

February 2026 – Liturgical and other dates

1st Feb

Saint Brigid of Kildare,
abbess

2nd Feb

The Presentation of the
Lord

3rd Feb

Feast of Saint Blaise

8th Feb

Feast of St Bakhita

8th Feb

International Day of
Prayer and Awareness
against Human Trafficking

11th Feb

Our Lady of Lourdes

14th Feb

Feast of Saint Valentine

17th Feb

Lunar New Year

February 2026 – Liturgical and other dates (continued)

- 17 February - St. Fintan
- 18 February – Ash Wednesday
- 18 February - Beginning of Ramadan
(evening of Tuesday 17 February)
- 20 Feb -World Day of Social Justice
- 21 February - St. Peter Damian



Pray with the Pope: For children with incurable diseases | February 2026

- <https://youtu.be/-REFhEErYHA?si=fvZ-GYWQuuynfi18>



St Francis of Assisi

- In January 2026, the Church began a rare commemoration: 800 years since the passing of Saint Francis of Assisi.
- Known as the *Transitus*, the saint's death on October 3, 1226, now anchors a [Franciscan Jubilee Year](#) running from January 10, 2026, through January 10, 2027.



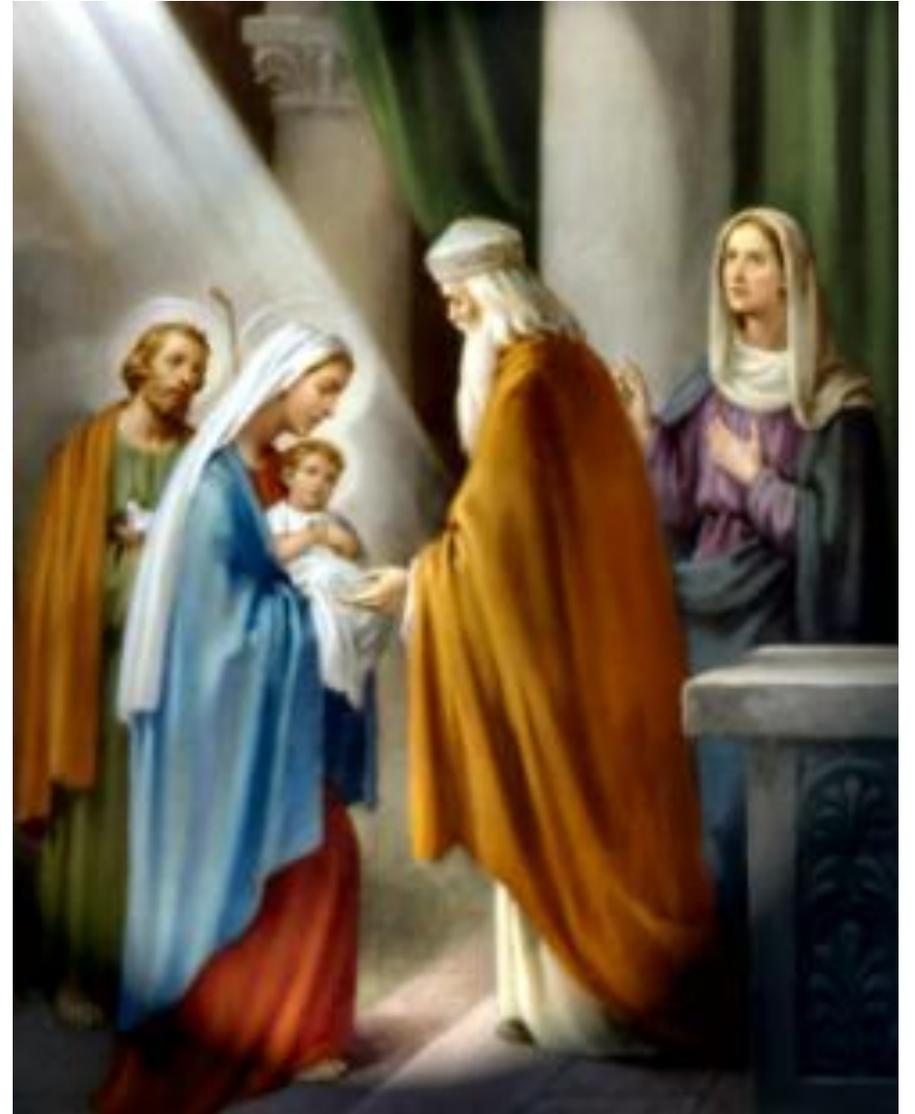


1st February -
St Brigid –
See Slides on
St Brigid:
Prayers,
Reflections
and Events

2nd February

The Presentation of the Lord

- The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is celebrated 40 days after Christmas Day.
- Luke's Gospel tells the story of Mary and Joseph taking the child Jesus for his first visit to the Temple in Jerusalem.
- This feast is also known as **Candlemas** because of the tradition of blessing and distributing candles at Mass on this feast.
- These practices reflect Simeon's words in the gospel when he prophesies that the child Jesus will become "a light for revelation to the Gentiles."



3rd February Feast of Saint Blaise (Blessing on Throats)

- St Blaise was a doctor in Cappodocia, where he was later named Bishop and he was martyred in 320.
- He is venerated as a patron to protect us against diseases of the throat, because of the story told that he cured a boy choking from a fishbone.
- The rite of the blessing of throats may take place before or after Mass.



8th February
St Josephine Bakhita

**International Day of
Prayer & Awareness
Against Human Trafficking**

- St Josephine Bakhita was a victim of human trafficking.
- Born in Darfur, Sudan in 1869, she was kidnapped at the age of seven, and sold in the markets of El Obeid and Khartoum.
- See <https://sma.ie/st-josephine-bakhita-international-day-of-prayer-and-awareness-against-human-trafficking/>





11th February

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

This feast recalls God's healing mercy and Mary's loving intercession. Whether healing comes in body, mind, or soul, we trust that God is always at work — drawing us closer to Him through prayer and faith.

World Day of the Sick



Lay your hands gently upon us
Let their touch bring your peace

St Valentine's Day

- See also <https://www.whitefriarstreetchurch.com/index.php/the-church/shrines/saint-valentine>





Love always protects,
always trusts, always hopes,
always perseveres.

Love is patient, love is
kind.

It does not envy, it does
not boast,

it is not proud.

It does not dishonour
others,

it is not self-seeking,

Love is patient, love is
kind.

From 1 Cor 13: 4-7

17 February – Lunar New Year

- The Lunar New Year, rooted in Chinese cultural tradition, is widely celebrated, including among Catholic families who continue to honour their ancestral customs.
- In Mandarin, people say *gong xi fa cai* (恭喜发财), wishing you a prosperous New Year. In Cantonese, it's *gong hey fat choi*. Wishing someone *xin nian kuai le* (新年快乐), literally “happy New Year,” is perfectly welcome too.
- <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/celebrate-lunar-new-year>





POPE LEO'S MESSAGE FOR LENT 2026

(an extract)

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/events/event.dir.html/content/vaticanevents/en/2026/2/13/messaggio-quaresima.html>

Dear friends, let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us.

Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others.

18th February

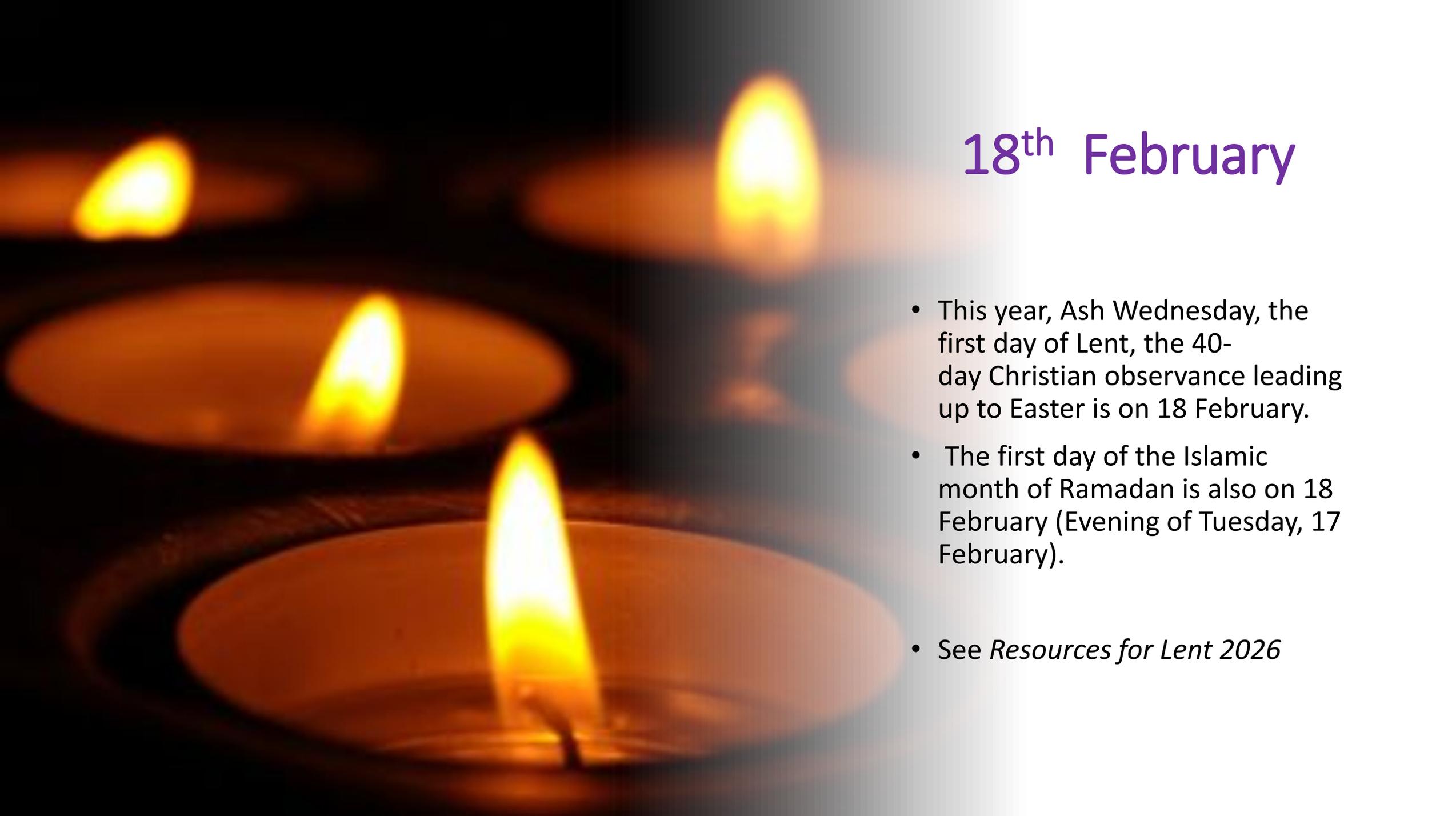
ASH WEDNESDAY

- ART AND FAITH

- See:

[Ash Wednesday | Loyola Press](#)





18th February

- This year, Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, the 40-day Christian observance leading up to Easter is on 18 February.
- The first day of the Islamic month of Ramadan is also on 18 February (Evening of Tuesday, 17 February).
- See *Resources for Lent 2026*

21st February – St. Peter Damian

- Peter Damian is one of the most well-known writers of the 11th century and one of the greatest advocates of the pre-Gregorian reform, along with several Popes who fought against the evils afflicting the Church at that time – in particular against simony, the buying and selling of an ecclesiastical office or dignity.

