



## SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

## 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "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 and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

**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 & Accountant  
Kelly Kroll, Administrative Assistant (Part-Time)  
Jim Parent, Maintenance & Facilities  
Beth Hammond, Head Sacristan  
Penny Fleming, Ministry Scheduler/Communications

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY)**

After Easter to December 28 ... 4:00pm  
January 4 to April 12, 2025 ... 3:00pm & 4:30pm

**SUNDAY**

After Easter to December 29 - 8:00am & 10:00am  
January 5 through Easter Sunday  
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am

**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 May 31  
Mon - Fri 9:00am -12:30pm, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

**Summer** - June 3 through Aug 31  
Monday through Friday 9:00am - 2:30pm

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Thursday after Mass 9:00am - 9:15am  
After Easter to Dec 29 - Saturdays 3:00pm - 3:30pm  
Jan 4 to April 13 - 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, SEPTEMBER 16**

8:15am †**KATHLEEN LONG**  
by Dean and Beverly Cornwell Sr.  
*Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian,  
Bishop, Martyrs*  
*Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:17-26, 33*  
*Gospel: Luke 7:1-10*

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

8:15am †**RENO PICCIOLI**  
by Carl and Judy Couture  
*Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a*  
*Gospel: Luke 7:11-17*

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

8:15am †**FRANCES BLAIR**  
by Millie Spinelli  
*Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13*  
*Gospel: Luke 7:31-35*

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

8:15am †**FRANCES BLAIR**  
by Carol Locascio  
*Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11*  
*Gospel: Luke 7:36-50*

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

8:15am †**IAN PHILIP SPEZIALE**  
by His Grandparents  
*Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, and  
Paul Chong Ha-sang,  
and Companions, Martyrs*  
*Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20*  
*Gospel: Luke 8:1-3*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

**SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY)**  
4:00pm †**ANN POWERS**  
by Matt and Debbie Egan

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

8:00am **FOR OUR PARISHIONERS**  
10:00am †**SAM AND ISABELLA  
RAIMONDI** by Angela and Robert Roedig  
*25th Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Reading 1: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20*  
*Reading 2: James 3:16—4:3*  
*Gospel: Mark 9:30-37*



## **Gospel Reflection**

### **Mark 8:27-35**

People often enjoy talking about other people. The disciples, too, gladly tell what other people think of Jesus. Only Peter is bold enough to position himself: "You are not merely some special man, but the Messiah, the Son of God." With this profession, he made a great advance in his life of faith and his relationship with Jesus.

Jesus demands a decision. He who decides for Jesus is unable to continue living simply as he was before, as he would without Jesus. He is taken into the life of Jesus, which entails more suffering as well as more joy.

Jesus tells the Apostles, without pulling any punches, the suffering that he will endure, and they as well. Peter, perhaps thinking that Jesus has gone off the far end, reproaches him. Yet Peter has seminally what he needs to accept this part of Jesus's message: his profession of faith in Jesus, which can lead him to understand the meaning of the suffering that Jesus takes on, and that Peter himself will have to endure.

Jesus is the suffering servant, his suffering and death a sacrifice to redeem his people. It is not, however, his suffering and death *per se*, as a material price, that redeems, but his love, a love that does not reject suffering, when it is necessary.

We frequently need such love in our lives, too. In many situations a way out is possible only at the price of a sacrifice: crises in a relationship, enduring conflicts, fidelity in difficult situations; often it is only love that is ready for sacrifice that can help. To take just one example, to resolve a conflict and realize healing in a wounded relationship, we must often be ready to give up on coming out as the "winner", or even be willing to have just a little bit the feeling of "losing". Genuine reconciliation doesn't have a loser, since both sides are the better for it, but sometimes we still have the feeling of giving something up and in this sense of losing.

How do we stand on the issue of making sacrifices for Jesus, of entering not only into his joy, but his suffering as well? Do we think that as believers, life will be easier and we will have fewer problems, because God solves them for us or doesn't let them arise in the first place? It can happen, particularly at the beginning of the way in faith, that God makes the way attractive, to encourage us, as one may reward a child with sweets. But at some point we must cease to be dependent on these sweets, whether that is interior consolation or providential avoidance of exterior difficulties. The deepest joy in faith isn't found in God's preserving us from all evils and difficulties, but in being united with HIM, even then, indeed especially then, when love calls for a sacrifice.

As gratitude gives our joys a deeper meaning, as a gift from one who loves us, so readiness to sacrifice gives our sufferings a deeper meaning, as being an instrument of salvation in Christ.

In the measure that we make these two fundamental attitudes, gratitude and making sacrifice, "offering them up" for and with Jesus, we will experience the fulfillment of Christ's promise, "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and everything else will be given to you as well." We won't always have everything that we might immediately wish to have, but in what we do have and in what we don't have (or what we suffer), we will find ourselves to be rich in him.

*Homily for 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Cycle B on September 12, 2018, by Fr. Joseph Bolin, Diocesan Priest of the Archdiocese of Vienna. Brought to you by Penny Fleming, SFOA Communications Coordinator.*



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



# Parish Outreach Food Pantry

**The Parish Outreach Food Pantry  
is in need of tuna and canned fruit.**

We have two poor box locations in church, we can take cash or check in the poor box at any time. You may also donate online by going to [sfoachurch.com](http://sfoachurch.com) and click **Giving** and then click **Online Giving**.



## SAINT PAUL STREET EVANGELIZATION

**Catholic Street Evangelization Training Workshop**

**September 28 – Resurrection Parish, Fort Myers**

Want to know what authentic, non-confrontational, joyful evangelization looks and sounds like? Then make sure to attend our upcoming workshop with **St. Paul Street Evangelization Vice President Adam Janke** on **Saturday, September 28, 9:00am – 3:30pm**, at **Church of the Resurrection in Fort Myers**. **Mass will be offered at 8:00 am in the parish chapel. There will also be an optional “Live Lab” experience from 4:00 – 5:00pm, giving participants the chance to put into practice what they have just learned.** Saint Paul Street Evangelization is a non-profit, grassroots organization that has mobilized thousands of ordinary Catholics to get out there on the streets to be instruments of God in the salvation of souls. Our one-day Basic Evangelization Training with SPSE is open to all adult parishioners from any Catholic parish. Registration is \$25 and includes light breakfast, lunch and all training materials. You can register online at <http://stpaulse.com/venice>. For additional information, please contact Jim Gontis at [gontis@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:gontis@dioceseofvenice.org).



REGISTRATION  
[stpaulse.com/venice](http://stpaulse.com/venice)  
cost: \$25

# BASIC EVANGELIZATION TRAINING

**Church of the Resurrection Parish Center**  
8051 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33919

**Saturday, September 28**

Mass: 8:00AM (chapel)

Training: 9:00AM – 3:30PM

Live Lab: 4:00PM – 5:00PM

**Includes:**

- Full-Day Evangelization Workshop
- All Workshop Materials
- Light Breakfast and Box Lunch

“As a Church, we are called to evangelize and bring the good news to the world. Each one of us has a story to tell about how Christ has changed our lives. St. Paul Street Evangelization will give you the tools you need to articulate your relationship with Christ to a hungry, broken world.” – *Jeff Cavins*

**Questions? Contact: [info@stpaulse.com](mailto:info@stpaulse.com) or 657-777-2963**



**SAINT PAUL**  
STREET EVANGELIZATION

[WWW.STREETEVANGELIZATION.COM](http://WWW.STREETEVANGELIZATION.COM)

# 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 September 17 at 10am in the Parish Conference Room.

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



## No. 4 Constitutional Amendment

### Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion

No law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient's health, as determined by the patient's healthcare provider.

This amendment does not change the Legislature's constitutional authority to require notification to a parent or guardian before a minor has an abortion.

YES

NO



## KNOW THE FACTS!



## VOTE NO ON AMENDMENT 4!

YOUTH GROUP

St. Francis of Assisi  
Catholic Church

ALL YOUTH 14-17 ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!

FOOD, GAMES, & DISCUSSION.

WE WILL BE PLANNING OUT EVENTS, TOPICS, & ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR.

WE HOPE YOU CAN COME!!!

Kick-Off Meeting!!

Sunday  
September 15  
6 - 7:30 PM

Parish Center  
St. Francis of Assisi  
Grove City, FL



# Catechetical Sunday

## Sunday, September 15

*Catechetical Sunday 2024 will be observed on September 15, 2024, at the 10am Mass. On this day, Father Mayer will commission & bless catechists/aides at Mass who nurture faith in others and share their faith commitment through word, experience, prayer, and liturgy. It is a day for parishes across the nation to recognize and thank those who contribute to catechesis.*



The theme this year is “Stay With Us.”

The celebration of Catechetical Sunday draws each person to reflect on their role, by virtue of their baptism, the mission that Jesus sets forth in the Gospel of Matthew, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” (Mt 28:19-20)

According to Bishop Robert Barron, Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith, and those whom parishes have designated to serve as catechists will be called forth at Mass to be commissioned for the special ministry of education and support.





## **Fall Session Begins: Thursday, Sept 19 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.

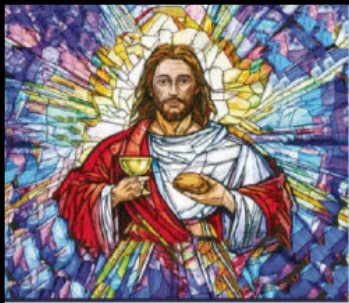
We have received lots of positive feedback from our participants!

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 send an email to [office@sfoachurch.com](mailto:office@sfoachurch.com) to register.

Also, registration and information will be available at all Masses on September 7-8.





*Catholic Faith Appeal*  
2024

# Catholic Faith Appeal 2024

**Raised: \$170,000**

**Goal: \$219,000**

Thank you to all who have donated!

To donate, use the **blue envelopes in pew** or go to  
**<https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa/>**  
and in the Designation Box choose  
**St. Francis of Assisi in Grove City.**

## **LECTIO DIVINA - GOSPEL PRAYER EVERY MONDAY 11:45AM - 12:30PM - IN CHURCH STARTING SEPTEMBER 16**

Please join us for “divine reading” of the Bible in which we let go  
and open ourselves to what God is trying to say to us.  
We listen to the Lord’s Gospel for the next Sunday’s Mass and it prepares us  
to be more open to Jesus’ teachings at Sunday Mass.  
Lectio Divina begins on Monday, September 16.

**Lectio Divina was developed by Benedict of Nursia in the 6th Century. In Benedict’s famous Rule for monks (480 – 547) he urges us to listen to God’s word “with the ear of our hearts.” Six centuries later Guigo, a Carthusian monk (known for being contemplative and ascetic), elaborated on St. Benedict’s practice of Lectio Divina. He systematized the process of Lectio with the four steps that form a spiritual ladder of intimacy with God.**

### **The Four Steps of Lectio Divina**

- 1. Reading**
- 2. Meditation**
- 3. Prayer**
- 4. Contemplation**



Saint Francis of Assisi  
Catholic Church

# CASH RAFFLE

2ND PRIZE  
**\$3,500**

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**\$10,000**

3RD PRIZE  
**\$1,000**

TICKETS ARE SOLD TO BENEFIT SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH. THE WINNING TICKETS WILL BE DRAWN AT 3 PM DURING OUR PARISH PICNIC. CLICK THE BUTTON BELOW TO REVIEW THE RAFFLE RULES.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3  
AT 3:00 PM



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CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO  
GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!!  
(941) 697-4899



### **OCIA: Come and See**

- Do you recognize a need for spirituality in your life and are looking to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation in the Catholic Church.
- Are you baptized in another Christian denomination and wonder if God is calling you to the Catholic Church?
- Are you a baptized Catholic but never celebrated Confirmation and/or Holy Communion.

The OCIA (formerly known as RCIA) is the process through which adults are welcomed into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil every year. Teaching begins October 3, and continues every Thursday, 5:30pm – 6:30pm or October 4 and continues every Friday, 9:15am – 10:15am in Room 1.

For more information, please contact  
Jim Brantner in the Parish Office, 941-697-4899.

**Our doors are open!**  
**Is God inviting you into a deeper relationship with Him  
through the Catholic Faith?**

*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!!!!**

**These are the VOLUNTEER hours that need to be filled.**

**TUESDAY. Oct. 22 • 10:00am to 2pm Setup**

**WEDNESDAY Oct 23 • 8:30am to 3pm Setup/Price**

**THURSDAY Oct 24 • 8:30am to 1pm Setup/Price**

**THURSDAY Oct 24 EARLY BIRD SALE**

**2:30pm to 5:30pm**

**FRIDAY Oct 25 • 8:30 am to 2pm SALE**

**SATURDAY Oct 26 BROWN BAG SALE**

**8:30 am to 12 noon (cleanup 12-2)**

**CONTACT:** *women's guild 941-697-4899 ext, 6;  
ckmitch1@aol.com; kathy6150@aol.com;  
with days & hours available*

# Ministry Week for Saint Francis of Assisi Church

	Start	End	Event - Location
<b>Mon Sept 16</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	11:30am	Parish Rosary Makers - Room 6
	7:00pm	8:00pm	Knights of Columbus Assembly 2782 Officer's Meeting - Conference Room
<b>Tues Sept 17</b>	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	8:50am	9:50am	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration - Church</b>
	9:50am	10:00am	<b>Benediction - Church</b>
	10:00am	11:00am	Bereavement Meeting - Parish Conference Room
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Women's Bible Study - Parish Conference Room
	5:30pm	6:45pm	Religious Education (K-8) - Parish Center
<b>Wed Sept 18</b>	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	7:00pm	8:00pm	AA - Parish Hall
<b>Thurs Sept 19</b>	7:00am	8:00am	That Man is You! - Parish Center
	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	9:00am	9:15am	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church</b>
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Hooks and Needles - Parish Conference Rooms
<b>Friday Sept 20</b>	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
<b>Sat Sept 21</b>			<b>Recalling our First Holy Communion</b>
	3:00pm	3:30pm	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church</b>
	4:00pm	5:00pm	<b>Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>
<b>Sun Sept 22</b>	8:00am	9:00am	<b>Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>
	10:00am	11:00am	<b>Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>

# The prayer of Saint Michael will be said at the conclusion of all Masses until election day to help ensure the defeat of Amendment 4.



## Prayer to Saint Michael

Saint Michael the Archangel defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen



Join the Knights of Columbus Council 7672 at [kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join) and use code: **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY** and get the first year FREE.

## "I CAN WALK BAREFOOT ON THE BEACH AGAIN"

Local acupuncture clinic is treating the untreatable, peripheral neuropathy with incredible results!

Pain comes in many shapes and sizes. One of the most debilitating being the burning and tingling that comes with peripheral neuropathy. A disease that comes with years of shooting, stabbing pain that gradually ends in numbness, balance problems, and on occasion, amputations. A disease that was once classified as irreparable.

David R. of Venice, FL was facing such a fate.

**"I stopped golfing. I wasn't taking walks on the beach with my wife. I was living on gabapentin and antidepressants and everywhere I went; my doctor, the specialists, the pain institute, told me there was no cure. How are you supposed to live your life knowing that everyday brings pain and suffering?"**

Peripheral neuropathy is a result of damage to the nerves, commonly caused by a lack of blood flow to the nerves in the hands and feet.

This causes the nerves to begin to degenerate due to lack of nutrient flow.

Most peripheral neuropathy sufferers experience a heightened sensitivity to touch making it almost impossible for those diagnosed to even wear shoes, much less enjoy life.

"It was like walking on sharp river rocks. I barely left my recliner," shares David, whose experience is not uncommon for those diagnosed with peripheral neuropathy.

That is until he found Lauren Milligan of Sage Point Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine. Dr. Milligan and her staff have pioneered a cutting edge, medical solution to treat neuropathy, eliminate or greatly reduce its symptoms and give people their lives back. Best of all, they're doing it without the use of prescription medications and invasive surgeries.

"Acupuncture is incredible at restoring blood flow and stimulating damaged

nerves, preventing them from dying off," tells Dr. Milligan. "We take our treatments a step further by integrating ATP Resonance BioTherapy which targets specific nerves in the body using microcurrent. ATP therapy is like watering a plant. This treatment will stimulate the blood vessels to grow back around the peripheral nerves and provide them with the proper nutrients to heal and repair."

**Three months later David is thrilled with his progress, "I can walk barefoot on the beach again!"**

Success stories like David's are not atypical for the staff at Sage Point AIM. "We have a 87% success rate in treating neuropathy," shares Dr. Milligan.

The number of treatments needed to allow the nerves to fully recover will vary from person to person and can only be determined after a detailed

neurological and vascular evaluation. So long as you have not sustained more than 90% nerve damage Sage Point AIM offers hope where there once was none.

While David's peripheral neuropathy was idiopathic, meaning the cause is unknown, Dr. Milligan's treatments can also help people whose neuropathy is caused by diabetes or chemotherapy.

**"We have seen tremendous success in treating neuropathy of all types through very personalized treatments, specifically tailored to treat each individual case."**

To schedule a consultation and complete evaluation call (941) 451-8154 but do so quickly because Sage Point AIM is taking a limited number of new neuropathy patients.

For more information and to take advantage of their new patient offer visit [SagePointAcu.com](http://SagePointAcu.com).

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**World Mission Sunday**  
 October 20th, 2024

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 St. Francis Parishioner  
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