher who said he did not understand why so many people lamented the fact that February was such a dreary month. He said that it was no more so than any other month and that at least it was the shortest. I do suppose he had a point. He said he always felt sorry for February because so many folks didn't even render it the correct pronunciation, February rather than February. I must admit that mistake also drives me crazy. At any rate, we are there, and it certainly is starting out as cold and dreary. We have had some warm days, however, and the trees are starting to bud. It should not be long before the hyacinths around the chapel begin popping up so we can be sure that Spring is not far away.

February also brings with it the season of Lent which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Masses with the distribution of ashes will be at 10:00 and 3:45 in the chapel, as well as 2:00 in Wilton Overlook. There will also be the distribution of ashes in Caton Woods. The Mass of Anointing will be held on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, at 3:45. There will be no confessions on either of those days. The Lenten Day of Recollection with Fr. Rich Gula will be on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> beginning with 9:00 Mass followed by meditations on the Passion Narratives and recorded Taize chants. PLEASE SAVE THE DATE. On Fridays of Lent, with the exception of Good Friday, there will be Stations of the Cross at 3:00 in the chapel. Please remember that on Ash Wednesday as well as the Fridays of Lent we are asked by the Church to abstain from meat as a sign of sacrifice. The Lenten fast does not apply to anyone over the age of 59. Being a season of sacrifice, Lent would also be an appropriate time for your sacrificial gift to The Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. Remember that if you do not receive your mailing, pledge cards are available outside the chapel as well as in the pastoral care office. Take care and God's blessings to you all during this Lenten season.



## A Note from Sister Eileen

Dear Friends,

This Friday evening millions of people around the world will be glued to their TVs, computers and iPads to watch the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympic Games. I love the ritual procession of athletes, each of whom has a unique story of determination, focus and sacrifice that led them to the Olympics.

For about two weeks the differences that divide our world seem forgotten - or at least put on the back burner. By the Closing Ceremonies the athletes seem to blend into a special community where boundaries of all kinds disappear and are replaced by a global sense of unity. It generates a sense of hope for our world.

The month of February usually leads me to consider the relationships in my life: family, friends, co-workers, and residents. Much research has been done about the importance of relationships in our lives as we age. It seems clear that there is a strong temptation, once a spouse has died, to settle for "less" in our lives. But it has been proven that those who are suddenly alone and are able to reach out to others and strengthen friendships - even invite new ones - are happier and healthier.

My prayer for each of you this month is that your heart will be filled with gratitude for all those who have and will love you and that you will extend your love to others each and every day.

Blessings and peace!

*Sister Eileen*

## **Did You Know?**

- Pope Leo XIV has declared 2026 a "Year of Grace - St. Francis of Assisi".
- 2026 marks the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of St. Francis.
- Before his conversion, St. Francis was a prisoner of war for nearly a year.
- St. Francis created the first living Nativity scene.
- He wrote the Canticle of the Sun praising God for the gift of creation.



*February – Faith on Film –  
"Thy Will Be Done" Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 pm In Pastoral Care  
Emmaus Room*



Our February book is "Love and Other Consolation Prizes" by:  
Jamie Ford

We will meet in the Jenkins Room at 2 pm on Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. All are welcome.

**Dates to Remember:**

Wednesday, Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday  
Masses at 10:00 am & 3:45 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> – Anointing Mass  
Mass at 3:45 pm