



SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." - Mt 18:15

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 11

8:15am †MR AND MRS JOSEPH
CARMEN SAVONA by Daughter

Reading: Colossians 1:24—2:3

Gospel: Luke 6:6-11

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

8:15am †GARY KOONCE
by Beth Hammond

Reading: Colossians 2:6-15

Gospel: Luke 6:12-19

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

8:15am †PATRICIA GRAHAM
by Beverly and Tom Costello

Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

Gospel: Luke 6:20-26

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

8:15am POK AND MAX FORTUNA
by Ann Berthold

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Reading: Number 21:4b-9

Reading 2: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: John 3:13-17

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

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

Our Lady of Sorrows

Reading: 1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14

Gospel: John 19:25-27

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY)

4:00pm †ANTONI GAJEWSKA
by Helen and Hank

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

8:00am **FOR OUR PARISHIONERS**

10:00am †BARBARA MOONEY

by Vern and Carol Spiker

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading 1: Sirach 27:30—28:7

Reading 2: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Gospel Reflection – Matthew 18:15-20

The three things Jesus says in today's Gospel are all about the Church.

The first thing is about the authority of the Church to mediate disputes. It is to be the last court of appeal, after both individual and group mediation has failed. Step one: "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." Step two is the secular public, beginning with the smallest number: "If he does not listen, take on or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.'" That is the Old Testament formula for fairness and truth in the simplest court cases. Step three is ecclesiastical courts. And "if he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector." That is called excommunication. It is a last resort, after everything else has been tried. Jesus gives us three chances to repent and reconcile, not just one, and in a definite order. Notice that when Jesus uses the word "even" ("if he refuses to listen even to the church") he is implying that the Church has the highest authority of all and that excommunication from it is a worse punishment than excommunication from a private friendship (the first resort) or a public secular community (the second resort).

The Second thing Jesus says is about the "binding and loosing" authority of the Apostles and their successors, the bishops, and priests of the Church, to judge good and evil, right and wrong, and to mediate God's forgiveness in the sacrament of Confession. Here too the Church has a remarkable authority, like no other on earth. Of only the Church is it ever said that its judgments will be the same as heaven's judgments—"whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven"—because the Church has the authority of Christ himself.

The third thing is about the power of prayer. Prayer really "works," though it works not like an impersonal



machine, automatically, but personally, through a personal relationship of faith, hope, and love between us and God.

"Prayer changes things." Prayer makes a real difference, and not just to our subjective comfort but to others and to the world that we pray for. And as with the first two sayings about the authority of the Church, the reason is that Christ himself, and his authority, are present. Notice the word "for": Jesus says that when two or three pray together (the smallest manifestation of the Church), our heavenly Father will answer that prayer *because* Jesus is there "in the midst of them" praying with them, and the Father always grants the prayers of his Son.

There's no catch to it. Jesus means exactly what he says.

Take him at his word. He says: "ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8). He promises to answer all our prayers, to satisfy all the desires of our hearts. He doesn't promise *how* or *when* he will answer, because his way and his timing are much better and wiser than ours. He sometimes has to answer our shallow desires with a no to answer our deeper desires with a yes. And he sometimes has to take time to give us good things, because life is more like a farm, which takes time to grow crops, than like a machine, which gives you instant results from pushing a button. But he promises to answer every prayer of every faithful heart. And he infallibly keeps his promises. Our part is to believe and to wait in faith. We say, "Seeing is believing," but Jesus says, "Believing is seeing." We say we won't believe it in our souls until we see it with our eyes, but Jesus says that if we believe it in our souls we will eventually see it with our eyes, because every good desire will be fulfilled eventually, if not in this world then in the next. That's what he promises: "Everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."

That's not very original; that's only saying what Jesus says and asking you to believe it. If you can't take him at his word and trust him, who can you trust?

Jesus says that to live in his kingdom, we need to become like little children. What do little children have that we lack? Faith, trust, and simplicity. Our problem is not that we are too simple: our problem is that we are not simple enough.

© Copyright 2022 "Food for the Soul: Reflections on the Mass Readings (Cycle A)" by Peter Kreeft.
Penny Fleming, SFOA Communications Coordinator



***Knights of Columbus
Council 7672***

Pancake Breakfast

September 10, 2023

8:30am - 11:30am

in the Parish Center

All are Welcome!

**\$10 includes pancakes, eggs,
sausage, biscuits and gravy,
juice and coffee.**

Kids eat free!





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**

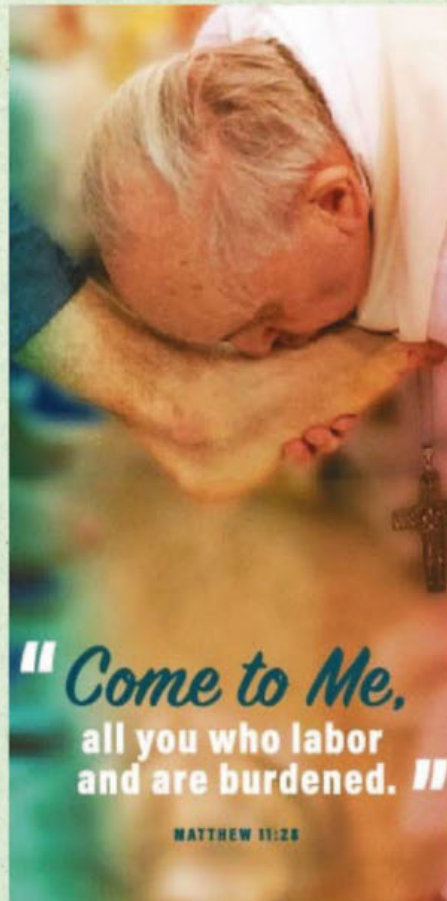
**Preparation for Baptism, First Confession and First Holy
Communion (First Holy Communion and Confirmation require two
years of attendance and preparation)**

**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**

Catechetical Sunday 2023



“Come to me all who labor and are burdened” is the theme for the 2023 Catechetical Sunday observed by the Church across the nation on September 17. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person fulfills by virtue of Baptism, in handing on our Catholic faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Father Mayer will commission & bless our catechists at the 10am Mass, including catechists of children in the parish faith formation, facilitators of RCIA, Bible Studies & other small faith sharing groups. Father will bless our parents as the first catechists of their children. Thank you catechists! What a blessing you are at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish!

God bless all our catechists & families in this year’s Religious Education!



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!

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Women's Guild
5265 Placida Road, Grove City • Parish Center • 941-697-4899 ext. 6

Thrifty Treasures and Boutique Sale

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer Hours Below

TUESDAY • October 24th • Table/room setup 9am to 11am

WEDNESDAY • October 25th • Drop Off 9am to 3pm

THURSDAY • October 26th • Drop Off 9am to 1pm

THURSDAY EARLY BIRD SALE \$5 entry 2:30pm to 5pm

FRIDAY October 27th • Regular SALE 8:30am to 2pm

SATURDAY, October 28th

BROWN BAG SALE \$5 8:30am to 2:00pm



CONTACT: St. Francis Office at 941-697-4899 ext.6 and leave message or send email to Shelli - corkerymichele56@gmail.com, Bettie - bgreth@hotmail.com or Kathy - kathy6150@aol.com

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

Ministry Week for Saint Francis of Assisi Church

	Start	End	Event - Location
Mon Sept 11	7:50am	9:00am	Rosary/Mass/Anointing/Chaplet - Church
	9:00am	11:00am	Parish Stewardship Ministry - 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 12	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	8:45am	9:45am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration - Church
	9:15am	10:45am	Parish Women's Guild Director/Coordinator Meeting - Parish Conf. Room
	9:50am	10:00am	Benediction - Church
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Parish Women's Bible Study - Parish Conference Room
	5:30pm	6:45pm	Religious Education - K thru 8th Grade - Parish Center
Wed Sept 13	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:00am	10:00am	Parish Women's Guild General Membership Meeting - Parish Center
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	7:00pm	8:00pm	AA - Parish Hall
Thurs Sept 14	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:00am	9:15am	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Hook and Needles - Parish Conference Room
Fri Sept 15	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 16			Blessing of the MARRIAGE Anniversary
	3:00pm	3:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	4:00pm	5:00pm	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
Sun Sept 17	8:00am	9:00am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
	10:00am	11:00am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
	10:00am	11:00am	Catechetical Sunday Commissioning - Church

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

Women's Bible Study

Every Tuesday

Next Meeting September 12

1:00pm - 3:00pm

In the Parish Conference Room

All Women of the Parish are welcome to join!

Call the Parish Office with any questions:

941-697-4899



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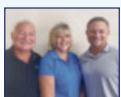
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