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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." - Mt 16:24b-25

Saint Francis of Assisi Church

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

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www.sfoachurch.com

email: office@sfoachurch.com

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

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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
Saturday 3:00pm - 3:30pm

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, SEPTEMBER 4

8:15am †**MARGARET WOODCROFT**
by Son

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel: Luke 4:16-30

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

8:15am **HAPPY 74TH ANNIVERSARY
LEE AND ANN RESER**

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11
Gospel: Luke 4:31-37

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8:15am **SOULS IN PURGATORY**

Reading: Colossians 1:1-8
Gospel: Luke 4:38-44

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:15am †**JOHN B. DILLON**
by Ainslye Gilligan

Reading: Colossians 1:9-14
Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

8:15am **MR. AND MRS. ED AND
MARITA NUNES** by Their Friend

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Reading: Micah 5:1-4a
Gospel: Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY)

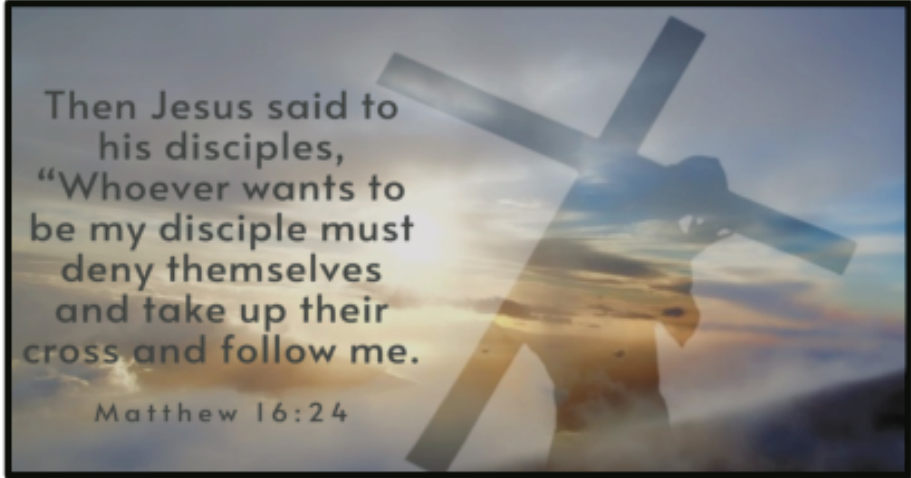
4:00pm †**HONORATA GAJEWSKA**
by Helen and Hank

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

8:00am **FOR OUR PARISHIONERS**

10:00am †**ROBERT CAPOZZI**
by Jean Mattes

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Reading 1: Ezekiel 33:7-9
Reading 2: Romans 13:8-10
Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20



Then Jesus said to
his disciples,
"Whoever wants to
be my disciple must
deny themselves
and take up their
cross and follow me.

Matthew 16:24

Walking with Jesus

Today's Gospel goes further than just asking us to understand why the glory of Jesus our King and Lord was to be found through suffering and the shameful death of the Cross. There is a further call for us to walk the same road with Jesus: *"If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."*

Jesus is asking each one of us to dedicate our lives in totally loving and serving others even, if at times, this involves misunderstanding, ridicule, pain and even death itself.

It would be altogether wrong to think that Jesus is asking us to lead miserable lives in order to be good Christians, although one gets the impression that some people interpret the passage in that way. To follow Jesus fully, we must be able to see life as he sees it, we must have that "mind of Christ".

When we have the mind of Christ, then we can only see our lives in terms of loving and serving others and not in the pursuit of purely self-centered or even family-centered ambition. When we have the mind of Christ, the whole direction of our life changes. Our whole concept of happiness changes. Jesus is calling us not to a life of sacrifice and suffering, but rather to a life of total love and freedom. The person who can go to jail for his beliefs is freer and usually a lot happier than the one who is tied to the pursuit of material things, social position, pleasure, and the fear of pain.

"Denying oneself" is not a suppression of one's personality. It is rather to let go of oneself so that one can really find oneself.

This is what today's readings are saying, namely, that Jesus is calling us to where true success and happiness are. Maybe when we walk the way of Jesus there will be people who criticize us, think we are stupid, and even attack us. Yet those who have chosen the way of Jesus again and again confirm that their lives are full of freedom, happiness, and peace. Isn't that what we all would like to experience?

Excerpt from Commentaries on the Daily Readings on Sacred Spaces. Penny Fleming, SFOA Communications Coordinator



Religious Education Begins Soon!

**Registration for Religious Education for 2023 - 2024
Kindergarten through Eighth Grade and
Confirmation and High School**

**Register in the Parish Center on August 26/27
& September 2/3 after all Masses**

**Fee is \$20 for one child; \$35 per family. Bring a copy of child's
Baptism certificate. The Diocese of Venice has designed guidelines.
The goal of this plan is to ensure that all members, catechists,
students & families remain healthy & safe while attending classes.**

**Religious Education is for all children attending public schools
Families need to be registered Parishioners**

**Preparation for Baptism, First Confession and First Holy
Communion (First Holy Communion and Confirmation require two
years of attendance and preparation)**

**Kindergarten through 8th Grade Classes begin on
Tuesday, September 12, 5:30-6:45pm in the Parish Center with
Parent and Guardian Orientation while children are in class.**

**Confirmation and High School begins
Sunday, September 10, 10am Mass-1:30pm.**

**Parent/Guardian Orientation with Father Mayer at 11:20am
in the Parish Conference Room**



That Man is You!
First Fall Session:
Thursday, September 21
at 7:00am in the Parish Center

Are you a Catholic man looking to learn more about your faith, grow your spirituality and meet other like-minded men in the parish?

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish initiated a program in 2021 called That Man is You. We meet Thursday mornings at 7:00am for about an hour which begins with a hot breakfast and then a video and small group discussion. Each session lasts 13 weeks with sessions in the fall and winter. There is no cost for the program.

We have received lots of positive feedback from our participants! All men of the parish are invited including seasonal parishioners. If you have previously registered, there is no need to register again.

Call the parish office (941-697-4899) for more info or to register go to **sfoachurch.com** and click **Parish Forms**, scroll down to the **TMIY Form and register**.

Registration and information will be available at all Masses on September 9 and 10.

Please join us! All men of the Parish welcome!

National Eucharistic Revival - Year 2

Dear Parishioners,

Year 2 of the National Eucharistic Revival has begun! You may recall that a Diocese of Venice Eucharistic Congress was held in March - a number of our parishioners attended. The national revival will culminate in a National Eucharistic Congress in July 2024, to be held in Indianapolis and preceded by a 60 day National Eucharistic pilgrimage with 4 routes - one from each region. You can read more about these exciting events at <https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/>.

The focus of year 2 is Eucharistic Revival at the Parish level. I would like to make you aware of the activities that we have currently planned for St. Francis of Assisi during this year that support our desire for every parishioner to grow in their love and devotion to our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament.

1. Materials related to the Eucharist are being provided in our main entryway of the church. Some parishioners have donated books occasionally (first come, first serve) and one of our parishioners has stocked pamphlets on The Real Presence.
2. We will build an Adoration Chapel. You may recall that this project was approved prior to Hurricane Ian. Once the roof repairs are completed, we will proceed to create the Poor Clare Chapel.
3. We will participate in the Diocese of Venice Traveling Rosary Congress. This Congress will be held from October 7-13, 2023. This Year's theme is "To Jesus Through Mary". The Rosary Congress is held in response to Our Lady of Fatima's call to prayer and conversion. It includes Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and the praying of the Rosary: for families, the Church, and peace in the world. Every parish that participates will schedule one 24-period during this week. We will begin our 24-hour period on Tuesday, October 10 with 8:15 a.m. Mass. After the celebration of Mass, the Eucharist will be exposed in the monstrance as we do each Tuesday. The exposition will continue until Mass on Wednesday at 8:15 a.m. Parishioners will pray the Rosary aloud before the exposed Blessed Sacrament once every hour. We will need to have at least 2-3 parishioners present for every hour of Eucharistic Adoration to ensure that the exposed Blessed Sacrament is never left unattended. Everyone is encouraged to attend and adore our Lord during this 24 hour period. More details will be shared, including how to sign up as an adorer, in the near future.

May God continue to bless you, your families, and our parish.

Father Cory Mayer, Pastor

Beth Hammond, Head Sacristan



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

August 23, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Catholic University of America is unique among universities in the United States. As the national university of the Catholic Church, founded by the Bishops of this country, the University provides an education based in Catholic intellectual tradition and Catholic values, to over 5,700 students. Its motto – “God Is My Light” – has guided the University in educating students who go on to serve the Church and the nation and to transform the world.

In addition to its academic curriculum, the Catholic University offers training initiatives that help Dioceses and Parishes in responding to the most pressing needs of the Faithful. A few examples of how the University is serving the Church include a master’s program in Ecclesial Administration and Management, as well as a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers.

The Diocese of Venice, along with Dioceses across the United States, will take up a collection for the Catholic University of America the weekend of September 9 and 10, 2023. These funds will assist with scholarships to financially needy students to ensure that a Catholic University education remains affordable to students who seek a faith-based higher education. May God Bless you for your generosity and thank you for your support of the Catholic University of America.

This opportunity is taken to extend to you the assurances of my continued consideration, as well as my prayers for you and your family.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the Diocese of
Venice in Florida

FJD/cg



Drop food donations at Mass or at the Parish Office during the week. Thank you!



Parish Outreach Food Pantry

**THE FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF
PAPER PRODUCTS, LAUNDRY DETERGENT,
TOILETRIES, AND SMALL BAGS OF RICE.**

Please take advantage of BOGO'S at Publix and Winn Dixie!
We'll take anything unexpired and unopened at any time.

**Our Outreach Food Pantry
is getting busier each week!
In July 2023 we served:**

- 269 Families
- 322 Adults
- 208 Seniors
- 128 Children

Total Number of Individuals: 658

Total Number of Bags given out: 704

Thank you for your continuing donations!

Congratulations to our raffle winners!

1st Place E-Bikes winner: Paul Benz!

2nd Place iPad winner: Millie Coppola

3rd Place Nicola's Gift Certificate winner: Rollen Tiu

Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Benz!

Our Door Prize winner at the raffle drawing was Theresa Zakorchemny who won a \$50 Winn Dixie Gift Card!



Thank you to all who purchased tickets!



Bike delivery!



Thank you Rotonda Elks
for lending us your raffle ticket spinner!

Ministry Week for Saint Francis of Assisi Church

	Start	End	Event - Location
Mon Sept 4			Labor Day - Parish Office Closed
	7:50am	9:00am	Rosary/Mass/Anointing/Chaplet - Church
	10:30am	11:00am	Priest Anoints at Englewood Hospice House
	11:45am	12:30pm	Lectio Divina - Gospel Prayer - Church
	6:00pm	8:00pm	Knights Business Meeting - Parish Center
Tues Sept 5	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	8:45am	9:45am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration - Church
	9:00am	11:00am	Parish Stewardship Ministry - Church
	9:50am	10:00am	Benediction - Church
	10:00am	11:00am	Bereavement Ministry - Parish Conference Room
Wed Sept 6	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	11:30am	2:30pm	Card Party - Parish Center
	7:00pm	8:00pm	AA - Parish Hall
Thurs Sept 7	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:00am	9:15am	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	10:00am	12:00pm	Hook and Needles - Parish Conference Room
Fri Sept 8	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	2:30pm	3:00pm	Priest Anoints at Englewood Hospice House
Sat Sept 9			Religious Education Registration after all Masses
			Recalling and Renewing our CONFIRMATION
	3:00pm	3:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	4:00pm	5:00pm	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
Sun Sept 11	8:00am	9:00am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
	10:00am	11:00am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church

Interested in joining the Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Choir?

Please contact our
Director of Music, Dr. Aina Olonade
for an audition

Phone: 941-697-4899

Email: aolonade@sfoachurch.com



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Scott Daughenbaugh
 Parishioner

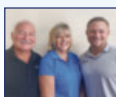
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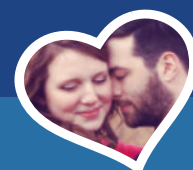


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