

# SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025

# 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

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While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." - Lk 9:34-35

# **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, MARCH 17 8:15am †LEE RESER

by Helen Anderson

Reading: Deuteronomy 9:4b-10 Gospel: Luke 6:36-38

# TUESDAY, MARCH 18 8:15am †NORMA EVANS

by Barbara McKane

Reading: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20 Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

# WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

8:15am †LEE RESER

by Nick and Carmela lommelli Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Reading: 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Reading 2: Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22 Gospel: Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

# THURSDAY, MARCH 20 8:15am †BERNARD DELURY by Children

Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10 Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

# FRIDAY, MARCH 21

8:15am †LEE RESER

by Matt and Debbie Egan
Reading: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

# SATURDAY, MARCH 22 SUNDAY VIGIL (SATURDAY) 3:00pm †DONELLA DECOURCEY

by Meg Brady

4:30pm **†LEE RESER** by Helen Anderson

# SUNDAY, MARCH 23

7:30am **†ISABEL KISIDAY** 

by Beth Hammond

9:00am †BETTY AND FRANK GUZZI

by Bob and Liz Barrett

# 10:30am FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Third Sunday of Lent

Reading 1: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

Reading 2: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

# Gospel Reflection Second Sunday of Lent

Luke 9:28b-36



In our gospel this Sunday, Jesus leads his disciples away from the noise and bustle of the marketplace and takes them up a mountain. This isn't unusual in itself; we know from the gospels that Jesus often went to the mountaintop to pray alone. While they are on the mountain, something very strange and unusual happens: Jesus is changed in a dramatic way; he is transformed beyond all recognition. His face shines like the sun, and his clothes become as white as the light. Imagine the surprise and shock of those who were with Jesus. Yet even amidst this amazing experience, Peter is still able to proclaim this great prayer: 'Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here.' As we continue our Lenten journey and Jesus continues his own journey towards Jerusalem, he knows what he is facing. He will be betrayed, denied,

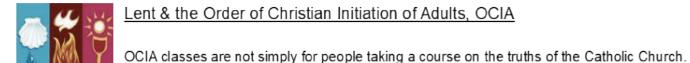
condemned, and crucified. Perhaps he feels and senses the disciples' fear and anxiety and wants to reassure them. So, he gives them a glimpse of the shape of things to come; he is revealed to them in all his glory.

Perhaps this brief glimpse of Jesus in all His glory is meant for us today as well. Like the disciples, we too experience fear, doubt, and even a lack of faith. We may need encouragement and strength from Jesus, especially as we continue our journey through Lent. We must understand that our prayer, fasting, and sharing with the poor are not ends in themselves, nor are they done in vain. We are heading toward the resurrection and the new life of Easter, but we still have a distance to cover. The experience of the transformed Jesus offers each of us a taste of what lies ahead. If we share in the suffering and passion of Jesus, we will also share in His resurrection. As St. Paul tells us in his letter to the Romans, if we have become one with Him in His death, we shall also be one with Him in being raised to life as He was. (Romans 6:5)

This is the hope in which we are asked to have faith as we make our way through Lent. When we are tempted to give up and give in, let us look to Jesus, changed and transformed. May we see in Him the future that is promised to us, not only at Easter but also in the fullness of God's Kingdom.

As we continue to make our way through Lent, let us do what the voice of God says to each of us; 'This is my Son, Listen to him.'

Fr. Michael Moore, OMI – The Missionaries Oblates of Mary Immaculate dated March 13, 2016. Brought to you by Penny Fleming, Communications Coordinator.



It's a journey of discovering Jesus Christ is Emmanuel, God with us, it's a call to new life & personal conversion to Jesus Christ in faith & love of God & neighbors, & it's welcoming participants to experience & grow closer to our Triune God in the full Christian sacramental life of the Catholic Church. It's preparing people for receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & First Holy Communion celebrated at the Easter Vigil Mass, April 19. The OCIA participants are completing their period of preparation & are entering into Lent on Ash Wednesday, proclaiming the death & resurrection of the Lord, the Savior of the world. Lent is an intense 6-week spiritual retreat, called the Period of Purification and Enlightenment. In this period, they will pray more, hear the Gospel, fast, do scrutiny prayers, do penance for sins, & do charitable works. The Rite of Election of Catechumens (unbaptized) & Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates (baptized Catholics or in another Christian denomination but who have not been confirmed or received the Eucharist) takes place each year on the First Sunday of Lent. The celebration of the rite has two parts: First, the Rite of Sending at each parish; in the ceremony the catechumens, candidates, publicly express to their parish that they believe God has called them to the Catholic Church & desire to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. We, the Church, the family of God, accept the responsibility to pray for & support our brothers & sisters along their Lenten faith journey, to pray, fast & do works of charity with them. We are called to welcome them & to witness to them our faith & prepare ourselves for the renewal of our own Baptismal grace at Easter. Father Mayer & our parish family pray for, recommend & send the OCIA candidates to Bishop Frank J. Dewane, Shepherd of the Diocese of Venice. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> part, is the Rite of Election, the candidates, their sponsors & families go to Our Lady of Light Catholic Church. In the Rite of Election, the Bishop speaks for the Church in the name of Christ & acknowledges that they have been chosen (elected) by God & called by Christ. Bishop Dewane accepts them as candidates for the Easter Sacraments & assures the candidates of his & the Church's prayers & loving

Our Pastor, Father Mayer & our parish will celebrate the <u>Sacraments of Initiation</u> & our Elect will become full members & receive our risen Lord & brother in Holy Communion during the Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday, April 19, 8:30pm, at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Congratulations in your initiation into our Catholic Christian life & worship & mutual love! Following Christ leads to God's generous blessings & eternal life!

Jim Brantner, DRE

support.

# RITE OF ELECTION

CELEBRATED WITH
BISHOP FRANK J.DEWANE
SUNDAY MARCH 9, 2025





Thank you to all who supported our
February Rummage Sale!
It was our best one yet!
Thank you to all volunteers,
we couldn't have done it without you!









# Lenten Soup & Stations

MONDAYS DURING LENT SOUP SUPPER - 4:00-5:15 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 6:00-6:30 PM



# REGULATIONS ON FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025, and Good Friday, April 18, 2025, are days of fast and abstinence. All Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence from meat.

**Fasting** is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between the ages of 18 years and 59 years (inclusive). On a fast day one full meal is allowed. Two smaller meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is to continue until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection.

**Abstinence** from meat is to be observed by all Catholics who are 14 years of age and older on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday.

Note: If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, they are urged to practice other forms of self-denial that are suitable to their condition.

**Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer** are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.





# LENTEN FOOD DRIVE FOR THE HUNGRY

WE WILL BE COLLECTING FOOD DONATIONS

EACH WEEK THRU LENT

SEE WEEKLY LIST OF FOODS BELOW

DROP OFF DONATIONS BEFORE OR AFTER WEEKEND MASSES OR AT THE PARISH OFFICE FROM 9AM-2PM

WEEK 2 DROP-OFF MARCH 15 THRU MARCH 21

FOOD LIST FOR WEEK 2: PASTA SAUCE, PASTA, CANNED FRUIT,
RICE, AND OATMEAL



# Saint Joseph's Feast Day Mass in Italian and Saint Joseph's Table with Father Mayer Wednesday, March 19, 2025 8:15am Mass

While Saint Joseph and Father's Day are celebrated all over Italy, the celebration of Saint Joseph is more prominent in Southern Italy, particularly Sicily. Considered by Sicilians as the Patron Saint of their region, Saint Joseph is credited to have saved Sicily's residents during one of their many devastating droughts. Tradition has it that residents prayed to Saint Joseph for rain. The rain came, and as such, their spring crops were spared from being destroyed, preventing a widespread famine for Sicily. It is widely believed that this is the reason the celebration is held in March.

We will start our Saint Joseph Day celebration on Wednesday, March 19 with Mass in Italian at 8:15am. We will also have a traditional Saint Joseph's Table.

What is a Saint Joseph's Table?

Generally, a statue of St. Joseph is placed at the head of the table and is surrounded by gifts of various foods, citrus fruits, and of course, breads. On the feast day, an open house is held, inviting friends and family to join in the celebration of eating the gifts left on the table. Fava beans, one of the spared crops, represent good luck and abundance, so be sure to add them to your table.

As with anything in Italy, the menu for a Saint Joseph celebration is rooted in tradition. Because the holiday falls during lent and this year on Friday, meat is not eaten on the feast day. Foods containing breadcrumbs, or the "poor man's parmigiano" are enjoyed. Joseph, as you might know, was a carpenter, so breadcrumbs are eaten to resemble the sawdust left behind after a day's work in the carpenter's shop. Lemons, like fava beans, are said to bring good luck.

While fava beans, lemons, breads and seafood are frequently eaten on the feast day of San Giuseppe, and are certainly delicious; we will begin our Saint Joseph's Table tradition this year by bringing BREAD.

Bring in your bread, clearly labeled, for Father Mayer to bless.



# Parish Pasta Dinner

# Thursday, March 20 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|Parish Forms|Parish Pasta Dinner Registration Form or call the Parish Office at 941-697-4899

For just \$5, reserve a jar of our famous sauce to take home!



# Wednesday, March 26, 2025 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center Time: 9am - 3:15pm Cost: \$45 per person The day consists of a hot breakfast, first conference, prayer time, confession, lunch, second conference, adoration and Mass.

Register at sfoachurch.com click *Parish Forms* scroll down and click *Lenten Retreat Registration Form* or fill out the attached form and drop in offering basket with cash or a check made payable to Saint Francis of Assisi Church. Car pooling available. Cars will leave the church parking lot at 8:00am Wednesday morning.

# Retreat Registration Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_ Car Pooling? Yes No If yes, Will you drive? Yes No Cash or Check #: \_\_\_\_ Total amount paid: \_\_\_\_





Saint Francis of Assisi Patholic Physik

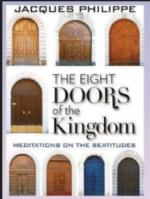
# Parish Women's Guild Education Grant Program 2025-2026

# **About Our Grant**

Our Parish Women's Guild offers
Education Grants for the 2023-24
academic year for graduating students
from Saint Francis of Assisi Parish
students. To apply for the Grant, go to
our Church Website, Parish Women's
Guild webpage. Please note that the
deadline for applications is May 31.

# Ministry Week for Saint Francis of Assisi Church

	Start	End	Event - Location
Mon March 17	7:50am	9:00am	Rosary/Mass/Anointing/Chaplet - Church
	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
	11:45am	12:30pm	Lectio Divina Gospel Prayer - Church
	4:00pm	5:15pm	Soup Supper - Parish Center
	6:00pm	6:30pm	Stations of the Cross - Church
	6:00pm	8:00pm	K of C Assembly 2782 Officer's Meeting - Parish Conference Room
Tues March 18	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	8:50am	9:50am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration - Church
	9:30am	11:00am	Parish Women's Guild Director/Coordinator Meeting - Parish Conf. Room
	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 March 19	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	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
Thurs March 20	7:00am	8:00am	TMIY - Parish Center
	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:00am	9:15am	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Church
	1:00pm	3:00pm	Hooks and Needles - Parish Conference Room
	5:30pm	6:30pm	OCIA - Church
Fri March 21	7:50am	8:45am	Rosary/Mass - Church
	9:15am	11:30am	Parish Outreach Ministry - Parish Center
Sat March 22	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 March 23	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



# Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Book Club

# Thursday, March 27, 2025 6:00pm-8:00pm In the Parish Conference Room We are reading Chapter 1

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!... 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/s7k=the+eight+doors+of+the+kingdom&i=stripbooks&hvadid=713541665218&hvdev=c&hvlocphy=9012295&hvnetw=g&hvqmt=e&hvrand=9995565095273706790&hvtargid=kwd-420070434683&hydadcr=22591\_13730658&tag=googhydr-20&ref=pd\_sl\_5owqsxiqt7\_e

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



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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 taking walks on the beach That is until he found Lauren 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.

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.

