

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free.

- Lk 4:18

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, JANUARY 27 8:15am FOR THE SPECIAL INTENTIONS OF THOM LISK

Reading: Hebrews 9:15, 24-28 Gospel: Mark 3:22-30

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28 8:15am †VICTOR MELENDY (FIREMAN IN STOUGHTON, MA)

by Helen and Jerry Anderson
Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest
and Doctor of the Church
Reading: Hebrews 10:1-10
Gospel: Mark 3:31-35

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29 8:15am **†BOB TEKIN** by Frey Family

Reading: Hebrews 10:11-18 Gospel: Mark 4:1-20

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30 8:15am **†KENNETH REILE** by Ginger Reile

Reading: Hebrews 10:19-25 Gospel: Mark 4:21-25

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 8:15am †JERRY GROHS

by Jim and Margaret Pzynski Reading: Hebrews 10:32-39 Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY) 3:00pm †NICOLE LEWIS by Mom 4:30pm FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 7:30am †JOSEPH ANTHONY

MERCANTINE JR. by Debbie and Joanne 9:00am †TOM AND MARIA ZUCCARELLI

by Alberto and Rosa Grossi 10:30am **†DAVID CAPUZZI**

by John and Cleo Libonati
The Presentation of the Lord
Reading 1: Malachi 3:1-4

Reading 2: Hebrews 2:14-18 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40



Gospel Reflection The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle C Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

The first two weeks of Ordinary Time highlight the purpose of the journey — where we are headed and why. Last Sunday, we heard the story of the wedding at Cana, "the beginning of his signs." A narrative so rich and filled with truth, it ultimately serves as a sign pointing to the messianic fulfillment that Jesus will bring about in himself — fulfillment, as John later saw, depicted as a wedding feast. Here, it seems, the church wants to remind us of the apocalyptic significance of this journey with Jesus that we have just begun.

This Sunday's Gospel reading from Luke begins with the first few verses of chapter one, setting the stage for what we'll hear as a beginning. Then, the reading shifts to chapter four, telling the story of

Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth. He receives a scroll and reads from it, sharing words of Isaiah about "glad tidings to the poor" and "liberty to captives." He proclaims, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me," and concludes with, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your midst." hearing." Here, the church, it seems, wants to remind us of the moral point of this journey with Jesus we've just begun. Not only does this journey lead to mystical union, to the wedding banquet of the Lamb, it also leads to justice, to jubilee.

There is scholarly debate about whether Jesus is indeed calling for a jubilee in the sense of Leviticus 25; I believe he is. Jesus at least points to that great vision of the people of God established in justice, to that pristine vision found in Deuteronomy 15:4 ("But there will be no poor among you...") and which Luke recounts in Acts 4:32-35, where he describes the solidarity of the first Christians. This, the church seems to be saying, is where Jesus is taking us. We are following him to the wedding supper, to the heavenly Jerusalem and to the truly just kingdom of God. That's what the journey is about; all these stories from Jesus' life and ministry, which the church will share with us in the coming weeks, are meant ultimately to carry us toward mystery and justice.

Following Jesus is intended to guide us to heaven, and it's also meant to guide the least of our brothers and sisters there as well. That's why I believe the church begins Ordinary Time with these two stories from John and Luke; they help us prepare for the journey when we know where we're headed going. So, the questions then are these: Is this where you want to go? Is this why you're following Jesus? The church is telling us that the point of following Christ, the end point of the journey, is mystical and moral. The challenge then is to order our spiritual and ethical lives to this mystical and moral end.

How, for instance, is our spiritual life ordered in relation to the mystery signified at Cana? Do we simply pray for the things we desire? Is our spirituality self-centered? Or does our prayer also encompass times of simple communion, of just being with the Lord—prayer that is truly a longing for God in heaven? How is our ethical life ordered as well? Is it directed towards justice? Do we strive to make the world morally acceptable, not just for ourselves but also for the Lord? In other words, do we care for the poor and the oppressed? Do we assist them? Do we recognize that this is just as integral to being Catholic as well anything? It's all offered as fair warning. This is what following Jesus is about: mystical and moral perfection. Are you okay with that? Do you want to continue? Do you want to keep going? The journey will not be easy. It will involve suffering and death, suffering for others, even for enemies. Are you ready to go? That's what God, I think, wants to know. What only you can answer as you keep walking with him.

Father Joshua J. Whitfield is pastor of St. Rita Catholic Community in Dallas and author of "The Crisis of Bad Preaching." Brought to you by Penny Fleming, SFOA Communications.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with

Conferral of The Sacrament of Confirmation

Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane

Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

January 18, 2025





St. Francis Youth Group



Dinner, Discussions, & Activities

1st & 3rd Sundays 5 pm - 6:30 pm

Meets at the Parish Center



For All Teens 14 - 17 years old

We'd Jove To CHave You!



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



Parish Butreach Food Partry

The Parish Outreach Food Pantry is in need of Peanut Butter, Jelly, and Canned Pork and Beans.

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 and click

Giving and then click Online Giving.





ALL THINGS NEW

FEATURING NEW, DYNAMIC PRESENTERS

DISCOVER:

- · Earth-shattering theological insights from some of the greatest theologians of our day.
- · New Creation Story, New Spiritual Life, New Adam, New Eve, New Fruitfulness, New Tree of Life, New Fruit from the New Tree of Life.
- · A new day is dawning for Catholic men. Now is our hour! The future of the world and the Church is happening on our watch. His mercy is new every morning. A new hope is rising!
- · Enkindle a deep Catholic spirituality and arm yourself with the two most powerful spiritual
- · Renew a profound, faithful and reverent love for the one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church rooted in Sacred Scripture.
- . Discern what kind of men we need to save the Church and the world.
- . Become the man your family, our Church, and our world desperately awaits.
- · Be inspired to set out to re-evangelize the de-Christianized and secularized.
- Become a new creation in Christ!

SPEAKERS:











PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Starting January 16 Continuing each Thursday for 13

St Francis of Assisi Parish Hall

SCHEDULE:

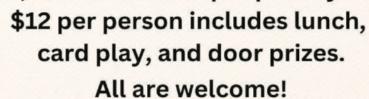
Doors Open at 6:45/Begins 7:00am Includes food, video and small group discussion Concludes by 8:15am

REGISTRATION:

For more information or to register- call, email or contact the parish office



Reserve your table by February 3rd
Reserve your tables at sfoachurch.com
Click Parish Forms, scroll down and click
Parish Women's Guild Card Party Registration
or by calling 941-697-4899 and Press 6 to
leave a message with your name, phone
number, and number of people at your table.







DIOCESE OF VENICE'S
2025 CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL CONFERENCE

SPIRIT CALLED

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. - Romans 8:14

JOIN US FOR ENLIGHTENING TEACHING, HEARTFELT WORSHIP,
AND MEANINGFUL FELLOWSHIP AT

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CATHOLIC CHURCH PORT CHARLOTTE, FLORIDA

Featuring Bishop Peter L. Smith

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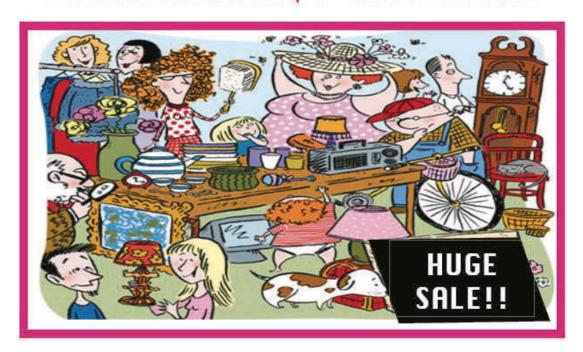
DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DEEPEN YOUR FAITH
AND STRENGTHEN YOUR COMMUNITY!

REGISTER AS AN ATTENDEE OR VENDOR AT <u>www.charisms.org!</u>

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

WEDNESDAY - FEB 19th - Drop Off 9am to 3pm
THURSDAY - FEB 20th - Drop Off 9am to 1pm
THURSDAY, FEB 20th
EARLY BIRD SALE \$5 entry 3pm to 5pm
FRIDAY, FEB 21st - SALE 9am to 2pm
SATURDAY, FEB 22nd
BROWN BAG SALE \$5 9am to 12 noon



DONATIONS: Clothing, Shoes, Holiday Decorations, Books, Toys, Sporting Goods, Small Working Appliances, Knick-Knacks, Jewelry, Computers, Flat Screen TV's Only. Sorry we cannot accept mattresses, empty picture frames, plastic, mismatched glassware or large furniture.

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 FEB 18th · 10:00am - 2pm Setup

WEDNESDAY FEB19th · 8:30am - 3pm Setup/Price

THURSDAY FEB 20th · 8:30am - 1pm Setup/Price

THURSDAY FEB 20th EARLY BIRD SALE

2:30pm to 5:30 pm

FRIDAY FEB 21st · 8:30 - 2pm SALE

SATURDAY FEB 22th 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

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO CATHOLIC SCHOOL \$100,000 DRAWING

 \equiv 2025

We're kicking off our annual \$100,000 Drawing! With your help, \$100,000 will go toward supporting our mission, and up to 10 lucky winners will share \$100,000!

Tickets are \$100/each

Buy your tickets in the Saint Francis of Assisi Narthex after Mass on Feb 1/2 & Mar 8/9

Drawing Dinner will be on April 6th, 2025

Best of all, after each ticket is drawn, it's re-entered, giving you multiple chances to win—even the full \$100,000!

Get your tickets now and support St. Charles Borromeo School!

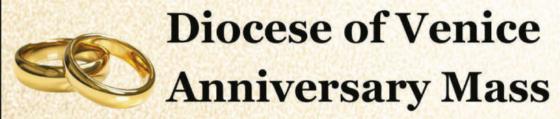


BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW

(941) 623-9164 (3)

www.stcbs.org/drawing@

21505 Augusta Avenue
Port Charlotte, FL 33952



Location: St. Thomas More Parish, Sarasota Date: Saturday, March 8th Time: 11am

All couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or more than 50 years of marriage are invited by Bishop Frank J. Dewane to an Anniversary Mass in their honor.

The Anniversary Masses will be celebrated in two locations:

February 1st at St. Leo the Great Parish in Bonita Springs at 11am, March 8th at St. Thomas More Parish in Sarasota, also at 11am.

Please contact your local parish office for reservations no later than one week before the event you choose to attend.

SFOA Church Office: 941-697-4899

Ministry Week for Saint Francis of Assisi Church

	Start	End	Event - Location
Mon Jan 27	7:50am	9:00am	Rosary/Mass/Anointing/Chaplet - Church
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Rosary Makers - Room 6
	11:45am	12:30pm	Lectio Divina Gospel Prayer - Church
Tues Jan 28	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	8:50am	9:50am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration - Church
	9:00am	10:00am	Parish Stewardship Ministry - Church
	9:50am	10:00am	Benediction - Church
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Women's Bible Study - Parish Conference Room
	5:30pm	6:45pm	Religious Education K-8 - Parish Center
Wed Jan 29	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	7:00pm	8:00pm	AA - Parish Hall
Thurs Jan 30	7:00am	8:00am	TMIY - Parish Center
	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:00am	9:15am	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	1:00pm	3:00pn	Hooks and Needles - Parish Conference Rooms
	5:30pm	6:30pm	OCIA - Church
Fri Jan 31	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
Sat Feb 1	2:00pm	2:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	3:00pm	4:00pm	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
	4:30pm	5:30pm	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
Sun Feb 2	7:30am	8:30am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
	9:00am	10:00am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
	10:30am	11:30am	Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church
	5:00pm	6:30pm	Youth Group - Parish Center

Knights of Columbus Council 7672 Pancake Breakfast

Sunday February 9, 2024 8:30am - Noon in the Parish Center All are Welcome!

\$10 includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, juice and coffee. Kids eat free!



Join the Knights of Columbus Council 7672 at kofc.org/join and use code: BLESSEDMCGIVNEY and get the first year FREE.





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941-475-1185 kennethwlounders.com



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3rd/4th Passenger + \$20 each

Darlene Benson St. Francis Parishioner Call/Text: 941-468-6899 airporttransportcar@vahoo.com

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WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

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 heightened sensitivity to touch targets specific nerves in the of shooting, stabbing pain that making it almost impossible for 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 with my wife. I was living on gabapentin and antidepressants and everywhere I went; my doctor, the specialists, the edge, medical solution to pain institute, told me there was no cure. How are greatly reduce its symptoms 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 nerves, preventing them from to degenerate due to lack of nutrient flow.

Most peripheral neuropathy sufferers experience a 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.

taking walks on the beach That is until he found Lauren Milligan of Sage Point Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine. Dr. Milligan and her staff have pioneered a cutting Success stories like David's are treat neuropathy, eliminate or and give people their lives back, Best of all, they're doing neuropathy," shares Dr. it without the use of prescription medications and invasive surgeries.

> "Acupuncture is incredible at restoring blood flow and stimulating damaged

dying off," tells Dr. Milligan. "We take our treatments a step have not sustained more further by integrating ATP Resonance BioTherapy which body using microcurrent. ATP While David's peripheral therapy is like watering a plant. neuropathy was idiopathic, This treatment will stimulate the blood vessels to grow back unknown, Dr. Milligan's 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!"

not atypical for the staff at Sage Point AIM. "We have a 87% success rate in treating 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 than 90% nerve damage Sage Point AIM offers hope where there once was none.

meaning the cause is 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.

