



## **SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH**

5265 PLACIDA RD. GROVE CITY, FL 34224 | 941-697-4899 | OFFICE@SFOACHURCH.COM

**SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024**

# **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**



So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

## Saint Francis of Assisi Church

5265 Placida Road  
Grove City, FL 34224  
941-697-4899

Fax 941-697-0602

www.sfoachurch.com

email: office@sfoachurch.com

Father Cory Mayer, Pastor  
Father Tony Chermeil, Parochial Vicar  
Father Edwin Mathias, Part Time  
Deacon Robert Godlewsky

### PARISH STAFF

Robert Clark, Business Manager  
Aina Olonade, Director for Music and Cantors  
James Brantner, Director for Religious Education  
Gerry Chesney, Director, Parish Women's Guild  
Matt Egan, Director, Parish Outreach  
Martha Mingel, Coordinator, Homebound/Healthcare  
Janette Ash, Administrative Assistant  
Jeanette Lindish, Receptionist (Part-Time)  
Jim Parent, Maintenance & Facilities  
Chris Lewis, Bookkeeper  
Beth Hammond, Head Sacristan  
Penny Fleming, Ministry Scheduler/Communications

### MASS SCHEDULE

#### **SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY)**

After Easter to December 30th ... 4:00 pm  
January 6 to March 23rd ... 3:00 pm & 4:30 pm

#### **SUNDAY**

After Easter to December 31st - 8:00 am & 10:00 am  
January 7 through Easter Sunday  
7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am

#### **WEEKDAYS**

Monday - Friday.....8:15 am  
Holy Days.....8:15 am & 6:00 pm

#### **CHURCH OPEN HOURS**

Monday - Friday 7am-4pm  
Saturday 2pm - 5pm  
Sunday 7am -11am

#### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

**Winter**— September 4 through June 2  
Mon - Thurs 9:00 am-12:30 pm, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Friday 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

**Summer** - June 5 through September 1  
Monday through Thursday 9:00 am - 2:30 pm  
Friday 9:00 am -12:00 pm

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Thursday after Mass 9:00 am - 9:15 am  
Saturdays: 2:00pm - 2:30pm

#### **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Call Parish Office at least six months in advance.

#### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Contact Parish Office

## **Mass Intentions and Scripture Readings for the Week**

### **MONDAY, MARCH 25**

8:15am **THERESE OUELLETTE**  
by The Hakeem Family  
*Reading: Isaiah 42:1-7*  
*Gospel: John 12:1-11*

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 26**

8:15am †**DAVID BROOKS**  
by John and Martha Mingel  
*Reading: Isaiah 49:1-6*  
*Gospel: John 13:21-33, 36-38*

### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27**

8:15am †**ROBERTO LOPEZ**  
†**IBERIA LOPEZ**  
†**ZERAIDA NEGRON**  
†**FRANCES BLAIR** by Millie Luciano  
*Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a*  
*Gospel: Matthew 26:14-25*

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 28**

8:15am †**IRENE TURCKES** by Beth Hammond  
*Holy Thursday*  
*Reading: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14*  
*Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*  
*Gospel: John 13:1-15*

### **FRIDAY, MARCH 29**

3pm **GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY**  
*Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord*  
*Reading: Isaiah 52:13—53:12*  
*Reading 2: Hebrew 4:14-16; 5:7-9*  
*Gospel: John 18:1—19:42*

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 30**

**SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY)**  
8:30pm †**DAVID BROOKS** by Millie Spinelli  
*Reading 1: Genesis 1:1—2:2*  
*Reading 2: Exodus 14:15—15:1*  
*Reading 3: Isaiah 55:1-11*  
*Epistle: Romans 6:3-11*  
*Gospel: Mark 16:1-7*

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

7:30am **FOR OUR PARISHIONERS**  
9:00am †**GERI WHITELEY** by Barbara McKane  
10:30am †**ISABEL GONCALVES**  
by Barbara McKane  
*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*  
*Reading 1: Acts 10:34a, 37-43*  
*Reading 2: Colossians 3:1-4*  
*Gospel: John 20:1-9*

## Gospel Reflection for Palm Sunday

Mk 14:1-15:47

### THE SUPREME ACT

Jesus counted on the possibility of a violent end. He wasn't naïve. He knew what he was risking as he kept insisting on the project of God's Reign. It was impossible to so radically seek a dignified life for the poor and the sinners, without provoking the reaction of those who weren't at all interested in any such change.

Certainly Jesus isn't suicidal. He's not looking for crucifixion. He never wanted suffering either for others or for himself. His whole life has been dedicated to combating suffering wherever he found it: in sickness, injustices, sin or despair. That's why he doesn't run toward death, nor run away from it.

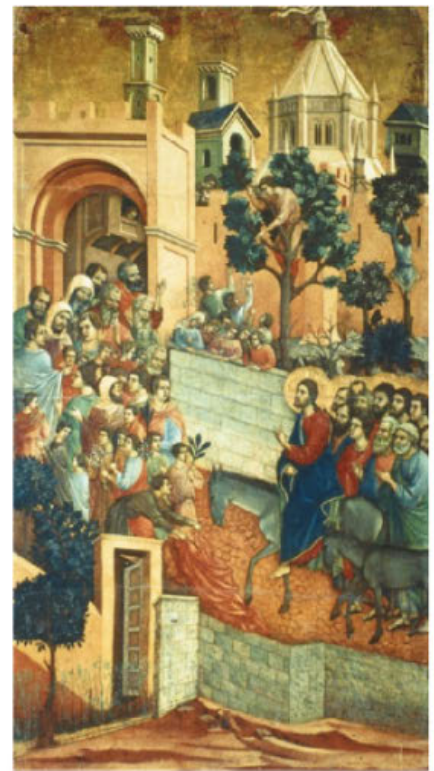
He will keep welcoming sinners and the excluded, though such action is irritating at the temple. If they end up condemning him, he will die as another delinquent and excluded person, but his death will confirm what his whole life has been about: complete trust in a God who doesn't exclude anyone from forgiveness.

He will keep announcing God's love for the least, identifying himself with the poorest and most despised in the empire, no matter how much this bothers the Roman governor nearby. If they kill him one day in the torture of the cross, a punishment reserved for slaves, he will die as one more despicable slave, but his death will forever seal his faithfulness to the God who defends victims.

Full of God's love, he will keep offering salvation to those who suffer evil and sickness: he will give welcome to those who are excluded by society and religion; he will give away God's free forgiveness to sinners and lost people, those who are unable to return his friendship. This saving attitude which inspired his whole life will also inspire his death.

That's why the cross is so attractive to us Christians. We kiss the face of the one crucified, we raise our eyes to him, we listen to his last words...because in his crucifixion we see Jesus' final service of the Father's project, and the supreme act of God handing over the Son out of love for all humanity.

It's contemptible to convert Holy Week into folklore or tourist attraction. For Jesus' followers, to celebrate our Lord's passion and death is passionate thanksgiving, joyful adoration for God's incredible love, and a call to live like Jesus, becoming one with all who are crucified.



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FOOD PANTRY



*Saint Francis of Assisi  
Catholic Church*

**LENTEN FOOD  
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WE WILL BE COLLECTING FOOD DONATIONS  
EACH WEEK THRU LENT  
SEE WEEKLY LIST OF FOODS BELOW

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*DROP OFF DONATIONS BEFORE OR  
AFTER WEEKEND MASSES  
OR AT THE PARISH OFFICE  
FROM 9AM-2PM*

**WEEK 6 DROP-OFF  
MARCH 23 THRU 29**

**FOOD LIST FOR WEEK 6: Condiments, Shelf-Stable Milk, Fruit Juices, and Laundry Detergent**

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# WALK FOR LIFE

**Saturday, April 6, 2024**

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# COURAGE

FOR THE STEPS AHEAD



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Lenten Retreat Thursday March 14, 2024  
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center  
Thank you Father Mark Yavarone and all the  
wonderful volunteers at OLPH Retreat Center.





# Lenten Soup & Stations

MONDAYS DURING LENT  
SOUP SUPPER - 4:00-5:15 PM  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 6:00-6:30 PM



**Mark your calendars! Monday, February 19th we will begin our Lenten Soup & Stations. Followed by each Monday in February and March.**

We will have soup, bread, finger desserts and fellowship from 4:00-5:15 pm in the Parish Center, followed by Stations of the Cross at 6:00 pm in the Church. The Parish Women's Guild hosts the Lenten Soup Suppers with help from many of the Saint Francis Ministry groups. This year, we are asking all parishioners to participate in the Lenten Soup & Stations. You can decide what is best for you and your family. We have three ways for you to participate this year:

1. Volunteer to bring soup or a finger dessert on any Monday(s) during Lent. Call the Parish Office to sign up to bring soup or desserts. 941-697-4899
2. Come and participate. Bring your family, neighbors, and friends and enjoy a bowl of homemade soup and dessert. Support this event each Monday during Lent.
3. We invite you to Walk with Jesus .... after soup, join us in the Church for Stations of the Cross beginning at 6:00 pm with Deacon Bob. The Church encourages us to participate in the Stations of the Cross, especially during Lent. The Stations of the Cross, which exist in most Catholic churches today, began as a practice of pious pilgrims to Jerusalem who would retrace the final journey of Jesus Christ to Calvary. Over time, a practice developed for pilgrims, who could not travel to the Holy Land, so they could do so in a devotional, spiritual way in their hearts. Since this practice is rooted in a pilgrimage, it is ideal for participants to move from station to station just like those leading it (or at least turn to face each station). This movement reminds us to ask God for the grace and courage to follow Christ in carrying our daily crosses so as to share in the light of the resurrection of the Lord.

**Brown Scapular Enrollment with Msgr. Philip Hill and  
Father Mayer - Friday, March 15, 2024**

**The Brown Scapular Enrollment was a great success!  
We had 42 enrollments as well as two children enrolled.  
That is double their enrollments from last year. Thank you to  
the Discalced Carmelite Secular Community of Punta Gorda.**







# *Holy Week and Easter* *Mass Schedule*

## **PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24**

03:00 PM | 4:30 PM | 7:30 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:30 AM

## **HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28**

06:30 PM

## **GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29**

03:00 PM

## **EASTER VIGIL MASS, MARCH 30**

08:30 PM

## **EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

07:30 AM | 9:00 AM | 10:30 AM

Saint Francis of Assisi Church  
5265 Placida Road  
Grove City, Florida

# Ministry Week for Saint Francis of Assisi Church

	Start	End	Event - Location
<b>Mon March 25</b>	7:50am	9:00am	<b>Rosary/Mass/Anointing/Chaplet - Church</b>
	9:00am	10:00am	Parish Stewardship Ministry - Church
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	9:15am	11:15am	Rosary Making Ministry - Parish Center Room 6
	11:45am	12:30pm	Lectio Divina - Gospel Prayer - Church
	4:00pm	5:15pm	Lenten Soup Supper - Parish Center
	6:00pm	6:30pm	Stations of the Cross - Church
<b>Tues March 26</b>	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	8:45am	9:45am	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration - Church</b>
	9:50am	10:00am	<b>Benediction - Church</b>
	10:00am	11:00am	Outreach Food Pantry Admin and Coordinators Meeting - Room 1
	10:30am	12:00pm	<b>Chrism Mass - Epiphany Cathedral</b>
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Bible Study - Parish Conference Room
	5:30pm	6:45pm	Religious Education K thru 8th Grade - Parish Center
<b>Wed March 27</b>	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	6:00pm	8:00pm	Choir Practice - Church
	7:00pm	8:00pm	AA - Parish Hall
<b>Thurs March 28</b>	7:00am	8:00am	TMIY - Parish Center
	6:30pm	7:30pm	<b>Holy Thursday - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper - Church</b>
	7:30pm	9:00pm	Altar of the Repose (Adoration) Parish Center
<b>Fri March 29</b>			<b>Good Friday - Parish Office Closed</b>
	3:00pm	4:00pm	<b>Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord - Liturgy - Church</b>
<b>Sat March 30</b>			<b>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</b>
	8:30pm	9:30pm	<b>Easter Vigil - Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>
<b>Sun March 31</b>	7:30am	8:30am	<b>Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>
	9:00am	10:00am	<b>Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>
	10:30am	11:30am	<b>Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>

# Parish Bereavement Ministry

Grief is the process by which healing takes place, but it can be hard work! Our Catholic faith can be a tremendous source of strength in helping us.

Our Parish Bereavement Ministry meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the Parish Conference Room. Join us at our next meeting April 2 at 10am in the Parish Conference Room.

Call the Parish Office with any questions:  
941-697-4899 and Press 0



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