



## SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

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

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

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



Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him. - Lk 5:10-11

## Saint Francis of Assisi Church

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

Fax 941-697-0602

[www.sfoachurch.com](http://www.sfoachurch.com)

email: [office@sfoachurch.com](mailto: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, FEBRUARY 10**

8:15am †**DAVID DEFEO**  
by Connie Bellucci

*Saint Scholastica, Virgin*

*Reading: Genesis 1:1-19*

*Gospel: Mark 6:53-56*

### **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

8:15am †**MICHAEL FLOCK** by Family

*Reading: Genesis 1:20—2:4a*

*Gospel: Mark 7:1-13*

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

†**DAVID PRESCOTT BROOKS**

by Pat Brooks

*Reading: Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17*

*Gospel: Mark 7:14-23*

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

8:15am †**MR. DODD** by Ainslye Gilligan

*Reading: Genesis 2:18-25*

*Gospel: Mark 7:24-30*

### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

8:15am †**LOUIS MASELLA**

by John O'Toole

*Saints Cyril, Monk,  
and Methodius, Bishop*

*Reading: Genesis 3:1-8*

*Gospel: Mark 7:31-37*

### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

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

3:00pm †**LOUIS MASELLA**

by John O'Toole

4:30pm †**STAN RONNOW** by Barry Byrne

### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

7:30am **FOR OUR PARISHIONERS**

9:00am **KEN RITSON**

by Anne Connaughton and Family

10:30am **ROSA VITALE**

by Alberto and Rosa Grossi

*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Reading 1: Jeremiah 17:5-8*

*Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20*

*Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26*



## Gospel Reflection 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

I believe we understand how Peter feels. After a long and fruitless night, he's feeling tired and disappointed. He and his crew have worked hard until dawn to catch fish, only to return home empty-handed. We've all invested time, energy, and resources into pursuits that just didn't pan out: perhaps a special project at work or something as dear and vital as a relationship. We've experienced

failure, in one form or another. A friend of mine shares that after 30 years of marriage and raising a family, her husband has found someone else and has left. "It's a done deal," she says with a sigh. And in that sigh, decades of building a life together vanish into thin air.

When marriages collapse, when careers are pink-slipped into oblivion, when finances are shattered and homes lost, we find ourselves on the shore like Peter, picking seaweed out of our nets and feeling used or betrayed. What was the purpose of our striving? Was it all for nothing? How many of us are prepared, in the dawn of our great emptiness, to try again? Which of us would step back into our boats and head back out to open waters and lower those nets? That takes hope. You have to believe in love's potential, or "the cause," or whatever it is that made you willing to fish in the first place. You have to hold onto the be in the existence of fish, at the very least!

The vocation of a spouse to be faithful, or a parent to love and nurture, or a pastor to reap God's harvest, or a worker to build, create, or serve—all have the same goal, which is fruitfulness. We don't want to be wasted. We don't want to look back on our lives with a sigh, like my friend whose marriage seems to have evaporated. An anonymous American poet composed a poem of only two lines: "I wish that I had died for love/But I didn't." None of us wants that as an epitaph! We want to *live* for love, at least, so that we can leave this world in the certainty of our fruitfulness.

If we sometimes find ourselves like Peter in the daybreak of disappointment holding empty nets, we have to be like Peter also in his willingness, at a word from Jesus, to go back out there and lower our nets again. This action separates disciples from pretenders. Disciples trust, even when their nets are empty, that there are fish out there to be caught. Disciples don't measure fruitfulness by individual successes or failures but by their faithfulness. Our trust remains not in what we can do but in what *God* can do.

*Prepared by Penny Fleming, SFOA Communications Coordinator from Prepare the Word for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time by Alice Camille, a religious educator, scripture commentator, and author of many books.*

# Catholic Faith Appeal 2025

**2025 CFA Goal: \$227,000**

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

## *A Message from Bishop Dewane*



**DIocese of Venice in Florida**  
**OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

January 2025



*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

*This year the Diocese of Venice in Florida celebrates 40 Years of Service. Throughout this time, those who have come before us, as well as today's faithful, have supported the good works we are called to do as the People of God. In scripture we are taught, "Whoever cares for the poor lends to the Lord...". This reminds all that kindness and generosity toward our brothers and sisters is a blessing to Our Lord and will be returned.*

*Won't you be part of this call to "lend to the Lord" by donating to this year's Catholic Faith Appeal (CFA)? Your continued generous support is much needed and genuinely valued. Your kindness allows essential programs, ministries and works of mercy to be extended to individuals and families in every stage of life. From disaster relief to caring for the poor, from resources for the underserved to faith formation and education; individuals, families and communities receive compassion and care.*

*Many of the Diocesan programs and ministries funded through the CFA are highlighted in this brochure. As here presented, the CFA furthers the Mission of the Church given by Christ and impacts those in need throughout Southwest Florida.*

*May the Lord abundantly bless you in this Jubilee Year 2025, declared by Our Holy Father, for your desire to help those among us in need. Be assured of my continued prayers for you and your family.*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

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

# MAKE A PLEDGE



A pledge is an opportunity to make a more generous and affordable contribution over a ten-month period. The Diocese will send you a monthly reminder.

## GIFT OPPORTUNITIES USING THE 10-PAYMENT PLAN TABLE

GIFT AMOUNT	INITIAL PAYMENT	9 MONTHLY PAYMENTS
\$50,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
\$25,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
\$15,000	\$1,500	\$1,500
\$10,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
\$5,000	\$500	\$500
\$2,500	\$250	\$250
\$1,000	\$100	\$100
\$500	\$50	\$50

## WAYS TO GIVE

### CHECK: PAYABLE TO CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

IRA: Although a required minimum distribution (RMD) starts at age 73, you may donate up to \$105,000 per year from your Individual Retirement Account, tax free to a charitable cause, as early as age 70 1/2. Spouses may also participate to the same level if they have a separate IRA, giving married couples the opportunity to donate up to \$210,000. The funds must be paid directly to CFA from your wealth advisor in order to qualify.

Credit or Debit Card: Send us the information via the pledge card or visit [www.dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa)

Gift of Securities: Federal law allows a charitable deduction for the full market value of the appreciated securities on the date of your gift.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

For additional information, please call (941) 486-4719 or email [cfa@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:cfa@dioceseofvenice.org)

SCAN HERE



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(Please see the reverse side)
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**"Whoever cares for the poor lends to the Lord..."**

(Prov 19:17)



*Saint Francis of Assisi  
Catholic Church*

# Parish Pasta Dinner

**Thursday, February 13**


**4:00 to 6:30 PM**

**\$14 includes penne pasta, meatballs, sausage, bread,  
salad, dessert and beverage!**

**Kids Under 12 Eat Free!**

**Carry Out Available! All are Welcome!**

**To register for the pasta dinner, go to our website at  
[www.sfoachurch.com](http://www.sfoachurch.com) | Parish Forms | Parish Pasta Dinner  
Registration Form or call the Parish Office at 941-697-4899**



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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 Canned Vegetables, Soup,  
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](http://sfoachurch.com) and click **Giving** and then click **Online Giving**.



**Thank you Rotonda West Association and Manager Derrick Hedges for your generous donations from you Community Outreach Committee Sponsored “Shred Hunger” Event!**



# Golden Rose Award Ceremony

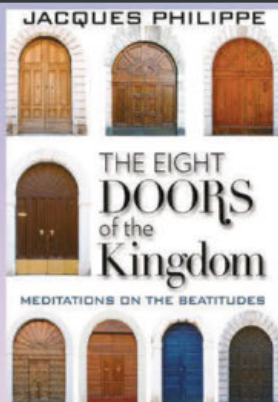
Presented by Bishop Frank Dewane and  
The Diocesan Council of Catholic Woman  
at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish  
Sunday, February 2, 2025



Congratulations to Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Youth, Vallerie Kappelmann and Kiersten Bosse for receiving the Golden Rose Award. The Golden Rose award recognizes and promotes exemplary young women who make a difference in their Parishes and communities. They both demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and strong spirituality. Congratulations Vallerie and Kiersten!







## *Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Book Club*

**Thursday, March 6, 2025**

**6:00pm-8:00pm**

**In the Parish Conference Room**

We are reading *The Eight Doors of the Kingdom* by Jacques Philippe  
**Order online on Catholic store websites or wherever books are sold.**

The Gospel of St. Matthew Shares with us astonishing words of a promise of everlasting happiness, far removed from the usual recipes for gratification. Blessed are the poor in spirit! Blessed are those who mourn! Happy are the meek!... Fr. Jacques shares with us a profound clarity to the full scope of meaning behind Christ's eight beatitudes, and in turn, outlines for us a way in which we can live them in our daily lives. We learn how each beatitude gives insight into how we can situate ourselves in an honest and fulfilling relationship with God, with oneself, and with others, and how to confront head-on the difficult realities of life.

[https://www.amazon.com/s?k=the+eight+doors+of+the+kingdom&i=stripbooks&hvadid=713541665218&hvdev=c&hvlocphy=9012295&hvnetw=g&hvqmt=e&hvrnd=9995565095273706790&hvtargid=kwd-420070434683&hydadcr=22591\\_13730658&tag=googhydr-20&ref=pd\\_sl5owqsiqt7\\_e](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=the+eight+doors+of+the+kingdom&i=stripbooks&hvadid=713541665218&hvdev=c&hvlocphy=9012295&hvnetw=g&hvqmt=e&hvrnd=9995565095273706790&hvtargid=kwd-420070434683&hydadcr=22591_13730658&tag=googhydr-20&ref=pd_sl5owqsiqt7_e)

**All are Welcome to Join! Call Martha Mingel with any questions 941-697-4899**

## **Save the Dates**

*Parish Woman's Guild Fashion Show*

**Sunday, March 16**

**in the Parish Center**

**More information to follow.**

*Parish Lenten Retreat*

**Wednesday, March 26, 2025**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center**

**3989 S Moon Dr, Venice, FL 34292**

**More information to follow.**

*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 FEB 19th** • 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



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Rev. Peter Fonseca, MA, MS, MDiv

**The Origins, Challenges, and Ethics of Transhumanism**  
Deacon Michael J. Deem, PhD

**Human Dignity at the End of Life**  
Andrew S. Kubick, PhD, MA

**Advance Directives: How Should a Catholic Prepare?**  
Rev. Peter Fonseca, MA, MS, MDiv, D. Brian Scarnecchia, MDiv, JD,  
and more!

**The Mental Health Crisis for Children and Adolescents**  
Sister Maria Amata Rossi, RSM

**The Science and Ethics of In Vitro Fertilization**  
Daniel Kuebler, PhD

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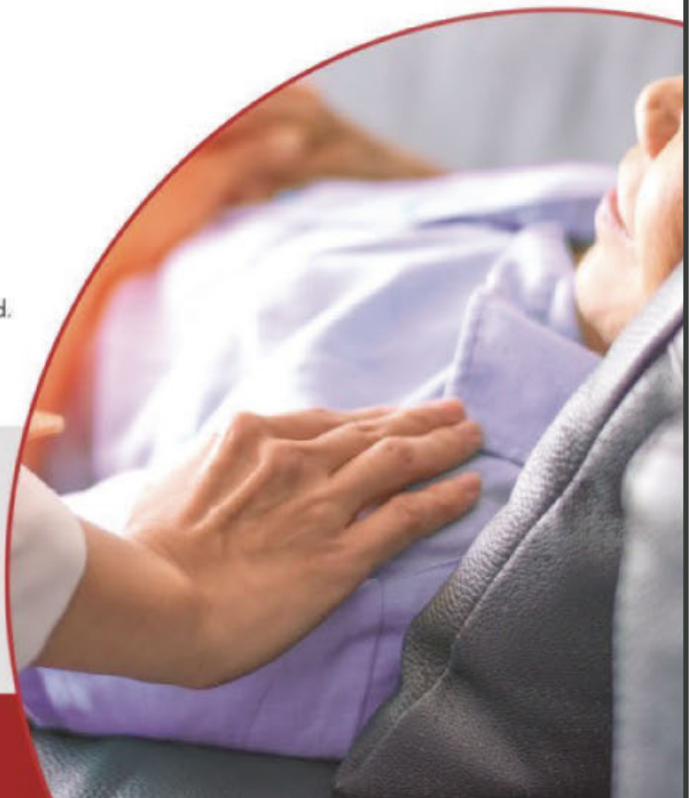
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# **Diocese of Venice Anniversary Mass**

**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
<b>Mon Feb 10</b>	7:50am	9:00am	<b>Rosary/Mass/Anointing/Chaplet - Church</b>
	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
	7:00pm	8:00pm	Knights of Columbus Business Meeting - Parish Conference Room
<b>Tues Feb 11</b>	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	8:50am	9:50am	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration - Church</b>
	9:00am	10:00am	Parish Stewardship Ministry - Church
	9:30am	11:30am	Parish Women's Guild Director/Coordinator Meeting - Parish Conference Room
	9:50am	10:00am	<b>Benediction - Church</b>
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Women's Bible Study - Parish Conference Room
	5:30pm	6:45pm	Religious Education K-8 - Parish Center
<b>Wed Feb 12</b>	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	9:00am	11:00am	Parish Women's Guild Membership Meeting - Parish Center
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
	7:00pm	8:00pm	AA - Parish Hall
<b>Thurs Feb 13</b>	7:00am	8:00am	TMIY - 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
	4:00pm	6:30pm	Pasta Dinner - Parish Center
	5:30pm	6:30pm	OCIA - Church
<b>Fri Feb 14</b>	7:50am	8:45am	<b>Rosary/Mass - Church</b>
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
<b>Sat Feb 15</b>	2:00pm	2:30pm	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church</b>
	3:00pm	4:00pm	<b>Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>
	4:30pm	5:30pm	<b>Holy Sacrifice of the Mass - Church</b>
<b>Sun Feb 16</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>
	6:00pm	8:00pm	Youth Group - Parish Center

# St. Francis Youth Group



1st & 3rd Sundays  
5 pm - 6:30 pm  
Meets at the Parish Center



For All Teens 14 - 17 years old

Dinner, Discussions, & Activities

*We'd Love To Have You!*



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**We'll give you a reason to smile.**


**Dr. Lawrence Hale**  
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**"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.